

CHAPTER FOUR

POLITICALLY CORRECT EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF DONALD TRUMP

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Introduction: Donald Trump's Moral Vandalism

Let's be clear, the Right's relentless attack on Political Correctness (PC) is about social control. Donald Trump's constant attack on the media as a liberal machine that produces nothing more than "fake news" aims to delegitimize any viewpoints that are either different or critical of his partisan actions. This strategy is not novel, as a similar tactic was used by anti-PCers throughout the late 1980s and 1990s. Historically, anti-PCers have aspired to truncate any real discourse regarding democracy and multiculturalism. And yet, those on the Left are blamed for stifling open discourse and repressing free speech.

The recent presidential pardoning of Dinesh D'Souza, the conservative writer who led a rabid charge against the PCers in the 1990s, should clearly indicate that the era of Trump will engender attacks against diversity and multiculturalism.³ The Right, now led by people like Nick Adams (2016) and Hanne Nabintu Herland (2017), is once again on a warpath against PCers for rejecting their right to express themselves—even if their expressions are hateful or bigoted. The Right cites protests, denials, and/or cancellations of Trumpists' talks, ranging from Alt-Righter Richard Spencer (Michigan State University, The Ohio State University, and University of Cincinnati), to conservative writers Milo Yiannopolous (U.C. Berkeley and San Diego State University) and Ben Shapiro (California State

³ Dinesh D'Souza, author of *Illiberal Education*, was the posterchild of Anti-PC movement in the 1990s. In 2014, he pleaded guilty to violating federal campaign finance laws. He was given a full pardon by Donald Trump on May 31, 2018.

Political Correctness

IN THE ERA OF TRUMP

Threat to Freedom or Ideological Scapegoat?



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