

DEI, CSJ/CRT, and Antisemitism

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Key Takeaways:

- **Critical Social Justice / Critical Race Theory has a well-documented “Jewish problem.”¹**
- **DEI is a polished, PR-friendly Trojan Horse² for this radical ideology and its agenda. DEI is a real-world manifestation of the CSJ/CRT ideology.**
- **As a philosophy dependent upon an amorpheous “power structure” imposing white supremacy, it is trivial and frequent to incorporate classic anti-Jewish tropes into CSJ’s worldview.**
- **Antisemitic libels find fertile ground and receptive audiences among CSJ ideology’s adherents, including DEI officials.**

A recent Heritage Foundation study revealed pervasive anti-Jewish bias among DEI officers at America’s universities.³ Despite their benign title and feel-good exterior, “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” programs are the real-world application of Critical Social Justice (CSJ), a system of ideas that encompasses critical race theory (CRT) and its lesser known cousins in identity politics.⁴ Far from fostering a welcoming setting for students of different backgrounds or cultivating genuine diversity of opinions, DEI advances a single totalitarian, Marxist worldview and its revolutionary agenda. DEI is CSJ in action.⁵

Since protests and parents put critical race theory (CRT) in the spotlight, progressives have worked hard to obscure the links between this element of CSJ and “equity” efforts in classrooms and beyond. DEI officials on campus,^{6 7 8} consultants in the workplace,^{9 10} and proponents in the press make the connection explicit.^{11 12} The movement’s most influential voices are published theorists who charge thousands to lead DEI training seminars.¹³

Whether through euphemism¹⁴ or rebranding,¹⁵ DEI smuggles radical ideology into unwitting institutions. It is a process aptly termed “idea laundering.”¹⁶ CRT and CSJ precepts pervade its language. Believers divide human experience into oppressor and oppressed. They characterize the US—and indeed the world at large—a “systemically” racist and destructive project whose institutions, laws, economy, and culture are rigged to empower certain kinds of Americans at the expense of others.¹⁷ This ideology implicates each individual in the maintenance of a vast, inescapable web of privilege, exploitation, and control. It denies the very possibility of honest, legitimate dissent. To disagree is to reinforce injustice. Even silence, the saying goes, is violence.

This has all the markings of a classic conspiracy theory.¹⁸ Shadowy, never-quite-named forces of white supremacy, patriarchy, and cisheteronormativity, manipulate and oppress billions. No complications or evidence to the contrary will dissuade believers. Those who fail to accept the theory as gospel are deemed accessories to the great crime.¹⁹

It has been all too easy to impose the centuries-old myths of Jewish power and greed onto this new (and not-so-new) paradigm. Jews, we are told, have become “white.”²⁰ In doing so, they have aligned themselves with the forces of white supremacy, racism, imperialism, and colonialism. No surprise, then, that activists have successfully linked struggles against anti-black racism in the US with the “Palestinian” anti-Israel cause.²¹ Even police brutality in the United States is blamed on the Jewish state, as proponents make excuses for terror or reclassify perpetrators as “innocents” when they are arrested or neutralized.

The same ideology casts Israel as a European colonial project alien to the Middle East, and engaged in a racist war of ethnic cleansing and genocide against the Palestinians. “Powerful,” “white” Jews cannot also have a legitimate claim to national self-determination in their indigenous homeland—not if people whom CSJ has designated as victims disagree.

This false narrative erases Jewish history and denies religious self-expression to Jews on campus: the desire to return to Jerusalem and Zion is voiced in prayers said daily by Jews for thousands of years. At a time when persecution of Jews on campus has reached levels unseen in recent history, CSJ, manifested in DEI efforts and officials, fans the flames of hate.

