

EXPERIENCING LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE EDUCATION & SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TIMES OF VIOLENCE AND RESISTANCE

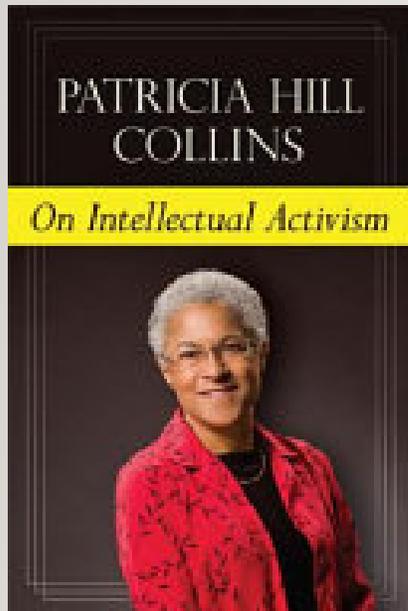
BERKELEY LANGUAGE CENTER, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

ROBERT TRAIN

TRAIN@SONOMA.EDU



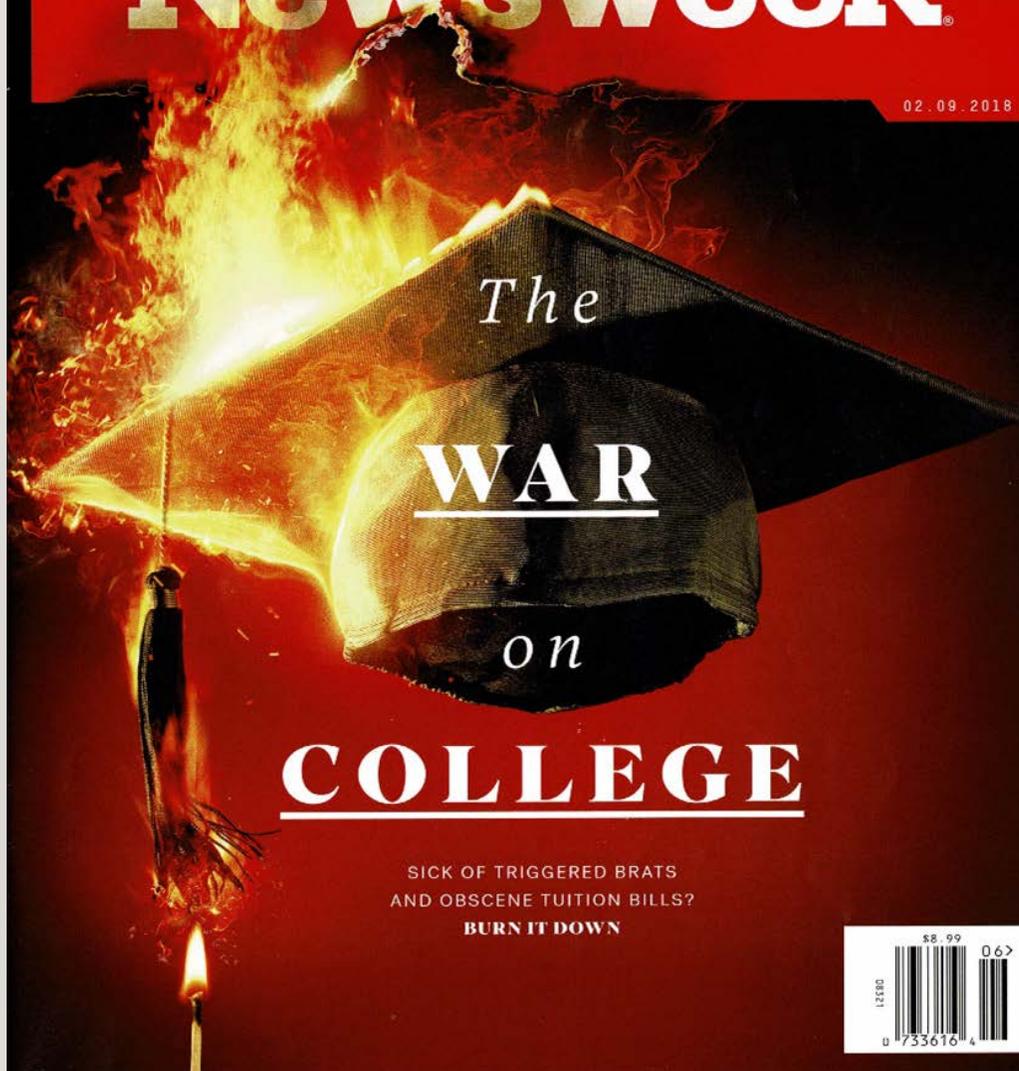
ETHICALITY & INTELLECTUAL ACTIVISM IN VIOLENT TIMES



- "the myriad ways that people place the power of their ideas in service to social justice" (Hill Collins, 2013, p. ix).

