

#8- What is Wrong with Black Lives Matter?

I. Exploring the Components of the Issue

Black Lives Matter (BLM) – A loosely organized protest movement that started in 2013.

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, parallel blue lines that flow from the left side of the slide, curving upwards and then downwards in a wave-like pattern towards the right side.

Critical Race Theory (CRT) – Radical leftist ideology rooted in (1) Marxist theory and (2) radical feminism. CRT seeks to identify and dismantle the power structures and intuitions of society that oppress marginalized classes of people. Part of broader Neo-Marxist worldview that seeks to reshape the whole world by displacing the Western-Judeo-Christian worldview.

Marxism – Karl Marx (1818-83). It teaches that all societal conflict is class (economic) conflict, between oppressors and oppressed. Fundamentally atheistic. Neo-Marxism in the late 20th and 21st century has broadened its focus to include all forms of systemic oppression.

Woke – A term often used broadly as a synonym for leftist/ liberal/ progressive ideology. Originally, someone who is ‘awake’ to social injustice, social inequity, and the power structures and institutions that cause these oppressive conditions. Woke people recognize their unjust status of privilege.

Racism – Historically, mistreatment of ethnic groups by other ethnic groups. In CRT = systemic racism built into the dominate institutions that discriminate against marginalized people. White people are racist whether they commit specific acts of racism or not. Cannot be escaped.

Anti-racism – Admit/repent of white privilege and defer to People of Color (POC).

“[My] plea would be for the white people, rather than point fingers at that kind of criminal effort, would be to see the level of frustration and exasperation and almost the sense of hopelessness that exists on some of those activists within the African-American community.” Dan Cathy

- (1) Defund Police
- (2) Decriminalization
- (3) Reparations (Note misuse of Deut. 5:9-10)
- (4) Segregation
- (5) Re-education (e.g. 1619 Project)
- (6) Violent Protest (Antifa and BLM)

Intersectionality – Identities that intersect in marginalized persons to form overall identity.

Privileged Identities	Marginalized Identities
1. White	1. Black
2. Rich	2. Poor
3. Male	3. Female
4. Heterosexual	4. LBGTQ+
5. Christian	5. Atheist
6. Over-achiever	6. Under-achiever
7. High IQ	7. Low IQ
8. Thin (Beautiful)	8. Fat (Ugly)
9. Able-bodied	9. Disabled
10. Capitalist	10. Socialist

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture — including people of color.

TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES


White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture — including people of color.

- Rugged Individualism**
 - The individual is the primary unit
 - Self-reliance
 - Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
 - Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"
- Family Structure**
 - The nuclear family: father, mother, 2-3 children is the ideal social unit
 - Husband is breadwinner and head of household
 - Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
 - Children should have own rooms, be independent
- Emphasis on Scientific Method**
 - Objective, rational linear thinking
 - Cause and effect relationships
 - Quantitative emphasis
- History**
 - Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
 - Heavy focus on the British Empire
 - The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition
- Protestant Work Ethic**
 - Hard work is the key to success
 - Work before play
 - "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"
- Religion**
 - Christianity is the norm
 - Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
 - No tolerance for deviation from single god concept
- Status, Power & Authority**
 - Wealth = worth
 - Your job is who you are
 - Respect authority
 - Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property
- Future Orientation**
 - Plan for future
 - Delayed gratification
 - Progress is always best
 - "Tomorrow will be better"
- Time**
 - Follow rigid time schedules
 - Time viewed as a commodity
- Aesthetics**
 - Based on European culture
 - Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
 - Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin — "Barbie"
 - Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect
- Holidays**
 - Based on Christian religions
 - Based on white history & male leaders
- Justice**
 - Based on English common law
 - Protect property & entitlements
 - Intent counts
- Competition**
 - Be #1
 - Win at all costs
 - Winner/loser dichotomy
 - Action Orientation
 - Master and control nature
 - Must always "do something" about a situation
 - Aggressiveness and Extroversion
 - Decision-Making
 - Majority rules (when Whites have power)
- Communication**
 - "The King's English" rules
 - Written tradition
 - Avoid conflict, intimacy
 - Don't show emotion
 - Don't discuss personal life
 - Be polite

TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC


ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture—including people of color.




