

What is the Critical Race Theory (CRT) Framework?



An ARISE x SEE Guide



A GUIDE TO TEACHING TRUTH - PART 1

What is CRT?

CRT aims to understand how racism is systemically perpetuated and enforced.

↓
In other words, how racism is embedded within:

Our institutions,



Laws,



Cultural norms,



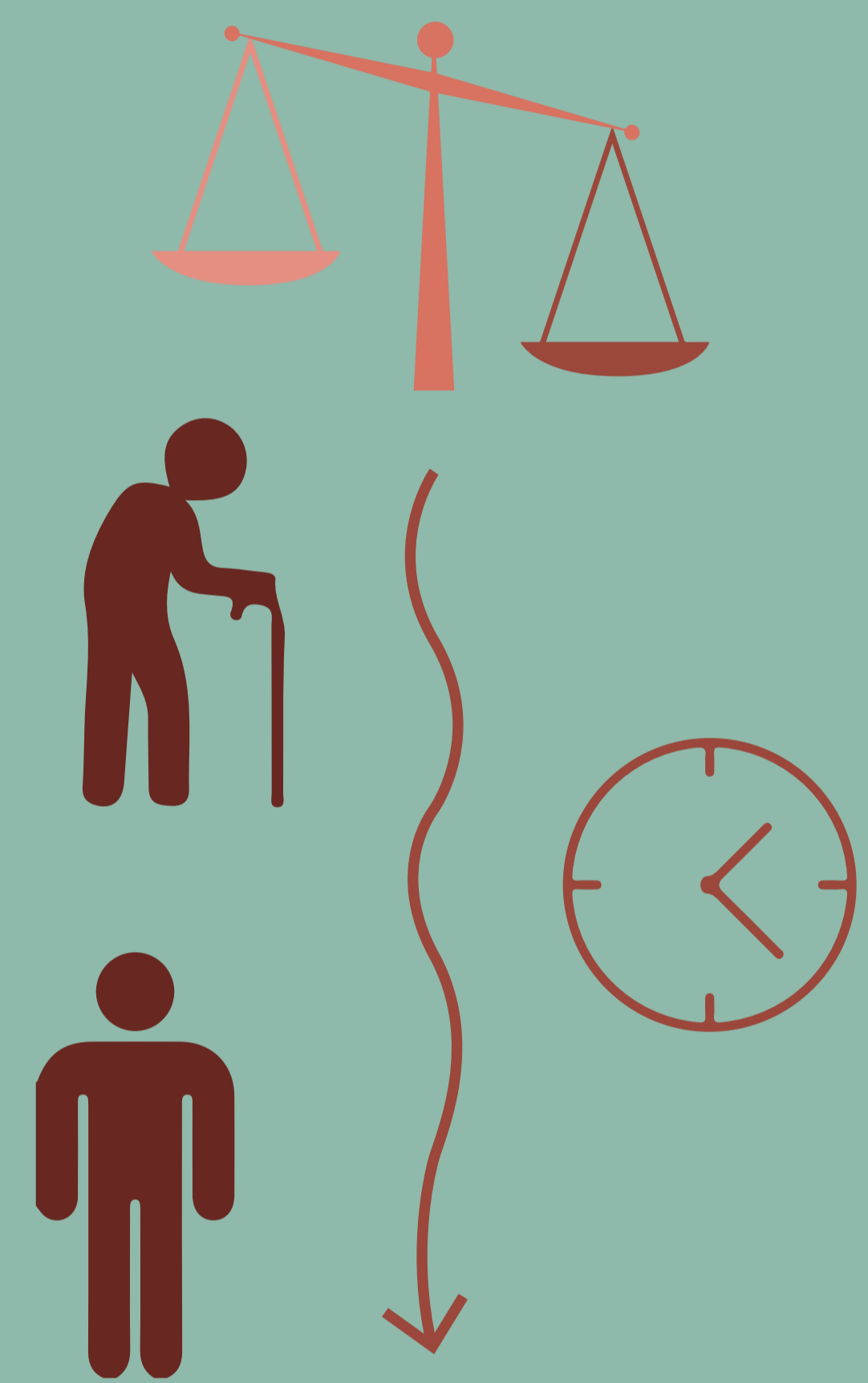
And the lasting
impact of past
institutions & laws



And how they work together
to enforce inequities

What Does Systemic Racism Mean?

Inequities are baked into our



Rules / Standards & National History

In law, politics, education, healthcare, etc.

