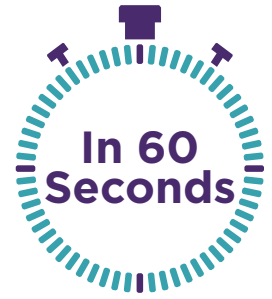


# Independent Women's Voice®

## Critical Race Theory



### What It Is

**Critical Race Theory (“CRT”) is an academic discipline with Marxist roots.**

- CRT is an off-shoot of Critical Legal Studies, a **radical/Marxist** field of study that analyzes the effect of economic power on law.
- While Marxists view history as an ongoing class struggle, CRT views history as an eternal racial struggle.

### CRT posits that:

- In America, **racism is the rule**, not the exception;
- American law and institutions are **“illegitimate hierarchies”**;
- Equal opportunity **reinforces**, rather than reduces, racism;
- Private property is a white construct.

**In recent years, Prof. Ibram X. Kendi has repackaged and popularized CRT under the name “Anti-Racism.” Kendi argues that:**

- Non-whites cannot be racist, all whites are racist, and denials of racism are evidence of racism.
- One cannot be truly anti-racist without being **anti-capitalist**.

### What’s at Stake

#### American Education

- Using dishonest rhetoric about “equity” and “anti-racism,” schools across America are **eliminating opportunities**, such as advanced or honors courses.
- Schools are encouraging teachers to adopt lessons on **“white privilege”** and to utilize **“color conscious”** teaching methods.
- These lessons discourage critical thinking and chill free speech by suggesting that objectors are complicit with white supremacy.

#### Enlightenment Ideals and the American Constitutional Order

- CRT claims that **Enlightenment ideals** such as reason, neutrality, **logic**, and the scientific method are racially-biased endeavors.
- CRT regards America’s constitutional structure as a mere smokescreen for racial oppression.
- CRT prioritizes group identity over individuality and encourages institutions to treat people differently on the basis of race.

## Addressing Misperceptions

MISPERCEPTIONS	FACTS
<p><b>CRT is the continuation of the American Civil Rights movement.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ The American Civil Rights movement fought for equal treatment, irrespective of race.</li><li>■ CRT treats people differently on the basis of race, as members of either an oppressor or victim class.</li><li>■ CRT rejects the concept of equal treatment and demands equal outcomes (or “equity”).</li></ul>
<p><b>Opponents of CRT want to sugar-coat American history.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Schools should, of course, teach the history of slavery, Jim Crow, and civil rights; schools should also expose students to different ways of thinking about history, government, and societal institutions.</li><li>■ But schools should not utilize curricula premised on the notion that America is inherently racist or instruct students that they are suffering from “white fragility” or “internalized racism.”</li><li>■ And schools should not divide students or treat them differently on the basis of skin color, which is illegal under American Civil Rights law.</li></ul>