



Equip and mobilize the local church to address tough issues from a biblical worldview perspective.

Forging Christians with worldview knowledge for real-world impact in Fort Worth.

Contact:
lance@forgeroom.org



Yuval Noah Harari - Transhumanism Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuL3wlodJC8>



Over the next 4 weeks, we'll take a journey together. This is an opportunity to expand and deepen our Christian worldview... cultivating a full-orbed Kingdom vision of reality and the world we inhabit. We'll be developing a public theology and pursuing this together as a community of believers.

Sessions 1: Making Sense of Worldviews
Sessions 2: Understanding Culture
Sessions 3: Culture in Crisis (Current Flashpoints)

Sessions 4: Christ Over Politics and Culture



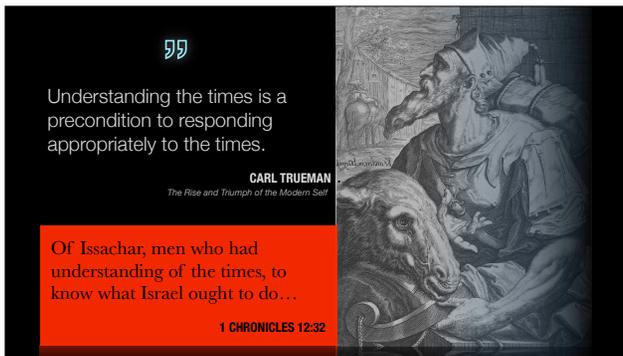
If you did not Register...
Resource Center... forgeroom.org website



July 21st – SESSION THREE - CULTURE IN CRISIS - FLASHPOINTS

By the end of this session, you will have learned a few things and some of what you learn will make a difference in your life and the lives of others.

Slides available to you...



‘How did we arrive at this cultural moment?’

This is **not** an exhaustive deep dive into history, philosophy, etc.

We’re are going to explore **how ideas shape culture...**

Why is it important to know how ideas shape the world we live in????
(NEXT SLIDE)



We need *insight* to recognize the influence of culture around us and on us.

Insight allows us to see areas where we can make a difference as Christians.

Remember last week - Paul in Athens (understanding the cultural context)

NOTE:

Modern notion of “Knowing” and Chronological Snobbery...

Moderns have reduced knowledge to empirical facts about something...

KJV “Adam knew his wife... and she conceived...” (just didn’t have sex...)

Chronological Snobbery (CS Lewis) - Moderns believe we are somehow better.... (Tech).

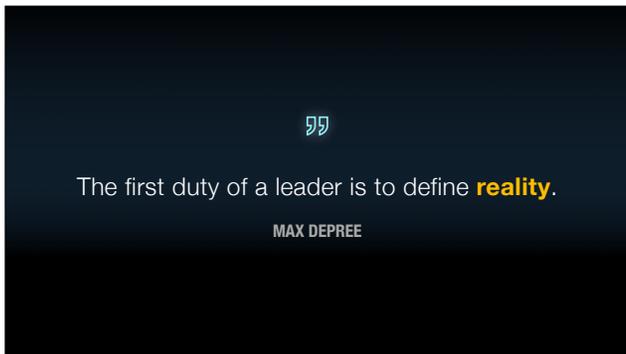
We disregard or reject any prior knowledge as if our way is better.

People of different times saw reality differently that we do...

The Traditional notion of knowing is to understand something thoroughly that you almost feel it... it is an intimate knowledge of the inner-workings

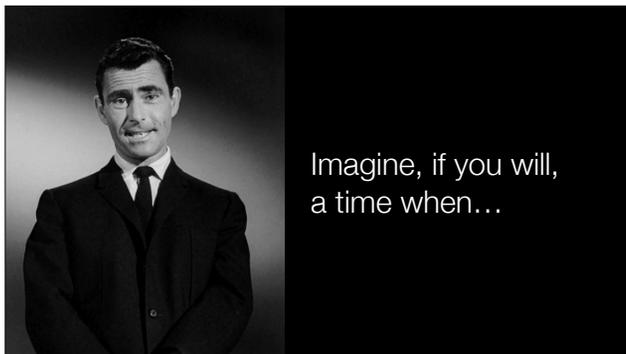
on something or someone...

It's working head knowledge into heart knowledge.



The first duty of a leader is to define reality.

MAX DEPREE



1. How many of you guys remember this guy's name?

2. What was the TV show he hosted?

- Rod Serling
- Twilight Zone

Imagine, if you will, a time when...

How many of you can remember when Facebook **didn't exist**?

..... iPhones didn't exist?

..... Google didn't exist...?

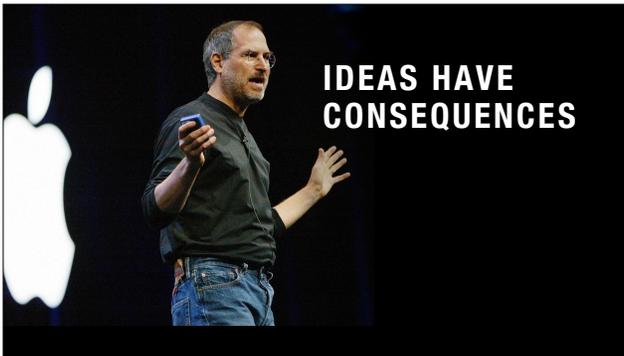
..... Internet didn't exist?
..... Cable news networks...?
..... Satellites...?
..... nuclear weapons...?
..... airplanes...?



How **ideas** shape culture

- Everything around you began as an idea at some point...
- Have you ever wondered why some ideas have the power to shape culture?
- How did Charles Darwin's "theory" of evolution come to be seen as the "fact" of evolution and why?
- Why don't we use rotary telephones anymore?
- How did the iPhone and the internet change history AND human relationships?
- How are ideas from decades ago shaping the world we live in today?
- How can we contribute ideas that reflect God's glory and bring good to our neighbors who inhabit God's world?
- **Why do some ideas take hold and stick and others don't?**

This is how culture works!



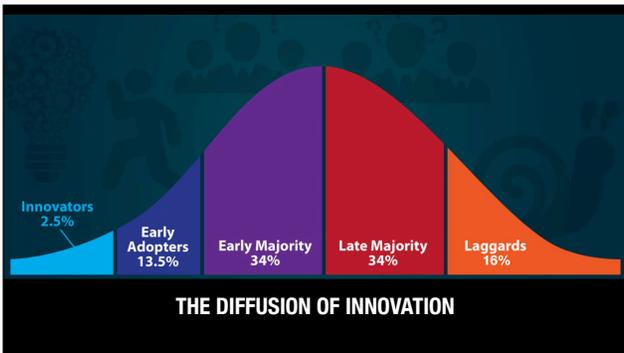
Everything around you began with an idea.

This is how culture works...

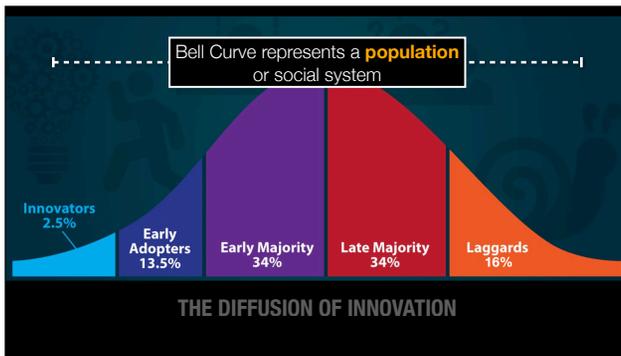
If you can understand this, you will be able to confidently serve God's purposes in our generation.



This is how culture works!

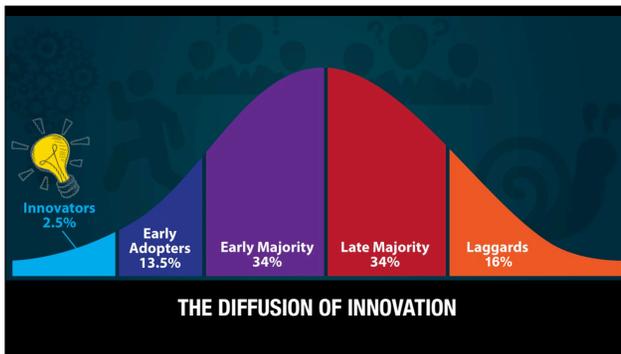


The Diffusion of Innovation theory describes the pattern and speed at which new ideas, practices, or products spread through a population.

