

# Bureau of Educational Research

2008-2009 Seminar Series

Presents



## Whites' Emotional Responses to Racism: Is Privilege Worth the Cost?

Thursday, November 13, 2008

12:00-1:00p.m. 242 Education

**Dr. Lisa Spanierman**

*Associate Professor*

*Educational Psychology*

2008-2009

College of Education

*Distinguished Scholar*



This presentation will describe an emerging theory for understanding whiteness that emphasizes the *costs* of racism to Whites.

The term *costs* refers to the **negative cognitive, affective, and behavioral consequences** experienced by White individuals as dominant group members in a White supremacist system. Although scholars acknowledge that Whites unfairly benefit from the U.S. system of racial oppression, it might be less apparent that **White individuals also experience negative consequences** from living in such a system.

Empirical findings suggest that Whites' experiences of costs are linked to multicultural education, cross-racial friendships, and the ways in which White individuals understand racism. **Five costs of racism types** will be presented and implications for educational interventions will be discussed.



College of Education  
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Bureau of Educational Research, Room 38  
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