Newsweek

02.09.2018



The

WAR

on

COLLEGE

SICK OF TRIGGERED BRATS
AND OBSCENE TUITION BILLS?
BURN IT DOWN





MAGNA CUM LAUGHABLE

FOR DECADES, CONSERVATIVES HAVE WAGED A LONELY **WAR ON COLLEGE**, BUT THEY ARE FINALLY WINNING. THEY SUDDENLY HAVE ALLIES ON ALL SIDES, EAGER TO TEAR DOWN HIGHER EDUCATION AND **START OVER**

BY
ALEXANDER
NAZARYAN
◊
IMAGE BY
FORREAL

What Is College Good For? Absolutely Nothing, Say Republicans (and Some Democrats)

BY ALEXANDER NAZARYAN ON 2/11/18 AT 8:00 AM

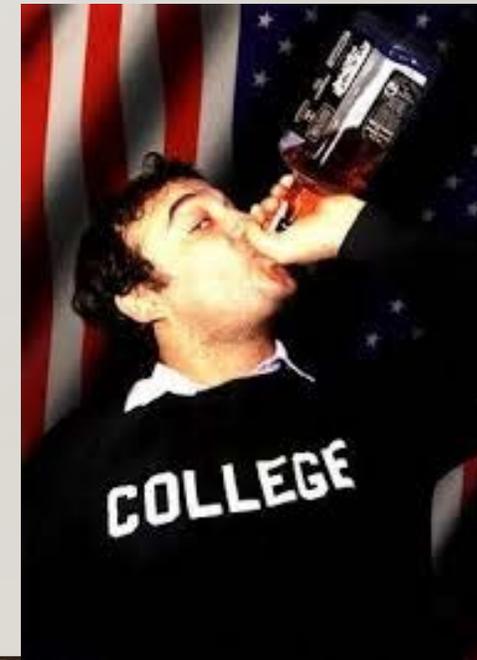


"And the American college has come to embrace that toxic triumvirate, plagued by administrative bloat, divorced from the intellectual demands it once espoused. We have all become Bluto Blutarsky—the film's titular animal—swigging bourbon straight from the bottle, then heading out for a nap on the lazy river" (p. 27).

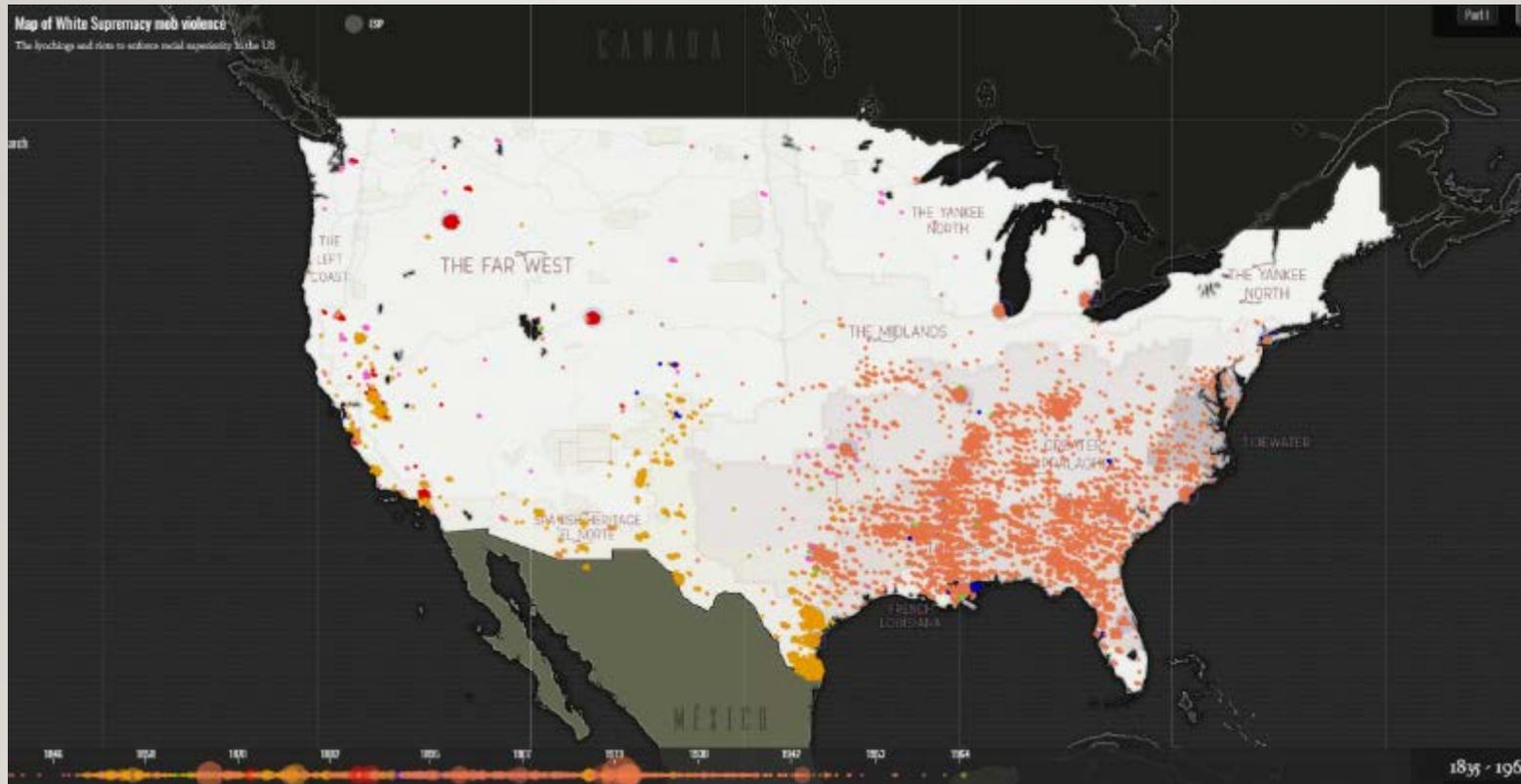
<https://www.newsweek.com/2018/02/09/what-college-good-796253.html>