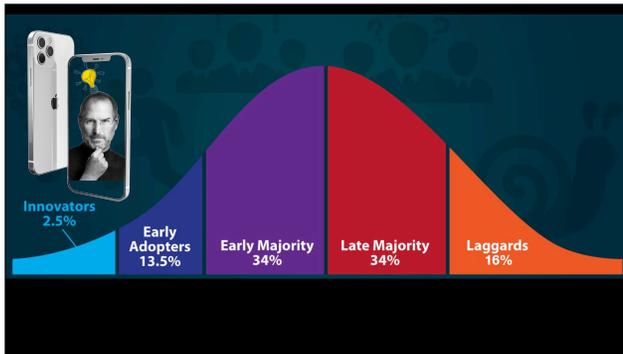


The Bell Curve represents a population or social system (interconnected relationships)

- Nation, region, culture, community, institution, club, church, etc.



- **Innovators:** People who *create* or are *first* to try new ideas.
They want to be first!
- **Early Adopters:** People interested in *trying new* things.
They want to be early!
- **Early Majority:** People who pave the way for innovation within mainstream society.
They don't want to be too early or too late.
- **Late Majority:** People who are *skeptical of change* and will only adopt an innovation after it's been generally accepted and adopted by the majority of the population. (Skeptical, cautious, if its popular, they do it.)
They follow the rest of the herd.
- **Laggards:** People who are *resistant to change* BUT, the sweep of an innovation through mainstream society makes it impossible for them to conduct their daily life (or work) without it.
*They are **forced** to adopt the change (or new thing)*



Example:

Innovator: Steve Jobs and the iPhone (Simon Sinek - Start with. WHY)
 Game changer... >> Pocket idol

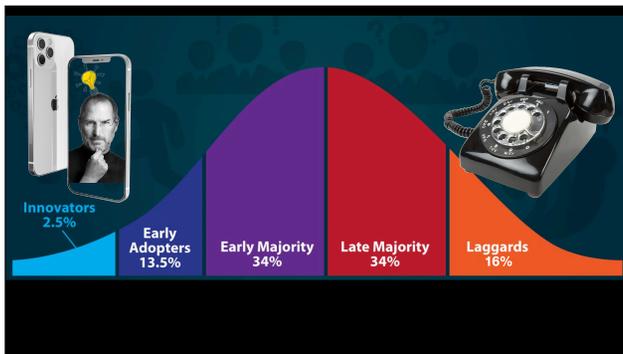
Your Android operates like an iPhone.

Prior to iPhone - Blackberry / PDA (do they still exist?)

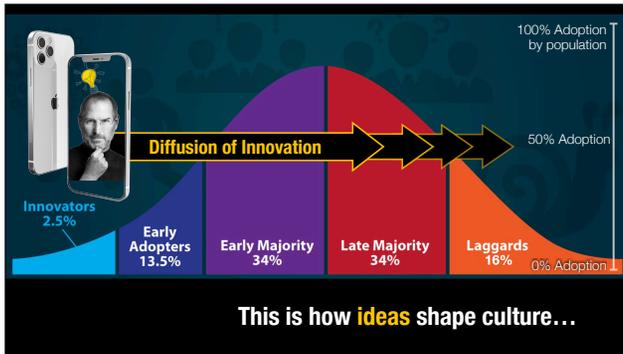
Early Adopters - Camp out vs buy in store

Early Majority - “Everybody else is getting one! I don’t want to be the only one without an iPhone.”

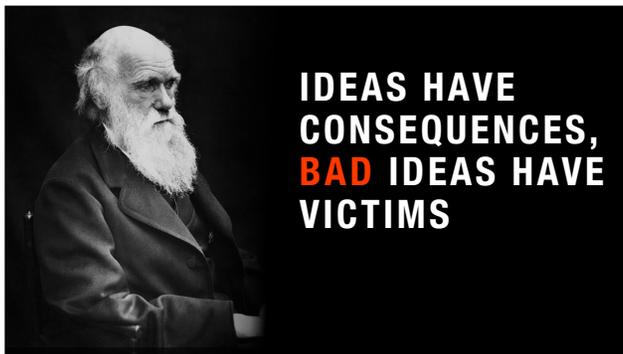
Late Majority - “I still don’t know about this, but it looks like most people have iPhones and they like them.”



Laggards - “I want my rotary phone!” - They are forced into the technology



This is how ideas shape culture... The idea sticks and moves toward 100% adoption by population.



Ideas have consequences and bad ideas have victims.

As Christians, we can't claim to truly love our neighbors if we stand by and allow bad ideas harm our neighbors who are made in God's image and inhabit God's world, right?

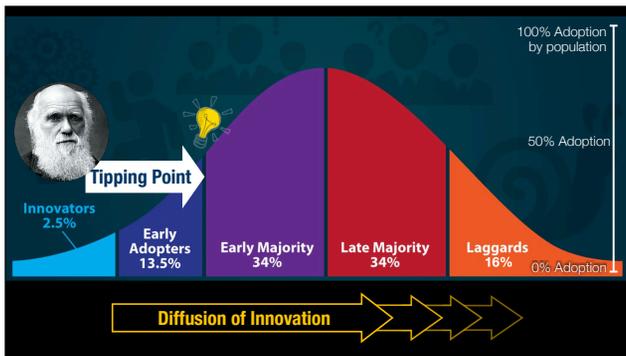
Let's talk about a bad idea....



Charles Darwin... DARWINIAN EVOLUTION

“Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of *Favoured Races* in the Struggle for Life”

Remember the tree of life?

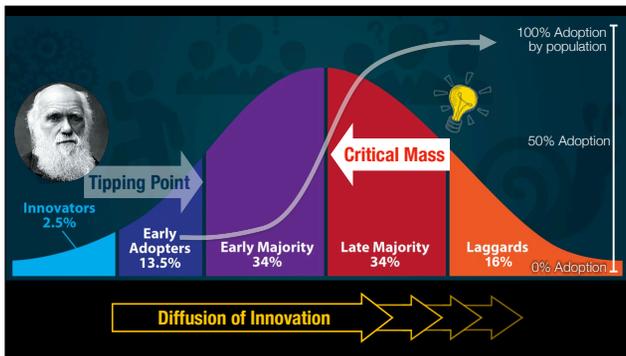


Tipping point at 13.5 - 15.5% of the population.

Ideas require very little 'buy in' for that idea to take hold...

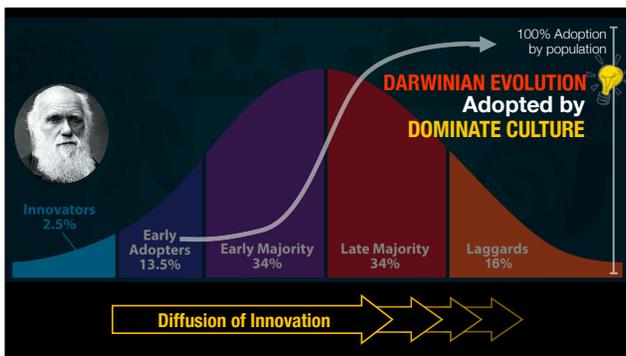
Small hinges swing big doors.

Tipping point



Critical Mass....

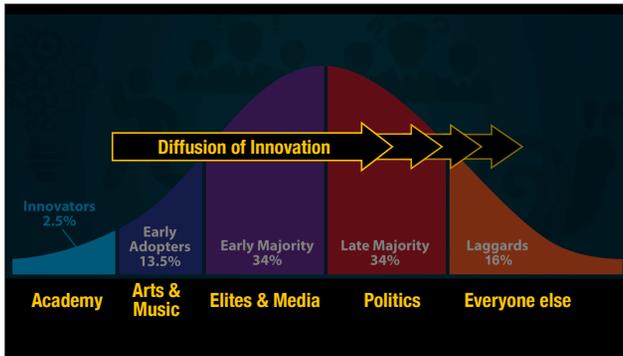
Momentum and mass adoption of the idea...



