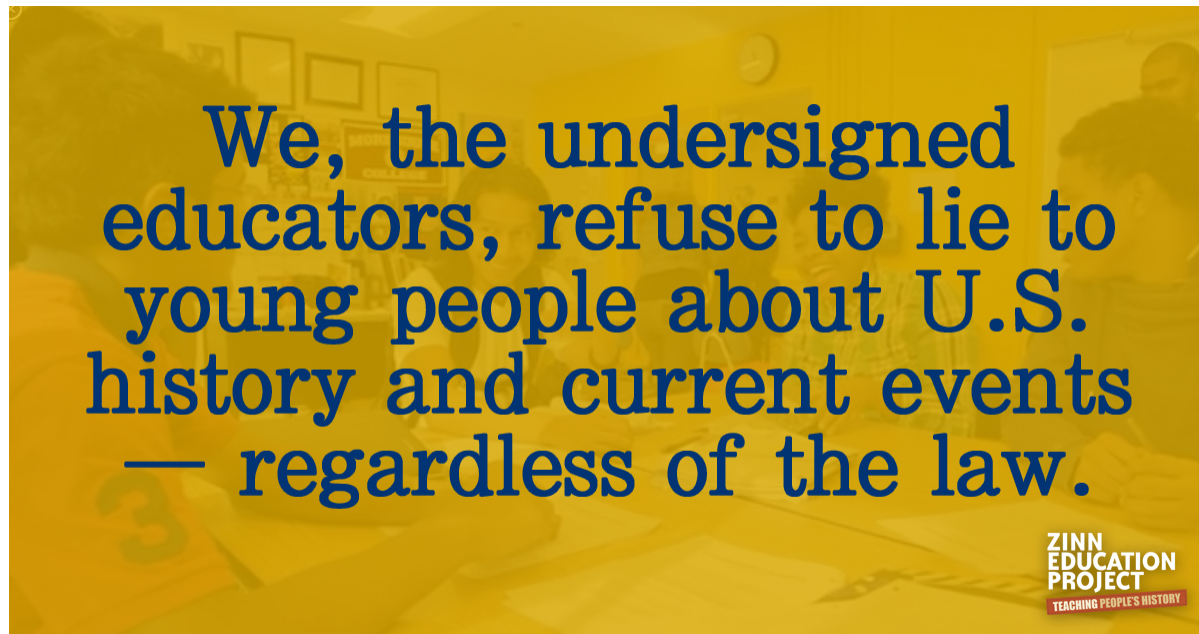


## NEWS

## Pledge to Teach the Truth: Despite New State Bills Against It

June 21, 2021

## Pledge to Teach the Truth

**Sign Pledge**

Lawmakers in at least 21 states are attempting to pass legislation that would require teachers to lie to students about the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history.

A bill introduced in the Missouri legislature exemplifies a rash of similar bills — in Texas, Idaho, Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Arizona, North Carolina, and more states — that aim to prohibit teachers from teaching the truth about this country: It was founded on dispossession of Native Americans, slavery, structural racism and oppression; and structural racism is a defining characteristic of our society today.

Specifically, the Missouri bill bans teaching that: identifies people or groups of people, entities, or institutions in the United States as inherently, immutably, or systemically sexist, racist, anti-LGBT, bigoted, biased, privileged, or oppressed.

But how can one teach honestly about the nature of our society without examining how today's racial inequality is a systemic legacy of this country's history?

From police violence, to the prison system, to the wealth gap, to maternal mortality rates, to housing, to education and beyond, the major institutions and systems of our country are deeply infected with anti-Blackness and its intersection with other forms of oppression. To not acknowledge this and help students understand the roots of U.S. racism is to deceive them — not educate them. This history helps students understand the roots of inequality today and gives them the tools to shape a just future. It is not just a history of oppression, but also a history of how people have organized and created coalitions across race, class, and gender.

The Missouri bill names these leading social justice education groups as those whose curricula would be banned: 1619 Project initiative of the *New York Times*, the Learning for Justice Curriculum of the Southern Poverty Law Center, We Stories, programs of Educational Equity Consultants, BLM at School, Teaching for Change, Zinn Education Project, and any other similar, predecessor, or successor curricula.

The proposed legislation fails to name a single lesson that is inaccurate or that misleads students about U.S. history.

We the undersigned educators will not be bullied. We will continue our commitment to develop critical thinking that supports students to better understand problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. We are for truth-telling and uplifting the power of organizing and solidarity that move us toward a more just society.

**Sign Pledge**

**Note: This is a PUBLIC pledge. We will display the name, city/state, and response to question about why you are signing the pledge.**

To: State Legislators

From: [Your Name]

We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events — regardless of the law.

**4,868 Signatures Collected**

Only 1,532 more until our goal of 6,400

## Sign This Petition

Note: The name, city, state, and comments of people signing the pledge or petition are public on this page. Email addresses will not be listed and the Zinn Education Project does not share nor sell any of its email lists.









I am signing my name because . . .

[Add Your Name](#)

You may receive email updates from Zinn Education Project, the sponsor of this petition.  
[Edit Subscription Preferences](#)



THE ACTION NETWORK

This petition is managed by The Action Network.

## Signatures

This is the list of people who have signed the pledge or petition to date.

Anonymous |

We can be proud of our nation while acknowledging its struggles and atrocities. We can learn from the past and do better, be better. History isn't being rewritten, it's been fully examined.

Andrew Nsirim | New York, NY

Rebecca Dell | Concord, CA

Knowing the truth about history is critical to understanding our present and creating a positive future.

Susanna Wingenroth | Fort Myers, FL

Two wrongs don't make a right. Banning the teaching of the truth about the wrongs of our nation's history is wrong. Our nation has a complex history and our children deserve to know the truth, the parts that make us proud and the parts that are shameful. Truth is an important in healing the wrongs of the past.

Laura Reyes | Bowling Green, OH

Darren Smith | Dayton, OH

Students should have a factual understanding of the actual history of the United States and how it impacts the world the students live in today.

Brian Leslie | Las Vegas, NV

Two wrongs don't make a right. Banning the teaching of the truth about the wrongs of our nation's history is wrong. Our nation has a complex history and our children deserve to know the truth, the parts that make us proud and the parts that are shameful. Truth is an important in healing the wrongs of the past.

Carolyn Bloomberg | Watertown, MA

Knowledge is power and those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it.

Deborah Cardona | New York, NY

Betsy Tribble | Denver, CO

Judith Houpert | East Hartford Town of, CT

My students want and need to know the truth of history and government. Perspectives are key to more civil discourse.

Shannon Dery | Portland, OR

I saw that the Daily Wire is publishing the names and hometowns of the teachers who will not be intimidated by the Right. This is clearly an attempt at intimidation. I will not be intimidated. Add my name.

Emer Martin | Palo Alto, CA

Don't bully teachers. This country must change to allow all of its citizens to thrive.

Kamily Sunde | Stevenson Ranch, CA  
Our kids have a right to learn ALL history.

Samantha Gil Vargas | Seattle, WA  
Critical race theory and the truth about the systemic oppression in this continue NEEDS to be taught to youth so we can begin to see drastic change in these oppressive systems AND youth deserve the right to learn factual truth about this country.

Amy Pemberton | McKinney, TX  
There is something very wrong when government factions ban educators from teaching facts - not opinions - real history to young people. Governing in fear is dangerous and the opposite of progression. Kids will eventually learn the truth, don't you want them learning tough historical lessons in a safe and appropriate way with experts who are trained to do so? You'd rather them learn with bias and develop hateful feelings toward our country? Love comes from going through hard times, kids need to know our country made mistakes but are progressively working to improve. Kids need to know THEY are a part of that change and can make a difference. This is a no brainer. Please let EDUCATORS, those who are trained and actually care about the well-being of kids (and our future) make these decisions!

Christopher Shull | Auburn, GA

Alexandra Teague | Moscow, ID  
It's essential that we face the inequalities on which this country has been built--and by which it still operates--in order to understand (and ask meaningful questions about) how our laws and institutions and social structure operate, and how we might create a more just society.

Jennifer Williams | Cape Elizabeth, ME  
I feel we need to continue our commitment to develop critical thinking that supports students to better understand problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. We cannot learn from the past if we do not know our past.

Heather Benson | Santa Rosa, CA  
I became a history teacher to teach the truth to our children who are the future. I claim my first amendment rights and my natural rights today, as well as my ethical responsibility to always speak the truth

Katherine Riley | Philadelphia, PA

Lakresha Hodge | Paterson, NJ

Brandon Salter | Seattle, WA  
Teaching actual history is important to understanding the dynamics of power and privilege in our country. Those opposed to critical race theory and anti-racist education simply want to upload the white supremacy culture that harms so many of our students.

Brian Reid | Saugerties, NY  
Truth matters

Terese Roberts | South Portland, ME  
this is important.

Erica Marcus | Cape Elizabeth, ME

Amy Williams | Lehigh Acres, FL  
These new bills and laws are arbitrary, unenforceable, and attempt to either legislate a problem that doesn't exist, or (worse) gloss over crucial aspects of American history to perpetuate the American exceptionalist agenda.

Claire Ramsbotham | South Portland, ME  
I feel that in order to teach history accurately, we need to talk about all of it, not just a white-washed view. The only way to avoid making the same mistakes that were made in history, such as the Japanese American Internment during WWII, we need to teach kids about it.

Emily McLaughlin | Bronx, NY  
I will always teach the truth

Christine Thomas | Reedsport, OR  
History is a pathway to not repeating mistakes. Acknowledging lessons from history will help us do better. Freedom cannot protect itself.

PAUL WAGNER | Hammond, IN  
I refuse to be forced into teaching white supremacist "history". If you can't take the truth, go somewhere else.

Lauren Prusecki | Brooklyn, NY

Michelle Brezek | Chicago, IL  
We cannot heal from the past if we do not share the stories.

Jennifer Enserink | St Louis, MO

Kevin Brodie | Old Saybrook, CT  
Teachers have a right to teach the subjects to the best of their ability without interference from lawmakers who know nothing about professional education. "Those that can, teach. Those that can't, pass laws about education." We also do a disservice to students when we decide that they cannot cope with difficult or challenging concepts. Calling this teaching indoctrination shows no respect for young people's cognitive and critical abilities.

Kati G Gilson | Tucson, AZ

Carrie Sorensen | Providence, RI

Karen Hemmerich | Tavares, FL  
The truth matters. No one is inherently bad but history will repeat itself if not taught.

Loraine Snead | Marion, MA  
All Americans have a moral, social and ethical right to learn and examine the historical legacy of systemic racism, classism, sexism, and all other inequalities.

Lee Waterhouse | Cambridge, MA

Rev. Chuck Currie, DD., DMin., MDiv. | Portland, OR

Kimberlie Todd | Toledo, OH  
Critical thinking requires facts

Ivonne Rovira | Louisville, KY  
these bills CLAIM they don't want anyone to teach that one race is superior to another; however, the bills erase every part of history that's not exclusively white. That proves that the real point of the bill is to teach that European-Americans were -- and, most importantly, continue to be -- the most important thread in this country's history.

Daniel Stutzman | Bowling Green, OH  
We all must know the truth of our past and present to move forward. My black, brown, queer, and all "othered" students need to their history, especially the histories of the heroes and champions fighting for true equality and full acceptance.

Joanna Payne | Cape Elizabeth, ME

John Dube | Plaistow, NH  
I believe in encouraging my students to think critically, gather evidence to support their views and most notably in exposing them to all facets of history.

Jennifer McKinsey | Wichita, KS

*I will not lie to my students or whitewash history to ease the cognitive dissonance and ignorance that some want to perpetuate.*

Chris Thinnes | Woodland Hills, CA

*... (1) this organized attack on CRT demonstrates the legitimacy of CRT by showing how the law is used to perpetuate white supremacy and (2) partisan media is now targeting signers of this petition and I stand with you in solidarity. come what may.*

Theresa Bess | Santa Fe, NM

*"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."— James Baldwin I pledge to always continue to learn and use factual information to develop my understanding of the world around me. Children are human beings and they will lead our world into a more intelligent and kind way of living with each other, therefore students must be fully informed of the truth and reality of our U.S. history.*

Deanne Fritschy | Bonney Lake, WA

Nic Digger | Oshkosh, WI

*We need to teach kids it's ok to not feel shame when an adult touches their private areas*

Robert Lambertz | Seattle, WA

Rob Sampson | Cheshire Town of, CT

*Let teachers teach!!!!*

Gia Moreno | Sacramento, CA

*Lack of knowledge of the truth of American history is detrimental to the growth of our students and our nation.*

CeXochitl DeLaTorre | Littleton, CO

*All children need to know why and how our country came to be where it's at today. To fully understand how to navigate all systems and institutions, and find work to find solutions to issues.*

Indya Champney | Sanford, NC

Raquel Williams | Los Angeles, CA

*We're not even asking for Truth and Reconciliation Committees to be mandated, which would be powerful, we just want to ability to teach factual and documented history to our students. Stifling the truth is dangerous for our future.*

Amy McCourt | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe in teaching facts and truth and antiracist education.*

David Backer | Philadelphia, PA

TROY CLARK | Frankfort, IN

*The truth matters.*

Sofia Noel | Franklin, TN

Kristine Mayle | Albuquerque, NM

Jessy Bppn | Greenville, NC

Maya Anderson | Philadelphia, PA

Tamara Anderson | Philadelphia, PA

Héctor Reyes | San Antonio, TX

*There is a continuous path connecting the violence and dispossession of colonialism and racism from the past to the present. To ban the discussion of these ever present realities in any place, but particularly in school and colleges, is to erase us the victims of this oppression, and to impose on us only one option, to surrender our humanity. Screw them!*

Shauna Branch | Rio Rancho, NM

*I will always tell the truth. I lead both ethically and with integrity. Our children deserve to learn the truth so they can become better citizens as adults.*

Mitchell Freedman | Rio Rancho, NM

*I believe there is systemic racism and sexism that factually exists throughout our nation's history. However, I wish to be clear I revere our Founders, revere much in our nation's history, and have concluded the lead 1619 Project essay overstated its thesis, and is flawed for reasons Gordon Wood and Sean Wilentz have identified and stated. On the other hand, I have long believed the Zinn Educational Center has much to offer all Americans, not merely high school history students, in terms of highlighting facts that have often been ignored, and provide an important set of perspectives in comprehending patterns in US History. I also believe Critical Race Theory, as it is defined as a scholarly pursuit (not the vague, cynical definitions provided by polemical political commentators), has much to offer in providing important contextual and factual information. The laws being passed in the various states, which attack CRT, Zinn Educational Center, the 1619 Project, etc. must be opposed and rejected as they will, if enforced, undermine the teaching of history in public schools. These laws are as dangerous as laws that forced or force science teachers to not teach Darwin's theory of evolution.*

Pyper Dee | Saint Louis, MO

Jonathan Nwaru | New Rochelle, NY

*To quote President Lincoln "Tell the people the truth and the country will be okay"*

Emma Bechill | Philadelphia, PA

Gabby Linck | Philadelphia, PA

*I have a duty as an educator to teach the whole truth*

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

Kirsten Clagnaz | North Babylon, NY

Kolya Ludwig | Pasadena, CA

Barbara Johnck | Oakland, CA

Alexandra Jones | Spokane, WA

*The truth matters.*

Anna Gustafson | El Cerrito, CA

*To understand how we got here and what we as a nation need to do to go forward, we need, and our students need, to understand what has happened in the past. It is patriotic to learn true history and how our country can be better*

Sarah Khan | Everett, WA

Kelsey Rust | Spokane, WA

*We must teach our children how things actually happened in the past if we want them to do better in the future.*

Michelle Urrea | Seattle, WA

*our stories matter too. You can't continue to traumatize us and white wash us. We deserve to exist in spaces holistically and demand that.*

Terri Hewitt | Bellmead, TX

*all our students deserve to know the truth!*

Laura Lehni | Seattle, WA

*Not teaching the truth is LYING. Students deserve the truth and deserve a teacher who is honest with them and leads by example!*

Eva Tang | Mountain View, CA

Magaly Juarez Jaimes | Stockton, CA

*When we personally reflect on our past actions we are better equipped to make better decisions in the future. If we apply that as a collective society, we will be able to learn from the past mistakes (and triumphs) and build a better, equitable, just world for future generations. We can only truly reflect and move forward when we reach into our genuine core.*

Erik Peterson | McKinleyville, CA

*I believe education is meant to open doors not close them.*

Katherine Martinez | Elmhurst, NY

Shelly Wong | Woodhaven, NY

Maria Plochocki | Jersey City, NJ

*Without being honest about the past and present, we can't build a better future. Our students deserve to know the truth so that they can make up their own minds.*

Mary Jane Else | South Hadley, MA

*Our students deserve a good education, and that means that teachers are responsible for helping them gain the skills they need to decide what is true.*

Jess Eaton

*It is my responsibility to provide my students with critical thinking skills and accurate historical information.*

Brigette Bloomfield | Joliet, IL

*I'm supporting my school district's commitment to educating our teachers and staff on the topics of white privilege, implicit bias and the systemic historical racism we have seen in the United States for centuries. We want our brothers and sisters of color to know that we seek to understand and that we believe knowledge is power. It is my belief this will open up honest conversations in the classroom as we acknowledge the hateful injustices that have occurred for centuries. (Which were glossed over in textbooks for as long as I can remember.)*

Caroline Ludlow | Cali, CO

*Power to the truth, power to empathy, power to the children.*

Meghan LeRoux | Colorado Springs, CO

*It is important that students know the truth about our nation's history and understand the many perspectives from our history.*

Nicole Braun | Chicago, IL

Vivian Jablonski | Durham, NH

*Students deserve to know the truth! We have a responsibility to teach them the facts so they can come to their own logical conclusions.*

Kari Hoose

*Students - and our country - deserve accurate, respectful history and social studies information.*

Colleen Kyle | Gunpowder, MD

*My job is to teach young Americans the truth and I will do it.*

Denise Romero | Wayne, NJ

Amanda Lieber | Mount Laurel, NJ

*I believe in America, and I believe the truth matters. And to move this country forward, it is time to tell the entire story of this land that we call the United States.*

Rachel Bellande | Denver, CO

*I teach for change, for my students, and not for racist, sexist, homophobic, ableist jerk-alerts who are only obsessed with keeping their power at any means.*

Robert Peate | Portland, OR

*The United States were founded on genocide, slavery, racism, and oppression. Institutional racism is a glaringly obvious and defining characteristic of our society today. I will not lie to my students, no matter who wishes me to do so.*

Melissa Easley | Charlotte, NC

*We should no longer be presenting whitewashed history.*

Ella Rogosin | Chula Vista, CA

Leah Licari | Waterbury Center, VT

*Every single one of your students deserves to learn the truth - always.*

Carla Ferreira | Newark, NJ

*In solidarity with all teachers committed to teaching critical thinking and to making their classrooms anti-racist spaces & against all forms of white supremacist intimidation and oppression. Teachers should not fear for their safety or their jobs for teaching accurate histories. If our lawmakers don't want our students learning about racist history in the US, stop creating it!*

Katie Weible | Louisville, KY

*Truth matters*

Christine Callahan | Burlington, VT

Elena Cortez | Sacramento, CA

*The truth must be shared.*

Timothy Jurkovic | Huron, OH

*Systematic racism is real and needs to end.*

Nicole Lamb | Sebastopol, CA

*I refuse to lie about the systemic racism this county was built on and continues to profit from.*

Deborah Bermudez | Santee, CA

*I want current and future generations to know the truth. It breaks my heart to know that most of if not almost all of what I had been taught growing up was incorrect, incomplete, and harmful.*

Kirsten O'Brien | Redlands, CA

*Real teaching demands truth. Anything less than the truth is indoctrination, and our students need the truth to build a better world.*

Leah Marx | Southfield, MI

*I believe the truth needs to be told*

Greg Burrill | Portland, OR

*"Until Americans realize that African-American history IS American history, we will be helpless to solve many problems that plague us."-James Baldwin*

Kevin Murphy | San Francisco, CA

Grace Hogan | St Louis, MO

*Truth matters, and facts must be taught. Children deserve to learn our whole history.*

Kathryn Allen | Washington, DC

Michael Bolt | Bellmead, TX

Molly Renauer | Portland, OR

I work for equity

Christopher Gyorgyovich | Pomona, CA

I believe I have an ethical responsibility to teach the truth.

Kelly Carlisle | Florence, MA

Racism is perpetuated by people who refuse to acknowledge it. History should be taught and it should be honest and dynamic and offer a critical lens so we can actually do better.

Mary Fitzgerald | Pasadena, CA

I grew up with Civics classes, but that's not a part of LAUSD curriculum any more.

Laurel Lennon | Annapolis, MD

Sarah Garguilo | Wilmington, NC

...I have been for over twenty years as an educator. Most of my students come to me knowing that in order to heal, we must ask hard questions and face hard truths. In order to empower students, we can't be dishonest about the world they are growing up into. They see right through it; their very lives contradict any bs handed to them about the equality of our country's origins or ideals. If we as educators, parents, guardians and community members are lucky enough to have young ppl looking to us for guidance, we have to be honest. There's no way I can look at my students or children and allow them to think the disenfranchisement they experience is their fault or that they are powerless to change the causes. I will continue to give young scholars material to critically analyze and discuss. I'll continue to give them texts to learn about people who stood up for others; who challenged an inequitable status quo; who persevered and refused to be silent while working to create or support changes our country needed to move toward being a little more equitable for all. I will continue to give them academic opportunities to learn about and openly question the institution of and effects of systemic racism and inequities in our country so that they may be far more creative than us in how to approach systemic healing.

Blair Downie | Philadelphia, PA

Megan Kilar | Candia, NH

Students deserve to know the truth about history, not just the parts we like.

Angelina Caballero | Chula Vista, CA

As educators we have a moral obligation to our students, our community, and our country to teach the truth of our history and how we got here. Equipping people with these truths is the only way to move forward.

Rob Wildes | Philadelphia, PA

As a follower of Christ, I must reconcile w our country's horrid past in order to help others heal.

Sharon Clarke | Seattle, WA

You can't change the future if you don't understand the past. Teach the truth.

Shannon Corwin | New York, NY

Sine Anahita | Fairbanks, AK

structural oppression is real.

Paulette Fistikoglu | Torrance, CA

Truth matters.

WL Chapkis | Portland, ME

Injustice matters.

Tedi Mills | Palo Alto, CA

Limiting the discussions teachers are allowed to facilitate in a classroom diminishes everyone.

Jane Cutter | Seattle, WA

I am an anti-racist educator.

Audrey Arthur | Oakland, CA

Jonathan Pellerin | New York, NY

Tarasa Brierly | Jackson, MS

Students deserve to learn the truth through primary documents and texts, both non-fiction and fiction. This is what I want for not only my students, but for my own children as well. When we give them critical thinking skills and fully formed, honest information, students can and will make their own decisions about what is "true." That is what those who oppose truth in education fear most.

Yayoi Kobayashi | New York, NY

Our country has so much work to do and this is one of the steps we must take!

Shelagh Wilson | West Chester, PA

Children need to learn the full truth about the history of this country. It is what they deserve.

Leslie Pelon | Porterville, CA

Tracy Smith | Lancaster, TX

When we are brave enough to face the truth we break the toxic cycles of history. This is how we become a more perfect union.

Elizabeth Valenzuela | Tucson, AZ

I became an educator to provide a safe space in which all of my students feel heard, seen, loved and are reflected in my teaching. I will not abandon BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant, and disabled children because of white supremacist legislature.

Sonja Franeta | Saint Petersburg, FL

This is an attack on academic freedom and on the teaching of an important subject, especially today—critical race theory

Andrea Reynolds | Liverpool, NY

If history makes you comfortable, are you really teaching history?

Chuck Finkle | New York, NY

Randall Huberman | Kirkland, WA

Students need to be taught HOW to think not WHAT to think! It is my job as an educator to provide my students with accurate information and to allow them to make up their own minds.

Rigoberto Lemus | Los Angeles, CA

My identity markers: queer; Latinx; non-native English speaker; first generation American; educator all inform my teaching. I draw on these identity markers and lived experience to humanize myself to my students and show them how these things influence what I think and how I think about our American history. Above all, our students deserve to know the truth! The truth will help us heal!

Crystal Watford | Helena, AL

If teachers don't teach the truth, how will the future be?

Irene Hess | New York, NY

When I was an elementary school student, I was taught the names of the ships that Christopher Columbus sailed, but not the names of the people who lived on the land that Columbus supposedly "discovered". Teaching certain aspects of history while ignoring many other aspects because they're too complex or difficult to face

serves to prop up a system that is clearly not working. We can teach children about Columbus but we also need to teach them about indigenous people, slavery, segregation, genocide, racism, hate, love, political movements, etc., etc., etc.

Amelia Wurzburg | Lyndonville, VT

*It is my moral obligation to teach the truth about the history of our country.*

Suzanne Brazil | Vernon Hills, IL

*I am an American and want that to mean something good, true, honorable. The truth is necessary to make this country all it can be.*

Christina Bechstein | Portland, ME

DANA DUSBIBER | Sacramento, CA

Alden Dearborn | Brighton, MA

Christine Hagerup | Oakland, CA

*Education is a radical and transformative act.*

Amy Moore | Evanston, IL

Catherine Compton-Lilly | West Columbia, SC

Sheila Rivers | Louisville, KY

*Enough U.S. history is denied already, so why deny students of the entire knowledge of slavery. It did happen and it's fact. Stop burying that that makes white folks uncomfortable or well forever be forced to deal with racism.*

Kirby Green | Seattle, WA

John J. Ferreiro | Bellingham, WA

*I see no honest reason to lie to my students.*

Nigger Faggot | Washington, DC

*Working hard and succeeding is an integral part of whiteness and black kids absolutely needs to be taught disempowerment*

Jennifer Molin | Camarillo, CA

*As a California public school teacher and owner and Head Teacher of a preschool I will never teach CRT to my students, my students are all beautiful and equally important regardless of the color of their skin. They are created in God's image and He calls all of us to turn away from racism of every kind.*

Paul Mahler | Pompton Plains, NJ

*As President of PROPEL Pequannock I'm working closely with our school librarians to insure they have access to truth telling materials.*

Peter Goeckner | New York, NY

*it is necessary to encounter the uncomfortable truths of our past in order to move forward. As a wise tweet once said, "Studying history will sometimes make you uncomfortable. Studying history will sometimes make you feel deeply upset. Studying history will sometimes make you feel extremely angry. If studying history always makes you feel proud and happy, you probably aren't studying history."*

Peggy Sharkey | Parma, ID

*The truth shall set you free*

Peggy Sharkey | Parma, ID

*I must tell the truth*

Laura Neustaedter | Sherman Oaks, CA

*I teach people's history!*

Scott Lundgren | Los Angeles, CA

*Because as a white male, I refuse to be complicit*

Zack Elway | Seattle, WA

*dismantling racial capitalism and building a better world requires an honest and thoughtful reckoning of where we have been.*

Jennifer Williams | Oklahoma City, OK

*I refuse to continue perpetuating systemic oppression. Talking about and acknowledging the country's ugly history will help all of us learn from it and begin healing--together. Continuing to cover up just allows discrimination to fester and spread.*

Marissa Felix | Mesa, AZ

Nina Hyatt | San Jose, CA

*It is hideous that educators are being threatened if they tell the truth.*

Sarah Hoop | Poughkeepsie, NY

*Democracy and the future of this nation depend on classrooms that reckon with the past. If we are truly to live up to the dreams of our founding, then we must grapple with how we got to the place we are.*

Linden Higgins | Burlington, VT

*We cannot allow a witch hunt to block best practices in teaching and learning.*

Angela Gabriel | Santa Fe, NM

*I feel like we're rounding a bend toward a more just society and the powers that are in control want to keep it that way. The more they thrash around, bullying, and pressuring people to bend to their will, the more it shows how afraid they are of the truth.*

Delorme MckeeStovall | San Jose, CA

*Because as part of my duties as the former Director of the Santa Clara County Office of Human Rights we were involved in providing more accurate information about the history of the residents culture to reduce conflict and create new understanding and respect. Any attempt to destroy or ignore the truth of American history is an attack on this democratic experiment and the Republic. We must fight to preserve the intellectual capacity and critical thinking of every citizen and resident of this nation.*

Michele Bradley | Springfield, OR

Silvina Farmin | Albuquerque, NM

*I teach History not propaganda*

Beth Carroll

Virginia B. | San Jose, CA

*I will not let this attempt at censorship stop me from educating people of the truth. Our future generations need to know the truth so we can achieve justice in all forms. Real change starts with education, and those that create these censorship laws know this. I will not let them get in the way of spreading awareness of the truth of our society.*

Jennifer J Arlin | Santa Fe, NM

*Truth matters. It is the only way we can right our wrongs and heal our communities.*

Peggy Fulton | Benicia, CA

*Every human needs their story to be told. All of us deserve to hear the truth of others.*

Daniel Cohen | Chicago, IL

Callie Kirsch | Raleigh, NC

*Our students deserve to know the truth so they can be empowered to improve our world.*

Shanikwa Lemon | Paterson, NJ

Melissa Tomlinson | Mays Landing, NJ

*Only by teaching the truth will we make sure our mistakes of the past will not be repeated.*

Melonie Newman | Crownsville, MD

Jerald Kumagai | San Pedro, CA

Marcella Simadiris | Paterson, NJ

*I am committed to the truth*

Mary Spencer | Palm Harbor, FL

Megan Dungan | Bensalem, PA

Roslyn Kooser | Gwynn Oak, MD

Heather Messner | Sierra Madre, CA

*True history needs to be taught, not suppressed. Bullying tactics to silence educators will not work.*

Omega Jade Williams | Burlington, VT

*I teach Black History through creative writing. I believe all historical facts should be free to discuss and learn about. History repeats itself when we don't take time to learn from our mistakes. Black History is part of American History. Every good, bad and ugly part of it.*

Charles Post | New York, NY

Paul Stacy | Ipswich, MA

*we must stop whitewashing education and begin to lift all Ss up. By speaking truth to history all are given a humanity that wasn't present in earlier teaching.*

Laura Buffi | Danielson

Vikki Riverstone | Alameda, CA

*I will teach the truth and advocate for social justice every way I can.*

Michael Kreiter | Boise, ID

*This one is for you, IFF.*

Tony Osumi | Culver City, CA

*Good teaching is truth telling. Great teaching is exposing myths and lies.*

Douglas Spalding | San Lorenzo, CA

Michele Levin | Los Angeles, CA

Maria Cole | North Palm Beach, FL

Zach Wyner | El Cerrito, CA

Samuel Cohen | Columbia, MO

Lionel Beasley | Burlington, VT

*Truth matters.*

Matt Meister | Akron, OH

*Every year I teach about John Scopes. Those who refused to learn history are repeating it right now.*

Kimberly Leyden | Concord, CA

*I believe it is very important to teach students the truth. They need to be taught what actually happened and how to think critically.*

Sharon Kowski

*History has belonged to the victors: the powerful who always—just like now—try to establish a monolithic and static narrative. It is only through fierce examination, a commitment to nuance and untold stories, that truth evolves more clearly to tell a more complete, & indeed honest reality.*

Danny Baza Blas | San Diego, CA

*I will not stand to be intimidated to do my profession.*

Mari Errico | Philadelphia, PA

Christine Chisholm | Philadelphia, PA

*It's my professional duty to prepare students to be responsible and active members of our democracy.*

Michelle Wing | Barker, NY

*I refuse to lie to my students and to send them into the world ignorant of the history and structures that dictate society.*

Victoria Bellard | Ridgely, MD

*Truth be told*

Amy Lindahl | Portland, OR

*There is no better future without learning the truth of our past and present.*

Nick Vassolo | Streamwood, IL

*We need to learn history from as many voices as we can.*

Geoffrey Guiney | Chicago, IL

William Farrand | Bloomfield Twp, MI

*If we don't teach the truth, we can't learn from our mistakes.*

Tim Whelan | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe in the real true history. I believe in Critical Race Theory!*

Scott Newman | Long Beach, CA

*It is important for students to learn the truth about our countries origins and the past events that have led to current conditions*

Tova Moore | Concord, CA

Meredith Walker | Manchester, NH

*Truth is important. All cultures and perspectives need to be represented and people need to know all parts of history not the just good parts.*

Faris Carter | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students deserve the truth and the ability to think critically.*

Cathryn Chudy | Vancouver, WA

*Children deserve to know the truth and will not trust adults who deceive them by restricting their access to the truth.*

Maye Bryant | Saint Louis, MO

eva okeeffe | Hempstead Town of, NY

Eric Moran | Philadelphia, PA



As professional educators, we cannot be intimidated into teaching nationalist versions of our history, which will only continue to marginalize many of our students. We will not be bullied by far right elites who profit off of the ignorance of the masses.

Jessie Cantil | AK

The impact of systematic racism in this country is far too keenly felt by students learning only partial truths. The history I learned growing up was the history of white America only -with no inclusion for any other Americans who helped construct what has become the greatest nation on earth-which did not happen because it was formulated by white America by any means. We could not have become the greatest nation on earth had we not been assisted in that state of being without the theft of land from Natives, free labor of the slaves, without the indentured servants of the Chinese laborers, without all of the migrant farm workers from Mexico -to name a few-we have systematically lied about the very construction of the fabric that created the woven strength we present to the world -this is unjust. And a lie. The real history is overdue- and a basic building block for dismantling the big lie about why our country became great. We can do better.

Cassidy Hall | Viola, ID

History is a set of facts that are not meant to be manipulated. Truth is necessary to not repeat the atrocities that have happened throughout this country's history.

Natashia Sylvia | Garden City, ID

CRT is the key to understanding white supremacist systems so that we may disrupt them and create for a better, more equitable world for all.

Shelly Stafford | Vancouver, WA

It is important and vital that we talk about our history as a whole and stop glorifying the violence dealt by the white colonizers.

Carly DeBenedictis | San Pedro, CA

Marcia VanderWoude | Grand Rapids, MI

Matthew Knoester | Ripon, WI

Kids deserve to know the truth

DANIEL KUMPREY | Portland, OR

My pledge is this: "I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law."

Shawn Riggins | Vineland, NJ

Alisa Patapoff | San Pedro, CA

Omar Dphrepaulezz | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

I will NEVER stop teaching the history(ies) of the pernicious, poisonous, destructive, ideologies of white supremacy and imperialism

Nick Covington | Ankeny, IA

We can't change the facts of history to accommodate white rage.

Stephanie Carta | Fountain Inn, SC

Never again means never again.

Evan Greaves | Durham, NC

I will not be complicit in the whitewashing of history and I refuse to be silenced.

Jennifer Onopa | Holyoke, MA

Bill Stalnaker | Fairmont, WV

Students deserve the Truth about our History not some Whitewashed or Diluted version!

Angela Clifford | Aiken, SC

We are better together than we are apart and we are responsible for teaching all perspectives so we can truly grow, support and understand each other-even when we feel uncomfortable.

Jana Harter | Canyon lake, TX

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (George Santayana) History helps students understand the roots of inequality today and gives them the tools to shape a just future. It is not just a history of oppression, but also a history of how people have organized and created coalitions across race, class, and gender. The new laws being ushered in by GOP legislatures are a form of doublespeak. George Orwell's 1984 novel warns us against doublespeak. It used to be fiction.

Desiree Hellegers | Portland, OR

The assault on history is an assault on democracy.

Diane Hardy | Las Vegas, NV

My students come from very diverse backgrounds. They are intelligent critical thinkers, who can tackle difficult subjects with civility.

Veronica Rivera Savage | NY, NY

It should not be illegal to teach the truth.

Danika Nieves | Philadelphia, PA

"Bans on critical race theory" are bad faith pieces of legislation being pushed by the same people who proclaim to support academic freedom and ridicule "safe spaces" and "trigger warnings." The arguments lack consistency, serve to leverage bigotry, and frankly, most of the proponents of this legislation are unable to define or explain critical race theory.

Dr. Tina Lageson | Portland, OR

We should always teach the truth....the good, the bad, the inequities...so we can all work to make improvements with clear knowledge!

Jenifer Felix | Philadelphia, PA

Lauren Bianchi | Chicago, IL

Tara Shaw | Philadelphia, PA

Stephanie Felder | Philadelphia, PA

Teaching students to think historically is important.

Kevin Kelly | Bryn Mawr, PA

Patricia Hynes | Reston, VA

teaching the historic truth is my job.

Alex Kopp | Philadelphia, PA

We must understand the past to improve the future

Danielle Bullock | Brooklyn, NY

Erin McCarthy | MILWAUKEE, WI

The existence of structural racism is not an opinion. The success of communities & individuals of color and all groups sidelined to the margins of history for centuries, despite every political, economic, cultural, and social obstacle possible, makes American history captivating. I'll keep teaching it.

Parker Schramme | Memphis, TN

Mark Nelson | Chicago, IL

Education should be uncensored in order for individuals to form their own opinions based on all the facts. Apparently indoctrination and propaganda is the only way the GOP can elect their pack of nut jobs, fascists, religious fanatics and low wage monopolists into key government and judicial positions.

Andrew Saltz | Philadelphia, PA

*If I'm not teaching the truth, I'm lying*

Bobbie Schmaus | Santa Rosa, CA

Gary Falkenberg | Asheville, NC

*White washed history is just wrong.*

Victoria Breakstone | Lafayette, CA

*I refuse to lie to young people about history and current events. I will not use curriculum that is incorrect about U.S. history. Children need to learn the history of the U.S. and the world so that it doesn't repeat and the world becomes a better place.*

Nicholas Marzuola | Cleveland, OH

*Students need to know \*all\* of history, including the parts that might make some people uncomfortable. History should not frame events or people in a falsely-created positive view, but rather from events and actions that actually occurred. Anybody who tries to silence reality is likely a fascist. The only way to stop fascism is truth, knowledge, and empowerment.*

Jason Spray | St Louis, MO

Steven Buller | Philadelphia, PA

*Fascists are attempting to erode the ability of educators and communities to fight back. Hiding behind mythologies and spreading lies will only further increase authoritarianism. I believe in telling the truth. I will be telling the truth.*

Alysia Scofield | Washington, DC

Joan Hurley | Southington, CT

*The nefarious inequities of our legislative and social histories must be made overt & explicit. No topic is taboo. It is through discourse and investigation that our students will become true citizens of democracy.*

Peggy Janicki CA

*Truth, is a Coast Salish Law, and as an Indigenous Teacher I am obligated to Teach about our Genocide in Canada. Our Indigenous Nations are confirming unmarked graves at the Indian Residential Schools and everyone needs to know.*

noenoe barney-campbell Campbell | Honolulu, HI

*It's important to teach the truth. For years we have subjected children to myths that have been created and propagated by the government and textbook writers as well as brainwashed school district people. Lets teach the truth no matter how ugly it is!!!*

Lindsay helfman | Dearborn, MI

*I refuse to teach a government-mandated, whitewashed version of history. I teach my students to be critical thinkers and to weigh evidence about past events. I would rather lose my job than lie to kids.*

Judi Freeman | Boston, MA

Tracey Scronic | Brooklyn, NY

*... all people deserve to know the truth about the history of our country and its role in the persistence of oppression across the globe. Teaching the truth is the best way I know to tear down the power structure that maintains the oppressive status quo.*

Kyle Eichner | Cambridge, MA

*Children need to know the whole truth of our country's history - and it is our responsibility as teachers to help them ask questions, look at different perspectives, and figure out what they think about it.*

William Ehrenfeld | Brooklyn, NY

*Our children deserve the truth!*

ANDREA SOBEL | Annandale, VA

*Unless we help our children understand our history, we will perpetuate racism in our systems and our society at large.*

Seth Kahn | West Chester, PA

*I don't want there to be any secret about the fact that I'm committed to racial justice (and all forms of anti-bigotry) in my teaching.*

Paul Sheprow | Portland, OR

*My students, all of my students, deserve the truth.*

Sarah Caswell | Philadelphia, PA

*Everyone deserves the truth and to have their story told and we all deserve to know the truth about our country's history.*

Sarah Creeley | Hercules, CA

*Truth Matters!*

Lori Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*Students must be taught the truth*

Jennet Tempone | Chicago, IL

Michael Jones | Madison, WI

*when I became an educator, I made a promise to help our children understand our complicated world and its history, not obscure it because it makes certain people feel uncomfortable. Our children do not demand perfection from us and our ancestors, but they do demand and deserve honesty. And it is our duty to be honest with the knowledge we have accumulated, not whitewash it.*

Tobey Shulman | San Pedro, CA

*We can't go backward.*

Annie Zirin | Evanston, IL

joseph gannon | Easthampton, MA

*I will not follow any laws passed regarding the teaching of hisotry*

Larina Warnock | Winston, OR

*Equity gaps are especially prominent in business. Part of what I teach is how to read and respond to factual data.*

Barron Barron | Portland, OR

*Students deserve truth. Many know when we're lying to them.*

Richard Restaino | Austin, TX

*I never intended to become a propagandist for white supremacy and I am not about to start now.*

James Campbell | Greenville, SC

Lindsay Mears | Dunbarton, NH

*Teaching without truth is not teaching*

Melissa Blount | Portland, OR

*My students deserve to know their own histories, and I will not censor the collection of topics in our school library to appease those afraid of learning the truth.*

Lori Madel | Rural Hall, NC

*I teach Social Studies and feel it's important to teach not only about slavery, but how the African American people have risen since then.*

Virginia Teppner | Winter Haven, FL

*Education sometimes involves learning difficult content and being able to use critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate situations and fact based evidence. These skills are fundamental to maintaining Democracy.*

Wendi Straub | Idaho Falls, ID

*Our systems have racist and classist policies and practices and we all benefit when every student has equitable opportunities to participate in society.*

Kiran Katira | Rio Rancho, NM

Amy Kelly | Albion, MI

*My students deserve it.*

Julie Chien | Georgetown, TX

*We can't be afraid of things that make us uncomfortable or things we don't understand. Hiding from uncomfortable or confusing facts won't help us. The only way forward is to learn all the facts - even the uncomfortable, embarrassing, shocking and painful ones - so we can understand the world we live in and the people we live with.*

Mary Brazeau | Holyoke, MA

*My peers in 21 states face imminent threats to their livelihood by being asked to redact unpleasant history. This affects how we teach literature and Literacy. This affects our relationship to students. We will not lie to our students.*

Barbara Kaufmann | Rindge, NH

*WE MUST know and teach our history, no matter whose getting upset. If we do not learn that we fail! Burning books, restricting books and discussions is NOT WHAT the Founders of this country EVER intended! Stop running scared and start understanding! These foolish laws and voter suppression, is by and far the most UN- AMERICAN thing that has been pulled on this country! Not what ANY soldier has fought for EVER!*

xavier estacio | Carson, CA

Ron Bishop | Hockessin, DE

*To lend my voice to stop this educational malpractice.*

houston seals | Saranac Lake, NY

Garrett Shorr | Los Angeles, CA

Brandalyne Evans | Fontana, CA

Denise Gill | San Gabriel, CA

*As a California educator, I am not worried about our legislator creating absurd laws, but stand in solidarity with my colleagues across the country.*

Eric Rude | Pocatello, ID

*The United States is what it is because of its history, the good AND the bad. We cannot understand how to make our country great if we don't understand who we are.*

Laura Gonzalez | Santa Rosa, CA

*I teach history. not Critical Race Theory, but History, the good, bad and ugly.*

Justin Marr | Richmond Town of, ME

*Truth is the guiding light of freedom.*

Mary Anne McGrory | Chubbuck, ID

*I will not be bullied into not teaching the history of this country... The good, the bad, and the ugly.*

Angela Wilcox | Saint Paul, MN

*Otherwise I have no business being an educator. This is our job!*

IM Anidiot | Overland Park, KS

*Do you realize how stupid this is?*

Alan Wilding | Hagerman, ID

*It's ridiculous to keep spewing lies and misinformation about CRT and how it's being taught in schools. As a professor, I refuse to hide the truth or omit facts from my lessons.*

Lizzette Barrios Gracian | Anaheim, CA

*I owe my students the truth. I will never give them anything less than that.*

Maayan Giffen | Spring Valley, CA

*Real change can only come about with real education that does not stem from a black and white view, but, understands that life is complicated and most of life exists in the gray. We need to make sure that ALL voices are represented and empowered and the beginning of representation is education.*

Heidi Earle | Portland, OR

*teaching students to become critical thinkers is my job*

Prentiss Dantzler | Atlanta, GA

Amanda Schlee | Lancaster, PA

*Students deserve the truth.*

Kat Arnold | Anchorage, AK

Lindsay Briggs | Chico, CA

*I believe in teaching all sides of an issue and letting people hear critical perspectives so they can come to their own conclusions.*

Justin Dickens | Anchorage, AK

*Our youth are the leadership we welcome into the next generations. Ots our responsibility to speak truth to power and do better for them. "Being not racist is not enough, we must be anti-racist" Angela DavisCritical race theory allows us to analyze racism dynamics and do something stop them.*

Eve Chan | Bellevue, WA

philip lensi | Plainfield, NJ

*The truth is worth fighting for*

Daphna Gutman | New York, NY

Kimron Thomas | Brooklyn, NY

*The GOP wants a fight and they're gonna get it.*

Daniella May | Eagle River, AK

*It's time to stop teaching children lies, and white washing the history of this nation. We only do a disservice to our future generations by not ensuring our education system is inclusive and equitable. We can no longer stand by in complacency. We must do better.*

Jenny Lewis | El Prado, NM

Amanda Fenlon | Oswego, NY

*Our students need to be taught the truth about our history of systemic racism so they can help create a more just world.*

Gina DacQuisto | Milwaukee, WI

*I don't lie to my students*

Sarah Fuchs | Oakland, CA

Chelsea Foster | Anchorage, AK

*Teaching historical truth is important to myself and my family. It is how we break and heal from generational curses.*

Bridget Walker, PhD | Mukilteo, WA

*All young people in America deserve to know the truth about the history of their country so that they can understand where it came from and better participate in building its future as informed, thoughtful citizens.*

Amber Gonzalez | Columbia, MO

*I grew up being told to lie about my family's history and I won't continue to allow this system to continue.*

Vilas Annavarapu | Jackson, MS

*I want my students to have the critical thinking skills to undo past harm without upholding the structures that perpetuate it.*

Barbara Beyerbach | Oswego, NY

*I am committed to teaching for social justice.*

Elena Ailes | Chicago, IL

*I come from a family of educators. Both parents and my sister are all teachers. My values, and my families values, are predicated on truth, history and access to a good education.*

Patricia Sullivan | San Francisco, CA

*The minority in power wish they could silence the majority and continue the lies and whitewashing of American history but it simply can't be done. There are too many windows of access and too few who are willing to pretend the past just didn't happen.*

Janet Gordanza | Kansas City, MO

*The truth needs to be taught. We need to fight racism with racism. It's the vaccine all kids should must be required to take. We are the woke supremacy!*

Ritu Radhakrishnan | Oswego, NY

*All stories/voices of our nation's history need to be acknowledged, heard, and understood. Why is the truth so frightening?*

