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CRITICAL RACE THEORY

*Exploring Its Application to Public
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Critical Race Theory

Exploring Its Application to Public Administration

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Abstract: This Element explores Critical Race Theory (CRT) and its potential application to the field of public administration. It proposes specific areas within the field where a CRT framework would help to uncover and rectify structural and institutional racism. This is paramount given the high priority that the field places on social equity, the third pillar of public administration. If there is a desire to achieve social equity and justice, systematic, structural racism needs to be addressed and confronted directly. The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement is one example of the urgency and significance of applying theories from a variety of disciplines to the study of racism in public administration.

Keywords: social equity, institutional racism, structural racism, Black Lives Matter, White supremacy

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