WRT 205 Summer Session 2021

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## Annotation 6

Michael Levinson's article, "University in Florida to Investigate Professor Who Tweeted about 'Black Privilege'.", *The New York Times*, offers insight into the sentiment of a certain portion of the white male population. Levine informs us that Professor, Charles Negy of The University of Central Florida is in hot water due to statements he made about 'Black Privilege' after George Floyd's death. The author tells us that Mr. Negy tweeted, *"If Afr. Americans as a group, had the same behavioral profile as Asian Americans (on average, performing the best academically, having the highest income, committing the lowest crime, etc.), would we still be proclaiming 'systematic racism' exists?" Later, the professor tweeted "Black privilege is real: Besides affirm. action, special scholarships and other set asides, being shielded from legitimate criticism is a privilege. But as a group, they're missing out on much needed feedback." According to the article, despite complaints about bias and unfair treatment by the professor, The University says their hands are tied because Mr. Nagy, a tenured professor, made the comments outside of the classroom and can only be disciplined for incompetence or misconduct inside the classroom.* 

This article adds to the conversation about Black equity and inclusion by demonstrating how a white male in a powerful position (influencing young minds and authority to pass or fail students) can possess and express opinions that could negatively impact a whole segment of the student population without any real consequences. This story also demonstrates that bigotry is alive and well and thinly disguised as a debate.

## Reference:

Levenson, Michael. "University in Florida to Investigate Professor Who Tweeted about 'Black Privilege'." *The New York times*, 2020, pp. A22. <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/ucf-professor-charles-negy-race.html</u>