Katrina Simpkins | Wilmington, DE

*it is important to me that education is provided in an honest, antiracist-oriented manner, especially to the children who lives are forever impacted.*

Lennon Murphy | Chicago, IL

*Our students deserve empowered educators who are willing and able to help them uncover the truths about our country's past and present.*

Tyler Scaletta | Chicago, IL

Sarah Duvall | Boise, ID

Ivory Johnson | Hollandale, MS

*whitewashing American history only makes white people feel better. There is no other tangible benefit, and plenty of costs.*

Sharon Arthur | Berkeley, CA

*I refuse to whitewash history.*

Lana Forrester | New York, NY

*I am the daughter and granddaughter of Holocaust Survivors whose Grandmother, Aunt, and Uncle were murdered by the Nazis. I am committed to equality and social justice for all, and to transmitting those values to my students of all ages, and ethnic backgrounds.*

Francisco Mercado | Anchorage, AK

*I believe in this theory and I am not going to all the racist right to stop our progress.*

Susan Hofbauer | Ypsilanti, MI

*It is important for all students to understand our history.*

Amanda Groen | Bala Cynwyd, PA

*When we understand how the past impacts our present, then we have an opportunity to create a future we're proud of. Hiding the truth is a disservice to our children, and, frankly, an insult. If we hide the truth, then we are assuming guilt and we are sending the message to our children that they are not worthy of the truth.*

Susan Baughn | Ann Arbor, MI

*Students deserve to know the truth, not white-washed history.*

Galindo Jack | Glendale, CA

Laura Yaussi | Fort Collins, CO

*I believe it is critically important to teach children the truth in all areas of learning. When children are taught the truth they can grow into healthy adults who can handle and process difficult conversations powerfully and without shame. I believe parents are uncomfortable with the truth because they are just now being introduced to the true history of our nation and conversations around race. Imagine how much more able to handle it they would be if they have learned it as children. This is why children must know the truth.*

Kelly Nelsen | Boise, ID

*My students deserve the truth.*

Mary Lou Hall | Albuquerque, NM

*I am tired of this racism in our country, and no one seems to be doing anything about it or care. I have lived on this earth for almost eighty five years and things are getting worse instead of better. Oncoming generations, will have to turn the tide that has been here for years. It is time for us to wake up and smell the coffee!*

Michael Stapleton | Barkhamsted, CT

*We must confront our history... even the dark parts ...to move our people closer the the promises of America.*

Ryan Howard | Fremont, CA

Jessica Diaz | Henrico, VA

*I want to help students learn to use critical thinking and research skills. It's important to use primary sources and help students develop the skills to understand the events of our history so students can make informed decisions to create a better society today.*

Margaret Wessel Walker | Canton, MI

*I refuse to lie to my students, who are majority Black, about their own history and generational trauma. I refuse to lie.*

Sheba Lo | Los Angeles, CA

Andrea Espinoza | Tucson, AZ

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Mika Court | Portsmouth, NH

*Teaching and learning about systemic racism and sexism, and (more importantly) regenerative and healing alternatives have been my focus since 1989 when I graduated from high school*

Ken Carano | Monmouth, OR

*We cannot heal without understanding the varied perspectives people have of history. We won't truly be humanizing people if we refuse to listen to their perspectives. A group of people sharing a common space cannot move forward in a productive manner without doing those items.*

Sarah Jackson | Portland, OR

*Our children deserve to know the truth.*

Melissa Gibson | Milwaukee, WI

Lucy Russell | Warrenton, NC

*My students deserve the truth.*

Claudia Valles | Norwalk, CA

*My students deserve to know that they play an important part of this country. They need to embrace their heritage, race, language, traditions, and beliefs and know that they can make a difference. Understanding the truth about our past is important for them to know, so they can learn from it and not let history repeat itself like we're currently experiencing right now with laws being passed on voting restrictions in so many states.*

Samantha Ginzberg | New Haven, CT

Naama Levy | Fort Collins, CO

Kathy Diamond | Portland, OR

*We cannot continue to whitewash history*

Kathleen Allen | Englewood, CO

*All students deserve to know the truth of our country and be inspired to build a more perfect union.*

Janis Johnson | Lewiston, ID

*Students should not be lied to. Their intelligence and good character should be respected. They should learn the truth of American history and make their own decisions about what they think and what kinds of people/citizens they want to be.*

Veronica Velez | Marysville, WA

T. Miller | Memphis, TN

*I feel that the truth matters and will be eventually heal many. For too long students, even I as an older American, have heard stories that shared a one sided view of this country. That view has often left many of this country's people feel left out, not a part of, and non purposeful. It's time to help a generation understand and accept the all of this country's history and start true healing that is needed for all Americans young, old and especially those who paid the price of sacrifice. If we don't teach CRT, why? Please don't say to keep one group comfortable or because one group will feel bad. That isn't sufficient because one group has already paved the road that one. The truth could set us all truly free and begin to wash the stain that has soaked so deeply in this country for far too long. Hey the truth is going to stand and come out anyway!*

Tiffany R. Payne-Griffin | Chicago, IL

*It is deplorable and completely unacceptable for people to navigate through life without understanding that this country and every privilege that non-Black people benefit from is due to the long reaching effects of slavery.*

Francois Dupuis | Enfield, CT

*This country cannot heal until everyone understands what the injuries are. The work of historians and sociologists in this field constitutes factual evidence that racism in America is systemic and that White Supremacist ideology continues to perpetuate willful ignorance and the myth of meritocracy in America.*

Susan Langlois | Wakefield, MA

*My students deserve to know the truth of our country's history - the good, the bad, the beautiful, the ugly. Our country is diverse and technology has made the world smaller. Without knowing true history, how can my kids grow to be fully free thinking adults? We need to work together to grow.*

Claire Carlstroem | Santa Ana, CA

Jennifer Jensen | Montclair, NJ

Josefina Padilla | Chino, CA

*I am committed "to develop critical thinking that supports students to better understand problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. [I am ] for truth-telling and uplifting the power of organizing and solidarity that move us toward a more just society."*

Tina Andres | Santa Ana, CA

*Truth must always be taught. Even if it is uncomfortable for some.*

Tracy King | Los Angeles, CA

*Children need to learn complete stories in order to grow up to become responsible, proactive citizens.*

Ellen Kaplan | Granada Hills, CA

*We are responsible to tell the truth not color it to suit whom ever is in power.*

Lee Wygand | San Jacinto, CA

*History should not be whitewashed!*

Shoshanna Holman | Eugene, OR

*It is my responsibility as an educator to provide multiple perspectives and voices in my classroom. My students deserve to learn the truth.*

Marjorie Mayen | La Mesa, CA

*We need to teach the people's truth, not a one sided, bias, romanticized, Eurocentric history.*

Leticia Nieto | Lacey, WA

*this is the moment to stand up for the truth that systemic racism is dehumanizing and it is the work of liberation to counter oppression in all its' forms.*

Priya Bradfield | North Hollywood, CA

Melissa Berlant | Sherman Oaks, CA

Kayla Davis | Irvine, CA

Elizabeth Macminn | Torrance, CA

*We need to teach the truth.*

Kimberly McDonald | Alhambra, CA

*Students must learn about our past to make sense of the world they will be in charge of making decisions for in a few years. Having an educated electorate who can vote with confidence after analyzing and debating topics is the whole point of a democratic republic.*

Carrie Scaife | Sandy, OR

*American history is the history of ALL American people, not just white dominant culture.*

Ben Beaupre | Owatonna, MN

*I believe teaching students about the problematic histories of our past helps us to not repeat our previous mistakes, gives us a strong we understanding of where we are now, and ensures that we provide the resources and thinking skills for a better future for our students and world.*

Adina Sobo | San Diego, CA

*Students deserve to know that biology does not work the way conservative, far-right members of the legislature claim it works. They are wrong about race, sexual identity, sexual preference, how women's reproductive organs work, global climate change, the need for regulations and oversight for pollution, and many other things.*

Kavita Krishna | Albuquerque, NM

Niki Scott | Kansas City, MO

As a teacher, I will continue to teach history based in fact. Racism is a part of American History, as is slavery. To whitewash our history is to fail my students and I will do everything in my power to teach truth.

Victoria Ramirez-Santiago | Nikolski, AK  
Ours kids deserve to know the real history.

Denise Maltese | Boiceville, NY  
Systemic sexism and racism have done damage in schools and it's time to upend the power system to create a more just and equitable future.

Cassie Howard | Orlando, FL  
To solve problems, we need to be able to name them.

Keane Burkett | Milwaukee, WI  
I am signing because I'm done with ignoring the truth about our history.

Amy Pippins | Las Vegas, NV  
Kids should be taught truths, and teachers should not be censored.

Kari Vadixx | Tacoma, WA  
My role is to educate my kids with the truth, even when...no, especially when it is uncomfortable. We cannot move forward until we all understand and face our history.

christine Hirsch | Oswego, NY  
Critical or not, racism is an issue in America and should be taught despite those who do not want to acknowledge it (consider those who viewed climate change and ecology as unreal or unnecessary...)

Andrew Notaro | Buffalo, NY  
The world in a classroom goes beyond just our own personal individual experiences that we have faced. I never learned in school that Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves with the sole intention to use them for the war, and then send them off to Liberia. That whole part of history never existed in my classroom. Why was that left out? I have taught in multiple schools with multiple socioeconomic statuses, and there is so much disconnect. Many teachers need to understand the struggles that exist out there in the world for POC, along with students. Whitewashing history to make America seem like the perfect place doesn't do anyone any justice. The way you learn is to analyze mistakes and build on them. That is when we can make true change and start building a country where everyone succeeds.

Alicia Williams | Issaquah, WA

Sam Becker | Worthington, MN  
I believe in teaching the truth, being transparent, and equipping all students with the knowledge of history as they move forward.

Stephanie Hammel | Arlington, VA  
Racism is real today and can be traced back to the foundation of the United States which was built on white supremacist ideas. More information about this historical truth leads to action, not guilt.

Ednie Garrison  
I have spent my entire life watching racist, sexist, homophobic, colonialist hate mongers try to prevent children from knowing the reality about our culture and history, and I am tired of having to work so hard to unbrainwash my students and then strategize ways for them to heal in the face of the deep sense of betrayal they experience when they learn a more truthful history.

Molly McGinnis | Grand Haven, MI  
I became an educator because of education's ability to make a positive change for marginalized groups. I refuse to jeopardize the safety of my minority students for the comfort of white supremacists.

Jolie Valentine | Canton, MI  
I did not learn about Vincent Chin's murder until I was in my 30s, even though he was killed a half hour from my home when I was 6. I did not learn about white Detroiters attempting to lynch Dr. Ossian Sweet until I was in my 40s, although I was assigned To Kill a Mockingbird multiple times. I did not learn the racial history of my own state, including sundown towns and restrictive covenants, or why my hometown had no Black residents, until middle-age. My students deserve better than I received – they deserve to know about their state and their community in age-appropriate ways, without huge important chunks of history being removed or sanitized to avoid hard conversations about race, privilege, power, and hatred. Kids see these things in their own lives and it is dishonest for adults to prevent them from having opportunities to learn and think and practice working through them. True and meaningful pride comes out of hard work.

Keith Morris | Albuquerque, NM  
Kids need to learn what the USA actually did, all the harm it's caused, and not the Carlson/Rufo/Confederate mythology

Kyle Brown | Katy, TX  
I feel they deserve to hear to truth, to struggle with it, and to reconcile with it. It is an insult to lie to them because some aren't capable of accepting the true history of our country.

elizabeth mancini | Middletown, CT  
Students need to understand issues from a variety of lenses and perspectives.

Kourtne Ballentine | Los Angeles, CA  
Honesty is the only way out of our problems.

Jonathan Beach | Sacramento, CA  
My students and the future citizens/voters of this country deserve to learn the whole truth about the history of this country and the role it has played in shaping the world we know today.

Kathryn Marocchino | Vallejo, CA  
I stand in solidarity with all the K-12 teachers who are being denied their right to teach the truth. As a professor within the California State University System, I am proud to know that our public institutions of higher learning have every intention of teaching CRT this coming fall semester, and will be closely scrutinizing in the classroom all the prejudice and racial inequities this country has perpetuated for years on minorities. Stand strong, educators! Don't let them win! If they try to stop you from teaching the truth, teach the truth anyway! And if they try to stop you again, every single one of you should walk off the job en masse! They can't fire every one of their teachers!

Amber Eby | Washington, DC

Sarah Nelson  
Our democracy depends on an educated populace.

David Lee Carlson | Phoenix, AZ  
Tu Lieu Gross | Studio City, CA  
Truth matters. No good can come from sweeping our history under the rug.

Jennifer Robinson , WI  
we cannot destroy American history, true American history.

Patricia Smith | Tacoma, WA  
Healing requires that we tell the truth

kristin Miller | Whitestone, NY  
I pledge to continue to teach the truth.

manno anthony | Alameda, CA

Two sources have guided me over the years: American Slavery, American Freedom, by Edmund Morgan, and the Virtual Jamestown website. Through them, I discovered that Virginia's planter class essentially created the concept of race in order to create racism, and separate poor whites and blacks from uniting to topple the corrupt Virginia order of things. With the settlement of South Carolina, that oppression deepened and spread.

Angela Russo | Tampa, FL

We need to learn from the past, not cover it up.

Leontina Hormel | Moscow, ID

I am against the unconstitutional actions to censor dialog about US history and the country's dependence on settler colonialism, and the intersectional systems of oppression, including racism, sexism, classism, and homophobia.

Jennifer Treadwell | La Mesa, CA

I will teach the truth about this country's story!

Jeff Bean | Big Rapids, MI

We don't change until we see the reality.

Mickalle Hoevelman | Rosharon, TX

Teaching should be truth.

Janice Morris | Columbia, MO

There is ONE truth about the history of the USA whether or not the white Republican establishment wants to acknowledge it!

Kris Lytle | Houston, TX

I owe it to my diverse group of students to teach a true version of the history of music in America, at a grade-appropriate level.

Luciany Melo da Silva | Philadelphia, PA

#teachtruth

Shelly Ehrke | Santa Monica, CA

I pledge to teach the truth.

Tyler Goble

Teaching American history correctly and not through a biased faux-patriotic/right-wing lens is intellectually and morally important. I will not cave in or be pressured in teaching the subject I love so much this way.

Jennifer Cordero | Cordova, TN

Susanne Sawyer | Columbia, MO

Karla Strand | Waukesha, WI

Emma Milius | Nevada, IA

My students deserve to have all of the facts and make their own decisions and conclusions as the standards direct us to do.

Steven Moreno-Terrill | Oceanside, CA

It is necessary to cultivate and nourish a critical consciousness in our students through a humanizing education in order to create a just and democratic society. Teaching about the history and dynamics of race, racism, and white supremacy is a moral obligation for a society committed to justice and freedom. Limiting students' opportunities to learn about their own and others' histories undermines their growth toward becoming critically thinking, culturally competent, ethical, and compassionate members of society. Hiding histories of the inequalities, injustices, and racist violence that shaped and continue to shape the nation promotes a fantasy heritage and monocultural education that upholds white supremacy. Our students and communities deserve empowering opportunities to develop racial justice literacy through a socially just, culturally sustaining, and equity oriented education.

Michel Coconis | Gahanna, OH

the truth shall set you free...but first, it will scare you, it will cause a backlash, and, eventually, we will be on the right side of justice. I am not for indoctrination. I am for making sure that these ideas, so absent from curricula for most of the time have had too short of a moment in education. #CriticalThinkingRequiresFacts

Jacqueline Roller | Sarasota, FL

History must be taught.

Ingrid Sabio-McLaughlin | Randallstown, MD

I am signing because it is vital to our society that our citizenry understand our nation's history and how we have come to some of the disparities in our society. If we don't understand the past, we can't effectively create strategies for the future. Banning learning about history is anti-democratic.

Tim Sieber | Dorchester, MA

No matter how old we or our students are, we always need to seek to know and understand more about our truthful past, and to talk about it honestly. This is a life-long process.

Nola Butler-Byrd | Spring Valley, CA

Because Conservative Race Theory = modern-day racism must be stopped. Empathy, care, antiracism, inclusion, and true democratic practice must be taught in all of our schools in order for the U.S. to survive and thrive. We need to know our history so we can stop repeating it.

Dawn Demps | Sahuarita, AZ

Tara Lockhart | San Francisco, CA

truth is essential to education. We can not understand our present unless we understand our past, and how none of us are free until we are all free.

Kimberlee Gregory | West Des Moines, IA

Teaching the truth of history is important. It is also important because as a social worker it is important that I know the history in order to help my clients who may be dealing with traumatic events.

Grace Helms-Kotre | Ann Arbor, MI

Amanda Skubick | Valley Village, CA

Justice requires truth.

Alexandro Ochoa | Watsonville, CA

I am committed to the truth

Anthony Franco | Middletown, RI

I teach a course that would be considered "illegal" if legislation is passed. I'll still teach this course if legislation is passed.

Parker Kershen | Canyon, TX

We must teach our children all aspects of our history, no matter how ugly. We are not teaching children to hate white people or the concept of being white. We are teaching them to be critical thinkers and learn from the mistakes of our past so we can have a more tolerant society. I refuse to bow to conservative fear-mongering.

AJ Craig-Salmon | Milwaukee, WI

We can not expect children to grow up to be responsible, critical thinkers, and leaders if we do not teach them their history honestly and openly. Beyond the truth of George Santayana's famous quote about ignoring history, why would we ever want to teach our children that lying and hiding the truth and reality are not only appropriate behaviors, but are what we as a society value?

Nicole Weingart | Gainesville, FL

*These laws and policies are restrictive to teachers and schools and discriminatory to people of color! This is racism and we cannot afford to have whole school systems lying to students about our country's past, present, or future!*

Robert Dice | New York, NY

Shanna Barkume | Columbia, MO

Hugh Janus | Saint Louis, MO

*I am proud to be joining this elite group of teachers who will not distinguish between political theory and truth and will not be bothered with the niceties of logic or rational thought. Untie!*

Mathea Morais | Vineyard Haven, MA

*I will only teach the truth to children*

Karen Halverson | Boulder, CO

*They can handle the truth!*

Sophie Teitelbaum | New Orleans, LA

*teaching anything other than truth is perpetuating white supremacy.*

Kathryn Ellison | Seattle, WA

*I don't lie to children and lies of omission are still lies.*

Elissa Levy | New York, NY

*Equity is everything.*

Christiana Sitbon | Wasilla, AK

*We have a responsibility to teach our children the truth about our history so that they can learn from it and create a better future. We live in a great nation. We need to teach children how to contribute and take pride in their communities.*

Laurel Brooks | Charlotte, NC

*I can't believe it has come to this, teachers need to pledge we will speak truth to our students? But here we are. Of course I will, that is the default my students deserve.*

Caden Sjogren | Eagle Lake, MN

*My students deserve to learn the truth, as well as the skills to process and apply it so we can improve as a society.*

Michael Coard | Philadelphia, PA

*History is truth and truth is essential to students and everyone else.*

Gargi Gangopadhyay | Oakland, CA

*my students deserve to know the truth!*

Kelly Yutesler | Alexandria, VA

*I refuse to teach lies because they make some people happy.*

Christopher Smith | Lubbock, TX

*I will not be intimidated into lying about or falsifying history by bad-faith actors who seek to threaten me.*

Ervanna Little Eagle | Marysville, WA

*I believe in the truth*

Julie Fanelli | Shelter Island, NY

Judith Pack | Red Bank, NJ

*People living in a democracy should be informed. Children should learn the truth of their country's history and not be told lies and fairy tales. Lee cannot be considered a beacon of fairness and light, an example for the world, unless our citizens know the truth and work to make the U.S. actually live up to its ideals.*

Jenifer Bement | Grandville, MI

Teresa Tenorio | Las Cruces, NM

Stuart Greene | Granger, IN

Cindy Muralles | Madison, WI

*We need to teach the real history of this country in order not to repeat the past...*

gina m sully | Buffalo, NY

*Facts matter.*

Janice Law | Tampa, FL

*Only dictatorships and fascists deny truths. I will not be part of that and will always fight against efforts to limit truths in history and education. The easiest way to control a populace is to keep them from asking questions.*

Velia Cortalano

Marybeth Pacilio | Mattituck, NY

*Plain and simple, I refuse to lie to my students.*

Lawrence Ruich | Ferris, TX

Sandra Rigo | Staten Island, NY

*My history has been muddled in lies. I'm interested in truth to resolve today's problems and to avoid future problems in society.*

Gwen Johnston | Seattle, WA

*Critical thinking should be embedded in our educational system. They don't need to be "taught" anything in particular...just given the tools to be able to critically think about and assess our history and the structures of systemic racism in our society. They draw their own conclusions and connections.*

Adam Howard | Waterville, ME

*Truth is important!*

Tomoko Yokooji | Honolulu, HI

Jenna Brito | Tucson, AZ

*I will not let the white establishment silence me. I will continue to teach an accurate account of history. This includes teaching about how racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc is deeply embedded into our society and how it continues to shape out experiences.*

Helen Murdoch | Santa Barbara, CA

*It is important to teach the truth*

Cristina Cordova | Perrysburg, OH

*My students need to know the true history of this country.*

Robin Pugh | San Francisco, CA

*You can't truly teach real estate in the US without teaching the history of redlining and other discriminatory practices that cheat Black and Brown Americans out of the opportunity to build wealth. Students can't understand the world they live in without knowledge of how it got that way. This is why we require the study of history to graduate. I stand with my fellow educators who commit to teaching the full history of the US and developing critical thinking so students can better understand and improve how we all live and work together on this planet.*



Victor Luftig | Charlottesville, VA

*Among the most important educational institutions in the United States today are the 1619 Project initiative of the New York Times, the Learning for Justice Curriculum of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Zinn Education Project, American children deserve first-rate educations, not obfuscations and lies.*

Jacqueline Arnold | Columbia, MO

*Teachers are getting doxxed online for trying to support our students' rights to their own history. I am tired of the truth being buried.*

Omar Dphrepaulezz | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Jennifer Graves | North Haven, CT

Michelle Sánchez | Denver, CO

Darlene Fortier | Santa Fe, NM

*We need to teach truth to our students. Anything less, and we will lose their trust. We need to respect their ability to think critically. Teaching our true history, as it unfolded through time, is that respect.*

Eliza Korshin | Lemon Grove, CA

*Our students deserve it.*

Jackie Taylor | Vancouver, WA

*It is our role as educators to teach our students how to find and know the truth, how to determine credible sources and how to think critically.*

C Lukens | Wausau, WI

*integrity is of the utmost importance to me as an educator.*

Jessica Cummings | Columbia, MO

*The truth is important.*

Colleen Lindsay | Brush Prairie, WA

Katy Swalwell | Des Moines, IA

*Our kids deserve the truth.*

Dr. Wanda Toro-Zambrana | Ann Arbor, MI

*The truth will bring freedom and reconciliation. Then we will be free..*

Casey Schoenborn | Columbia, MO

Cameron White | Friendswood, TX

*Truth matters*

Kimber Scott | Albuquerque, NM

*Changing history is a lie. Truth should win.*

Anne Schwartz | Charlottesville, VA

*I teach my Kindergarten students how important it is for them to tell the truth. And in that vein, it is important that they are taught the truth of history. Maybe one day they will grow up to fight for social justice and create a world where truth matters.*

Hannah Cardenas | Monrovia, CA

Jennifer Fowler | Mckinleyville, CA

Jennifer Monson | Denver, CO

Heather Harris | New Orleans, LA

*History matters. I will never participate in the silencing of truth.*

Lia Lynch | New York, NY

Mike Slys | Kouts, IN

*Our kids deserve the truth and the facts.*

William Leubsdorf | Washington, DC

*My students deserve to know the truth about US history. Teaching them lies is bad teaching and unpatriotic. Loving this country is not about forcing people to believe falsehoods. It is about building a just society that represents our best ideals, and giving students the tools to create that just society.*

Jason Stuart | Albuquerque, NM

*Facts matter.*

Levis Becker CA

*Myth making is embarrassing. Let's be honest with our students. They are amazing. If we don't talk about the wrongs that have happened then those wrongs will continue to happen.*

Maria Rogahn | Albuquerque, NM

Anna Grant | Jasper, IN

*Human histories are complex and diverse! My students deserve to see themselves in the histories shared within my school community.*

Sydney Glenn-Morgan | Oakland, CA

*Telling the truth matters.*

Phillip DeSousa | Lumberton, NJ

Quiana Washington | Mesa, AZ

*Black Lives Matter and the truth must prevail.*

Emily Bushmann | Columbia, MO

*The truth matters and children deserve an honest education.*

Sonia Thacher | Oakland, CA

*Young people need and deserve to know real things about our country, in order to see themselves rightly as worthy and able help shape its future.*

Claire Majerus | Columbia, MO

*Racism is systemic. The only chance we have at eradicating it is to teach children the truth.*

Kristin Sims | Waldoboro, ME

Jessica Saltat | Columbia, MO

*I made a vow to teach ALL students. I cannot adequately do my job for the ALL without teaching the truth of the struggles that so many of our citizens have withstood. It is our job as educators to teach the whole truth. Even when it may be uncomfortable. Our students deserve the right to knowledge as a whole to form their own opinions.*

Jennifer Lee | Temple, TX

*Every student deserves the truth.*

MICHAEL CARTER | Lynnwood, WA

Evan Bourgeois | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe in teaching truth, I believe in righting wrongs, and I believe in the power of humanity to make the world a better place.*

Erick Hernandez | Albuquerque, NM

*our students deserve to know the truth and they deserve an unsanitized version of history.*

Jay Barbuto | Phoenix, AZ

*History shouldn't be hidden. Facts are facts.*

Grace O'Keefe | Jersey City, NJ

Andrew Yamakaitis | East Orange, NJ

*The truth needs to be taught every single day*

Abigail Breiseth | Baltimore, MD

*Our nation's civic crisis is arguably a direct result of our failure to teach our history and our civics - at all, to say nothing of well. In my state, history was the first subject on the chopping block in times of low education funding. We MUST do better. I only hope we haven't already missed our window to create the educated populace necessary for the preservation of democracy.*

Jatera Simmons | Bronx, NY

*Promoting an already majority white centered history that also seeks to ban and ignore the contributions of blacks, POC, women and others merely because knowledge of such challenges the status quo and makes people uncomfortable...is fascistic and anti democratic.*

Rena Smith | Albuquerque, NM

Sheryl Sargent | Happy Valley, OR

*I won't lie to children. They deserve truth.*

Christopher Gannon | Herndon, VA

*each student deserves a complete education that includes critically examining difficult topics.*

Joni Jameson | Lilburn, GA

*I refuse to be complicit in attempts to marginalize others and perpetuate lies. The truth means we love our country otherwise why fight so hard to save its soul! If you are not uncomfortable on a regular basis you are privileged and delusional.*

Sarah Henley | Columbia, MO

Sheridan Lorraine | Merritt Island, FL

*Every U.S. citizen must know the truth about the way that minority groups had to struggle in order to achieve the rights that were included in "all men are created equal." They need to understand the causes of our policies and laws and the continuum we are on to ensure that everyone - regardless of gender identity, sexual identity, racial, ethnic, and language identity - is given their "inalienable rights."*

Pamela Weissnar | Van Nuys, CA

Aradhana Mudambi | Webster, MA

*As educators, it is not our jobs to put forth false propaganda but to teach all of the truth, the decolonized history, so that students can think for themselves.*

Tony Watkins | Albuquerque, NM

*Without an analysis of how our society became so unequal children of all colors internalize harmful, unhealthy, and inaccurate assumptions about who they are and where they live.*

Gregg Burke | Bristol, RI

*I have always tried to teach my students how to think, not what to think.*

Susan Warrow | Beverly Hills, MI

*I resented not learning the truth about our history when I was in high school. I became a teacher to make sure the truth gets told.*

Whitner Schellingerhoudt | Richfield, MN

Janette Corcelius | Lorton, VA

Kerri Stith | Columbia, MO

*We must teach everyone the true history*

Leia Brooks | Columbia, MO

*the truth matters; no matter what legislators or ill-informed people think. As an educator, it is my job to provide the truth and encourage students to think critically.*

Meredith Fichman | Norwalk, CT

*The children deserve an honest education and a better future.*

Heather Knight | Los Angeles, CA

*"Silence ensures that history repeats itself." –Erin Gruwell*

Jessica Justice | Renton, WA

*Because you can't heal if you don't examine hard truths.*

Danyelle L Matthews | Adrian

*I believe teaching our youth the real history of this country will help them develop empathy and compassion as they will be the leaders sooner than later.*

Elise Schebler Roberts | Plymouth, MN

Mark Peifer | Chapel Hill, NC

*We can best face the future with the facts in hand. Otherwise our children will learn we're lying and never trust us again.*

Ann Niederkorn | Cambridge, MA

*This matters*

Linda Vandepopuliere | Columbia, MO

*It is critical that accurate and truthful history be taught. Students need to understand the past in order to understand our present situation and to make a better future.*

Jessica RODARTE | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth is the only way.*

Bill Cupp | Columbia, MO

David Cochran | Cartersville, IL

Amanda Frank | Belmont, VT

Sidney Dace | Columbia, MO

Ava Hacker | Stanton, CA

Darin Stockdill | Ann Arbor, MI

*It is my responsibility as an educator to speak up for what is right and true.*

Katie Siphon | Columbia, MO

Daniel Noyes | Seattle, WA

*I want to show support to my colleagues who have a harder go teaching our subject outside of the bubble that is Seattle due to fragile and self-serving legislators and voters.*

Karl Marx | Bellmead, TX

MacKenzie Everett-Kennedy | Columbia, MO  
*Teaching history based in truth matters.*

JuanDiego Montemayor | Los Angeles, CA  
*Truth matters*

Roger Moreano | Gurnee, IL

Jennifer Samaniuk | Colonie Town of, NY  
*My students knowing the truth is more important than keeping white peoples comfortable.*

Susannah Livingston | Little Rock, AR  
*All knowledge is political and true patriots love their country enough that they nature it so it can grow in the right direction for all its citizens.*

Tamra Snell | Austin, TX

Maggie LaRiviere | Bingen, WA  
*Their story, our story, her story all matter as history.*

Katie Keier | Alexandria, VA

Abby Cohen | Newton Highlands, MA  
*Truth is still important!*

Traci Jensen | Houston, TX  
*You can't talk about history without the critical piece. Please do not legislate on something you know nothing about.*

Kathy Cook | Minneapolis, MN

Robin Fischer | Buffalo, NY  
*You cannot teach lies or evade the truth of American history*

Deborah Shishido | New York, NY

Nicole Castine | Buffalo, NY

Stacey York | Spring Valley, MN  
*Systemic oppression is a root cause of injustice and it negatively impacts children's development and well being. A democratic government should not be allowed to silence or ban a major theory because it's inconvenient or uncomfortable.*

David Boehnke | Minneapolis, MN  
*I will do this!*

Alexa Chestnut | Columbia, MD

Joe Koeppen | Sheboygan Falls, WI  
*I will continue to teach the truth*

Martha Gensemer-Ramirez | Durham, NC

Amy Schlessman | Annandale, VA  
*I believe in teaching students the truth and giving them skills to make a better world.*

Daria Bliss | Bellaire, MI  
*Our students are the best hope we have to build the America we want to see in the future. In order for them to be able to do this, they must learn the whole truth about our past and present.*

Kelly Walker | Brooklyn, NY  
*the only way America lives up to its promise is through telling the truth to our young people. Only then might this country become as inclusive and as free as it's always promised to be.*

Anne Campbell | Seattle, WA

Sabrina Alli | Brooklyn, NY

Jodi LePla | Hillsboro, OR  
*We all deserve to learn the truth, but even more so our Black, Indigenous, and Students of Color deserve better.*

Sue Bruce | Branford, CT  
*We have dismissed true historical education for too long, and it stops now!*

Titania McGrath | Pinckney, MI

Mimi Goldman | Ithaca, NY

Christina Vasquez | Oswego, NY  
*Everyone should know the truth about the world we live in. We will only move forward when we truly understand our past actions.*

Elizabeth Bertsch | Bridgehampton, NY  
*I teach real history.*

Maureen Curtin | Syracuse, NY

Anne Fairbrother | Oswego, NY  
*We need to look at history honestly - seeing it from different perspectives - not just the "party line" that people are trying to impose on us. Tell the truth. We owe it to our young people so they have a chance to fix the mess we are in.*

Casey Towne | Oswego, NY  
*I teach students to use the process of statistics to collect, organize, summarize and analyze data. Viewing history through a statistical lens identifies discrepancies between historical fact and fiction all while providing critical thinking opportunities.*

Michael Augustine | Seattle, WA  
*As James Baldwin put it best: "I love America more than any other country in the world and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually."*

Glenn Sato | Santa Monica, CA

Christine Thompson | Chicago, IL

Jennifer Diamond | Seattle, WA

Amy Treadwell | Chicago, IL

Mark Roudané | Saint Paul, MN  
*Our historical amnesia, especially with respect to Black history, is shameful. Anti-racist education is urgently needed!*

Jessika ochoa | National City, CA

Johanna Trout | Billings, MT

*Students need experience with discussing and responding as a community to current events. If we can teach students how to listen to each other and discuss what is happening around them with their friends they will have an essential skill that will benefit them their whole lives!*

Heather Epps | Lakeland, FL

*The truth needs to be told.*

Michelle Holmquist | Sun Prairie, WI

*Educators have a unique opportunity to influence the future, and I pledge to make sure I do my part to help the next generation embrace our diversity and find strength in unity by teaching them the truth about our past and our present.*

Karin Wilhelm-Safian | San Jose, CA

*Not being able to teach the hard parts of history has led to a lot of the problems we have today.*

Elaine Baca | Monterey, CA

*I have "lied" too many years. Once you know you are compelled to do better.*

Brianne Logan | Laurel, MT

*It's the right thing to do.*

Molly Sterner | San Diego , CA

*This is absolutely disgusting. I currently teach about white supremacy and colonialism in my third-grade classroom.....And will continue to do so!*

Lindsay Yellen | San Francisco, CA

*It's about time we face our history and arm students with the facts of our complicated past. Having the opportunity to examine the often ignored perspectives and narratives of the past will enable students to become stand up citizens and strong allies for equity. The outcome will be greater freedom for all.*

Annelise Meunier | Oakland, CA

*Banning teachers from teaching their students about the complex and rich history that made their country is to destroy that same country by making students ignorant, single-minded and unable to make the right decisions for their own life, but also for their community. How do you expect one to understand their place in a society if they do not have the tools to understand it and its history? How do you expect one to make thoughtful decisions if their perspective is reduced to one story from one point of view? Let's help our students be successful by giving them all the tools they need to move forward on a clearly thought out path.*

Laurie Van Roekel | Billings, MT

*I believe our children must know the truth of the history of our country in order to learn from it and build a stronger, more unified country in the future.*

Sara Kane | Billings, MT

*Our community deserves the truth. Our students need authentic experiences. We must confront the hard parts in order to bring brighter days.*

Amy Wilkinson | Lemoore, CA

*Censorship in any form is wrong. I don't even teach history, but I do teach context, and you can't make anything relevant without an honest discussion of the context of the work and it's relevance to today. Banning the discussion of systemic racism is in itself, systemic racism.*

Helena Gougeon | Redmond, WA

*I believe the truth needs to be taught and the nuances of history are complex, using critical theory allows for deeper understanding of who we are as Americans and as humans.*

Anne-Bernadette Weiner | Chicago, IL

Kimberley Lord | Saint Albans, VT

*I care about teaching the truth and feel it is essential to our future.*

Alaura Cook | Milwaukee, WI

Megan Salinas | Manor, TX

Cap Wilhelm-Safian | San Jose, CA

*We cannot become "a more perfect union" without confronting the injustices of our shared past.*

Linda Serrato | Chico, CA

*We need to teach the true history of the U.S. or our country is doomed.*

matt m | Austin, TX

Brigette Hutchison , TX

*This is important. Children deserve to have a well rounded education with an understanding of CRT & other current events.*

Maria Teresa Harris | San Diego, CA

*If I am not truthful with my students I am disrespecting them. I will not do that. I*

Dabney Rigby | Austin, TX

*Teaching CRT is a no brainer, and in no way more potentially harmful than carrying on without it. It is a long overdue reckoning, and it is what we OWE to current and future generations, as it will very likely begin a foundational awakening and restructuring of the realities of racism within the hearts of individuals, which, as James Baldwin and so many others taught us, is where it is needed the most in order to help steer this country and the world towards a more fair and equitable, as well as safe society.*

Kelly Benedetti | Tampa, FL

*Facing and grappling with the racism, sexism, and other oppressive worldviews that got baked into enduring policy outcomes is vital for the pursuit of the equality our country purports to bestow.*

Alison Sullivan | Traverse City, MI

*my students deserve the truth. As Ibram Kendi says, if we love our country, we need to be honest about what it is.*

Raquel de Hoyos | San Diego, CA

*The truth is the only way to explain our present. Black people deserve better. By understanding our county's true history we can begin to understand how to better accomplish this.*

Wendy Eccles | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*As a US History teacher it is unconscionable that politicians and history deniers are trying to stifle the people's history, the good, the bad, AND the ugly, in favor of a whitewashed, incomplete, and incorrect account of our past.*

Karyn Young | Woodland, CA

*I believe in an open, honest, truthful, developmentally appropriate presentation of history, with the goal of developing important critical thinking skills and social conscience.*

Meghan Schimmel | Fresno, CA

*History taught from all perspectives matters.*

Gwendolyn Rogers | Providence, RI

*We should not be teachers if we are looking to halt progress for ourselves the world around us.*

Shelly Ehrke | Santa Monica, CA

Arianna Barzman-Grennan | Elk Grove, CA

*It matters that we teach our students accurate information. Without the truth, we cannot hope to have a more informed, knowledgeable population of students and citizens.*

Ruth Luevanos | Simi Valley, CA  
I refuse to teach lies to students .

Shari Tarbet | Albuquerque, NM  
It is imperative that we all know the kaleidoscope of history.

Diana Gonzalez | Anaheim, CA

Jane Silva | Vista, CA  
We need to teach the truth about our history, so we can learn from it. #STEAM #SEL

Anna Castillo | Watsonville, CA  
the truth is the only thing that should be taught in schools.

Susie Merrick | South Burlington, VT  
As an educator, I have a moral obligation to know, understand, and teach truth-centered history. I am especially passionate about this since I grew up at a time when history was not taught in an accurate, truthful way. As a result, I continue to unlearn what I learned in my own public school in order to re-learn an accurate truth.

John Breen | Chicago, IL  
I refuse to whitewash history

Sandra Camp | San Francisco, CA  
Teaching accurate history is the only way to ensure that we don't repeat the same mistakes.

Nicole Hsu | San Francisco, CA  
We must stand up and fight to expose the truth—always!

Deborah Riddle | Chicago, IL  
If children don't learn their history, they're destined to repeat it. Also, we learn about Crispus Atticus, Ben Franklin, Christopher Columbus etc., why not OUR truth?????

Adam Geisler | Chicago, IL  
we must defend the importance of truth and justice.

beth Bartolini-Salimbeni | Corrales, NM  
We strive to teach the difference between fact and opinion; how does one do that by ignoring "what happened?" . . . Or, perhaps Napoleon got it right when he said that "history is a set of lies agreed upon."

Jennifer Becker | Grand Rapids, MI

Yolonda Kelsor | Cincinnati, OH  
A people who do not know their history are lost! As a lifelong learner, I was taught to be a critical thinker and I don't want this opportunity taken from generations to come. I am a retired educator and my mother was also an educator and a retired librarian. I want all children and young people, especially those who look like me are of an Indigenous background to know the struggles we faced and decide on ways to make the future better.

Joseph Miller | San Mateo, CA  
I believe in this cause. Thank you for making the effort.

Julia Snippen | Richmond, CA  
CRT is essential to moving forward with our eyes and hearts open. CRT is essential to moving toward justice for BIPOC and all marginalized communities and people. CRT is essential so children can think for themselves.

Eric Guthertz | Oakland, CA

Lydia Rose | Chattanooga, TN  
Students without the truth of their history are misguided and have no sense of pride. I have tutored students and discovered that they didn't know about important events in history - The Trail of Tears/Indian Removal, Black Wall Street, Residential Schools, Reconstruction, etc. This can't continue.

Sharon Merritt | Fresno, CA

Melissa Nelson | New Hampton, IA  
We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.

Rick Roadruck | Evergreen, CO  
Truth matters and we must learn from the past to improve the future

Nicola Turnet | Saint Paul, MN  
I want the truth to be told.

Sandy Amos | San Francisco, CA  
Teaching the truth about our nation is essential to understanding who America is and how it can live up to its promise.

Glenn Appell | Pleasant Hill, CA  
The laws that have been passed in a number of states are blatant historical lies about our history!

Emily Scroggs | Oakland, CA  
It is incredibly important for students to learn more than just a white-washed, glorified account of history

Tyler Riggs | Portland, OR

Glenetta Krause | Cincinnati, OH  
The truth is the ONLY THING that will set us free.

Chelsea Killam | Argyle, TX

Janell Stojkovich | Corona Del Mar, CA  
The truth should always be heard. You can't learn from the past if you don't know the truth's past.

Gretchen Brion-Meisels | Cambridge, MA  
Facing our history is the only way for us to begin to move toward a process of truth, reconciliation and reparations. Our children deserve our honesty.

tara sessa | San Francisco, CA  
I am a parent and teacher and kids need to know the truth.

Nancy Herard-Marshall  
I do not believe in teaching my child "alternative" facts. He and all children need to learn about the true history of the United States and the current laws so that they can continue the fight for equality and justice for all.

Rachel Barker | Dallas, TX  
I refuse to allow history to repeat itself through ignorance and allowing hate to fester.

Elena Allen | San Francisco, CA

*As a white teacher, I can't teach students of color without acknowledging my white privilege. Power dynamics, and thus race, is part of every conversation we have as humans.*

Izzy Hendry | San Francisco, CA  
*Only through truth can we find healing*

Alexandra Kirby | Salem, MA  
*Students have a right to be presented with historical fact and to be encouraged to think critically. Classrooms are meant to be safe spaces where dialogic opportunities arise, and the historical, systemic injustices in our country are worthy of discussion. Denial of certain topics in the classroom denies students' freedom and antithesizes American values.*

Rebecca Flores | Austin, TX  
*It is imperative we teach our students revisionist history, and teach them the ways white supremacy manifests in our society. In order for us to have a more just and equitable society we must teach our students how to critically examine systems of power and to push back and be agents of change.*

Melissa Santa-Cruz | Milwaukee, WI

Michelle Power | Port Orchard, WA  
*Revisionist history is a lie and we owe it to the students of this country to pledge to teach the whole truth.*

Macquin Brockington | Mattapan, MA  
*I stand for truth and justice. I refuse to lie about history and systems that have ramifications today.*

Susannah Livingston | Little Rock, AR  
*Knowledge is never neutral, and education is deterministic*

Cheryl Hart | Westbrook, ME  
*We must hear all the voices of all the people who lived, or are living, as our country's story continues to unfold. Examining, questioning, and understanding our history as fully as possible – the noble and the shameful, the bitter arguments and hard-won agreements, the creativity and innovation, exclusion, racism, violence, courage, hate, peace, corruption, activism, fear, compassion – will help us learn, grow, and thrive as a people and mature as a society. This work can be at once messy and uplifting, hard, contentious, and exhilarating. But it can't be ignored because it's difficult or because facing hard truths is damned uncomfortable – not if we're serious about realizing the aspirations we claim to have about living in a just and inclusive country. The proposed bans on what's been labeled "critical race theory" are yet another attempt to avoid the truth, and a search for the truth, about our history as a people, as a country. Why so much fear of truth-seeking? This isn't a zero-sum game. As challenging as it most definitely can be, we're all lifted by facing the truth and working honestly to understand care about one another. This is how we move forward, how we metabolize conflict and trauma and use that energy to help us grow. Shifting the study of history in schools to reflect a fuller telling of our country's story can be done with sensitivity and respect for students' developmental ages, stages, and readiness. Isn't it quintessentially "American" to ask questions and to seek the truth? When did this process become "indoctrination?" Quite simply, it isn't. It's our job, as educators, to help our students learn to think for themselves, not to tell them what to think. Their learning, their understanding, and their development as active, engaged, informed citizens, is supported when we look for truth – not when we settle for lies designed to keep us comfortable and to perpetuate a fragmented, underdeveloped, and incomplete narrative.*

Cheryl Lindstrom | Ocala, FL

Kimberly Boland | Pittsfield, MA

Ebony Murph | Far Rockaway, NY  
*I have signed an oath as an educator to teach the truth and will continue to do so, despite lawmakers' attempts to thwart the truth. Knowledge and critical thinking are the most significant parts of a student's education, and I will not jeopardize the future of our country by providing misinformation to young people who look to us as role models. Legislators have absolutely no right to implement said laws because doing so would be unconstitutional, and lawmakers need to uphold the Constitution at all costs. I will do everything in my power to continue educating our youth about racial discrimination, social injustices, systemic inequality, etc so that we keep moving towards a hate-free world.*

Arisa Hiroi | San Francisco, CA  
*Forcible omission of truth for the sake of propaganda goes against the values of democracy we supposedly preach as a country. Students need to know all sides.*

Maureen Sullivan | San Francisco, CA  
*Our students deserve to learn about their history and this country's history.*

Paula Annicchiarico | San Diego, CA  
*History is truth. Facts are truth. It's important to know the truth so we can learn from it to build a more perfect Union. White Supremacy does not want Democracy For The People. White-washing the truth will never help this world.*

Lisa Hiltbrand | Oakland, CA

Hannah Lippstreu | Milwaukee, WI  
*Especially as a history teacher, I'd rather be fired than lie to young adults about the reality of the past and present. They deserve to know the ENTIRE narrative of the U.S. from all perspectives.*

Lynn Wolf | Chelsea, MI  
*As a retired teacher, I am still connected to children in many ways. Just because I am no longer in the classroom, does not mean that I ignore the truth that education should provide.*

Margaret Egler | San Diego, CA  
*History needs to tell the full story of our attempts and our failures to create a multi racial democracy.*

Susan Katz | Berkeley, CA  
*I believe strongly in telling the truth about race and racism.*

Ronald Nober | Southampton Twp, NJ  
*only through learning & understanding the truth of our history can we begin to understand each other.*

Anne Carey | Newton, MA  
*I am committed to helping young people understand how our country developed and how they can contribute to building a just and equitable society today. Being honest matters.*

Sharon Lanza | West Hartford, CT  
*I believe in justice. All Americans must be included in our teaching of history, not a white-centered, polished half-history. History must include mistakes (so we do better) as well as victories, in order to understand where we are in present day and where we will go in the future.*

Michelle McElwaine | Hull, MA  
*Our children need to know the gruesome history of enslavement and colonialism to understand the harm that has been done to Black and Indigenous peoples. This is our only hope for a future in which freedom, justice, joy, and the natural world unseat whiteness and reign supreme. "Until we are all free, we are none of us free." -Emma Lazarus*

Jennifer Bennifield | Jonesboro, GA  
*History is not history unless every truth is revealed. No matter how painful that truth may be.*

Anna O'Brien  
*learning hard history and the impact of slavery, the failed Reconstruction, Jim Crow and the resultant, persistent inequalities are imperative topics in our collective American story . If we aim to continue to form a "more perfect union", there is no other way forward than to take an open-eyed, honest look at this. I can't teach any other way.*

Hinda Joy Laury | Bellmead, TX

*TRUTH has always needed to be taught. Ignorance is disastrous. If the majority acknowledges the truth, many more will come forward to demand change to this white supremacist oligarchy we fight for survival in. We should stand tall together. As a teacher, I have refused to teach their lies.*

Sam Jordan | Palmer, AK

Arielle Nagle | San Francisco, CA

*We can't keep lying. The truth will set us free.*

Stephanie Collins | Chicago, IL

Jenny Davis | Rosemount, MN

*our students deserve to learn the truth about structural and systematic racism.*

Sara Townsend | Rio Linda, CA

*We can't move forward as a country until we teach the truths of our history.*

Colton Reetz | Des Moines, IA

Mary Molnar | Pasadena, CA

*The truth matters.*

Leslie Grabel | Flagstaff, AZ

*The truth needs to be told*

Danielle Lewis | New York, NY

*Children and adults deserve to explore the hard parts of history and work through it together, for the sake of clear-eyed justice.*

Julia Fliss | Evergreen, CO

*I teach truth.*

Laura Blanco | Milwaukee, WI

*This matters.*

Deborah Kennedy | Southington, CT

*I believe that a healthy democracy needs discourse based on reliable sources and transparency, not on the opinion, of a part of the population, that believes in conspiracies and false narratives.*

Marissa Pienaar | San Leandro, CA

*Sankofa, tells us you must look back to see where you are going. In order to move to a collective future where everyone can thrive, the truth of the past is necessary. We can't get to freedom without first acknowledging truth.*

Colleen Birchett | New York, NY

*I am committed to this cause.*

Michael Jordan | Midland, TX

*I refuse to lie to my students about the history of race relations in the United States*

Dominic Inouye | Milwaukee, WI

Tracy Kwock | Blacksburg, VA

*Our students deserve the opportunity to learn about all of our nation's history, for without it, then we are not preparing them to think critically or act responsibly in our democratic society.*

Mike Van Pelt | Milwaukee, WI

*Once again. If you don't learn the past, how can you improve the future?*

Beverly Allebach | Chicago, IL

Diane Burton UM

*Our children need to know the truth!!!!*

Marie Taylor | Portland, OR

*history matters.*

Jim Connolly , CA

Jim Connolly , CA

David Carlson | San Antonio, TX

*I oppose prior restrictions on freedom of speech, and I oppose indoctrination of young people. I support the First Amendment and our democratic and civil rights.*

Vaughn Benjamin | New York, NY

*It is important to know and understand who we are and where we come from in order to know where we are going. There are multiple perspectives to accept and consider. Our society will improve when young people can critically think, analyze and make decisions based on truth. Truth is not binary.*

Alejandro Ramos | Winters, CA

William Sell | Milwaukee, WI

*The fight against antiracism is a fraud. It's quite like fighting sunshine.*

Avilee Goodwin | Richmond, CA

*My students deserve the chance to learn the actual history of what this country is and has been.*

NANCY WHEELIS | Round Rock, TX

*Our freedom to teach our students the truth must NOT be taken away.*

Nicole Butler | Ogden, UT

*You can't change facts. Even if they're inconvenient. Don't be so afraid of Gen Z – we're teaching them to go through the difficult reality of our country and come out the other side with empathy and awareness of how people can end up so frightened of the truth. They'll be understanding toward you, but they won't tolerate your b.s. And then you'll grow too. Growth is a good thing; trust me, I'm an educator.*

William Wilson | Pendleton, SC

*I believe in truth!*

Rebecca Russell | New Port Richey, FL

*I pledge to teach the truth, regardless of what was passed on Friday by the Board of Education and signed into law by Governor DeSantis. My students deserve nothing less.*

Michael Surgeon | Medford, OR

Lisa Waszak | Milwaukee, WI

*All children need to hear the truth. We need to end systemic racism, not perpetuate it.*

Jennifer Collier | Kenosha, WI

Lauren Calig | Shaker Heights, OH

*Until we teach the truth about systemic racism, we will not be able to change the systems.*

jacqueline fawaz | Atlanta, GA

The USA is a democratic country, truth about our history and that of others is crucial in making sure there is equity for all adding transparency to ensure justice and prevent wrongs from being repeated.

