



# Peace and Conflict

## Unit 3: Manifestations of Conflict and Conflict Dynamics



1. Warm-up: hi-chew
2. Manifestations of conflict: George Floyd protests
3. Galtung's Triangle theory: making a triangle for the George Floyd protests
4. Assignment on Structural Violence

# George Floyd video

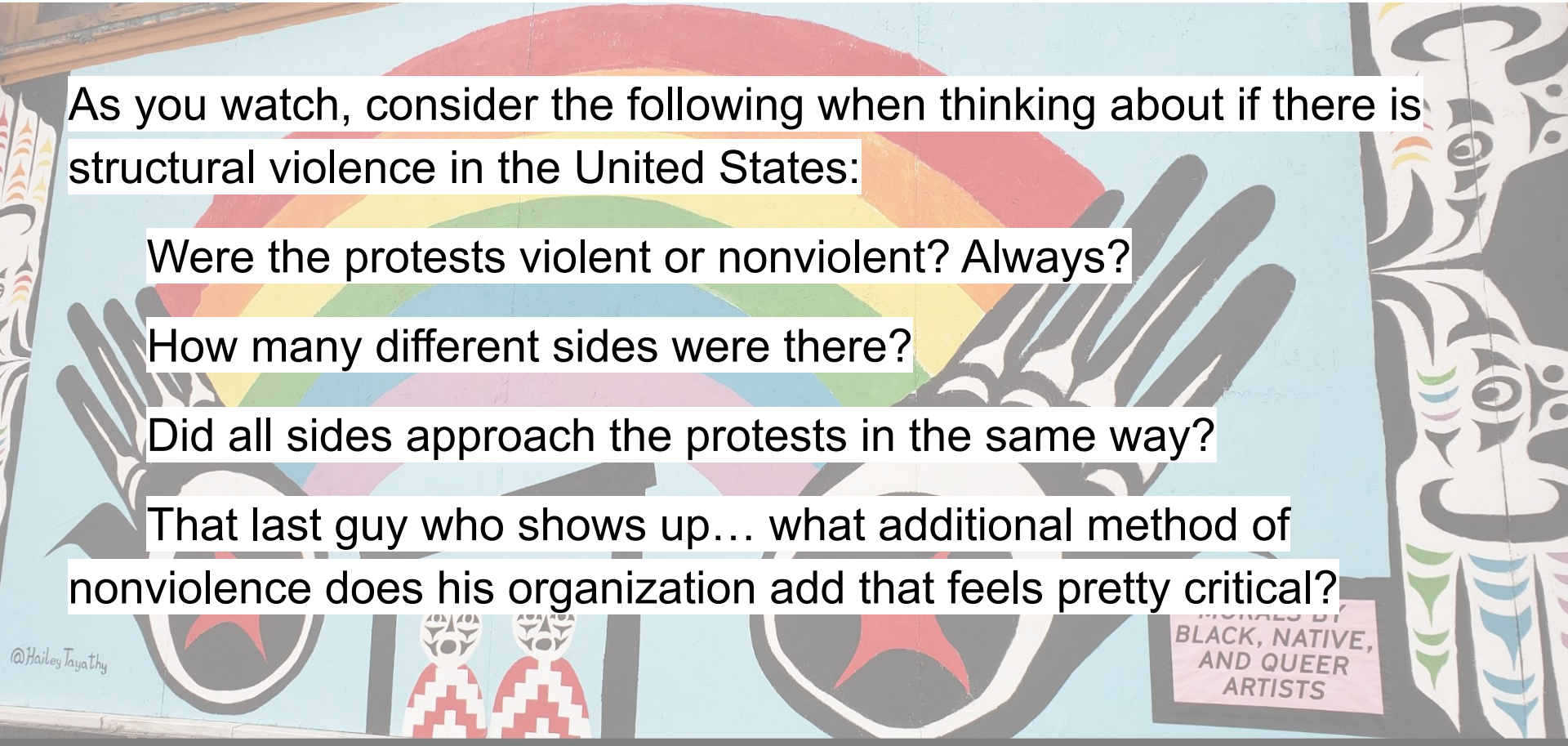
As you watch, consider the following when thinking about if there is structural violence in the United States:

Were the protests violent or nonviolent? Always?

