

# **CAMPUS** **REFORM**<sup>®</sup>

A Project of the Leadership Institute



## **TALKING POINTS GUIDE**

Third Edition

Dear Fellow Conservative,

Every day conservative college students brave the lions' den.

Many young people enter college with the conservative principles they grew up with: limited government, individual liberty, free enterprise, and traditional American values.

But young conservatives face an uphill battle on campus. At school, they face leftist professors and indoctrinated peers who mock, intimidate, and aim to silence them for their beliefs. Liberals want them to become discouraged and lose their fervor for their conservative principles.

So many conservatives know what they believe is right, but they have a hard time articulating their arguments.

That's why my Leadership Institute created this Campus Reform Talking Points Guide -- and that's why I've given it to you.

LI's Campus Reform Talking Points Guide helps conservatives hone winning arguments and thoughtful responses to today's divisive issues, including freedom of speech, socialism, illegal immigration, and "micro-aggressions."

In this guide you'll learn:

- What conversations happen between conservatives and leftists today
- How to create compelling arguments for the principles you cherish
- Useful counterpoints for 14 hot-button issues

Unlike leftists who indoctrinate students and tell them what to think, the Leadership Institute trains young people how to win tangible victories for the conservative principles they already believe in.

The path to victory begins when my Leadership Institute field staff identify, train, and recruit conservative college students and help them plug into or organize conservative groups on campus.

Many times these conservative student groups face unfair free speech restrictions, but my LI field staff train them to beat the left on campus.

The Leadership Institute also has a powerful weapon: Campus Reform. In 2012, the Leadership Institute launched [CampusReform.org](http://CampusReform.org) to expose liberal bias, abuse, and indoctrination on college campuses.

Today Campus Reform is the nation's #1 college watchdog news website.

Regularly, Campus Reform stories put enough pressure on a university to fire an abusive professor, to reverse an unfair policy, or to award damages to conservative students who suffer constitutional violations.

Campus Reform's reporting has led to at least **240 victories** for free speech and for conservative college students.

This work is crucial for future conservative leaders.

LI's Campus Reform Talking Points Guide gives conservatives a launch pad to uphold their views in hostile settings. And if they encounter trouble, Campus Reform swiftly exposes the liberal abuse.

This guide is not just for young students, but for any conservative who wants to know the hot topics discussed today and how to combat the leftist agenda.

LI's Campus Reform won't let the left intimidate or mock time-honored conservative principles out of the next generation.

I strongly recommend you read this guide, then share it far and wide.

Thank you for taking your stand against leftist indoctrination in America today.

Cordially,

Morton C. Blackwell  
President, Leadership Institute

# TOP TIPS FOR DISCUSSIONS ON CAMPUS

## UNDERSTAND YOUR ROLE

- You're the **expert!**
- Explain why it's important
- **Break down** the issue
- **Anticipate** and be ready to answer possible questions

## DETERMINE YOUR GOALS

- Come with an agenda
- Crisply summarize the story/issue
- Make clear arguments and **offer solutions**
- Provide analysis and **supporting facts**
- **Explain** the bigger picture/ the larger issue

## PREPARATION

- Prepare the **talking points** you want to make
- Anticipate objections and counter arguments
- **Practice, practice, practice!**

# ANTI-AMERICANISM ON CAMPUSES

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Banning the American flag
- Vandalizing 9/11 memorials
- Protesting the National Anthem
- US-bashing courses and rhetoric by administrators and professors

## TALKING POINTS

It has become trendy on college campuses for the liberal majority to blame America for many of the world's problems.

This view is accepted as high-brow and enlightened, but is often based on ignorance.

The U.S. is extremely generous, spending billions each year on foreign aid.

The reality is, the U.S. has long been a world leader in advancing human rights, tackling poverty, addressing public health, and driving innovation.

Here at home, we offer the greatest opportunity for all people, regardless of race, religion, gender, or any other category.

No nation is perfect, but the U.S. is certainly an exceptional country with a promising future.

Americans at home and abroad have plenty of reasons to be proud of the American flag.

If this trend continues, the next generation will lack the American pride and sense of unity to come together to address problems and move forward.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

The American flag, the National Anthem, and other ways of honoring the United States should be restricted since they represent a system of oppression here at home and interference in other countries.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

While we are not a perfect nation, Americans at home and abroad have plenty of reasons to be proud to wave the American flag or stand for our National Anthem. The USA offers the greatest opportunity for all people, regardless of race, religion, gender, or any other category. Furthermore, the U.S. spends billions each year on foreign aid, is always among the first to come to the aid of nations in times of need, and has a long history of standing up for vulnerable groups.



