Critical Race Theory

An Introduction

Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic

Foreword by Angela Harris



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

New York and London

Contents

	Acknowledgments	xı
	Foreword by Angela Harris	xvi
I	Introduction	1
	A. What Is Critical Race Theory?	2
	B. Early Origins	3
	C. Relationship to Other Movements	4
	D. Principal Figures	5
	E. Spin-off Movements	6
	F. Basic Tenets of Critical Race Theory	6
	G. How Much Racism Is There in the World?	9
	H. Organization of This Book	11
	Questions and Comments for Chapter I	13
	Suggested Readings	14
I	Hallmark Critical Race Theory Themes	15
	A. Interest Convergence, Material	
	Determinism, and Racial Realism	16
	B. Revisionist History	20
	C. Critique of Liberalism	21
	D. Structural Determinism	25
	1. Tools of Thought and the Dilemma of	
	Law Reform	26

	2. The Empathic Fallacy	27
	Classroom Exercise	29
	3. Serving Two Masters	30
	4. Race Remedies Law as a	
	Homeostatic Device	31
	Questions and Comments for Chapter II	33
	Suggested Readings	34
Ш	Legal Storytelling and Narrative Analysis	37
	A. Opening a Window onto Ignored or	
	Alternative Realities	39
	B. Counterstorytelling	42
	C. Cure for Silencing	43
	D. Storytelling in Court	45
	E. Storytelling on the Defensive	. 46
	Questions and Comments for Chapter III	47
	Suggested Readings	48
IV	Looking Inward	51
	A. Intersectionality	51
	B. Essentialism and Anti-Essentialism	56
	C. Nationalism versus Assimilation	59
	Classroom Exercise	63
	Questions and Comments for Chapter IV	64
	Suggested Readings	65
V	Power and the Shape of Knowledge	67
	A. The Black-White Binary	67 .
	B. Critical White Studies	74
	Classroom Exercise	80
	C. Other Developments: Latino and Asian	
	Critical Thought, Critical Race	
	Feminism, Queer-Crit Theory	81
	Questions and Comments for Chapter V	84
	Suggested Readings	85

VI	Critiques and Responses to Criticism	8
	Classroom Exercise	9
	Questions and Comments for Chapter VI	9
	Suggested Readings	9
VII	Critical Race Theory Today	10
	A. The 1990s	10
	B. Capitalism on the Rampage	10
	1. Unmasking Color Blindness	10
	2. Race, Class, Welfare, and Poverty	10
	3. Globalization	11
	C. Power	11
	D. Identity	12
	Classroom Exercise	12
	Questions and Comments for Chapter VII	12
	Suggested Readings	12.
VIII	Conclusion	12
	A. The Future	12
	B. A Critical Race Agenda for the New Century	13
	C. Likely Responses to Critical Race Theory	13.
	1. Critical Race Theory Becomes the	
	New Civil Rights Orthodoxy	13.
	2. Critical Race Theory Marginalized	
	and Ignored	13
	3. Critical Race Theory Analyzed,	
	but Rejected	13
	4. Partial Incorporation	13.
	Classroom Exercise	13.
	Questions and Comments for Chapter VIII	13
	Suggested Readings	13
	Glossary of Terms	14
	Index	15
	About the Authors	16