What's so very wrong with these pictures?



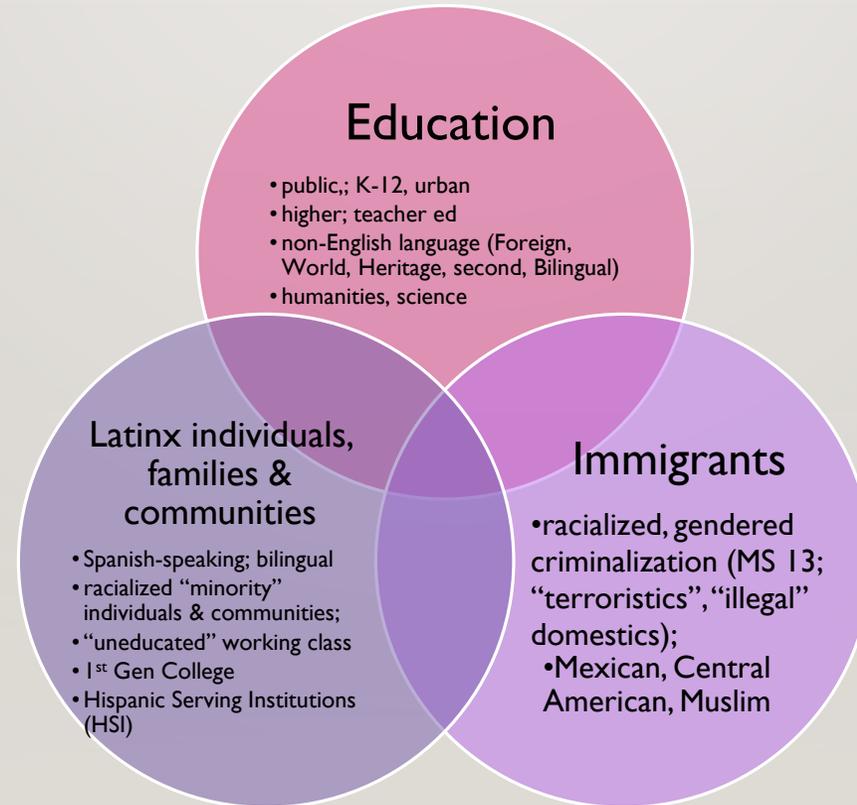
THE VIOLENCE OF WHITE NATIVIST SUPREMACY: MOB LYNCHINGS IN THE US



<http://www.monroeworktoday.org/explore/>



“TRUMP’S” TRIPARTITE WAR FOOTING AGAINST...