How many different sides were there?

Did all sides approach the protests in the same way?

That last guy who shows up... what additional method of nonviolence does his organization add that feels pretty critical?

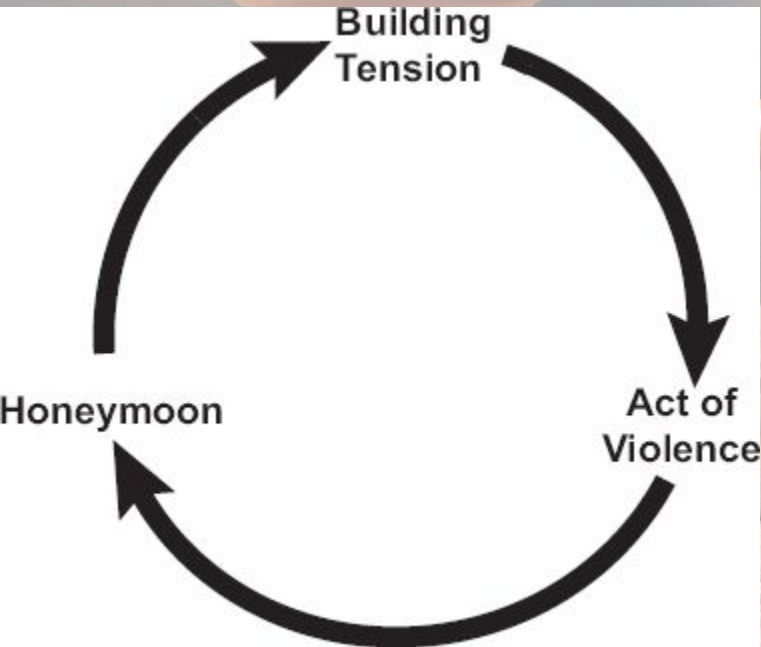


Are these violent or non-violent?





# Conflict Dynamics: How does violent conflict happen?



- One side is violent, the other side responds with violence
- Cycle of violence that just leads to more conflict and more violence
  - This is an oversimplification; conflicts dynamics are much more complicated than that
- HOWEVER... it is possible to try and simplify a conflict to get a better understanding of the forces that lead to violence

# Galtung's Conflict Triangle Theory

Galtung sought to further understand the underlying causes of violent conflict and how the perspectives of conflict parties influence their behaviors.

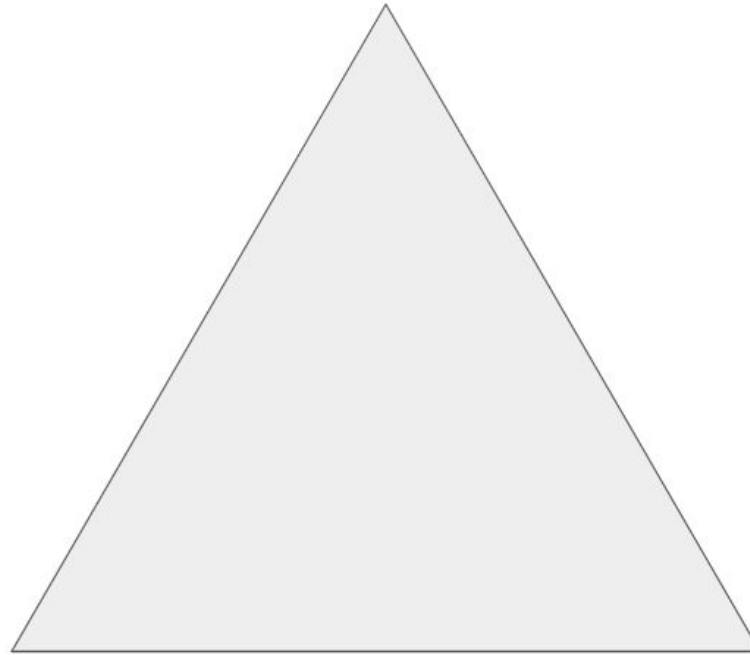
*“The killed are dead, the bereaved are traumatized. The trauma may be converted to hatred that may be converted into revenge addiction.”*