Matt Wiegand | Carson City, NV  
Not teaching about systemic racism is a great example of systemic racism.

Amanda Laister | Monmouth, OR

Jamie Call | Ogden, UT  
Teach the truth.

Cecilia Robinson | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK  
All children will be better humans when they hear the stories of all people from multiple perspectives

Gaye Nickles | Reno, NV  
We used Zinn as our major textbook and supplemented with original materials; that was the right decision.

Tanya Frierson | Marietta, GA  
The truth can't be censored and we need to encourage critical thinking and critical conversations in and out of the classroom.

Derek Koehl | Huntsville, AL  
Attempts to censor learning are un-American. Compromising the education of our youth to score political points with white supremacists is despicable.

Demiana Ghobrial | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Andra Burns | Atlanta, GA  
Because truth matters. History matters. And Black and Brown students matter.

Lisa Steffen | Gurnee, IL  
Our kids must learn from our history in the effort to not repeat our mistakes.

Charles Hamilton | Elkton, MD  
I teach in DE and I have had many students of color and the fact that all students regardless of color need to hear the truth, however ugly, about the history of the United States. I love my country but and, maybe because of that, the truth about race and other issues like gender and sexual identity needs to be told unfettered and honestly so that students can learn and make up their own minds about our country and how to make it better for all.

Christine Truscello | Fair Lawn, NJ  
my students deserve a shot at understanding, questioning, and demanding change for their futures.

Leo Wolf | Chicago, IL

Adrienne Martin , DE

Jennifer Ward | Canton, GA

Charlotte Shepherd  
In order to develop critical thinking skills that students need to become good citizens and our future problem solvers, students must be taught the entire, unadulterated truth about our nation's history - all the good and bad together without bias.

Karen Packer | Sherman Oaks, CA  
Lies kill and destroy. Truth supports life.

Josh Nixon | Hickory, NC  
students need to understand the problems of America's past and present in order to form a better future, and it's essential for teachers to guide their students through the struggles of coming to grips with reality.

Christopher Naze | Portland, OR

Jenny Padgett | Cupertino, CA

Caryl Crowell | Tucson, AZ  
even though I am no longer a classroom teacher, I still volunteer in classrooms and work with teachers through professional development. I pledge that the books I share with children, and the learning experiences I promote and use to engage teachers and students will be representative of the histories of ALL the people in the room.

James Zartler | Portland, OR

Shara Troutner | Cleveland, TN  
Political positioning and government overreach should never be allowed to dictate the instruction of a trained educator.

Chris Padgett | Sacramento, CA  
Teaching lies about the past keeps us sick, and the only way we get healthy is by truthful diagnosis of our past.

Anna Grizzard | Round Rock, TX  
I believe educators should teach the truth.

Starla Dawngmaster12@y | Phoenix, AZ  
All people no matter their but especially children deserve to know our history and they deserve the opportunity to discuss what they hear and learn also. You can not outlaw history that already has been lived by so many.

Marisa Gomez | San Rafael, CA

Brandon backhaus | Pasadena, CA  
Decolonizing the classroom is an important step to teaching the truth. It is the opposite of seditious, traitorous, or cowardly. It is the most patriotic thing an educator can do is to reject the white supremacy that ignores the lessons we can learn from our past misdeed, lessons that will make us a stronger, more adaptable, just, united nation.

Patsy Spendlove | Marshall, TX  
The truth matters, liking the truth is irrelevant.

Liz Willis | Paoli, PA  
It is my responsibility as an American historian, educator, and school leader to ensure that students are told the truth about human experience in all of its complexity, to effectively prepare them to engage with the world.

Zoe Harris | Stamford, CT  
I believe in empowering my students through relating to their culture, identity, and experiences. My role as a teacher is not to only teach them music, but teach them about how to be a good person, develop relationship with others, and make good decisions. Critical race theory, if taught right, should be a way to empower students and help them think critically about situations they find themselves in.

Kara Applegate | Kalamazoo, MI  
Education is the backbone of our lives, we need education that is accurate and empowering. How we can change people is through education.

Dana Rodriguez | Sugar Land, TX

MELANIE SHEDD | Chesterfield, MO  
students need to understand their role in society and what systems are in place that benefit some and restrict others, even if unintentionally. We need to learn from our past to move forward.



Jean Gregorek | Buffalo, NY

Erica Rodriguez | New Port Richey, FL  
Facts matter. Our history is not up for grabs to the highest bidder of democratic destruction!

Christine Den Adel | Edmonds, WA  
We have to teach truth!

Nancy Patterson | Bowling Green, OH  
I know that democracy can thrive and needs fresh air and ideas in which to do so.

Gretchen Kapperman | Milwaukee, WI  
My students deserve to learn the truth about the history and the current structures of the United States.

Rick Jackson | Cascade Twp, MI  
I am pledging to teach a full understanding of history that includes the difficult topics and how they still reverberate today.

Kelly Wright | Mesa, AZ

Yvonne Unrau | Kalamazoo, MI  
It's essential to teach from facts and to support meaningful conversation about difficult topics to support connection and shared humanity.

Jessica Cuello | Syracuse, NY

Melissa Snider | Huntsville, AL  
Learning about racism is the only path to healing it and building a better, stronger nation.

Paul Thomas | Greenville, SC  
Academic freedom and truth are essential for a free and equitable society

Nataliya Braginsky | New Haven, CT

Afreen Bhaidani | Conroe, TX  
It is important for our students to learn history and accurate depictions of our world, not just "His Story"

Erika Riddington | Somerville, MA  
I will not be censored when it comes to documented facts about our history including the recollections and expressions of people's lived experiences, particularly with regard to the pervasive and pernicious influence of racism in shaping systems that have and continue unfairly to deprive people from equal opportunity with liberty and justice for all.

Carissa Bedi | Bartlett, IL  
I believe in teaching students multiple perspectives about our history in a culturally responsive classroom.

Josie McClain | Gila Bend, AZ  
Our textbooks have a white, Eurocentric lens that does not accurately portray our country's history and diversity. Our diverse students deserve the truth.

Chandra Smith | Fort Mill, SC  
All history should be taught

Katy Rank | Saint Charles, IL  
I refuse to ignore history and truth because it's uncomfortable. Our students need educators willing to work alongside them as we all navigate our past, present and future.

Donna Sayman | Shawnee, OK  
I will never, ever keep true and factual information from my students simply because I am afraid they might get their feelings hurt

Susan Shapiro | Columbus, OH

Kathryne Edwards | Los Angeles, CA

Cory Blake | Magnolia, TX  
I will never, ever, willingly impose false information or skip crucial facts to make adults comfortable. I tell my kids from the beginning that I will not lie or sugarcoat the truth. I am not going to start now.

Saneya Bair | Long Beach, CA  
Telling the truth about history and current events is pivotal to moving towards a more just society.

Kia Saunders | Garner, NC  
Silencing the truth about America's history in racism and oppression of people of Color is a gross disservice to students! Furthermore, the undeniable truth is that the residual affects of slavery are impacting students TODAY!

Kayla Jolly | Long Beach, CA

Mary Hillebrand | Sun Prairie, WI  
Some people in the community where I teach do not understand why we need to teach the truth, or they are afraid of the truth. Our school district is taking action to right the wrongs, and I support them in the face of this resistance.

Kate Hooper | State College, PA  
Truth!

Aubrey Noonan | Iowa City, IA  
we should learn from the past so that we do not replicate it! Rather than placating adults who are scared of systems and change, we should be teaching our students how to dismantle the systems and look at the world from a different lens.

Don Cooney | Kalamazoo, MI

Marilyn Davis | San Jose, CA

Tiffany Henderson | Milwaukee, WI  
I believe in the work being done .

Jessie Sabree | Long Beach, CA  
Youth deserve to know real history! Stop underestimating youth's capacity to process information about race & gender. If they're old enough to recognize it, they're old enough to talk about it!

Daniel Husman | Minneapolis, MN

Lisa Bowstead | New York, NY  
It is our duty to our students to teach ALL history and to train them in critical thinking. A society must examine and study its failures if it is to grow and evolve.

Lissa McLaughlin | Madison, WI  
We destroy our children's opportunities to think, dream and hope by denying them the truth, and by lying about our responsibilities to the past.

Elizabeth Swaggerty  
In order to recognize and disrupt racism, we need to know and teach the whole truth.

Oneida Fox Roye | Dedham, MA  
I believe ALL of our students need to learn the truth.

Ambria Reed | Denver, CO

*My students deserve to examine the complicated history of our country, warts and all.*

Brandon Hawk | Johnston, RI

Kirsten Rossum | Elk River, MN

*students have a right to learn about all of history, not just the text written by white men and women that disregard the truths of people of color.*

Sarah Willner | Oakland, CA

*There is a huge shift that needs to happen to tell the truth about the history of this country, founded on the genocide of indigenous people in order to steal their lands. As well, wealth was built by enslaving others, especially Africans, for the past 400 years. Capitalists used and continue to use racism as a reason to strip the land and other people of resources.*

Danielle Howard | Los Angeles, CA

*Truth matters!*

Charlie Martel | Annapolis, MD

*the purpose of education is teach the truth, as we are given to know it, and to help our students learn the skills they need to find the truth in their studies, their work, and their lives. Part of the truth of American history is our noble principles and achievements. But part of it is our tragedies and how we have fallen short of those principles. We need to teach children about racism in our history, and racism now, in our country. This is particularly true as to racism against Black people in this country. The attacks on fields such as Critical Race Theory and work such as the New York Times "1619 Project" are wrong, and laws and political censorship of these and similar studies violates the First Amendment. Of course all these studies are subject to free and fair debate, but it is wrong to ban or demonize them. Nothing is more American than honest exploration and reflection with the goal of making things better and righting wrongs.*

MEREDITH Coffin | Stratham, NH

*My students deserve to know the whole story so that they can be better informed citizens, and humans who recognize that everyone has their own story and experience.*

Sara Rich | Conway, SC

*As a professor at a state university in South Carolina, I am concerned that misinformed policies and positions among our state leaders, who promise to prohibit instruction about the causes and effects of racial disparities in our country and in our state, will have a negative impact on all students. Honest history matters. And it is for this reason that I am particularly concerned that historical and cultural omissions from classroom curricula will have a disproportionate impact on our Indigenous, Black, Hispanic, and Asian students. Legislation such as SC H 3002 and SC H 4325 are examples of "curricula discrimination." We all know how essential it is for students to recognize themselves in their own education, and we all know the importance of understanding the past in order to understand why we are where we are - as a nation, as a people, and as citizens. Inhibiting fact-based classroom instruction on matters of history and race inhibits inquiries into our identities and duties as citizens. Such curricular inhibitions amount to state-sponsored censorship and racially-motivated indoctrination, and there is no place for either in South Carolina or anywhere in the United States of America.*

Ben Denton | Southern Pines, NC

Brenna Barringer | Richmond, VA

Farrell Vaughn | Reno, NV

*I teach hard history*

Josh Coran | Saugus, MA

*You can't whitewash history by cutting out the parts you don't like.*

Rebecca Moericke | Fairfax, VA

*I pledge to teach the truth, because I will not minimize or make my student feel invisible. I will not participate in the whitewashing of our National history to promote the inequitable and unjust status quo. I will teach and affirm my students' identities, and protect and celebrate their voice. History should be the truth, not a work of fiction.*

Sydney Hart | Chicago, IL

*We cannot solve social problems unless we fully understand their genesis and contemporary manifestations. Racism, especially but not only against Black people, is a root cause of many current social problems from police brutality to economic injustice. If we cannot understand the history of racism in the U.S., we cannot eradicate it.*

Walter Miske | Pflugerville, TX

Daniel Grenier | Laurel, MD

*I refuse to allow laws to obstruct teachers from educating students with the most current, accurate, and researched information.*

Jody Zirkelbach | Racine, WI

*It is important for us to share ALL of our history and not just what is comfortable for us to recall. Our children deserve to know the truth about the past so they can make informed decisions about how to act and what to do in the future.*

Abbie Huck | Kenosha, WI

Elizabeth Blake

*It is my job to provide accurate information to my students, and to allow them to draw conclusions based on the data available.*

Cedrita Demus | Tallahassee, FL

*All children deserve to learn the truth about the country and the world they live in. The truth should not be hidden to appease the feelings of a certain group. The atrocities that were committed against the First Peoples and the Africans needs to be rectified. We will continue to stay stagnant and be at odds in this country if the truth is never exposed. Learning the truth will provide an opportunity for healing, growth and real partnership amongst citizens.*

Heather Levine | Malden, MA

*I will always fight for the right to teach the truth.*

Dana Pollock | Bainbridge, GA

D Myrie | Bronx, NY

*Teaching History Is about teaching the truth*

Robin Cooper | Cincinnati, OH

*It is the truth that will make us free. Children of all ages need to know the history of this country as it directly affects the present. We must teach our students to be interruptors of the status quo not perpetrators of it. The truth heals.*

Sarinea Meserkhani | Tujunga, CA

Dylab de Guzman | Garden Grove, CA

*it is important for people to take ownership back of their education.*

Beth Gardner | Portland, OR

*We have to learn from the mistakes we have made if we hope to avoid repeating them in the future. Only when we are honest about the state of things can we improve them for our historically marginalized communities.*

Kaon Suh | Irvine, CA

Megan Barringer | Monroe, NC

*I am signing my name because, I care for my students and their education!*

Ingrid Semien | Maurice, LA

Rachel Pendergast | Seattle, WA

*It is my duty to teach the truth and raise our children so they know the truth and make this world better. It is my duty to leave the world a better place than the way I found it.*

Angeline Zalben | Seattle, WA

Molly O'Neil | Seattle, WA

*Let's get the authentic history of America out there! Ethnic Studies Now!!*

Lora Worden | Portland, OR

*our students deserve, not only to learn the truth about our history, but to learn to critically evaluate information so they can decide for themselves what is accurate, what is reliable, what is authentic. Our students need critical thinking skills to be active, engaged, and informed citizens in our democracy. Additionally, our students deserve to hear from multiple perspectives in historical and contemporary events (in all stories and all areas of life!). This helps our students develop empathy, which is also an essential skill. Our students deserve to hear the whole story of our history so they can decide for themselves how they think and feel about it and decide for themselves what kind of citizen they want to be and what kind of country they want.*

Lauren Litle | Spring, TX

*We shouldn't shelter students from the truth or try to inhibit their formation of critical thinking skills. If we start censoring here, where does it end?*

April Wyche | Lake Park, NC

*Teaching the truth is the only way to expose the lies.*

Jaime Brody | La Habra, CA

*In order to learn from history, we need to know it.*

King Chan | Los Angeles, CA

*We need to stand strong for education reasons and our family values of everyone getting a knowledgeable worldly education.*

Kathryn Lafever | Hamilton, OH

*We should teach the truth.*

Katherine Volin | Philadelphia, PA

Lori DiCenzo Carter | Charlotte, NC

*All students deserve the opportunity to learn about the contributions their ancestors made to the United States. If we hope to end systemic racism and oppression, white students in particular need to learn the truth of our nation's history before we can ever hope to make change.*

Lori Stahl-Van Brackle | Ozone Park, NY

*I am signing in solidarity. Truth can not be silenced in this country anywhere!*

Daniel Woleslagle | Williamsport, PA

*Every student deserves the truth. Denying our students the whole story enforces racism and denies representation for all groups. It's time for all student voices to be present in the classroom.*

Sebastian Castillo | Long Beach, CA

*Lack of access to knowledge will keep this cycle going longer than it needs to, change today leaves hope for tomorrow*

Misty Bennett | Las Vegas, NV

*I teach facts and I refuse to lie. Teaching is not about staying comfortable.*

Rebecca Kleinbart | New York, NY

*Students deserve the truth! I teach for a more just society, not a more comfortable society for white people.*

Audrey Melzer | Oberlin, OH

*Any education must include facts and critical thought. To legislate that educators should not be allowed to teach our students and challenge them is to deny them a proper education that will able them to be future leaders who will learn from the past. I refuse to teach inaccuracies. I refuse to have yet another part of my profession undermined by people who have no training and no expertise.*

Joshua Aguilar | Long Beach, CA

*Well im signing because im a student that had taken this class and it has impacted my daily living and how i jnteract with others in a good way. So i feel if this were to stop being taught there would be a bigger problem in society.*

Falica McClain | Los Angeles, CA

*Because the truth MUST be revealed! How will children K-12 learn about systemic and institutionalized racism if they cannot recognize it's passive and subtle forms?*

Cheryl Thompson | Doswell, VA

*History helps us recognize and learn from our mistakes. We must tell the whole truth if we want our children to believe in democracy.*

Jenny Jacobs | Jamaica Plain, MA

*Understanding systems of oppression activates student learning.*

Susan Dobrian | Aliso Viejo, CA

*Truth is important. Our job as educators is to teach our students to think. To do so, it is imperative that all points of view be available to them. To deny certain truths is to create a generation of people without critical thinking skills*

Nikea Carwell | Los Angeles, CA

Erika Chavarria | Columbia, MD

Christopher Buttimer | Melrose, MA

*Our students deserve nothing less than the truth.*

Jennifer Greenwald | Madison, WI

*History matters. The truth matters. Children can handle complexity. It's better for our collective future if we acknowledge the full truth of our past.*

Jennifer Greenwald | Madison, WI

*History matters. The truth matters. Children can handle complexity. It's better for our collective future if we acknowledge the full truth of our past.*

Toby Lavergne | New Braunfels, TX

*"A great nation does not hide its history, it faces its flaws, and corrects them." We must be free to "teach the truth that a country founded on the promise of liberty held millions in chains, that the price of our union was America's original sin." I will teach the truth, soberly, honestly, and how it happened. Quoted lines are from President George W Bush, September 2016*

Paul Spies | Minneapolis, MN

*As a white guy, I was denied knowing the truth about the past growing up and was disempowered from this lack of knowledge. Knowing the full truth about the past empowers not only BIPOC, but also whites and together we can work for racial justice and equity.*

Lesley Newman | Heathsville, VA

*We are finally in a moment of progress in this country, and the youth's future depends on us continuing this trajectory. Denying young people access to the truth is not democratic, and it is holding us back at a time when we need to push forward more than ever.*

Margaret Bokelman | Mechanicsburg, PA

Students deserve to learn the truth . . . and to be exposed to multiple perspectives. Passing legislation ruling on what teachers CANNOT teach is particularly terrifying. It's a terrible precedent to set.

Katherine Gambino | New Paltz, NY

I was taught incorrect history that not only miseducated us but left huge chunks of important historical events and info out completely. When I finally attended a college course for history of the United States last year my professor taught us as much as he could but even he said he wasn't allowed to tell us about certain things I asked him because he had to stick to the curriculum. We need to teach our youth the truth so that past mistakes will not be repeated!

Jeanette Swank | Catonsville, MD

glossing over or sugar coating our history is not okay. We must teach the truth so our students understand that our country has made mistakes and continues to make mistakes. We cannot allow our marginalized groups to be further oppressed by creating nonsense laws that stop educators from having their students look at race through different lenses.

Chelsea Slade | Morgantown, WV

Lisa Huggins | Manteca, CA

I do not believe that I need to be told how to provide information that will encourage critical thinking. I believe in order to make this country better and to have citizens who can think for themselves, the history of this country that tells the story of all of its citizens needs to be taught so that we can move forward.

David Grapka | Altamont, NY

No politician is qualified to tell me what to teach, and no politician has the right to restrict teaching the truth. It is inconvenient for them to have to face the truth, but they must.

Deanna Haurie | Oakland, CA

Our students deserve to learn about all facets of US history so that they can shape a country that is better than the one standing today. Educators play no role in uplifting or furthering the oppression, isolation, endangerment, and marginalization of communities.

Deborah Wyttenbach | Reston, VA

I believe in teaching the truth.

Stephanie Miller | Auburn, WA

the truth will always win.

Lauren Thompson | Milwaukee, WI

Discussions of race and sex are important to student development. They see and hear and live things that they have questions and concerns about. I shouldn't be restricted from having open and honest conversations with them about things that matter; it will inhibit relationship development and trust within my classroom.

Lauren Doherty | Kailua Kona, HI

As educators we have a responsibility to teach and educate our students on the truth with facts and accurate historical accounts and how they have affected our country throughout time. Refusal to teach about the documented and real issues regarding systemic racism and discrimination in our country and government is to distort our history and the struggles that African-Americans faced in the past and still today. We teach the factual truth, not someone's version of it.

Connor Sheridan | Somerville, MA

I will always teach the truth, no matter what.

Christine Franzkeit, WA

We must teach the truth!

Louise Pajak | Plaistow, NH

Children should be taught the truth.

CHRISTOPHER DAIKOS | Seattle, WA

Kassie DeMarsh | Camp Sherman, OR

We need to learn from our past to make educated decisions about our future.

Pamela Oppenheimer | Philadelphia, PA

Music and art are representative of and created from cultural experiences. I cannot teach about music without teaching accurate representations of past and current cultural experiences. It would be a disservice and a lie to my students to ignore the history of racism, sexism, xenophobia, and oppression marginalized groups have faced in this country that have created countless songs, musical artists, and shaped genres of music and the shape of American music and global music today.

Deborah Abram | Bridgeport, CT

I believe omitting the true history as we teach our students is unacceptable and setting them up to not be socially and critically aware of the world around them, Specifically the country in which they reside, The United States Of America. So let us as just teachers of truth not allow this omission to happen by speaking out, in addition to signing this petition.

Cliff Hanna | Albuquerque, NM

The past can teach us about ourselves but only if we acknowledge all the evidence, regardless of our personal convictions. Teaching the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth lights our path to a brighter future.

Yael Engel | Pittsburgh, PA

White People | Custer, WA

White people be living in caves before black folx taught them how to bathe. White folx be enslaving us and buying us from the tribe that captured us. Dat aint right. White aint right. Black power.

Scott Rush | Boston, MA

My students have often discussed the importance of having open and at times uncomfortable conversations about our history. To quote James Baldwin, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Autumn Sannwald | La Mesa, CA

Lydia Cochran | Philadelphia, PA

not doing so would be cheating my students out of a truth that they need to know in order to navigate the world they live in and become contributing citizens of.

Don Collins | Chico, CA

What's the point of studying history if we don't try to get to the truth. Racism is on the wrong side of history.

Stephen Harris | Apex, NC

I refuse to lie to my students.

Carla Garcia | Phoenix, AZ

Students need to be told both sides of history to be able to critically analyze what they can do to improve the community and world they live in.

Juanita Montes de Oca | Providence, RI

Cooper Smallidge | Blue Hill Town of, ME

Dana Bockman | Decorah, IA

it is unethical to withhold truths from our students and for an entity of government to expect educators to change our history. It is our duty as educators to provide facts and allow students to develop their own opinions and beliefs.

Melissa James | Kalamazoo, MI

*The truth always matters.*

Steve Somerson | Madison, WI

*We will not truly heal as a nation and make progress on understanding each other until we... \* discontinue the sugar-coated history in our classrooms, \* use an equitable lens to teach our youth about oppression as well as the resilience of peoples, \* honestly reflect on our past and how these events affect current events*

Brandon Hagan | Somerville, MA

*Knowledge is the only way forward. We cannot reckon with the past until we address how racism has shaped this country going all the way back to 1619.*

Nicholas Smith | Memphis, TN

Margaret Verner | Atlanta, GA

Rebecca Carson | Missoula, MT

*English and creative writing classes are about telling stories and exposing students to a chorus of diverse voices. How can I expect my students to create narratives or arguments with integrity and fair examination of all sources if we as teachers are forbidden from doing just that? The story of our nation needs to be told in its entirety. The ugly bits don't just exist in the past and history will continue to repeat itself until we can consistently offer an educational experience that demands critical thinking and empathy. All voices deserve to be honored.*

Allison Levine | Los Angeles, CA

*Our students need to know the truth about the good, the bad, and the ugly of our country. If they don't know about it, how will they learn to make this country a better place?*

Mari Ann Banks | Decatur, GA

*I believe in the right and duty of teachers to tell the truth. I believe in the transformative nature of education. I have seen each consecutive generation in the US move toward the light and I REFUSE to accept a move back toward the ignorance, cruelty, and misinformation of our past. Black Lives Matter*

Christopher Peraza | Hollywood, FL

*To understand the full breadth of what makes this country great, we must understand where we came from, what we've done wrong, and what we must still overcome. Young people must be presented with the truth of our history, that slaves have been here since the 1620s, that compromises by the government had to be cajoled, because so many were unwilling to grant native born people their rights, and finally that America still does not offer the promise that all men are created equal to all of its citizens.*

Elizabeth Sanders | Milwaukee, WI

*This is how we heal and how we move forward as a better society.*

Matthew Gross | Coral Springs, FL

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Chelsea Griffis | Toledo, OH

*What's the point other than telling the truth to understand the present?*

Ashley Leverenz | Milwaukee, WI

Synnika Alek-Chizoba Lofton | Chesapeake, VA

*American students need a thorough investigation of American history, including all the racist, sexist, and violent acts that are embedded in that history. America cannot continue to hide its historical sins, while praising specific individuals of the past.*

Laura Toerck | Crivitz, WI

*erasing or changing history is just what the Nazis did. I'd like to think we're better than the Nazis...*

Katy Hopkins | Pocatello, ID

*The kids are the future and they need to be armed with the truth*

Katherine Catron | Dallas, TX

Lisa Brown | Austin, TX

*Student deserve to learn the truth about slavery and its impact on the economy in the colonies and after the United States was founded. Likewise, we must accurately represent the history of discrimination past and present so that we can work toward a more just and equitable nation.*

Keith Kohlmann | Racine, WI

*Only the truth can set you free...*

BARRY FARGO | Upper Marlboro, MD

Christina Held-Hulsing | Buffalo, NY

*My students deserve the whole story about our nation's history. Since they are going to be entrusted with creating a more inclusive future, they need to know about the mistakes that we have made in the past.*

Corey Beirne | Normal, IL

Adrienne Pierluissi | Saint Francis, WI

*I would like solutions to our systemic racism and believe the answers are with the youth. They need to have the difficult conversations in order to create change.*

Peter Mader

*I was listening to growing up*

Helen Kubilus | Hoboken, NJ

*We need to reckon with our nation's history and the only way to do that is to have FULLY informed citizens.*

Whitney Alfrey | Portland, OR

*Students need to be taught to draw their own conclusions after being presented with multiple perspectives of an issue.*

Kyleen Carpenter | Pawtucket, RI

*Teaching lessons about our country's historical origins is absolutely key in helping to empower and educate our children, not only our children of color, but our white children, as well. So many stories have not been heard, and so much of history has been told from only one perspective. Our country needs change, and this is one way to launch critically-important change.*

Dani Graf | Milwaukee, WI

*The truth needs to be acknowledged and taught.*

Melissa H Krause | Saint Louis, MO

*History must be based in comprehensive fact, not just the cherry-picking of easy truths.*

Justine Philyaw | Philadelphia, PA

Kevin Boyle | Hicksville, NY

Magaly Rivera | Framingham, MA

*History should be taught accurately and not erased to paint a narrative that favors the dominant culture. It does more harm to keep people in the dark.*

Paul Thebert | Detroit, MI

*I will not lie to my students to maintain white privilege. Growth rarely happens in comfort.*

Shawna McEvoy | Columbus, OH

Meredith Thomson CA

*kids deserve to learn the truth. Confronting past atrocities is also happening in schools north of the border, in Canada.*

Elise Butler-Pinkham | New Orleans, LA

Michael Eckert | Prairie Grove, AR

*This is a shameless attempt to shut down necessary discussions about racial issues infecting society today, not just in the past. This is a massive overreach from republican politicians who will do anything to ensure that America remains mired in the status quo.*

Rhonda Leopold | North Highlands, CA

*History, correct and accurate history needs to be learned*

Dan Oh | Santa Clara, CA

*We teach about the darker aspects of our history not because we believe the country to be irredeemable as opponents charge, but because we along with our students can create the change to dismantle systemic oppression. Teaching a people's history that is honest fosters hope that we can fulfill the promise of America so everyone enjoys it regardless of who they are.*

Erin Adams | Seattle, WA

*I will not be a part of this institutional racism. I will not perpetuate the lies.*

Ramona Becker | Wichita, KS

*Our democracy is fragile.*

Jana Giles | Monroe, LA

*The truth will set us free.*

Riann Sahnou | Broomfield, CO

*The truth is important.*

Maureen Canter | Schertz, TX

*Truth is beautiful and everyone deserves it.*

Kevin Guenzi | Lakewood, WA

*Truth is easier to explain than lies are to defend.*

Larissa Andersen UM

Jill Leet-Otley | Decorah, IA

*The truth matters!*

Marc Handelman | Brooklyn, NY

Lisa Ebel | Cambridge, MA

Tyler Wilch | Spokane, WA

Jenn Smitley | Marshall, IL

Elissa Algaba | Shingle Springs, CA

*My students deserve to know the true history of the United States*

Eric McGee | Killen, AL

*Ignoring the truth doesn't make it disappear. If we ever hope to live up to the promises and proclamations of our Founding Documents, we must shine light on the good and the bad alike. The good will enable us to see the path we must trod, and the bad will enable us to quit roaming around aimlessly wondering why things never change.*

Alyson Catalan | East Providence, RI

Dorothy Higuera | Yuma, AZ

*I know for a fact we have not been teaching the true history of America. Those that oppose it are just putting out a false narrative, like they do with everything else. They have not full read or studied it. I pledge to teach our students the truth!*

James Miller | Louisville, KY

Nicola Williams | Marina, CA

*This is not a theory. The fact that people (Bhagat Singh Thind, Takao Ozawa) had cases heard by the Supreme Court about whether or not they were white proves that definitions on race have changed over time in our country's history but have always mattered a great deal. Teaching students the truth empowers them. We should be careful not to teach a "white guilt version" of history, but to focus on the agency of people of every ethnicity under systems that certainly did oppress them. To deny the truth is not to teach; to re-structure the historical narrative for our own convenience is the work of less democratic, less freedom-loving countries than our own. It is unconscionable that states are banning this.*

Maile Anderson | Seattle, WA

*As a college graduate, it's important that those students in early education know the truth about American history, they aren't told lies about how this whole system was built.*

Erin Boyce | Aurora, CO

*Without teaching the truth, we are allowing history to repeat itself and worst of all, not providing our students the opportunity to analyze history and think critically on their own*

Patricia Sales | Leander, TX

*Students deserve an education that is honest and prepares them for the world after grade school. Students cannot develop critical thinking skills if we hide and cherry pick information for them.*

Jane Gottfried | Saint Paul, MN

Alana Harte | Williamstown, MA

Renee Piernot | Glover, VT

*I believe in teaching the truth. I believe in freedom and democracy.*

Dana Huekell | Framingham, MA

*the only way to dismantle systemic racism and to create a true country for all is to speak the truth!*

Judy Donovan | Napa, CA

*It is time to tell the truth about racism and sexism in our history. Our children will be well served to hear the facts. They should be able to have open discussions about this topic with well informed teachers guiding the conversation. Truth is patriotic.*

Anne-Marie Reidy | Washington, DC

*Children deserve the truth.*

Carly Neun | El Cajon, CA

*Legislators do not teach and do not have any business mandating we not allow difficult discussions in the classroom on the off chance it makes a parent uncomfortable. There is racism and sexism, and a whole host of other issues in our history; That does not make America totally evil or mean we teach hatred of country. On the contrary, it means we teach love of the American ideals through addressing the obstacles in our way and how they came to be.*

Leslie Neilsen | Charlotte, NC

*There is ugly truth we need to learn about. It's hard to hear the truth, but we are a nation of humans...and humans are subject to make mistakes. It's how we grow.*

Brianna Carter | Charlotte, NC

*To tell the truth about history is to celebrate the resilience of my family history within the thread of American and world history. Furthermore, in teaching civics, students are able to recognize the pain and promise of our country.*

Laurie Carroll | Jackson, GA

*It is imperative that our children know the truth about the foundation of this country and the truths behind the racism that existed throughout our country's history.*

Jamiere Abney | Fayetteville, NY

*It is key for Young people to recognize the context of history that continues to impact the world today. Further, BIPOC, low income, LGBTQ+, and other historically marginalized populations, deserve for their narrative to be integrated in daily learning to create proper empathy and understanding.*

Haley Barbier | Youngsville, LA

*Students deserve to know the truth, and should be encouraged to seek it.*

Kristi Martinez | Bonney Lake, WA

*truth and representation for all students matters.*

Kimberly DAuria | Danbury, CT

*The truth of factual events is the truth. All the ism's need to be covered to have our students be well rounded and go through life as critical thinkers. We learned from our past and we look forward to our future. Do not take the teachers voices away. We heard everyday what our student want.*

Randy Harrison-Dixon | Newark, DE

*Teaching the truth to my students about who they are and who I am as a Black Woman has become one of the most important things to me as an educator. I am the mother of Black Children, the Wife of a Black Man, the Daughter of a Black Retired Distinguished Principal and Black USAF Brigadier General, Descendent of Slaves, Educator of children, anti-racist, social activist, and abolitionist of all things false*

Patricia Patricia | Hinsdale, NH

*I want to be honest with my students, and want them to understand and learn from our past so that we can become One Nation and not repeat the past.*

Nick Belsky | Alstead, NH

*Citizens should know all History, not whitewashed History.*

Cassie Brickell | Everett, WA

*Our students deserve the right to learning a true account of history.*

Mara Johnson | Saint Paul, MN

*it's the right thing to do and because children deserve to learn the truth about our history.*

Nils Headley | San Mateo, CA

*my children and my students, when presented with the primary sources, can draw the conclusions that will allow them to be informed and critical voters.*

Warren Buck | Jacksonville, FL

*All of our students deserve to know the whole truth and teachers need to be trusted to best know the needs of their classes.*

Naomi Ramsay | Chicago, IL

*we cannot lie to our children. We must give them the whole truth so they are able to understand and navigate the society they live in. We need to give them the truth so they are able to change our society for the better. If they actually learn and understand how racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and ableism function in our society they will be better prepared to disrupt these systems in the future. Moreover, they will feel empowered to do so! I will not lie to my students!*

Rachel Poulton , MA

*Our country cannot go backwards and further into racism in the future*

Sarah Downing | Keene, NH

*We need to understand our history in order to make informed decisions as active citizens. This includes all the mistakes we have made as a nation. Rewriting the past is a symptom of tyranny and we need to stand up for democracy and preserve our rights to speak truth to power.*

Paula Feldman | Columbia, SC

*Legislators should not require teachers to lie to their students or suppress the truth.*

Laura White | Spofford, NH

*I believe the health of our nation depends on citizens to be able to look critically at our past and present to understand current inequities in order to make lasting change. Difficult issues are often uncomfortable to discuss. And schools are great places to help teach how to talk about these things respectfully. Those who love our country are willing to look both its achievements and its failures in the face and work to make it great. I will continue the rich discussion we have in fifth grade about race and other issues in order to raise a compassionate and literate generation that can speak knowledgeably and comfortably about these issues. Legislation that attempts to gag such discourse is wrong and unpatriotic.*

Hannah Golladay | Forest Grove, OR

*It is important for students to know the true history of the US and to understand race and racism.*

Cyndi Stone | Fort Walton Beach, FL

*My students deserve to know the truth. All my students are known and valued and need to know the truth*

Caroline Gannon | Rotonda West, FL

*I neither wish to hide behind the truth nor lie to future generations*

Jodi Blue | Forest Grove, OR

*I value truth, history, and ALL our students.*

Nurit Stites | Reno, NV

*I will not lie to my students about American history of racism, sexism, bigotry, anti semitism, anti- LGBTQ, xenophobia, and suppression of communities and entities.*

Julia Palazzi | Chandler, AZ

Laura Paul | Seaford, NY

Cooper Simmons | Cincinnati, OH

*I pledge to teach the truth and an educators purpose is someone who leads others out of ignorance.*

William Puishys | Brookfield, MA

*Truth must overcome lies*

Rachel Andres | Redwood City, CA

*Our children deserve schooling based in truth.*

Carol LaVallee | Sarasota, FL

*I teach only the truth!*

Deb Witt | Vienna, VA

*Understanding how we got here is the only way we will move forward.*

Marley McClune | Ogden, UT

*My students deserve the truth!*

Reid Fore | Forest Lake, MN

*I make this pledge because only the truth will allow us to make progress as a nation, as a community, and as individuals. As the saying goes, "Those who do not understand history are condemned to repeat it."*

Green Clare | Oakland, CA

NICOLE ENTWISTLE | Takoma Park, MD

*I believe children need to learn the truth in order to change the racist systems our country is based upon.*

Steven Ernsky | Tucson, AZ

Marianne King | Downers Grove, IL

Alana Murray | Elkridge, MD

Julia Leonard | Davenport, IA

*The idea that teachers should be limited in what they teach based on an incorrect perception of 'critical race theory' is unacceptable and also a very thinly veiled attempt to avoid huge swaths of American history and its role in persistent racist behaviors as a culture and as individuals.*

Elizabeth Israel-Davis | Portland, OR

*my students deserve the truth. They deserve to see their culture and language as an asset. They deserve to know that their families and ancestors built the wealth and power of this nation and that they deserve that wealth and power fully. They deserve to see the systems which were purposely built to keep them from that wealth and power so that they can dismantle them. I will teach the truth for this generation so that they can teach it to generations to come.*

Chuck Goetz | Baltimore, MD

*I believe the study of history requires knowing the good and the bad of the past because both are still influencing the present and will continue to influence the future. I am privileged to teach in an independent school that believes in this vision as well but am signing this petition to support my fellow history educators who work in places that would like to sugarcoat the past by restricting what knowledge of the past can be taught to students.*

Melissa Hauke | Falls Church, VA

*How can we change the future if we don't understand the policies, beliefs and ideas that brought us to the present?*

Robert Gotwals | Durham, NC

*Teachers need to be able to address difficult issues in the classroom*

Emma Dickinson | Reno, NV

*I feel this cause is really important. The lack of critical thinking and open, scientific education is a real threat to our democracy.*

Padriag Mahoney | Cranston, RI

Chyanne Smith | El Paso, TX

*Talking about race in my classes is important to helping my students think critically about the society they live in so that when they graduate they 1. Aren't shocked to find out that school sugar coated the truth and 2. So that they can be the change they want to see in the world.*

Kyle Liao | New York, NY

*We need to understand history to avoid repeating it.*

Yvette Felarca | Oakland, CA

*teachers have a right and an obligation to teach young people the truth about systematic and institutional racism in our nation's history and today. I stand in solidarity with educators across the country who are committed to defy racist local, state, or even national laws if necessary. More than anything, this is about young people's right to learn the truth about history so they can change the course of history and make this nation live up to its most egalitarian ideals and promises.*

Viki Yamashita | Long Beach, CA

*I will not be censored by racists and trans/homophobes who thump the bible in the name of White Fragility and white supremacy.*

Joanna Auclair | Queen Creek, AZ

*Truth matters*

Whitney Blankenship | Austin, TX

*I was taught a feel good version of American history in school and I remember the shock of learning about things like Japanese American Internment when I got to collage;I was taught a Eurocentric version of World History that did not address cultures outside of Europe, especially Africa;As a historian my job is to look at the documents and interpret those documents based on corroboration of evidence across sources from multiple perspectives to arrive at an interpretation. Real history is messy and makes us uncomfortable at times. But it is through those experiences that we learn and grow in our understanding of the world as a complicated place;After teaching about race, class and gender in U.S. history I watched my students grow angry that they were in the last years of the public education and no one had ever mentioned these topics;Students should learn the critical thinking skills that will allow them to be functioning members of society;Black Lives Matter; LGBTQIA+ Lives matter. Research has shown that students who do not see their history in school do not do as well as their peers.It is the right thing to do.*

Carole Ancona | Scottsdale, AZ

Dr. Judith Dunkerly | Stites, ID

*the entire history of this country must be taught. We cannot literally whitewash out the parts that involved the oppression of, and violence towards BIPOC individuals.*

Ashley Wade | Reno, NV

Kirsten Hansen | San Leandro, CA

*I remember when I finally learned the real history and felt utter betrayal from my educators. I don't want students to feel that anger about their own learning.*

Laurie Newman | Sparks, NV

*I believe in teaching a balanced approach to history that represents all groups.*

Beth Levin | Portland, OR

*students want to know the truths about U.S. history, not a literally "whitewashed" version that erases the effects of slavery or other atrocities.*

Stephen Lafer | Reno, NV

*We need to develop a robust defense fund for teachers who resist the strictures being imposed. Massive resistance is what is needed and by it, a campaign to inform the public as to why it is in its best interests for teachers to so resist.*

James Crider | Arvada, CO

nancy schwartz | Laveen, AZ

Jarmila Darby | Portland, OR

Robert Kaneko | Portland, OR

Drew Robinson-Woods | Portland, OR

*The brutal history of our country must be taught that so oppression can end. This is the foundation for change, we must admit what happened.*

Farid Matuk | Tucson, AZ

Kristen Stamey | Watkinsville, GA

*Students deserve the time and space to have tough conversations about America's history; An accurate portrayal of history does not mean we have to love America any less; it actually affirms we are learning from it.*



Aaron Guest | Columbus, GA

JOHANNA COENEN | Madison, WI

Heidi Smith | Centerville, UT

Rachel Fisher | Reno, NV

*The cycle of violence cannot end by denying our true history and the ramifications the cycle of oppression continues to have on our society. Educators cannot empower their students with the tools and knowledge to break these cycles of abuse if they are not empowered themselves to speak the truth.*

Nellie Ruby | Decatur, GA

*theory is what education is about. We learn history, we learn to think, we learn to respond. Education is power. Suppressing information is violent oppression.*

Ashleigh Howard | Greenville, NC

Ann Hebble | Saint Paul, MN

Janet Gabriel | Arroyo Hondo, NM

*I believe in truth and my young friends are smart enough to know when they are being tricked.*

Shanon Puckett | Berkeley, CA

*The only way we can truly come together as a nation, is to critically examine our past in order to better understand the present and make more informed decisions in the future. If we do not acknowledge the ugly racism and sexism that has been at the root of political action in this country since the very beginning, there is no way we will be able to completely move away from it. Who will benefit from whitewashing history? The same people who have always benefited from spreading lies and feeding the racial conflict within this country...the same people who have always benefited from these deep antagonisms. This cycle has got to be broken once and for all.*

Eric James | Columbus, MS

*All truths are essential in developing young minds. Shielding or buffering is one thing, but act as though things didn't occur is blasphemous to generations who truly built this nation.*

