

White Supremacy: The idea (ideology) that white people and the ideas, thoughts, beliefs, and actions of white people are superior to People of Color and their ideas, thoughts, beliefs, and actions. While most people associate white supremacy with extremist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and the neo-Nazis, white supremacy is ever present in our institutional and cultural assumptions that assign value, morality, goodness, and humanity to the white group while casting people and communities of color as worthless (worth less), immoral, bad, and inhuman and “undeserving.” Drawing from critical race theory, the term “white supremacy” also refers to a political or socio-economic system where white people enjoy structural advantage and rights that other racial and ethnic groups do not, both at a collective and an individual level. (“Racial Equity Tools Glossary,” <https://www.racialequitytools.org/glossary>)

White Supremacy Culture: The dominant cultural practices that establish middle- to upper-class white cultural norms as the default way of being in workplaces, congregations, institutions, and pop culture. The combined effect of these cultural assumptions and norms is the advancement of white privilege and power as well as the oppression of people who do not conform. BIPOC are capable of embracing and enforcing these norms, just as women are capable of embracing and enforcing a cultural patriarchy that ultimately harms them. When white supremacy culture is identified, we are called to embody its antidotes in the ways we relate to one another. See www.whitesupremacyculture.info for characteristics and antidotes.

*Taken from the Mosaic Curriculum definitions from the Lifespan Faith Development Office
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bi5Ayu2P_IEmPFt3q2qOkTPmO3rlvJaES5XWTeyJuSk/edit