

Ministry in the Fog of CRT

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How Shall We Respond?

Run Away
Attack
Incarnate

Session 1- Ministry in the Fog of Theory

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

"What is truth?" retorted Pilate. John 18:37-38

What is truth?

Modernist- Truth is found in an outside authority

Post-Modernist- Truth is found within ourselves



What is truth? **Theory** Truth is defined through inference by the majority voice

All human interaction is about power.

"in any given culture and at any given moment, there is always only one episteme that defines the conditions of possibility of all knowledge, whether expressed in a theory or silently invested in a practice."

-Michel Foucault

What is truth?

Theory

Postmodernism

Postcolonial Theory

Queer Theory

Critical Race Theory and Intersectionality

Feminisms and Gender Studies

Disability and Fat Studies

Theory

1. The blurring of boundaries

Deathworks

Theory

1. The blurring of boundaries

Deathworks

A screenshot of a TikTok video. The video shows a dark, blurry image with text overlay. The text reads: "Postmodernism: The Death of the Subject". Below this, there is a smaller text "5:41 PM". The video has a vertical orientation and a black background. On the right side, there is a vertical bar with various icons (heart, comment, share, etc.). At the bottom, there is a caption and some user information, which is partially obscured by a black bar.

Theory

1. The blurring of boundaries

Deathworks



Theory

2. The



Theory

2. The Power of Language



Words create reality

"There is nothing outside of text."

Jacques Derrida (1967), *Of Grammatology*,
Writing and Difference, and Speech and
Phenomena

Theory

2. The Power of Language

Words create reality

Shifting Definitions

Speech as micro-aggression

Theory

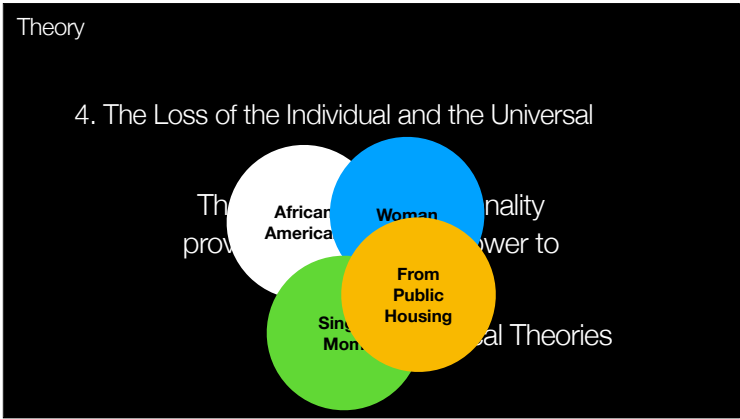
3. Cultural Relativism

East vs. West

Theory

4. The Loss of the Individual and the Universal







**Run Away
Attack
Incarnate**

How would you start a conversation with this person?

What would a youth member need to know to process the message of this video?

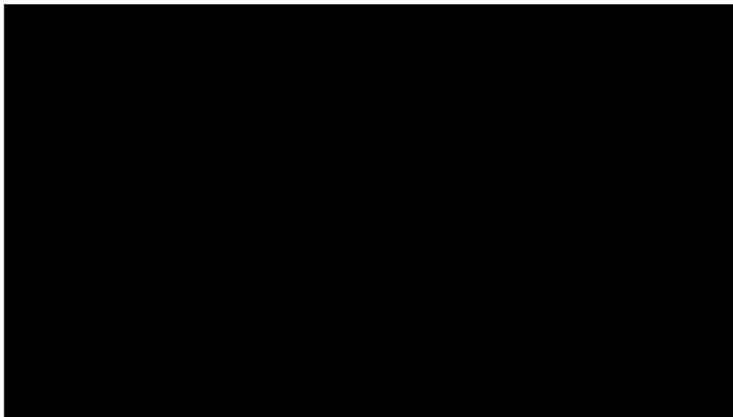


**Run Away
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Theory

1. The blurring of boundaries
2. The Power of Language
3. Cultural Relativism
4. The Loss of the Individual and the Universal

CRT and Ministry

The goal of formation ministry:

Members who share the gospel in word and deed in their community.