Karen Tucker | South Lake Tahoe, CA

Anita Waters | Columbus, OH

*I believe that teachers should not be afraid to tell students the facts.*

Lori-Anne Wallen | Bronx, NY

*It's time that we empower our students with the truth.*

Jennifer Dorsey | Wilsonville, OR

*Learning from truthful historical events is how we change for the better. I remember as a child in elementary school constructing a California mission out of sugar cubes for a school project and being Indians wearing paper bag vests and cheap color feathers. I absolutely cringe reflecting about this. We all deserve the truth.*

Kate Phipps | Portage, MI

*I believe students need to learn and understand the truth.*

Susanna Arnold | Athens, GA

Karen Davis | Middletown, DE

*None of us are free until we are all free.*

Roberto Diaz | Mcallen, TX

*"One has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws." -Dr. Martin Luther King*

John Gordon | Jackson Heights, NY

*A nation and a people need to know the truth about their history. The good and bad of history must be taught together. Knowing the truth about the past makes a people and a nation stronger not weaker. I have always believed this and taught History this way to my students because anything less is cheating them.*

Jessica Loomis | Portland, OR

*history is about cause and effect. We are not in a post-racial society. The harm caused in the past is harm lived through today. We study history to understand ourselves and what we are capable of and to understand who we are today. We study history to better understand inequities and injustice that exist today. We study history so that we can have a better future for our children.*

Tevin Washington | Danville, KY

Lisa Zander | Seattle, WA

Mario Garcia | Tucson, AZ

*The cat is out of the bag. Things hidden can't be out back or ignored. We have a racist past and present. All we can do is try to make the future a better place, like the truth-tellers before us.*

Tasha Lebow | Pinckney, MI

*Setting curriculum is a Free Speech and Local Control issue. History is the study of FAXcS and ACTIONS.... including the uncomfortable events. We must be honest in our content if we are to really know our history.*

Maria Gonzalez | Merced, CA

*I believe in teaching my students the 3D history of our nation's story.*

Melissa Moore | Somerville, MA

Kathryn Grimble | Riverside, CA

*Our students deserve to be taught the truth and provided with opportunities to think critically about history in order to make better decisions for the future. Our historically marginalized students learn these lessons outside the classroom daily. It's time that we provide space and skills for them to process, learn from, and act upon their experiences in schools.*

Melinda Wimbish | Altamonte Springs, FL

*We can only fully appreciate our present and plan for our future if we have a real perspective of our past.*

Amanda Lyon | Lake Oswego, OR

Elizabeth Frost | Alexandria, VA

*I will not lie to my students about our history; the truth(s) might be painful - but they must be shared.*

Brian Burak | Ypsilanti, MI

*Teaching does not mean indoctrinating. Forcing people to only teach one limited perspective is the real indoctrination. Fascist, racist educational restrictions are the sign of desperation. I reject small-mindedness. I respect that kids are not idiots and can learn that more than one thing can be true at once. America can be founded on racism and inherently racist and you can still live your country. I could go on, but the point is these laws are stupid and need to be opposed and resisted at every turn.*

ezra kohn | Calabasas, CA

Deborah Donahue-Keegan | Medford, MA

Leilani Verango | Kirkland, WA

*I learn, teach, and advocate against systemic racism.*

Allison Hammer | Acton Town of, MA

*We need to know about our past so we can do better in our future.*

Janine JeffBaah | Tucker, GA  
*I will teach the truth no matter what.*

Carolee Barber | Concord, NC  
*The truth is essential!*

Billie Sue Lyons | Huntsville, TX  
*The truth about our American History needs to be taught no matter how horrific it may be because it is truth. The truth shall set you free.*

Jenifer King | Las Vegas, NV  
*Students deserve the truth of the building and the sustenance of our nation. They will be the ones to dismantle the horrific systems designed and built by oppressors, enslavers, rapists, murderers, and supremacists, but as long as they are taught the whitewash, they will continue to believe that they are either entitled to be superior (white) or that they don't really exist (all other colors and backgrounds). We cannot keep doing the same thing and expect a different result.*

Katie Wilkinson | Sandy, UT  
*I want my son, and my students to learn to think critically about the world around them. Whitewashing history and the world will not prepare them for lives outside of school, and outside of their parents.*

Robert Lieberman | Elkins Park, PA  
*As a young student, I was never exposed to the atrocious real history in America. Today's students deserve better! They desperately need to hear the truth, so they may make informed decisions in life.*

Kacey Dewing | Medford, OR  
*I teach truth so students can learned the history of the United States in order to make it better.*

Leenisha Stennis | Columbus, OH  
*I want my students to know thé truth.*

William Anderson | Imperial, CA  
*The truth will set you free.*

Gene Thompson-Grove | Newport, RI

Jillian Miesen | Maryland Heights, MO  
*I will not whitewash history and hinder minority perspectives in my class. I will honor every voice and every history, just as primary and secondary sources report.*

Danley Phillips | Lehi, UT  
*I will teach history and facts.*

Sylvia Duckworth | Toronto, CA  
*Students need to know true history.*

Kevin Smith | Jacksonville, FL  
*My students are capable of learning and thinking critically about a diverse range of subjects. I will not lower my expectations of them or the quality of my instruction in order to appease the fickle winds of political favor.*

Mike Maes | Pueblo, CO

Alison Baran | Baltimore, MD  
*Our children deserve the truth!*

Shawn Powell | Santee, CA  
*I believe that a better understanding of the true history of our country will lead to a better version of our country in the future.*

RONDA MCINTYRE | Columbus, OH  
*We only evolve as a nation if young people learn the truth about our history. As a teacher of American History in 4th grade and of the western hemisphere in 5th, oppression of minorities and those without wealth and power or is a fact. This history has become our legacy as systemic racism and marginalization of "others" remains a daily reality for so many, including my students. The way forward is NOT to sweep it under the rug.*

Debra Marshall | Melbourne, FL  
*I am concerned that my state's recent legislation will stifle my ability to teach students about how they fit into our histories and why they fit where they fit in society today. Being white is not mutually exclusive to the goals of contextually teaching the reality of various American histories and the roles of various groups within that history. Young people understand this, and it is our job to be both thoughtful and critical when we have discussions about race, gender, class and other methods of social classification. Having the state legislate teaching by eradicating the voices of minorities is scary, and while it might just be happening in the social sciences today, the path is now open for this kind of regulation to happen in all disciplines.*

Crystal Isaac | New York, NY  
*If we do not teach students the true history of this country, how will they know how to avoid the same mistakes in the future. Teaching them about the past will enable them to have more empathy and respect for others who they may see as different from them.*

Jenny Richard | Sherman, TX  
*I believe my role as a history teacher is to create informed citizens who make a better world. My students need to know where we came from, the mistakes we've made as a country, so they can try to do better in the future. I want it country to be a place where everyone is truly equal and able to pursue their dreams without threats of violence or systemic racism. That can't happen unless we address the inequalities of the past.*

John Maloy | Owasso, OK  
*I believe it is critical to the future of America to teach the unvarnished truth about our past.*

Brian Delgado | San Diego, CA  
*In some sense education of our youth is societal creation, and we must teach historical truth if we ever hope to have a chance at healing past injustices.*

Jeannee Turner | Chicago, IL  
*To not learn the truths of our history is dangerous. To not know what is happening in the world is choosing blindness. Knowing America's true history reveals our strengths to build on and our faults to not commit again.*

Darlene Cameron | New York, NY  
*Critical Race Theory is accurate*

Gary Kidd | Commerce City, CO  
*We must learn about our past so we can shape our future.*

Nina Abelson | Washington, DC  
*Not only do students need and deserve to know the negative history and, especially, present events in our country, lawmakers dictating what CAN and CANNOT be taught is a tilt away from a diplomatic nation.*

Laurie Walsh | Bend, OR  
*With truth, there can be reconciliation and a path forward for ALL of our citizens.*

Livia Simmons | Atlanta, GA  
*Teach the TRUTH.*

Jennifer Vacca | Grafton, MA

*Our teaching should not be predicated on a need to make the dominant culture comfortable at the expense of everyone else.*

Jill Vanoverbeke | Cheyenne, WY

*Restrictions against teaching historic facts are anti-education.*

Jennifer Choate | Abbeville, LA

*I am concerned about the whitewashing of our country's history. We must acknowledge the good AND the bad of our past. Only through 100% transparency can we deal with the underlying evil of racism and take steps to eradicate it once and for all.*

Alicia Messing | Phoenix, AZ

*it is time that we make changes to how our country understands its past and to work towards ending racism in America.*

Kathy Hanson | Annapolis, MD

*It is my job to educate responsible citizens to uphold our democracy and that includes teaching history as it happened not as it was written by old white men and current events in true context. It includes teaching against racism, sexism, and any kind of oppression against others. It not me, then who will.*

Stacy Swenck | Murrieta, CA

*I see the pain my students suffer because of racism and bigotry in their community. They don't feel safe. My silence makes it worse.*

Meggan Jordan | Modesto, CA

*Sanitized history sucks but putting it into law is even worse*

Tim Hargesheimer | Louisville, KY

Tiffany Taylor | Kent, OH

*Teaching the truth about past and present inequalities is teaching the truth. And we cannot lessen inequality in the future if we do not learn from the past and present.*

Aimee Trier | West Palm Beach, FL

*I believe we need to teach the whole truth - no matter how uncomfortable- so that we don't make the same mistakes again!!!!*

Jeri Bond Whatley | Philadelphia, PA

*It is vital that we teach the truth about our country's history because it is vital that our young people learn it, know it, and act to correct systems that hinder our growth and prosperity as individuals of every race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation; hinder our growth and prosperity as citizens; and hinder our growth and prosperity as a country. To acknowledge the harms of the past is to avoid repeating them in the future. To acknowledge the achievements of past is to highlight and celebrate them now and in the future. Our children deserve to know our true history, not whitewashed or selective history. These are our truths and we must not hide or ignore them. To do so will lead to our downfall.*

Mary Twellmann | Vienna, VA

*The history of racism, sexism, and oppression of Native Peoples is this history of America as well as the story of exploration and the Immigrant experience. History is complicated and unfolding as we gain new insights into our past. I love this country and I refuse to whitewash its history. America is not about limiting its history to one perspective. Our strength lies in our striving to do better and be better.*

Donna Cywinski | Catlett, VA

*I cannot allow the truth to be regulated by legislators who have an ideological agenda. I teach history and it is imperative that we teach the history of all Americans. That includes the history of slavery, white supremacy, misogyny and anti-immigrant policies. Structural racism continues to be a barrier to realizing equality. Students should be able to learn the truth- not some made up fairy tale about white protestants triumphantly marching across North America bringing Christianity and civilization.*

Mike Lewis | Columbia, MD

*Teachers have the right to create curriculum appropriate for their students. Teachers are professionals and have been trained to do this. For the State to dictate to teachers how to teach and what to teach sounds like a Stalinist approach to education. If the teacher's can't be creative to teach the students what they need, how will the students be creative to provide the solutions to the problems they will encounter in their lives*

Stephen Werner | Saint Louis, MO

*The future of America is in the hands of good teachers who are free to speak the truth!*

Jennifer Little | Rochester, NY

*The curriculum in its entirety is incomplete and does not educate students about the actual US history of structural racism in the US beginning with the European colonization. Marginalized people are also still underrepresented in all aspects of current US K-12 curriculum across all subjects.*

Tim Martindell | Houston, TX

*I believe in academic freedom and that the truth of our collective history is key to continuing the democratic traditions of our country.*

Andrew White | Burtonsville, MD

*We cannot move forward if we are hiding our past*

Keri Troehler | Portland, OR

*I don't want students to actually live in George Orwell's 1984.*

Jason Cohen | Bensalem, PA

*I will not sit idly by and watch as fascist elements undermine the education system in our country. As a teacher of humanities - specifically US History - it is my job to provide resources and materials that allow students to uncover the truth of this country's racist and genocidal past and present so that we can all work to create a better future for ALL Americans.*

Marita Beachy-Owusu | Cincinnati, OH

*Only from acknowledging the truth of our history can we learn from it, restore justice and be better and progress as a society. The true history of each student's identity deserves and needs to be taught. Our students deserve more. They deserve the truth and we need to hold ourselves accountable for the true history of this country and the lives it's built upon.*

Timothy Bechtel | Lancaster Twp, PA

*We must teach truth*

Linden Higgins | Burlington, VT

*Only through consideration of context and diverse points of view can we come to address the long-standing systemic racism in science and other fields of human knowledge.*

Alexis Stubbe | Rochester, NY

Erica Talbot | Cleveland, OH

Astrid Riecken | Washington, DC

Renee Mottaz | Indio, CA

*History is necessary for a Democracy.*

Lianne Prentice | South Tamworth, NH

*Our school was founded on the concepts of open dialogue, critical thinking, and respect. We could not fulfill our mission if we chose elements of our nation's history to ignore.*

Gina Morgan | Los Angeles, CA

Suzanne Amenta | Ottawa, CA

Because I'm an American citizen living abroad watching in horror as my fellow Americans ignorantly, pro-actively, and aggressively sell our democracy downstream. It's easy to sign my name as I work in a Canadian school in a Canadian school board which is taking full action to teach everyone how to be anti-racist and how to be equitable and just. Educators need to put themselves at risk, hold on tight to their moral compasses, and include everyone's voices and everyone's experiences in our history.

Susan Ohanian | Charlotte, VT

*Those who cannot understand the past are condemned to repeat it.*

Christopher Pagliarini | Baltimore, MD

Terri Richmond | Bakersfield, CA

*Truth matters. We only go backward with lies.*

Dale Fritch | Austin, TX

JH Gerhard | Nokesville, VA

*I refuse to let Republicans censor me in my classroom.*

Rose Arthur | Brockton, MA

*Children should be taught the truth.*

John Sarkissian | Youngstown, OH

Majella van der Werf | Baltimore, MD

Marjorie Hanft | Charleston, IL

*Years of teaching crisis intervention, in which I addressed issues of historical trauma and listened to the history of my students, many of whom had dealt with either systemic racism and/or anti-LGBTQ educational curricula, taught me the importance of the kind of curricula that the Missouri bill seeks to ban.*

Kelsey Rodriguez | Cedar Park, TX

*History must be retold- Truthfully for the growth and change of the next generations*

Rachel Rachel Kaiser | Conshohocken, PA

*I am a teacher and I can't do my job of teaching the truth without including these prohibited topics. Do not outlaw the truth about the history of the United States for e. We will be damned to repeat it.*

Tom Lucy | Saint Paul, MN

MR Russo | Pompano Beach, FL

*Pushing back on fascism, and promoting truth to students!*

Janice Vitullo | Youngstown, OH

Amy Spies | Port Orange, FL

*Our nation's true story must be told. We cannot hide from the truth. We can only heal and move forward when ALL voices have been heard and stories shared.*

Dominique Akpore | Fort Madison, IA

*I refuse to lie to my students about US History. Iowa has passed a law banning the truth and I can't stand for it.*

Rob Spivey | Sykesville, MD

*I believe in the collective and individual value of strong social science education and that includes teaching students to engage in challenging conversations about our past and present.*

Rahman Culver | Silver Spring, MD

*those who do not know their history are doomed to repeat it.*

Andrea Trivax | West Bloomfield Twp, MI

*I believe in teaching the truth and acknowledging the fact of institutional racism in the United States.*

Rudolph Ware | Goleta, CA

*The truth shall set us free, lies have always enslaved us.*

James Horn | Nashville, TN

*The history of the United States should not be sanitized to spare the feelings of white supremacists who would prefer to deny the incontrovertible events of the past which continue to shape the present. The fact is that another generation of legislators have chosen to use their institutional prerogative to pass more censorious laws aimed to subvert the truth demonstrates us that critical race theory is not a theory at all but, rather, an undeniable fact derived by living in a nation whose vast wealth was built on the backs of slaves.*

Michelle Frye | Cedar Rapids, IA

*I care about students - and they deserve to know the truth. They are able to handle uncomfortable realities and are engaged in these discussions - even if the governing bodies in this state are not.*

David Nitchman | West Newbury, MA

Jethroe Moore | San Jose, CA

Heather Williams | Fort Myers, FL

*Teaching the truth is paramount to preserving democracy. The way to a more just society is through education. Ignorance ultimately leads to corruption in government and violence in it's people.*

Peter Robinson | Cincinnati, OH

*The very existence of this country and its ideals, founded on enlightened principles that liberty cannot exist without the free pursuit of truth, is in peril by this censorship.*

Emily Rosaso | Germantown, MD

*It's time to stop whitewashing history.*

Sarah Bustin | Lowell, MA

*Students deserve to know the truth. The only way this country will end racism is by educating all of its people.*

Cara Brackins | Asheville, NC

*The truth matters*

Shae Savoy | Baltimore, MD

Eirka Siemsen | Milwaukee, WI

Nicole Gasparini | Rockford, IL

*Educators will not go backwards*

Alice Shea

*Our students deserve the truth. We must decolonize education.*

Melinda Bowers | Golden, CO

*It is important to teach history, the good and the bad, to understand how our past has created our present.*

Laura Wilkinson | Richmond, VA

*I believe that if we continue to whitewash the events of the past, we are doomed to repeat them. Haven't we seen the damage of not learning from our past already?*

Carl Ackerman | Narberth, PA

Jon Van Camp | Hyattsville, MD

*Teaching about race, the origins of race, and the nature of racism is not only key to understanding history, it's key to understanding our world today. The efforts by governments to restrict the teaching of race can only be a detriment to our students and can only serve to reinforce white supremacy.*

Terrence Ross | New York, NY

Maria Niforos | Pompano Beach, FL

*I will continue to teach truth and not lies to all my students. Nothing and no one will change that.*

Jason Austin | Framingham, MA

*It is our role to provide students access to the truth, not to indoctrinate them with propaganda. Better said--in the words of my students--we learn history: 1) To not repeat the mistakes of the past; 2) to understand how the past has shaped the present; and 3) To find positive patterns and events from the past to inspire us as to what could be possible in the future.*

Candice Walker | Baldwin, NY

*Children should know the good, the bad, and the ugly about American History.*

Amy Eckert | Lafayette Hill, PA

*I care that my students learn true history of our country, their own cultures, and the cultures of others.*

Stephanie Waters | Philadelphia, PA

*Teaching hard history is important. Even at a young age.*

Troy Petrie | Louisville, KY

*The fact is, the truth is largely ignored in our Social Studies classrooms. While supporters of this legislation see it as a remedy to some form of perversion of our national narratives, they're really just a white supremacists prophylactic.*

Sara Harvey | Framingham, MA

*Our children deserve to know the whole truth.*

Debbie Flaks | Lafayette Hill, PA

*As a South African who attended public school in South Africa during apartheid, I know first-hand the dangers of not teaching the truth. I will never perpetuate a system that consciously chooses to whitewash history.*

Erin Tyburski | Bellmead, TX

*My students need assurance that public education will validate and value their history, who they love, how they think, and allow them to lead their learning.*

Susan Edgerton | Readsboro, VT

*I am appalled by the efforts to prevent the teaching of historically accurate accounts of race and racism in the United States. Our democracy depends on having a well educated citizenry.*

Stephanie Cohen | Williamsburg, VA

Suzanne Marcinkiewicz | Annapolis, MD

Scott Simmons | Wilmington, NC

*Everyone deserves to know the truth about their country's past.*

Lauriann Stanley | San Diego, CA

Michael Griffin | Saunderstown, RI

*We must fight to save our democracy from racist authoritarians who try to censor the truth!*

BARBARA KUTTNER | Dpo, NJ

*Education is learning the truth*

Richard Shryock | Blacksburg, VA

*Students should be able to learn about all aspects of our history - good and bad. It's part of making our country better.*

Abigail Gollins GB

*Chil*

Todd Ryan | Berlin, MA

*The future of the world depends upon knowing and understanding the events of the past.*

Melanie Edwards | Nashville, TN

*I will teach the truth, always. As a nation we will never heal, until we all join together to understand. Our students are our future.*

Carol July | Fort Worth, TX

*It is IMPOSSIBLE to teach a song like "Follow the Drinking Gourd" without explaining why it's a code song or why it needed to be in code. The smart students will NOT accept 'have your parents ask your legislators' as an educated answer.*

Dr. Shadi Seyedyousef | Los Angeles, CA

*our children deserve to know their histories*

Jeanette Providence | Sacramento, CA

*Our students deserve the truth - they can handle the truth!*

Benjamin Poirier CA

*I believe we should all know our past, good and bad*

Benjamin Gorman | Independence, OR

*I have a moral obligation to my students which supercedes my obligation to politicians who make ignorant and unethical policy. I will continue learning and teaching the truth as long as I am allowed to do so.*

Marcie Donaldson | Marietta, GA

*my students are the future leaders, and they deserve to learn to be critical thinkers and solvers of problems.*

Rozlyn Grady-Wyche | Anchorage, AK

*teaching the truth matters, i am signing my name because children deserve to know their true history and what has happen and what has taken place in America.*

Eliza Palumbo | Tinley Park, IL

Giavanni Coleman | Hayward, CA

*The truth must be taught, even if it makes us uncomfortable! This is necessary for us to build a true Democracy moving forward.*

Andrew Dirks | Atlanta, GA

*I refuse to lie to my students about our nations history and trust them to navigate complicated global issues with me as their guide.*

Siri Miller | Seattle, WA

*They need to know the true history in order to change anything and really understand the systems in place today.*

Alex Cooper | Seattle, WA

*Without learning about the history of racism in this country and the ways in which it persists today, students will be unable to understand why the world is the way that it is. They may be left with the disheartening conclusion that our current injustices are somehow natural. Understanding how and why people have*

created systems of injustice is the only to begin dismantling those systems and building a better world.

Neil Slobin | Cleveland, OH

Ruth Richardson | Pasadena, CA

*As a white teacher of black and brown high poverty students it is vital that I acknowledge the degree to which all white people are marinated in racism from the moment of their birth, and the degree to which racism is interwoven into every aspect of our country's history. You can't lie to students about history just to ensure that one group of privileged students feels good about themselves.*

Robert Scribner | Bethesda, MD

Jenny Ryan | San Francisco, CA

*We can't move forward until we tell the truth about the past.*

Elizabeth Merrill | Flagstaff, AZ

*Without learning about past mistakes and atrocities how can they be avoided or recognized in the future? We do a disservice to students, future voting citizens, by not educating about the uncomfortable and negative aspects of history. To see positive change there needs to be acknowledgement of problems.*

Andrea Adams | Ypsilanti, MI

*By passing these bills, governments are attempting to rewrite or erase history which provides insight to the social injustice of today. My job as an educator is not only to give information, but to challenge students to analyze situations, discuss and collaborate with others about difficult issues, and prepare to be leaders in the future. We do not accomplish this by starting with lies.*

susan rich | Albuquerque, NM

Valarie Gold | Austin, TX

*It is my duty as a 1st year teacher to strive to be a culturally responsive educator.*

Candace Truitt | Odenton, MD

*My job is to teach students and not to lie or gloss over parts of our shared history. A subject like music must have cultural connections and significance if students are to learn such a deeply diverse and wide ranging art form. Those cultural connections are key.*

Kristine Morrow | Philadelphia, PA

*There can be no reconciliation in this fissured nation, there can be no meeting the aims of justice and equality intrinsic to the democratic ideal; there can be no end to the discrimination, injustice and violence so much more widespread in this democracy than among our democratic peers without the truths of the past being fully told.*

Charles Smith | Beloit, WI

*the students I teach deserve to know the truth about their country's history. I will not teach a whitewashed version of US history to promote an agenda that supports ignorance.*

Aimee Nixon | Vancouver, WA

*The truth matters.*

Mara Fulmer | Flint, MI

*The notion that educators cannot teach subjects that might make someone feel uncomfortable about their view of the world around them, and themselves, is ridiculous. It's called critical thinking. Challenging our perspectives and learning new ways of viewing and understanding history and current events and each other is vital to the development of an educated and thinking populace.*

Joanne Klein | Boise, ID

*If it isn't messy, it isn't history.*

Rhett Savage | Portland, OR

*I think it is important to let teachers teach.*

Emily Solberg | Berkeley, CA

*I teach FACTS.*

Amber Thornton | Milwaukee, WI

*If we don't teach our youth the true history, we are destined to repeat it. Our students deserve to know accurate history, not a censored version like something from a dystopian novel.*

Patricia Weaver | Atlanta, GA

kathleen marrs | Indianapolis, IN

Jane Marcellus | Murfreesboro, TN

*These restrictions are fascist.*

Kellen Deau | Kalamazoo, MI

Karena Martin | San Mateo, CA

Sarah Walsh | Salt Lake City, UT

Jack Werstein | Washington, DC

*The facts must be known, in order for students to gain the ability to think and analyze freely, on their own.*

Gregory Esteve | Lake Wales, FL

*The truth matters!*

Don Haring | Skippack Twp, PA

*I believe in freedom and justice for all, and there is still work to be done.*

Abigail Quinn | Fairfax, VA

*The only way we can change the future for the better is by having honest conversations about the past.*

Catherine Graham, WA

*Students deserve the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in order to think critically and make informed decisions. Our children deserve a better and more equitable future than our past. The language of these bills and the spirit in which they are offered make it easy to funnel education to a specific political party rather than teaching above and beyond politics as public educators ought to do. This is the United States, not North Korea.*

Cat Hernandez | Mesquite, TX

*Our students deserve the truth about the history of this country, so they can help lead our country to a more equitable place. If we continue to lie to them, we will see the same injustices repeated, year after year, day after day.*

Chad Finley | Las Vegas, NV

*We cannot equip our students to change the world if we first lie to them about the world they are inheriting.*

Bruce Mansfield | Bellingham, WA

*I am concerned about the efforts to sustain white supremacy through laws that restrict the teaching of US history.*

Kellie Pancost | Wakeman, OH

*If we want America to be the best it can be, we need to be honest about our history.*

Brett Baron-Marianetti | Brooklyn, NY

*It took forever for the truth about the development America to become part of mainstream instruction nationwide and we are not going to allow an ever-shrinking group of White and mostly male power holders to turn back the clock now because they fear their guaranteed advantage is eroding.*

Frank Edler | Omaha, NE

*I believe that education demands the free, open, and responsible inquiry into any and all subjects. The attempt to muzzle inquiry into the history of any minority is reprehensible. Uncovering the truth, no matter how difficult it may be, is the only basis for reconciling a people to move together toward a common future.*

Alissa Reicherter | New York, NY

*We must be honest in teaching the next generation about our history. Knowing our past can help us reckon with our present and work toward our future.*

Alissa Reicherter | New York, NY

*We must be honest in teaching the next generation about our history. Knowing our past can help us reckon with our present and work toward our future.*

Melanie Grigsby | Liberty, MO

Lance Duff | Jacksonville, FL

*We can't let propaganda ruin our country*

Douglas Burns | Arlington, VA

*We cannot hide from our own history; my students deserve the right to be informed about their nation's past; to form their own opinions free from bias and agenda; to recognize their teachers are unafraid to pursue difficult conversations; to be part of the racial reckoning this country so acutely requires; to raise their own children in a land which seeks to reconcile rather than repudiate.*

Stephanie Lee | San Luis Obispo, CA

*The children and citizens of the United States of America deserve a full education of this country's history; including its history of oppression of people of color, and people of minority religions and gender/sexual identities and how that has created our nation today.*

Kealy Duke | Baton Rouge, LA

*Politicians should not interfere in curriculum decisions, and students should make their own decisions based on truthful instruction. Not prioritizing education has brought us to this moment where ignorance and racism disguised as political authority can dictate what professionals teach.*

Justine Brunett | Memphis, TN

*My students have the power to create a more just society, but they must understand the truth about injustice first.*

Danielle Cruz | Felton, CA

Kelly Feinstein-Johnson | Erie, CO

*I'm am here to stand up for truth, fact, and the importance of teaching nuanced history.*

Kurt Handrich | Beloit, WI

*It is unethical to hide the truth of our history in the United States, especially when that history shows we have not lived up to our ideals that all people are created equal. Pretending racism has not been a central issue in our history, past and present, will not help us bring healing, restitution, or equity. Only honestly teaching the truth will help us bring the change that we need.*

Robert Mostow | Silver Spring, MD

*Facts are facts!*

Jennifer Fullilove | Portland, OR

*All of our students deserve to know the truth of our history, based on facts that represent all of us.*

Sarah Mogab | Leander, TX

Christopher Winne | Austin, TX

Simon Paddock | Gloucester, MA

Laura Wagenman | Osseo, MN

*Every child needs to have access to all the truths of history.*

L Lewis | Mechanicville, NY

*Truth and facts matter. Life doesn't get better for all by pretending our ancestors didn't treat others inhumanely. We must be able to look truth square in the face and accept our role in making the world a better place for every single person.*

Anna Cordeiro | Attleboro, MA

*"A hard truth is better than an easy lie." - Leigh Bardugo*

Stacy Newsom Kerr | Santa Cruz, CA

*History is not just propaganda that makes kids feel good about being American. It is real stories about real people that allows us to understand how we got where we are. That we would want otherwise means we only want mythology.*

Jeffrey Isen | Dorchester, MA

*Truth matters and education matters.*

Saskia Mizushima | Redmond, WA

*Students should not be lied to. Teaching the truth about our history is necessary for us to truly heal as a society.*

Katelyne Thomas | Mason, MI

Heather Hyvari | Hampton, NH

*the truth matters, and it's important that people are educated, compassionate, and understanding. If we aren't here to make the lives of others better and to care for our environment and one another, then we are of no good use to anyone or anything. Integrity, empathy, and kindness are of the utmost importance for the betterment and survival of our people and planet.*

Belen Magers | San Leandro, CA

*I care about teaching the truth of our history to our youth. Social justice and equity should be part of our youth's education always. We can't be bullied; we can't be silenced.*

Tenille Wright | Harvey, IL

*I know the difference teaching the truth can make and inspire the youth.*

Angela Novak CA

Sue Lozinski | Yorktown Town of, NY

*All parts of our history are important.*

Samantha Aguirre | San Francisco, CA

*Teaching is intrinsically a political act, there is no such thing as being "neutral" and it's incredibly important to counter-act the oppression of teaching American exceptionalism in schools*

Yvonne Burton-Smith | Pittsburg, CA

*Children must be taught the truth. The only way for our society to move towards equity for all is by studying the true history of our country.*

Tasa Marie | Olympia, WA

*We cannot move forward with integrity if we cannot look back with honesty.*

David Carrier | Salt Lake City, UT

*Adopting laws that actively promote denial and ignorance is a strategy that will not move society forward. My best guess is that very few teachers will actually conform to these new mandates. Many of us will respond by increasing class time spent on critical race theory, structural sexism, and LGBT oppression.*

Rebecca Horwitz | Rosendale, NY

*I will never lie to my young students. They deserve to learn the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.*

Katia Hazen | Berkeley, CA

*Truth matters.*

Gloria Custodio | Bradenton, FL

*The hard truths of history should be faced, not ignored or whitewashed. Classrooms are places for open and honest discussion, not censorship.*

Kristin Moilanen | Morgantown, WV

Sean O'Neil | Santa Fe, NM

*Teaching US History without talking about racism is like teaching reading without talking about vowels.*

Jessica Leveto | Conneaut, OH

*Our students deserve to learn how systems have been created to work for some and not others. It is not until we understand how these systems have been constructed that we can take them down and rebuild, equitably, together and for a better, brighter future.*

Todd Craig | Colorado Springs, CO

*The truth will set you free.*

Therese Gibson | Takoma Park, MD

*Truth matters. Critical thinking matters.*

Robert Wilkison | Jacksonville, FL

Lisa Gann | Kansas City, MO

Lisa Labella | Arlington, VA

*It is time to align the public school curriculum with the truth. As the world evolves and more about our world and our history is revealed, we must be intentional about presenting this information and providing these resources to our students.*

Norma Bowles | Los Angeles, CA

*We have to make sure our youth learn the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.*

Jo Carlisle | Jacksonville, FL

Eleanor Scott | San Francisco, CA

*I'm descendant of settler colonizers, I'm also a teacher. I am trying to interrupt intergenerational and present day racial and heteropatriarchal trauma that serves to keep white bodies comfortable and ignorant. Racism and racist policies are a failure of imagination. And by lying (both outright and by omission) to students, teachers are eroding Youth's prodigious critical thinking skills and creativity. I will not be part of this ongoing oppression and hegemony.*

Nina Dorrance | Albuquerque, NM

Lee Stierwalt | Delano, CA

Monica Aguirre | Seattle, WA

*I am a person of color who was been disfranchised through public education and as an adult now am trying to change that for my BIPOC youth*

Barbara DeBarger | San Ramon, CA

*Children deserve to know the truth of our history to learn from it. Not a whitewashed version.*

Amanda Day | Riverside, RI

Jennie Sharp | Camp Sherman, OR

*History and truth matter.*

Tim Gilmore | Jacksonville, FL

*I will not stop teaching the facts.*

Vyom Raval | Seattle, WA

*Learning our true histories is the only way we can understand the root causes of problems, escape the one dimensional existence of domination and subjugation, and become whole.*

Aline Aguirre | Seattle, WA

*Our youth and communities deserve to learn about BIPOC history to empower them toward liberation.*

Shannon Woodruff | Dripping Springs, TX

*Teach the truth, let trust be our guide. Good trouble!*

Grace Howley | Newark, NJ

Michael Rollolazo | Denver, CO

*I am dedicated to fighting willful ignorance one student at a time.*

Bethany Valint | Kenmore, WA

*Students need to know their histories to fight oppression and know their identities.*

Josephine Valentine | Harrisonburg, VA

*I am committed to teaching social justice and making schools a safe place for all of my students. I see it as a responsibility to teach students the truth so that they learn empathy at an early age and use their critical thinking skills to create a more just world. Without knowing the truth, students can't know how to move forward in fairness.*

Angela Thomas | Chandler, AZ

Michele Murphy | Falls Church, VA

*The truth of our history is complex and needs to be voiced, examined and discussed so that we can evolve into a more just and democratic nation.*

Rebecca Funk | Silver Spring, MD

Christina Jameson | Mesa, AZ

Michelle Wilson-Banks | Kalamazoo, MI

*Everyone deserves to know the TRUTH of the history of the United States and beyond. It only breeds "isms" and entitlement when facts are kept out.*

Heidi Schmittel | San Jose, CA

*It is my job to teach my students what has actually happened in the past; not some version of the truth that glosses over reality just to try and make white people feel better about where we came from. So many of the painful events of the past are directly impacting the present and until we acknowledge and attempt to come to grips with the truth, true racial equality will never happen and people will continue to suffer. We must teach the truth if we are ever going to heal our nation.*

Jerald Goo | Seattle, WA

*To understand race in America today, you have to understand our nation's history. To understand our nation's history, you have to discuss race.*

Ashley Kiddle | Chicago, IL

Michele Steriti | Cherry Hill, NJ



*As a parent and an educator I am committed to learning more than I was taught because I have an obligation to every child in my care to help them grow in wisdom, understanding, empathy, and compassion. It is a devastating shame to not learn from the mistakes of our past.*

Peter Mullins | Orange, CA

Michael Sova | San Francisco, CA

*Further progress cannot be made when thoughtful, nuanced and critical thought and discussions are prohibited.*

Danah Opland-Dobs | Milwaukee, WI

Renee Sumner | Blue Springs, MO

*I sign because if we don't know our history we are doomed to repeat it.*

Lindsay Vanderbeek | Mountain View, CA

*Teaching the truth about our country's past is an important part of shaping our future.*

Amberlynn Lane | Vancouver, WA

*We are teaching about race either way, intentionally or not. I choose truth about our past with hope for a better future.*

Nisha Sensharma | Falls Church, VA

*An educated and engaged citizenry is critical to a democracy. Free and public discourse about issues that affect our lives is impossible without ACCURATE information about the diverse experiences and actions of ALL the people in our country's past and present.*

Steve Munczek | Mesa, AZ

*No American student should be kept from knowing the truth about this country and its foundation and development, regardless of whether the truth is ugly or not. By knowing what has occurred in the past to our fellow citizens, today's and tomorrow's students will learn how to avoid repeating the same mistakes.*

Kristen Tahour | Jefferson City, MO

*We need to teach the truth, not just the victors' propaganda and indoctrination.*

Joanne Walters | Portage, MI

*It is essential that accurate facts are reported regarding history.*

Christopher Wingett | Athens, OH

*I am not a bad person.*

Lawrence Hashima | La Mirada, CA

*My job is to teach students how to analyze history, not to conceal facts from them.*

Violeta Duran | Redondo Beach, CA

*Students deserve the truth.*

Michelle Rhodes | Maplewood, NJ

*The truth matters.*

Shannon Headley | Brighton, MI

*I am afraid for our democracy, and legislation banning something that is not even taught, is VERY DANGEROUS!!! Democracy is being threatened and I am on the front lines daily. Students have access to all information online, so by manipulating our teaching, they hope to continue White Supremacy, and BLACK LIVES MATTER!!!*

Michelle Leyesa

*Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it.*

Dan Gonzalez | East Hanover, NJ

Christian Montalvo | Elmhurst, NY

*I believe that things need to change.*

Sariah Hoskins | Jersey City, NJ

*I want students in the US to learn the truth*

Faye Holland | Austin, TX

*I want to be able to teach the truth.*

Charlotte Sparacino | Saratoga, CA

*Our young people deserve the truth.*

Nikki Dunn | Wyncote, PA

*We have a responsibility as educators to help our students discover and investigate the truth of our past and present so that they can make informed decisions about their futures.*

Rachel Pehle | Fairview Heights, IL

Lauren Peelen | Bronx, NY

*it's the right thing to do for my students, my community, my country and my world. To develop a nation of the critical thinkers we need, we must allow them to critically think about and analyze the different "truths" of our history.*

David Benson | Colorado Springs, CO

Jeremy Buehl | Madison, WI

*teaching about the history of country has to include the parts that we would rather ignore including the explicit pattern of white supremacy that has and continues to exist.*

Fran Hopkins | Cupertino, CA

*It is only through truly understanding the history of our country can we move forward to create a more perfect union.*

Sophia Schuster | Philadelphia, PA

Kathy marmor | Baltimore, MD

*It is very important to teach truth. It is when uncomfortable truths and facts about race and identity are disavowed, buried and deleted that prevents us all from learning from those who stories are vital to our understanding of history and given what I teach, creativity and its rich reflection of our social complexities .*

Nickie Michaud Wild | Oelwein, IA

*As a University professor, I'm kind of tired about being the first person to tell young people the truth!*

Alethea Maldonado | San Marcos, TX

*I am a teacher, but specifically I am a teacher to incredible immigrants to our country. All of my students are Spanish-speaking, and they deserve to know our history, especially as it pertains to their rights and their peers' rights. We cannot mask the truth. We must face it head on and discuss it as individuals and a community.*

Sally Myles | Reseda, CA

*In order to dismantle racism and other oppressions, they must be named and the structures that support them identified and analyzed. Every individual needs to know how they are affected by these oppressions on personal, institutional and systemic levels and how they can develop collective solutions. No one is free from responsibility -- silence, inaction and narratives that suppress the truth support oppression, create divisions, and cost lives.*

Matthew Peterson | Kansas City, KS

*My students deserve to see themselves and their identities in the lessons being taught in my classroom and every classroom. Teaching about oppression and those who have worked to change oppressive structures empowers my students to think critically about what they want society to be and how their actions matter. In my classroom we will always seek to include all voices; especially those that have been historically marginalized and ignored.*

Amirra Malak | Hood River, OR

Holly Huckeba | Bellevue, WA

*Thinking like a historian is a critical-thinking skill every teenager learns in high school. Thinking like a historian is an essential skill enabling future citizens to learn how to understand, analyze and identify FACTS. Students in public education must NEVER be told by their government which facts they are allowed to learn and which ones they are forbidden from learning.*

Garret Virchick | Somerville, MA

*To gag teachers from teaching about systemic racism in the United States is one step closer to fascism.*

Erin Lee | Alexandria, VA

*I believe in teaching our students our true history from multiple perspectives. Then give students the space to have discussions, to share their opinions, and ultimately learn from each other. We should not censor our teachers. By teaching the truth we can become more understanding, more compassionate, and better as a nation. Teach from the heart and don't be afraid.*

Alethea Work | Portland, OR

*Teaching the truth matters. We can not let legislatures make reality illegal to discuss and teach.*

Morris White | Los Angeles, CA

Alexis Abrams | Portland, OR

*Only by learning about the injustices perpetrated by our country's institutions and examining still-present systemic racism can we move toward healing divisions and building a more humane future.*

Mary Vogt | Portsmouth, NH

*Sick of the government punishing people for telling the truth.*

Debbie Blane | Issaquah, WA

*So much of the "real" history of this country has been minimized, hidden, obscured. I want our youth to learn our true history long before the age that I was when I began to.*

Mary Cowhey | Florence, MA

*It is our duty and responsibility to teach the truth in history. When we teach the truth, with all of its messy contradictions, students become more engaged in our democracy. We need that now more than ever.*

Tracy Smallacombe | Carthage, NC

*This is appalling. Our next generations deserve the truth. How else can we learn from our mistakes?*

Ary Nassiri | Orange, CA

*We need honest education for youth to help them understand their role in the world, how systems have lead to unfair treatment for people in need.*

Jessica Titus | Downingtown, PA

Leslie Grinner | Providence, RI

*I am committed to anti-racist education, including the illumination of Bigotry in US culture*

Kulsoom Shah | Salem, OR

Elizabeth Considine | Half Moon Bay, CA

*I believe that we need to teach the truth about our history; all of it! History is complex, and we need to teach children the what, how, and why events occurred, and the consequences of those actions, in order to effect change and justice in the future.*

Nataly Reed | Tucson, AZ

*-Writing is situated in social, cultural, economic, and academic contexts.-Writers scrutinize power structures and critically interrogate societal inequities such as but not limited to racism, sex and gender discrimination, ableism, and xenophobia.-I believe in the power of language to compose the future in which students want to live.*

Stacy Gaugler | Niles, OH

*I am not an educator, but I am a human being who is a citizen of the United States and I am entitled to the truth. My children and my childrens children are entitled to the truth. How can we move forward if we refuse to recognize our history?*

Dusti Morales | Oak Harbor, WA

*The numbers don't lie.*

Frances Goff | Pasadena, CA

*Education - or lack of it - is how we arrived at this ignorant impasse; Education is how we will survive*

Erica Conwell | Aurora, IL

*We need to be able to share the different stories that has helped shape our nation. As well as help students understand how things within our society has effected us from the past and continues to influence things that are happening today in our society. "You don't know where you are going until you know where you have been." We will be doomed to repeat the same mistakes if we are not able to teach history through multiple perspectives.*

Dennis Canady | Apple Valley, CA

*I refuse to comply to fear, intimidation, and ignorance.*

Gregory Lewis | Seattle, WA

*The truth needs to be taught everywhere, both inside and outside the classroom.As a self-defense instructor, I would be doing my students a huge disservice if I didn't expose them to the shady underbelly of the U.S. justice system or speak candidly about the realities of violent crime in the United States.*

Sharon Safarik | Seattle, WA

Diana Levy | Hayward, CA

Lesla Holley | Rowlett, TX

*I am passionate about the beautiful complex story of America. The only way to teach it is to understand race and racism, in the past and in the present. I pledge to teach the truth to my students because I love them and because they deserve honesty in the classroom.*

Christian Rewoldt | Mansfield, TX

*I am a veteran and defend the constitution of the United States against ALL enemies, foreign AND domestic.*

Jacob Galfano | Mount Vernon, WA

*I am signing my name because opponents of teaching social justice in schools fail to understand that all that means is teaching young people to think critically about the society in which they exist and to use their voices -- both individually and collectively -- to make change that benefits everyone. Instead, opponents appropriate and misuse concepts and labels, and choose poorly conceived talking points... a stark absence of the very critical thinking that we want young people to practice.*

Kay Crittenden | Mesa, AZ

*Everyone deserves to know the correct history. I grew up learning whitewashed history, and I felt betrayed when I learned the truth. I don't want any of my students feeling that way.*

Stefanie Campanella | Gilbert, AZ  
The truth matters.

Dolly Higgins | Boise, ID  
The truth matters - and it's the only way forward.

Jessica Taylor | Liverpool, NY

Katherine Dodsley | Seattle, WA  
I firmly believe that children and youth need to know the true history of our country, especially the periods from 1492-1619 and 1619 to now. White supremacy and anti-black racist systems in the United States started with settler colonialism and indigenous genocide, continued with chattel slavery and Jim Crow, and persist with color-blindness and white nationalism. So long as black, indigenous, and people of color are systematically oppressed, no one in this country is truly free. Knowing and teaching our country's true history benefits everyone because when we can acknowledge the harm that has been perpetrated we can prevent it from happening again and restore racially just and gender inclusive practices that support the lives and futures of communities of color. Diverse societies are more successful, more creative, and better equipped to combat serious challenges to their survival like climate change.

Diane Elliott | Corvallis, OR  
It is important that children learn the truth of our history. Not all history is "pretty" but ALL children deserve to know the truth. They also ALL deserve to be seen in their schools and classrooms.

Debbie Hoggard | San Antonio, TX  
As an educator, it is my responsibility to teach truth, authenticity, and inclusion in our curriculum, so as to better teach to the realities of ALL my students.

Misty Youngblood | Camas, WA  
Every child deserves an education that is truthful. We must tell the stories of the past so that we do not repeat it.

Kenechukwu Eneli | Belton, TX  
The truth sets you free is said, then why hide the truth or stop the truth from being told/taught.

Daniel Cox | Los Alamos, NM  
Censorship of teachers and educators inhibits learning

Carolyn Sanders | Chula Vista, CA  
Young people have the right to learn about actual his/herstory - not what legislators want them to learn.

Roberto German | Austin, TX  
I support programs and curriculum that dismantle White supremacy and teach the history of the various people groups in this country.

Irene Sanchez | Azusa, CA  
The truth should be taught. Our history is U.S. history.

Shannon Howard | San Diego, CA  
The truth matters and is the only catalyst for true change!

Avis Judd | Tucson, AZ  
"Truthfulness is the foundation of all human virtues." We cannot do justice to our students by omitting the reality of the world in which they live. Our students are not ignorant of the racism, sexism, and homophobia which impact their lives. In many cases they are more knowledgeable about these injustices than their teachers. When we fail to acknowledge or address these issues we lose the trust of our students. Without that trust they won't hear anything else we teach them. We cannot segregate curriculum from reality. Truthfulness!

Nicole Haahr | Dover, NH  
I did not learn enough about racial justice and systemic racism in my formal and informal education. Most of what I learned was in college and afterwards. Kids are impressionable and they need to learn the true history of our country, and kids of different backgrounds need to be represented and seen in their classrooms.

Yvonne Kunz, WA  
my students deserve to see their truths reflected in curriculum.

Jennifer Mullet | Tucson, AZ  
Everyone deserves the truth so they can make their own choices for the future.

Robert Rivera-Amezola | Philadelphia, PA

Catherine Livingston | Albany, NY

Kim Zembsch | Moraga, CA  
Efforts to hide the truth in order to protect feelings leaves everyone ignorant.

Yvonne Benn | New York, NY

Whitney Kahn | Seattle, WA

Audrey Brinkers | Chicago, IL  
My students deserve to feel empowered by learning the truth.