- For a majority (54%) of Latinos: it has become more difficult to live in the country as a Latino in recent years.
- today only 54% of Latinos expect their children will be better off financially than themselves,
 - down from 72% who said the same in 2015.
- 38% experienced at least one offensive incident of
 - experiencing discrimination or unfair treatment because of their Hispanic background,
 - being criticized for speaking Spanish in public,
 - being told to go back to their home country, or
 - being called offensive names



(Lopez, Gonzalez-Barrera, & Krogstad, 2018)

Latina Mom Berated Publicly for Speaking Spanish in a Restaurant



Photo of Norma Vasquez via Facebook. Carlos Steven Vasquez's Facebook

July 31, 2015:

So today at IHOP a white lady stepped in and insulted my mother for speaking Spanish. She told my mom to learn English Or get out of America.my mom does speak English with an accent though! I stepped in an didn't let her do that. Please share!! This will not stop unless we step in. Latinos tenemos que hablar contra el RACISMO!

NOMBRAR LA ENFERMEDAD SOCIAL DE LA SUPREMACÍA BLANCA (NAMING THE DISEASE OF WHITE SUPREMACY: “~~RACIST NATIVISM~~”

“the assigning of values to real or imagined differences, in order [1] to justify the superiority of the native, who is to be perceived white, over that of the non-native, who is perceived to be People and Immigrants of Color, and [2] thereby defend the right of whites, or the natives, to dominance” (Pérez Huber et al., 2008, p. 43).



***“TRUMP ES NEFASTAMENTE MONOLINGÜE.” /
“THE PRESIDENT IS NEFARIOUSLY MONOLINGUAL.”***



“También parece ser alérgico a las lenguas extranjeras, en especial al español.”

“He also appears to be allergic to foreign languages, especially Spanish.”

Ilan Stavans, “Trump, the Wall and the Spanish Language”, NYT, 1-30-17

“THANKS TO MR. TRUMP, THE SPANISH LANGUAGE IN THE UNITED STATES HAS SUDDENLY BECOME A TOOL OF DEFIANCE.”

“My feeling is that the efforts to suppress Spanish have the opposite effect. It will increasingly be seen as **a language of resistance**, which will only help its cause. Mr. Trump won the election in a crusade against globalization. Now that he is in power, the rationale against isolationism needs to be made even sharper. The Spanish language is the perfect place to start. From Florida to the Southwest, it is in the substratum of America. A large portion of our land started in Spanish, just as a substantial portion of our population lives in it. Spanish is also a bridge to our southern neighbors. Globalization starts in the kitchen, the classroom, the street — it starts by recognizing our multifaceted heritage in the mirror. Trump, the Wall and the Spanish Language.”

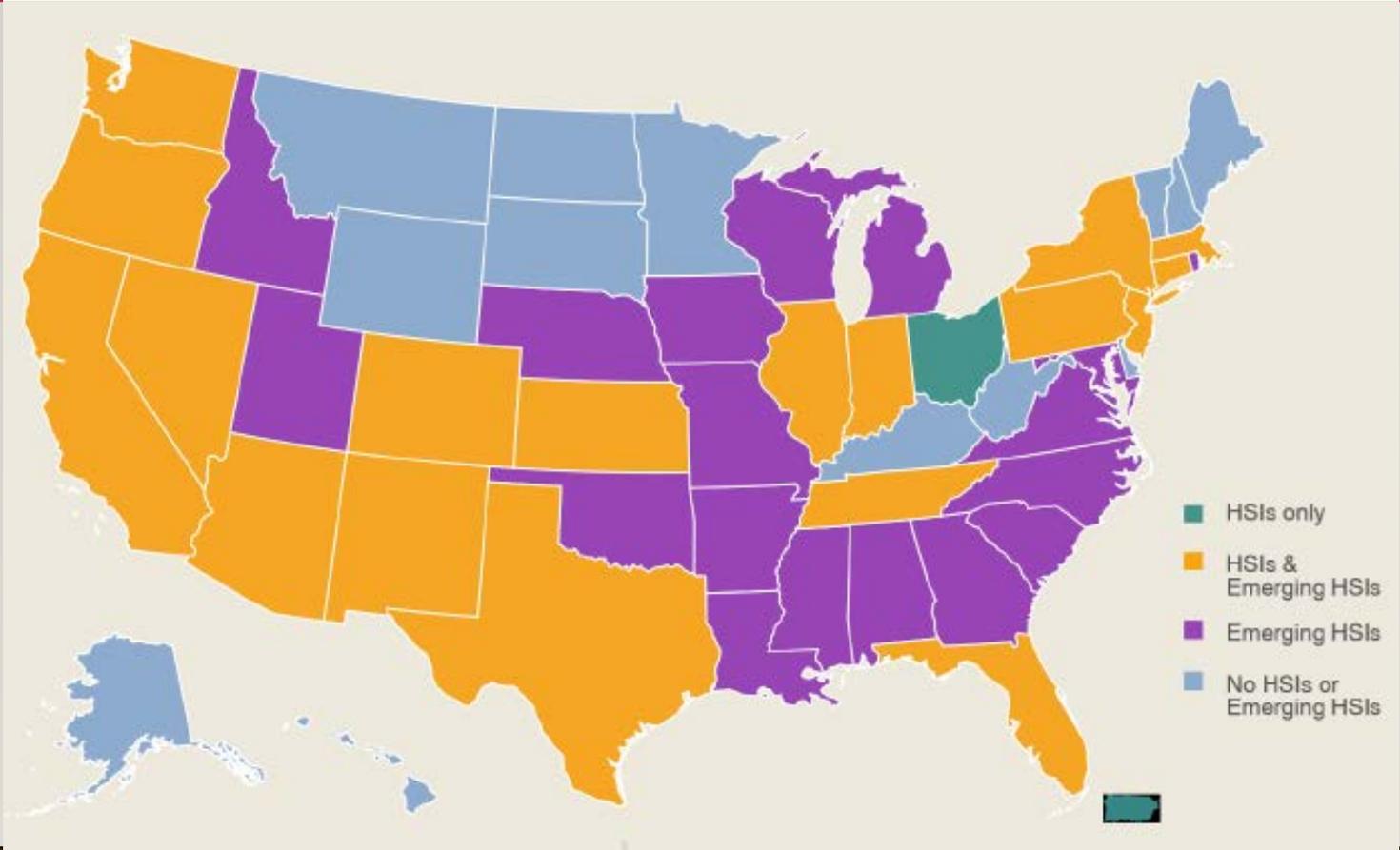
(Stavans, “Trump, the Wall and the Spanish Language”)