**TAGLINE:** Calls to remove the American flag reflect ignorance of America's values and how we practice and spread those values here and around the world.



*Search Terms: Anti-Americanism, Flag, Patriotism*

# DISPARAGING CAPITALISM, PRAISING SOCIALISM

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Blaming capitalism for poverty, racism, sexism, misogyny
- Presenting/viewing socialism as compassionate and fair

## TALKING POINTS

Blaming capitalism for poverty, racism, sexism, or other social ills reflects ignorance of a system that has lifted more than a billion people out of poverty in the last 20 years alone.

Just as concerning is the false perception that socialism is compassionate and fair. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Socialism demeans people and has led to mass hunger, material shortages, and even starvation.

Professors on our college campuses are promoting pro-socialist views to the next generation of Americans, leaving out the facts about the horrors of socialism and erroneously blaming capitalism for all societal problems. This is an embarrassment to academia.

Our higher education system teaches students that government should provide for us and that profits are less virtuous than centralized government management as they praise people like Bernie Sanders as champions for the poor and disadvantaged.

Educators should, instead, encourage the next generation to be entrepreneurial self-starters. There is no better way to support human dignity, progress, innovation, and prosperity.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Capitalism is a system that allows the 1% to exploit everyone else in order to get richer. Socialism is more just because it divides the resources up equally. People in socialist countries are happier because everything is divided up equally. Everyone gets a job, healthcare, and a fair wage.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Such statements ignore the facts. Capitalism has lifted more than a billion people out of poverty in the last 20 years alone. Socialism not only demeans individuals and reduces them to government dependents, but has led to mass hunger, material shortages, and even starvation. Just look at Venezuela or Zimbabwe today, or review the history of the Soviet Union.



**TAGLINE:** Educators have an obligation to teach the next generation the facts about capitalism and socialism — and let the facts speak for themselves.



*Search Terms: Socialism, Social Justice, Capitalism, Welfare, Government Spending*

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Speech codes
- “Free speech zones”
- Language guides
- Intellectual diversity
- Compulsory student fees
- Cultural appropriation
- Hate speech

## TALKING POINTS

Free speech is imperative to a free society, and it is clearly protected in the Constitution.

The Constitution certainly doesn’t exempt college campuses, and the very idea of a limited “free speech zone” is incompatible with a free society.

Stifling free speech causes our campuses to become environments of bias, indoctrination, and intellectual bullying.

Campuses are supposed to be places of intellectual diversity, where students exchange ideas and hone critical thinking skills. This cannot happen when thoughts and ideas are suppressed and even banned.

If the next generation is taught that rights can be revoked when and where others decide to do so, they will certainly take this fallacy with them when they leave campus.

This dangerous prospect threatens the very existence of the USA — a nation founded on individual rights and which flourished because of those rights.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

It's okay to restrict certain speech on campus when words and ideas may offend or make people uncomfortable, or if the majority doesn't agree with them. This practice is necessary to create a safe environment for students to live, share ideas, and learn.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Campuses are supposed to be places where students exchange ideas, no matter how unpopular, to hone critical thinking skills. This cannot happen when thoughts and ideas are suppressed and even banned. The civil rights and women's suffrage movements were both unpopular ideas in their times.



**TAGLINE:** The next generation needs to learn that the right to free speech cannot be revoked, even when we don't agree with one another. Students should not have to surrender their right to speech to receive an education.



*Search Terms: Free Speech, Free Speech Zone, First Amendment, Hate Speech*

# SAFE SPACES, MICRO-AGGRESSIONS & TRIGGER WARNINGS

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Language guides
- Free speech restrictions
- Demands spurred by hypersensitivity
- Childish behavior by college students
- Events, programs, and campaigns that are divisive
- Intellectual diversity

## TALKING POINTS

Hypersensitivity is rampant on college campuses.

No one has a right not to be offended in a free society. In fact, being offended is pretty much guaranteed in a society with individual freedoms like speech and religion.

The sooner college students learn this, the better prepared they will be to enter the real world.

Instead, students are learning that their feelings come before rights and that some people's feeling are more important than others.