Anissa Weinraub | Philadelphia, PA

Marta Repollet | Portland, OR  
Students have a right to learn the truth of our past in order to better shape their future.

Miriam Oppenheimer | Philadelphia, PA  
I can't wait to get started

Sarah Harris | Fresh Meadows, NY  
All students must learn all history. Especially history that show intersectionality.

Georgina Paredes | Copenhagen, NY

Jonathan Satlow | Philadelphia, PA

Jonathan Goulet | Philadelphia, PA  
As an educator, it is my role to help teach my students the true history of our country and the current inequities.

John Nimmo | Portland, OR  
Teachers have an ethical responsibility to share the truth with young children and to support them in making sense of the society around them. Children have a deep sense of fairness and want to be change makers.

Emily Simpson | Philadelphia, PA

Jennifer Willard | Yarmouth, ME  
We must teach the truth. How can anyone understand the challenges of today unless they understand the causes, the bed of fire laid down in history. It is time to explain and examine the frustration and anger that has led us here. It is past time.

Hanin Burnham | Atlanta, GA

Phyllis D.K. Hildreth JD | Nashville, TN  
Freedom and justice for all require truth, restoration, reparation, then reconciliation. Teaching complete, if contested, histories of social systems and civic governance is an indispensable predicate to shared and lasting peace in Beloved Community.—pdkh 12 June 2021 #TeachTruth

Erin Haley | West Chester, PA

*The manipulation of what CRT is has created a hysterical reaction that undermines the reality that CRT is higher-concept learning at the university level; not taught at primary or secondary levels. As a result, parents and administrators have become equally hysterical and candid in their desire to whitewash history and make it 'pretty' rather than truthful.*

Lea Kelly | Phoenixville, PA

Stacey Ditlevson | Euclid, OH

*I am committed to teaching young people to think critically about the past and the present to create a better future.*

Kandice Nelson | Scottsdale, AZ

*Our students deserve the truth. It's past time whitewashed history left classrooms forever.*

Abby Hood | Portsmouth, NH

Lucia Reyes | Lancaster, CA

*Our kids deserve the truth*

Julie Antupit Antupit | San Mateo, CA

*I feel it's so important to teach children the whole truth about our history and to teach them critical thinking skills to keep learning throughout their lives!*

heather may | Rosenberg, TX

Kari Lindstrom | Portland, OR

*there is a difference between opinion and fact and as a teacher it is my job to teach the facts the best that I can. I was not taught the facts and have had to relearn so much over the years. We can only get better, do better and be better when we know what happened in the past so we don't repeat or continue racist actions and beliefs.*

Geralyn Leannah | Sheboygan, WI

Lisa Bohórquez | San Francisco, CA

*We have an obligation to our students and families to teach the truth*

Mary Diamond | Auburn, AL

*the truth about history matters!*

Marisa Oste | Pico Rivera, CA

Constance Thayer | Washington, DC

*My students deserve a more just world, which can only start by ensuring the truth is known.*

Vanessa Small | Monroe, LA

*The Louisiana resource book for 7th grade social studies begins in 1754 (after the French and Indian War) through Reconstruction (including Wade Davis). There is a small picture of Crispus Attucks with a caption under it. After that through the Industrial Revolution, there is not mention of African Americans. When they talk about it, there is a PARAGRAPH. We are supposed to do outside readings of four American authors' excerpts. Some of them are really hard. There is not mention of African Americans during the Civil War other than mentioning some fought for the Union. There's no mention of African Americans, aside from mentioning them as a group in a few sentences. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!! I bring in outside things and stories for the students to understand it.*

Phillip Edmonds | Madison, WI

*This is proposed legislation is fear based and promotes deception to gain political strength.*

Jessica Jones | Doylestown, PA

*All voices in our history need to be heard.*

Rebecca Meyer | New York, NY

Kayla Gulbranson | Portland, OR

*The truth is important; and if I expect my children to tell the truth, then so should we.*

Runa Zaman | Chicago, IL

Stephanie Caesar | Houston, TX

*Those who forget the last are doomed to repeat it.*

Nubia Gerima | Washington, DC

*Our students deserve to know true history. It's the only way the nation will progress racially.*

Michael Misciagna | Philadelphia, PA

Wes Oswald | Tucson, AZ

*We can learn from the past and become a better society.*

Jennifer Courtney-Keyse | Denver, CO

*ALL of my students should be taught THE TRUTH!*

Nekoda Garbes | Waterloo, IA

*I believe in teaching the truth and teaching real honest history.*

Cathy Nostrand | Portland, OR

*we need to see society and the past more clearly in order to impact and change the present for the better of all.*

Mel Katz | Monmouth Junction, NJ

Dr. Brittany C. Vinson (DD)(h.c.) | Madison, AL

*I am honored to be an International Orator/Advocate with a readiness to rage. My special needs family are subject to and victims of UNCONSTITUTIONAL behaviors from a SYSTEM WHO CRIES WOLF..... HOW MANY MORE FAMILIES ARE OUT THERE...HONESTLY, a local school district, judicial system and community INTRODUCED ME to THEIR FIELD! Government Officials have turned a deaf ear, a blind eye dehumanizing citizens deliberately. Such are unethical mannerisms that are insidious and unjust. Most are intimidated by autonomous citizens..... they prey and plot against individuals maliciously and murderously. Sadly, most get away with doing such a thing!HOWEVER, there is a SLIM chance suspects are held accountable and found GUILTY! "Her soul is eager with a readiness to rage, yet humble as she conveys. Such eloquence unites and creates an integral impact leading to a NATION under GOD. With liberty and justice for all. I am The Matriarch of the Nation,Dr. Brittany C. Vinson (DD)(h.c.)*

Michelle Tooson | Marietta, GA

*It matters*

Leanne Haghghi | San Jose, CA

*All students deserve to be taught the truth, for we are doomed to repeat history when we are ignorant to our past.*

Anne Greer | Mesa, AZ

*We need to be better people, not a bunch of White-washers of history. You can stop us from teaching about racism but obviously that won't change the fact that you are a bunch of racists!*

lauren Atkinson | Greenbank, WA

*I believe we must teach the truth of our history to understand the present, to inform and reimagine our future. A future that supports the health and well-being of all beings, including Mother Earth.*

sarah chrosniak | INDIAN VALLEY, VA

Rey Horowitz | New York, NY  
our students deserve our honesty in naming the impact of our racist history on the present.

Jordan Dietrich | Elk Grove, CA

Dan'etta Jimenez | Cambria Heights, NY

Jessica Wainman | Denver, CO

*I will never lie to my students, knowingly. I will do all that I can to ensure that they know the truth: that white supremacy is in the air and we need to fight against it.*

Michaela Caldwell | Corvallis, OR

Laura Roth | Spring City, PA  
*We all need to teach the true history so we do not repeat it!*

Scott Springer | Blue Hill Town of, ME

*When we learn essential truths (of history, climate, self-development) taught with honest self-reflection, opportunities for conversation, and hope for transformation, our society is strengthened, our society becomes a nourishing place for our young to grow, our society has a sustainable purpose. That is why I teach.*

John Ward | Wilmette, IL

*Let the chips fall and let all history lead us where it leads. This may be the bravest thing we ever do.*

Nicollette Ruiz | Brooklyn, NY

*Students need to know the truth in order to engage in critical thinking about the world around them!*

Heather Mulford | West Vincent Twp, PA

*It's ridiculous that I feel the need to sign this! How can anyone think it's appropriate to avoid the uncomfortable historical events of the United States when educating our youth? History can be very ugly - but it's through learning, discussing & applying critical thinking skills to our students that we can grow as a nation. Ignoring the uncomfortable topics creates a dangerous precedent of false Nationalism & a generation of students that are incapable of positive growth & critical communication skills.*

Caol Conti | Blackstone, MA

*How can we understand our nation today if we don't acknowledge all aspects of our past?*

Danielle Grodek | Philadelphia, PA

Amia Bridgeford | Louisville, KY

Brendan Gagnon | Petaluma, CA

*Education is the path to social justice. We must challenge the dominant culture narratives and include the experiences of those communities who have historically been left out of the lesson plan. We must educate students so that may create change for a better future.*

Emily Kruger | Alexandria, VA

*Y'all will not silence us from telling the truth!!*

Jennifer DeLorge McKeown | Silver Spring, MD

*Our students deserve truthful history and honest discussions about race.*

Sean Gratrix | Las Vegas, NV

*The truth will out.*

Ricardo Medina | Chula Vista, CA

*In order for youth to tackle racism and forms of oppression that they have inherited, they must be taught truth about our country's history and be provided with tools and skills to address new tomorrows.*

Jennifer Franke | Key West, FL

*It is important for us to know history and the mistakes that were made so they are not repeated. It is also important to know the truth so we can grow.*

Kelly Bridges | Riverside, CT

Erin Brumbaugh | Elkins, WV

*Now, more than ever, we need to expose bigotry in all its forms for what it is - stupidity.*

Fayette Colon | Bronx, NY

Jeremy Glazer | Philadelphia, PA

Jennifer Robinson | Tampa, FL

*My students deserve the truth*

Mark Sass | Denver, CO

*I have a professional and ethical responsibility to the profession and society to ensure students understand where they come from and where we can go.*

Casey Chrapuch

*our students DESERVE to know the truth.*

Suzanne Stone | Scotts Valley, CA

*I teach 4th grade and this is a critical age to speak the truth - even if it means keeping it simple. I believe that laying a foundation of critical thinking is key to teaching history at the higher educational level.*

Ed Sage | Gresham, OR

*I'm scared of people who are scared of being honest about our past.*

Karoline Khamis | Las Vegas, NV

*Teaching true history replaces hate with conversation.*

Ayesha Syed | New York, NY

*Children deserve to learn the truth*

Amanda Harris | Liverpool, NY

Sara Hughes | East Syracuse, NY

*In order to make the future better we need to accurately teach the past.*

Kim McLeveighn | Bronx, NY

Laura Weaver | Saint Paul, MN

*If we don't learn about our history, we are doomed to repeat it.*

Gheon Selemon | Columbus, OH

Scott Grant | San Diego, CA

Rebecca Riley | Columbus, OH

*Cultural change begins with education. Social justice and equity begins with cultural change.*

Steve Bronson | Emeryville, CA

*To ban or defy the truth of our nation's history is to repeat it. We need a reckoning without past to move forward to complete racial and social justice. If I had taught social studies I would have certainly used Zinn's The People's History of the United States as my textbook and guide. I always encouraged my social studies colleagues to do the same. Knowledge is power. Knowledge is transformation.*

Adam Blyweiss | Philadelphia, PA

Courtney Watkins | Georgetown Twp, MI

Zachariah Beasley | Seattle, WA

*Students deserve to know the truth about our country—their country— whose precarious future is in their hands. They deserve to know that people who look like them have always fought for what is right, believing that a better world is possible.*

Sherri Crane | Battle Creek, MI

Anita DeRouen | Jackson, MS

Karen Brink | Kinderhook Town of, NY

*Teaching the truth is the only option.*

Dennise Gackstetter

*"Truth" is not just one point of view, one story. "Truth is multidimensional and multifaceted. All events are made of several layers of stories. Each story reveals the perspective and understandings of that participant. To really understand the impact and implication to an era or event, we must hear ALL the stories and perspectives. In this way we can build empathetic bridges of meaning and understanding. This is the common ground that becomes the foundation for change. Once we can understand what others have experienced, then we can begin to make real change. Everyone deserves to have their stories told.*

Athena Ayers | Atlanta, GA

Aletha Fields | Louisville, KY

Kim Moore | Frederick, MD

*I am a social studies teacher and understand that teaching the WHOLE truth about our social, economic and political is what makes us true patriots that love their nation with all its glory and faults.*

Kristin Ferguson | Mill Valley, CA

*I believe that teachers must always teach the truth. As a history teacher I must teach ALL of the history so that my students may truly understand our collective history.*

Christine Chmielniak | Seattle, WA

Kristin Wachtelhausen | Harvard, MA

*It matters.*

Monique McKenney | Philadelphia, PA

Veronica Guevara | Bethlehem, PA

*We as a nation need to teach the truth and not continue to curate curriculum that promotes falsehoods about our past. Our democracy is still dynamic and deserves a frequent review and refresh to meet the future we hope it will see.*

Becky Martinez | Denver, CO

Elissa Grobman | La Mesa, CA

*refuse to lie because it makes people uncomfortable.*

Brian Lawler | Kennesaw, GA

*I oppose hiding the truth in order to perpetuate white supremacy.*

Christian Kadlec | Oak Park, IL

Angela Grabuloff | Derry Twp, PA

*ALL history and ALL perspectives are AMERICAN History- we should not silence any of it especially if we ever truly hope to be the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

Jane Audette | Milwaukee, WI

*Social workers in education must interrogate our personal racial identities and listen and learn about the racial identities of staff, students and families. We must be willing to learn, teach and live in the truth about racial systemic oppression.*

Megan Archer | Clackamas, OR

Jessica Boisen | Englewood, NJ

Lashira Lemons | Papillion, NE

*I commit to teaching true Black History*

Shelley Park | Orlando, FL

*In a democracy, politicians don't interfere with educational curricula. Students deserve real education and not censored versions of a people's history.*

Lara Knight | Houston, TX

*It is important to teach the truth. It is important to teach all children that they have value.*

Angela Iovine | Philadelphia, PA

*We must tell our students the truth!*

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

*I am committed to the un whitewashing of history in American.*

Jill Hanson | Atlanta, GA

Amanda Deter | Birmingham, AL

*We already are committed to teaching true, difficult, inclusive history that honors all the students in the classroom and ones that aren't represented in our small school. I believe that our society will change as we give every student access to true history. Our students become witnesses to history and will grow into magnanimous citizens, activists, educators!*

Kare Mercurio | Rumford, RI

*A more just society requires that we look at our history honestly. We need to teach our students how to listen to stories that are different than their own and build empathy. As a parent, I do not ignore my child's past experiences. I use them to help my child grow and create positive change.*

Yaasiyn Muhammad | Elkins Park, PA

*A people without a knowledge of their past is like a tree without roots.*

Ali Haverty | Harrisonburg, VA

*My job as an educator is to guide students in practice of their critical thinking skills. To ask questions which build understanding of the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the past, the present, and the future. I refuse to ignore that/those which/who has/have been systematically erased and ignored in this practice.*

Martha Lawson | Liverpool, NY

*all of my students deserve to be represented in the history of our country. They deserve to have role models of persistence, determination and success. We do not learn from knowing one side of anything. We learn from mistakes. We learn from struggle. We learn from differences. We as teachers, as citizens, as humans are called to do better. We cannot do better by ignoring the history of half the population. We owe it to our students, our neighbors and our country to do everything in our power to ensure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.*

Susan Warrow | Beverly Hills, MI

*I was in college in the 1980s when I learned the lies I was taught about Columbus and Native Americans. That's when I decided to be a teacher who teaches the truth, and I have been now for over 20 years.*

Rebecca McAllister | West Chester, PA

*An educated student is one who can think critically about current events. One who will not be fooled into thinking these events are new. And one who will know that they can make change and have a positive impact. Educated students will educate others, recognizing bigotry in systems and individuals. I stand with Zinn Education Project in this mission.*

Adam Keller | Athens, AL

*If the truth appears biased, perhaps that's your problem and the problem of the misinformation you're consuming? Young people deserve to know the good, the bad, and the ugly of our past in order to understand the present and improve the future.*

Annie LovettHall | Philadelphia, PA

*We need the truth*

Charis Sharp | D.C.

*It's important*

Deron Albright | Havertown, PA

*"..[Man] is in his actions and practice, as well as in his fictions, essentially a story-telling animal. He is not essentially, but becomes through his history, a teller of stories that aspire to truth. But the key question for men is not about their own authorship; I can only answer the question 'What am I to do?' if I can answer the prior question 'Of what story or stories do I find myself a part?'" - Alasdair MacIntyre*

Janet Turner | Decatur, GA

*my job as an educator is to shine a light that helps students see the world in which we live, not to hide uncomfortable truths with silence.*

Michele Blumberg | Encinitas, CA

*I have used Zinn history with my students for years. It is important to tell the truth.*

Whitney Howarth | Concord, NH

*Without the freedom to teach the truth, face our history and understand the most troubling parts of our past, we can not move forward, heal, repair and bring justice to all.*

Nicole Steverson | Tucker, GA

*Telling the truth about American history helps free them from oppressive systems.*

Taylor Stoermer | Providence, RI

*I stand with others for truth and honesty in teaching about our past absent nationalist mythology. That's how we strengthen and celebrate diverse communities, by tackling how we all got here.*

Marcus Logan | Covington, GA

*Our students deserve the truth.*

Leigh Yakubowski | Bronx, NY

Andrew Haglin | Brooklyn, NY

*I believe students need to know the true history of our country if we hope to ever hope to address the prejudices and structural inequalities that persist to this day.*

Matthew Evangelisti | Litchfield, CT

*Lies only benefit a few, the truth benefits us all!*

Allen Cross | Madison, WI

*If we want to meet the promises of our democracy, we need a well-informed and critical thinking citizenry.*

Mario Galvan | Carmichael, CA

*Democracy - and human decency - requires truth, and not only in education! Anyone who thinks truth can - or even should - be banned by legislation, is displaying a sick and twisted mentality trying to use perverted logic to hide or defend some inhumane or criminal action or event.*

Meagan Major | Fairfax, VA

*We are not teaching revisionist history- for the first time, many of our students are learning a broader range of perspectives than just the white men who wrote the history books.*

Gretchen Moran | Crownsville, MD

*The history we teach must be our real history.*

Talina Hogan , CT

*As a multi racial person growing up in America, I know first hand the damage that comes from the ignorance passed down in many families about race, gender and privilege. When I became an educator, I made it my mission to teach the truth through literature when I started 17 years ago. Nevertheless, the anti anti-racist curriculum movement (under the guise of CRT ) being promoted now is just a last desperate gasp from people who cannot accept that this country is changing in many ways, and laws may slow that down, but will never change what is happening. The browning of America is a long time coming, and we will all be better for it.*

Tamar Cloyd | Shaker Heights, OH

*The truth is the only option...*

Robert Nuxoll | New York, NY

petr dann | Sun Prairie, WI

Michelle Prieditis | Baltimore, MD

*I believe that history's truth must be revealed and taught. Period. No more withholding of how we got to where we are nowadays. Let's go!*

Andrew Maryniuk | Richmond, VA

*Our history can't be rewritten, but we will repeat and relive it if we try to ignore it. Truth and reconciliation over toothless, poisonous fictions.*

Erica Ince | Charlotte, NC

*History was been whitewashed. We're so scared of hurting someone's feeling or offending someone, we sugarcoat the truth. Not being honest about our history is what is causing most of our countries problems. We can't fix them if we don't face them.*

Jacob Bennett | Chester, NH

*The proliferation of misinformed bills, laws, and rules banning teaching of "divisive concepts" suggest that the real evil is inquiry into historic iniquities and their living vestiges, rather than the iniquities themselves. I will seek the truth.*

Shannon Sandberg | Bellingham, WA

*I support everything Zinn Ed!*

Roger Baker | Phoenix, AZ

*We must allow students to hear and read the truth (facts) about the history of our country so they can make intelligent decisions about how they will treat others*

Morgan Marchbanks | Santa Rosa, CA

Fatim Byrd | Philadelphia, PA  
children need to learn the truth about their history.

Dorothy Hines | San Jose, CA  
The only way people learn is if someone speaks the truth whether it's through reading, listening, or observing.

Benita Gordon | Miami, FL  
We must teach the truth. We can't afford to repeat history!

Tom Riviere | Solna, Stockholm, SE  
"The U.S where innocent people lose their lives to social inequality and racism every day, where over 600,000 people died of a novel coronavirus, is itself human rights wasteland". "North Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs." So Who's accountable for this.....why it's "We the People" willfully steeped in unimaginable ignorance, wrapped in faux nationalism and silent acceptance, tempered by an apathetic disregard for humanity. Now you may choose to look the other way....but you can never say again that you didn't know....

Jeff Newby | Bakersfield, CA  
The truth matters.

Jennifer Paulsen | Cedar Falls, IA  
I believe in evidence, data, and an accurate representation of history.

Katie Rose | Salinas, CA  
Our students know the realities of the world they live in today. They deserve to know all that happened before today, the good, bad, and ugly, that made this country what it is...broken and afraid of progress.

Jesus Fernandez Jr | Geyserville, CA  
this "legislative" assault on the teaching on critical race theory is nothing more than a brazen attempt to silence the teaching and understanding of real-life experiences of real-life people for the young generations of the 21st century. It is utterly critical for our young people to learn about their local, state and federal histories, good and bad, warts and all, in order to prevent entire generations from being indoctrinated and/or brainwashed by radical politicians who wish to keep us thinking like sheep. How am I to teach what happened to the local Pomo tribe when white settlers moved in? How am I to teach about what happened to former Mexicans after the U.S. - Mexico War? How am I to teach the Alien Land Law of 1913? How am I to teach the Chinese Massacre of 1871? How am I to teach the Zoot Suit Riots, Watts Riots, and aftermath of the Rodney King beating? How am I to teach the Civil War knowing that at the January 6th Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, was a protestor who entered with the Confederate battle flag? The uncomfortable primary sources must be taught as much as the comfortable primary sources, lest we become an ignorant society led by our fears instead of our acquired, understanding about ourselves in order to make better, informed decisions about our present, into our common future. I refuse to be silenced by these ridiculous directives from backward-thinking individuals. As Flava-Flav always said, "Fight the Power!"

Alexis Padilla | Hesperia, CA  
I cannot continue to spout false history that's erased the victories and struggles of minorities in America.

Melody Cortés | West Covina, CA  
Because students deserve to practice being critical thinkers without "sugar coating," history.

Noah Zeichner | Seattle, WA

Keith Brooks | Brooklyn, NY  
i could write a book about why i'm signing. actually, i am writing a book to be titled "MythAmerica: the Hidden Histories, Dirty Little Secrets, Half-Truths and Outright Lies of American History"

Laura-Susan Thomas | Santa Maria, CA  
I feel we need to look at our truths from the past in order to not repeat them. In order for us to grow and come together as a people.

Krista Martin | Portland, OR  
Truth matters. Hiding the true story has gone on long enough.

Niku Bolourchi | San Francisco, CA  
Being honest about where we've come allows us to soberly see and address where we are right now and how we want to shape the future. Restorative justice for a reimagined future.

Brooke Warren | Portland, OR

Alexandra Sheridan | Irvine, CA  
The only way the future can make change is by truly understanding the past.

Melissa Arechiga | Long Beach, CA  
Indigenous people are still here! The US government labels us immigrants on our own LAnd and continent when we are the rightful heir of the LAnd. 2021 indigenous people live under consist government occupation of our stolen LAnd. Are children are locked away in cages and family's separated. In order to cause kill our spirit. Just like they did with when stole indigenous children and put them in residential school. Now we are finding our indigenous children bodies buried under these horrible places. History is repeating. As an indigenous woman I need to educate my people, community, and relatives. In addition fight for accounting from those in power and corporation who have harmed us and continue to take from us without offering anything back and a lack of remorse. For example the #doggers corporation #Displacers #IndigenouseLAnd #StolenLAnd #Honorthetreaties #TeachthekidstheTruth #LAndBack #VivaPaloVerde #LaLoma and #Bishop #NotChavezRavine #buriedundertheblue #ArechigaFamilyPresent 🍌

Kayla Frank | Tacoma, WA  
I love all of my students and refuse to lie to them. They deserve to learn the truth, to expand their critical thinking skills, develop their own styles of activism, and to pursue a more just world.

Akemi Mercedes | Emeryville, CA  
everyone deserves an opportunity to learn the truth

Jen Blackwood | Seattle, WA

Eric Schroeder | New Orleans, LA

Danielle Sanders | Lynnwood, WA  
It's time to tel the truth and start to heal.

Abigail Palof | Louisville, KY

Donna Rottier | San Diego, CA  
I am committed to developing students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills, and this cannot be done without access to truth.

Alexa McConville | Blackfoot, ID  
Telling schools they can have more money if they pledge to not teach race theory is the reason Idaho ranks so low in education. It's embarrassment. It. Is. Racist.

Sarah Peters | Portland, OR  
Education is the only remedy to ignorance and hate

Semmel Jessica | New York, NY  
I teach my students to be actively anti racist everyday and the true history of this country. Children can reckon with the country's past bc they want it to be better

Kim Malolepsy | Portland , OR



*The truth matters and it needs to be taught!*

Lea Hansen | Richland Center, WI

*As a professional educator, I cannot in good conscience teach an incomplete and/or inaccurate history of the United States to my students. To do so would do my students a disservice. The study and practice of history and historical thinking skills are vital in the development of an informed, engaged citizenry. Civic engagement is essential to the health and well-being of our nation.*

Gloria Boutte | Columbai, SC

*I believe in the democratic principle of freedom of speech. History should not be whitewashed.*

Ivonne Montoya | Lovington, NM

*As an older sibling, I would want and will teach my younger siblings the truth about history. And I would expect their teachers to teach them too. It took adulthood for me to do my own research on history that school nor college classes taught me. I pledge so my siblings can learn the truth. Not lies one man or a group of men decided to tell for the whole world.*

Michelle Ring | Seabeck, WA

*I value a more just society where teachers can speak the truth about touchy subjects that affect us all.*

Candice Zawoiski | Cleveland, OH

*Learning the truth about the country's history is the only way to change the present and create a better world. It's integral to learn about the history of oppression and injustice in order to fight to end all forms of oppression and injustice.*

Emmy Talian | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students deserve to hear multiple, critical perspectives and to reach their own conclusions from complete information.*

Jordan Preston | Council Bluffs, IA

*Until we examine the true history of our world and its people, we cannot make societies and spaces where everyone has a voice and everyone is equal.*

Ashley Roane | San Diego, CA

*We need to be aware of the truth in order to create a better future for us all.*

Liz Sugano | Kent, WA

*All our future generations deserve to know the truth about our countries history so that it isn't repeated.*

Malik Moore | Columbus, OH

*We need to honestly reckon with our past to create a future where all people can feel confident that the things we are afraid to talk about will stay in the past - unless some are hoping they become a reality again.*

Lisa Bonilla | Pflugerville, TX

*The truth matters and our students deserve it!*

Lorena German

*Students deserve a curriculum that is truth-telling and one that affirms their identity.*

Michael Pitblado CA

Bree K | Bellmead, TX

Alicia Boock | Steilacoom, WA

*My child lives in an area stolen from Native tribes and deserves to know the truth about the founding of our country, how part of the family was treated poorly and the other part was not based on their skin color and language. History of our land will not be hidden - this should be the same in schools.*

Edie Mileham | Madison, WI

*Truth is truth; it may be ugly, but facing it is how we change. If we cannot be honest with our young people about our history and how it has led us to an unfair social system, how can they ever build the beautiful world we want them to live in: a world of kindness, justice, and love of the truth?*

Evelyn Israel | New York, NY

*It is important that students are exposed to the oppression and challenges that certain groups have faced throughout history in our country, and continue to face today. I thought it was bad enough that my teachers did not include much history of systemic oppression in my curriculum throughout primary and secondary school, but to imagine that it would be outlawed for teachers to do that is horrible.*

Grace Lacques | Los Angeles, CA

Courtney M | San Luis Obispo, CA

Marshata Caradine | East Saint Louis, IL

*Our children MUST know the truth to change the trajectory of their life's journey. Because of BLACK PEOPLE they are, have been.*

Jessica Duarte | Woodland, CA

*Teaching history means teaching the truth!*

Kelly Curtright | Clio, MI

*All of U.S. History should be taught: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.*

Thomas Fiori | Miami Beach, FL

Victoria Hay | Gerstungen

*To create a Culturally relevant curriculum includes critical perspective of knowledge bases. We have to share all histories.*

Dehlia Seim | Duluth, MN

*failing to teach the truth holds back progress. It allows hate to grow and history to repeat itself. When we know better, we must do better. Our job as adults/educators is to give children the knowledge and tools to think critically about these facts so as to create a future that is better for all people, not just the normative white supremacy.*

Tina Tryforos | Rumford, RI

*it is essential that we teach the truth about racial inequity and its history in the US.*

Katherine Towle | Silver Spring, MD

Michelle Conway | Tacoma, WA

*Teaching the truth is essential to change. "If not me then who?" We can no longer stand by and allow ignorance to be our excuse for our intolerance.*

Joellen Kriss-Broubalow | Springfield, VA

*I will not lie to young people.*

Kristin Strasser | San Diego, CA

Liane Hicks | Wayland, MA

Christa Marlowe | Milwaukee, WI

*My scholars deserve the truth!*

Emily Jang | Fairport, NY

*I'm tired of the decades long silencing of the minority voice. I'm tired of the very same people who benefit from our labor, who consume our culture, who eat our "authentic food" while at the same time trying to erase our history, deny our struggles, and silence our voices. Enough.*

Maki Scott | Haines City, FL

*Teaching lies shouldn't be tolerated in education.*

Ashley Gourley | Brentwood, CA

Annie Jackson | Chicago, IL  
Black Student's Lives Matter

Elena Brown | La Puente, CA

Katie Herrmann | Pewaukee, WI  
*Teaching the truth is imperative for democracy.*

Duncan McGinnis | Richards, TX  
*Kids deserve to know the truth. There is simply no way to understand history if you don't know the whole story.*

Jamie Holifield | Milwaukee, WI  
*I have the courage to teach the hard truth and not lie to students about the history of our country and its implications on society today.*

Harmony Gerlach | Newton, KS  
*History doesn't belong to just one group of people and it's incredibly important to try and tell every group's story.*

Alissa Campbell | Dekalb, IL  
*Students are the future and therefore deserve to learn the truth about the past to inform their thoughts about the present. Equipped with truth they can better lead us towards liberty for all.*

Karl Gardner | Portland, OR  
*I believe in teaching history. I believe in listening to people's stories. I believe in the lived experiences of those who experience a life different than my own. I believe truth matters. I believe in teaching empathy. I believe you cannot teach empathy while denying the lives of those you teach. I believe that denying history, statistics, studies, and the lives of those impacted by inherent racist structures is to be teaching hate and indifference. And I believe in teaching love. So listen.*

Dana LoVecchio | Santa Clara, CA  
*My students are entitled to the truth*

Shirletta Kinchen | Louisville, KY  
*I do not support the erasure of historical truths*

Laura Smith | Staten Island, NY

Denise Tarr | South Gate, CA  
*you can't learn from your past if you don't know what it is. If you don't learn from your past then you will end up repeating it. My students believe in creating a more just world for all citizens of the planet. I will stand by them and help to make that happen.*

Dianna Rogers Wells | West Townshend, VT  
*Im a Wisconsin teacher who believes in teaching history from the silent and marginalized point of view. This bill would impact so many of my students who need to be heard.*

Jennifer Schley-Johnson | Beverly, MA  
*Our children deserve to learn and be empowered by the truth for a more just and thriving future.*

Deb Godner | Albany, CA

Jennifer Perez | Harrison, NJ  
*It'll be a disservice for our youth to not learn the truth about the US.*

Zach Stille | Seattle, WA  
BLACK LIVES MATTER

Maria Wilson | Phoenixville, PA

Sophia Underwood | Santa Rita, GU, GU  
*I believe in giving my students the opportunity to develop historical perspective with truth and critical analysis of the past.*

D. Hunter | Decatur, GA  
*I believe that if we do not teach our children the truth; we are failing them about the facts of history and how to become leaders for the future.*

Diane Welchans | Lawrence, KS  
*"From police violence, to the prison system, to the wealth gap, to maternal mortality rates, to housing, to education and beyond, the major institutions and systems of our country are deeply infected with anti-Blackness and its intersection with other forms of oppression. To not acknowledge this and help students understand the roots of U.S. racism is to deceive them – not educate them."*

Connie Compton | Kent, WA  
*Truth matters. Facts matter.*

Callie Laz Davis | Wheeler, WI  
*If we don't teach the truth, then we cannot learn from our past to create a better future.*

Stacey Cohen | Washington, DC  
*Teaching the truth about history should not be a luxury, and we will never be a racially healthy society without dealing with history honestly. I pledge to always teach my students the truth; they deserve nothing less.*

Daryl Jackson | Pelham, NY  
*The truth must be told, we can no longer hid what built this country. Especially if we want to improve this country. Regardless of what the racist on the right think. The narrative that it will guilt white kids is just another BS talking.*

Morgan Carcamo | Odenton, MD

Megan Gibbs | Fullerton, CA  
*Students deserve to know some uncomfortable truths.*

Kristen Cater | Seattle, WA

Kayla Mains | Chula Vista, CA  
*Students deserve to know the whole truth. They crave it, and they engage with the curriculum when they hear it.*

Stephanie Willis | Houston, TX  
*It is important for students to understand the history of the United States good or bad. Glossing over and ignoring history and the effects that it has had on multiple generations is irresponsible. One can't change what is not acknowledged.*

LarryVFP skwarczynski | Hamtramck, MI  
*Because LEARNING IS KNOWLEDGE.*

Sarah Csiga | Wilsonville, OR  
*I wanted to know the truth as a student, why should we not teach the students the truth? It can still be the truth and be age appropriate. Teach the truth, not some cover-up.*

Elizabeth Ceccoli | Johns Island, SC

Stacy Uyeda | Albany, CA

*My middle school students deserve respect and deserve the truth. We cannot move forward and make our country a more equitable place without learning a more inclusive narrative of U.S. history. Taught carefully and thoughtfully, students do not leave the classroom feeling guilty or traumatized about U.S. history; instead, they feel empowered to do better than our ancestors and to be more compassionate about people who are suffering today.*

Kathy Kimball-Wurster | Washingtonville, NY  
I believe in teaching all history...

Tara Willging | Fredericksburg, VA

Catherine Perez | Houston, TX  
We are obligated to teach facts. It's a fact that our nation was founded on the backs of enslaved people and at the expense of indigenous people. I don't really know what else to say, it's pretty simple.

Kisha Delgado | Mesa, AZ  
Children deserve a stinger, truthful, education.

Katie Ruhland | Duluth, MN  
Our current students are our future leaders and they need the information and thinking skills to create positive change.

Jeanette Antaki | Livermore, CA  
We need to be honest with our students. I refuse to white-wash history!

Jennifer Jones | Philadelphia, PA  
It's hard to watch people perform extreme mental gymnastics to qualify their inability to take responsibility for the way history has *actually* happened. The more people continue to deny history, and the fewer people there are who stand up and take them to task, it's the same thing playing out over and over for our tired, unfortunate, destructive US education status quo. Discomfort should be the norm, and instead it's avoided at all costs. It hurts everyone more in the end. Everyone.

Jaclyn DuBois | Bradenton, FL  
Our children deserve to know the truth so that we can honor past generations and make our country a safer space for current and future generations.

Olivia Santillan, CA  
Teaching the truth about the motivations, causes, and impact that created our current context is one step towards liberation and justice for all. I want our children to experience a humanizing educational system where they are seen, valued, and heard.

Caitlin Ross | Denver, CO  
Students deserve to understand the origins of our nation's current dilemmas - and that means teaching some ugly truths in order to prepare our students to help solve them.

Charlotte Woosley | Murrieta, CA  
Sharing the stories of the unheard is vital to a complete understanding of history and in order to teach my students critical thinking they need all the facts

Leah Ballantyne  
This is the most important part of education. This is right. This is what we all need to do.

Ruby Pena | Red Oak, TX  
We need to teach the truth

Denise Leonard | Tujunga, CA  
Students deserve to understand all people's history—and their place within it.

Gina Sorrentino | Germantown, MD

Vincent Sepe | Fountain Hills, AZ  
Now, more than ever, the truth matters.

Laura Markley | Orlando, FL  
Kids deserve to know that part of loving America is learning about the uncomfortable and sad parts of her history. When we give students historically accurate facts and allow them to look critically at where we could have done better, it creates civics-minded and socially-just students who want to create a more fair and just America for all.

Lisa M. Sparaco | San Diego, CA  
We need teachers prepared to serve our diverse communities for a more inclusive, democratic society!

Jessie Kingston | Providence, RI  
Attempts to suppress long overdue teaching about the history of systemic racism are an overt racist act that must be countered by any means possible. Learning more about a topic is always helpful in counteracting prejudice and fear born of ignorance of the facts.

Ellie Friedman | Orchard Lake Village, MI  
I am a pre-service teacher, and I (will) teach the truth because I believe in the liberation of all people, because I understand education as a tool for social change, and because I believe all identities should be represented and affirmed.

Olivia Jones | Philadelphia, PA  
I refuse to lie to children in order to strengthen the hold of white supremacy on our society.

Vickey Bolling | Marietta, GA  
I am a biracial woman who has experienced firsthand the problem in our society pertains to race and gender. My family has and continues to struggle do to being part black and part white. I'm signing this petition because we need to answer questions not heard from them. We need to teach people to be critically thinkers-to ask questions and explore what they encounter.

Jessica Janicki | Lynnwood, WA  
The ten year olds in my classroom deserve to know that every story, including history, is told from someone's point of view.

Sean Freeland | Morgantown, WV  
Teaching the truth is essential to liberate the lives of minoritized people, and it is especially important and rare in mathematics education.

Adriana Robledo | Sarasota, FL

Julia Ratchford | Chula Vista, CA  
Teaching the truth matters. Lying to students teaches them that we are lying about the past.

Nicole Genua | New York, NY  
I am an educator and my students deserve the truth.

Christopher Kozina | Bainbridge Island, WA  
The skills and lessons of history are a tool that can be used to help us do our jobs as citizens and bring about the society we want to be a part of (or build toward for those who come after us). Just like any tool can be used as a weapon, the stories we tell ourselves of the past can be used in the same way. I want to help students have tools to use so that they too can be good ancestors going forward and exercise their power as citizens to bring about the society that they wish to live in.

Harriet Wingard | Portland, OR

Adrienne Westlake | Hydes, MD  
My students deserve a well-rounded education. They must be informed of the messy underbelly of our country's history and its ties to current events as they become the citizens of tomorrow.

Lashawn Jenkins | Killeen, TX

*I believe children should be given the knowledge of U.S history regardless if it does not fit the narrative of others.*

Maryann Fox | Bellmead, TX

*We always need to tell the truth. Always. Who will trust us if we dont tell the truth. I am embarrassed about how the last adm lied daily.*

Stacy Stuehrenberg | Mountlake Terrace, WA

Ed Dorgan | Storrs Mansfield, CT

*It is critical to get the truth out to today's students.*

Karen Jones | Raleigh, NC

Ashleigh Elder | Jackson, MS

Rene Antrop-Gonzalez | New Paltz, NY

Victoria Weiss | Mahopac , NY

Angela Taflampas | Lutz, FL

*Children must be able to trust the adults in their lives if they are to develop into well-adjusted adults. If we are silent or walk away from certain topics, we tell our students that we are not the ones to trust or worse, that their feelings and experiences are not valid or worthy of discussion.*

Ingrid Kamphaus | Springfield, IL

*I believe in transparency, truth, and justice. If not now, when?*

Akiko Minami | Watsonville, CA

*Students deserve to learn the true history of our country, the world, and current events. They are engaged in these discussions and develop strong critical thinking skills. They have a right to know the truth, the good and the bad.*

Brian Ward | Madison, WI

Jennifer Fought | Lynnwood, WA

*It is the right thing to do. Students need to see all perspectives and facts about history. I respect my students too much to lie to them.*

Cathy Rohrer | Pittsburgh, PA

*No one should have to fight for their rights. We all need to acknowledge how so many people in this country have been denied their rights in ways both overt and subtle. Our students need to be prepared to build a more just future for all.*

Katrina Levin | Portland, OR

*I teach Ethnic Studies.*

Jane Barber | Aurora, CO

*For too long 400 years our children have been brainwashed about. The history of the United States They need to learn the truth so it can be rectified I am incensed that so many states are trying to hide the truth.*

KIMBERLEY LENZ | Santa Cruz, CA

*Change only comes with truth.*

Pam Williamson | Fairfield, CA

*It's time to end the lies. It's time for the United States to own up to its real history - the good and the bad.*

Jessica Keenan | Cedar Hill, MO

Marsha Abelman | Bellmead, TX

*I love our youth and want them to have accurate history.*

Merna Ann Hecht | Vashon, WA

*I join my colleagues in holding to the fundamental importance of teaching to equip young people to understand history in order to better prepare them to imagine, believe in and work toward a more just, sustainable and humane system of governance and social policies for the good of all. The complicity of silence and the censoring of truthful teaching delivered in a fair, age-appropriate manner stunt this possibility and further degrade our fragile democracy. This is a dangerous move and ultimately harmful to learning and to the well-being of our country.*

Sarah Michaels | Worcester, MA

*Students deserve the opportunity and support to engage in deliberative dialogue/discussion -- to think deeply and critically -- reading the word and the world -- in collaboration with peers and other thinkers, texts, and experiences in the world. My goal as an educator is to promote community thriving -- for the many, not the few -- in our deeply troubled world, through collaborative knowledge building, mutual respect, and deep listening to others. Dialogue rather than authoritarian censorship is key.*

Kelly Hill | Nashville, TN

*I want to give students the education that I did not receive in school and free them from having to unlearn/relearn history as an adult as I am now having to do.*

Hillary Katz | San Francisco, CA

Nicole Janzen | Milwaukee, WI

*Racism still impacts us every day, and hiding the truth does not serve anyone. We need to accept where we are, where we came from I order to know how to move forward to work toward healing the continual hurt of racism, sexism and other isms.*

Natalie Bernasconi | Salinas, CA

*Truth heals. Silence festers.*

Jesse Dobson | Portland, OR

Tiffanie Sherman | Las Vegas, NV

Christine Nicholson | Beaverton, OR

*Ignoring the truth of our imperfect history is like ignoring angry, throbbing, infected wounds. We have to be a part of healing our society - to expose the infections, to educate about and model ways heal them, knowing that although they made fade, the scars will always be visible. As we do this, we teach our students how to avoid inflicting more wounds. Only then can we have a healthier society.*

Jessica Mills | Leawood, KS

James Palmer | Whittier, CA

*Our country needs to know the truth and honest history of its own development.*

Sydney Early | Fort Wayne, IN

*I want the students coming into any classroom to have access to the truth by those responsible for their education. They deserve to be prepared to the highest level to engage in society responsibly and adequately.*

Brigid McMaster | Bronxville, NY

*Truth and Reason are the foundation of our future as a free society.*

Marlena Maestas | Portland, OR

*My team and I have developed/taught and we thread knowledge through all learning that is based on the historical and present truth of racism, fair trade, immigration, gender identity and houslessness. We have been told consistently that 5 and 6 years old are too young to discuss these topics. We disagree and know that children of all ages need to be told the truth and have the opportunity to discuss what they see, hear, think and know what actions they can take.*

Katelyn Hoffman | Iola, WI

Andrea Schneider | Woodinville, WA

*It is my responsibility as an educator to deepen my knowledge about implicit and explicit racism, inequities for marginalized groups, cultural knowledge of diverse populations, and discriminatory practices so I can inform my actions and advocacy for anti-racism and equity. In order to develop cultural competence and promote justice for all, I must learn about and pay attention to the ways historical contexts contribute to current realities and inequities. Our students deserve nothing less.*

Mary Alice Osborne | West Topsham, VT

*The truth matters! We must teach about the past; the good and the bad, so we will never relive the atrocities which occurred again. We must give a voice to those who suffered and say their names, tell their stories so they will be remembered and not have died in vain. The future depends upon how we deal with the past. It cannot be hid under a rug.*

Myra Mendible | Fort Myers, FL

*I live in a democracy not in the former Soviet Union. What does it mean to teach history "objectively"? To sugar coat it? Should we teach the Holocaust "objectively"? Genocide? Slavery? Nazism? There are "good people on both sides"?*

Kristen Kimball | Jacksonville, FL

*I will always teach the truth of our nation's history.*

Erin Whitney | Chico, CA

*The only way to move forward as a nation is to work through the trauma of the past. Doing this doesn't "teach hate" but helps students grapple with the roots of racial inequality in our country, think critically, and avoid making similar mistakes. Hiding the truth doesn't make it go away.*

Faith Jennings | Fullerton, CA

*We have silenced different perspectives of history and the experiences of the disenfranchised for too long. Too many of our students have sat in classrooms year after year never hearing about the resilience, bravery, and fortitude of people who look like them. We need to stop sanitizing and white-washing our nation's history so we can move forward in a more equitable, inclusive and just manner. If we don't, we will all continue to suffer the consequences.*

Cleta Harrell | Williamston, NC

Amine Yakine | Malden, MA

*To be neutral with the truth in history is to be against the truth. Time to face our history with courage and conviction that we can reconstruct a better future.*

Monica Stanley | Gresham, OR

*All students deserve to know the truth.*

Christine Betley | Centerville, MD

*our students deserve to learn true history. Society needs to trust them with our future, and we need to earn their trust with the honest curriculum. We need to equip them with accurate knowledge so they may become critical thinkers and compassionate neighbors.*

Robert Handy,Ed.D. | Bel Air, MD

Marcy Campos | Washington, DC

*It's essential we educate ourselves around the US history and foreign policy we were not taught and reshape our understanding of this society. Only then can we begin to create a truly fair, socially just and equitable country.*

Shannon Foxley | Portland, OR

*As a country we have been actively white washing history to stay within a narrative that supports white dominance. Our students deserve better. They deserve the truth.*

Fina-Lee A. Pengosro | San Francisco, CA

*it is my responsibility to myself and to my students.*

Willow Barnosky | San Jose, CA

*As a white American, I am deeply saddened to only now as an adult learn all of the ways in which history has been hidden from me, including the history of discrimination and racism in this country, and the countless ways in which whiteness has been treated as the standard, white experience as the only experience that counts, and white Americans as the only Americans that matter.*

Kristie Pretti-Frontczak | Akron, OH

Lizaday Rancap-Perez | Newark, CA

*I believe that our students need to know the truth.*

Jackie Kazimir | Jenkintown, PA

Shannon Carey | Oakland, CA

Christopher Nemecek | Usaf Academy, CO

*You can't be neutral on a moving train.*

Sarah Affolter | San Francisco, CA

John Garibaldi | Seattle, WA

*I'm committed to the idea that we cannot learn from the past if we are not honest about the past - we fail as teachers if we avoid problematic issues our students already are or will face soon.*

Jenni Conrad | Seattle, WA

*Our students, families, and democratic futures depend on our willingness to be honest with ourselves and our history.*

Alyson Battistel | Portland, OR

*Truth leads to reckoning. Reckoning leads to healing.*

Aine Dooley | Lake Oswego, OR

Jessica Anderson | Louisville, KY

*I did not begin learning the truth about our nation's history until college. We owe it to our students and our society to teach a more full and honest picture of our history. This is necessary in order for us to heal and move forward.*

Jessica Farlow | Fort Wayne, IN

*I refuse to lie to children to appease white fragility. Children deserve to know accurate history about their country.*

Theresa Koenigsnecht | Telluride, CO

Michaela Thomas | San Geronimo, CA

*It's important we listen to black, indigenous and people of color's experiences and perspectives. It is the only way our country can begin to repair and heal.*

Jean Kosky | North Andover, MA

Pamela Poniatowski | Barrington, RI

*When my music curriculum, in giving the students history about the song they are about to sing ( Hold On) says, "when black people came over from Africa", we have a problem.*

Susan Cintra | Richmond, KY

*Students should learn how to critically think and that means learning and examining multiple perspectives to reach a conclusion.*

Linda Warrick | Oakland, CA

*Because I myself was not taught truth in History!*

Andrea Anderson | Portland, OR

Teaching historical facts is our job as educators; denying students the opportunity to learn the truth is censorship and inhibits the development of crucial critical thinking skills.

