

What's White Got To Do With It?

Presenter



Courtney Parker West (she/her/hers/ella) is a consultant, writer, community organizer, and educator. She serves as National Managing Director, Leadership Development Strategy with Teach for America, co-leads the Multiracial, Multiethnic, and Jewish resource groups on staff, and is a DEI (diversity, equity, & inclusiveness) practitioner. She began her career with TFA teaching middle school language arts in Vance County, and was a founding member of the Eastern North Carolina chapter of *The Collective*, TFA's alumni of color association. She then joined the staff on the Eastern NC regional team as a teacher coach during which time she leveraged an anti-oppression, liberatory consciousness framework, and interactive learning experiences

for prompting reflection and leadership development in novice educators. Courtney then became Director of Alumni Impact – Racial Equity & Values-based Leadership in the region, launching the Wake County Equity Coalition, relaunching the regional chapter of *The Collective* and Prism (the organization's LGBTQ advocacy organization), and organizing the first-ever multiregional gathering for alumni of color in North and South Carolina.

Courtney is a board member for Safe Schools NC, and a writer whose work has been featured in *Daily Dot*, *Catalogue Magazine*, and *Huffington Post*. She is also a diversity, equity, and inclusiveness consultant for both Dimensions Educational Consulting and her own consulting organization, Racial Equity & Community, which she co-founded in 2016. A Leightag grant recipient and alum of the *Selah* fellowship, she often engages in intersectional antiracist organizing for and with Jews of Color around issues of equity, power, inclusiveness, and colonization.

Courtney graduated as a first-generation college student from the University of Iowa where she triple-majored in religion studies, creative writing, and English (with a minor in African American studies). She lives in Zebulon with her spouse who is a school leader and community organizer with the Racial Equity Institute. She is the proud auntie of nine nieces and nephews, loves *Star Trek*, and Afro-futurism, and cannot wait for *Avengers: End Game* to come out.