

Critical Liberation Theory

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Definitions

Liberation: the creation of relationships, societies, communities, organizations and collective spaces characterized by equity, fairness, and the implementation of systems for the allocation of goods, services, benefits and rewards that support the full participation of each human and the promotion of their full humanness.

Transformation: the process through which societies, communities and relationships are reorganized to support the goals of liberation.

Liberatory Consciousness: a way of living in a world characterized by oppressive systems with awareness and intentionality. It enables us to maintain an awareness of the dynamics of oppression without giving into despair and hopelessness and an awareness of the roles played by each individual in the maintenance of that system without blaming them for the roles they play. And it enables humans to live outside of the patterns of thought and behavior learned through an oppressive socialization process to support us in being intentional about our role in working towards transformation.

Critical Liberation Theory: The theoretical and philosophical framework that helps to guide and shape liberation praxis.

Liberation Praxis: Acting and reflecting on the world in order to transform it toward liberation while also engaging in specific liberatory behaviors that leads to self and societal transformation.

Overview

Eliminating White Privilege can increasingly happen as we create a theory which enables daily action toward liberation. It is necessary that we state our intention to work for liberation.

Clarifying a theory of liberation provides the mechanism through which each of us can ratchet ourselves toward daily enactments of a liberatory society.

