**TRIGGER TERM**

White Supremacist Culture

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| **HARMFUL DETOUR** | **HEALING REDIRECT** |
| White supremacist culture refers to the beliefs and actions of extremist hate groups. By asking me to interrogate and address white supremacist culture in my daily life or in our community, you are implying that I am associated with extremist hate groups, which makes me uncomfortable. | White supremacist culture is not limited to fringe groups or institutions. It refers to all practices and beliefs that perpetuate the harmful myth of white racial superiority and centrality. In many cases, actions and attitudes that reinforce white supremacist culture are unconscious, since the systems of structural racism are deeply embedded in societal norms. Refusal or inability to acknowledge white supremacist culture is one of the most powerful forces propping it up. Because white individuals benefit from the privilege of white supremacist culture, they are often able to navigate daily life without having to consider their own racial identity. As a result, it is often easy for them to ignore or underplay the realities of non-white biases, exclusion and oppression. Effectively uprooting systemic racism will require white individuals to overcome feelings of fragility and discomfort when examining their contributions to white supremacist culture, as well as a commitment to necessary change. |