

# RETHINKING RACISM

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The conventional wisdom holds that the prototypical racist is an uneducated white man who hates blacks. Such persons clearly exist, but this view is seriously outdated. The biggest enemy of non-whites these days are more likely to be those who publicly profess to be their friends.

Why, after all the money spent on education and social programs are blacks still trailing Hispanics, Asians and whites in school and in the workplace? Consider two issues: crime and education. It stands to reason that if people aren't safe in their neighborhood, and are consigned to the worst public schools imaginable, they are not likely to succeed.

The number-one reason why blacks are in last place is because those who champion their cause are punishing them with their policies. Forget their rhetoric—talk is cheap—they are the real racists.

Over Labor Day weekend, 58 people were shot and 8 were killed in Chicago. The media are reluctant to name the race of the victims but we all know who they are. We know that because it is a familiar story in Chicago, and in many big cities. Worse, those who run these crime-ridden cities are all Democrats, and many are black. Every one of them claims to be on their side.

The mayor of Chicago is a black man, Brandon Johnson. He is infinitely more exercised by the threat of National Guardsmen policing his city than he is by blacks being massacred. "We are going to defend our democracy in the city of Chicago," he says. By doing what? Watching black-on-black crime spike? Is that the face of democracy?

In 2024, there were more murders in Chicago than in any city in the country. Indeed, Chicago has topped the list for 13

years in a row. So who is to blame? Not the mayor. He blames "red states" for having loose gun laws, though he never explains the cause and effect. Moreover, why is it that the states with loose gun laws have less crime than places like Chicago?

Johnson is not interested in protecting his own people in Chicago. In fact, he thinks locking up the killers is racist! "The addiction on jails and incarceration in this country, we've moved past that. It is racist, it is immoral, it is unholy, and it is not the way to drive violence down."

How does a racist like Johnson stay in office? He receives 95 percent of his donations from labor unions, led by the teachers' unions. They own him, and they are out to destroy charter schools and school choice initiatives that allow blacks to prosper academically.

Fewer than one in three elementary students can read at grade level, and barely one in five is proficient in math. Four out of ten students are chronically absent. Has Johnson ever confronted their parents?

New York City is not much better.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (AOC) is the most vocal supporter of minorities in New York. Since she took office in 2019, the crime rate in her district has surged by 70 percent. Most conspicuously, the Queens neighborhood of Jackson Heights, which is in her district, has become a hell hole driven by drugs and prostitution. Addicts are shooting up near schools and hookers are accosting young men on Roosevelt Avenue. As one community leader put it, "there are more brothels than there are bodegas in this community."

And what has AOC done about it? She authorized the installation of 51 trash cans. This is not a joke.

AOC spent her initial years in Parkchester, a planned

community in the Bronx where my Irish-born grandparents settled. She spent most of her young years in the tony neighborhood of Yorktown Heights, a town in Westchester County. Why did her parents move? "My mom and dad looked at the quality of education in the Bronx" she said. "They looked at the 50 percent dropout rates" and decided to move.

Her parents were kind. AOC is not. She does not want to extend to Hispanic and black children the same opportunity she was granted by her parents by attending a quality school. Her parents could afford to move, but many who live in her district cannot afford to do so. That is why they desperately want the choice to put their kids in the best schools in their area. AOC won't let them.

She is against charter schools and school choice programs, making sure these minority children are stuck in the lousiest schools in New York. These are schools where 30 percent of the students are chronically absent and the teachers are literally *banned* from invoking sanctions. Yet she has the audacity to brag how she managed to get her goddaughter into a classy charter school.

Racists are those who want to keep minority children down. They do so by allowing street crime to go unchecked and forcing them to attend schools that should be shut down. That they still claim to represent their best interests is one of the most obscene scams in America today.