Rugged Individualism

- The individual is the primary unit
- Self-reliance
- Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
- Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"



Family Structure

- The nuclear family: father, mother, 2.3 children is the ideal social unit
- Husband is breadwinner and head of household
- Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
- Children should have own rooms, be independent




Emphasis on Scientific Method

- Objective, rational linear thinking
- Cause and effect relationships
- Quantitative emphasis

History

- Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
- Heavy focus on the British Empire
- The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition




Protestant Work Ethic

- Hard work is the key to success
- Work before play
- "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"

Religion

- Christianity is the norm
- Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
- No tolerance for deviation from single god concept




Status, Power & Authority

- Wealth = worth
- Your job is who you are
- Respect authority
- Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property

Future Orientation

- Plan for future
- Delayed gratification
- Progress is always best
- "Tomorrow will be better"



Time


- Follow rigid time schedules
- Time viewed as a commodity

Aesthetics

- Based on European culture
- Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
- Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
- Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect

Holidays

- Based on Christian religions
- Based on white history & male leaders




Justice

- Based on English common law
- Protect property & entitlements
- Intent counts

Competition

- Be #1
- Win at all costs
- Winner/loser dichotomy
- Action Orientation
- Master and control nature
- Must always "do something" about a situation
- Aggressiveness and Extroversion
- Decision-Making
- Majority rules (when Whites have power)



Communication

- "The King's English" rules
- Written tradition
- Avoid conflict, intimacy
- Don't show emotion
- Don't discuss personal life
- Be polite



Rugged Individualism

- The individual is the primary unit
- Self-reliance
- Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
- Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"

Family Structure

- The nuclear family: father, mother, 2.3 children is the ideal social unit
- Husband is breadwinner and head of household
- Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
- Children should have own rooms, be independent



Emphasis on Scientific Method

- Objective, rational linear thinking
- Cause and effect relationships
- Quantitative emphasis

TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture—including people of color.

- Rugged Individualism**
 - The individual is the primary unit
 - Self-reliance
 - Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
 - Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"
- Family Structure**
 - The nuclear family: father, mother, 2-3 children is the ideal social unit
 - Husband is breadwinner and head of household
 - Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
 - Children should have own rooms, be independent
- Emphasis on Scientific Method**
 - Objective, rational linear thinking
 - Cause and effect relationships
 - Quantitative emphasis
- History**
 - Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
 - Heavy focus on the British Empire
 - The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition
- Protestant Work Ethic**
 - Hard work is the key to success
 - Work before play
 - "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"
- Religion**
 - Christianity is the norm
 - Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
 - No tolerance for deviation from single god concept
- Status, Power & Authority**
 - Wealth = worth
 - Your job is who you are
 - Respect authority
 - Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property
- Future Orientation**
 - Plan for future
 - Delayed gratification
 - Progress is always best
 - "Tomorrow will be better"
- Time**
 - Follow rigid time schedules
 - Time viewed as a commodity
- Aesthetics**
 - Based on European culture
 - Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
 - Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
 - Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect
- Holidays**
 - Based on Christian religions
 - Based on white history & male leaders
- Justice**
 - Based on English common law
 - Protect property & entitlements
 - Intent counts
- Competition**
 - Be #1
 - Win at all costs
 - Winner/loser dichotomy
 - Action Orientation
 - Master and control nature
 - Must always "do something" about a situation
 - Aggressiveness and Extroversion
 - Decision-Making
 - Majority rules (when Whites have power)
- Communication**
 - "The King's English" rules
 - Written tradition
 - Avoid conflict, intimacy
 - Don't show emotion
 - Don't discuss personal life
 - Be polite

History

- Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
- Heavy focus on the British Empire
- The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition



Protestant Work Ethic

- Hard work is the key to success
- Work before play
- "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"

Religion

- Christianity is the norm
- Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
- No tolerance for deviation from single god concept



TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS

& WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture—including people of color.

Rugged Individualism

- The individual is the primary unit
- Self-reliance
- Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
- Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"

Family Structure

- The nuclear family: father, mother, 2-3 children is the ideal social unit
- Husband is breadwinner and head of household
- Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
- Children should have own rooms, be independent

Emphasis on Scientific Method

- Objective, rational linear thinking
- Cause and effect relationships
- Quantitative emphasis

History

- Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
- Heavy focus on the British Empire
- The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition

Protestant Work Ethic

- Hard work is the key to success
- Work before play
- "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"

Religion

- Christianity is the norm
- Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
- No tolerance for deviation from single god concept

Status, Power & Authority

- Wealth = worth
- Your job is who you are
- Respect authority
- Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property