These students will eventually enter the real world, where they'll have to work and otherwise interact with people who disagree with them. The best way to prepare them is to burst their safe-space bubbles.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

People have a right to learn, work, and otherwise exist without having to endure opinions, words, or actions that could cause them emotional pain or trauma.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Not being offended is not a right. In fact, being offended is pretty much guaranteed in a society with individual freedoms like freedom of speech and freedom of religion. College students need to learn that their feelings do not come before the rights of others and that some people's feelings are not more important than others.



**TAGLINE:** The sooner that college students learn that tolerance means tolerating even those you don't agree with, the better prepared they will be to be members of a free society.



*Search Terms: Hate Speech, Snowflake, Bias Incident*

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Demands for sanctuary campuses
- DREAM Act
- Scholarships, in-state tuition, and special treatment for illegal immigrant students

## TALKING POINTS

Colleges and universities across the country have been singling out and rewarding illegal immigrants with special programs and benefits.

Many of these programs discriminate against law-abiding students by reserving scholarships, offering special on-campus resources, or reserving job opportunities for those with illegal status.

These practices reflect a lack of understanding for the importance of rule of law, allowing emotion to take precedence. The result is unfair treatment.

When rule of law becomes subject to whim, discrimination follows. In this case, it's against legal immigrants and U.S. citizens.

While our immigration system needs reform, we cannot put those who break the law on a pedestal.

Following the rule of law is not “anti-immigrant.”

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

People who were brought to the U.S. as children through no fault of their own and who grew up here have a right to education without fear of deportation.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

While our immigration system is certainly in need of reform, we must work to fix current laws rather than disregard them. Allowing emotion to take precedence over rule of law leads to unfair treatment. In this case, it's against legal immigrants and law-abiding U.S. citizens. Furthermore, it sets a precedent that rule of law can be disregarded if people feel it should be.



**TAGLINE:** Following the rule of law is not “anti-immigrant,” it is our best protection against unfair treatment and discrimination.



*Search Terms: Illegal Immigration, DACA, ICE*

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Professors who use the classroom as a soapbox for political opinions or a bully pulpit
- Preventing certain political organization, language, and speech
- Speech codes
- Mandatory social justice classes

## TALKING POINTS

Liberal bias and indoctrination are rampant on college campuses. Conservatives have been targets of rants and inaccurate statements by professors and forced to complete biased assignments.

This abuse of power makes the classroom unwelcoming to conservative students. Who wants to be affiliated with a group perceived as sexist, hateful, less intelligent, and greedy? Furthermore, it prevents true intellectual diversity.

It highlights the use of the classroom as a bully pulpit for left-leaning professors. Those who disagree will remain silent for fear that speaking out will affect their grades.

If no one speaks up to correct misinformation, the next generation will come to accept lies.

Colleges and universities should be places where students are exposed to different ideas and are given the freedom to analyze, debate, and come to their own conclusions — not indoctrination dens.

It's unfair for professors to force certain ideas onto students while suppressing or maligning others, and it's an embarrassment to academia.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Professors have a right to exercise their free speech in the classroom. Not only is this a core aspect of academic freedom, but students attend college to learn from these scholars. Restricting professors' ability to voice their opinions will undermine the value of higher education.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Free speech and academic freedom are certainly necessary for thriving campuses of higher education. But we're not seeing healthy exchanges of opinions. We're seeing professors use the classroom as bully pulpits where they use their positions of authority to force their views onto students. Conservatives have been targets of rants, inaccurate statements, and persecution by professors for years.



**TAGLINE:** Colleges and universities should be places where students are taught facts from which they can draw their own conclusions — not indoctrination dens.



*Search Terms: Free Speech, Biased Professors*

# 2ND AMENDMENT

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Campus carry
- Gun-free zone
- Self-defense

## TALKING POINTS

The 2nd Amendment guarantees Americans the right to bear arms, and students shouldn't have to abandon their constitutional rights just because they're on college campuses.

The majority of college students are legal adults who can vote and be sent off to war. To suggest they are not adult enough to exercise their constitutional rights is insulting.

And what about those who have served our country in military service? Our nation's veterans returning to school should not be denied their right to bear arms now that they're back on U.S. soil.

Despite good intentions, the police cannot always protect every individual from harm. The 2nd Amendment enables individuals to defend themselves.

Given recent attention to sexual assault on college campuses, colleges and universities should not deny women the right to protect themselves.

