

## Political Glossary

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**ACLU** – The American Civil Liberties Union is a nonprofit organization founded in 1920 "to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States". ([Source](#))

**Antifa** – A [left-wing anti-fascist](#) and [anti-racist political movement](#) in the [United States](#). It is highly [decentralized](#) and comprises an array of [autonomous](#) groups that aim to achieve their objectives through the use of both nonviolent and violent [direct action](#) rather than through policy [reform](#). ([Source](#))

**Black Lives Matter** – three-word phrase in the English language similar to: all lives matter, blended lives matter, brown lives matter, red lives matter, white lives matter, yellow lives matter

**BLM** – An acronym for the political organization Black Lives Matter, pro Black minority, against violence against Black minorities, support violence to combat violence against Black communities, dismantling of the nuclear family, and do not support any other race. ([Source](#))

**Budget Reconciliation Process** - Reconciliation is a tool – a special process – that makes legislation easier to pass in the Senate; Instead of needing 60 votes, a reconciliation bill only needs a simple majority in the Senate. It starts with the congressional budget resolution. The budget cannot be stalled in the Senate by filibuster, and it does not need the President's signature. If the budget calls for reconciliation, it tells certain committees to change spending, revenues, or deficits by specific amounts. Each committee writes a bill to achieve its target, and if more than one committee is told to act, the Budget Committee puts the bills together into one big bill. That bill has special status in the Senate. Like the budget, it cannot be filibustered, and only needs a simple majority to pass. ([Source](#))

**Critical Race Theory (CRT)** ([Source](#))

the view that the law and legal institutions are inherently [racist](#) and that [race](#) itself, instead of being biologically grounded and natural, is a socially constructed concept that is used by white people to further their economic and political interests at the expense of people of color. According to critical race theory (CRT), racial inequality emerges from the social, economic, and legal differences that white people create between "races" to maintain [elite](#) white interests in labor markets and politics, giving rise to [poverty](#) and [criminality](#) in many minority [communities](#).

**Critical Race Theory in Education K-12** ([Source](#))

**Groupthink** – A pattern of thought characterized by self-deception, forced manufacture of consent, and conformity to [group](#) values and ethics ([Source](#))

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**Homophobia** – Encompasses a range of negative attitudes and feelings toward homosexuality or people who are identified or perceived as being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. It has been defined as contempt, prejudice, aversion, hatred or antipathy, may be based on irrational fear and ignorance, and is often related to religious beliefs. ([Source](#))

**Misogyny** - Misogyny is the hatred of, contempt for, or prejudice against women or girls. It enforces sexism by punishing those who reject an inferior status for women and rewarding those who accept it. ([Source](#))

**Political Truth** – When a political idea or thought is repeated so often that the listener abandons his or her own belief and accepts that of the politician as truth. ([Source - Neal deGrasse Tyson from his Master Class on Scientific Thinking](#))

**Progressivism** - political philosophy in support of social progress and reform ([Source](#))

**Woke** - ([/'wʊk/ WOHK](#)) is a term that refers to a perceived awareness of issues that concern [social justice](#) and [racial justice](#).<sup>[2]</sup> It derives from the [African-American Vernacular English](#) expression **stay woke** ([Source](#))

**Xenophobia** – The fear or hatred of that which is perceived to be foreign or strange ([Source](#))