

Clay, A. (2011). Critical race theory, microaggressions, and black graduate students' experience.

#### Abstract

Black students are a visibly diminishing population among college degree recipients, yet many manage to succeed in the academy. This research was designed to broaden the understanding of Black students' experience in graduate school. Utilizing critical race theory (CRT), the present study examined the written narratives of twelve former and current Black graduate students from predominantly white institutions. Through counter-story telling, the counter-narratives in this work serve to counter the dominant portrayal of the Black graduate experience. Consistent with CRT research, the present study found that Black graduate students are exposed to frequent acts of microaggression from faculty and peers regardless of race.