Sarah Norsworthy | Yarmouth, ME

Our students deserve the complete history of the world they are growing into. They can handle big feelings. They are capable of understanding that when we know better, we do better. They feel the white-washing, and dissonance it creates. I trust our students to handle the truth and to use it to better our shared world.

Susan Hodgins | Providence, RI

It is our moral duty to be truth-tellers, to shine light on past policies and actions, to encourage critical thinking and problem-solving, and to offer space for justice and hope.

Julie Cobb-Cooper | Edmonds, WA

I am appalled by state legislatures criminalizing accurate instruction and conversation about our history and the ongoing systemic problems because of this history. I want future Americans to have accurate information, & an environment where they can challenge and debate.

Melissa Sims | Racine, WI

Our children are the future. They need to have 100% facts about history if they want to have a chance for a better world. It is unfair for our children to be lied to in the school system. The school systems benefit monetarily from all children, especially children of color, to be enrolled. Why should we continue to keep our school systems funded if they are lying to the students. I think it would be admirable and teach a valuable lesson, if we as a country can admit the mistakes of the past and work together to avoid repeating them.

Marian Killian | Petaluma, CA

As a white person growing up in this country, I was dehumanized by the mythological version of American History I was taught. I'm in this struggle to achieve justice, access to resources and opportunities for people of color. Also, I'm in this to repair the damage that was done to me.

Michael Berger | Roxbury Crossing, MA

I believe the true history of this country is the only history to be taught to students: that Europeans came here and deliberately destroyed, enslaved and colonized indigenous people of the Americas and enslaved Africans and brought them here. The wealth and culture of this nation was built by African people through violence, murder and rape by the ruling white people. This perpetual violence of Indigenous and African people was justified, hidden, and whitewashed in order to maintain the illegal and immoral system of slavery, Jim Crow and incarceration to this day. We white Americans have never reckoned with, apologized for or otherwise faced our culpability in systemic racism and in fact fight back violently every time Black, Brown or Indigenous people gain any power or suggest that we are in fact racist and culpable in systemic racism and oppression. If we can't face this awful truth, nothing will change and we will never be able to be a democratic, fair or just society.

Kayren Gray | Harker Heights, TX

Angela McMillan | Portage, MI

a ban on teaching the truth about the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression only leads to more racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression, and that is unacceptable.

Cynthia Trapanese | San Francisco, CA

I believe that we can create a better future when we understand the truth of the past.

Tracey Mansfield | Hayward, CA

I'm a teacher committed to truth and justice. I will not lie and continue to push a whitewashed narrative about the history of this country.

Mary Mazei | Oshtemo Twp, MI

My students deserve the truth!

Dawn Kahler | Kalamazoo, MI

My children and all humans deserve to know the truth of who we are.

Mohammad Raza | Irvine, CA

as a student of color, I could've avoided years of bullying and racism if my peers were educated enough not to be racist. It has costed me years of therapy to gain some sort of peace from the hate I experienced.

Yekaterina McKenney | Hampton, NH

I come from the Soviet Union - a country where schools taught propaganda instead of history. Many of my Russian friends and relatives are still blind, content consumers of their current state's propaganda. This is why I refuse to propagate more lies and be part of the brainwashing machine. Knowing one's true history doesn't make one unpatriotic; it prevents self-serving nationalism.

Noelle Walters | Boston, MA

Our children deserve to learn the most accurate and up-to-date, research- and evidence-based information. Teachers deserve to be able to provide the most accurate, up-to-date, research- and evidence-based information available to their students. It is essential that our children learn to think critically, to ask questions, and develop the capacity to make the decisions that will shape our country and our world. PLEASE don't disenfranchise children or their teachers by limiting their rights as citizens. Our democracy depends on an informed public.

Heather A. | Southington, CT

teaching our past (all of it) can inform our future for the better.

Jody Silver | Oakland, CA

As a former teacher, I have seen the damage that can be caused when someone's voice has been left out of our history. Also, Howard Zinn was a former prof of mine and it's important to honor his legacy! 😊

Elizabeth Humphries | Oakland, CA

Re-writing history to erase the truths of racism and oppression prevents us all from being able to make meaning of the world around us. It also does lasting harm to those people who experience racism daily, by denying their lived experience. Banning the teaching of historical truths is

Michelle Nicola | Portland, OR

We cannot heal and unite as a nation unless we first teach and talk about the truth of our history.

Monica Garcia | Redlands, CA

We cannot whitewash our history. It is possible to teach history honestly.

Karen McShane | Philadelphia, PA

as the saying goes, those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it. Without learning about difficult truths, children become adults who don't understand the world that they live in. Without learning about different perspectives, children become adults who hate and fear what they don't understand. We cannot allow a generation of students to become the next generation of Nazis, believing a homogenous, mythological history that excludes (at best) and scapegoats (at worst) anyone who is Other.

iris meinolf | Lagunitas, CA

I denounce the actions of these legislators, which force teachers to lie to students about the roles that racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression have played throughout U.S. history.

Laura McNeill | Philadelphia, PA

History should not be whitewashed.

ELISABETH Jones | Cookeville, TN

THE TRUTH MUST BE TAUGHT.

Meghan Byrne | San Francisco, CA

*We all deserve to know the history of our country. Only by understanding our history and how we got to where we are, can we make our country better. We the People, All of Us This Time!*

Jerry Abraham | Kenmore, WA

*The truth will set us all free!*

Cate Johnson | Morgantown, WV

Peggy Appleby | South Bend, IN

*Truth to children Truth to power Right the wrong*

Amber Ward | Ithaca, NY

*Children deserve to know ALL of American history. American history is more than white saviors, white ideas, and white ideologies. By learning black, Hispanic, Indigenous, and Asian American history in his entirety will show our children that all people in this country have made impacts and have bettered us to this day.*

Haley Mackenzie | Carlsbad, CA

*Education without the perspectives of and impact on marginalized people is just propaganda.*

Rossana Duffy | Drexel Hill, PA

Kerry Forsell | Worthington, MN

*Our students should know the truth so they can learn from history instead of repeating it.*

Angela Keith

*I am dedicated to teaching for social justice and teaching the truth as a way to work with students towards social change.*

Audra Carli | San Mateo, CA

*it is imperative that we teach students ALL of US History - the good, the bad and the ugly. Students need to understand roots of current movements and look to the future critically and thoughtfully. WE CANNOT REWRITE AND WHITEWASH US HISTORY.*

BreAnna Herron | Green River, WY

*We need to teacher the truth in order to help students make sound decisions in the future.*

Rob Tucker | Brier, WA

*I can't lie to my students. They deserve the truth about our shared history, so they can address the challenges they face in the world today.*

LaTasha Mack | Fayetteville, NC

*Education is the first step in understanding and identifying change Z the work begins with the hope of understanding our past*

Kelley Howard | Scotts, MI

*The more open, honest information, the better decisions we make.*

Jazelle Prado-Domingo | Lake Oswego, OR

Connie Dakin | North Tazewell, VA

*I am 65 years old. I am ashamed and appalled. To just now learn about the injustices to my fellow humans here in America. I was not taught about the native American Indians being separated from their families and deaths of so many children. We were also never taught about the horrifying burning down of a township just because they were black. Shame on America for keeping honest caring people in the dark.*

Jason Motta | Jupiter, FL

*We must create the opportunity and structure for our students to become critical thinkers. We absolutely have to provide them with a variety of viewpoints and experiences from our storied past. Only with this added perspective do we truly have a chance to continue to build to a more perfect and inclusive ideal. How can we truly solve a problem without looking at all the factors in a critical way? We need to continue to build a shared lexicon that allows for thoughtful and nuanced discussions on how to mitigate our past and the best way to build our future.*

Judy McCoid | Edmonds, WA

*We need to teach the truth about our history to live up to our founding ideals.*

Andrae Smith | Misco, OH

*I refuse to lie about the imoerfections of the United States of America.*

Lauren Ingber | Austin, TX

*Open and honest discussions about our country's history are the first step in acknowledging and ending racism. We have the opportunity to affect change within our classrooms by presenting history from multiple, diverse perspectives.*

Annie White | Greeley, CO

*I believe that educators strive to do what is best, not only for our students, but for our communities, societies, and overall bigger world. It's essential to teach history truthfully, and to uplift the voices of those who have been marginalized, even though they've contributed greatly to our society. Our youth DESERVE to know the truth. By knowing and understanding the world more truthfully, students will have the tools to make decisions that could help increase wealth, gender, and racial equity. By ignoring true history, we perpetuate unequal positions of power. "Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world." - Paulo Freire, Pedagogy of the Oppressed*

Lauren Billings | Holt, MI

*I believe in fighting for the truth.*

Shelby Thompson | Mandeville, LA

*I strongly believe that students need to learn a well rounded version of history that looks at events from multiple perspectives. The white washed history that has been taught for ages needs to go and teachers need to be supported in their anti-racism teaching endeavors.*

Kent Grelling | Orinda, CA

*I believe*

Margaret Venema | Grand Rapids, MI

Adam Hughes | Webb City, MO

*To teach history without the truth is neither right nor safe.*

Kyra Rengstorf | Lynnwood, WA

Valarie Gibson | Christiana, TN

*I believe our children are the FUTURE! You cannot manifest with the present, or the future without learning the truth! It is our duty to teach all children that we are all One Entity here on Mother Earth, and every facet you can imagine is a part of you too. I believe the next generation will be better at Unity, Compassion, Love, Knowledge, Strength, Forgiveness, and seeking the truth at all costs. I am extremely grateful and hopeful that your ZINN EDUCATION PROJECT is a blessing on this Planet! May God, Jesus, The Faeries, and the Universe be with you!*

Lynda Holman | Kent, WA

Holly Rawlings | Salt Lake City, UT

*If we want to achieve the goals of founding fathers, we need to talk about the truth.*

Mary Hufford | Amelia, OH

*It's wrong to lie.*

Saul Schultheis-Gerry | San Leandro, CA  
Freedom and truth is everything!

Rodney López | East Providence, RI  
Traditional history curricula have been mostly inadequate in educating our children about the complexity of race in the history of the United States. CRT and anti-racist teaching seek to correct a mostly one-sided view of history. That there is such an uprising against it, unfortunately, exposes the deep-seated commitment that some have to a curriculum that centers whiteness, while othering the experiences of people of color.

Suzie Quiney | San Mateo, CA

SHERRY ANOUSH | San Mateo, CA

I refuse to lie to my students about the important history of racism and gender discrimination in our country.

Nathan Geer | San Francisco, CA

I believe the truth about our past will set us up for the our best, most responsible and inclusive future.

Robin Wrice | Sugar Land, TX

All students should be taught to know the truth.

Lyly Pham | San Francisco, CA

We as a society have a duty to share and teach about this country's true and real history. We must teach our students have the hardships BIPOC and marginalized groups continue to face each day. We cannot make change without first knowing our past.

Nicholas Herb | Fairview, OR

Our students deserve an honest, truthful education. We cannot hope for a better future if we cannot be honest about the world we live in. Let us prepare them to the best of our abilities to make the world a better, brighter place for all.

Michele Zirelli | Redwood City, CA

Children should be taught the truth and have a growth mindset about life!

Fran Powell | Johns Island, SC

To not teach systemic racism is basically to deny its existence. To acknowledge its existence and NOT teach it is amoral and neglects our jobs as educators.

Mary Woerner | Seattle, WA

It's important to teach the truth.

Lindsey Hamilton | Nashville, TN

We deserve to speak and tell the truth

Beth Raisman | Portland, OR

Trina Corley | Usaf Academy, CO

We all deserve to know the true history of our country.

Catharine Reznicek | Camarillo, CA

I fully support expanding our teaching practices to include critical race theory. Educators should not be banned from teaching essential information about the history and conditions of all individuals.

Stephen Smith , TX

I want children to know the truth

Katie O'Brien | River Edge, NJ

Daniel Chanin | San Mateo, CA

I refuse to lie to my students about the important history of racism and gender discrimination in our country.

Michelle Kaba | Brooklyn, NY

Katy Fontneau | Boring, OR

Mark Clinton | Holyoke, MA

I cannot countenance lying to my students.

Joana Chacon | Jamaica Plain, MA

I urge people to not reduce the work that educators working in antiracism are doing down to a few inflammatory talking points. This is serious scholarly work, nuanced and complicated work. We are professionals studying the achievement gap, studying how to approach curriculum and pedagogy in order to close the gap and to create schools in which all kids thrive. As a Latina whose brother and mother and father dropped out of school, I know first hand the cost that ignoring the problem and going on with business: it affects lives Real people's lives. The point of antiracism is not to bring anyone down, but to bring everyone up.

Cailey Mastrangelo | Wolfeboro, NH

Craig Lewis | Glendale, CA

I believe in Educating for American Democracy. I believe that systemic oppression is real, that the threat to voting rights and democracy is real, and that telling the stories that have not been told, or not been told well is my responsibility.

Eric Meth | Franconia, NH

John Jackson | Clovis, CA

Citizens and potential citizens need to know the unvarnished truth about the history of the country they are part of, or could be part of.

Maria McNamara | Roxbury Crossing, MA

Erica Saville | Southgate, MI

Kids want to know the truth, and handle it with grace and aplomb.

Mark Ellis | Fullerton, CA

Without an awareness and understanding of the past, especially of the biased beliefs that influenced the foundation of our system of public education in the early 20th century, we are bound to repeat and reinforce it.

Tiffany Minton | Dayton, OH

Who tells history? The victors. But their story isn't the ONLY story. It is imperative to teach historical experiences from multiple perspectives. Our country's history from slavery to lingering racism still impacts our society today. Validating the experiences of People of Color is not meant to vilify the white majority. It acknowledges the experiences of our fellow Americans.

Amanda Smith | Ann Arbor, MI

We must teach the truth!

Joshua Younger | Los Angeles, CA

I am a black educator who believes that the truth should always trump lies. Our children deserve to receive a real education, not a cherry picked, white washed education.

Debbie Johnston | Brookhaven Town of, NY

I supported this same issue as a teacher on Long Island during my entire career till my retirement.. Every time new textbooks are issued, more and more topics deemed "uncomfortable " by the publishers, who are in Texas, are edited out. Teach the truth! It will set us all free.

John Clark | Durham, NC



*I believe it is wrong to ban anything from being taught. We need our children to grow up to be good citizens and that requires that they have a good understanding of where we all came from in this country. Many times that requires that we learn about upsetting things that occurred in our countries and personal history.*

Elizabeth Waldrop | Pflugerville, TX

*Hiding the truth from children will not make them responsible, critical thinking adults. Teaching a variety of perspectives is necessary for students to take in the entire picture of events and make decisions based on all the information available with consideration for all stakeholders involved. Give students the truth and teach them to think critically about their history and the world.*

Christina Fattore | Morgantown, WV

*I refuse to whitewash our history. I wasn't taught what \*really\* happened in our country... I discovered more and more on my own as an adult. I don't want this to happen to my kids or my students.*

Paul Trombley | Detroit, MI

*This is a major moment in our history and we must stand up for what is the truth. We strive at our school to be inclusive and to teach children to question and explore the world around them. We must set the foundation early on for children to be open and engaged in the world.*

Barbara Tobin | Pelham, NH

*Not only do I want teachers to communicate the truth, but I want educators to guide education, NOT politicians!*

Christina Freschl | Berkeley, CA

Jessica Marley | Schenectady, NY

*The truth matters if we are to achieve liberation.*

Karl Marx | Washington, DC

Kenneth Williams | Dallas, GA

*Silencing teachers is what Nazis did in Germany during the 1930s and 1940s. I will not be censored by government tyranny.*

Barbara Paulin | Tallahassee, FL

*as an educator, I have an obligation to speak truth to all students seeking knowledge and the legislation being sought by the Republican Party means allowing the corruption of truth by boot-stepping racists.*

Cathy Blake | Stites, ID

*Knowledge of the whole! picture of our country's history should not be hidden. We must take a 360° look at our past to guide as to a better place.*

Elana Mayer | Malden, MA

Maren Tillman | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Emma Klein | Seattle, WA

Andrea Urquhart | Monroe Twp, NJ

*Teach the truth in our schools!*

Joanne Lazarus | Newmarket, NH

*Understanding the role race has played in our history only allows for true academic and social growth. Ignoring race only leads to conflict and misunderstanding. It is NOT about political correctness nor cancel culture it IS about moving forward with understanding and positive intent.*

Melanie Thiesse | Dayton, OH

Brianne Mayhew | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Emma Cudahy | Indianapolis, IN

Alyssa Mason | Providence, RI

*I believe my students deserve the full truth of our history to truly understand the world we live in and how to best navigate it. Taking away teachers ability to talk to students about topics relating to social inequality is a huge disservice to our students--they deserve to know the FULL truth of events that have lead us to our current society so that they can help dismantle systems of oppression in their communities and address inequity as it shows up in their lives.*

Julie Bernicker | North Brunswick, NJ

M J Redlinger | Riverside, IA

*Teachers need to stand against stupid lawmakers who want to control education with the intent to manufacture youth they can control.*

Louise Braswell | Spring Hill, TN

*The truth, women, African Americans, Asian Americans (et al), and the future of the world matter. OUR children deserve to know OUR history in order to make a better world. Knowledge about OUR history isn't always pleasant but it is necessary in order not to repeat it. You see, the future depends upon human beings behaving respectfully, responsibly, and compassionately to each other.*

Amy Eastman | Galesburg, MI

*We need to teach the truth. We need to make our young people aware of the oppression that so many groups of people faced and still face if we want to be the change!*

Beth Elam | San Antonio, TX

Sheryl Depker-Barau | Grand Rapids, MI

*In order to create a more just society that lives up to the ideals of this country, we need to educate our students about the true history of this country. White exceptionalism is not the true history. Denying the role of racism doesn't erase the facts, but it does keep us from making progress. As a teacher, my goal is to move students forward in their knowledge and ability to think critically.*

Wendy Perkins | Winchester, VA

*The truth needs to be told. All students need to know their own stories. The truth needs to be told. Public educators have a responsibility to serve and nurture all students. The truth needs to be told.*

Sammi Mahoney | Washington, DC

*my future students deserve to be taught history as it was, in the fullest sense, so they are not fed the lies so many of us had been. They deserve the truth of this country so they can be emboldened to change it how they see fit, with us guiding them along the way.*

Thomas Finley , RI

Luke Lofland | Indianapolis, IN

*Because the Tulsa Massacre should not be a "Today I Learned" thread*

Kristina Batalden | Idaho Falls, ID

*I believe in teaching the truth.*

Carole Hosey | Detroit, MI

*It is imperative that we teach the real history of this country.*

Leah Huber | Largo, FL

*It's the right thing to do!*

David Soman | Rosendale, NY

*The truth will set you free*

Casey Mclellan | Madison Heights, MI

*Because I don't believe in teaching government lies. Young people deserve to know what really happened in our history as a nation.*

Joanna Hirsch | Clearwater, FL

*History should be taught through the full scope of its facts. Albeit unflattering to some ethnic groups, the complete and honest stories of the American past should be taught so society and our growing youth have a clear and honest understanding of this nations history.*

Christiann MacLean | Indianapolis, IN

*I have an obligation to teach my students the truth.*

Cecilia Campbell | Dania, FL

*"The truth will set us free."It has been proved that there must be truth telling in order for there to be justice, peace, and reconciliation.*

Shane Mangrum | Alpharetta, GA

*In order to build a better future and overcome the issues of the past, t is critically important that teachers be able to speak honestly, openly about our history as a people. To not be able to talk about issues of race in America feels like the attempts to curtail conversation about evolution because some people felt threatened by open dialogue.*

Beth Bresnahan | Cinnaminson Twp, NJ

Miranda Compton | Lakemont, GA

*the only way to teach history is by telling students the truth and letting them interpret for themselves. The Georgia Board of Education just passed a resolution that bans critical race theory. Anytime you ask educators to lie, to children, you are in the wrong.*

Deatrice Childs | Aurora, IL

*Truth is what can bring forth growth as a nation.*

Jennine Vizcaino | New York, NY

*We need to teach truthful full history so it won't repeat itself.*

Erin Garvey | Farmingdale, NY

*The truth matters.*

Emily abedon | Providence, RI

*Crt serves and benefits everyone. Teaching truth is good for our future .*

Gary Falkenberg | Asheville , NC

*White washed history won't work.*

Brionna Harder | Saint Paul, MN

Summer Thompson | Portland, OR

David Emmanuelle Castillo | Milwaukee, WI

Alicia Arnold | Seattle, WA

Amy Manlapas | Decatur, GA

*I became a teacher to tell the truth to students because no one told the truth to me. I am breaking the cycle.*

Elissa Werve | Milwaukee, WI

*I am an anti-racist educator who doesn't believe in white-washing the history that I teach to my high school students. I am a teacher, and with that title comes the obligation to be truthful.*

Rae Chappelle | Milwaukee, WI

Holly Cullom | Portland, OR

*I am committed to teaching the truth about our history and exposing present realities about how people are oppressed in this country due to their race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, religion, immigration status, and other identifying factors.*

Marianne Lowery | Portland, OR

Deborah Bellemore | Turner, OR

*Students should learn to critically analyze the truth about the history of the United States.*

Destiny Wilson | Terre Haute, IN

*I was always told growing up, if you don't know your history, you don't know yourself. I will do all I can to protect my history for myself and my daughter.*

Lisa Padua | Deptford, NJ

*The truth shall set us free. I will not, knowingly lie to students. The lack of knowledge would lead to ignorance and students deserve to know the truths.*

Becca Priddy | Fairview, OR

Melanie Jackson | Cheltenham, PA

*My students are empowered by the truth.*

Sean Russell | Manchester, NH

*We have a moral obligation to tell the WHOLE story.*

Rosaleigh Blackmer | Philadelphia, PA

Kathy Lloyd | Lake Oswego, OR

*I refuse to lie about US History.*

Melissa Young | VICTOR, ID

*Students not only deserve to learn true history, but our future is these students using their voices as global citizens to make our world a better place.*

Melissa Young | VICTOR, ID

Leequanda Turner | Milwaukee, WI

*It is my firm belief that the truth needs to be told in order to prevent the past from repeating itself. Why are Americans afraid to be uncomfortable? Change won't happen if we are staying in the comfort zone! The ideal of concealment to me shows that so many people are living in a privilege that they'd like to maintain at any cost.*

Alexandra Fagan | Worthington, MN

Cassidy John | Concord, NH

Kate Zimar | Lee, NH

*I believe the only way for systemic racism to truly change is through a critical theorists approach to all teaching and learning. This bill is an insult to educators, families, and our youth! Shame on those in power attempting to pass this politically charged bill for no other readon than to maintain the positions in power held by the dominant white culture.*

Cindy Falabella | Concord, NH

*I believe in equal rights for all.*

Janice Rawlings | Nanuet, NY

*I care about children education!The Truth...be told!*

Herb Jahncke | Portland, OR

Politics should not dictate education.

Kristi Lockhart | Newmarket, NH  
real history matters! Our students deserve to learn the facts.

Lukas Wierer | Milwaukee, WI  
the truth matters

Samia estassi | Portland, OR  
I believe we need bold action to begin to dismantle the racist systems in place in education and the entire county.

Kelly Wright | Mesa, AZ

Jessica Palo | Somerdale, NJ

Mary O'Connell | Erie, PA

Brian Ford | Montclair, NJ

Alondra Garcia | Milwaukee, WI  
my students and EVERYONE deserve to know the TRUTH!

JoCelyn Roundtree | Charlotte, NC

As a social studies teacher this is very near and dear to me. I pride myself on providing my students with well rounded views of the world we live in and have absolutely NO PLANS on discontinuing the practice in the future. Truth is relative...BUT...everyone's truth deserves to be heard and acknowledged!

JoCelyn Roundtree | Charlotte, NC

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Michelle Romero | Los Angeles, CA

It is DANGEROUS and shameful to attempt to hide and neglect our parts of our horrendous history.

Carol Sperry- Suziedelis | Lancaster Twp, PA

Making laws that forbid teachers from teaching the truth is one of the most insidious and ignorant policies I have ever heard of. For shame! Education brings the light. It must not be interfered with. What is the real agenda of these politicians? I shudder to think.

Mandilyn Veeder , WI

Dishonesty is an epidemic. It's time to speak the truth.

Michelle Jones | New York, NY

We have the first amendment in this country for a reason. As a teacher, I work hard to educate myself on the history that I'm teaching, and figure out a way to teach it in an age appropriate manner that covers the standards and helps my students develop critical thinking skills. I am honestly not proud of the history education I got in the public school system growing up. It skipped over a lot of the "not-so-nice" parts, and I didn't really understand any context. Frankly, it was boring. These laws seem to be trying to move us back to that way of teaching. While our country's history may not be perfect, the solution is not to cover it up like in the past. And I certainly refuse to be a part of that for the next generation. When you know better, do better.

Sandra Campanaro | Englishtown, NJ

In order to live a good life and create a positive society, we all must know the truth. We must know our past and present in order to improve our future for everyone. We must know the truth in order to be empathetic and loving towards everyone.

Barbara Kraft | Hillsboro, OR

I am committed to teaching a fuller, more inclusive history of the United States.

Wyly Kight-Moore | Idyllwild, CA

during my 49 yrs as a full time teacher, mostly of middle schoolers, I never misrepresented nor marginalized my student's ancestor's struggles for freedom, justice, equity. My little town presents Helen Hunt Jackson's story of white ranchers cruelty to our local tribal members in the past, and how some ranchers disagreed, and how the triumph of good over evil still leaves behind shattered lives and fortunes of humble, oppressed people.

Paul Bansen | Escalon, CA

Joe Wegwert | Flagstaff, AZ

Teachers need to teach the truth and students need to hear the truth!

Julie Castellano | Highland Park, NJ

as both a parent and teacher, it is essential we teach our children the truth.

Maria Ponciano | Elmhurst, NY

We live in a multicultural society. We ALWAYS have been! History should be taught from a multicultural lens. Anything else is just white supremacy. It's time!

Emory Oeding | Portland, OR

Students come to school to learn and be empowered by truth and knowledge, by accurate information that affects their lives, their families' lives and their communities, by true stories that can lead to change, growth and justice.

Lisa Albrich | Eugene, OR

Olivia Bregani | Marlborough, NH

Students need to study (the true) history, and critically analyze the world to overthrow all oppressive systems.

Cathy Weirick | Otsego, MI

I believe sharing the truth keeps us from committing the same atrocities over and over again.

Candace Andrada | Kailua, HI

I believe in order for our country to be more just and equitable, our students need to know the good and bad of our history. Our students need to understand what happened in the past lead to what is happening currently and that they can change what they don't agree with. There is no agenda here other than truth.

Charlotte Scott | Exeter, NH

I find it outrageous that politicians could have a say in what we teach. Leave it to the NH department of Education to figure out what is best for NH students. They have the right to be given tools to determine truth and critically think for themselves without teachers being muzzled over facts.

Lauren Loser | Sicklerville, NJ

I care about my students and the diverse population of students in our school.

Barry Sparks | Boulder, CO

Students are entitled to the truth and educators are obliged to tell it.

Pam Brown | Orangevale, CA

I teach truth not lies.

Thuynga Barr | Eugene , OR

Donnamarie Shilling | Warren, OH

Students deserve to know the truth about history!

Lauren Duquette | Andover, NH

The truth matters. It's the most important structure for a society.

Claire Garrott | Portland, OR

Sarah McFarlane | Seattle, WA

*We all deserve to know our true history!*

susan vasher | Portland, OR

*It's our duty to teach the truth and stop the trauma of a racist America.*

Miranda Massa | Elk Grove, CA

*The truth matters!*

Nicholas Kapranos | Portland, OR

Sarah Atkinson | Portland, OR

Amy Heath | Austin, TX

Ellie Graiziger | Portland, OR

*If we are ever going to live beyond White Supremacy, we are going to have to acknowledge it exists. White families, teachers, administrators, and students need to get over their fragility and personal guilt which prevents all of us from working within reality towards a better future for everyone. When we deny things exist, we continue to oppress those who feel its affects every day by denying their full existence.*

Chelsea Rowell | Portland, OR

*We need to teach our students how to be anti-racist and exhibit this ourselves. We need to teach the truth!*

Alyssa Reed-Stuewe | Portland, OR

*Students and educators who self identify as Black and Brown deserve to express pain and loss at the atrocities of slavery and climate change, just as Jews and other groups targeted by Nazis deserve to express their pain and loss about the Holocaust. Our country cannot heal until the majority of Americans acknowledge that this historical oppression was an atrocity, kids can't get to that point if we are forced to lie about the nationally sanctioned threats to Black lives, or threats to Brown lives. The American people are not homogenous and neither is our history*

Danika Perde-Zundel | Wilsonville, OR

Maggie Byrkit | Portland, OR

*Only fully informed youth can change our future.*

Marcelle Valladares | Portland, OR

Jennifer Miller | Somerdale, NJ

*We cannot change the past, we can only learn from it.*

Paul Scott | Clermont, FL

*Teaching "American Exceptionalism " and ignoring race in U. S. History is indoctrination.*

Ryan Ham | Benton Harbor, MI

*The erasure and ignorance of history does not adequately equip our students with the tools they need to make their own decisions and come to their own understandings of national and world events. Exposure to information is not indoctrination.*

Amy McClellan | Shoreline, WA

*We must speak the truth and teach our students to be critical thinkers. We must analyze our past and the systems of power and oppression that were built, to then think about the current reality of injustice and inequalities. We need to embrace our collective history to move towards building a future where all people can experience justice and freedom. Students need to learn and grow in their understanding of themselves, their narratives and the narratives of groups that have been left out or marginalized in our curriculum and educational system. Reckoning with our collective history we can move to a space of healing and full humanity for all.*

Vanessa Holmgren | Portland, OR

Jennifer Collins | Cedarburg, WI

Lisa Davidson | Portland, OR

*We should all be truth seekers. As an educator I am obligated, by nature and job, to educate and facilitate learning. I will NOT hold back truths or knowledge.*

Michal Otten | Portland, OR

*I was educated in this country and am learning more on my own as an adult about the real history of this country than I did in over 12 years of history classes. We need to teach the full truth, even and especially when it is painful and uncomfortable, in order to learn from our mistakes and build a stronger future. That is the only way we will truly tear down the white supremacist structures that continue to hold people of color back.*

Jessica Sawyer | Portland, OR

Elyse Newport | Portland, OR

*"If we do not live an examined life, we do not grow." Jason Reynolds.*

Susan Ratajski | Collingswood, NJ

*Students need the truth!*

Joan Bradbury | Chicago, IL

*I believe it is vitally important that children learn about our country's history and ideals, and come to understand there is much work for "we the people" to do together so our country's reality comes closer to it's ideals. I believe that is most effectively done with students learning "from the inside out", experiencing historic struggles and engaging with issues of a past time and/or specific location.*

Paul Pasaba | Pawtucket, RI

*truth matters. These laws represent the forces of white supremacy telling us to "sit down and shut up" about the reality of what is going on in our communities. As an Asian American person, these laws communicate to me that when racist attacks are happening against my people -- as they have been in record numbers for the past year -- that I should keep quiet about it. As an educator, it is important to me to help students understand truth. Denying white supremacy's impact on our history and it's continuing impact on our lives means ignoring reality and shirking my responsibilities as a teacher.*

Anne Wright | Long Beach, CA

*The truth is essential.*

Mikhaila Schweikowsky | Buffalo, NY

Bethany Moslen | Elk Grove, CA

*As educators our job is to prepare students for their next steps in life which is usually a career after HS or going to College. Overall, being able to navigate this world while helping it change for the better. Without providing our students with proper information they will feel lost and uninformed in a world that is always advancing and where others actually care about different cultures and peoples. Choosing to remove history, not only states that a State is racist and anti-LGBTQIA+, but it just further supports how the system always has been instead of actually developing to the next level as a country, which is to tell the true history and to embrace all people so others can gain empathy and understanding. Not only would these laws tell BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ students that you do not matter to us, we will also be setting our students up for failure if we continue to teach the white europeans centric voice that has always been taught in schools. Don't erase the voices and lived experiences of others who are harmed and have been harmed the most in our country, it will only lead towards more students harming themselves and others.*

Lissa Feldman | Portland, OR

*It is easier to teach the truth at a young age than teach the truth to adults who have been lied to all their lives! And young people need to learn the truth so we can create a just world where racism is no longer able to thrive.*

Nicolas Furtado | Portland, OR

*I want to give students the education that they deserve.*

Emily Wagner | Houston, TX

*Educators should be able to teach FACTS. No more sugar coating and whitewashing.*

Sasha Leveton | Pittsburg, CA

*No one should be allowed to re-write or censor the narrative to fit an agenda. History has to stay untouched.*

Rick Searing | Kalamazoo, MI

Jennifer Lukaszewski | Milwaukee, WI

*if we want a better future for our children we must teach ALL parts of history, not white washed history! Our students deserve representation.*

Deborah Franklin-Feingold | Kingston, NY

*we need to teach our students the true history of our nation so they can improve it.*

Meta Van Sickle | North Charleston, SC

Julie Whitaker | Portland, OR

*Our students have the right to truth. Educators lay the foundation of a person's knowledge of the history of a place, whether it is local, national, or global. To selectively (or naively) omit how racist ideology has and continues to powerfully influence our institutions and identities is to deny our students the opportunity to repair and rebuild those institutions as young people and in later life. Not speaking to racism and other oppressive -isms does harm to the predictably oppressed AND to those who predictably engage in oppression (whether it is with intent or not). "I didn't know" and "I never knew that" and "I never learned about that" cannot be the norm for another generation, our current students who will grow into adults. It the job of educators to inform, to teach students to critically think, and to develop a deep care for community in all of its diversity. Our young scholars need knowledge in its fullness in order to to this well. I pledge to teach the truth. The hard truth. The messy truth. The nuanced truth. I pledge to teach the truth.*

Kelly McBride | Oakland, CA

*Kids deserve to know the truth about our history so they can make informed decisions and be critical thinkers.*

Breck Foster | Lake Oswego, OR

*Education is the answer to so many of our societal problems, and without teaching the history of systemic racism in the United States, we would not be equipping our young people with the knowledge they need to truly understand why we are where we are now as a nation, and to help be problem-solvers and change-makers to help build a more just country. We are at a tipping point in a collective consciousness around our past and we cannot go backward.*

Courtney Shimek | Morgantown, WV

*If we erase our history we are bound to repeat it.*

Sally Grant | Portland, OR

Megan Hut | Morgantown, WV

*teaching the truth about the history of this country is the only way for change in the future.*

Amy LaRosa-Peters | Portland, OR

*All students need to hear all the hard history of white supremacy*

Tim Kubik | Berthoud, CO

*If all are not free, none of us are.*

Wendy Peer | Fort Smith, AR

*I teach the truth about history from multiple viewpoints. Every citizen needs to know what happened no matter how ugly it was so that we can begin to heal and ensure it does not continue to happen.*

Annie Neeley Kirkpatrick | Bridgeport, WV

*Hiding the truth of our nation's history does not prepare our young people to be active participants in an active and inclusive democracy.*

Naomi Baumgarten | New York, NY

*Knowing the truth starts the healing process.*

Alexandra Caldwell | Yarmouth Town of, MA

Gina Horiates | Palmyra, NJ

Cristin Butler | Mount Laurel, NJ

*The truth needs to be taught*

Denise Murray | Newark, DE

*without the next generation having a complete picture of how came to be the way we are, we as a whole society will never move past or solve the problems we have because of racism, sexism, heterosexism, etc.*

Marilyn Cortez | Long Beach, CA

*It's important for students to know the history of race and gender relations in this country in order to understand the race and gender issues that exist today. How can they be problem solvers in their communities without a complete understanding of their own history and how that history influences tomorrow's policies.*

Mark Hansen | Portland, OR

*A just world will only come from a shared understanding of what has been and what is possible.*

Lindsey Harrah | Portland, OR

*Students deserve the truth.*

TARA WEST | Portland, OR

*our children deserve to know the truth in the hopes that it will make the future better for all of us.*

Cecilia Terrazas | Oakland, CA

*It is imperative that all of our students learn the history of our country, both our successes and failures, and addition to the history of oppression and racism that continues to plant this country. Anti-racist education is good for all Americans, and I am committed to continuing to teach students to be critical, resistance, I had to push for equity for the sake of all Americans*

Erica Greenberg | Seattle, WA

*I am committed to teaching the truth.*

Holly Salvatore | Portland, OR

Maggie Michaels | Portland, OR

Chelsea Blair | Portland, OR

Kate Meisel | Los Angeles, CA

*lying to children to protect the feelings of adults is abhorrent*

Karen Margolis | Portland, OR

Chris Snyderbrown | Portland, OR

Jon Skoog | Seattle, WA

*The truth might hurt but it needs to be shared with our kids.*

Alicia Nicholl | Portland, OR

*Students deserve to and need to hear the whole history of all citizens. From the very beginning, students must know the truth, including the often horrific and systemic oppression of everyone who wasn't a white well-to-do male.*

Ashley Muncie-Jarvis | Portland, OR

*The truth about our history is the only way to work towards dismantling white supremacy.*

Caryn Anderson | Portland, OR

*Our students deserve to know the truths that exist in our nation's history, not just through a white cultured lens.*

Sarita Flores | Portland, OR

Dena Yassky

Finn Menzies | Seattle, WA

Molly Meck | Seattle, WA

*It is way past time that we stand up and tell the true story of our history. I was 30 before I realized that everything I had been taught in school about the origins of our history was a lie.*

Lindsay Paiva | Providence, RI

*This type of legislation and line of thinking is absolutely contrary to the democratic purpose of schooling. Schools are microcosms of society, and as such, should be spaces where students can ask questions, process complex topics, and work together to understand their worlds. Pretending that racism and sexism do not exist in order to reduce the shame of students from the dominant group is a white supremacist and sexist approach. Just a few weeks ago the third grade teachers at our school decided to conduct a teach-in to support students to understand the ways in which the Coronavirus pandemic is increasing racism against people who are of Chinese or Asian descent. Over the past year since the outbreak of COVID-19, teachers have heard numerous incidents of anti-Asian rhetoric and racist comments from even our youngest students. While we have addressed these issues in the moment and as they have surfaced, and have had many conversations with students on this topic, we feel it is time for a more formal teach-in around this issue, especially since the recent spikes in anti-Asian violence across the U.S. Another critical part of my job is supporting students to develop the critical thinking skills necessary to comprehend and analyze the problems we face as a society and to dream up solutions and actions grounded in community organizing and uplifting marginalized voices to help shape the changes our world needs. If we are not able to do this work, our democracy and society as we know it, will be in peril. We cannot keep protecting white supremacist interests. We must keep moving toward justice.*

Ty Brack | Portland, OR

Shalyn Baylor | Morgantown, WV

*I am signing my name to show support for all students that enter my classroom.*

Jeanie Marinella | Seattle, WA

*We can't make progress in our society without teaching students about historical and current events.*

Francine Buker | Portland, OR

*The truth will set you free!*

Jon Wert | Ridgewood, NY

*I support teachers and would like to see the quality of education improving around the country.*

Katie Cryan Leary | Seattle, WA

*We need to center truth and healing to ensure educational justice for all of our students.*

Bonnie McBee | Portland, OR

*The truth is power*

Melissa Lim | Portland, OR

Julie Colando | Seattle, WA

*Kids deserve to learn the truth AND it's the only way we'll be on a path to a just society.*

Jeanne Friedman | Portage, MI

*Students have a right to the truth*

Kevin Crotchett | Portland, OR

Aneesah Jarrett | Philadelphia, PA

*I will not lie to my students about the history of their ancestors in this country. It is our duty as Americans to know and accept the actions of the past. It will only unite and strengthen us for the future.*

Jessica Quindel | Los Angeles, CA

Abigail Levin | Seattle, WA

*"The world changes according to the way people see it, and if you can alter, even by a millimeter, the way people look at reality, then you can change the world." - James Baldwin*

Laura McCutcheon | Santa Fe Springs, CA

*Historical facts matter.*

Jennifer Garcia | Howell, MI

*We can't make progress without truth and reparations.*

Megan Boyeas | Portland, OR

Ryan-O'Neil Edwards | New York, NY

*This country will never get better if we hide our heads in the sand like cowards.*

Jacqueline Miller | Milwaukee, WI

*I the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Meghan Kahn | Portland, OR

*The history of where we all have come from is imperative to deal with the inequities. We must learn how we got here to improve*

Lynnett Redhead | Baltimore, MD

*We tell our children to tell the truth, be honest etc. Well, it is time for people in authority and legislation to tell the truth as well. We do not need anymore white washing the truth. We can and our children CAN handle the truth. It is simply just time. This country will not adequately progress without the truth.*

Caitlin Hickerson | New York, NY

*I want to speak truth to power so my students know that they can and should do the same. I want to pass on what I was taught about what it means to be an engaged citizen.*

Rob Costilla | Milwaukee, WI

*It is important to teach the truth about US history, the good, the bad and the ugly. Censoring stories of marginalized people does a disservice to the full story of the United States.*

Fatima Montiel | Los Angeles, CA

*I am committed to educating our children in all aspects to empower them to make informed choices and generate their own ideas of what freedom really means in this country.*

Dalton Caudill | Clackamas, OR  
*the truth matters.*

carlos contreras | Los Angeles, CA  
*Critical race theory is a result of our historical past.*

Elsa Flores Guiles | Long Beach, CA  
*I believe in antibias curriculum.*

Margaret Buck | Tacoma, WA  
*These bills are directly in conflict with the purpose of education.*

Kristin Cheever | Milwaukee, WI  
*I owe it to my students, they deserve to know the truth about our history.*

Carlee Stoker | Portage, MI

Rebecca Sloan | Milwaukee, WI  
*our education system is rooted in injustice and racism. For too long, marginalized groups have been oppressed and our history has attempted to erase this oppression from the record books. My students deserve a nuanced, full understanding of the place they call home.*

Martha Santa Maria | Vergennes, VT  
*Truth matters.*

Alanna Merchant | San Francisco, CA  
*I want to support ALL of my students, including those who have been forgotten, underserved, and left behind historically. I want to help create a more equitable society, which means helping students understand our country's history and why things are the way they are, so that we can make changes to make it better for everyone.*

Ginger Taylor | Portland, OR  
*The truth of history matters!*

Chris Reynaga | Seattle, WA  
*We cannot create meaningful change in our society until we understand the legacy of systemic racism, dispossession and genocide of Indigenous peoples and other injustices.*

Amanda Brown | Greenfield, IN  
*my students deserve to have an education that is honest and examines bias of all types.*

Ann Lamble | Portage, MI  
*True history is important! So many stories are not being told! Kids are so much more intelligent than the average adult thinks they are!*

sheri usher | Ojai, CA

Erin Anderson | Denver, CO

Jennifer Dunn | Seattle, WA  
*"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." -James Baldwin*

Heather Anderson | Newark, DE  
*I believe my students deserve to know all of the truth of our history and I could never lie about it or cover things up. They will use this truth to make the world much better than it's ever been.*

Barbara Janssen | Fort Collins, CO  
*Our students deserve to know the truth. We must present our history accurately if we are to continue to grow, improve and come together as a nation.*

Whitney Weiner | Kalamazoo, MI  
*Education needs to be unbiased and based on factual, realistic history*

Dustin Kidd | Philadelphia, PA

Jerriel Hall | Philadelphia, PA

Ashley Bowen | Portage, MI  
*my students matter and education is power!*

Amber Dixon | Portage, MI  
*Students deserve to be informed of all sides and have an open education!*

Karen Casagrande-Dave | Livonia, MI  
*Everyone deserves to know the ugly truth of America*

Zeynep Isik-Ercan | Cherry Hill, NJ

Audra Johnson | Chandler, AZ

Jaclyn Sarnese | San Diego, CA  
*Students deserve to learn the truth, which includes all sides of history- the good, the bad, and the ugly sides of our past, if we truly want to prevent history from repeating itself*

Elaine Ferrell-Burns | Portland, OR  
*As a semi-retired teacher-librarian who remains passionate in educating our youth using accurate information, I fully support the right to do so.*

Bethany Gravert | Grand Rapids, MI  
*We cannot continue white-washing history to make white people feel comfortable. America does not have a pretty story, and we cannot grow and build a better future until we can acknowledge that.*

Melissa Sabga | Portland, OR

Dionne Gordon-Starks  
*Education in its most highest form facilitates inclusive perspectives while promoting truth, critical thinking and tolerance.*

monét cooper | Ann Arbor, MI  
*Our histories contain multitudes. In order to truly understand history, language, and ourselves, we have to engage the messiness, the chorus of voices, the tensions of the truth – the beauty and the violence.*

Carrie Beatty | Morgantown, WV  
*White washing history is not the way to a better understanding of the past nor does it lead to enlightenment.*

Kara Stephens | Philadelphia, PA

Hallie Kristalyn | Garden City, KS  
*I will not lie.*

Tamek Holman | Philadelphia, PA  
*I will teach the truth.*

Jami Forrester | Bentonville, AR

*I will teach my students to critically think about history and learn to examine and use evidence based analysis without omitting people and their cultures.*

Rodrigo Palacios-Tenorio | PHOENIX, AZ

Tina Bravata | Portage, MI

*I support telling the truth, identifying and understanding problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. I believe change to our society is crucial to our existence. I believe we must come together in solidarity to move to a more just and inclusive society.*

Sally Schuler | Richmond, VA

*Teaching honest history is the key to a free society.*

Corey Davila | Philadelphia, PA

Kevin Kinney | New York, NY

*Student needs to know the truth about history and what really happened so they're more prepared to face the harsh realities of their own existences.*

Eva Varga | North Bend, OR

*It is imperative that we understand the past to move forward together. When we better understand the past, we can better understand and appreciate our differences. My students are predominately BIPOC and I speak for them. I am their advocate.*

Betsy Osborne | Morgantown, WV

*Not only do our future teachers need to have the freedom to work with standards and curriculum that do not contribute to white supremacist ideas, but my own children deserve to hear the multiple perspectives which social studies offers. Never trust anyone who tells you there is only one truth- they most definitely are attempting to keep the wool over your eyes.*

olivia johnstone | East Orange, NJ

*All stories should be heard.*

Roxanna Thomas Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*Today and pass students be able to have a voice about their history of injustice miss education about the truth and why was it suppressed all these years.*

Rebecca Ray | Philadelphia, PA

*Students need to know the truth about their history, their culture and their heritage. We have white washed history for too long. I also think it is important to include racism in the curriculum.*

Parents United for Public Education Advocacy | Philadelphia, PA

*Belief in whitewashed lies continues to fuel gross inequities in public education. Children deserve the promise that a strong fully resourced truthfully public education can provide. Truth Matters. Teach truth.*

Robin Roberts | Philadelphia, PA

*The truth is important.*

Nick Bernardini | Philadelphia, PA

Robin Lowry | Philadelphia, PA

*If I don't teach the truth in Health class then students marginalized by the health care system or suspicious of the health care system based on historical policies and practices in this country will not develop agency in managing their own health and understanding their feelings. No child should wonder if they are alone or "the only one who feels this way." I will always speak the truth about the history of health care, the realities of environmental racism and the facts of human sexuality and identity.*

Denise Douglas | Philadelphia, PA

*We can't progress and change, if we don't know the truth!*

AJ Householder | Kalamazoo, MI

*We can't learn from the past if we erase chunks of it from curriculum.*

Jaime Higgins | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students live in a disenfranchised world were they know some people will get everything they ask for and some (mostly them) will get nothing. I work to fight this mentality everyday and will continue to do so regardless of what politicians want me to teach. History should not only be what the victorious write. History should be all sides of every story, not just the shiny parts.*

Mary Pieri

*I was lied too and am extremely behind in being aware of the world and more than the white man's history. No student deserves to be lied to!*

Holly Peterman-Gomez | Grand Rapids, MI

*I feel it is my responsibility to teach truthfully.*

Grace Voisin | Wixom, MI

Loren Koella | Belmont, MI

*Banning the truth is unlawful and only continues the cycle of oppression. It needs to stop.*

Nate Loman | Akron, OH

*the US is not perfect.*

Meagan MCGovern | San Mateo, CA

*If we don't teach about race and our country's history, we can't expect our students and future generations to change our country and world. There is so much injustice happening. Our students deserve to know the truth so they can help make change!*

Thuynga Barr | Eugene , OR

Jessica Lawson | Burlingame, CA

*I love and respect my students. They deserve to learn the truth in school!*

Samara R | Oakland, CA

Claudia Diez | Griffin, GA

*I am a mother, a white mother with white children, and they MOST LEARN about the racial injustice and racism in the history of this country...*

Charquita Arnold | Vallejo, CA

*It is an assault on truth and justice to require events that happened to not be communicated or taught. It is unfair and causes us to live in a world based on false ideas, half truths, and full lies. To repair our nation, we must face our history...all of it.*

Amber Watts | Austin, TX

Trevor Bradley | Spokane, WA

*Citizenship that is based in critical thinking, inquiry, and a desire for the truth is fundamental to a society that seeks its own betterment. The oppressive dynamics of racism, sexism, classism, and colonialism permeate our past and present; so too will they fill our future if we don't take subversive action to undermine them now. Education is central to the mission of righting the wrongs of the past and realizing a just world for ourselves and for future generations. I will not give up on this mission. I pledge to teach the truth.*

Christopher Sikich | Philadelphia, PA

*The truth about the history of this country and humanity in general is vital to understand our place in a just and fair future.*

John Cosby | Kalamazoo, MI



legislation like this would have our students believe that this nation fixed everything with the Civil War, and everything else with Martin Luther King, Jr., and that isn't true.