Future Orientation

- Plan for future
- Delayed gratification
- Progress is always best
- "Tomorrow will be better"

Time

- Follow rigid time schedules
- Time viewed as a commodity

Aesthetics

- Based on European culture
- Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
- Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
- Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect

Holidays

- Based on Christian religions
- Based on white history & male leaders

Justice

- Based on English common law
- Protect property & entitlements
- Intent counts

Competition

- Be #1
- Win at all costs
- Winner/loser dichotomy
- Action Orientation
- Master and control nature
- Must always "do something" about a situation
- Aggressiveness and Extroversion
- Decision-Making
- Majority rules (when Whites have power)

Communication

- "The King's English" rules
- Written tradition
- Avoid conflict, intimacy
- Don't show emotion
- Don't discuss personal life
- Be polite



Status, Power & Authority

- Wealth = worth
- Your job is who you are
- Respect authority
- Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property



Time

- Follow rigid time schedules
- Time viewed as a commodity

Future Orientation

- Plan for future
- Delayed gratification
- Progress is always best
- "Tomorrow will be better"

Aesthetics

- Based on European culture
- Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
- Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
- Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect

Holidays

- Based on Christian religions
- Based on white history & male leaders

TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture—including people of color.

- Rugged Individualism**
 - The individual is the primary unit
 - Self-reliance
 - Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
 - Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"
- Family Structure**
 - The nuclear family: father, mother, 2.3 children is the ideal social unit
 - Husband is breadwinner and head of household
 - Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
 - Children should have own rooms, be independent
- Emphasis on Scientific Method**
 - Objective, rational linear thinking
 - Cause and effect relationships
 - Quantitative emphasis
- History**
 - Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
 - Heavy focus on the British Empire
 - The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition
- Protestant Work Ethic**
 - Hard work is the key to success
 - Work before play
 - "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"
- Religion**
 - Christianity is the norm
 - Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
 - No tolerance for deviation from single god concept
- Status, Power & Authority**
 - Wealth = worth
 - Your job is who you are
 - Respect authority
 - Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property
- Future Orientation**
 - Plan for future
 - Delayed gratification
 - Progress is always best
 - "Tomorrow will be better"
- Time**
 - Follow rigid time schedules
 - Time viewed as a commodity
- Aesthetics**
 - Based on European culture
 - Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
 - Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
 - Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect
- Holidays**
 - Based on Christian religions
 - Based on white history & male leaders
- Justice**
 - Based on English common law
 - Protect property & entitlements
 - Intent counts
- Competition**
 - Be #1
 - Win at all costs
 - Winner/loser dichotomy
 - Action Orientation
 - Master and control nature
 - Must always "do something" about a situation
 - Aggressiveness and Extroversion
 - Decision-Making
 - Majority rules (when Whites have power)
- Communication**
 - "The King's English" rules
 - Written tradition
 - Avoid conflict, intimacy
 - Don't show emotion
 - Don't discuss personal life
 - Be polite

Holidays

- Based on Christian religions
- Based on white history & male leaders

Justice

- Based on English common law
- Protect property & entitlements
- Intent counts

Competition

- Be #1
- Win at all costs
- Winner/loser dichotomy
- Action Orientation
- Master and control nature
- Must always "do something" about a situation
- Aggressiveness and Extroversion
- Decision-Making
- Majority rules (when Whites have power)

TALKING ABOUT RACE | NMAAHC

ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture—including people of color.

- Rugged Individualism**
 - The individual is the primary unit
 - Self-reliance
 - Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
 - Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "You get what you deserve"
- Family Structure**
 - The nuclear family: father, mother, 2.3 children is the ideal social unit
 - Husband is breadwinner and head of household
 - Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
 - Children should have own rooms, be independent
- Emphasis on Scientific Method**
 - Objective, rational linear thinking
 - Cause and effect relationships
 - Quantitative emphasis
- History**
 - Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
 - Heavy focus on the British Empire
 - The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition
- Protestant Work Ethic**
 - Hard work is the key to success
 - Work before play
 - "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"
- Religion**
 - Christianity is the norm
 - Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
 - No tolerance for deviation from single god concept
- Status, Power & Authority**
 - Wealth = worth
 - Your job is who you are
 - Respect authority
 - Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property
- Future Orientation**
 - Plan for future
 - Delayed gratification
 - Progress is always best
 - "Tomorrow will be better"
- Time**
 - Follow rigid time schedules
 - Time viewed as a commodity
- Aesthetics**
 - Based on European culture
 - Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
 - Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin – "Barbie"
 - Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect
- Holidays**
 - Based on Christian religions
 - Based on white history & male leaders
- Justice**
 - Based on English common law
 - Protect property & entitlements
 - Intent counts
- Competition**
 - Be #1
 - Win at all costs
 - Winner/loser dichotomy
 - Action Orientation
 - Master and control nature
 - Must always "do something" about a situation
 - Aggressiveness and Extroversion
 - Decision-Making
 - Majority rules (when Whites have power)
- Communication**
 - "The King's English" rules
 - Written tradition
 - Avoid conflict, intimacy
 - Don't show emotion
 - Don't discuss personal life
 - Be polite