Idea achieves cultural dominance...

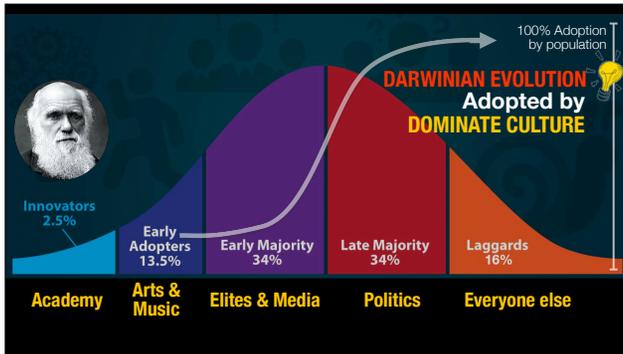
Institutional acceptance ... Evolution is now the norm.

Universities, schools, entertainment, science, etc...



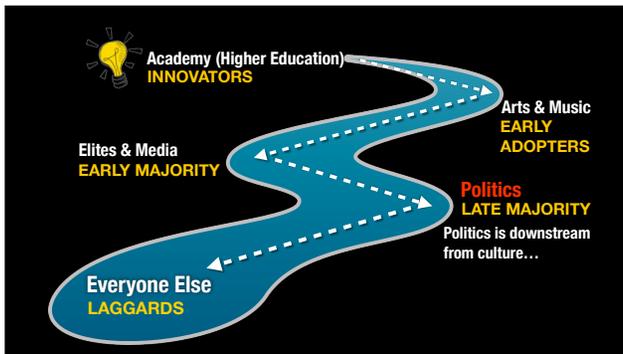
Notice new words at the bottom of the slide...

- Academy
- Arts and music
- Elites and media
- Politics
- Everyone else...



Darwinian Theory of Evolution made its way through

- Academy (Higher Education)
- Arts and music
- Elites and media
- Politics
- Everyone else...



Here is a look at the diffusion of innovation another perspective...

Politics is downstream from culture...

If you find pollution in a body of water, you must go upstream to locate the source.

Note:

It's interesting to note, Conservatives have won the vast majority of

elections over the last 50 years... YET, conservatives continue to lose ground culturally. Why?

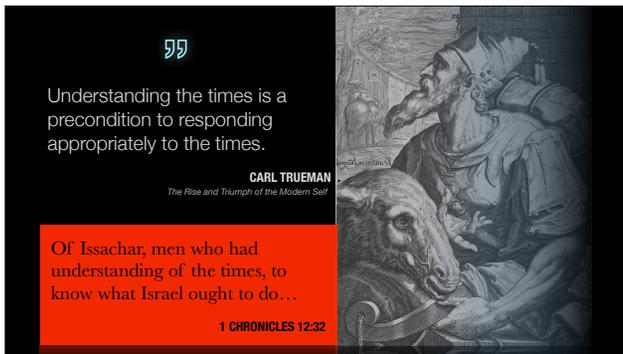


By knowing the way that ideas diffuse and shape culture is important.

Big Idea -

Ideas shape our cultural moment. When we know this, we can apply a biblical lens and bring a Biblical worldview vision to bear upon our moment.

Does that make sense?



Understanding the times is a precondition to responding appropriately to the times.

CARL TRUEMAN .



FLASHPOINTS IN culture...

1. Critical Race Theory
2. Gender / Sexual Ideology (Critical Gender / Queer Theory)
3. Transhumanism



If you find pollution in a body of water, you must go upstream to locate the source.

Feel the Squeeze... of cultural analysis (Paul in Athens - he was troubled when he saw a city full of idols)

Remember

- Take every thought captive to obey Christ!
- Be grieved but hopeful (like Paul)

Add from Dallas CRT talk:

Flashpoint - Critical Race Theory CRT

Start with why?

Why are we here in this cultural moment?

If you find pollution in a body of water, you must go upstream to locate the source.

Hegel and Marcuse - you can't understand CT or what's going on without understanding these guys.

CRT rooted in Cultural Marxism - evolution/ craniotomy / Marcuse and Hegelian philosophy.

CRT cripples the mind and keeps children from reaching their full potential.

CRT worldview:

Origin

Meaning

Morality

Natural of reality (metaphysical)

Identity

What is wrong with the world and how do we fix it?

Destiny

Same words - different dictionaries

Marcuse repressive tolerance - Make people feel dissatisfied with life

We will continue to lose if we don't understand Hegel

Learn to spot the *alphhaben* manipulation: say "this is a manipulation and don't work on me."

Wedge issue - exploits social weakness

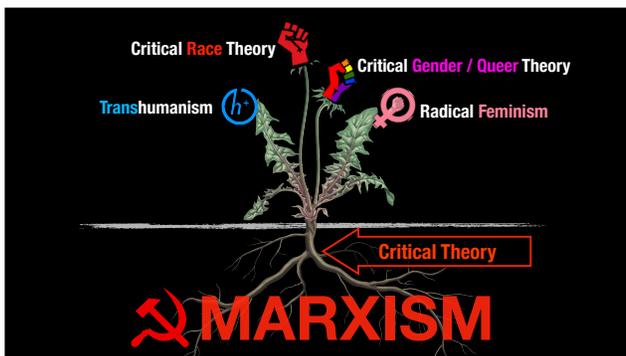
America - wealth (upper mobility)

America - religious foundations (moral strength)

America - weakness (slavery) - identify pressure point - exploit it (wrist throw)

The CRT alphhaben deconstructs everything. It's subverts everything. It

takes what we know to be true about reality in undercuts it.



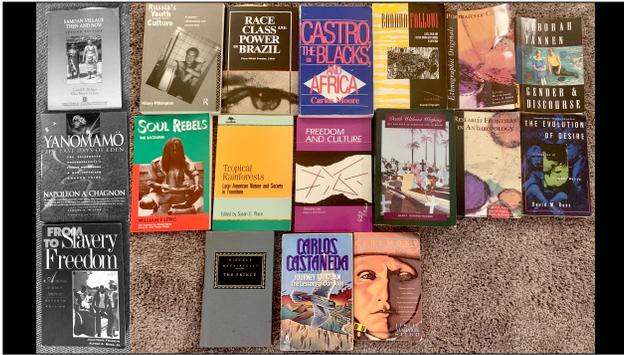
Marxism is the root...

What drove Karl Marx?

My object in life is to dethrone God and destroy capitalism.

- Karl Marx

“The heirs of Gramsci, like the ideological progeny of Marx and Lenin and the Frankfurt School, insisted on the need to question everything, including moral absolutes and the Judeo-Christian basis of Western civilization. They needed to frame seemingly benign conventions as systematic injustices that must be exposed. This is where we got professors fulminating against everything from “the patriarchy” to “white imperialism” to “transphobia.” By the twenty-first century, even biological sex was no longer considered a settled issue.” - Paul Kengor, *The Devil and Karl Marx: Communism's Long March of Death, Deception, and Infiltration*



ANTHROPOLOGY... redeemed by God.

1. Race, Class, and Power in Brazil
2. Banana Fallout: Class, Color, and Culture Among West Indians in Costa Rica (Afro-american Culture & Society)
3. Castro, the Blacks and Africa
4. Gender and Discourse
5. The Evolution of Desire - Strategies of Human Mating
6. Russia's Youth Culture

Nazi Doctors (Best Book from College) - Related to Gender Ideology / Transhumanism of today.



“If you don’t understand the nature of something or someone, then your best efforts to help them will end up harming them.”