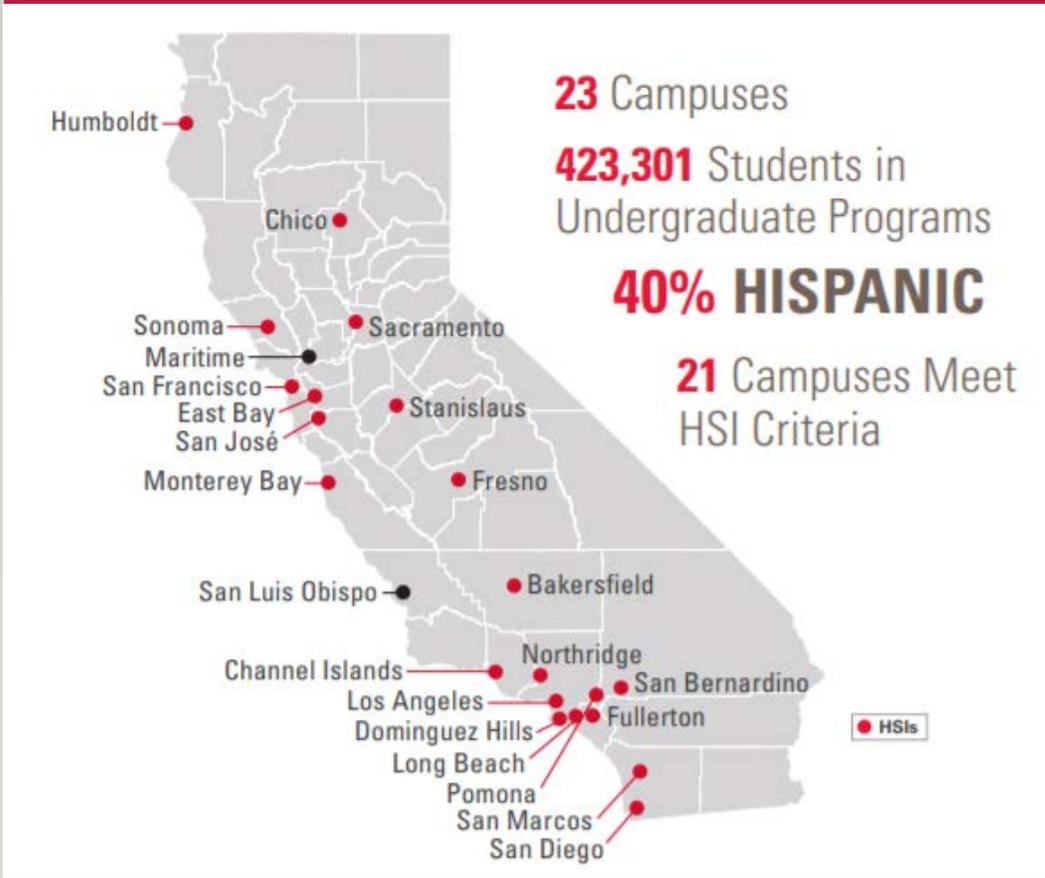
WAR ON GETTING TO AND STAYING IN COLLEGE

