



# A Toxic Recipe: How White Supremacy is Baked into U.S. Institutions

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# Welcome!

- Please **mute yourself** when you're not speaking
- **Change your name on Zoom** by clicking the three dots at the top of your video and then clicking "rename"
- For all of our digital security, **do not take or share screenshots** of this session

# Our Purpose

## To explore how:

- White supremacy is baked into government systems in the US
- Christianity forms a moral basis for the insidious logic of white supremacy

## To learn:

- From interconnected case studies

# Our Outcomes

## We are:

- Able to see that white supremacy's role all around us
- Motivated to fight to break down systems steeped in white supremacy

# Our Process

**0:00 - 0:10** Welcome and Introductions

**0:10 - 0:15** Get to know each other a bit via the chat

**0:15 - 0:25** Getting on the same page, definitionally

**0:25 - 1:05** Discussion + Q&A

**1:05 - 1:15** Action steps and wrap up

# If you have questions...Please ask them!

## How to ask questions:

- Click “chat”
- Type in any questions you have into the chat box
- We’ll answer your questions as we go!

# Get to know each other

**Speaking of the chat feature... Let's introduce ourselves!**

**Please share your:**

- Name, pronouns, and where you're from.
- What made you interested in coming to this session?
- One thing you hope to learn or to share.

# Get to know your facilitators

**Sanaa Abrar, @sanaashine** Advocacy Director, United We Dream



**Heron Greenesmith, @herong** Senior Research Analyst for  
LGBTQI Justice, Political Research Associates



**Yaz Mendez Nuñez, @SoulforceOrg** Co-Executive Director,  
Soulforce



**Arielle Gingold, @DCREL** Deputy Washington Director, Bend  
the Arc: Jewish Action







# Key Terms

# Defining White supremacy

## White Supremacy is:

Is a system.

It is a system of institutions and ideologies.

That are made to benefit white people on the backs of Black and Brown people.

# Defining White supremacy

## White supremacy

Was established 700 years ago

Was invented to justify colonization, genocide and slavery.

Started as a state project, sanctioned by the Church.

# Defining White supremacy

## White supremacy

Continues to be a **form of oppression and exploitation** of indigenous, Black, Brown, and immigrant communities, in addition to poor whites.

Is built to maintain the political, cultural, economic, and social domination of people identified as white.

# Defining White supremacy

Some people call it white supremacy.

Some people call it racism.

**The important thing is to remember that it is a system**

**And if we identify (or pass) as white, we benefit from this system.**

# Defining White nationalism

**White nationalism is:**

**A social movement** that emerged after the Civil Rights movement.

# Defining White nationalism

## White nationalist groups:

Are built on white supremacist beliefs like the inferiority of nonwhites

**Advocate for policies, violence, and extreme measures** to preserve white power, privilege, and superiority

# Defining White nationalism

The fast growth of the white nationalist movement is a response to **growing wealth disparities** in the US.



# Defining White Supremacy vs White Nationalism

**White nationalism is not a euphemism for white supremacy**

**White supremacists** want to “go back” to complete white dominance over all US institutions

**White nationalists** want dominance + complete removal (by expulsion or genocide) of people of color, Muslims and Jews from the US altogether.

# Defining Christian Supremacy

Christian supremacy:

**Forms a moral basis for white supremacy.**

Is what happens when white supremacists and white nationalists steal the language, culture, traditions, rhetoric, and principles of Christianity and **use it to justify their violence.**

# Defining Christian Supremacy

## Christian Supremacy

### **Is a powerful tool of alienation**

Uses parts of Christianity to frame white straight Christians as the closest to God.

Labels the rest of us who don't meet those criteria as less-than, aberrant, or evil and in need of domination.

# Defining Christian nationalist movement

## The Christian Nationalist Movement:

**Seeks to make Christianity (and particularly their version of it) the law of the land.**

Is impacting on our religious freedom and moving resources from public access to private (Christian, white) institutions.