Communication

- "The King's English" rules
- Written tradition
- Avoid conflict, intimacy
- Don't show emotion
- Don't discuss personal life
- Be polite

NATIONAL MUSEUM of AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE
Smithsonian

Standpoint Epistemology – Only marginalized people possess knowledge to understand issues of justice, race, sex, gender, economics, etc. The more marginalized, the more we must listen/ defer.

DEI – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

- **Diversity** – Promote marginalized people over privileged people.
- **Equity** – Allocate resources to marginalized peoples to achieve equal outcomes.
- **Inclusion** – Marginalized peoples' values put front and center. No merit-based promotion.

ESG – Environmental, Social, Governance.

Devised by elites , including WEF (World Economic Forum), The World Bank, and BlackRock. Rates corporations based on three metrics. Higher scores afford more access to economic benefits.

- **Environmental** – Endorse environmentalist goals such as Green New Deal.
- **Social** – Embrace DEI policies for employees/ workforce.
- **Governance** – Embrace DEI policies for board of directors and key leaders.

Influential Books

Ibram X. Kendi, **How to Be an Antiracist** (2019 – 25k+ amazon reviews 4.7/5).

Robin, DeAngelo, **White Fragility** (2018 – 40k+ amazon reviews 4.5/5)

Michael Emerson and Christian Smith, **Divided by Faith** (2000).

Eric Mason, **Woke Church** (2018).

Jemar Tisby, **The Color of Compromise** (2019). Tisby has partnered with Kendi promoting CRT.

James Cone, **A Theology of Black Liberation** (2010)

II. Biblical Critique

Col. 2:8 – ‘See to it that no one takes you captive with philosophy and empty conceit.’

Racism

Scripture condemns hatred (Matt. 5:21-26) and partiality (James 2:1-13). People without any power can harbor hatred. Moral responsibility tied to the intentions of heart (Gen. 6:5; 1 Sam. 6:7; Prov. 16:2; Jer. 17:9-10; 1 Cor. 4:5).

Other Theological Problems

1. Defective Doctrine of Humanity: All equally made in the image of God. One race, not many.
2. Defective Doctrine of Sin: Skin color is not a sin. Thoughts, words, and actions not ethnicity. Anti-racism = reverse racism. Again, partiality condemned (Exod. 23:3; Lev. 19:15; James 2:1, 9). CRT promotes anger and victimhood. Touts tolerance, but none for a significant segment of society.
3. Defective View of Gospel. CRT's prescription for salvation has no grace for white people, only continual acts of penance. White people can never be free from guilt (Rom. 8:1).
4. Rewards Vice and Decries Merit/ Virtue. This completely undermines Biblical ethics and values.
5. Corrupts True Justice. Makes justice distributive instead of retributive (Rom. 13:3-4).
6. Promotes Division. Divide ethnicities, sexes, etc. (Gal 3:28; Eph 2:13-18; 4:1-6; Rev 5:9; 21:22-27)

Resources

- Book: Owen Strachan, Christianity and Wokeness.
- Book: Voddie Baucham, Fault Lines
- Book: John MacArthur & Nathan Busenitz, eds., Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos
- Website: Christopher Rufo: christopherrufo.com and his email newsletter: rufo.substack.com
- Website: James Lindsey: newdiscourses.com
- Website: Michael O'Fallon: sovereignnations.com
- Website: Virgil Walker & Darrell B. Harrison: Just Thinking Ministries – justthinking.me
- Website: Larry Alex Taunton: larryalextaunton.com
- Article: Kevin DeYoung's on reparations. See file: DeYoung_Reparation.pdf on KBC website.
- Chart: "Aspects & Assumptions of Whiteness and White Culture in the United States" produced by the Smithsonian Institute. See KBC website.