The background of the slide is a dense, close-up photograph of green hosta leaves. The leaves are various shades of green, from a vibrant lime green to a deep forest green, and are arranged in a natural, overlapping pattern. The lighting is soft, highlighting the veins and textures of the leaves.

Using Critical Race Theory Framework to Study Power Dynamics in Schooling Practices

Teaching Showcase 2022
Center for Teaching & Learning
Stephen F. Austin State University

Dr. Marisol Diaz
Education Studies



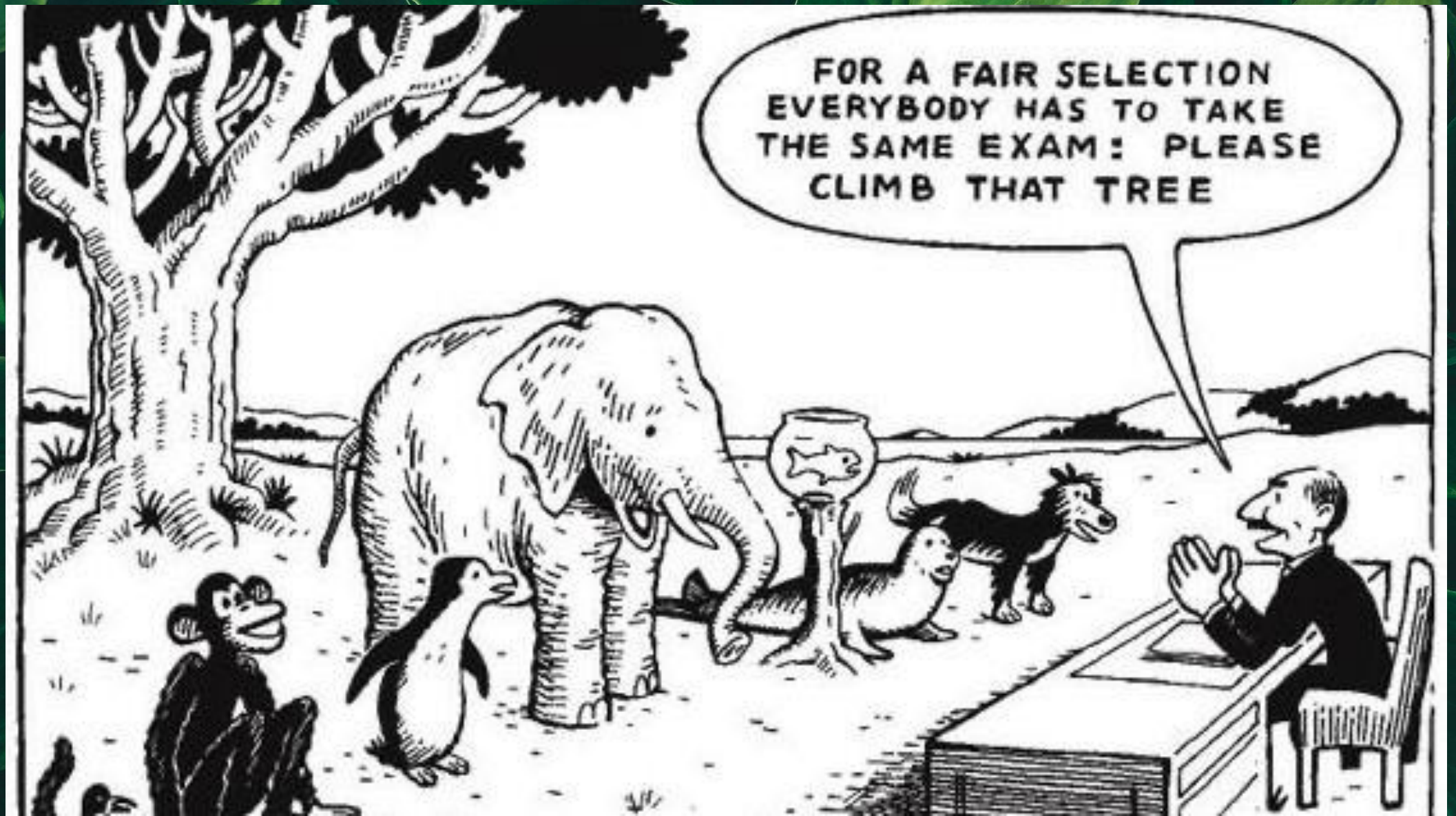
About the Learning Exercise

- **Creating the exercise**
- **Building background knowledge**
- **Materials:**
 - Handout: *Parable of Hodja and the Foreigner*
 - Cartoon: “*Climb that Tree*”
 - Article link: *Faces of Power: 80% Are White, Even as U.S. Becomes More Diverse* By [Denise Lu](#), [Jon Huang](#), Ashwin Seshagiri, Haeyoun Park and [Troy Griggs](#) Sept. 9, 2020
- **Theoretical Framework**
 - Critical Race Theory
 - Critical Theory
- **Pedagogical Theory**
 - Critical Pedagogy



Procedure

- Students are shown the cartoon “Climb that Tree” and asked to make as many connections as they can.
- Then students read the 2-page parable in groups. If online, I use Jamboard to post the reading.
- In groups students answer guiding questions one of which includes a scenario in which they are asked what they would do if they were a teacher in the village in which the scenario takes place.
- Students are shown the cartoon “Climb that Tree” once more and asked to make further connections.
- Students are shown the article *Faces of Power*



Hans Traxler, Chancengleichheit, in: Michael Klant, [Hrsg.],
Schul-Spott : Karikaturen aus 2500 Jahren Pädagogik ,Fackelträger,
Hannover 1983, S. 25

Parable of Hodja & the Foreigner

- Taken from Sensoy, O., & DiAngelo, R. J. (2017). *Is everyone really equal: An introduction to key concepts in social education justice education* (2nd ed.) Teachers College Press



What if?

- What if you were a teacher in the village this parable takes place?
- Pretend you have a (*) grade class. Your students are mostly descendants from Hodja with the rest being students from the Foreigner's. The Foreigners are part of the school board as well as most of your campus administration. You are asked to teach a social studies lesson on the founding of the country in which you live. During this time, you have a walk-through observation.
 - 1. How would you teach this lesson?
 - 2. What challenges might you run into and what decisions will you have to make?





180 of them identify as Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, multiracial or otherwise a person of color.

Faces of Power: 80% Are White, Even as U.S. Becomes More Diverse

Article: *Faces of Power: 80% Are White, Even as U.S. Becomes More Diverse*

- <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/09/us/powerful-people-race-us.html>
- *Faces of Power: 80% Are White, Even as U.S. Becomes More Diverse* By [Denise Lu](#), [Jon Huang](#), Ashwin Seshagiri, Haeyoun Park and [Troy Griggs](#) Sept. 9, 2020