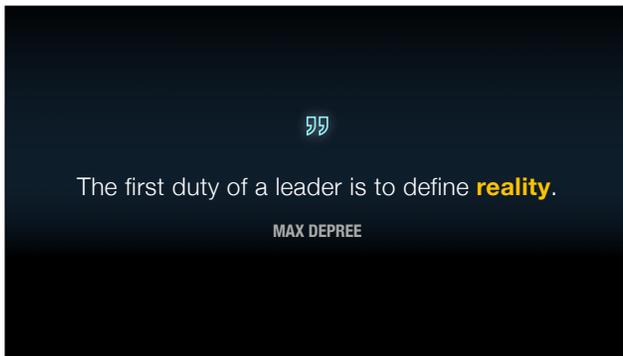
- Thaddeus Williams

If we get the diagnosis wrong, we will get the cure wrong.

If we get the cure wrong, we end up harming the people we’re trying to help.

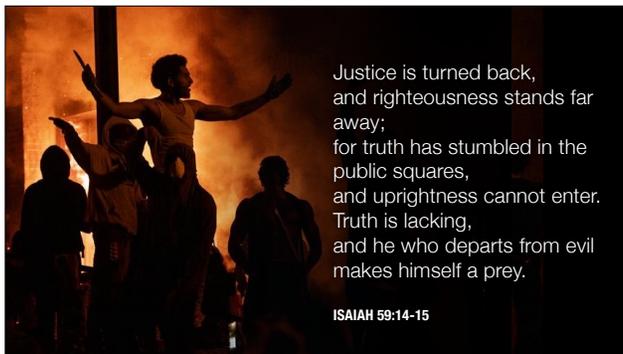
Christians have the ONLY worldview that can properly diagnose the

problem with our world.



The first duty of a leader is to define reality.

MAX DEPREE



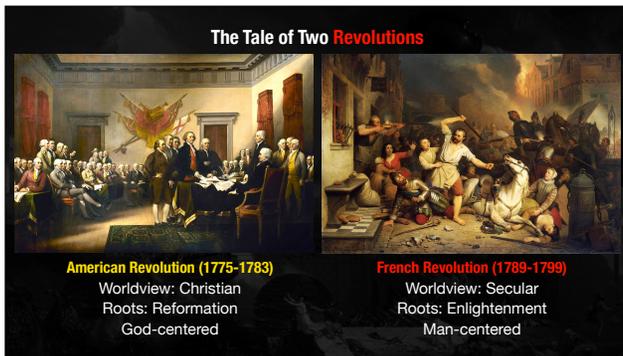
Define Reality.... Our moment.

ISAIAH 59:14-15

“Justice is turned back,
and righteousness stands far away;
for truth has stumbled in the public squares,
and uprightness cannot enter.
Truth is lacking,
and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.”

NLT - “Our courts oppose the righteous, and justice is nowhere to be

found. Truth stumbles in the streets, and honesty has been outlawed. Yes, truth is gone, and ***anyone who renounces evil is attacked.***”



Fuse to Flashpoint: “Living in Two Revolutions” in our current cultural moment.

People buy into one or the other.

Martin Luther v Jean-Jacques Rousseau

AR Results: Virtue, Human Flourishing, order, Liberty, Freedom

FR Results: Vice, Mass Death, Chaos, Failure



Samual Morton (1800s)

father of Scientific Racism and Craniometry - American physician and naturalist (1799–1851)

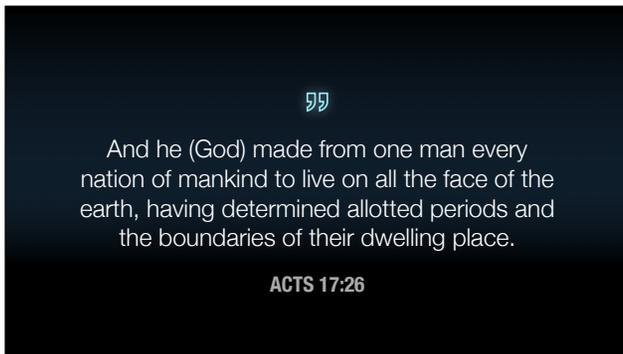
“He argued against the single creation story of the Bible (monogenism) and instead supported a theory of multiple racial creations (polygenism). Morton claimed the Bible supported polygenism, and within working in a biblical framework his theory held that each race had been created separately and each was given specific, irrevocable characteristics.

He claimed that each race had a separate origin, and that a descending order of intelligence could be discerned that placed Caucasians at the pinnacle and Negroes at the lowest point, with various other race groups in between.”

Morton’s theory had an influence on Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution in “On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life.” Darwin bought into Morton’s presupposition that some *species of humans* were

superior to others. The ramifications of this type of thinking continues to be seen in our current day.

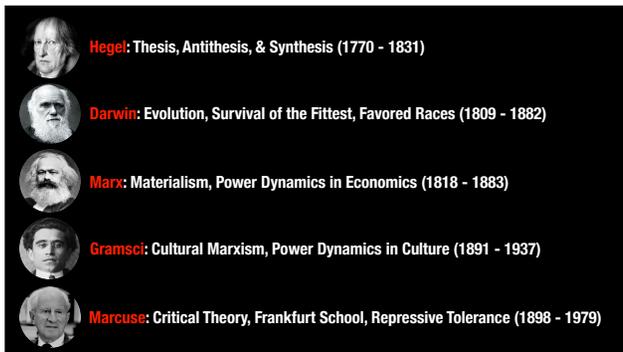
But wait, what does the Bible say?



The Bible (that Samuel Morton rejected) says:

“And he (God) made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.”

ACTS 17:26



Filthy Five - Formation of Critical Theories shaping our current moment...

Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel: Thesis, Antithesis, & Synthesis (Problem - Reaction - Solution)

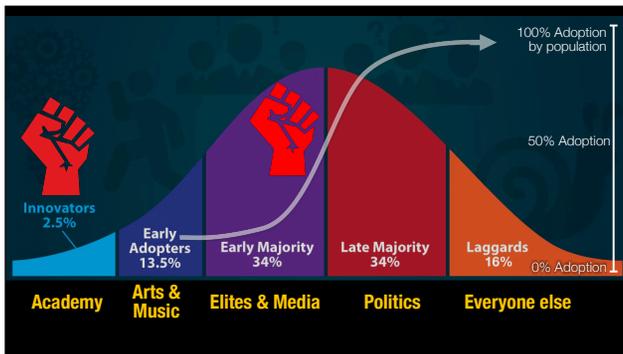
Charles Darwin: Evolution, Survival of the Fittest, Favored Races

Karl Marx: Marxism, Materialism, Power Dynamics in Economics (Oppressors vs Oppressed)

“Keep people from their history, and they are easily controlled....My object in life is to dethrone God and destroy capitalism.” The education of all children, from the moment that they can get along without a mother's care, shall be in state institutions. Take away a nation's heritage and they are more easily persuaded... “Democracy is the road to socialism.”

Poem (The Fiddler) - Marx

“Till heart's bewitched, till senses reel:



Critical Mass....

- Momentum toward 100% adoption...



CRITICAL THEORY DEFINED

A method used in a variety of cultural studies that is not interested in simply understanding the *how* and *why* of current reality, but instead **seeks to impose a moral vision** on society.

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HEGEL

The **goal of critical theory** is to identify systemic problems in society and dismantle them (through *deconstruction*).

The **problems** arise from power structures that oppress (oppressors vs oppressed).

The **reaction** is to dismantle or subvert oppressive structures.

The **solution** is *revolution* toward human liberation from ALL oppressive structures (utopian communism).

The goal of critical theory is to identify systemic problems in society and dismantle them (through deconstruction).

Problem > Reaction > Solution
(Hegel: Thesis > antithesis > synthesis)

Presuppositions

The problems arise from power structures that oppress (oppressors vs oppressed).

The reaction is to dismantle or subvert oppressive structures.

The solution is revolution toward human liberation from ALL oppressive structures (utopia).

CRITICAL THEORY CLAIMS



Everyone is divided into two groups – those who have power and those who don't (**power dynamics** - oppressor vs oppressed).

Those in power obtain power at the expense of others (**zero sum game**).

Those who have power **always** oppress those who don't (**victims**).

