

(Letter to the editor posted in the *Rapid City Journal*)

Producing Patriotic Americans

One quality that makes America exceptional has been our belief in treating all persons as individuals according to their character. No matter one's background, happiness and opportunity to succeed is available to those willing to work.

America's guiding principle has come under attack from proponents of Critical Race Theory (CRT). CRT makes one's degree of melatonin the central factor of a person's life and what they can accomplish.

The Marxist philosophy divides people by economic class, pitting them against each other. CRT divides people by skin color, labeling some as oppressors and others as oppressed.

CRT teaches that white people are inherently racist and "privileged" and must abolish "white supremacy" principles of private property, equal protection, free speech and capitalism. Black people are encouraged to reject "whiteness" ideals such as the nuclear family, work ethic and respect for authority.

CRT is implemented in our government, workplace, military, sports, and in every level in our schools. Yes, implementation is progressing in our South Dakota schools. According to journalist Stanley Kurtz, "the current draft of South Dakota Social Studies standards are filled with exercises in leftist action civics ..." Hopefully, Gov. Noem's candidate pledge to "1776 Action" will produce patriot Americans.

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