

Critical Theory Summary of Concepts

- It's an all-encompassing worldview – it's much bigger than just identity. Identity is a core piece of CT but it fits within a much broader framework. Critical theory is intentionally complex and difficult to understand. If you ask a seemingly simple direct question, the answer is often circular, full of new or changing terms and irrational.
- There are two groups those who have power and those who don't.
- Power and oppression are the only filters to understand our world. Everything is understood through the lens of power.
- Critical theorists are not interested in truth, they are interested in power. Critical theorists are not asking what we are saying is true, but who gets power, whose interests are served, and who benefits.
- Truth is based on the oppressed groups' "lived experience" – that no one can question. Especially those in power. Objective reality has no value other than to oppress.
- Any values, beliefs, norms and institutions formed by those in power are used to oppress those who don't have power. That's why it's common to hear about "deconstruction". Example: Christianity
- The oppressors and oppressed are based upon group identity. E.g. male/female, abled/disabled, Christianity/Islam, citizen/undocumented person, cis-gender/transgender, black/white, heterosexual/homosexual, adults/children and parent/child (adultism is where an adult or parent oppresses the child into living by their norms, values and beliefs stifling their self-expression)
- Words are changeable and subjective and can mean anything critical theorists want these terms to mean.
- Intersectionality – measures your level of oppression by the number of oppressed groups to which you belong.
- The more categories of oppression one fits into the more moral authority one has.
- The more oppressed someone is, the less personal responsibility the person has because they are a victim.
- You gain salvation by surrendering your power to the oppressed. This is called being "woke"

Any means is justified and used to achieve change. Typically, the means are to redefine, deconstruct, divide, personally attack those blocking change, create chaos and destroy.

The End Point. It's the end of the Judeo-Christian worldview, capitalism, and deconstruction of its institutions and the beginning of something new – One World Order, Equality and Equity. It's replacing the Judeo-Christian way of life and its oppressive values, norms and standards with a perfect society created by mankind.

Critical Theory is fundamentally Marxism applied to identity groups rather than economic class.

Sources of this summary:

Voddie Baucham -pastor, author, theologian

Monique Duson - former CRT activist and co-founder of the Center for Biblical Unity

Darrel Harrison – Just Thinking

Neil Shenvi – apologist, writer