

Incorporating Critical Race Theory When Working with Opportunity Youth

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is a dynamic theoretical framework that surfaced in the late 1970s as a critical response to the colorblind justice pedagogy occurring in schools of law in the United States (Delgado & Stefancic, 2001). Through its core tenets, CRT examines how race and its intersections with other markers of identity are social constructions that lay the groundwork for the systemic and institutional oppression of marginalized groups (Aldana & Vazquez, 2019).

The training will provide the basics of Critical Race Theory through an overview of its tenets, which will provide a deeper understanding and context regarding the systemic factors and institutions that influence the lives of opportunity youth, and further marginalization. Then, the training will focus on the praxis (theory in practice) of Critical Race Theory when working with opportunity youth.

Given the recent attacks on Critical Race Theory by the current administration, this training will dispel any myths related to CRT's purpose and theoretical principles.

By the end of the training, participants will

- Understand the tenets of CRT that can be best applied when working with opportunity youth
- Have engaged in critical self-reflection to understand the importance of one's own positionality when working with opportunity youth
- Have engaged in practical examples that will aid in effectively working with opportunity youth



DATE AND TIME

Wednesday, September 30, 2020
10:00 a.m. Pacific Time

RSVP

Please send your RSVP
to Ruben Gonzales Jr.
at ruben.gonzales@csun.edu,
if you have questions you
can call (310) 721-4895.

RSVP

RUBEN.GONZALES@CSUN.EDU

LOCATION

Zoom Conference Call

<https://csun.zoom.us/j/91741513245?pwd=aFBxYjk3UjR1cC9MaG0yZjhyS1gwZz09>

Meeting ID: 917 4151 3245
Passcode: 163708

SPEAKER

Nicole Vazquez is an expert in the practical application of Critical Race Theory in academic and professional settings, with an emphasis on social work practice. A seasoned and skilled facilitator, Nicole has conducted numerous Critical-Race specific trainings within university departments, with public and non-profit sector clients, and social work professionals, in addition to providing consultation in organizational development and support through a CRS frame. She is also a published author, most recently co-writing a book chapter: From Colorblind Racism to Critical Race Theory: The Road Toward Anti-Racist Social Work in the United States, published by Palgrave Macmillan in *Anti-Racist Social Work: An International Perspective*.

She has over 20 years' experience both in the public and nonprofit sectors that includes work with elected officials, in government agencies and in grassroots organizations; her direct practice experience includes crisis counseling, in-home counseling, and case management. Nicole most recently served as the Director of Field Education and Chair Designee in California State University, Dominguez Hills' Master of Social Work program. She holds dual Masters degrees in Social Welfare and Public Policy from UCLA.