*– Johan Galtung*

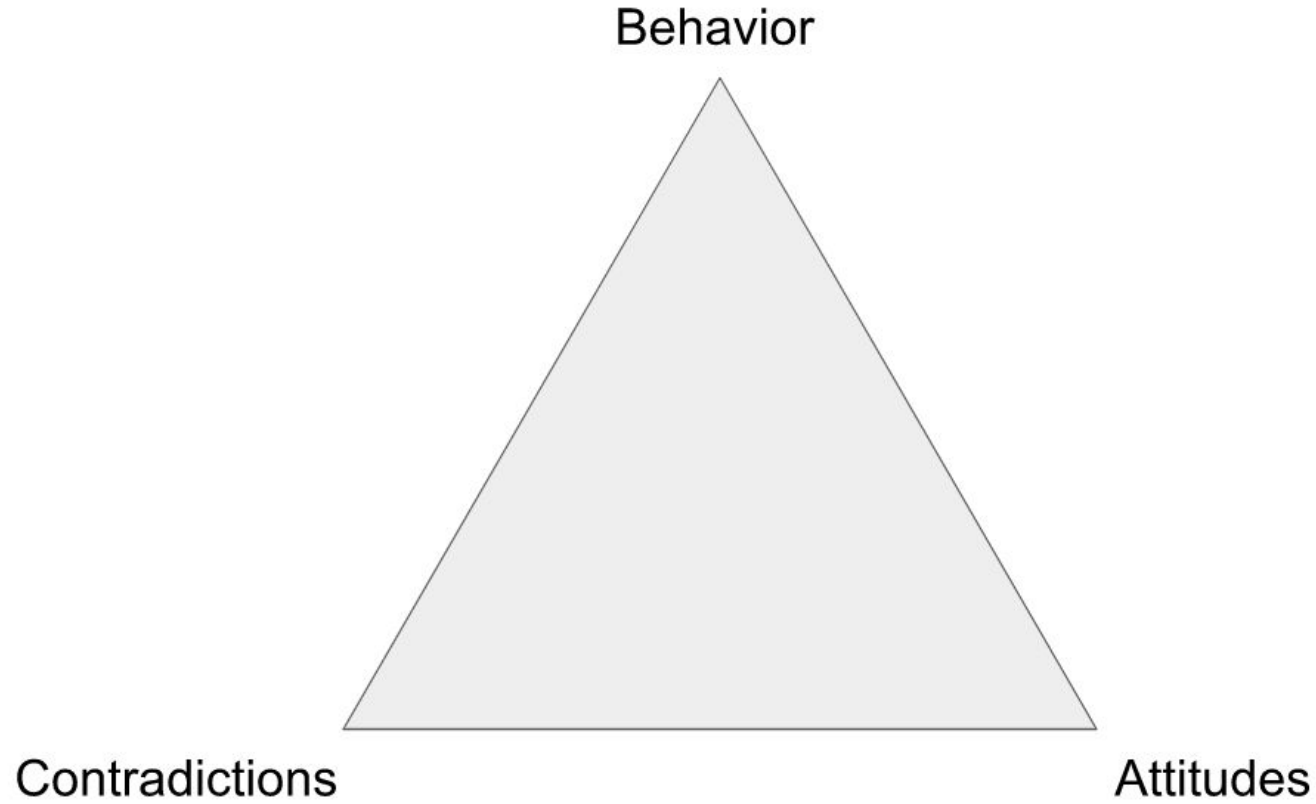


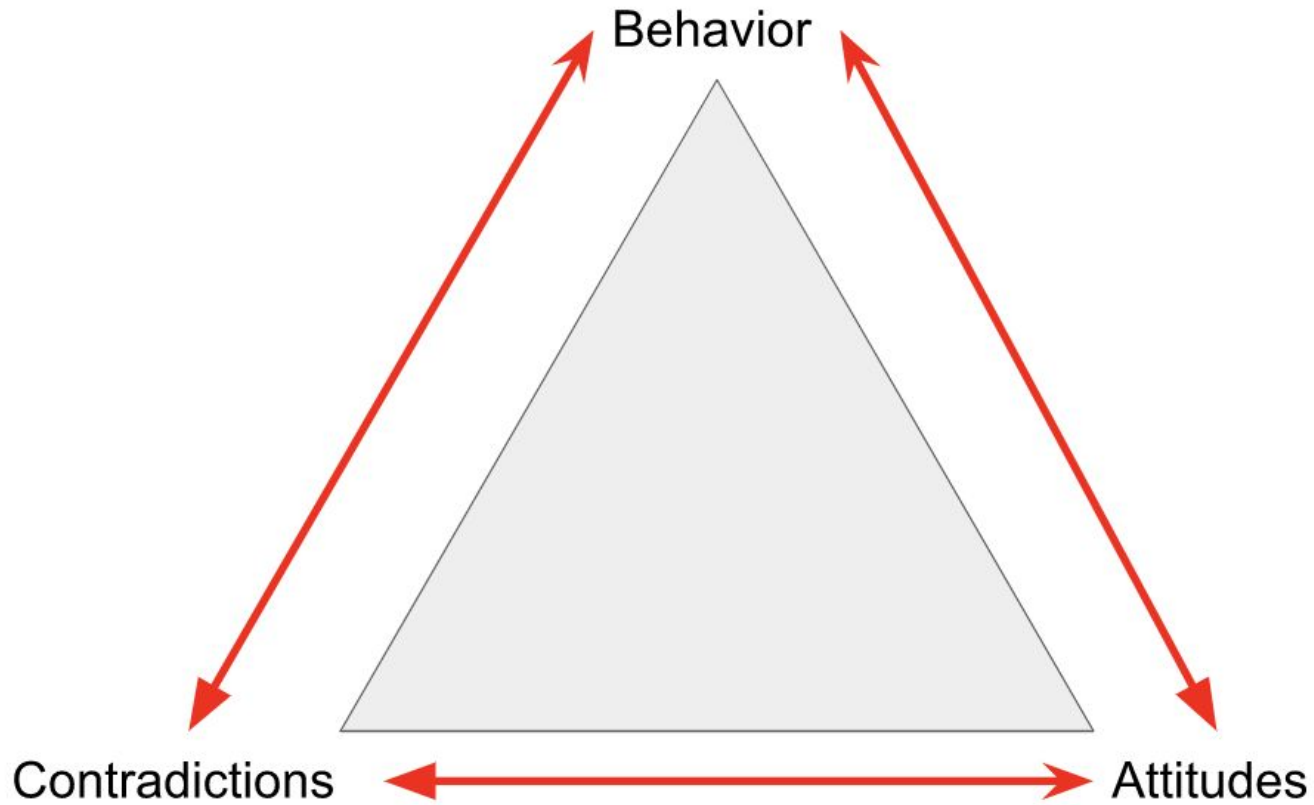
# The Triangle: A-B-C

- To illustrate the relationship between the **latent** causes of violent conflict → views of conflict parties → behaviors of the parties, Galtung made a triangle with three points:
  - Attitudes/assumptions
  - Behavior
  - Contradictions
- Each point can influence, lead to, or cause the other two
- The triangle is also separated into a **manifest level** and a **latent level**
  - Shows how conflict can often be unseen and is only occasionally visible when the parties take **action**