- 26% Latinx college experience gap:
 - the percentage of adults age 25 and over with some college experience was **63% for non-Hispanic Whites and 37% for Hispanics** (U.S. Census Bureau, 2014, quoted in Toutkoushian, Stollberg, & Slaton, 2018)
- Hispanic/Latinx students have the highest proportion of "First in my family" college students at four-year colleges
 - 38.2 percent in 2005 (Saenz et al. 2007, p. vi)

HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS (HSI) NATIONWIDE (2015-16)



HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS: THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF HIGHER ED IN CALIFORNIA



UC Riverside, UC Merced, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine, & UC Davis, (expected 2019)



“One of the boldest goals in our draft strategic plan is to become a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) in the next 10 years.: We must assure that every student thrives at Berkeley, not just survives. To achieve this goal, we must guarantee what I call equity of experience — the commitment that all students have equal access to Berkeley’s extraordinary opportunities.. This will require greater investment in advising, in navigation tools, in mentoring and community-building programs like Berkeley Connect, and in what we are calling discovery experiences — opportunities for undergraduate research and internships.”

(Carol Christ, Aug. 20, 2018)

<https://news.berkeley.edu/2018/08/20/a-warm-welcome-and-updates-on-the-budget-housing-free-speech/>

LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

“a language experience is more than just the language itself and more than the deployment of language in social situations. A language experience is the composite of a group’s experience with, in, and through language. In order to study language experience, then, we must look at complex intersections between multiple facets of language including language structure, language use, language politics, language history, language attitudes, language ideologies and so on.”

Martinez, 2006

TENSIONS BETWEEN THE WHO'S~WHAT'S OF EXPERIENCE

- "The moment we want to say *who* somebody is, our very vocabulary leads us astray into saying *what* he is; we get entangled in a description of the qualities he necessarily shares with others like him; ...with the result that his specific uniqueness escapes us" (Arendt, 1958, 181).