Jeanette Greenzweig | Wilmington, DE

Truth matters. We need to understand our past so we can move forward and, hopefully, not repeat past mistakes. We can teach truthfully and in developmentally appropriate ways.

Ashley Offidani | Portage, MI

Will Saunders | Montgomery Village, MD

I support authentic education. Nobody should be silenced from teaching the truth.

August Leppelmeier | Richmond Hill, NY

The past should not be whitewashed. The peoples' tribulations and their organizing should not be erased through modern day censorship.

Paig Spender | Grand Rapids, MI

Students should know the truth about our nations history! Teaching the truth and allowing for open and honest conversations gives students a chance to become better leaders for tomorrow and create a more welcoming world.

Abram Taber | Philadelphia, PA

to ignore the racism in our past is to do a disservice to our students in the present. Uncomfortable events shouldn't be ignored or sugar-coated, equally in music education as in history and social studies. There is a reason Elvis is called "the king of rock and roll" and not one of the numerous Black American musicians who pioneered the genre long before Mr. Presley set voice to tape. My students deserve to know who was left out of our country's (and world's) music history and why, in order reckon with and remedy these errors and omissions.

Takisha Johnson | Kalamazoo, MI

The truth you don't want to teach is the history of my people and our youth deserve to know the truth.

Lindsay Carlson | Grand Rapids, MI

I think the history speaks for itself, but the idea of gagging teachers is frightening and Draconian.

Briana Klug | Grand Rapids, MI

Nikki Bartolo | Wilmington, DE

Joline Andrews | Wyoming, MI

Students deserve to know the truth. They need to be taught to think critically and to question things. The world will continue to be racist, sexist, and homophobic if we aren't taught about history.

Lisa Yau | Philadelphia, PA

History needs to be taught: the good, the bad and the ugly.

Christopher Bradley | McAlester, OK

I pledge to teach our state and national history with truth and accuracy.

Joel Ford | Portland, OR

Teachers need to be supported and protected to teach the truth.

Scott Parsons | Newark, DE

I believe that it's important that my students know that we, their teachers, stand with them, and I believe it's essential that we give our students the knowledge and tools to work against systems of oppression in our country band around the world.

Michelle Elizondo | Byron Center, MI

If we continue to pretend racism does not exist, then hate and violence will continue in our society. If we don't talk about the past we cannot change the future. One political party is controlling the education system and the rhetoric and it will damage the public education for students learning history and the truth. We should not be suppressing history even if it's painful.

Amy Kemmer | Clarkston, MI

Jessica Wittebols | Usaf Academy, CO

History cannot be erased. It is not right to ignore the facts of the cruelties of the past. The truth should be taught.

Lindsey Daems | Benicia, CA

I believe in the truth.

Akeem Layne | Burlingame, CA

Rachael Dupon | Wyoming, MI

We can't be BETTER without teaching the things that matter.

Emily Márquez | Wyoming, MI

Our students deserve to be exposed to a true and accurate representation of our past and present in order to form their own opinions and visions for their (our) future.

Lisa Rhea | Alpena, MI

I teach social studies. In particular US history from the explorers through reconstruction. There is no way to not talk about the impact of different cultures when talking about the formation of the United States of America.

Pat Simpson | Portage, MI

Students deserve to see themselves and their history reflected in their curriculum. We do Black and Brown students harm by ignoring or denying the impact that systemic racism has on their daily lives. Educators must work to upend systems of oppression, not perpetuate them.

Kelsey Clapp | Grand Rapids, MI

It's important that our students are taught the truth about our history so we can learn and grow from it, and hopefully become better

Kiersten Greene | Highland, NY

Karen Johnson | Grand Rapids, MI

Ignoring history is not going to change things. It will only make it worse. Our students deserve better. Our future deserves better. This bill is wrong.

Nicole Durso | Grand Rapids, MI

Jill Gleason | Grand Rapids, MI

I teach, in part, because I believe in truth. It is imperative we start talking about the reality of our origins.

Kelli James | Portland, MI

I teach a diverse group of students, and the struggles they and their ancestors have faced do matter and need to be heard of we really want change to happen in our country.

Sierra Barton | El Sobrante, CA

All of our students deserve to learn an honest, reflective, justice-oriented approach to history – not a revisionist one.

Caitlin Oliver | Lowell, MI

We cannot erase history because it makes us feel uncomfortable.

Shannon Bertoni | Philadelphia, PA

Heather Phillips | Rockford, MI

*The truth is that structural racism is embedded into the fabric of our society and we cannot progress as a nation by pretending that it doesn't exist. Ignoring the issue will do nothing but aid in the continued marginalization of vulnerable populations.*

Liana Conrade | Grand Rapids, MI

*Our students deserve to be taught accurate history and current events.*

Emily Pearce | Grand Rapids, MI

AmySue Hopkins | Mason, MI

*The truth matters.*

Heather Bell | Tisbury Town of, MA

Rich Novack | Orange, CT

*We need a hypocritical oath. This is the closest thing I've seen.*

Danielle Allen | Warren, MI

*This Bill is wrong and harmful*

Christine Chisholm | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe that schools are an essential part of a working democracy, helping to create informed voting citizens. We shouldn't be afraid to face our history as Americans; in fact, we must do so if we want to keep our democracy alive.*

Maranda Anderson | Greenfield, IN

Sheila Myers | Philadelphia, PA

*My students deserve to know truth and justice.*

Rachel Zuffa | Racine, WI

*if the truths of equality matter in the United States, that every individual is deserving of "life, liberty, and the pursuit happiness," then the truths of our country's past and present have to be known and named for a tomorrow to exist.*

Laurie Bowers | Buffalo, NY

*I can't believe this is even an issue! I would have been so much more informed in school if I knew then what I know now. The truth is the truth...nothing less is acceptable!*

Empress Modupe Olufunmi-Jacobs | Pahoa, HI

*I am an ascendant of kidnapped and enslaved Africans. My ancestors' bodies, culture, language, health, labor, resources and spirituality, were sacrificed in order for me to be here today. As an educator it is my duty and my right to teach about the historical foundations of the United States. It is important that the history, cultures, legacy and struggles of the Indigenous peoples of the Americas, Africa, and Asia; as well as their valuable contributions to making the United States the nation it is today, is not distorted, erased and forgotten by future generations.*

Alexa Bergeski | Hazel Park, MI

Christina Toppen | Grand Haven, MI

Lawrence Blum | Cambridge, MA

*This legislation flies in the face of everything education and educators stand for--teaching accurate history, teaching students to think, teaching students to examine evidence, teaching them to look critically at received perspectives. Legislators should not be telling educators what to teach, and the attempt to do so would have a chilling effect on the profession of teaching.*

Arsenia Reilly-collins | Brooklyn, NY

Garrett King | Coos Bay, OR

*Because I am not a Liar*

Joseph Brusky | Milwaukee, WI

*We need to teach the truth!*

Yulee Kim | San Ramon, CA

Sean Keating

*Banning curriculum that strives to create more racial and gender equality is not a wise decision. It displays a lack of compassion for our fellow community members who, for generations, have been mistreated and marginalized.*

Samaah Mohammed | Portland, OR

*for the truth to be told*

Megan Dobson | Round Rock, TX

*I refuse to be used as a tool of oppression. In my role as a teacher, I have an opportunity and an obligation to work to dismantle white supremacy in our society, not to serve as a cog in its vast machinery. As the incoming Social Studies Department Chair at my school, I have two foundational tenets going into the new year: 1. Healthy professional boundaries for everyone. 2. Make good trouble.*

Catherine Rayes | Livonia, MI

Kirsten Smith | San Carlos, CA

*we need to be teaching the truth about our history to our youth. We need to teach the next generation of peace makers the Truth!*

Lauren Bishop | Escanaba, MI

*True patriotism is looking at past transgressions and making a concerted effort to do better. We can't erase the past, so we must learn from it.*

Dana Reisboard | Ardmore, PA

Danielle Peck | Clawson, MI

Aaron Whitmore | Burlingame, CA

Akemi Kashiwada | Burlingame, CA

*even though I'm two generations removed from the members of my family that were forced into the Japanese internment camps, it still affects my life, and I want my children to understand that as well.*

Emily Halls | Waterford, MI

*For far too long we have erased the accomplishments of people of color and erased atrocities of white people. I will not lie to students about the history of this country and its people. I will not teach students that white culture is the norm to aspire to.*

William Dominick | Doylestown, PA

*We must ALWAYS tell our students the truth.*

Jessica Blei | Portland, OR

Leah Owens | Newark, NJ

Alisa Harvey | Portland, OR

Amelia Tedesco | Philadelphia, PA

Alison Cundiff | Tucker, GA

Education is an evolving process. It is wrong to tell the stories of one group without acknowledging those of the other. If education is to continue as an honest institution, we must all commit to growing with it.

Tasha Russell | Philadelphia, PA

Erika Chavarria | Columbia, MD

Daniel Stowell | Exeter, NH

This result of this legislation is to scare educators into self-censorship on topics that have been too long ignored.

Rachel Burleson | Dallas, TX

It is brainwashing and criminal to hide, whitewash and rewrite this part of our history. It's a sham. This is a pathetic attempt to maintain white supremacy and control by avoiding these conversations or discussing our past mistakes as we work toward being better humans. Everyone can see that and it's embarrassing. I have been a proud public educator for over 20 years and this infringes on my moral and ethical beliefs. I am being forced into an ideology I do not support. This is the real push towards fascism.

Catherine Tucker | Portland, OR

teaching about racial equity and social justice is a human right and needs to be weaved into education.

Alba Lamar | Tampa, FL

history and social studies and epistemology is so much more than colonial school models let us learn about.

Katie Kelly | Greenville, SC

I am committed to teaching and learning about equity and justice.

Danielle Awad | Granada Hills, CA

My students deserve to know the truth and to think critically about history and its impact on the present. I refuse to lie to my students by teaching them a whitewashed version of history that denies the pain and suffering of our indigenous nations and black citizens, among many other cultural and ethnic groups. My students deserve to learn accurate US history so that they can grow to be critical thinkers and responsible citizens who strive to make America a better place to live for ALL its citizens, regardless of race, gender, religion, or identify, rather than citizens who live in constant denial of the oppression faced by millions throughout our country.

Andrea Ward | Benicia, CA

Melissa McCoul | Bryan, TX

Rose Bruce | Philadelphia, PA

my students deserve the truth always not just when it's convenient for politicians.

Erin Carroll | Brooklyn, NY

Ismael Jimenez | Philadelphia, PA

Vincent Brannigan | Bethesda, MD

I'm a law professor emeritus. My field is science based safety regulation. Teaching the truth in accordance with academic standards is our passion. In my case IT SAVES LIVES

Jennifer Garcia | Brooklyn, NY

I believe that true education, freedom and empowerment come from truth.

Paul Menard | Nashua, NH

Understanding the influences on events and people in the past does not demonize, villainize, or blame a person sitting in the room across from me. Teaching how a belief shaped events that influence us today helps us both see how our own thoughts and feelings impact us currently and helps frame solutions. Is it not a measure of greatness to admit our wrongdoings and work tirelessly to address them?

Michaeline Neu | North Wales, PA

Teaching the truth about historical facts is necessary so history doesn't repeat itself. All human beings, no matter what race, color, creed or sexuality deserve equality and equity. Our country has most recently been going down the dangerous path of repeating segregation and suppression.

Alison Dempsey | New York, NY

My students need the tools to recognize, challenge, and dismantle white supremacy. That starts with learning the truth about our country's history.

Mitch Powell | Santa Ana, CA

It's autocratic, authoritarian, even fascistic to limit the educational materials that broaden one's awareness of transgressions in our past so that one can grow from them, and not repeat and sustain the systemic racism seen, still, in society today.

Bettina Mow | Portland, OR

I taught for 25 in California and my last year teaching I was asked not talk about the rise of fascism and students and administration were taken aback when I spoke up about first amendment rights and the right that Colin Kaepernick had to kneel. I felt the system was racist and students of color were ignored.

Leticia Cortinas | Lake Oswego, OR

We teach our children not to lie. We shouldn't lie to them either. It's time to teach the truth and speak truth to power always.

Margaret DesCamp | Portland, OR

We cannot grow as a country, and create the democracy we were promised, unless we honestly analyze the mistakes our forefathers made, so we can learn from them.

Hilary Haskell | Appleton, WI

I believe we need to fully understand our history as a country in order to understand one another.

Celine O | Chico, CA

If we do not learn our true history, we are doomed to repeat it. I believe one of the most important things we can teach our young people today is to think critically, and without teaching the truth, how can we expect them to learn to think for themselves? To question and consider? To celebrate their own heritage and/or learn how to do better?

Catherine Hatcher | Louisville, KY

Mary Dent | Silver Spring, MD

Enough is Enough

Patty Fleetwood | Philadelphia, PA

The truth matters. Free speech matters. Speaking out matters.

Alex Mantz | Norristown, PA

Jennifer Eckert-Toler | San Juan Capistrano, CA

I have the courage to teach hard history, to teach the truth, to teach my students about the real, unvarnished history of our country.

Linda Smart | Eugene, OR

So much of what are in our textbooks has been whitewashed. True events are left out in order to highlight the perspective that is Eurocentric. We leave out or minimize the genocide of the Indigenous population of this country. We do not give credit to the black and brown hands who built our country, much of that with forced and minimally or unpaid (enslaved) labor. We leave out voices of those who have been oppressed by the European settlers. We leave out the atrocities that have been at the hands of those with European background. Let's consider the massacre in Oklahoma. The first time there was an aerial attack on our homeland. This was done to wipe out Blacks who were successfully living and prospering there. We minimize the racism toward Asian Americans and Latinx people. Some of

*the arguments given in the states who are trying to wipe out the telling of authentic history is that we do not wish to make any students feel bad. They leave out the word White. They do not want White people to feel bad. What about our students of color who only see themselves being oppressed, minimized or not even shown at all? Although there is supposed to be separation of church and state, material is presented from a "Christian" point of view. Students or staff who identify as non-binary are also viewed in the negative or simply erased. All of our students need to see themselves in the history that we teach and teachers should not be threatened for telling the whole truth. We consider ourselves to be a democracy. How is that represented in what we are teaching?*

Danielle Farley | Philadelphia, PA

*We cannot move forward if we don't teach the truth.*

Shaw MacQueen | Philadelphia, PA

Kelli Joy | Portland, OR

*Our students deserve to learn the truth so they don't make the same mistakes we made.*

Janet Frey | Dallas, TX

*teaching kids the truth is a powerful tool for creating lasting positive change for the communities that inhabit this land and make up our society.*

monica Semeria | Portland, OR

*my students deserve the truth. This country needs the truth in order to become the great nation it says it is.*

Athena Andrews | Portland, OR

Victoria Lebrón | Baltimore, MD

*Students deserve to know the truth about this country so that they can identify systems and structures. It will also enable them to dismantle those structures that oppress and imagine new ones.*

Gab Sussman | Baltimore, MD

Chris Lodore | Portland, OR

Leesa Ferguson | Portland, OR

*All Lies Matter, Our children deserve to learn the truth. Period.*

Christine Williams | Houston, TX

*I think all history needs to be taught. The good, bad and the ugly.*

Denise Oglesby | Athens, GA

*Learning the truth will help all of us, not the least of which are marginalized people, but White folks too will benefit. Being a member, or aspiring to be a member, of the oppressor class takes a social-emotional, mental health toll.*

Heather Mathewson | Portland, OR

Elizabeth Young | Hamden, CT

*Teaching the Truth is the most important thing teachers can do to help save and improve this nation.*

Jennifer Kuhn | Portland, OR

*I care about my students knowing the truth about our country so we can build a better future for all.*

Linda Huerta | Richmond, CA

*I grew up in Richmond, CA and all of the teachers that I've had, have always told us the truth about history in the United States, they don't sugarcoat anything. I am a strong believer that our future generations deserve to know the truth and shouldn't be "brainwashed" or kept away from the true history to this country. If my generation was able to put 2 and 2 together, and we weren't taught exactly every single thing, then everything would make sense to the newer generations with the politics within this country that they have seen.*

Jane Strugatsky | Portland, OR

Mary Beckloff | Greenville, NC

Laura Buffi | Danielson

*We cannot make meaningful progress until we are, at the very least, honest about our past.*

Jocelyn Merrill | Nashua, NH

*Not only does a bill like NH HB544 add insult to injury, but it insults my students who are responsible and critical thinkers. They crave and deserve to have these "difficult" discussions in brave spaces like my classroom and in the classrooms of my fellow educators. As an English teacher, identity is one of the largest themes that my students and I tackle, and within that comes celebrating all parts of my students'. One of the most valid ways I can do that is through dialogue and offering literature that both speaks to them and their experience AND broadens their perspective on the experiences that people who do not look like them have.*

Anne Mulligan-Brinson | Happy Valley, OR

Carolyn Blum | Portland, OR

Kate Soucy | Nashua, NH

*I am committed to empowering students with knowledge and TRUTH.*

Sarah Kaka | Delaware, OH

*I refuse to lie to my students, and to teach them to lie to their students. Instead of pulling the wool over their eyes and continuing to teach a whitewashed, false narrative, we should be teaching the truth and helping them become critical consumers of historical information. The K-12 classroom allows us to manage the debate they may already be participating in/aware of, and provide and correct, unbiased information so that they can be more civically aware.*

Allison Ojeda | Louisville, KY

*I am not afraid to teach the "hard" topics. It's time. Our kids deserve better - they deserve the truth.*

idalia bamert | New York, NY

Andrew Scopp | New York, NY

*Kids deserve to know the whole truth about our nation's history, even if it's hard to hear.*

Shauna Jackson | Orlando, FL

*Teachers are supposed to educate. We are supposed to be trusted and looked to for guidance. I will not teach white painted history that is smothered in lies.*

Bill Smith | Brick, NJ

Michelle Munizaga | Louisville, KY

*It is my civic duty to all students to teach and speak truth.*

Derek Ault | Chicago, IL

*my students need to know the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.*

Rachel Hanes | Portland, OR

*I don't want to lie to my students. I want my students to understand the complexity of our history so they can uphold the ideals of liberty and justice for all that we have yet to make a reality for all members of our society.*

dawn miller | San Diego, CA

Jamilah Scott | Leander, TX

*I am a Black woman, mother of Black children, and an educator. I refuse to lie to my students. I became an educator to empower students, especially the most marginalized among us. That role comes with a responsibility to engage with them authentically and in truth. That is what I have always done and will continue to*

do so.

Amber Cameron | Alameda, CA

Sumita Soni | Berkeley, CA

Jessie Nimeh | Rochester, NY

*Children must know the truth to make the future better*

Mary Kay Maslanka | Riga Town of, NY

Tim Swinehart | Portland, OR

Noe Garza | San Antonio , TX

*our nation can only set itself free when it's people know the whole truth regardless how uncomfortable it is. Then we can begin to heal and make sure it is never repeated. Si Se Puede.*

Zoe M Ehrenberg | Philadelphia, PA

Adrian Galvan | Everett, WA

*All students should learn a unbiased truth of history.*

Helen Turner | Louisville, KY

*I want our future to know our true history in order to prevent similar things from happening again. Knowledge is POWER*

Bonita Hampton | Oswego, NY

*It's not only ironic but unfortunate that we have people among us who would do anything, including passing Bills, to continue the perpetuation of an incomplete historical record, even though, like now, the truth (a more complete history) will out!!*

Chas Foster | Silver Spring, MD

*While this type of legislation has not yet been proposed in Maryland, an erosion of any teacher's freedom to speak the truth is an assault of all our freedoms.*

Helen Serafino-Agar | San Francisco, CA

*the students need to hear the truth.*

Lihi Rosenthal | Berkeley, CA

Sara Stellfox | Chicago, IL

*It's important to acknowledge and study our historical and current events to support our students in becoming informed citizens.*

Aimee Sutherland | Kittery, Town of, ME

*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Shelah Kelso | Beaverton, OR

Mima Takemoto | Atherton, CA

Blake Mazurek | Grand Rapids, MI

*Learning about our past SHOULD illicit a degree of uncomfortableness and challenge us. Understanding the truth about our troubled past will help us recognize the work we still have before us. It should also serve as a warning bell to guard against the rising threats to our nation. No, I do not hate America... I simply have high expectations for a republic dedicated to the proposition that all people are created equal and a government of, by and for the people.*

Guthrie Fleischman | El Sobrante, CA

Jaimee Taborda | Oxford, MA

*Students deserve the truth. Learning about our difficult past is a necessity in order to make better decisions in the future. How can we expect our students to think critically if we conceal the truth?*

Brennan Brockbank | Portland, OR

Kathy Zaleski | Arvada, CO

*Students must know the truth about what really happened in history as well as how our economy and government works. I became a teacher because I learned a whitewashed, revisionist version of history and wanted to do better for my students.*

Sherri Lucas-Hall | Lawrenceville, GA

*I know that unless we teach TRUTH to students they will be unable to make INFORMED decisions about their futures and the future of this nation.*

Jill Waters | Sonoma, CA

*It is important*

JoEllen Marley | Bristol, PA

Kristin Thompson | Maple Grove, MN

Maria Pflanz | Fort Lee, NJ

*Truth and integrity should never be feared. Why are you afraid? The children should be honored and trusted with the truth. Integrity, respect, and genuine care for our humanity naturally lead to freedom, which is under attack with these bills that are based on fear of that which makes us all so powerful together. Truth. Integrity. Facing our own history, owning it, repairing, and improving. Don't be afraid. Educate yourselves! You owe it to your constituents, children, future generations, and the country.*

Sabrina Sears | Beckley, WV

*I refuse to teach my diverse body of students a whitewashed, false truth. The voices of minorities WILL BE HEARD in my classroom!*

Natasha Beck | Portland, OR

*I'm a veteran social justice organizer, multi-disciplinary educator, and writer who knows we must continue to speak truth to power and, in the words of the late John Lewis, "make good trouble."*

Leo (they/them) Soell | Portland, OR

*All students deserve to understand real histories rather than oppressive whitewashed curriculum. BIPOC, queer, trans, immigrant, poor, and all oppressed identities matter and have been erased since colonization. I will teach the truth because that is my job as a teacher.*

Christine Manzo | Louisville, CO

*True history needs to be taught, so children can make decisions and be critical thinkers as they age.*

Steven McCullough | Falls Church, VA

*Attempts to mute student thought, stifle the voices of teachers or cut off critical discussion in the classroom is what is truly un-American, moreover, it prevents our young people from talking about the difficult chapters in our nation's history and impacts their ability to heal from intergenerational trauma. We must build an informed, empowered, and engaged generation of students who understand their history and are equipped to talk about the challenges of racism in order to build stronger communities.*

Nathan Beck | Portland, OR

*Truth matters.*

Darrin Hoop | Renton, WA

Mauria McClay | Portland, OR

Franki Dennison | Portland, OR

*Lies are always more dangerous than the truth. Equity depends on the truth.*

Kelli Modine | Bellmead, TX

Dina Modine | Charlotte, NC

*I believe we only learn through true stories we share with one another. History is alive. It involves context, perspective and people...all of which must be honored and respected for us to work together for US...not one group, but all people.*

Marianne Lowery | Portland, OR

Sarah Mykkanen | Portland, OR

*We can't build a better future if we don't teach students the truth of the past.*

Leah Starr | Portland, OR

*It's time for ALL teachers of ALL content areas to include explanations of how systemic racism affects not only the local education systems that we teach in but the larger systems of politics and economics that we are preparing our students to participate in.*

Kelly Greenberg | Portland, OR

Zina Toure | Minneapolis, MN

*I understand the intersection of history and raising interest in young learners to follow path , break down previous unsustainable pattern, foster healthy curiosity and understanding of any perceived «other», see injustices as a matter of choices and begin to deem themselves as power wielding individuals.*

Samantha Gross | Philadelphia, PA

Anna Jablonski | Portland, OR

*WE MUST TEACH THE TRUTH TO HEAL AND GROW HEALTHY AS A SOCIETY. It fucking pisses me off that I wasn't taught as a kid or young adult and that the truth is still concealed.*

Mary Watkins | Portland, OR

Audrey Patterson | Portland, OR

Kayla Long | Arlington, TX

Carrie Betti | San Mateo, CA

*Multiple perspectives and the truth must be taught in our schools for social justice and our future.*

Rena Long | Arlington, TX

*I feel it is overstep to institute this legislation.*

Kealy Barrow Strange | Portland, OR

Jessica Paul | Portland, OR

*Denying the ugly truth of America's history is not what unifies us, it's what continues to divide us. The truth is what sets us free. Teaching our history and giving justice and opportunity to those harmed by it is our only way forward.*

Melissa Immesoete | Portland, OR

*We are stronger together on a foundation of truth.*

Elicia Blackford | Portland, OR

Ann Rarden | San Mateo, CA

*our children need to hear the truth so they can act on dismantling the systems of injustice and inequity*

Susan Speyer-Boilard | San Francisco, CA

*It is time to be honest!!!*

Tracy Scott | Tustin, CA

*Only through the truth can we truly understand how history influences the present; only through the truth can we lovingly reshape our country to better match its ideals; only through the truth can we achieve the real American Dream- All people are created equal with inalienable rights.*

Laura McLeod | Richland, WA

Jennifer Edelson | Portland, OR

*Education is authentic and needs the truth, no matter how inconvenient to some.*

Shane Safir | Oakland, CA

Arielle King | San Diego, CA

Briana Gonzales | Denver, CO

Colette Cann | San Francisco, CA

Leila Kayed | Cary, NC

Rosie Herold | Mount Pleasant, SC

Anne Nelson | Conifer, CO

Bob Peterson | Milwaukee, WI

*Because if we never teach about the horrors of racism, there will never be a reason for the upcoming generation to be anti-racist. And we need all people in this country to be anti-racist.*

Tina Beck | Hilton Head Island, SC

*I have always taught the truth and I refuse to stop! My students deserve it and all are stronger for knowing it. It makes them want to reach the nation's professed ideals even more. Knowledge is power, which is clearly what conservatives are trying to take away - our power! Only by facing the truth will we move forward and become truly great.*

Venessa Valdez | Denver, CO

*I believe the truth must be told. Our students, my children deserve the truth now.*

Kelly Bayes | Largo, FL

Kim Klett | Gilbert, AZ

*It is imperative that we teach with accuracy and truth so our students trust us and learn, continuing to move us forward.*

Kathe Hetter | Ann Arbor, MI

*Every high school students needs to learn our true and factual history of the United States, the good, the bad, and the ugly. Every perspective must be given*

Kari Taylor | Fpo, CA

*All students deserve to know the actual history of their country. Even though I am not a history teacher, I will support my fellow teachers and supplement where I can in the science curriculum. This is crucial to our democracy.*

Allison Newton | Portland, OR

*I stand for human rights and justice. I will not let the history of the human experience in our country continue to be edited to keep white people in power and to make them feel comfortable, justified, or innocent. In solidarity- Allison*

Jackson Mowe | Portland, OR

*When students find truth amongst nation-sized myths it nourishes a hopeful future.*

Tamara Erickson | Seattle, WA

*Our kids deserve to learn the unbiased facts of our history.*

Megan OLeary | Portland, OR

Georgia Childs | Ayden, NC

Garrett Mattson | Portland, OR

*Our K-12 history has been to ignore the depth and breadth of how this nation has systemically discriminated against BIPOC people.*

Janet Olsson | Portland, OR

*Our students, including my own children, deserve to know the truth of our country's racist past and the role it has played in our country's racist present. We cannot fix what we do not see.*

Katherine Kondylis | Portland, OR

*Anti-racist teaching requires us to face the truth of our history and it's continued negative impact on marginalized groups. My students deserve to not only know the truth of the past, but also strategies to resist oppression and role models who look like them and have changed the world for the better!*

Sarah Prigmore | Alexandria, VA

*I believe that we should stop white-washing history. Our country was founded on policies made by white males, but built on the back of all others. We have to condemn, address, and destroy institutional racism and not try to hide it as we've done in the past. We must face the injustices in this country and throughout education and take action through speaking the real history of the United States.*

Anne Laufe | Portland, OR

Cathy Skach | Portland, OR

*I care about preserving the TRUTH!*

Jeri Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*Students have a fundamental right to know the truth.*

Aarika Elwer | Portland, OR

*People, including my students, deserve to know that history is not a monolith.*

Nicole Hagans | Oklahoma City, OK

*I will teach the truth about how our nation came about the good, the bad and the ugly. I will also help my students see all sides of a situation, so they can become informed members of society.*

Kristin Irwin | Portland, OR

*We must teach the truth in order to dismantle white supremacy and systematic racism.*

Gina Azzaro-Budak | Portland, OR

*"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it!" -George Santayana 1905*

Kristin Werts | Portland, OR

Maricruz Padilla | Portland, OR

*Teaching people's history will improve people's future in the United States of America.*

Christi Lossner | Portland, OR

Jo Lane | Portland, OR

*I am committed to teaching my students their whole history and truth.*

Diane Williams | Salem, OR

*The only way to do right is to look squarely at past wrongs, whether my own or my ancestors', and make amends.*

Tamara O'Malley | Portland, OR

*I believe in telling the truth and acknowledging past and present wrongs so we can attempt to heal them.*

LeeAnne Heuberger | Portland, OR

*If we are not able to teach and address our complete history we will never move forward as a nation.*

Megan Kendall | Portland, OR

Brandy Takacs | Portland, OR

*I am one of few teachers of color in Oregon. Erasing our Truth from History is erasing who we are as people. All sides of an issue should be viewed in our History.*

Mercedes Munoz | Portland, OR

*I am tasked with helping to shape the future, one student at a time. If I cannot teach them to think critically and examine history--- how can I hope to see new outcomes? We cannot lie about the history of the United States.*

Tara Straubinger | Portland, OR

Shannon Hennrich | Portland, OR

*I am a social justice warrior of 22 years with twice Exceptionalities myself. I have been teaching truth since the 80s and will continue til my last breath.*

Ryan Shipe | Portland, OR

*Unless kids understand the reality of the our world they will be ill equipped to work towards making it better.*

Audrienne Manansala | Portland, OR

Dori Isakson | Portland, OR

Anjanette Hawksford | Portland, OR

*all students should learn the true US History.*

Amanda Lyon | Lake Oswego, OR

Jennifer Hellman | Portland, OR

*I am a committed anti racist, social justice educator. I stand in solidarity with all teachers who are committed to teaching the truth of U.S. History and the role of white supremacy in order to work to dismantle systemic racism.*

Eric Levine | Portland, OR

*I teach truth!*

Lindy Settevendemie | Atlanta, GA

*The truth will set us all free. Our children have the right to learn the truth about the reality of white supremacy and the racist systems that have always governed our country and continue to shape our lives. It is my hope that in learning the truth, children will begin to heal and will be able to imagine and create a more equitable world. We need truth, reconciliation, and reparations.*

Christina Velasco | San Francisco, CA

*It's time to dismantle white supremacy. Teach the truth. HISTORY is bound to repeat itself unless we learn from it.*

Alison Anson | San Carlos, CA

History needs to be about all people, not just those who conquered others. Students will be very excited to learn about history that is relevant to their lives and includes all people's stories.

Michael Moon | Grifton, NC

Studying history will sometimes make you uncomfortable. Studying history will sometimes make you feel extremely angry. If studying history always makes you feel proud and happy, you probably aren't studying history.

Myra Quadros | San Francisco, CA

I believe we must teach our students a different history, the truth.

Zarina Ahmad | Oakland, CA

I am signing my name because I was a young adult before I learned the truth about the racist, oppressive and demoralizing principles that played a major role in the founding of the United States. I strongly believe that if we learn the truth at an early age about racist practices, we can begin to heal and break down the walls that separate us all as people. We can all learn from mistakes but first we must acknowledge that the treatment of African American people in this nation has been cruel. The black people of Tulsa, Rosewood and ancestors of enslaved people should be compensated for all that they and for the years of free labor that benefitted others. Exclusion from federal taxes, free college tuition and actual cash payments are long overdue.

La Vina Lowery | Atherton, CA

Jim Argent | Raleigh, NC

We can not stay silent and allow the truth to be washed away. Just as Germany teaches about Nazism, we too must teach of the atrocities that occurred in building this nation!

Donnella Quartman | Jacksonville, FL

For too long have Blacks been denied the truth of their ancestry and brainwashed to believe that we did not have a vibrant, brilliant ancestral history.

Alexa Arboleda | Washington, DC

I care about sharing all stories, understanding all perspective, and not conflating objectivity with oppression or silence.

Courtenay Forward | Kaufman, TX

Sabre Goldman | Washington, DC

I am signing to speak out against the pro-racist and heteronormative education laws being passed which will only further marginalize our underrepresented students and cultures. Teachers should never fear to teach the need for change and for liberation.

Amy Adams | Kittery, Town of, ME

Only the truth can set us free.

Lisa Montgomery | Jacksonville, FL

I teach adult literacy, and I refuse to lie to my students about American history and the roles of slavery, racism, and sexism in the formation of our culture, our government, and our cities.

Tom Calvanico | Rumson, NJ

It matters!

Christine Leishman | San Francisco, CA

I do not want a generation to go by without living up to our ideals of ALL PEOPLE being created equal.

Brady Bennon | Lake Oswego, OR

Students deserve to know the truth so that our society can grapple with ways to make the world more just, equitable, and fair. We cannot get there by burying our history.

Myra Haase | Indianapolis, IN

There is a danger in anytime there is a single story. "History can only teach its lesson if it is remembered," and history is not just 'in the past' it has and is shaping our students present. They are agents for the future. They need to have the truth if they are going to learn from history.

Michele Cerino | Westport, CT

Our students deserve to know the truth, have a voice, and make choices about what it means to be a responsible global citizen. Education to defend our democracy!

Michael Smaczyllo | Philadelphia, PA

I refuse to lie to my students about the structures that have been put in place to keep them disempowered.

Jenifer Felix | Philadelphia, PA

the truth is important and all children deserve to know how history has shaped their reality

Joseph Jones | Philadelphia, PA

all of American history needs to be able to be part of the school experience for all our students.

Aimee Shelton | Philadelphia, PA

Students need to be taught the truth.

Sarah Goldman | Philadelphia, PA

my students deserve to learn the truth behind racism and Eurocentrism in math history and beyond!

James Hardy | Philadelphia, PA

Education requires truth.

Frank Pinzarrone | Piritina, PA

I feel strongly about telling the students the whole truth about our history and recognizing not one but all who contributed to our history.

Kristian Ogungbemi | Philadelphia, PA

Michelle Desjardins | Philadelphia, PA

kids deserve to learn the truth and evaluate it on their own accord.

Nellie Kollar | Philadelphia, PA

Yhane Smith | New York, NY

Kevin Kinney | New York, NY

It's been time for a long time that His story stopped being told and the real truth (History) actually be told. Only then will a clear picture of existence in America be properly viewed and every human being be seen in the light of truth and the harsh reality of our existence. Then and only then will individuals be recognized for their positive or negative behaviors and contributions. LET THE TRUTH BE REVEALED AND DEALT WITH!

Theresa Luongo | New York, NY

It is our responsibility as educators to make sure the truth is told and students have the opportunity to learn from history.

Evalyn Bladstrom | New York, NY

I believe young people need to be educated in civics to participate in a democratic government and democracy requires participation of its citizens to work.

elizabeth colucci | Martinsville, NJ

It is imperative more than ever that we begin to teach the truth about our history as a country in relation to our treatment of people of color. It is our duty to share this information with future generations. In this current climate we have an opportunity to make change.

Mallory Hutchings-Tryon | Kansas City, MO



Lisa Young | Harker Heights, TX

*I believe our children have a right to know the truth no matter how painful or messed up it was. We can't teach them so young not to lie and then turn around and do the very opposite. If those who are trying to omit the truth believe it was right, then why not embrace it. Allow generations after us to know what happened. It can bring about change in this country & also the world.*

Naomi Smith | New York, NY

*"History can only teach its lesson if it is remembered," but what if the history was never taught or talked about? We must teach it to save our souls and save our Nation.*

Laree Henning | Thousand Oaks, CA

*We must face the true history of our country if we are to make true change in our country.*

Jane Zanger | Annapolis, MD

*I didn't learn the truth of our history until I was an adult. The only way to reconciliation of racial inj*

Katherine Lauher | Philadelphia, PA

Jessica Blanchard, Anti-Oppression Ally (she/her/hers) | San Diego, CA

*I am committed to educating students how to connect the dots between society's oppressive roots sown in the past and the thriving manifestations of oppression in the present. I am committed to partnering with equity/social justice-minded allies to teach our youth how to be more educated on oppression in all its forms so they can join our anti-oppression ancestors in leading the way to be a more accepting, caring, and thoughtful generation committed to genuine, humanizing liberation for all. I am committed, also, to those folks who resist, who deny, who fear anti-oppression ideology and action. I stand with my ally partners in not giving up on you. Change. It is hard. But possible. Always possible. I believe this. This is why I sign my name. Jessica Blanchard*

Brian Lozenski | Saint Paul, MN

*You cannot legislate against truth. You cannot negotiate liberation. I will always teach about the knowledge, lives, struggles, and triumphs of my ancestors.*

Liz Williams | Decatur, GA

*I am deeply concerned about a resolution our state DOE is considering that will dictate what I can teach in the classroom, at a time when I feel we have only just begun to teach the whole story.*

Diane Pecknold | Louisville, KY

*Students deserve to know the full truth.*

Tracy Binet-Perrin | Brattleboro Town of, VT

*Our students need to know the truth about our history. Knowing the truth is one of the foundations needed for our students to make change and create equity among all people. We need to stop legislating hatred and oppression.*

Elizabeth Devan | San Mateo, CA

*I have experienced and witnessed racism/bias/inequality/unfair treatment my whole life. I want my child to learn about the past, learn what is just and not, and not contribute to the cycle of injustice. We should always teach the truth - even if it is not pretty.*

Paula Eisenrich | Seattle, WA

*accurately representing what is happening allows students to critically think about events and determine if there area alternative solutions to try!*

Christopher Coash | Oshtemo Twp, MI

*the truth matters.*

Christopher Michel | Plainfield, IL

*we need to bring people forward to be more understanding and accepting of all people. We have to stop the lies and continued cover up of past atrocities. The rewriting of history needs to be corrected. The evidence needs to be shared so the real history can be taught. By starting with the truth at the younger generations, all of us can hopefully bring along the older groups.*

Nancy Hale , CA

*I believe all Americans deserve to know their history-- all of their history. If we don't allow students to be exposed to all of history, if we censor our history, if we ban our history, what kind of citizens are we producing?*

Jesse Dobson | Portland, OR

Jason Collins | Menomonie, WI

*White supremacy needs to end.*

Louis Russo | Vineland, NJ

*Students deserve to hear the full story and the factual truth about the history of our nation. Howard Zinn was inspirational to me and many others students. In his name, I will carry on with the teaching of history with full attention to all facets of our history. No child should receive an education in history that is short-circuited by politically biased propaganda. The truth is sometimes uncomfortable, but acknowledging it is essential.*

Geri Kinlaw | Simpsonville, SC

Diana Bass | Draper, UT

*I refuse to lie to students. A country cannot truly delcare itself great when it refuses to learn from its past. While we have made progress, there is much work to do.*

Lauren Gaston | Phoenix, AZ

*My students deserve to know and understand American history, the FULL, COMPLETE history. They cannot be informed citizens who use critical thinking if they do not know their country's accurate history. Many students are represented through the different events and people of the past, and deserve to be represented in class.*

Katherine Grunewald | San Jose, CA

Michelle Murano | San Mateo, CA

*Knowledge is power.*

DEBBIE REESE | Urbana, IL

*It is necessary that children be given accurate materials about Native peoples. This usually means correcting the narrative found in most history textbooks. That correction is not well-received by white people who don't want to face that facts of white invasion and exploitation of Native homelands and in the past--and in the present, too. We've seen positive growth of honest histories in children's books, but all of that growth is at risk in these 15 states and elsewhere, too. Native people are still here because our ancestors fought back against oppression. We continue to do that. I continue to do that with my work at American Indians in Children's Literature.*

Carissa Smith | Schenectady, NY

*I believe that teaching students how to think critically about information is paramount to helping them develop as responsible adults. By limiting what teachers can and can't discuss with students in regards to racism, classicism, sexism, etc., only cripples their education and by extension leads to an ill-informed public.*

Donna Sharer | Philadelphia, PA

*As a student, I was not told the truth. We need school to be safe spaces to explore, critique and challenge injustice and inequity to build a more humane and equitable society for everyone - in the U.S. and around the world.*

Daniel Helms | Kannapolis, NC

*We cannot fully understand our history without confronting the uncomfortable pieces. History is the story of humans, beings that are not perfect. Why should we attempt to hide that?*

Catherine Pickering | Philadelphia, PA

Jude Smitley | Morton, PA

*my children are being taught revisionist history and exclusionist history. We need to tell the truth even when it's hard. Otherwise we are doomed to repeat history and continue to live in a white supremacist society. None of us is free till all of us are free!*

Lauren Vargas | Philadelphia, PA

Martina Vit | Ypsilanti, MI

Jose Lopez | Moreno Valley, CA

Stephanie Devaney | Akron, NY

*As a librarian and educator it is my professional and ethical duty to teach truth and critical thinking skills. I will teach truth as a way to show my students the love and respect they deserve.*

Adriana Robledo | Sarasota, FL

*It is an essential component of the immigration process that my students learn the true history of the U.S.*

Beth Huber | Cedar Falls, IA

*Lies have been told for far too long and have contributed to the achievement gap in education. All children need to learn and understand the truth, so that we may all move forward.*

Nyshawana Francis-Thompson | Clifton Heights, PA

*We need to elevate the voices of marginalized groups in telling history because we have all been harmed by history taught from the colonizers perspective*

Allison Aubrey | Chattanooga, TN

*The bill that's been passed further marginalizes and pushes to the side the reality of many of the students we serve in our community. I want to uphold the truth.*

Louise Connolly | New York, NY

*I believe that if we do not ensure our young students are exposed to all people's stories, then all people will never be acknowledged and affirmed in our society. Our children are the ones who will possibly be the first ones ever to have been taught by teachers who want to face the omissions and erasures that are perpetuated in schools. They might be the first generation of US students who are taught to be anti-racist. I want to be a part of that.*

Erin Schauder | Atlanta, GA

*Our students deserve to know the truth! We must acknowledge the past to learn from it and do better by it.*

Therese Upperman | Wooster, OH

*I believe in telling the truth to dispel racism and sexist thinking.*

Jennifer Lisy | Delaware, OH

Carrie Odgers Lax | Oakland, NJ

Megan Owens | Philadelphia, PA

*As someone who has been educated in this country and is now an educator, I realize that so much of what should shame us about our racial history has been suppressed. We can not have true racial reconciliation and equity if we do not tell the truth. And no teacher should have to worry about legal action against them if they are teaching historical truth.*

Patricia González-Villaseñor | Austin, TX

*if we don't stop and reflect on what WE as a society are ignoring, we will not be able to reach wisdom. It is important to understand the roots of all our inequalities and think about strategies and tools that we could use to reshape our present and our future. It is not just a history of oppression, but also a history of how people have organized and created coalitions across race, class, and gender. This is a very important topic that needs to be think, discuss to advance as a society.*

Charles Alexander | Silver Spring, MD

*Because we must teach the whole of our history. Loving one country is a lot like loving one's family. WE should not avoid difficult discussions, we embrace them with the hope that our unit becomes stronger in the end. We need to understand our country's flaws and glows both. We must understand where we have fallen short of the ideal so we can better strive to reach the ideal as each generation transitions into positions of leading her.*

Jessica Cresseveur | Louisville, KY

*College is not just about "career training." It is also about shaping conscientious citizens who can and should make positive change regardless of which career field they choose. I want my students to know the complete story of American (and global) history, no matter how disturbing that history is. As the old saying warns, those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it. Likewise, those who know about the past can analyze the mistakes of our ancestors and use that information to create a truly just world.*