# Galtung's Conflict Triangle

## Manifest Level:

How people **act**  
encourages conflict,  
immediate evidence of  
conflict

## Latent Level:

How people **think**  
encourages conflict;  
deeper causes of conflict

## Attitudes/Assumptions:

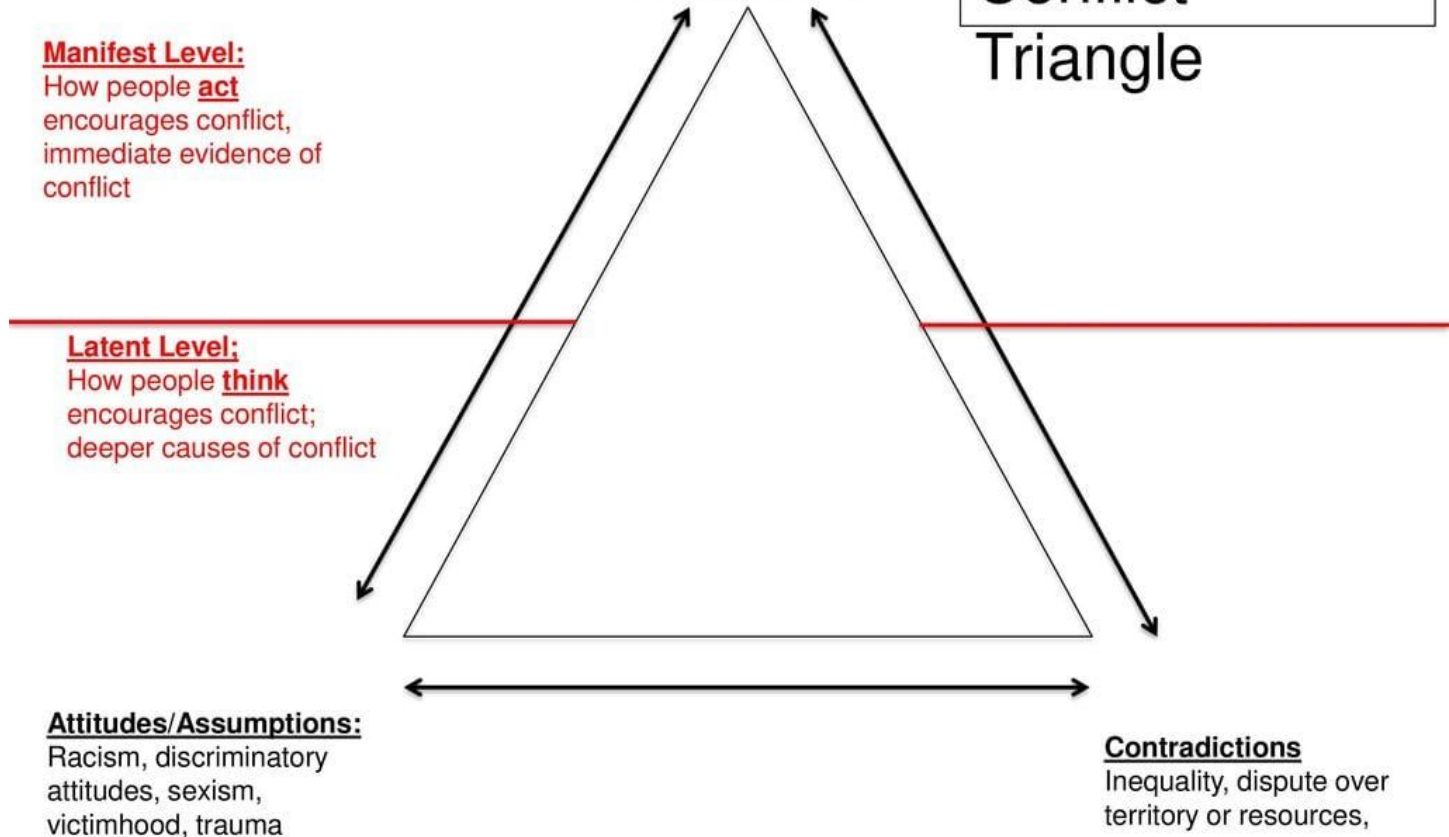
Racism, discriminatory  
attitudes, sexism,  
victimhood, trauma