“OGNI ESSERE UMANO È UN ESSERE UNICO, È UN ESISTENTE IR RIPETIBILE

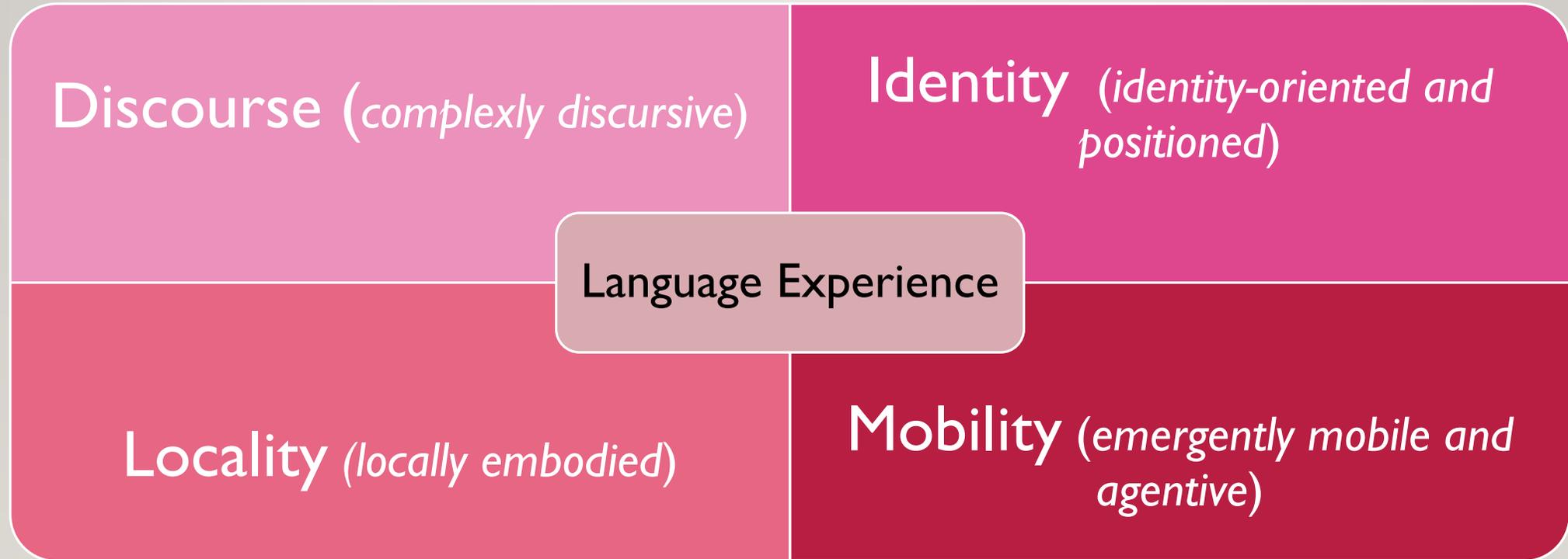


Adriana Cavarero

...che, per quanto corra disorientato nel buio mescolando gli accidenti alle sue intenzioni, non ricalca mai le medesime orme di un alto, non ripete mai il medesimo percorso, non si lascia mai dietro la medesima storia. Anche per questo le storie di vita vengono narrate e ascoltate con interesse, perché sono simili e tuttavia nuove, insostituibili e inattese, dall'inizio alla fine. Sono sempre capricci del destino."

(Cavarero, 1997, p. 9. *Tu che mi guardi, tu che mi racconti: Filosofia della narrazione*,; trans. *Relating Narratives: Storytelling and Selfhood*, 2000, p. 2)

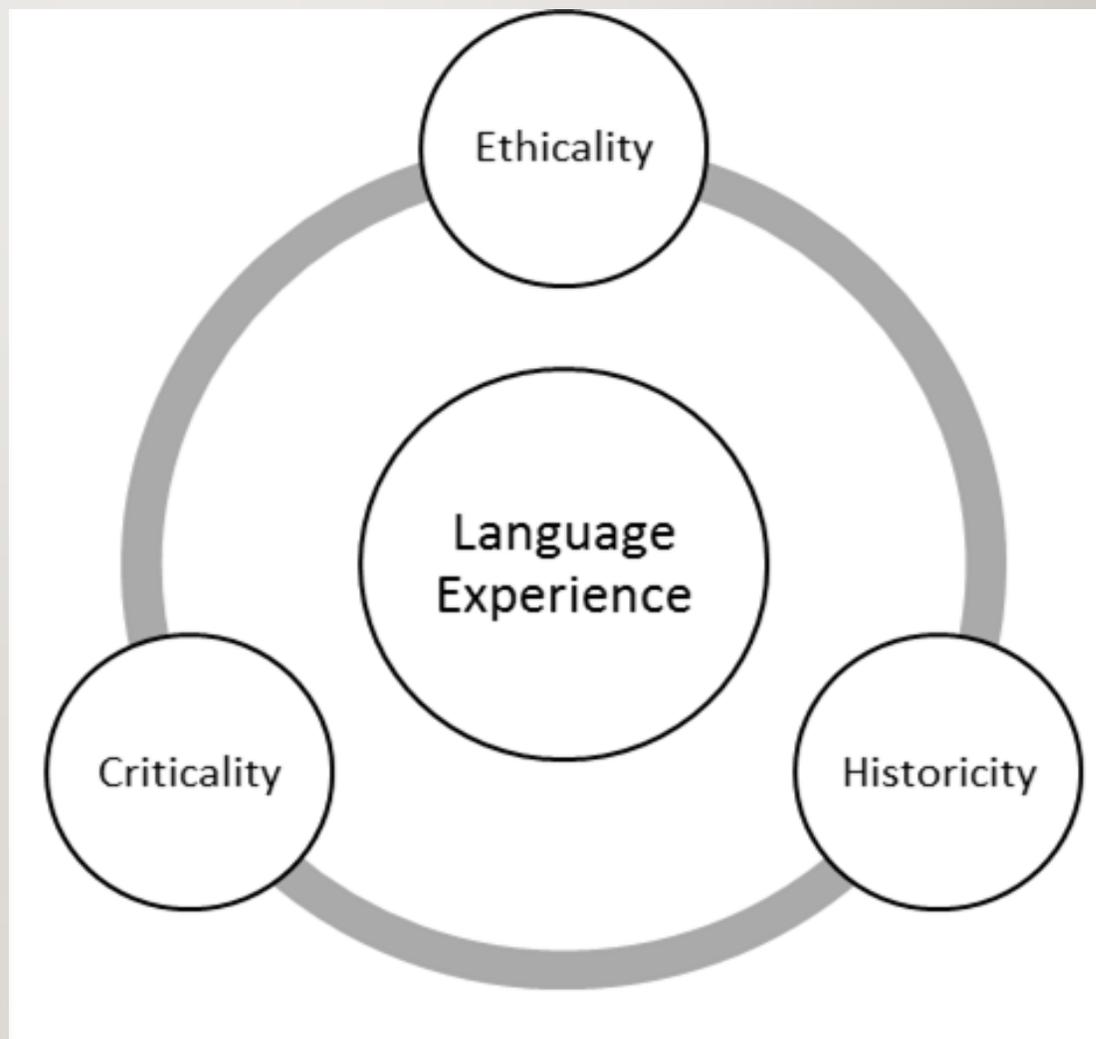
THE INTERSECTIONS OF LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

