

# Diverse Voices

PRODUCED BY THE IUP COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STANDING COMMITTEE

## Hot Takes: Critical Race Theory (CRT)

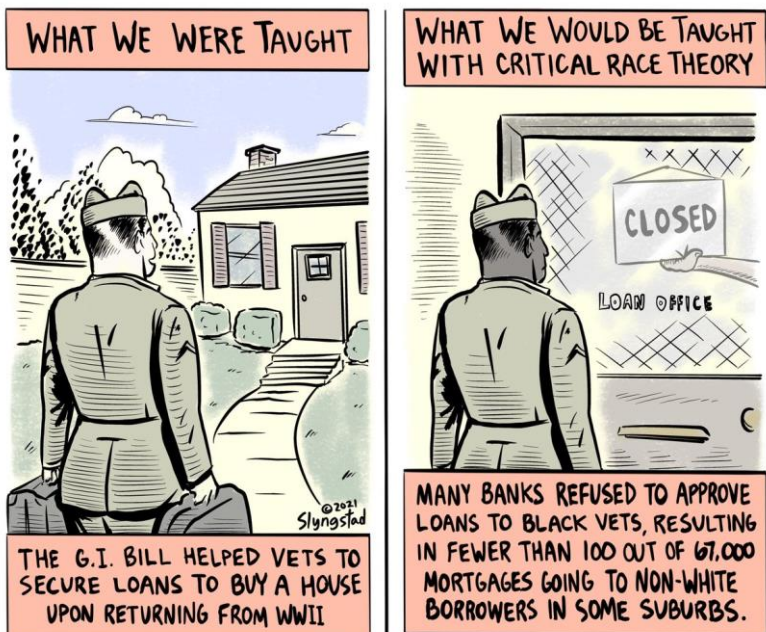
In collaboration with the Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) Department Racial Justice Advisory, we present *Hot Takes*: A crash-course style social justice presentation series. The first session on Critical Race Theory was presented by Dr. John Mueller, professor, and Karis Cornelius, graduate student, from the SAHE Department. This edition of *Diverse Voices* features information from the *Hot Takes: CRT* presentation and concludes with references and resources for understanding Critical Race Theory.

### A Brief History of CRT

**Despite recent popularity in the media, Critical Race Theory is not new.**

- CRT began as a movement within the legal system at Harvard Law School in the 1980s as a successor to Critical Legal Studies (CLS)
- Legal scholars noticed racial inequities lingering after the Civil Rights Movement
- CRT is a framework to examine the role of race and racism at the structural level in different aspects of society (education, legal, health, financial, etc.) and to help us understand and explain how and why racial inequities persist.

-Dr. Jonathan Cox, University of Central Florida)



This comic by [Benjamin Slyngstad](#) highlights just one example of how policies set decades in the past can have lasting effects today. Discriminatory lending through the G.I. Bill benefits in the 1940s have trickled down generationally and caused financial inequities that last today.

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## Hot Takes: Critical Race Theory

### 3 Common Myths of CRT

**MYTH:** *CRT teaches that all White people are inherently racist.*

**REALITY:** CRT considers racism in laws and policies, not individual acts. Hypothetically, even if there are no racist individuals, CRT says that inequities persist because of racism in laws and policies.

**MYTH:** *CRT is a program, training, or curriculum that is being taught in secondary schools.*

**REALITY:** CRT has become a blanket term for all race-related education. CRT is just one of the ways to teach subjects like history and education.

**MYTH:** *CRT is a criticism of our nation and of patriotism.*

**REALITY:** CRT seeks to reform laws, policies, and practices to more closely support our nation's founding idea of equality.

The next session of Hot Takes will be on November 11 from 11:45-12:00 on decolonization in higher education. Zoom Meeting ID: 983 9512 1364

Contact [coec-diversity@iup.edu](mailto:coec-diversity@iup.edu) for more information.



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## Hot Takes: Critical Race Theory References and Resources

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