Students shouldn't have to "leave their rights at the schoolhouse gate" or sacrifice their security to receive an education.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Allowing students to have guns on campus would put both students and faculty at enormous risk given the prevalence of excessive alcohol consumption on so many of our campuses. Furthermore, the danger to professors would be significant. What happens if a student is unhappy with a grade and decides to confront a professor?

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

These concerns are extremely insulting to college students. The majority are legal adults who can vote and be sent off to war. To suggest they are not mature enough to exercise their constitutional rights is absurd. And, given recent attention to sexual assault on college campuses, colleges and universities should not deny women the right to protect themselves.



**TAGLINE:** Students shouldn't have to abandon their constitutional rights just because they're on college campuses.



*Search Terms: Second Amendment, Gun Control*

# ABSURD CLASSES, PROGRAMS, & SPENDING

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Useless or otherwise crazy classes, programs, or events
- Wasteful college spending
- Diversity training
- Social justice

## TALKING POINTS

Today, the average college student leaves campus with more than \$30,000 in debt and is expecting to get a return on that investment. At a cost of \$10,000 (public colleges) to as high as \$50,000 (private colleges) per year, they should.

But classes/spending like this certainly leave them with a healthy bill but don't prepare young adults for jobs.

The cost of college has skyrocketed over the last few years, posing a crushing burden for families and students. And yet, we're seeing colleges and universities spend money on programs, classes, and infrastructure that do little to prepare students for jobs: rock climbing walls, lazy rivers, classes on celebrities, and more.

These colleges and universities would better serve students by spending more wisely and cutting tuition costs.

Students also have an obligation to think more prudently about costs and long-term goals when choosing a college. Given their career goals, they should ask where they can get the best and most affordable education.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

The college and university experience is a critical time for students to grow in their experiences and learn about all aspects of life. Exploring different cultures, lifestyles, and perspectives are more important than just getting a job and making money.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

The purpose of college, which is getting increasingly more expensive, is to prepare students for jobs. Programs like this not only drive up the price tag of a degree, but they do not help students advance their career goals. While there are certainly plenty of other valuable topics to learn about — cooking, playing an instrument, or sports — universities would serve students best by curbing wasteful spending and focusing resources on preparing students for jobs.



**TAGLINE:** Colleges and universities would better serve students by spending more wisely and cutting tuition costs.



*Search Terms: Degree, Tuition, Student Loan Debt*

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Safe spaces and trigger warnings
- Efforts to erase unpleasant history by changing the names of buildings and removing monuments and statues
- Refusal to confront or acknowledge truth about the past, present, or future
- Shutting down speakers or events that deliver uncomfortable or unpopular opinions
- Speech codes, guides, or rules
- Gender issues, titles, and use of proper pronouns

## TALKING POINTS

Political correctness on college campuses has reached a level where truth and free speech now come second to feelings and avoiding offending another person or group.

In an effort to protect feelings, campuses are erasing history, distorting the present, and suppressing speech and ideas.

This is the opposite of what campuses should be fostering: identifying truth, confronting uncomfortable issues, exchanging opinions, and challenging students to think differently and more deeply about issues.

This type of intellectual activity and growth is impossible when facts and speech are censored, banned, or denied.

College students are the next generation of leaders — they will run businesses, government, non-profits, and other bodies made up of diverse people and interests.

Colleges need to prepare students with the skills to work with others to solve problems, not avoid or ignore them.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

People should be able to study, work, learn, and, in general, live without having to face offensive and emotionally upsetting ideas or actions — whether they occurred in the past or the present. Our nation's classrooms and campuses have an obligation to provide safe spaces for students.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Education is about learning facts and different views, even when they are uncomfortable or offensive. Disregarding, ignoring, or dismissing history or certain views because they are troubling or because we don't care for them certainly doesn't help us grow in knowledge or intellect. It actually traps us in narrow-minded ignorance.



**TAGLINE:** Shielding college students from truth and restricting free speech will certainly not prepare the next generation to lead.



*Search Terms: Hate Speech, Free Speech, Snowflake*

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Banning Christmas displays, crucifixes, and other religious visuals
- Preventing students from thanking God
- Shutting down Christian groups, like Bible studies, for their beliefs
- Rhetoric disparaging or maligning Christian students
- Calls to divest from Israel; anti-Semitism

## TALKING POINTS



Discrimination against Christians on college campuses has become a trend: A cappella groups banned from singing Christmas songs, students told they can't thank God at graduation, bulletin boards shaming Christians for their "privilege," and quizzes asserting that Christians have lower IQs than atheists!