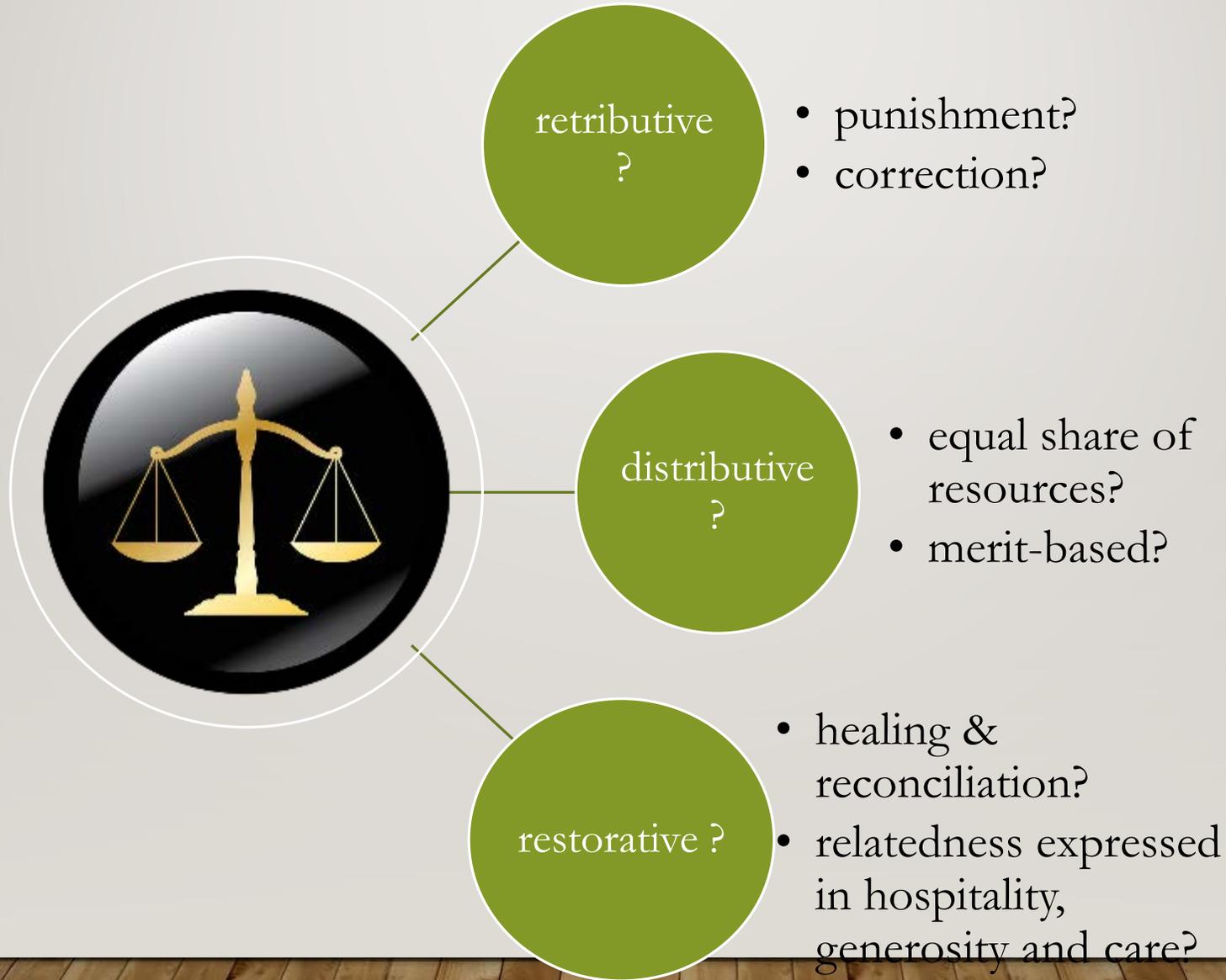


(Martínez & Train, forthcoming)

SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH THE MULTIPLE LENSES OF LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

(Martinez & Train,
forthcoming)







LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND JUSTICE