The KU Social Psychology Program presents

The privileged liberal principle-implementation gap: How the personal behavior of privileged liberals contributes to social inequality



Demis Glasford, PhD.
Professor - University of Wisconsin-Madison

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Please join us over **ZOOM** Meeting ID: 925 9696 4469

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Much of the work on the development and maintenance of group inequality has focused on a select number of privileged/powerful groups, resulting in a "blind spot" regarding the role that liberals plan in contributing to social inequality The present work tests for a privileged liberal principle-implementation gap, the notion that under conditions that make personal stake salient privileged liberals exhibit a gap between their self-reported principles for social change and behavioral tendencies to achieve these respective principles. The studies focus on three areas critical to inequality: employment (i.e., affirmative action), education (i.e., equal access to education for the working class), and housing (i.e., access to affordable housing). Across studies, the results demonstrate that privileged liberals report higher principles to reduce inequality compared to conservatives, but within situations with salient personal stake exhibit no differences in behavioral tendencies for change—compared to conservatives. Implications of the impact of the P-I gap on working class Black/Brown communities and the study of inequality are discussed.