CRITICAL THEORY CLAIMS

Everyone is divided into two groups – those who have power and those who don't (power dynamics - oppressor vs oppressed).

Those in power obtain power at the expense of others (zero sum game).
Limited resources (pie example)

Those who have power always oppress those who don't (victims).

CRITICAL THEORY CLAIMS

IDENTITY POLITICS and INTERSECTIONALITY

- **Group identity** is determined by race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, etc.
- **Group identity** determines which category they belong (oppressor or oppressed - **victim status**).
- **Moral Authority** is based on the number of groups one can identify with.

IDENTITY POLITICS INTERSECTIONALITY

When a person's group identities overlap, this is referred to as intersectionality.

- A person's group identity is determined by race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, etc.
- A person's group identity determines which category they belong (oppressor or oppressed - victim status).
- Moral Authority is based on the number of intersectional groups one can identify with.

Black, radical, queer, feminist, atheist has moral authority over white conservative heterosexual Christian man

Notice Critical Theory DIVIDES people... If you want to destroy a society, you must divide it.

CRITICAL THEORY PURPOSE



Max Horkheimer

"Critical Theory is a radical, **emancipatory** form of **Marxian** theory "to **liberate** human beings from the circumstances that enslave them...."

The **Revolution** won't happen with guns, rather it will happen incrementally, year by year, generation by generation. We will gradually **infiltrate** their **educational institutions** and their **political offices**, transforming them slowly into **Marxist entities** as we move towards universal egalitarianism."



CRITICAL THEORY PURPOSE. Max Horkheimer 1920-1960s

"Critical Theory is a radical, emancipatory form of Marxian theory "to liberate human beings from the circumstances that enslave them."

The Revolution won't happen with guns, rather it will happen incrementally, year by year, generation by generation. We will gradually infiltrate their educational institutions and their political offices, transforming them slowly into Marxist entities as we move towards

universal egalitarianism.” (Transform the structure of society into a communist state)

☞

The **issue** is never *the issue*.
The **issue** is always the **revolution**.

In other words, the cause of a political action – whether civil rights or women’s rights – is never the real cause; women, blacks and other “**victims**” are only instruments in the larger cause, **which is power**.

David Horowitz

David Horowitz

Quoting a SDS Radical: “The issue is never the issue. The issue is always the revolution.

In other words, the cause of a political action – whether civil rights or women’s rights – is never the real cause; women, blacks and other “victims” are only instruments in the larger cause, which is power.”

Vulnerable groups / minority used as *Cannon fodder* to attain power...

CRITICAL THEORY IN ACTION



The long march through the **institutions**
Rudi Dutschke

The Church
Education
Media

Entertainment
Government
The Family

CRITICAL THEORY IN ACTION

1967 “The long march through the institutions”- Rudi Dutschke

The Church
Education
Media
Entertainment
Government
The Family

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is
Critical Theory *applied* to **Race**.



The **axis of American social life is fundamentally constructed in race**. As a result, the economic, political, and historical relationships and arrangements that social actors have to institutions and social processes are **all race based**.

Sherwood Thompson (Critical Race Scholar)

Presupposition:

“The axis of American social life is fundamentally constructed in race. As a result, the economic, political, and historical relationships and arrangements that social actors have to institutions and social processes are all race based.” - Sherwood Thompson (Critical Race Scholar)

Premise Is that true? **Then, we're dealing with a lie** that is Applied systematically

WHAT IS CRITICAL **RACE** THEORY?

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is the practical application of **Marxism** to race in order to achieve **political power** and **cultural dominance**.

WHAT IS CRITICAL **RACE** THEORY?

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is the practical application of Marxism to race in order to achieve political power and cultural dominance.

Critical Race Theory

Divides all people into tribal groups of oppressors and oppressed based on ethnicity.

Cripples the mind and keeps children from reaching their full potential (permanent victim class).

Redefines and **distorts** language - ripping words from their true meaning and redefining them.

Drives a **wedge** into sensitive social issues (race) in order to exploit weakness & gain power.

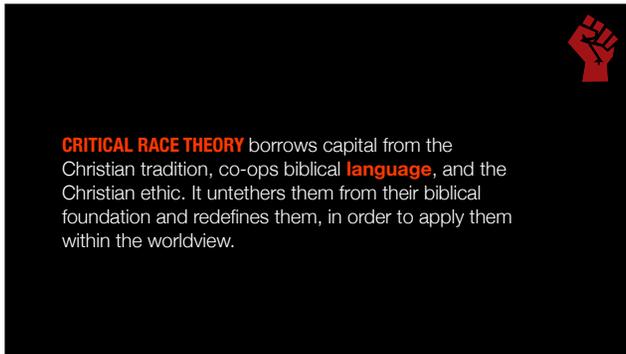
Creates **dissatisfaction** (misery) with life in order to subvert reality, traditional institutions, and morals.

What does CRT do?

1. Divides all people into tribal groups of oppressors and oppressed based on ethnicity.
2. Cripples the mind and keeps children from reaching their full potential (permanent victim class).
3. Redefines and distorts language - ripping words from their true meaning and redefining them.
4. Drives a wedge into sensitive social issues (race) in order to exploit weakness & gain power.
5. Creates dissatisfaction (misery) with life in order to subvert reality, traditional institutions, and morals.

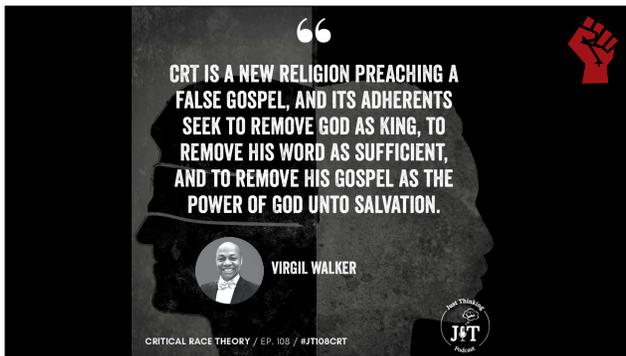


Voddie Bauchum - no one is teaching CRT



Why is CRT so attractive?
Language...
TOTALIZING VISION

CRITICAL RACE THEORY borrows capital from the Christian tradition, co-ops biblical language, and the Christian ethic. It untethers them from their biblical foundation and redefines them, in order to apply them within the worldview.



CRT is a Christian heresy...



Remember: Worldview is the lens through which we view, interpret and engage reality. It is what we believe about ourselves and the world around us (total reality).

How should Christians think about CRT?



Critical Race Theory is a **Worldview** that attempts to form and shape reality to fit its desired vision for the world.

It seeks to impose a *moral vision* on society.

Critical Race Theory is a Worldview that attempts to form and shape reality to fit its desired vision for the world.
It seeks to impose a moral vision on society.



There are two competing worldviews in this current cultural moment. One is the **Critical Social Justice** view - which assumes that the world is divided between the oppressors and the oppressed (white, heterosexual males are generally viewed as *the oppressor*). The other is the **biblical justice** view

Voddie Baucham

Fault Lines.... “There are two competing worldviews in this current cultural moment. One is the Critical Social Justice view – which assumes that the world is divided between the oppressors and the oppressed (white, heterosexual males are generally viewed as “the oppressor”). The other is...the biblical justice view...”

“Biblical Justice is the righteous application of the Law of God.”



In their own words...

Derek Bell - “I live to harass white folks.”

“In ways so closely tied to an individual's sense of self that it may not be apparent, the set of assumptions, privileges, and benefits that accompany the status of being white can become a valuable asset that whites seek to protect.” - Derrick Bell, *Silent Covenants: Brown v. Board of Education and the Unfulfilled Hopes for Racial Reform*



CONTENT WARNING - MATURE

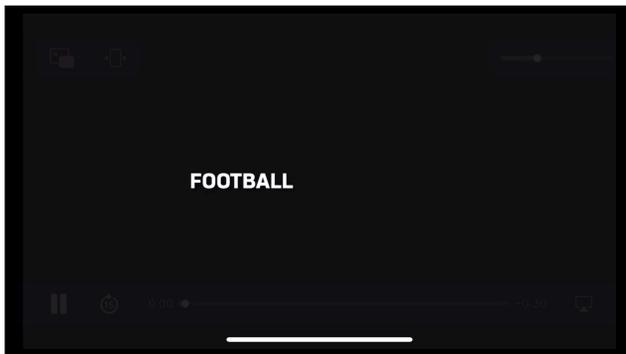
OUR CURRENT CULTURAL CRISIS - Flashpoints flow from IDENTITY....

