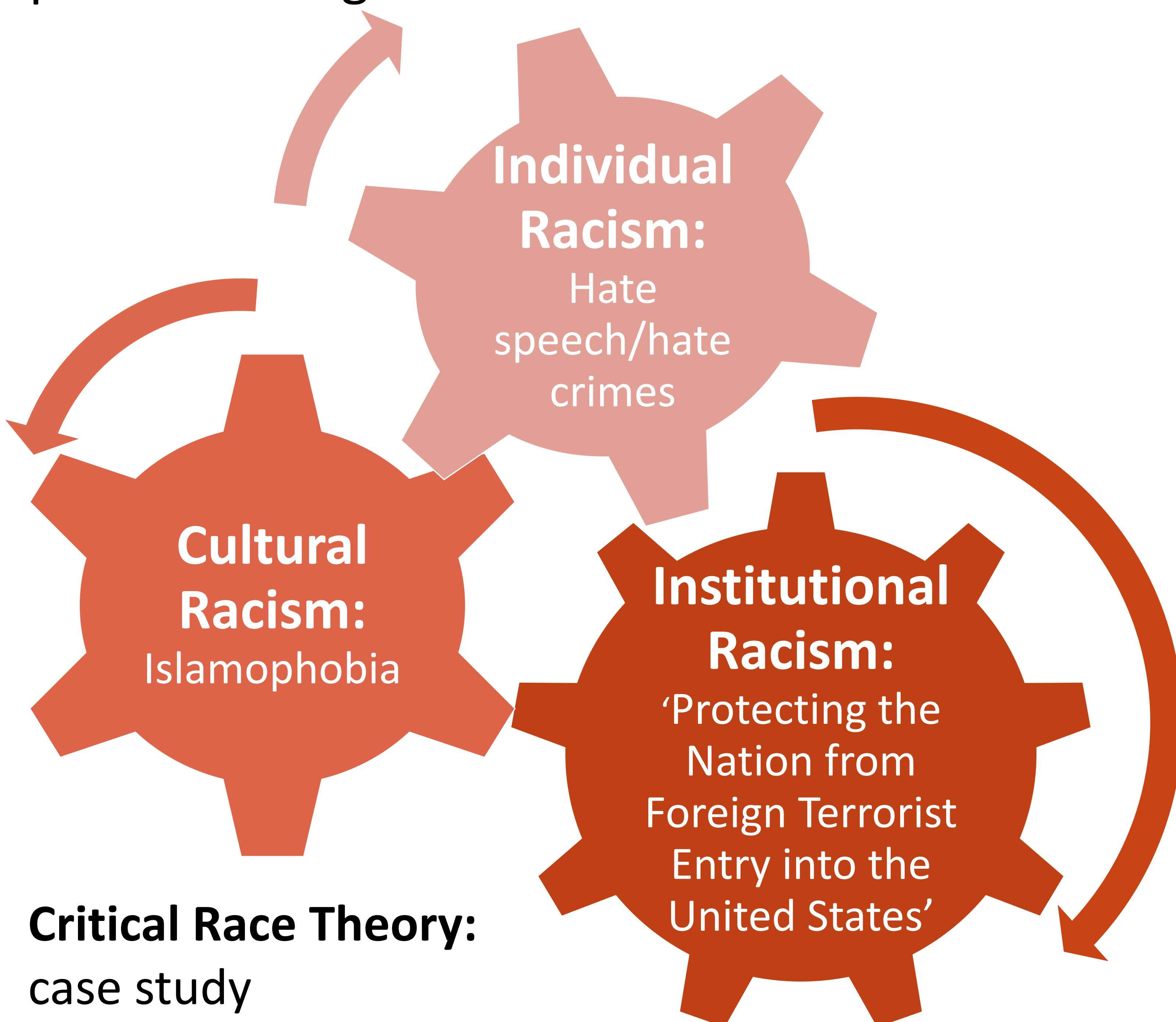


Smear Campaign: examining the implications of the U.S. anti-refugee agenda

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Background

Globally, anti-immigration and anti-refugee sentiment has become pervasive; it was a defining issue of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election, and has been at the heart of the Trump campaign and administration. Using **critical race theory** as a framework, this research examines the context for such narratives, how they operate in the interplay between cultural and institutional racism, and the implications of such discourse on refugees, other resettlement countries, and the international refugee protection regime.



Research Questions

- What is the **historical context** for anti-refugee sentiment in the U.S.?
- How has the **Trump administration** contributed to anti-refugee sentiment in the U.S.?
- What **narratives** define anti-refugee discourse in the U.S.?
- What are the **implications** of U.S. anti-refugee discourse on key stakeholders?



“Neither the United Nations nor anyone else will dictate how the United States upholds its borders.”
(Nikki Haley)

Implications

- **On refugees...**discrimination; marginalization; legal 'limbo'; jeopardized RSD procedures
- **On other resettlement countries...**strained resources; unequal 'burden-sharing'; rise in populist parties and policies
- **On the international refugee protection regime...**group-think effect; blurring of lines; resource constraints; undermined legal authority