

How the “Woke’ Academy” Threatens Liberal Democracy



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Presentation for the Knights of the Round Table
October 11, 2022

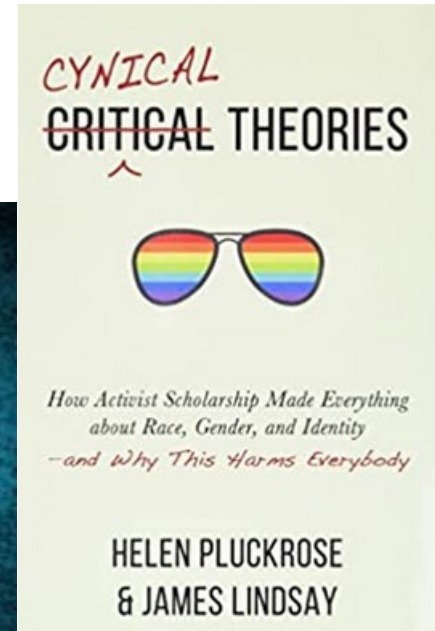
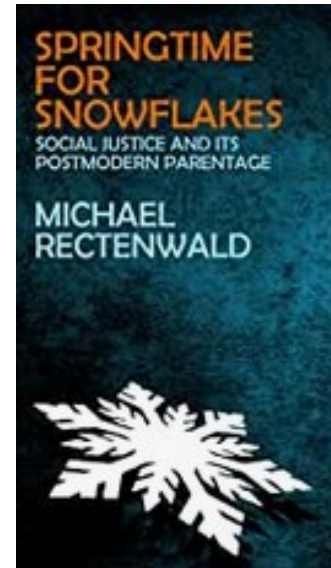
Presentation Overview

- What is the “‘Woke’ Academy”?
- What is “liberal democracy”?
- The importance of free speech/expression
- How is free speech/expression threatened?
- What is to be done?

ONLY SOME
~~YOU~~
BELONG
HERE

What is the “Woke’ Academy”

- Third stage of postmodernism (Pluckrose and Lindsay; Rectenwald)
- Oppressed identities being “made real”
- Intersectionality and privilege
- Shut up and listen!



What is “Liberal Democracy”?



- System of government where the “people rule”, and personal freedom is maximized
- Freedom of speech (expression) is arguably the most important freedom

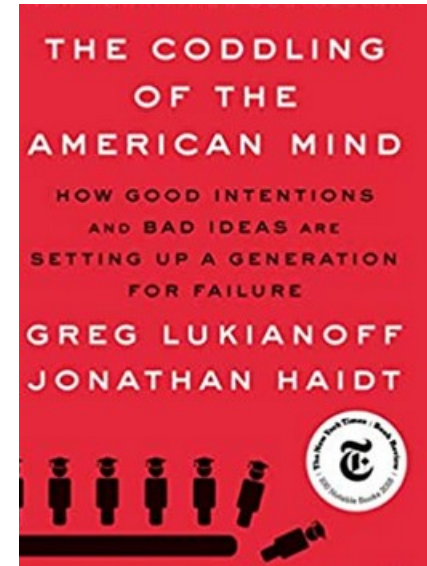
The Importance of Free Speech (Expression)

- Three reasons (*Irwin Toy Ltd. v. Quebec (Attorney General)*, [1989] 1 S.C.R. 927 at 976; *Ford v. Quebec*, [1988] 2 S.C.R. 712 at 765-766).
 - Search for truth (John Stuart Mill)
 - Participation in decision-making
 - Individual self-fulfillment
- The “‘woke’ academy” is dogmatic and censors expression



How is Free Speech (Expression) Threatened?

- University corporatization and diversity managerialism
- The “weapons of ‘woke-ness’”
- Safetyism
- Hate speech legislation



What is to be Done?

- Opposing official political statements
- Organizing the faculty
- Communicating with the public
- A principled defense is needed