## Behaviour

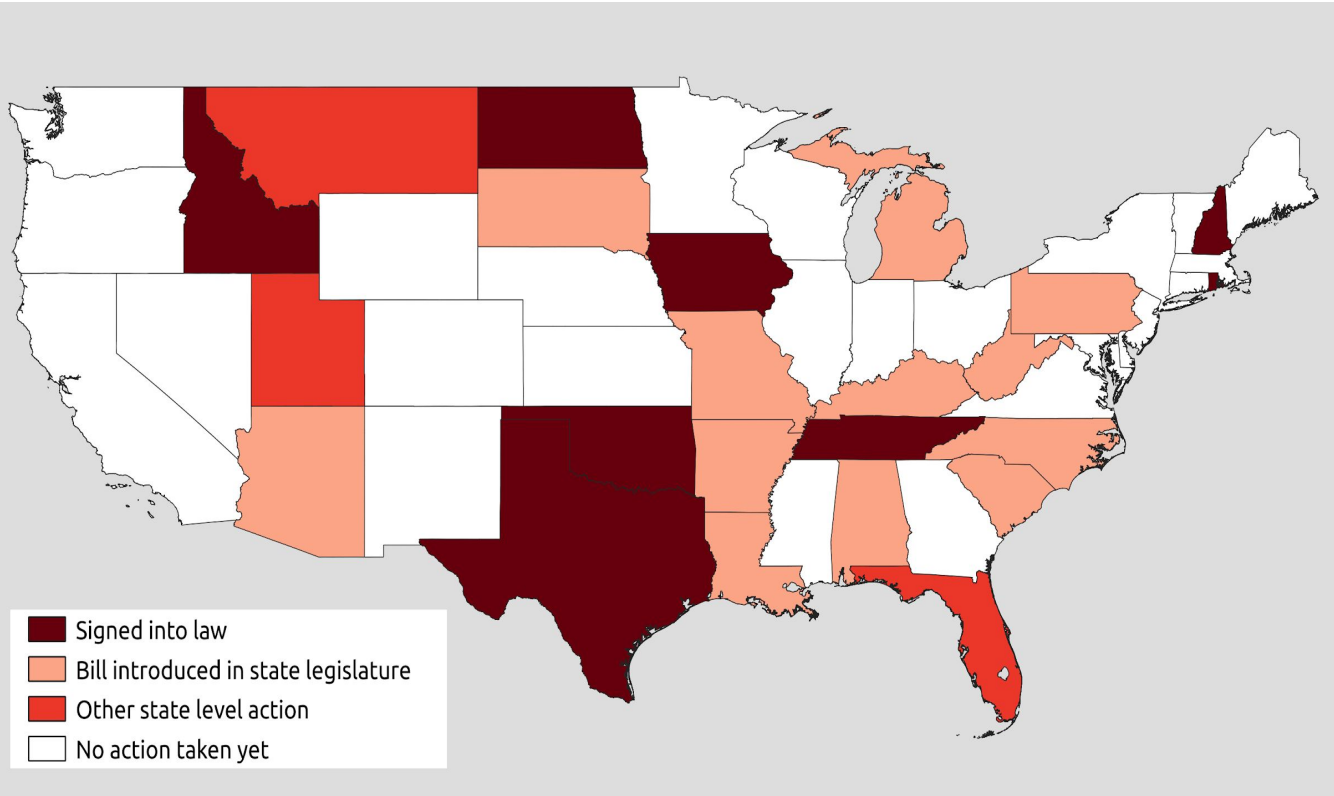
Violence, genocide,  
insurgency attacks,  
discriminatory acts

## Contradictions

Inequality, dispute over  
territory or resources,



## Attitudes/Assumptions Video: [Critical Race Theory](#)



- What critical race theory is
- Why some people believe it is necessary to teach in school
- Why some people resist or oppose the teaching of critical race theory



Optional extension:  
[What is Critical Race Theory](#)