Inequities that faced older generations effect their descendents today

Regardless of appearances, people of color are born at a disadvantage.

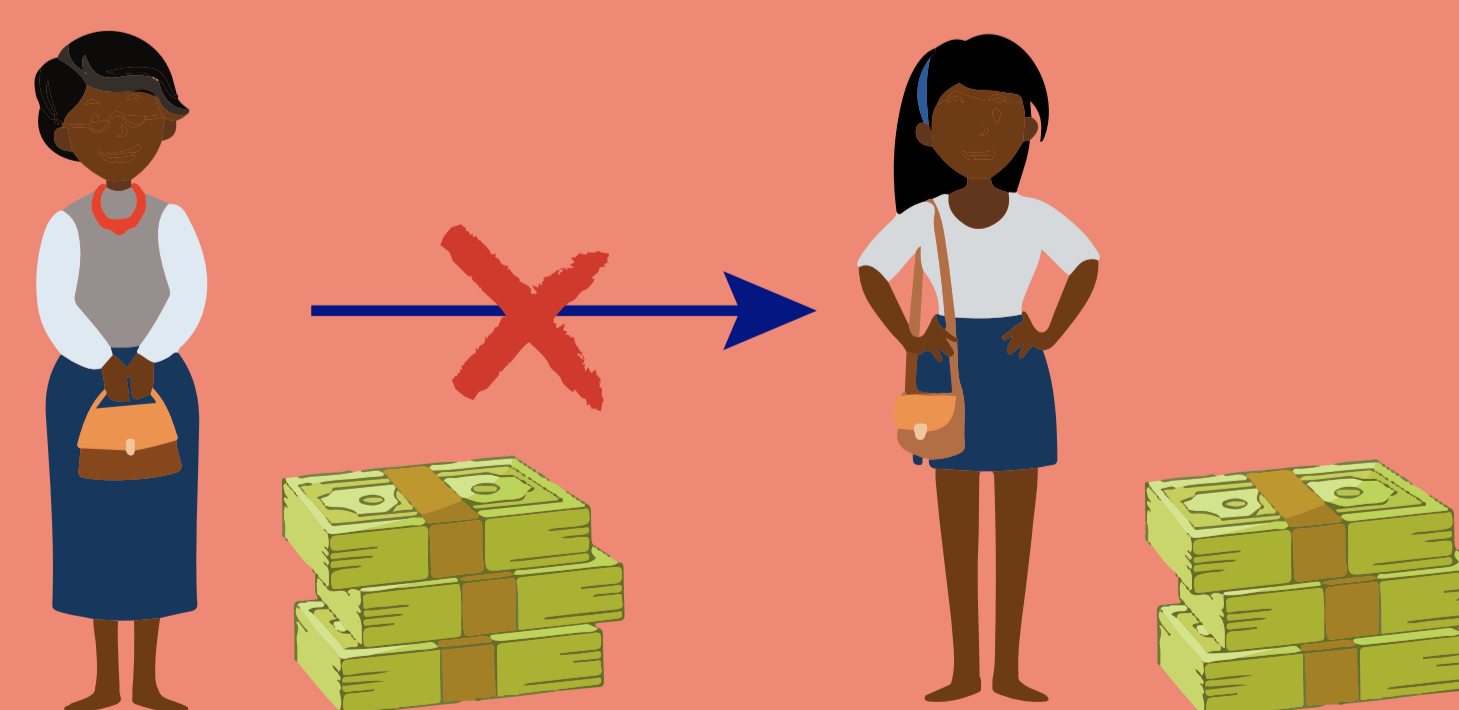
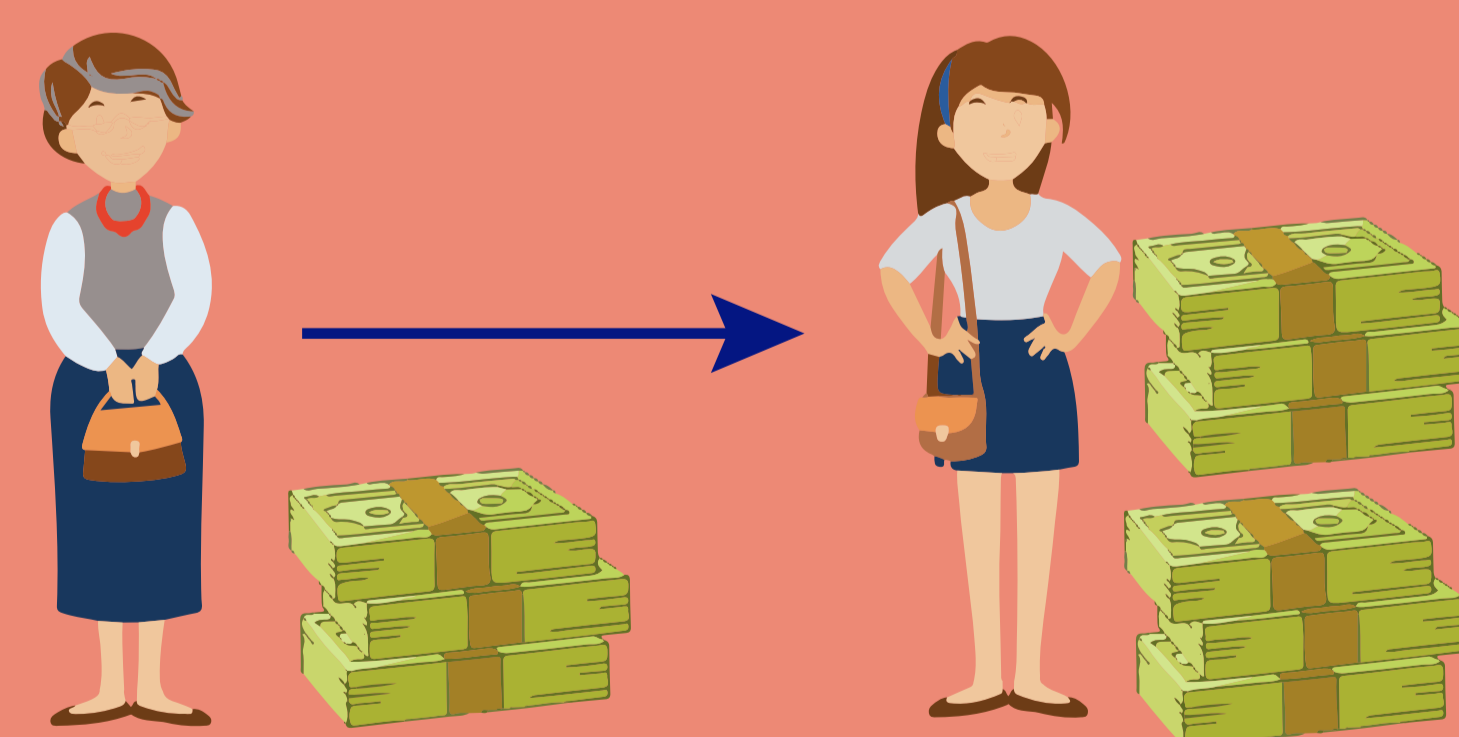
Example of Systemic Racism: Housing