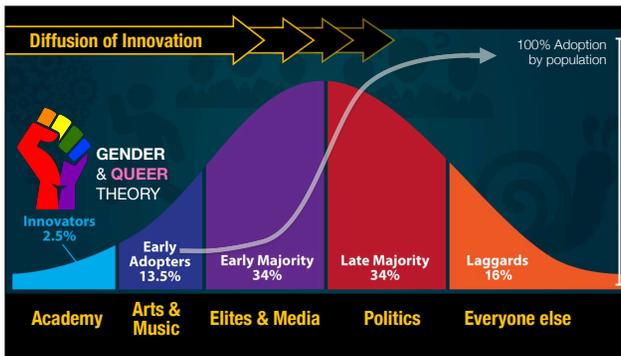
The Squeeze... of cultural analysis (Paul in Athens - he was troubled)
Take every though captive!
Be grieved but hopeful

None of this is random or out of the blue.... It is all planned...

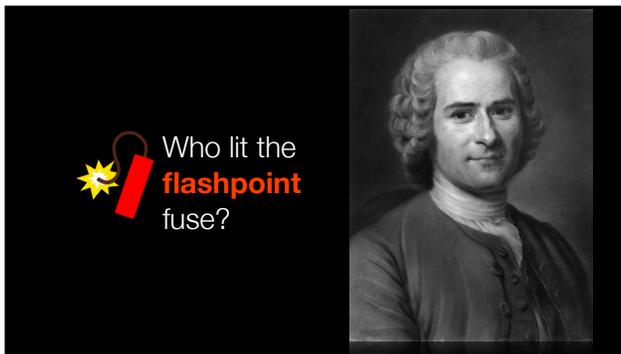


NFL Clip





Critical Mass....
Momentum toward adoption...



Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1700s)
French philosopher, writer, and composer. His political philosophy influenced the progress of the Enlightenment throughout Europe, as well as aspects of the French Revolution and the development of modern political, economic, and educational thought.

- The Human Problem is external (systems) - man is born 'good'
- He is corrupted by culture (institutions, systems, etc)
- Institutions must be destroyed to liberate man to be truly free.



Sigmund Freud - Sex and Psychology

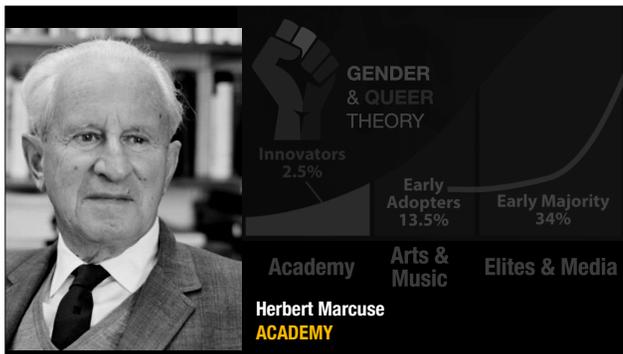
Michel Foucault (get to him in a minute)

John Money - "Sex reassignment of David Reimer"

- gender a broader, more inclusive concept than one of masculine/feminine. For him, gender included not only one's status as a man or a woman, but was also a matter of personal recognition, social assignment, or legal determination

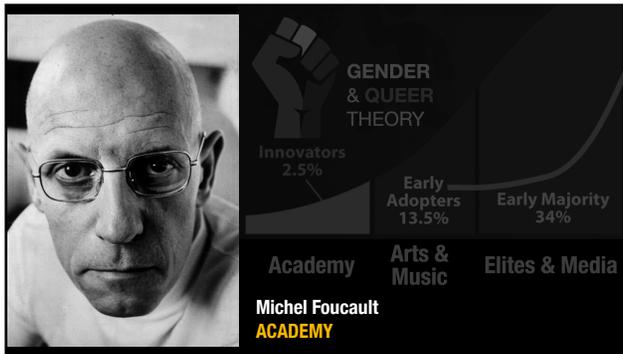
Gayle Rubin - “The realm of sexuality also has its own internal politics, inequities, and modes of oppression”

Paulo Freire - “Freire’s idea is that literacy means political literacy as understood in the Marxist way: formal education is bourgeois and Critical Education is a revolutionary praxis that can transform the oppressive state of the world.” New Discourses



1965: Herbert Marcuse - Frankfurt School - Repressive Tolerance

His Marxist scholarship inspired **radical intellectuals** and left-wing **political activists** from the 1960s to the present.... Intolerance of right / tolerance of left - Cancel Culture



Jean Hyppolite, Nietzsche, Hegel, Marx
Foucault, conviction that philosophy must develop through a study of history.

“The History of Sexuality”

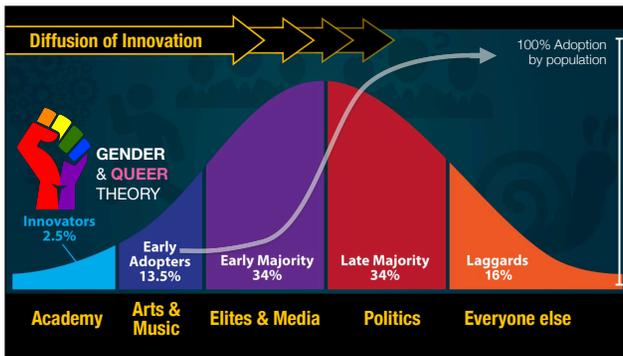
1980s, University of California, Berkeley...Foucault spent many evenings in the San Francisco gay scene, frequenting sado-masochistic bathhouses, He praised sado-masochistic activity in interviews with the gay press, describing it as "the real creation of new possibilities of pleasure, which people had no idea about previously.

Developed AIDS. Foucault initially referred to AIDS as a "dreamed-up disease”

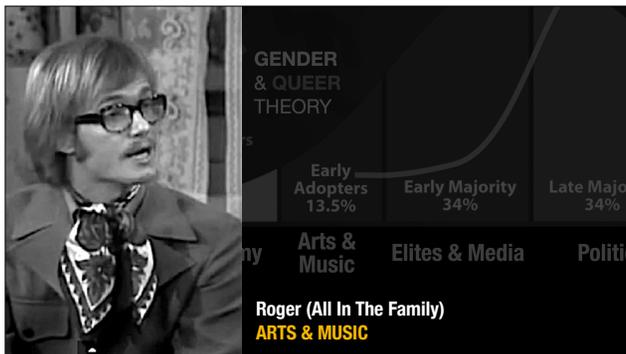
Underage sex and pedophilia

Foucault argued that children could give sexual consent.

In 1977, along with Jean-Paul Sartre, Jacques Derrida, and other intellectuals, Foucault signed a petition to the French parliament calling for the decriminalization of all "consensual" sexual relations between adults and minors below the age of fifteen, the age of consent in France.



Critical Mass....
Momentum toward adoption...



1971: Roger - "All in the Family" becomes the first TV sitcom to depict a gay character.

1983: All My Children - the first gay story line on daytime television.

****Rock Hudson Died of AIDS in 1985

1988: As the World Turns - first openly gay male on daytime television.

1992: One Life to Live

1996: General Hospital

1992: Northern Exposure

1992: Melrose Place.