# Defining Christian nationalist movement

**The Christian nationalist and white nationalist movements are two parts of the same Right Wing ecosystem** that work together to enact policy, stack political/moral power, and spread white supremacist culture.

## In sum....

What we're up against is both **a system and an actively growing social movement** that wants to build an all-white society.

**But when we see these systems and movements for what they are, and work together, we CAN dismantle them.**

All the orgs we work for are actively fighting white supremacy & Christian Supremacy—let's dive into what that looks like.

# How does white supremacy show up in our immigration system?



ICE's policies of arresting and detaining immigrants rests on historical racism and xenophobia. The forced migration and treatment of enslaved people from Africa, combined with years of exclusion of AAPI communities, Latinos, and other immigrants of color, serves as the foundation for our nation's immigration policies and ICE's implementation of those policies.



Post September 11th, CBP's mission was ostensibly to fight the "War on Terror," and serve as law enforcement along the country's borders. However, CBP's enforcement tactics regularly result in discriminatory targeting and egregious human rights violations. CBP officers regularly engage in racial profiling; racially motivated interrogations and arrests; and evade accountability.

Source: [thedeportationforce.com](https://thedeportationforce.com)

# Defining Crimmigration

## Crimmigration is:

The criminalization of immigration law.

The evolution of immigration law from a civil process to a criminal process.

It is the foundation for the militarization of immigration enforcement and the treatment of undocumented people as “less than” U.S. citizens



# Congress Continues to Grow Budgets for Detention & Deportation



Between 2003 to 2018, ICE spending grew by 85 percent, from \$3.3 billion to **\$7.4 billion**. ICE chronically misleads appropriators; engages in fiscal mismanagement; and ignores attempts at congressional oversight. In their annual budget requests, ICE falsely claims additional needs alleging rising immigrant populations in their custody.

Similarly, funding for CBP experienced dramatic growth, from \$5.9 billion in 2003 to **\$16.3 billion** in 2018, with the number of border agents doubling from FY 2003 to FY 2016. The colossal rise of funding for CBP steadily transformed southern border communities into a heavily militarized southern border.

Besides artificially inflating operational needs, ICE **routinely functions as an agency exempt from congressional oversight**; and operates as though taxpayers wrote the agency a blank check. ICE routinely overspends its budget for enforcement and detention, then pleads with Congress to financially bail out the agency.

Source: [thedeportationforce.com](https://thedeportationforce.com)

# Defund Hate



# Best Interests: How Child Welfare Serves as a Tool of White Supremacy



# Child welfare policy over 400 years

- Genocide and enslavement
  - Family separation and theft
  - Gender inequality
- Orphanage
  - Institutionalization
  - Family separation
  - Orphanage
- “Child welfare”
  - Aid to Dependent Children
  - Suitable homes
  - Adoption as racist paternalism
  - Family separation and detention

Proximity to whiteness  
or  
Death

# Defining Dominionism

## Dominionism is:

The idea that Christians are called by God to control society by taking over political and cultural institutions.

# HOW TO TAKE ACTION NOW

## Text 202-759-2396



Text **GIVE** — donate to Bend the Arc: Jewish Action



Text **COVID** — demand moral leadership from your Member of Congress



Text **ORGANIZE** — join a Bend the Arc: Jewish Action group in your city  
(or to start your own!)

# HOW TO TAKE ACTION NOW



Support UWD's **NationalUndocuFund**

<https://unitedwedream.org/nationalundocufund/>



Learn about Resistance & Resilience in a Global Pandemic

<https://www.politicalresearch.org/PRACovidResources>



Read *Best Interests: How Child Welfare Serves as a Tool of White Supremacy*

<https://www.politicalresearch.org/2019/11/26/best-interests-how-child-welfare-serves-tool-white-supremacy>

# HOW TO TAKE ACTION NOW



**Learn more about Soulforce** and make a donation here so we can continue building power and sabotaging Christian Supremacy: [www.soulforce.org/donate](https://www.soulforce.org/donate)



**Thank you for  
joining us**