Furthermore, anti-Semitism is on the rise on campuses across the country, including student-led demands that schools divest from Israel.

In the name of tolerance, many colleges and universities have themselves, demonstrated intolerance towards Christians and other groups that may hold unpopular beliefs.

This narrow-minded understanding of tolerance is preventing diversity — diversity of opinion and belief.

The irony here is how the tolerance movement is intolerant of anything outside of its definition of what is acceptable.

If students learn that demonstrations and any visual representation of faith are offensive, they will take this attitude with them after they leave campus.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Overtly religious language, like thanking God, and displaying Christmas trees should be removed from college campuses since it excludes non-Christians and further supports Christian privilege.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

In the name of tolerance, many colleges and universities are practicing intolerance towards Christians and other groups. Preventing a student from thanking God or a choral group from singing Christmas songs reflects intolerance to the Christian faith. Not only is this hypocritical, it is a violation of our right to religious freedom.



**TAGLINE:** Liberal college administrators have confused freedom of religion with freedom from religion.



*Search Terms: Religion, Christianity, First Amendment*

# INFANTILIZING COLLEGE STUDENTS

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Childish coping activities like coloring and cry-ins
- Meltdowns when students do not get the results they want
- Absurd claims of “suffering,” “fear,” and “trauma”
- Requests (and accommodation) for exemptions from classes for absurd reasons

## TALKING POINTS

Our colleges and universities are starting to look more like daycares rather than rigorous academic institutions preparing the next generation of leaders.

Cry-ins, coloring sessions, therapy puppies, safe spaces, and trigger warnings! Universities need to stop accommodating this childish behavior.

The real world doesn't accommodate their hypersensitivity, and these students will be in for a shock when they leave the “safe spaces” college campuses have been supporting and encounter the trauma of individuals acting freely.

Life is hard. It's full of hard work, hurt feelings, annoyance, frustration, disappointment, sadness, and even tragedy. Great leaders like Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, and Winston Churchill didn't retreat to coloring books or pet puppies. They faced obstacles and opposition head on.

It's hard to see how subsequent leaders will come out of today's campuses. The whole world will suffer the repercussions of a generation that throws tantrums and feels traumatized by chalk drawings and Halloween costumes.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Given the political climate, compounded with the stress of maintaining good GPAs, colleges and universities have an obligation to provide a safe, non-judgmental space for students to retreat from demands and hostile rhetoric.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

College students are adults. The majority can fight in wars, get married, vote, and legally drink alcohol. Treating them like children fails to prepare them to succeed in the real world, and we will all suffer from the lack of responsible leaders, both at the household level and on the world stage.



**TAGLINE:** Colleges and universities need to stop accommodating childish behavior and return to preparing the next generation to not only survive in the real world, but to lead.



*Search Terms: Safe Space, Snowflake, Free Speech*

# VIOLENCE AGAINST CONSERVATIVES & LIBERTARIANS

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Violence and illegal activity on campus
- The “heckler’s veto”
- Antifa, Black Lives Matter, By Any Means Necessary (BAMN)
- Protests that disrupt free speech

## TALKING POINTS

Groups like Antifa, which claims to be anti-fascist, and By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), sound like noble causes. They purport to stand against fascism and hate. Nothing could be further from the truth.

These groups recklessly label ideas they don’t agree with as “fascist,” “racist,” and other hateful terms to justify their violent attacks. In their eyes, such labels make brutal attacks morally acceptable.

Make no mistake, these “anti-fascists” could care less about fighting fascism; their only goal is to shut down conservative thought and speech on campus.

They don’t see the irony in protesting and calling fascist the very people who want less government control.

Antifa has been designated by the FBI as a domestic terror organization. They stalk, intimidate, hunt, and assault conservatives on our campuses and on the streets. In many cases, these “fascism fighters” aren’t even students, but “progressive” thugs who come to campus to deploy their violent tactics to shut down conservative speakers.

Our colleges and universities must not tolerate such violence. Instead, they must stand up for the rule of law, freedom of speech, and the free exchange of ideas. If they fail to do so, the next generation will adopt similar measures to shut down the important debates that allow democracies to thrive.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Antifa and By Any Means Necessary (BAMN) say they stand up against fascism and hate on college campuses in order to make them safe spaces for minorities, immigrants, and other targets of white supremacy and nationalism.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

Groups like Antifa sound noble because they claim to stand-up against fascism and hate. Nothing could be further from the truth. These groups have one mission: to shut down conservatives through intimidation and violence. To justify their thuggish behavior they label ideas they don't agree with as "fascist," "racist," and other hateful terms.