The Desired Impact of the Local Congregation is the Saving of Souls.

Dependent on Jesus
Interdependent with the church
Confident in the Word
Engaged in the Community

CRT and Ministry

Why do I use this framework?

- It provides a focus for our sermons, our Bible classes, our Catechetical classes, and our Sunday School.
- It attends to cross-generational evangelism
- It is a proactive approach to ministry (vs. Reactive)

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Interdependent with the church
Confident in the Word
Engaged in the Community

Members who share the gospel in word and deed in their community.



Dependent on Jesus

Interdependent with the church

Confident in the Word

Engaged in the Community

Children's Ministry (Pre-K through 5th Grade)

Love Jesus

Trust the community of faith

Know Core Bible Lessons

The nature of God

The impact of sin

The saving work of Jesus

The sinner/saint dynamic

The nature of the church

CRT and Ministry

Children's Ministry (Pre-K through 5th Grade)

Vulnerabilities of Children

Children Trust Easily





CRT and Ministry

Children's Ministry (Pre-K through 5th Grade)

Vulnerabilities of Children

Children See Hypocrisy

Love	Equality and Equity
Family	Hurting
Race	Poverty
Justice/Mercy	Mental Health

CRT and Ministry

Children's Ministry (Pre-K through 5th Grade)

Ministry Opportunities

- Reinforce the Bible
- Reinforce a culture of modeling in the congregation
- Demonstrate compassion and equality
- Debrief formative experiences

Junior Confirmation

The Goals:

That the participants root their sense of self in Christ.

That the participants value their identity in Christ.

Junior Confirmation

Their Vulnerabilities:

- They are searching to understand what it means for them to be an adult.
- They are searching for a working definition of “true love”
- Our hyper-sexualized culture binds identity to sexual practice.

Junior Confirmation

Many public schools approach the mental and sexual health of students with the following assumptions:

- Identity is intimately tied to sexuality.
- Gender is a construct of a repressive generation.
- The full discovery of one's identity requires sexual exploration/expressions
- A child's mental health is damaged when society assigns a moral value to their choice of gender identity.

Junior Confirmation

In most cases, the content of a traditional confirmation class provides answers to questions the students are not asking.

Junior Confirmation

- Freedom to develop a self-identity, including gender
- Hate speech
- Racism and Equity
- The right to sexual expression
- The right to health care and higher education
- Environmental concerns

Youth Ministry

- Freedom to develop a self-identity, including gender
- Hate speech
- Racism and Equity
- The right to sexual expression
- The right to health care and higher education
- Environmental concerns

All Are Created in God's Image, therefore we attack God's creation when

- We are angry at others
- We lie to others
- We use others for sexual gratification without a lifetime commitment.
- We do not help those who are in need.

Youth Ministry

- Freedom to develop a self-identity, including gender
- Hate speech
- Racism and Equity
- The right to sexual expression
- The right to health care and higher education
- Environmental concerns

We were created to be stewards of God's Creation, therefore,

- We care for the environment and all God's creatures.
- We provide assistance to those who are in need.
- We use the gifts given to us by our creator to benefit others.

Youth Ministry

Opportunities:

- Address gender and sexual feelings at an early age.
- Because you have been reinforcing the Word of God as the source of truth:
 - Discuss the concept that God created people to be either male or female, and His response was that it was good- it was desirable.
 - Discuss the concept of freedom within boundaries. (Three uses of the Law)

Adult Confirmation Ministry

The Goal: That adults no longer conform to this world but are being transformed by the Holy Spirit.



Adult Confirmation Ministry

Incorporate apologetics into your youth curriculum.



How would you respond?
