

History, both past and present, is filled with the all too legitimate evils of slavery, prejudice, bias, bigotry, violence, injustice, oppression, and many other uncivilized behaviors. No one is denying this.

One can opine as to the reason for these inhumanities; that opinion will be based on ones worldview about man (I use this term generically for all human beings); the root cause of these inhumanities being how one views what a human being is. In a godless worldview man is nothing more than a product of nature and the law of nature is violence, destruction, and death.

The full title of Charles Darwin's book in which his view of man was expressed is: *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life*. Darwin was indeed a racist, yet we teach his theory as fact in all our schools and then expect our children not to grow up and be racist. How ludicrous!

Men like Friedrich Nietzsche, B.F. Skinner, and Jean-Paul Sartre considered humans as merely animals, machines, and a mass of chemical here by chance. Jeffrey Dahmer, the evil serial killer, said there is no God and he could find no sufficient reason to deny the satisfactions of his desires. For those that hold this godless worldview all the diversity, anti-bias, and anti-racist sessions in the world will be to no avail.

The other worldview is that God does indeed exist and is the eternal Cause and Sustainer of all material and immaterial things. He created man in His Image and therefore all mankind has dignity and value. Human value and human rights originate from this. The ideals of our country were founded on this worldview even though they have not been executed flawlessly. The reason for this lack of execution is because, in this as worldview, mankind has used his free will to go his own way, and has attempted to self-deify, self-identify, and self-determine himself.

However, in this worldview at least there is hope. Diversity, anti-bias, and anti-racist sessions done with the goal of true self evaluation and self-examination resulting in unity and love for one another may then be useful. But if they are indoctrination sessions for the "systemic/structural" racism narrative, then based on several studies, they will have little benefit on attitude or behavior and may actually make them worse.

Finally in accordance with Wofford's core values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and the true meaning of a liberal arts education, the free exchange of ideas, it is only appropriate and equitable that the speakers and reading requirements in these sessions be diverse, inclusive, and represent a variety of ideas for solutions.

At present it appears that the narratives being presented only represent those that promote systemic/structural racism, white supremacy, white privilege, and police brutality as the sole causes of discrepancies and disparities among minority groups. This should not be and you should include African-American scholars who speak to a different narrative. I will suggest a few for you to consider both as speakers and required reading for discussion: Dr. Thomas Sowell, Dr. Carol Swain, Dr. Shelby Steele, Mr. Larry Elder, Ms. Candace Owens, Mr. John Rochford, a biracial man who total rejects Robin DiAngelo, any of the 1776 Project scholars and finally, God rest his soul, Dr. Walter Williams who just passed away on 12/2/2020. His books and essays are still available.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my thoughts and perspective to this conversation.

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Class of 1969