

An Examination of Postsecondary Education Through Critical Race Theory

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History

Critical Legal Theory → Critical Race Theory

Derrick Bell

Since then: critical whiteness studies, LatCrit, FemCrit, DisCrit...

Tenets

- Racism is the norm, part of the system, designed, entrenched, fights meritocracy
- Racism is socially constructed and changes through time
- Intersectionality and anti-essentialism
- Counterstorytelling
- Interest Convergence/Divergence

Clarification

These refer to different things!

- White people
- Whiteness
- White privilege
- White supremacy

“Colorblind” examples in education policy

- Isn't being colorblind a good thing?
- Raza Studies in Arizona
- New York State Regents Exam

How does this impact higher education?

- Meritocracy assumed
- Policies
 - Admissions (banking analogy)
 - Assessments
 - What is knowledge and how is it shared?

How can we change this?

- Counterstorytelling
 - The power of being heard
 - Assumptions about what others need
 - Different view of future consequences
 - Challenge how we “do” academia