Frasier (1994)

Friends (1994)

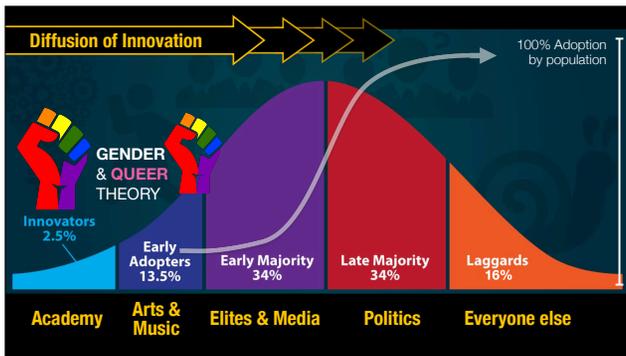
Ellen (1995)

Chicago Hope (1996)

Spin City (1996)

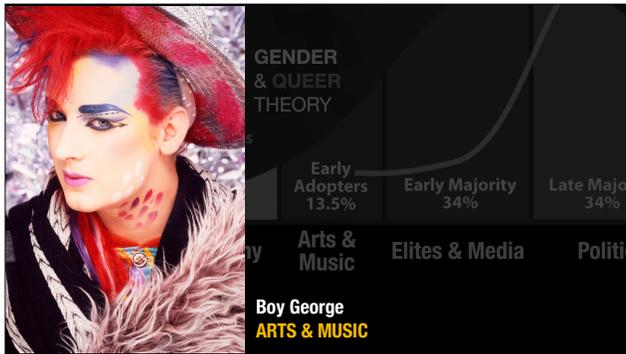
Will and Grace (1998) 11 Seasons

<https://usatoday30.usatoday.com/life/television/2002/2002-03-11-coming-out-timeline.htm>



Critical Mass....

Momentum toward adoption...



Freddie Mercury - 1970 (Queen) - We will rock you!

The Village People - 1970s

Liberace

Elton John

David Bowie

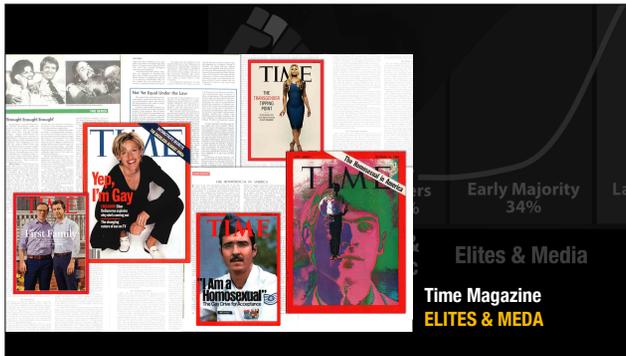
George Michael

RuPaul

K.D. lang

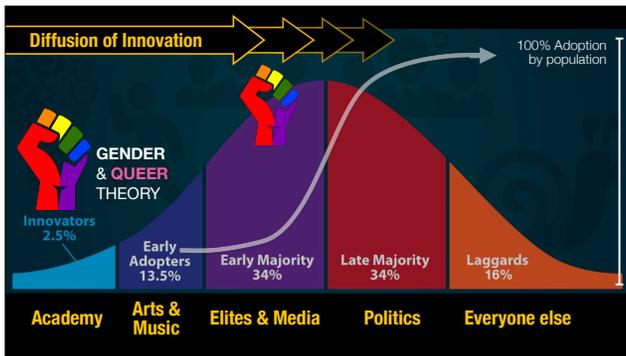
Ricky Martin

Lady Gaga - Born This Way (album) - "the anthem of this generation,"



Media:

1996 - Time Magazine - The Homosexual in America



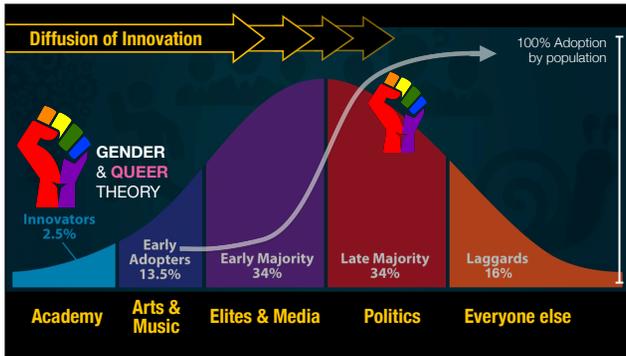
Critical Mass....

Momentum toward adoption...



2015 Obergefell v. Hodges

Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015), is a landmark civil rights case in which the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

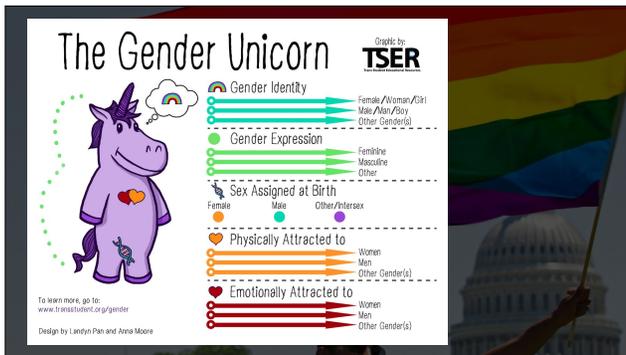


Critical Mass....

Momentum toward adoption...



Drag Queen Story Hour - 2015 by Michelle Tea

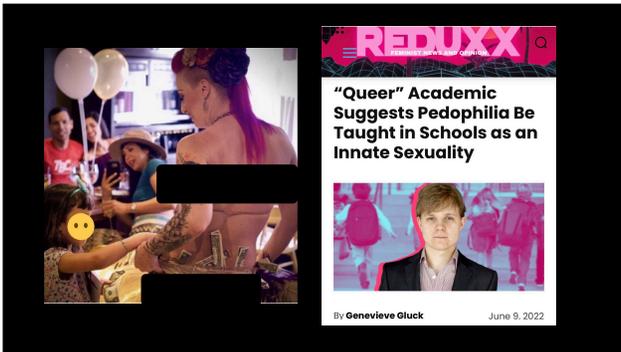


Institutional Support - Law Enforcement

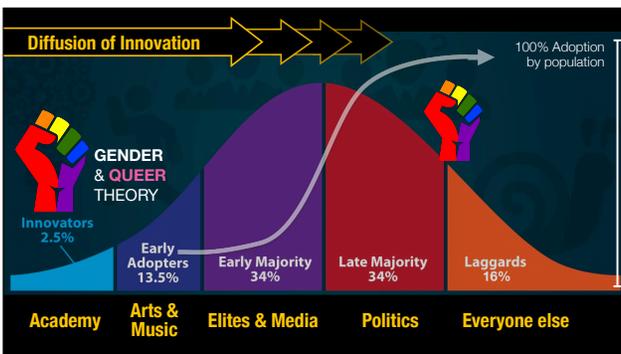


Moen - 2015 Ethics of Pedophilia

Dallas - June 2022 Pride Month - Children taken to adult drag strip club



Push to change age of consent laws....



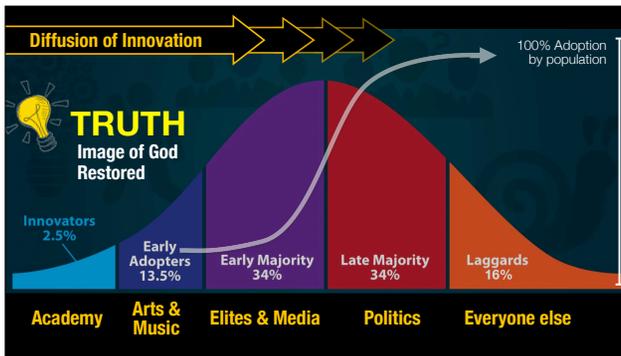


Why are they after your children?

SD SMITH - GREEN EMBER SERIES

Abortion, sterile unions...

They need to recruit from our families to fill their ranks.



Christians must innovate with the TRUTH.

Image of God - Restored

The biggest worldview question of our cultural moment is about IDENTITY.

Recover the TRUTH about what it means to be human made in the image of God.



