Common Sense

Go Slow?

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Somewhere along the line putative anti-racists forgot what racism *is*.

"In an email obtained by Reason," writes Robby Soave at, yes, Reason magazine, "Regional Health Equity Coalition Program Manager Danielle Droppers informed the community that a scheduled conversation between OHA officials and relevant members of the public would not take place as planned."

And she offered an ... interesting ... excuse.

"We recognize that urgency is a white supremacy value that can get in the way of more intentional

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and thoughtful work, and we want to attend to this dynamic. Therefore, we will reach out at a later date to reschedule."

While it is obvious that Ms. Droppers does not like what she calls "white supremacy," her blithe acceptance of the notion that punctuality is a racial characteristic is rather bracing.



Referring to blacks as, generally, slow and even lazy was once a common white-racist evaluation of African Americans.

So common, in fact, that it was a joke — one constantly referenced "as a trope" by Steppin Fetchit and other actors as they portrayed the languorous and servile blacks laughed at in a now bygone era.

Then, as now, there were blacks more than capable of speed and competence in matters where time was of the essence, who valued a "sense of urgency."

To now accept the stereotype as reason enough to extol loose scheduling is . . . almost . . . funny.

If not so disturbingly stupid and racist.

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Who are quickly establishing a new stereotype: that white anti-racists are hopelessly witless.

This is Common Sense, I'm Paul Jacob.