**TAGLINE:** Make no mistake, these “anti-fascists” could care less about fighting fascism; their goal is to shut down conservative thought and speech on campus.



*Search Terms: Antifa, BAMN, The Heckler's Veto*

# TOXIC MASCULINITY

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Anti-male programs
- Programs to “combat” masculinity
- Blaming masculinity for societal problems
- Labelling masculinity as toxic

## TALKING POINTS



Masculinity is under attack on college campuses, and there is a concerted effort underway to erase masculinity from society.

There is a general assumption, pushed by academics, that masculinity is “toxic” — and that traditional or cultural notions of masculinity are harmful and lead to destructive behaviors.

On college campuses, masculinity has been called “toxic,” a threat to “mental health,” and even “evil.” Masculinity has been blamed for mass shootings, sexual assault, and other forms of violence.

While colleges offer programs to “combat” masculinity, you rarely see a campus program that extols the virtues of masculinity! Nor do you hear about “toxic feminism.”

Men should be proud to protect their families, provide for them, and stand up for their beliefs and principles. Masculinity is far from a negative thing.

Men comprise nearly 50% of the population in the US. Universities should not support or encourage ideas that claim male attributes are bad or that men have no place in modern society.

Instead of being told that their desire to be “manly” is natural and healthy, men are told by colleges and universities that their inclinations cause violence — both to others and to themselves — and that they must be “reprogrammed.”

Masculinity and femininity are different and complementary. Both have places in public and private lives, and both sexes are valuable partners in advancing a better world and addressing our problems.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

Hyper-masculinity is at the root of much of the violence we see in society today — from sexual assault to mass shootings. As a society it's our duty to address the negative repercussions of masculinity and work with young men to acknowledge, confront, and control their masculine tendencies. This is critical to making progress to reduce violence, conflict and hurt, both on campus and in our communities.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

The assumption, pushed by academics, that masculinity is “toxic” and only leads to destructive behaviors is not only false, it is harmful to society. That's not the message we want to send to the next generation. Masculinity includes many valuable virtues. Do we really want to tell 50% of the U.S. population that they have no place in society simply because they are male?



**TAGLINE:** Masculinity and femininity are different, and both have roles in advancing a better world and addressing our problems. Men and women are partners, not enemies.



*Search Terms: Masculinity, Violence, Sexism, Patriarchy*

# RACE RELATIONS; DIVISION

## STORY EXAMPLES

- Privilege bulletin boards
- Segregated housing
- “White privilege” or disparaging courses, programs, or rhetoric
- Programs or initiatives that grant special privilege along racial lines

## TALKING POINTS

The sorry state of race relations on college campuses should come as no surprise given the classes, events, workshops, policies, and other actions that push liberal identity politics which divide, rather than unite, students.

We have work to do as a society to ease racial tension, but classes and other events that present an entire race as a problem are inappropriate, wrong, and counter-productive.

These types of events, classes, and language tear people apart rather than bring people together and result in reverse discrimination.

The goal should be to improve relationships and dialogue rather than erect barriers and label people by the color of their skin.

The irony is that these efforts to reverse past wrongs are equally unfair, create divisions, and pit people against each other on the basis of sex, race, and religion.

Policies that encourage divisions between people don't bolster equality, and it's unfortunate that college students are learning an “us vs. them” mentality.

## IN CONTEXT

### LIBERAL ARGUMENT

The identification, exposure, and elimination of white privilege on campus and in the classroom is a critical requirement of higher education. To achieve true social justice, we must confront the problems white privilege poses on society now and for years to come.

### CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE

We have work to do as a society to ease racial tension but to promote classes and other events that view an entire race as the problem are inappropriate, wrong, and counter-productive. This kind of identity politics creates divisions between people, and doesn't contribute to equality; it just creates an "us vs. them" mentality.



**TAGLINE:** We should focus on how to improve relationships and dialogue rather than erect barriers and define people by the color of their skin.



*Search Terms: Identity politics, Social Justice, Racism, Discrimination*



**Campus Reform is a project of the Leadership Institute.**

To learn more about becoming a Campus Correspondent, please

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For more information about the Leadership Institute's  
training and resources, please visit:

**[www.LeadershipInstitute.org](http://www.LeadershipInstitute.org)**