- ¹ Lindsay, James. "Critical Race Theory's Jewish Problem." *New Discourses*, 10 Nov. 2020, <https://newdiscourses.com/2020/10/critical-race-theorys-jewish-problem/>.
- ² Pincourt, Charles. "DEI: A Trojan Horse for Critical Social Justice in Science." *Merion West*, 9 Apr. 2021, <https://merionwest.com/2021/04/08/dei-a-trojan-horse-for-critical-social-justice-in-science/>.
- ³ Greene, Jay P., and James Paul. "Inclusion Delusion: The Antisemitism of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Staff at Universities." *The Heritage Foundation*, 8 Dec. 2021, <https://www.heritage.org/education/report/inclusion-delusion-the-antisemitism-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-staff>.
- ⁴ Pluckrose, Helen. "What Do We Mean by Critical Social Justice." *Counterweight*, 15 Mar. 2021, <https://counterweightsupport.com/2021/02/17/what-do-we-mean-by-critical-social-justice/>.
- ⁵ Pincourt, Charles. "Dei: A Trojan Horse for Critical Social Justice in Science." *Merion West*, 9 Apr. 2021, <https://merionwest.com/2021/04/08/dei-a-trojan-horse-for-critical-social-justice-in-science/>.
- ⁶ "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (Deia) Resources: Race, Culture, & Ethnicity." *Research Guides*, <https://guides.lib.lsu.edu/c.php?g=1052777&p=7644484>.
- ⁷ "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Bowman Library, Menlo College: Critical Race Theory." *LibGuides*, <https://menlocollege.libguides.com/c.php?g=1009931&p=7415414>.
- ⁸ "Critical Race Theory and DEI: From Theory to Practice." *Penn Professional Staff Assembly*, 25 Oct. 2021, <https://ppsa.upenn.edu/events/critical-race-theory-and-dei-from-theory-to-practice/>. View the same event here: <https://youtu.be/qiMGsIT3Y54>.
- ⁹ Guyton, Glen. "What Does Critical Race Theory Mean for Workplace Diversity?" *Glen Guyton*, 9 Aug. 2021, <https://www.glenguyton.com/2021/08/04/what-does-critical-race-theory-mean-for-workplace-diversity/>.
- ¹⁰ Davis, Cherrie. "From Critical Race Theory to DEI — More than a Theory." *ShiftForward*, 14 July 2021, <https://cherriedavis.com/the-critical-race-to-dei-more-than-a-theory/>.
- ¹¹ Kalita, S. Mitra. "The Work of Critical Race Theory Falls on Employers Now." *Charter, Charter*, 13 Nov. 2021, <https://www.charterworks.com/business-critical-race-theory/>.
- ¹² Chandler, Leigh. "Beyond the Buzzword: How Can We Use Critical Race Theory to Further Equity and Inclusion Work?" *YW Boston*, 28 July 2021, <https://www.ywboston.org/2021/07/beyond-the-buzzword-how-can-we-use-critical-race-theory-to-further-equity-and-inclusion-work/>.
- ¹³ Gelinas, Nicole, et al. "Woke Schooling: A Toolkit for Concerned Parents." *Manhattan Institute*, 21 June 2021, <https://www.manhattan-institute.org/woke-schooling-toolkit-for-concerned-parents>. The best examples are Robin DiAngelo and Ibram X. Kendi.
- ¹⁴ Sailor, Angela. "Schools Hiding behind Diversity and Inclusion Rhetoric to Spew Critical Race Theory Vile." *The Heritage Foundation*, <https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/schools-hiding-behind-diversity-and-inclusion-rhetoric-spew-critical-race>.
- ¹⁵ Hirsi Ali, Ayaan. "Critical Race Theory's New Disguise." *UnHerd*, 27 Oct. 2021, <https://unherd.com/2021/10/critical-race-theorys-new-disguise/>.
- ¹⁶ *New Discourses*. "Peter Boghossian: How Social Justice Silences." *New Discourses*, 5 Sept. 2020, <https://newdiscourses.com/2020/09/peter-boghossian-how-social-justice-silences/>.
- ¹⁷ See for example *LSU Libraries' DEIA Resources*. "This racism expresses itself in popular culture by believed myths, stories, legal rules, and the institutional disposition of prestige and power via the concept of whiteness."
- ¹⁸ Pipes, Daniel. *Conspiracy: How the Paranoid Style Flourishes and Where It Comes From*. Touchstone Book, 1999.
- ¹⁹ DiAngelo, Robin. *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism*. Beacon Press, 2018.
- ²⁰ Brodtkin, Karen. *How Jews Became White Folks: And What That Says about Race in America*. Rutgers University Press, 2010.
- ²¹ Paresky, Pamela. "Critical Race Theory and the 'Hyper-White' Jew: Sapir Journal." *Sapir Journal*, 2021, <https://sapirjournal.org/social-justice/2021/05/critical-race-theory-and-the-hyper-white-jew/>.