1930s Redlining: the government labeled predominantly Black neighborhoods as “high risk” for mortgage lenders.



This made it almost impossible for Black families to buy a home,

Which prevented them from gaining generational wealth through home ownership – creating wealth inequalities that remain pertinent today.

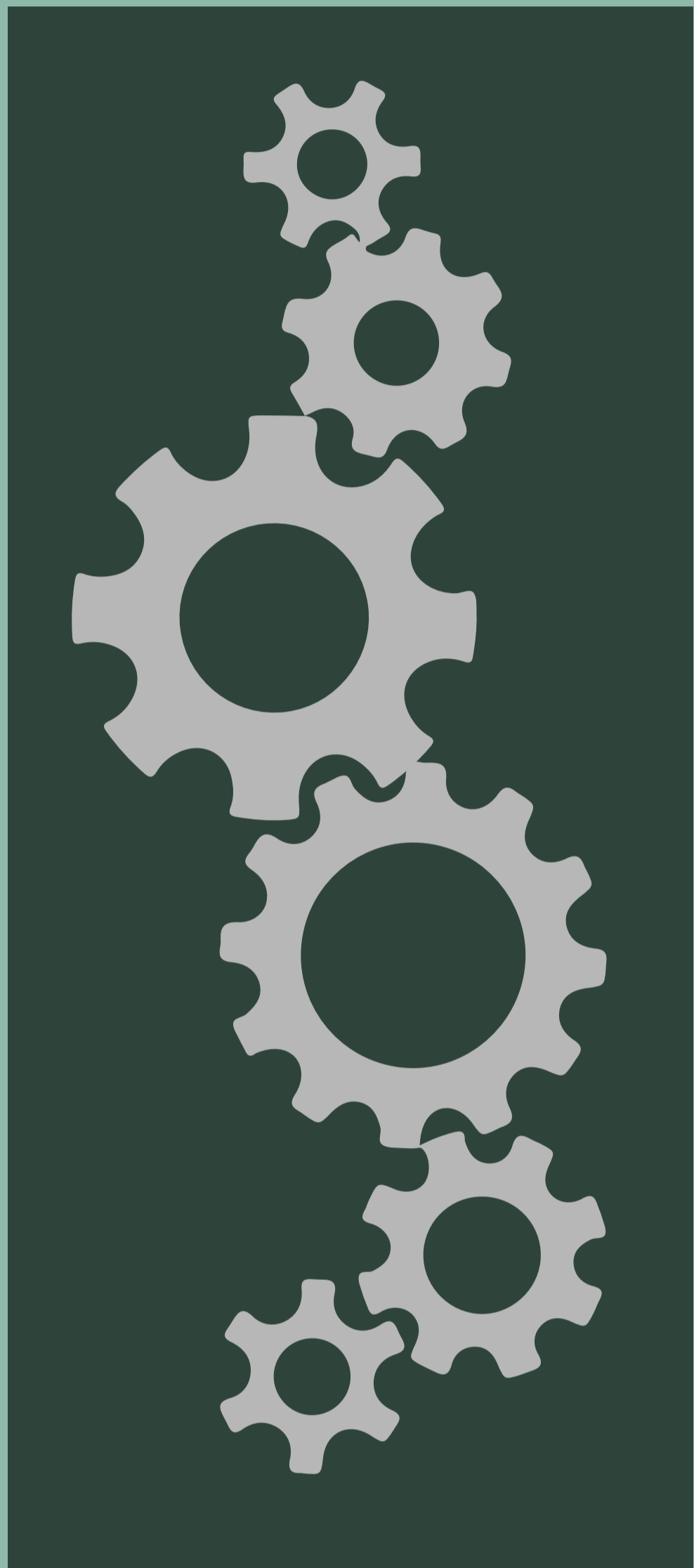


Systemic Racism vs Individual Racism

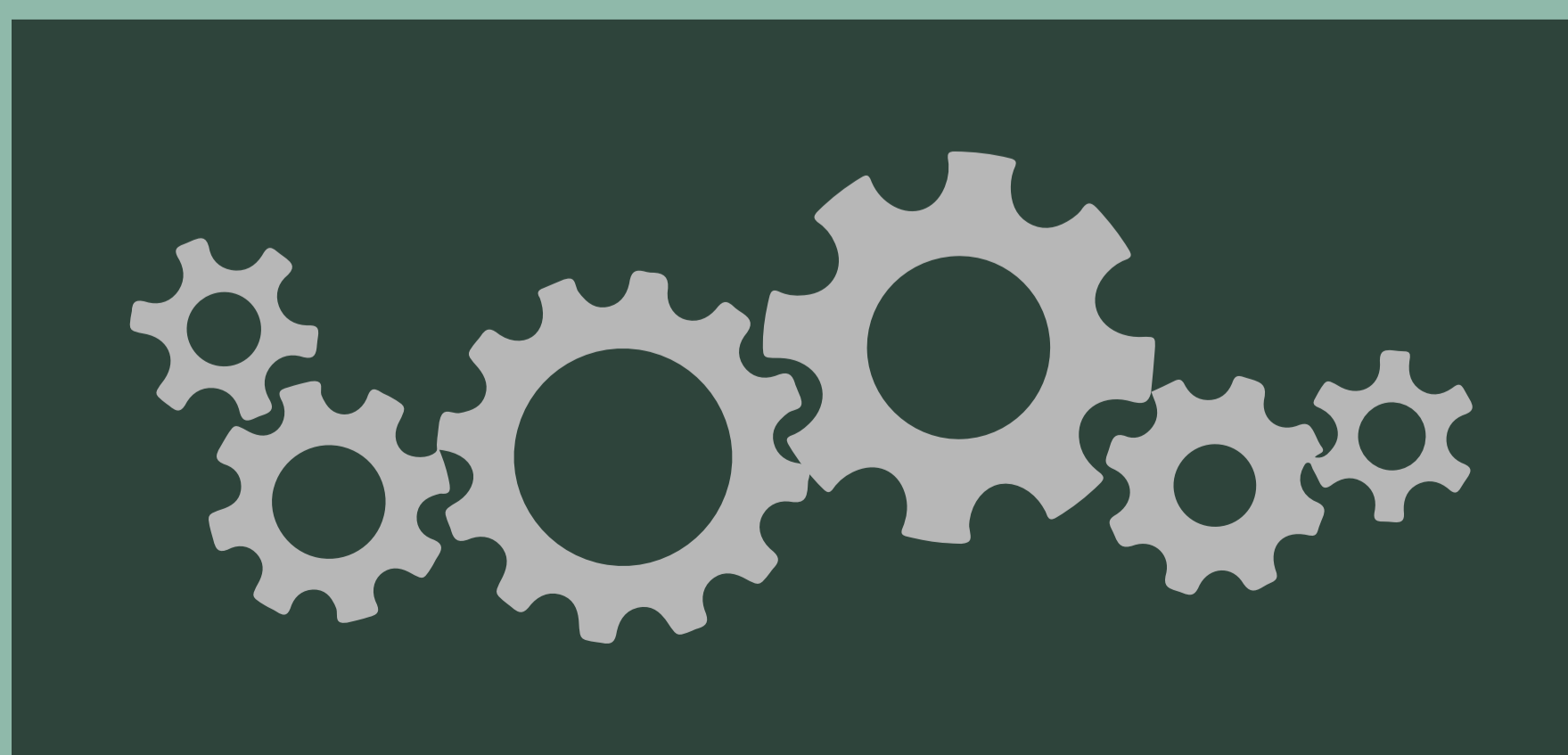


The belief that racism stems solely from individuals' attitudes

Rather than BOTH individuals' attitudes & systemic inequalities



But changing individuals' discriminatory attitudes doesn't solve for deep, systemic inequity.



Why Study Systemic Racism?

“In order to challenge systems of oppression, you must first be able to identify them.”
- Dr. Angel Jones



Like with the example of housing, CRT provides a powerful framework for recognizing inequities in