# Go to MyAW and find “George Floyd In-Class Assignment”

[Source A: “The freedom to be: Defining white privilege and white supremacy,” \*Al Jazeera\*](#)

[Source B: “The fallacy of white privilege — and how it’s corroding society,” \*New York Post\*](#)

[Source C: “‘White privilege’ is a distraction, leaving racism and power untouched,” \*The Guardian\*](#)

[Source D: How Covid-19 Exposes Systemic Racism- \*The Economist\*](#)

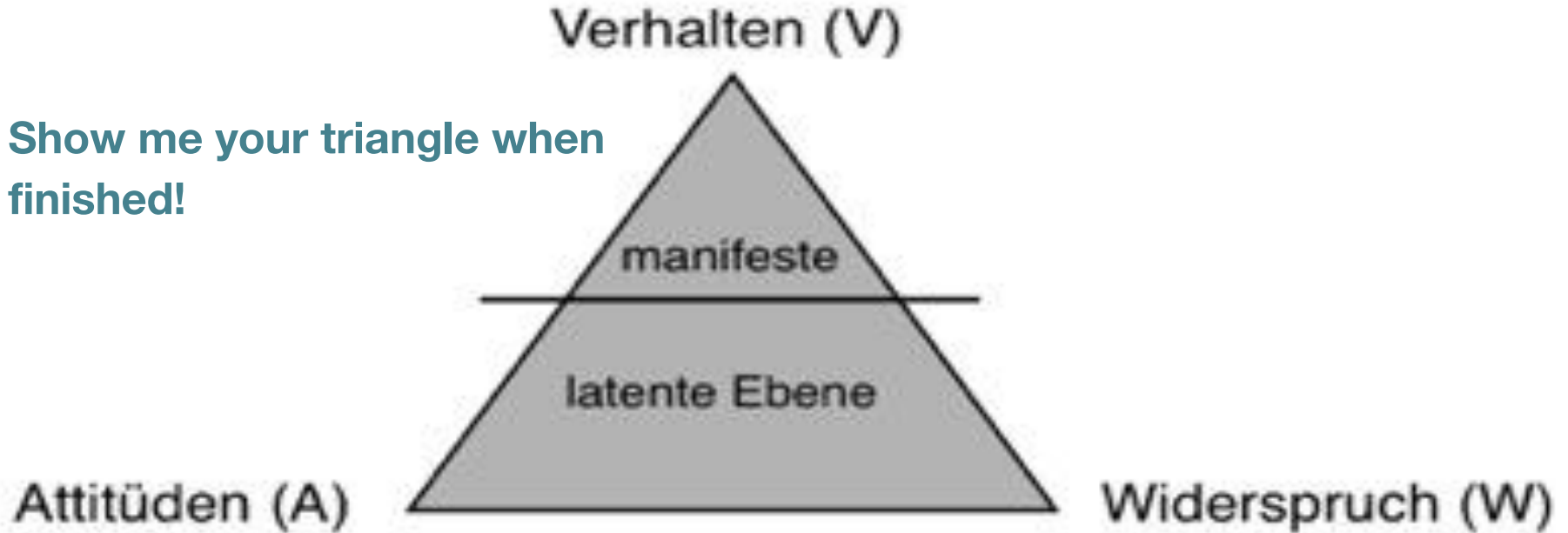
**Instructions:** Work with assigned partner/group to read through one of the readings above. Record notes while you read and discuss with your table.

When you are finished your assigned reading, start creating a **conflict triangle** on the large sheet of provided paper. On the triangle identify examples of:

- attitudes/assumptions (what do the conflict parties believe? try to indicate who thinks what)
- behavior (including violence and nonviolence)
- contradictions (where are the inequalities?)

# George Floyd Protests Conflict Triangle

Show me your triangle when finished!



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a light blue rectangular card. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with the thumb and index finger gripping the card. The card is tilted slightly upwards and to the right. On the card, the words "Assignment Writing" are written in a blue, cursive script font. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

**Work Time**

Assignment on  
Structural Violence  
in MyAW

*Assignment Writing*