

CRES 10
Day 10 Notes

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Recap Stuff

- Emily Pankerst?
- Last time
 - Structural vs Short term genocide

Structural genocide is a broader systemic and structural movement. Structural genocide is about justifying and normalizing genocide while sudden genocide is the immediate outburst of the desire to kill or annihilate a group.

Structural genocide also uses cultural, economic, and ethnic appropriation and suppression. Indigenaeity is consumed and assimilated. Living communities are downplayed and sidelined for constructed versions of themselves.

We are the new natives, taking the legacy of the ancient peoples of this land.

Structural genocides have caused massive reductions in life expectancy. They are crammed into reservations which are underfunded non-community held, and exploited.

Indigenous people are put into no win scenarios where they are trapped into forever debt. The debt becomes leverage to seize all the land.

- Law vs Justice
- Where did the Cowboy come from?
 - Malborro cigarettes?
 - Real life cattle ranching was mostly done by African Americans, Mexican Americans, and Indigenous people.
 - Came from image of Ex-Confederates

Noble independence and searching for a cause comes from the fact the confederacy fell.

The fetishization of the Cowboy fed into ideas of individualism and rebellion as values.

- Genocide in Palestine
 - Coverage of Gaza war favors Israel

The language used to describe the palestinian genocide dehumanizes and minimizes their deaths.

The Passive voice is used to ascribe agency to only one group, Palestinians. Israelis have no choice, their killing of Palestinians is an unfortunate reality, while the killing of Israelis is a tragedy and necessitates the murder of Palestinians.

- What is the point of the word genocide?

Genocide has a cultural and moral meaning. We do not need to relinquish the idea of genocide to legislation. We do not need to law to tell us what genocide is or what should be considered genocide.

The historical context of the law is impossibly important. All laws are records of the concerns and ideas of the times it was formulated in.

All law is made by people, we need not defer to those who do not live in our times or know the world we live in. We can shape and imagine a better world if we want to.

- Emily Pankhurst
 - Started woman's suffrage movement
 - arrested multiple times and movement was classified as a terrorist movement.

Used slogan "Deeds, not words" and took non-legal means to change the law.
 They used civil disobedience and other illegal and extralegal methods to incite change and put pressure. They organized hunger strikes and protests, etc.
 Openly stated that the point of activism was about making the cost of the status quo so high that to change is compulsory.
 They burned ballot boxes, attacked politicians, sending letter bombs to politicians, etc.

- They succeeded, and were brought into celebrated society.

What does it mean that they fought for the right to be folded into a genocidal empire?
 They won, but what exactly did they win?

Recipe for Property

- Rights are conceptualized as rights
- Whiteness is used to create property.
 - Whiteness is a floating signifier

Term for a word or idea that can change and take on many different ideas while not being tied to any single idea.
 Whiteness can be about skin color, intelligence, purity, innocence, deserving, beauty, power, violence, peace, enlightenment, etc.

- What if Whiteness wasn't property?

Whiteness would lose its value. Large conflicts between those with lots of property and those with little property. With whiteness ceasing to be a meaningful group, class becomes more important and obvious.

- What if we add Whiteness back in?

Both workers and owners gain a common identity. They both own whiteness, and whiteness is an exclusive group with all kinds of good qualities attached.

The thing that makes whiteness valuable is the enslavement, extraction, and dispossession of not having whiteness. A well is dug, and the fear of that well gives whiteness its value.

To maintain and enforce whiteness you have to go to the upper class. You have to identify with the system, embrace it, and enforce it.

- Takeaways?
 - Racism allows for lower and upper classes to feel equal.
 - Racism prevents white people from feeling their inequality, racism allows them to leave and exploit and bring whiteness to new places.
 - Racism is not so different in economic and social dynamics from class. Racism allows for class to be bridged and ignored.
- Racism is a structure
 - scaled up set of social relationships
 - Working Class White people are made to be superior, but insecure.
The moniker of white can be recinded at any time.
 - The one who benefits is the people who gain when people work hard to demonstrate their superiority.