Education

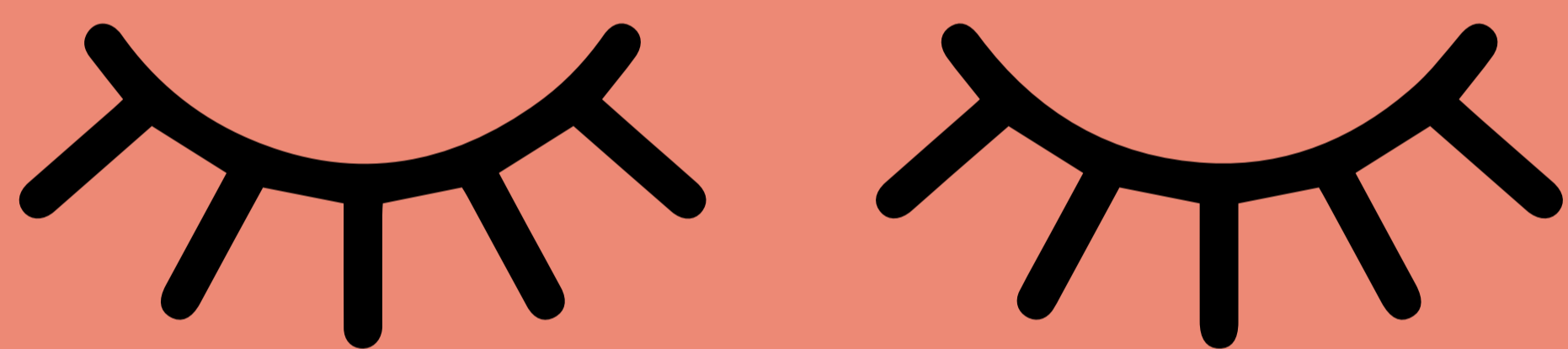
Healthcare

& More

See Part 2 for more on why we need CRT →

Racism is a Norm

“CRT begins with the notion that racism is ‘normal, not aberrant, in American society.’”



Because racism is so normalized, it seems natural to people - preventing us from recognizing that something is wrong.

CRT’s goal is to “unmask and expose racism in its various permutations.”



Racism is Part of America's DNA

America was founded upon the racialization and oppression of people of color.



This racism has continued to be systemically perpetuated and enforced.

CRT deepens our understanding and analysis of how these systems are complex, nuanced, and pervasive.

Sources

“The War On Critical Race Theory
Continues As Some Call It Anti-White,”
Janice Gassam Asare (Forbes)