

Example of Critical Race Theory in Kansas

USD 259 Wichita

- District spokesperson Wendy Johnson says the district has “not approved or recommended, per se” the 1619 Project and similar resources listed, but simply “provides the material as resources” for teachers. A [Heritage Foundation review](#) of The 1619 Project calls it a “reframing” of our nation’s history as being based on slavery. The review says 1619 Project includes an essay entitled “Undemocratic Democracy” that “paints today’s Republican Party as a direct descendent of America’s racist past.”
- Other examples on the district’s [resource page](#) include Black Lives Matter, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Zinn Education Project. The [Washington Examiner](#) says Zinn’s founder, Howard Zinn, is “a Marxist historian who served as a foot soldier in the Communist Party.”
- More documentation and discussion can be [found here](#).

USD 229 Blue Valley

- A Diversity Club [video](#) shown in a virtual student assembly features teachers criticizing Whites, Christians, and Republicans. One teacher promoted a fictitious drug called Empathica for white people who are “tired of constantly hearing about racial inequality in America.” He lists potential side effects including “an uncomfortable realization that your feelings of exhaustion and frustration with this issue are things people of color have dealt with for generations” and a “subtle understanding that racism in America no longer requires physical racists to be present.” More discussion can be found [here](#).
- Teachers are [asking students to declare their preferred pronouns](#) and offering to keep it a secret from parents if they wish.
- A slide from a Blue Valley [teacher training guide](#) says people who are white, male, heterosexual, upper-middle class, athletic, able-bodied, or neurotypical are in the Dominant Culture. People who do not fall under one of those identities are part of the subordinate culture.

USD 415 Hiawatha

- Former Hiawatha teacher Stuart Aller [told the Board of Education](#) that the tenets of critical race theory were indeed part of the culture under the guise of the district’s Diversity and Inclusion

Council. Aller said, "I'm concerned that this (Diversity) council ... is an indoctrination and discrimination tool," Aller said. "We received staff and student training that places blame for societal problems on those having white skin color."

- Aller said; there was a culture that expressed the concepts of CRT among teachers. "During lunch breaks in the teacher workroom, I routinely heard remarks about whiteness, white fragility, privilege, these buzz terms that critical race theory uses and it's concerning," Aller told the board. "It doesn't provide for a welcoming or inclusive environment at all. It makes, actually, for a hostile and uncomfortable environment for those trying to live a humble and quiet life."

USD 512 Shawnee Mission

- The Shawnee Mission school district says it doesn't use critical race theory, but a *Sentinel* investigation found that the district spent more \$400,000 on Corwin's [Deep Equity training](#), which is based on [critical race theory](#). Corwin says its Deep Equity program is based on the work of [Gary Howard](#), who believes White people "[are collectively bound and unavoidably complicit in the arrangements of dominance that have systematically favored our racial group over others.](#)"
- A video called [Rolling in the Deep Equity](#) exposes elements of the Deep Equity teacher and student training. Deep Equity's author, Gary Howard, is seen saying, "Let' talk about the founding of our country. The American dilemma...the good of the many vs the wealth and power of the few. These ideas were set in stone in 1787."
- A student who had been through the training tells the interviewer in the video, "I never really knew about social justice. But today they gave me a definition that will stick with me for a lifetime. The good of many rather than the greed of a few."
- Facilitators are given strategies to shut down criticism, which Howard says most often comes from "white, male, social studies types and conservative Christians...." Howard also refers to them as "negative people."
- Throughout the training, participants are reminded that "whiteness" is a bad thing. Howard reflects on what it means "to be white in a country with such a difficult history on race, and my (white) group has been the dominant, oppressive group in many ways."
- Participants play a game called Culture Toss. People are required to give up elements of their "identity," two at a time, to survive in an oppressive police state where people are "disappeared." This is equated with being a "marginalized" student in the dominant culture – kids must give up elements of their true selves to conform to a culture of "whiteness."

- The indoctrination goes all the way into elementary school. Howard says part of the work on “social dominance and social justice” is to ask “elementary, middle school, or high school (students)...how they are experiencing systems of privilege and preference reinforced by power that favors certain groups over others in their school settings and community settings.”
- An internal memo explains why Shawnee Mission [cancelled Thanksgiving](#) and winter holiday meal celebrations. A memo to Food Service staff says, “As we learn more about diversity, equity, and inclusion, we are evaluating our practice of having holiday-themed meals.”
- Josiah Enyart [testified on December 1 before the Special Committee on Education](#).

