Local Politics Matter

White Privilege

White Grievance



White grievance is on the Many white persons blame all the misery in this country and in their lives on "those people", you know, people who don't look like They embrace their "white privilege" all the while denying its existence. Just in case you're confused about the phrase "white privilege, let me share some glaring examples that have been in the news that should help you to understand and recognize it the next time it occurs. Dylann Roof an 18-year old white male, murdered several black people in a church. When the police arrested him, they treated him in a dignified manner, no harsh

treatment. Tamir Rice, a 12 -year old black child was playing with a toy gun on a playground and was shot on sight, no questions asked. The policeman who shot him claimed he feared for his life. The white man, Dylann Roof, is given the benefit of the doubt, despite being a murder suspect. The black child was seen as a threat, presumed guilty and was murdered by those charged with serving and protecting.

The pundits praise Melania Trump as being an accomplished and formidable woman. To accept this as true, you would have to ignore the fact that she lied

about being a college graduate, that she plagiarized a speech from Michelle Obama, that she allowed her name to be falsely listed as an author of a booklet used in her "Be Best" initiative. So, by white standards, Mrs. Trump is labeled accomplished and formidable for demonstrating questionable accomplishments (white privilege), while many on the right mocked Michelle Obama and attempted to diminish the country's first African American First Lady, a graduate of Princeton University, a graduate of Harvard Law School, a demonstrably accomplished and formidable woman.

Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh was reportedly a heavy drinker in high school and college. He was accused of sexually assaulting at least two women while under the influence of alcohol. Many white politicians and pundits remarked that even if he did do these things, we should not hold him responsible for his actions because he was young (a teenager). They called it youthful hijinks and con-

demned those who believed the accusations should be investigated as unfairly trying to ruin his life. The dismissal of the accused behavior stands in stark contrast to the way these same individuals view young people of color. Kalief Bowder a 16 -year old black teenager, was accused of stealing a backpack and jailed at Rikers Island. He was released three years later when the prosecutor's case was found to be lacking in evidence.

Call it what you want white folks as the majority persons in America set the rules, laws and social/cultural structure to advantage them and theirs. This country will never truly be great until we honor our founding documents and adhere to its principles that all persons are created equal and truly live by those words.

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