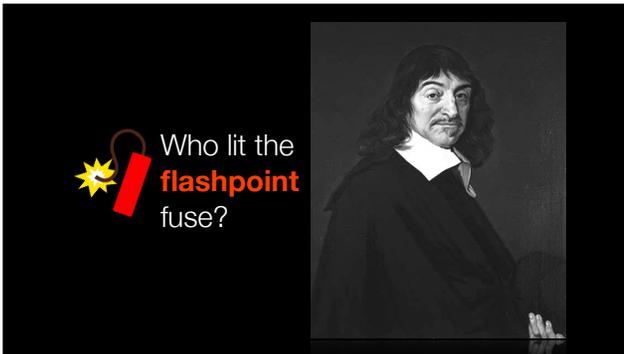
Flashpoints flow from IDENTITY....

Who am I?



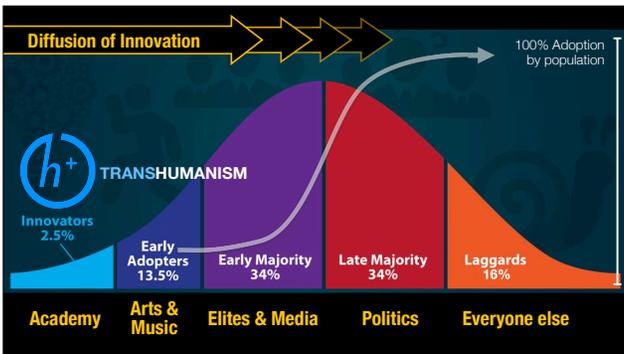
Transhumanism: “the belief or theory that the human race can evolve beyond its current physical and mental limitations, especially by means of science and technology.”

Grounded in Materialism...



René Descartes- 1600s

One of the early precursors to transhumanist ideas is Discourse on Method (1637). In the Discourse, Descartes envisioned a new kind of medicine that could grant both physical immortality and stronger minds. [13]



Academy -

1932 - Aldous Huxley (book) Brave New World

1957 Julian Huxley (biologist)

“The human species can, if it wishes, transcend itself— not just sporadically, an individual here in one way, an individual there in another way, but in its entirety, as humanity.”

1972, Robert Ettinger "transhumanity" “Man into Superman”

In 1986, Eric Drexler published Engines of Creation: The Coming Era of Nanotechnology.

Popularized by Max Moore -

Built on the foundation of Darwinian Evolutionary Theory



Yuval Harari - WEF
40 mil books sold



CRSPR - Gene editing

In 2017, Dr. (Izpisua) Belmonte and his team created the first human-pig hybrid,

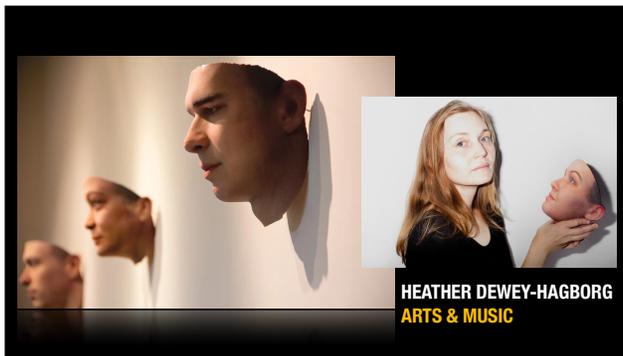
2020 - human-monkey embryo (see photo)

ROD DREHER - LIBBY EMMONS.

The transhumanist perspective insists that humans have a distinctly

separate mind and body, and that what happens to one need not affect the other. Understood in this way, apparently unrelated movements in biotech, tech, and **social justice** reveal themselves to be part of the same transhumanist project and aimed at the same objective: **liberating the human being from the limitations of the body**.

The transhumanist push towards a reimagining of the human, humanity, and our shared future is a primary component of three growing cultural trends: artificial intelligence, human augmentation, and the **transgender**



Arts and Music - AND SCIENCE

Heather Dewey-Hagborg -

Discarded cigarette butts, gum, and hair provided Dewey-Hagborg with DNA, which she tested for genetic variations that reveal a person's gender, ethnicity, eye color, and facial structure. Software she designed used that data to build model faces, subsequently 3-D printed in plastic.



Arts and Music

2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)

The Terminator (1984)

RoboCop (1987)

Gattaca (1997)

The Matrix (1999)

The Island (2005)

Iron Man (2008)

The biggest worldview question of our cultural moment is about **IDENTITY**.

Recover the **TRUTH** about what it means to be human made in the image of God.

Being created in the image of God is not just a private matter... it is a **PUBLIC TRUTH** we must share.

OUR CURRENT CULTURAL CRISIS - Flashpoints flow from IDENTITY....

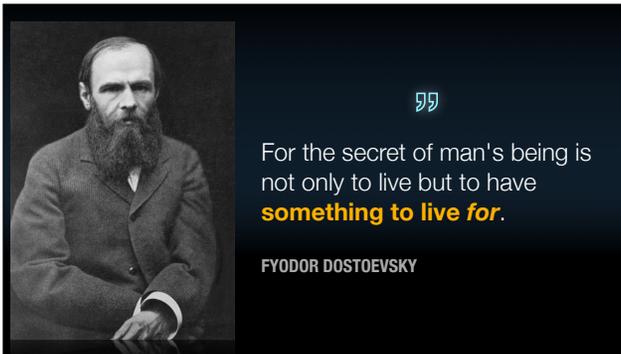
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All of these worldviews are telling a story...



Fyodor Dos-toy-ev-sky [The Brothers Kara-maz-ov] said,
“For the secret of man's being is not only to live but to have something to live for.”

What or who are you REALLY living for?

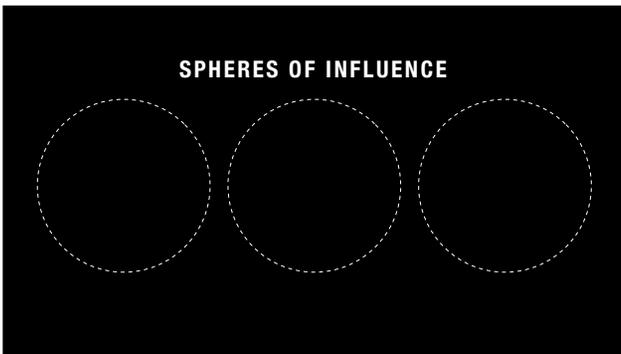
Are you serving God’s purposes in our generation?



Transition: What does all this have to do with Christianity and the Gospel
What is Jesus Christ Lord and King over?

Hint - It rhymes with ‘call’

<https://www.truthforlife.org/resources/sermon/he-will-reign-forever/>



[Exercise] Spheres of Influence...

family, work, church, community, education, politics, finances, etc.

1. What is the opportunity or crisis right in front of you (in a sphere)?
2. How can you take initiative and responsibility for it?

Ask the 4 Questions:

1. What is good...
2. What is evil...

3. What is missing...

4. What is broken...



SAVE THE DATE ...
BIRCHMAN BAPTIST CHURCH AND
FORGE ROOM FOUNDATION PRESENT
ERIC METAXAS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
BIRCHMAN BAPTIST CHURCH
FT. WORTH, TX
6:30 PM (DOORS AT 6:00 PM)
TALK FOLLOWED BY SCREENING OF "LETTER TO THE
AMERICAN CHURCH" AND Q&A WITH ERIC METAXAS

LETTER AMERICAN CHURCH
BIRCHMAN BAPTIST CHURCH
FORGE ROOM FOUNDATION

Eric Metaxas Sept. 7, 2024 - Birchman Baptist



Summer Seminar 2024
Resource Center
WELCOME TO THE DEDICATED RESOURCE PAGE



REGISTER TO RECEIVE EMAILS

RESOURCES

Essay: *Invitation to the Pain of Learning* by Mortimer J. Adler
Excerpt: "Whoever passes by what is over his head condemns his head to its present low altitude; for nothing can elevate a mind except what is over its head, and that elevation is not accomplished by capillary attraction, but only by the hard work of climbing up the ropes, with some hands and aching muscles... I say that this is the only adult education that is genuinely educative simply because it is the only kind that requires activity, makes no pretense about avoiding pain and work, and is always working with materials well over everybody's head."

If you did not Register...

Resource Center... forgeroom.org website