“There are three main points from CRT pushed by the deep equity program,” said Enyart, who taught math in Shawnee Mission for 10 years. “One — you are either the oppressor white, or the oppressed people of color, and whiteness needs to be eradicated. Two, all systems in America are rooted in racism and are still racist today. And three, equal outcomes is the only possible solution for ending racism versus equal opportunity because any disparate outcome is a clear sign of racism.”

Enyart said diversity is supposed to be about more than just skin color, but the CRT, DEI, and SEL proponents care only about skin color.

“It pushes guilt and shame on white students and staff members while pushing victimhood and finger-pointing for people of color. By focusing solely on race or gender, they omit the most important part, the ideas, the thoughts, the opinions ... the most important aspect.”

USD 233 Olathe

- A parent wrote to the superintendent about a curriculum decision, saying it had been on the agenda for the June 30 BOE meeting and noted a multitude of links on the district’s “Diversity and Resources” page, which has since been made “unavailable” by the district.
- “This sharp turn into politicizing the social justice discussion in our children’s classrooms is wholly unacceptable and truly alarming,” the parent wrote. “The NTC curriculum is intended to be used in our early childhood teacher training. The linked teacher resources from the SPLC are to be used, at the recommendation of the District by ANY teacher in the District to have these difficult and nuanced discussions from an entirely leftist political point of view.”
- The parent notes that the link to the “Learning for Justice,” classroom “resources” page labeled “lessons,” are statements such as “For white children in particular, these stories offer a way of balancing the negative role that white people have played in maintaining a system of racism with concrete stories about people who have worked and continue to work to dismantle that system,” suggesting that all white people are racist, and includes lessons on “diversity” for children as young as kindergarten.

- The lesson entitled “[Analyzing Gender Stereotypes in Media](#)” allegedly ... “helps students analyze and critique messages about gender that they get from various media. Students will focus on toys and toy advertisements, challenging themselves to think past what advertisements tell them about their gender identity.”
- Students are told to complete a gender identity questionnaire. It first asks students to declare their gender identity, their preferred gender expression, their sex assigned at birth (with an option other than male or female), whether they are physically attracted to women, men, or other genders, and to which gender they are emotionally attracted.
- Students are then asked if they know their identity and whether they are still in “identity confusion stage.” The form also declares that discovering one’s identity is a “primary goal” for adolescents.
- This first happened in February and the district said it wouldn’t happen again. But [it did on October 25](#).
- A book detailing the sexual exploits of a young man is on the approved reading list for students as young as sixth grade in some Johnson County School districts. The book is a nonfiction memoir that describes sexual acts in graphic detail.
- Pages from the book posted on social media are graphic. “He reached his hand down and pulled out my dick. He quickly went to giving head,” page 266 of the book reads.
- [Blue Valley and Shawnee Mission](#) have the same book in their libraries.
- Olathe school officials last year said they purged the school website of DEI resources and links, but the widely-debunked [1619 Project is still in use and officials refuse to answer questions](#). A 7th-Grade Social Studies assignment from March 2022 asked, “Why does Erica Green write that what many schools in the country have been teaching is a “sanitized version of what slavery was”? Why is that a problem? What is the reality of this myth and why is it harmful: states (sic) rights lead (sic) to civil war?”

Students were told to find the answers in sources including the 1619 Project and the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Learning for Justice.

USD 497 Lawrence

- From documents [Amy Thomas obtained from the district](#)... “Page five of the document defines whiteness and states ‘white dominant culture grants advantages to white people,’” she said. “It

goes on to ask who is benefiting? Who is marginalized, and the worksheet provided you will see anti-racist responses with questions. How does race play a role in that experience?

Molly Baumgardner's Senate District (district not specified)

- Senator Molly Baumgardner at the December 1 committee hearing cited an email she received the night before from a parent.

"The parent shared, **'My child is biracial. And based on what is being said in the school by the teacher, (my child) needs to decide 'is one parent bad and one parent good because of skin color.'** And that is being presented as fact in the classroom. Not discussion, not let's research, not let's look at things, but presented as fact. **To hear from a parent of a grade school child, being told, 'the assignment for today is write a sentence that explains why you're sorry for being white.'**