Dena Stanley | Hillsborough, NC

*North Carolina is one of those states that has a House Bill like many of those other states. We have been able to fend it off so far for the time being. But if nothing changes I'm sure it will pass eventually.*

Jenn Siegel | Boise, ID

Katrina Martin | Oakland, CA

*What's the purpose of education if we don't teach the truth?*

susan gittinger | Overland Park, KS

*I am signing my name because truth is the the point at which justice, dignity, and freedom intersect. It is the point from which the ray of hope for the future begins.*

Jennifer Flaherty | Kent, OH

Scott Browne | Castle Hills, TX

*freedom of speech and racial injustice in America is not, and has never been, just a problem of isolated instances of individual bias and private prejudice which we can solve by enacting 'color-blind' laws and policies.*

Chris Trevethan | Springfield, MA

*I am a teacher, an educator. I work with learners who make changes for the better. Teachers ought to help not hinder.*

Laura Rivera | Bronx, NY

Misty Crompton | New Boston, NH

*I am signing this pledge because I am deeply disturbed by both the attempted culture war and censorship being thrust upon schools and other organizations all across the nation. The teaching of truth to people of all ages is essential so we can examine our past and create a society focused on progress. Good teaching also means utilizing a rich landscape of stories and perspectives that are all around us and I refuse to bury that truth as it is shared with the world.*

Lawrence Miller | Newtown Square, PA

*I am not a professional educator but I pledge to teach my children of the legacy of slavery that can still be seen and felt in modern times.*

Chloe Polentes | Philadelphia, PA

*Students need to know true history in order to aid in change.*

Mary Stokke Vides | Sacramento, CA

William Heuisler | Los Angeles, CA

*We have lied about our past for too long and it is a detriment to ALL Americans. America is a great nation but it will never be what it proclaims to be until we reckon with our full past.*

Michelle Yee | Palo Alto, CA

Jennifer Matsunaga | Burbank, CA

*The only way to fix the future is to tell the truth about the past*

Emma March | Bronx, NY

*My students matter and deserve to know the truth.*

Sarah Amos | San Carlos, CA

*The truth will set us free!*

Silvana Oderisi | Washington, DC

Sarah Tarutani | Louisville, KY

Maria Torres | Homestead, FL

*Children need to know the truth to break this cycle! They need to be able to distinguish between the right way and wrong way to treat others!*

Esme Pierzchala | Washington, DC

LAURIE MAZER | Philadelphia, PA

*I want our teachers to be free to teach the truth about our world. Lawmakers in at least 15 states are attempting to pass legislation that would require teachers to lie to students about the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history. I support our educators across the U.S. who are signing a pledge to teach the truth.*

Burnett Gallman | Columbia, SC

*Racism is alive and well and thrives in America, the bastion of white supremacy.*

Jody OBryan, LMSW | Ypsilanti, MI

*my responsibility is to leave a legacy of love by teaching the truth.*

Kenneth Brown | Las Vegas, NV

*What can be said about a nation that would choose to actively lie about its history instead of facing the truth? Is the premise and promise of America so weak that it cannot withstand a look in the mirror? If it is, then we no longer should refer to ourselves as exceptional in any meaning of the word. We should earn our place in the world by acknowledging and correcting past mistakes without self-congratulation for doing so. If we want America to truly be great, we must first acknowledge that the supposed greatness has come at the expense of peoples who are responsible for building the nation.*

Debra Stoleroff | Plainfield, VT

Ebony LePenn | Roxbury, MA

*The truth will set us all free, and I'm doing my part! No more inherited Lies disrupting our next several generations!*

Rachel Lugo GE

Lydia Tippett | Marriottsville, MD

Danyelle L Matthews | Adrian

*Students need to know the truth in order to learn from mistakes made in order to allow them to develop their own thoughts and perspectives. This in turn will lend itself to progressive, yet collaborative and cooperative, change for our country. These students are conscious of worldly events. Providing them with the truth will allow them to become active in civic affairs and participate in our democracy.*

Thomas Guglielmo | Washington, DC

*"I think the past is all that makes the present coherent and ... the past will remain horrible as long as we refuse to assess it honestly." --James Baldwin, 1949*

Dee Crescitelli | Georgetown, KY

*We have an obligation to tell the truth, even when it is unpleasant and unflattering information about our heroes. Humanity deserves to know the complexity of the experiences that have brought us to this point in time, and we must really examine these in detail in order to come to terms with damages done. We can celebrate as well as critique the events that forged us as a nation, and in fact we must if we intend to keep moving toward forming that more perfect Union first described in the Constitution.*

Lawrence Wirth | Fairport, NY

*As an educator, I have the responsibility to convey the truth, whether it is in science, where the truth is also being attacked, or in history and the social sciences. As a nation, we have to accept and come to terms with that history and our responsibility to repair the damage done to others.*

Wesley Hogan | Durham, NC

*We owe all children (and adults) the full unvarnished truth about who we are today as a people, and who we have been, in order to have a chance at building a future together where we can keep getting closer to carrying out the country's mission, to build a society where "all are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." We can't build that society on who we wish we had been. It must be based on who we have been, and are today.*

Emily Twyman | Bellmead, TX

Ginnia Hargins | Los Angeles, CA

*the truth about institutionalized racism must be revealed through students' education in order to better ourselves and our futures.*

Alisha Paroo | Irving, TX

*Teaching and learning the truth is important. Without students understanding and knowing the truth of the land, there can be no true growth and understanding.*

Bruce Nelson | Mesa, AZ

*Bruce Nelson is an independent curator and documentary filmmaker from Mesa, Arizona. His work as a curator and documentarian focuses heavily on his experience of living in the once segregated Washington Escobedo neighborhood. His method of curation uses community input as its foundation to thereby reflect and celebrate community members of this often overlooked neighborhood. Nelson's film practice has developed to be in conversation with compatible exhibitions without either relying on one another for context.*

Dana Ziegler | Las Vegas, NV

*It is time we stop covering up our past, take responsibility for it & learn from it. It is time for change.*

Heidi Wakeman | Gloucester, MA

*We have an opportunity and a responsibility to teach our students about our shared American history. We have an opportunity to present a fuller, more nuanced, more accurate history of these United States. We cannot change our future until we understand our past.*

Patricia Mitchell | Stuart, FL

*Only through truth comes change.*

Erica Sturdevant | Greenville, NC

*I believe teaching our students authentic history is a long time coming.*

Monica McKinney | Raleigh, NC

*Lack of knowledge and narrow perspectives are dangerous for a democratic society.*

Jeff Gower | Lansing, MI

*The truth matters*

Chloe Hutcherson | Lansing, MI

*I care about the real American history*

Adam Bailey | Philadelphia, PA

*we must understand our world in order to change it!*

Robin Strizhak | Chelmsford Town of, MA

*In order to move forward, we must be honest and reflective with our past.*

Alexander Lalagos | Iowa City, IA

*we have suppressed the truth long enough and must battle against those who find it inconvenient.*

Nicole Scheidler | Siletz, OR

*those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it!*

Shel Dockery | Silver Spring, MD

*It is my belief (religious) to not lie but speak the truth.*

Sara Kolo | Wisconsin Rapids, WI

*We MUST learn the past in order to understand the present.*

Susan Stover | Yarmouth, ME

Nicole Braxton | Washington, DC

*We need to teach our youth the truth about our nation so that true healing and understanding of each culture is reached.*

Rebecca Svmmitt | Woonsocket, RI

*I believe in the truth. If you deny the past, you are likely to repeat it. I am of German decent and I do not make that statement lightly.*

Tarek Hbeichi | Alexandria, VA

*I believe it is imperative to teach children and adults alike the whole truth and allow them to form their own opinions rather than pushing a narrative and manipulating the truth and their perspective.*

Cecil Gray | Baltimore, MD

*It is right, good, and necessary to tell and teach the Truth.*

Laura Gluckman | Chicago, IL

Jenny Roley | Germantown, MD

*My white children need to know our country's true history*

Kristen Bell | Durham, NC

*A diverse and accurate portrayal of history is important in not only the development of minority children, but all children.*

Kely Friedman | Astoria, NY

Nicole C. Raeburn, Ph.D. | Richmond, CA

Brittanie Houriet | La Mesa, CA

*It's my responsibility to teach the truth*

Margot Holtzman | Larkspur, CA

*It is critical that the truth be told. Omitting stories is erasure and we cannot reach equity and justice without knowing our history and all of the many stories that make up our nation.*

Liliana Cortez | Los Angeles, CA

Mark Shellaway | Nazareth, PA

*I am anti racist*

rachel schmidt | Glendale, AZ

*our teachers and students deserve better.*

Kimberly Knight | TRUMANSBURG, NY

*Students deserve to know the truth and we cannot make a better world if we don't know our history and confront oppression.*

Max Page | Amherst Town of, MA

Debbie LeeKeenan

*Truth must lead the way for a more fair and just world.*

Stephanie Yelder-Stovall | Portland, OR

*Children deserve to learn the truth, and be empowered w/knowledge.*

Molly Camp | Brighton, MA

Ryan Backes | Cockrell Hill, TX

*I believe that students deserve all of the information provided in class so they can be part of a brighter and safer future.*

Ylisse Yopez | Blissfield, MI

*Truth is the anecdote to fear. I am too angry to be afraid!*

leah wood | Philadelphia, PA

Alisha Chavez-Downing | Portland, OR

*I refuse to lie to my students about the truth! It is important to teach about the racist past and present that exists in our country.*

LeeVonnice Johnson | Long Beach, CA

*I believe African Americans and other ethnic groups are allowed to research their own history and publish it. The 1619 project is an excellent example of outstanding research and interpretation of American History, Black History. We as Americans can no longer hide behind extreme inaccuracies in American history published by corporations. Corporations and "so called" Scholars who try to denounce the writings of anyone who contradict's the past writings of American history or present a new narrative wrong. I support the teaching of the 1619 project. Stop the lies.*

Makai Kellogg | Washington, DC

*Children deserve the truth.*

Corinne Calabretta | Rochester, NY

Amy Moening | Macomb Twp, MI

*Students need to know ALL of history in order to make responsible life decisions, not just the history of a select few.*

Rixa Evershed | Rainier, WA

*History should be accurate. Full stop. The good, the bad and the ugly.*

Stefanie Kelly | Federal Way, WA

*The truth of our Country's history must be told. Retelling what we like is hiding who we are and where we as a country have come from. It is time we face the truth how we gained power and expanded to the borders we have now.*

Mickey Mariash | Paterson, NJ

*I think it's imperative to teach kids the truth, address the difficult conversations, and change the narrative.*

Edwin Keener | Boise, ID

*We must know truth as it happened. Truth does not diminish white people.*

Karen Levy | Albany, NY

The true history of America must be taught, whether it includes, race, sexual orientation, gender and whatever else makes us unique. It is painful, as the truth often is, but it's essential that the true history be told. As the mom of two adult biracial children, who are direct descendants of slaves, and grandma to two granddaughters, their history needs to be told.

Leslie Leff | Goshen Town of, MA

As future voters, children will not be able to make decisions based on reality, if they don't know the truth.

Lizandaa Alburg | Somerset, NJ

I am a Founding Member of the Passaic County Equity Seekers and one of our objectives is to lift up the voices of all who have been a part of American and World history. We intentionally and actively engage in promoting racial equity and social justice among our colleagues, fellow union members, communities and students. Consequently, signing this petition is important our members and me.

Brian Deller | Baltimore, MD

I refuse to lie to my students and I promise teach the truth of our history because I will not be part of the system of oppression that has created white supremacy and inequality in our society. The only way to dismantle it is to know the real story and give young people the ability to make up their minds for themselves, decide how they feel about it and whether they are content accepting it in their lives. The first step to liberation is accepting the uncomfotableness of the truth and reconciling what role will we have played in it and what role we will choose in the future: that of an enabler and apologist of oppression, or that of an ally or freedom fighter?

My Linh Le | Los Angeles, CA

My students deserve and want to learn true history. We can't fight systems of oppression until we learn the origins of these systems and how they continue to enforce White Supremacy, especially when they are being enforced through laws. We need to learn about those who showed resistance, resilience, and empowerment during times when they were being oppressed. We need to see that protests, marches, rebellions, happened long before we were born so we can learn from those who fought before us, and we can continue the fight for social justice for all. Learning our true history can be hard, but forgetting it or lying about it would be wrong, as well as devastating to change and progress.

Scott Ritchie | Atlanta, GA

We must face the ugly truths from past and present in order to evolve as a society. Lying, whether outright or by omission, is unethical and dooms us to repeat earlier mistakes. Too many of us didn't learn real history until we were adults, and even then it was only a select few who were able to access the truth. There is ample research that children are perfectly capable of learning complex ideas, and kids have a strong sense of fairness. It's time we educate for liberation rather than domestication.

Dan Ferat | Fair Lawn, NJ

I will not promote myths and lies about what happens in this country. If people are so worried about how the future will view them, they should take that into account before they act.

Jim Moreno | San Diego, CA

Hate and ignorance are not my America. This action of teaching the truth is my America.

Cortnee Gray | Louisville, KY

My whole life I've been dedicated to truth and justice and education. I feel like you can not have one without the others and education is the role I was born for. It's my goal to always install truth and justice and all the tools needed to educate the world. The truth should never be repressed or taken away and all students deserve an opportunity to have the most authentic learning experience possible.

Diane Greeley | Waltham, MA

Madeline Rainey | Spring Grove, MN

our students deserve to know the full picture, motivations and connections that led us to the present. Only through this can students grasp our reality and work to make positive change for our future.

Mary Ponce | Woodland, CA

I believe in liberation, Equity and justice.

Teresa Price | Washington, DC

It is very important to teach the truth to the adults and the children

Eva Weiss | Philadelphia, PA

Christian Holmes | Denver, CO

The deep inequalities in our country cannot be addressed by hiding the truth.

Charles D. Battles | Beltsville, MD

As an educator I must teach the truth about racism, sexism, heterosexism and oppression in the United States over the years in order to preserve our true history.

Jody Ellis | Durham, NC

I believe in teaching children the truth just as I believe our national community, both adults and children, needs to come together in this country and acknowledge the systemic racism of our past while we move forward into a more just, compassionate and equitable future.

Tanisha Garrett | Oakland, CA

Amy Young | Washington, DC

I believe that for our democracy to survive we need to give our young people the full history of our country. Only by teaching the difficult as well as the proud history of this country can we move forward and grow as a united republic. Our children deserve to explore any moment in our history through multiple lenses from this country' founding to the present day.

Gail Kantor | Philadelphia, PA

Our children deserve and need to know the truth about the history of our country...good and bad.

Elizabeth Richert | Fort Walton Beach, FL

Geralynne Papa | Milwaukee, WI

Stacy Salters Jackson | Oshtemo Twp, MI

I have learned information as an adult about the truth of racism in this country that could have changed my whole trajectory. Instead of hating history, I could have learned how many people made it through struggles and trials and changed the world. Instead of hating art because I wasn't represented, I could have learned that millions of artists looked like me and created anyway. The truth changes things and if you are dedicated to making things better, this is work you need to support.

Dylan Perry | Minneapolis, MN

Kathleen Pyne | Washington, DC

In order to heal from the violence of racism and establish greater unity, we must be able to see and teach truth.

Henry Mills | Brooklyn, NY

I am not going to tighten a blindfold around the eyes of my students.

Allison Curry | Los Angeles, CA

The truth will set you free!

MC Horrigan | Edmonds, WA

Youth want to know the truth. They thirst for diverse perspectives, they want to have the freedom to inquire about events and people that have influenced the history of this country, both negatively and positively. Learning the real truth, the fact-based truth can be difficult to understand for a young person but when the truth is taught and honestly discussed then change is possible. Denying the teaching of real history is denying the right of equity in education.

Josephine Pryce | Northport, AL

*There are too many students who do not know their American history both the positives and the negatives. They are cheated of real knowledge.*

Marcella Simadiris | Paterson, NJ

*I believe in the spirit of truth.*

Patricia Mullaney | Syracuse, NY

*I believe that our students have the capability of handling hard history. They deserve to hear about the struggles as well as the triumphs.*

Meg Blinkiewicz | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Tracey Lantz | Maimón, DO

*We must allow all voices to be heard or we will continue to repeat the same atrocities. We can't change the past but we must not stand by and allow racism to continue.*

Kevin Hanlin | Paullina, IA

*Our history is written in hatred and bigotry and we have to come to terms with the disgusting things we have done and that have happened the world. We need to teach truth to hopefully change the future*

Amy Callaghan | Safety Harbor, FL

marco durant | West Covina, CA

*truth must be told especially when dealing with the history of our nation*

Jessica Duarte | Woodland, CA

*there is no other way. We must teach the truth!*

Elizabeth Phillips | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*the truth deserves to be told*

Hanna Nelson | Culver City, CA

Olivia DeJohn | Missoula, MT

*history cannot only be told from one point of view. Hard history is still history and how we ensure we don't repeat past mistakes and help people make sense of why things are the way they are.*

Ryan Buchanan | Concord, NH

*Whitewashing history does not change the harm our pasted actions has caused.*

Bret Linvill | San Jose, CA

*we can't move forward unless we honestly acknowledge the truth.*

Alexandra Falconieri | Long Beach, NY

*I'm tired of the white washing being taught in American classrooms; silence to the inequity and social injustice demonstrated in the news every day.*

Claudia Adame | Fort Worth, TX

Mary Joyce Laqui | Teaneck Twp, NJ

*We must do what we can to interrupt patterns of oppression reinforced by the violent status quo.*

Kim Praser | Lansing, IL

*I teach the truth in order to coach students to be critical thinkers.*

Tiffany Bartucci | Chicago, IL

Alicia Salazar

*History shapes the future Our present day events are tomorrow's history. Teaching critical thinking is a serious responsibility to help our students become responsible for our future.*

JACQUELINE LANG | Bronx, NY

*Truth, justice, and inclusive community*

Sheetal Shah | Brooklyn, NY

*Howard Zinn taught me everything I know*

J. Michael Buzene | Toledo, OH

Chelsey Pulda | Columbus, OH

*I teach ALL of U.S. History, the good and the bad. I do not teach my students to hate themselves or this country. I teach them to use their voice and change it for the better! I refuse to lie to my students.*

Cynthia Mochowski | Gloucester, MA

*Truth is always worth fighting for.*

Susan Andrien | Emeryville, CA

*Young people deserve to know the truth about history and I will not be a part of white washing of history. The lie hurts us all.*

Claudia Bloom | Mesa, AZ

Steven Gaskill | Las Vegas, NV

*Our children deserve to know the truth about the world they live in, how it came to be this way, and how they can work to make their lives better. It is morally wrong to condemn children to ignorance about the sins of their fathers. Standing by silently while this happens can only lead to future violence as the children of the oppressed grow up and come to find out for themselves that not only are their compatriots benefiting from centuries of oppression, they are also suppressing the truth. Only the most contemptible cowards and evil fascists among us would be so afraid of the truth that they would pass laws banning teachers from empowering children with it.*

Katie Miller | Philadelphia, PA

Richard Doringo | Willoughby, OH

*I am signing this bill because the recently proposed legislation to dictate to teachers is censorship and the whitewashing of US history. If our kids are going to be prepared for the challenges of their future, we as their teachers need to foster an honest representation of the past, while giving them the critical thinking skills and the empathy to treat all people with respect and understanding. These proposed bills are indoctrination, where we teachers need to promote an inclusive history so young people can make informed decisions about their futures.*

Melissa Mcsweeney | Oxford, MI

*I believe in truth and I am not afraid of it. If we are to be a greater republic, we need to acknowledge that truth and reconcile with those who have been harmed.*

Ellen Gilbert

*it is important for history to be honest and inclusive, sharing both the good and the bad, so that our children understand issues of today, both the riches and the inequities and isms, in our quest to to build a more welcoming, inclusive society that recognizes our commonalities, promotes cross-cultural understanding and respect, and enables us to avoid atrocities of the past as we build a more compassionate and empathetic future.*

Maurice Tome | Washington, DC

Stephanie Biese Patton | Madison, WI

Jill Horn | Lansing, MI

CURTIS LANOUE | Stites, ID

Kimberly Ellis | San Francisco, CA  
*When people know better, they do better.*

Ruth Eller | Cupertino, CA  
*We will never change without looking honestly at our past.*

Tara La O Garcia | Phoenix, AZ  
*it is important to tell the truth about what has happened in U. S. history so that those mistakes are not repeated. Having discussions about controversial topics builds critical thinking skills. It is my job to educate and teach young people how to think critically so that they can be productive citizens.*

Jennifer Wade | Oxford, OH  
*The truth needs to be spoken in the bright light of day.*

Stephanie Brokstad-Franks | Lansing, MI

Katherine Boydston | Duncan, OK

Cristobal Chapa | Alamo, TX  
*Nothing under the sun can ever be hidden*

Mark Esperanza | San Juan, TX  
*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Jennifer Wernau | Pine Island, MN  
*The truth matters.*

Teresa Brown | Elyria, OH  
*Todays youth must know the true history of their country.*

Carla Sulli | Bellmead, TX

Travis Baldwin | Charleston, WV  
*Teaching truth about the past is essential for our actions now and in the future!*

William Carney | Lawton, OK

Erin Bronstein | Lansing, MI

Melissa Cardinali | Sunnyside, NY

Carol Jackson | Waldorf, MD

PHILIP HARRINGTON | Cache, OK  
*I will not participate in ongoing oppression by pretending it doesn't exist.*

Erin Chumbler | Gainesville, GA  
*Our children deserve to grow up in a country that recognizes and learns from its mistakes.*

Jennifer Lowe | Washington, DC  
*I am an educator who is white and understands how black and brown people have been denied, disenfranchised, tortured, murdered and so many more atrocities at the hands of white people, law enforcement, etc. I will always tell students the truth about that, while highlighting the amazing accomplishments of men and women of color, despite all the hardship they faced. These atrocities and accomplishments have been overlooked from most history books and school materials.*

Candace Moulton | Manchester, NH

Kim Bywater | Downers Grove, IL

Jillian Gaeta | Brooklyn, NY

Sarah Donovan | Stillwater, OK

Jennifer Kaufmann | Cabin John, MD

Yulisa Cruz | Silver Spring, MD  
*I am no longer standing with SHAME. I am no longer in service of its shenanigans. I want children to feel better about who they are and where they are. The truth is the only path to feeling better. We are worth more than racism, classism, sexism, and all the other -isms at play, when we exclude and marginalize groups. "Hatred is love that has lost its way."*

Laura Kmetz | Plano, TX  
*Lies of omission are still lies. Young people are intelligent and deserve better.*

Kate Slater | Waltham, MA  
*All white people are racist.*

Brian Wright | Thousand Oaks, CA  
*As teachers, it's our duty to guide students to the truth. American history is messy and brutal and sometimes beautiful and always worth exploring with a steadfast duty to seek the truth.*

Erika Dawson Head | New Britain, CT  
*It is important to teach about the past so we can have a better future. "Never forget"*

Kathryn Curry | Safety Harbor, FL

Joyce Johnson | Philadelphia, PA  
*I believe we should teach our children the truth. The truth of this country's oppression of people of color. Of how we are concerned for the safety of every child of color and why we have to worry everyday about our children, especially those of color.*

Annette Wylie | Saint Petersburg, FL  
*Truth must be told.*

Zoe Rooney | Philadelphia, PA  
*collective liberation comes through understanding the truth.*

Leslie Roberts | San Jose, CA  
*I believe in the truth and that children deserve the truth. I believe we can do better. I believe that from a foundation of truth we can develop empathy and work toward a world of inclusion and equity. We can no longer say, "We've always done it this way" which is based on fear and ignorance.*

Gretchen Brehm | Braintree, MA

Jailenne Gil-Arroyo | Athens, GA  
*Our kids deserve to know the whole truth. Our kids deserve to be critical thinkers and think for themselves. By not teaching kids about these important issues, we raise an ignorant generation and it erases any past/present efforts to overcome systemic racism/sexism/etc.*

Beth Beach | Downingtown, PA  
*I don't wNt my grandchildren taught lies or living in a socialist country*

Jamee Schleifer | Brooklyn, NY

*I am interested in future generations to be educated and not indoctrinated about American history. I believe if complete history is taught, empathy for other people can be increased. I am 62 years old and I am learning more now about history than I ever did in all my years in school. As a former public school dance teacher, I was told by classroom teachers...if it's not on the test, the teachers don't teach it. Additionally, subject teachers were so overwhelmed with teaching to the test that there was never any time to even supplement their classrooms. Lesson plans; letters home; books and reading materials are checked by administration and YouTube bans certain video for schools. If schools are to move forward, parents and teachers need to work with their administrations and get the conversation started about how to teach people's history.*

Mercedes Murphy | Goleta, CA

*Our country must acknowledge the past to heal and move forward. Knowledge of the truth will empower our students to be engaged citizens and justice-seekers.*

Joseph Mish | Pine Island, MN

*We can only move forward in our country if we acknowledge the mistakes we've made.*

Adrienne Friend | Gresham, OR

*My students deserve to learn the truth and be empowered to be change makers.*

Tammy Howard | Dublin, GA

*We must embrace all of our history. The government should not dictate what we should know about the past. History is available for all of us to learn from presently in order to prepare for a better FUTURE!*

Heather Poland | Chula Vista, CA

Kimberlyn Fauson | Lansing, MI

*The legislators creating these bills are spinning a narrative that is simply incorrect. Teaching about oppression throughout U.S. history isn't divisive. It helps students understand how the past influences the present so that we can build a more perfect union together.*

Lillian Garcia | West New York, NJ

Anna Traffanstedt | Athens, GA

*Truth should never be banned.*

Andrew Tisdale | Lansing, MI

Johanna Hebert | Columbia, MD

*Knowing our history is the only way we keep our democracy. Just look at where ignorance has gotten us. We cannot lose to a group whose only goal is power and control.*

Marianne Salcetti | Troy, NH

*Truth matters.*

Megan McBride | Anchorage, AK

Elyse Poller | Storrs Mansfield, CT

*Public education was established to create an informed citizenry. Understanding our past - the good and the bad - helps us address current issues and create opportunities for the future.*

Maris Talaugon | Santa Rosa, CA

*If we are never taught the truth then we never learn the truth we cannot do better.*

Andrea Jackson | Houston, TX

*Students are not fragile beings that can't handle the truth of our country's past and present. They deserve the truth.*

Peter Murrugarra | Westport, CT

Megan DeWall | Lansing, MI

Fred Arcoleo | New York, NY

*The truth belongs to the working class, and it is something we have to continually fight to discover. The future depends on us!*

Veronica Foley | Largo, FL

Deborah Grotzke | Sedro Woolley, WA

*I have to explain?*

Heather Johnson | Memphis, TN

*Our students deserve to know the truth!*

Linda Price | San Rafael, CA

*I believe everyone needs to know the truth of our history. We can never move forward as a civilisation unless we face hard truths.*

Jessica Vaughn-Clark | Gulf Breeze, FL

*historical context is necessary for the critical thought needed to make America reach its potential as the world's oldest democracy.*

Adam Brandt | Macomb Twp, MI

*We cannot let our students think that our country is perfect and truly equal. We are still in a fallout from the Civil War when it comes to racial equality. Beyond that, anything that has challenged norms faces discrimination and we must have open conversations about that and how we can learn from the last to not make the same mistakes or same style of mistakes again.*

Dana Palmieri | New Haven, CT

*Those who have been systematically oppressed deserve to have their stories told. History isn't pretty and students need to know that.*

Helen Davis | Mountain Top, PA

*the history of ALL Americans matters. If we can't be honest about our history, how can we ever hope to achieve the founding goals of equality and liberty for all? I am signing because "[I] hold these truths to be self evident": that all people in this country were created equal and deserve equal rights, which includes a right to accurate historical representation of their ancestral and current history.*

Liam Lair | Philadelphia, PA

Krista Howell | Washington, DC

*Students deserve to learn the truth and how to ensure that they have the skills to combat the racism, sexism, bias and white supremacy they will inevitably face.*

Travis Neller | Lansing, MI

*It's simply the right thing to do. History is learned because it helps us know what happened and why it happened. All information and events needs to be taught.*

Fallon Keplinger | Washington, DC

*Students deserve to know the truth.*

Tyrell Albin | Lawton, OK

*The truth matters. Education should always deal in truth, not mythology, or outright lies. We cannot change the past, but if we learn it accurately, we can find ways for all of us to move forward and create a better future for all Americans.*

Leslie Harris-Johnston | Kirkland, WA

Victoria Marcetti | Kalamazoo, MI

*It is my job to empower youth to do whatever is needed to create and support strong and healthy communities. None of us can do that without knowing our history. To deny our youth access to the truth is a fascist act.*



Allie McCullen | Athens, GA

Rosaline Kuiper-Price | Lansing, MI

*History should be taught from as many vantage points as possible. We need to be culturally responsive in educating our children.*

Shawntika White | District Heights, MD

*I refuse to be a part of another generation of lies.*

Heather Nicholson-Bester | Dearborn Heights, MI

*I believe in truth.*

Elizabeth Sprout | Dryden Town of, NY

*The TRUTH matters.*

Angela Hawkins | Oak Park, IL

Amy Bakken | Humble, TX

*The truth should be taught. BIPOC students, staff, and families deserve accurate representation.*

Jaylynn Kerr | Bettendorf, IA

*Students need to know the truth. We are the future and need to be aware of the truthful history. That way we can try to prevent history from repeating itself.*

Bonnie Fraylick | Elyria, OH

*Students deserve the truth.*

Krista Benson | Grand Rapids, MI

*There's no place in education for lies. We must teach our students the truth of what America is, how it was founded, and the actions that we as a country are engaged in today.*

Sherry Frost | Dover, NH

*I am signing my name because too many people learned about Tulsa via HBO's Watchmen. I'm signing because learning our \*true\* history makes us better citizens (and better humans). I'm signing because I don't think politicians should dictate what happens in classrooms.*

Michael McCollom | Medford, OR

*I teach middle school social studies and refuse to lie to my students; period.*

Matthew Stein | Philadelphia, PA

*Legislation banning the teaching of discrimination isn't just a pathway to totalitarianism; it is totalitarian by definition.*

Sean Welch | Philadelphia, PA

*We cannot hide the truth from the next generation.*

Stefany Gary | San Luis Obispo, CA

James Gregg | Colorado Springs, CO

*Continuing to teach a white washed narrative is doing nothing but continuing a hurtful false good that will do nothing but continue to negatively impact future generations.*

Ben Maracek | Beaver, PA

*Lesson 5: Remember Professional Ethics "When politicians demand obedience, professionals must insist on acting ethically. Hitler convinced German lawyers that the law was a political tool that he could use however he wanted, including in the service of war and genocide. He had lawyers running concentration camps where physicians experimented on prisoners and businessmen profited from forced labor. All these people abandoned the normal ethical rules underpinning their professions, which must be enforced and strengthened in precisely the circumstances when governments say they should be abandoned. Otherwise, by "just following orders," professionals end up committing and participating in horrific acts of violence."- "On Tyranny" (Timothy Snyder)*

Rainie Au Yeung | New York, NY

*History classes should encourage students to become critical thinkers and engaged citizens.*

Jennifer Rumpke | Bremerton, WA

*I refuse to lie to my students. Teaching the truth about the history of the United States means acknowledging the good, the bad, and the ugly. My role is not to censor historically accurate information. My job is to provide students with the critical thinking skills necessary to make sense of our past and influence the future in positive ways.*

Alejandra Suarez | Brooklyn, NY

*it is the RIGHT thing to do!*

Meghan Turner | Chester, PA

*I want to provide an eye-opening education to my students. I want to support my students of Color, I want to know more about their history, and want them to know about their cultural history as well. I want to teach from a lens of a true historian, not from a lens of white-washed history.*

Morgan Martinez | Portland, OR

Pamela Ransome | Temple Hills, MD

*Truth matters*

Suzanne Russell | San Diego, CA

*Teaching real hard history matters. Truth is key to an informed citizen....even the uncomfortable truth.*

Kara Smith | Brownsburg, IN

Jessica Gaynor | Spokane, WA

*I think Howard Zinn said it best when he said: "History is important. If you don't know history it is as if you were born yesterday. And if you were born yesterday, anybody up there in a position of power can tell you anything, and you have no way of checking up on it" (Howard Zinn). I pledge to teach the truth so that those in power do not erase the realities and truths of history. I pledge to teach the truth so my students are critical thinkers who are empowered to make a real change in this world. I pledge to teach the truth because social justice matters.*

Joshua D. Taylor | Bridgeport, CT

*Let's make a change!*

Marvella G | Warren, MI

Lila Schooler | Southport, CT

*I condemn any level of white supremacy and to omit the truth from our curriculum is condoning and being complicit with white supremacy. It is important for all students to understand the truth that many of our history books leaves out.*

Erin Moller | Bristow, VA

Thomas DeLong | Lansing, MI

Scott Ramsey | Denver, CO

Amberlynn Lane | Vancouver, WA

*Teaching truth is not divisive. Tracing children to think for themselves is not brainwashing. I believe in children to understand the difference between right and wrong.*

Marged Dudek | Logan, OH

Obscuring truth, history, and data obscures improvement, stagnates innovation, and leads to the impoverishment of citizens and the justification of cruelty, every time.

Patrick Patterson | Honolulu, HI

Tom Cadorette | Alexandria, VA

Laura Braytenbah | Arlington, TN

History should not be washed away just because it's uncomfortable.

Lorraine Curtis | Lansdale, PA

I feel strongly that to be a good, solid, patriotic member of our society, it is essential to have an understanding of all the movements and belief systems that are divisive and discriminatory.

Alyssa Smith | Brooklyn, NY

Deborah Wagner | Philadelphia, PA

There is nothing more important than truth and education. It is simply autocratic brain washing to prevent professional educators from teaching history and science as we now know it.

Jordan Love | Silver Spring, MD

Teaching the truth is the only way to justice.

Amanda Jewart | Wilsonville, OR

Our next generations and the future of the human race depends on the quality of the educational experiences that our nation provides. Educators must stand for equality, justice and truth - lives depend on it.

Cassandra Santos | Bronx, NY

I believe in being honest and transparent with children. You cannot be educated if you are taught lies

AJ Craig-Salmon | Milwaukee, WI

Students must have the truth and all the facts in order to become critical thinking and well rounded citizens.

Charles D. Battles

The truth about racism, sexism, heterosexism and oppression throughout our country's history can not be ignored. The full, complete and true history must be taught to our students in order that our history can be preserved for future generations.

Tiffani Hudgins | Daphne, AL

We can't erase the truth!

Thelma Ramsey | East Orange, NJ

Our students need to understand the true history of the founding of country and the damage it has done to indigenous people and enslaved Africans.

ELSA Duarte | San Antonio, TX

although retired I support teaching the truth with multiple perspectives in the social sciences. This is outrageous and unconstitutional! It will be challenged & defeated! 🍌?

Patricia Savage-Williams | Skokie, IL

Brittany Szombati | Lansing, MI

The truth matters!

Tracey Phillips | Worcester, MA

Our children need to be educated on the reality of what American was built upon. There should not be any type of ban on the truth. The history must be told, so future generations will learn and grow and end racism, and oppression in all it's forms.

Howard Winant | Santa Barbara, CA

In defense of the First Amendment, academic freedom, and the search for truth!

Louis Ackelsberg | Philadelphia, PA

Theresa Hopkins | Knoxville, TN

I think it is not only wrong, but ridiculous for states to tell teachers they cannot teach the truth of the history of our nation.

Katana Diegel | Metairie, LA

Alison Kronstadt | Jamaica Plain, MA

Building a better world requires teaching accurate history so we can learn from the past

Shelly Higgins | Knoxville, TN

Gregory Sotir | Portland, OR

Laurel DiGianni | Brooklyn, NY

Laurence Sears | El Paso, TX

the truth always matters.

Natalie Queen | Lansing, MI

Students deserve to know the truth

Stormyhae Kelsey | Philadelphia, PA

You cannot hide American history because it is "divisive", we must confront the truths of our past so we can do better in the future. "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced" - James Baldwin

mary stricker | Philadelphia, PA

We must reckon with our hard truths as a step towards transformative liberation for all of us!

Valerie Bass | Charlottesville, VA

A full instruction on American history that includes imperfect and unjust decisions can help to address today's racial disparities.

Lee Schere | Brooklyn, NY

Our democracy depends on a full and true reckoning with this nation's past!

Jordan Laks | Bronx, NY

truth is important in history, and history is important for truth. Although U.S. history might be uncomfortable to some, that does not mean it shouldn't be taught. We all need to continue learning.

David Elesh | Philadelphia, PA

It is outrageous that teachers be restricted to teaching biased history.

Claudia Chiang | Phoenix, AZ

Students have the right to know the truth behind historical events, in order to understand the present, and change our futures.

Kosta Kyriacopoulos | Salisbury, MD

Katherine Franklin | Lansing, MI

White-washing history for the comfort of the privileged perpetuates racist systems and institutions.

Leslie Ringler | Tempe, AZ

*My students deserve the truth and to explore narratives from multiple perspectives that are informative, healing and life-giving to ALL humans!*

Dimitri Wevers | Sharon Hill, PA

*Truth matters*

Amber Butler | Lansing, MI

*Truth matters.*

Barbara Ferman | Bala Cynwyd, PA

*Education built on lies is not education. We can only move forward as a nation by confronting and acknowledging our past.*

Shannon Jones | Hyattsville, MD

*Our students deserve the truth. We can grow and be better but only if we are honest about our past.*

Jessica Perry | Denver, CO

Jamie Jauch | Fullerton, CA

*History is uncomfortable, but facts are not controversial.*

Hilary Grant | Liberty Hill, TX

*Teaching about diversity is how great changes are made in this country.*

Michelle Oppenheim

*We should be allowed to reach the truth. We should be REQUIRED to teach the truth. Students deserve to hear THEIR history taught, not some whitewashed version of history where the bad guys don't look so bad.*

David Scholten | Portland, OR

*Exposing the indoctrination that education systems have been founded upon and continue today is not itself indoctrination. It's time to be less defensive because educators are being attacked for teaching the truth.*

Jen Bradley | Philadelphia, PA

Jennie Hanna | Lawton, OK

*No matter how much lawmakers try to control and contain it, the truth will always be there, and I know what side of history I want to be on.*

Julius Cajigas | Chicago, IL

*Our students need to learn the truth about the U.S. and the current world climate it is built upon and how racist it really is.*

Teryn Henderson | Holt, MI

Kimberly Cavanagh | Bluffton, SC

Ashley Sullivan | Alexandria, VA

*Lying to my students about the true nature of US history goes against everything I stand for*

Staci Martin | Virginia Beach, VA

*Truth matters*

William Naess | Brooklyn, NY

Marina Konold | Forest Lake, MN

*Our students have the right to know the truth about their past in hopes of making a better future.*

Asma Shakir | Chicago, IL

Amir Ballard Ballard | Washington Twp, NJ

*The truth shall set us free. We cannot move on as a nation until we face the reality of our history. Once we face it, we can overcome it and create a more equitable society. We must do this for generations past and generations to come.*

Liora Valero | Washington, DC

*The truth is vital to liberating all people!*

Adaline Bouldin | Albuquerque, NM

*Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.*

Jodie Boehlke | Detroit, MI

*How can we call ourselves educators if we teach lies and half truths?*

Veronica Labrador Monteiro | Astoria, NY

*Our students deserve to know the truth.*

Michelle Knotts | State College, PA

Alex Guyton | Washington, DC

*It is essential that children learn the truth about our history so that they can learn from the mistakes of others and make better choices for their future.*

Marco Magbitang | Allentown, PA

Bobbi Boles | Ypsilanti, MI

*My students deserve better. They deserve truth. They deserve to know their own rich history. When we know better, we do better. America needs truth to heal.*

Murphy Timothy | Sebring, FL

*I refuse to whitewash history just to assuage your white guilt. Your time is over.*

Jackie Shipley | Commerce Twp, MI

John Meredith | Brooklyn, NY

*"That which is not just cannot be law." – William Lloyd Garrison "When you see the good fight, get in it!" –Vernon Johns "Good trouble." –John Lewis*

Tiernan O'Rourke | Lansing, MI

*My students are smart. They can learn that history is full of struggles. They need to learn that history is full of struggles, so the future doesn't have so many.*

Kelly Molinet | Boulder, CO

*White supremacy must be dismantled.*

Ashley Balbian | Rockland, MA

*Teach the truth, our students deserve it.*

Sara Barber-Just | Leverett, MA

*I believe no country can move forward without reckoning with its past and repairing it. If we erase history we are only doomed to repeat it. The teachers at my school talk about social and racial justice every day and our students are better for it. Year after year, they sign up for more of these discussions; though we offer classic courses, the most highly enrolled English electives at our school are African American Literature, LGBTQ Literature, and Contemporary Literature. We believe it is our moral obligation to give our students the tools to understand the real world they live in so they are equipped to make transformation and justice for all possible.*

Dan Kemsley | Lansing, MI

*Truth must prevail.*

Claudia Titus | New York, NY

Thomas Leighty | Milford, DE

Cassady Cooper | Reserve, LA

*What and how we choose to remember the past matters and reflects who we strive to be as a people.*

Todd Simon | Lansing, MI

*These laws are detrimental to democracy and free speech.*

Matthew Stowell | Dublin, OH

*"The historian's task is not to disrupt for the sake of it, but it is to tell what is almost always an uncomfortable story and explain why the discomfort is part of the truth we need to live well and live properly. A well organized society is one in which we know the truth about ourselves collectively, not one in which we tell pleasant lies about ourselves." — Tony Judt*

Arely De Leon Barrientos | Silver Spring, MD

Krista Schneider | Liberty Hill, TX

*I refuse to be silent any longer.*

Janice Howell | Seminole, FL

Rose Langstaff | Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Martin Bergoffen | Rockville, MD

*The truth matters.*

Dorcus Johnson | Cleveland, OH

*Truth is life! Teach truth not hypocrisy. Teach United States and global history correctly!!*

Will Kelley | Memphis, TN

*As a history educator, my job is literally about teaching students what happened in the past and the effects past events have on today's world. Such bills are anathema to education in general, and are a dangerous step towards indoctrination.*

Amanda Fenner | Abingdon, VA

*Children deserve the truth*

Renee Fields | Lansing, MI

*The truth matters.*

Rachel Babich | Lake Orion, MI

*I want my students to know truth and see that history matters. I want my students to develop their empathy and ability to understand each other better.*

Carolyn Boutte | Baton Rouge, LA

shane parmely | Bonita, CA

Donna Rueth | Seattle, WA

Steven Rodgers | Knoxville, TN

*It is impossible to adequately teach music without teaching the culture it came from. How do you expect children to understand "Strange Fruit" if they can't be taught about the racism that caused the lynchings? How can I explain why Morgan Wallen had the action taken against him by the CMA? If I'm teaching children about responsibility and kindness and accountability in kindergarten, why am I not going to teach them about how adults in the real world sometimes don't live up to that? How do I explain away hundreds of thousands of hours of music centered around that theme?*

Granville Caldwell QA

*It's what we do as righteous teachers!*

Britte Marsh | Portland, OR

*Black Lives Matter.*

Rosalie Leishman | Portland, OR

Abdul Jabbar | San Francisco, CA

*Any law that takes away teachers' right to academic freedom and fact-based teaching will not be acceptable and challenged in court*

Megan McQueen | Corvallis, OR

Timothy Cashman | Santa Teresa, NM

*As a person who has worked in education for over 40 years I do not recall a time when the truth has been more threatened. Enough is enough.*

christine kelle | Albany, NY

*As a teacher and a mother, I will never lie to or deceive any child. I will not promote dishonesty by falsifying history. I will continue to promote truth & justice vs. lies & betrayal. I will continue to work toward the complete dismantling of white supremacy & the rebuilding of a nation founded on truth & justice. Simply put, it is the right thing to do!*

CJ Hendrickson | Denver, CO

*How can we make the US better if we don't/ can't/ aren't allowed to speak the truth of the past? Whitewashed history is a lie, told from one perspective only: the white victors. There were millions living here before the Europeans showed up who committed genocide, enslaved people of color, and oppressed women. Germany has admitted to its past, so why can't we?*

Rachael Thrash | Helsinki, FI

*we can't let the backlash against justice dictate the terms!*

Karrie Bundsen | Sacramento, CA

Lisa Neal | Fort Collins, CO

*In order to not repeat history it must be remembered.*

Heather Carr | Boulder, CO

*I will NEVER lie to my students. Education is power and I will fight until I'm dead those trying to steal knowledge and power from my students. Educators kill fascism.*

Ingrid Hutchins | Sacramento, CA

Matthew Maley | Seattle, WA

Henry Sun | Benicia, CA

Linda Swoyer | Carrolls, WA

*I retired this year but I always included Social Justice in my classroom and will continue to do so when able as a substitute teacher. We need to learn the ugly parts of our history, not to invoke feelings of guilt or sadness, though those feelings may come up, but to make sure that we do not repeat history and to understand that America has an underbelly too. It doesn't make us a bad country, it just means we need to strive to improve and we can't do that if we don't turn that underbelly over and look at it.*

Kelley Gribuski | Phoenix, AZ

*I will no longer stand in silence.*

Athena Kopsidas | Washington, DC

Every child should have the opportunity to learn how their own ancestors contributed to the creation of the United States. This is an opportunity many generations have been deprived of in this country. Thank you.

Katie Pertschi | Orlando, FL

I've been a history teacher for the past 13 years. Tomorrow I'm leaving the profession for good. Laws like this make the broken system even more apparent and I cannot ethically work for such a system.

Coral Noguerras | New York, NY

Kriya Lendzion | Asheville, NC

American History is the history of each of us and the totality of our history. We can't tell the story of who we are as individuals or a nation without telling, hearing and reconciling with the truth. Only then can we heal where needed, strengthen where weak, assure that all Americans have equal voices and rights, and truly have a united and strong country.

Anneliese Paulson | Minneapolis, MN

Angela Chan | Philadelphia, PA

Michele Mack | Jersey City, NJ

Samantha Daniels | Philadelphia, PA

It is unethical for me as a social worker in a school not to support my students in processing systemic racism and to be complicit as these conversations are silenced.

Matt Garcia | Greenfield, CA

If we want to make progress in the future, we must have a reckoning with our past. We cannot have this reckoning if do not teach the truth about American history.

christopher dunne | Washington, DC

the truth matters, and I want to offer a more honest and analytical education than I received at the K-12 level.

Melanie Mckenzie | Enumclaw, WA

All generations deserve to be taught the truth about our history and not teaching or distorting the truth does irreparable damage to our society and world. We need to do better to ensure a more equitable, inclusive, non systematic racism in our country.

Phillip Sanders | Katy, TX

We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.

Alyssa Barber | Dallas, TX

Brenda Barnhart | Walnut Creek, CA

Sara J. Schmidt | ARNOLD, MO

We can't move forward until we know what happened in the past.

Martha Jaegers | St Louis, MO

Melodie Biegaj | Riverview, FL

Kids will not trust you again once they've learned you lied to them. More importantly our history is our history, the good the bad and the ugly. It helps the next generation understand why we function the way we function and where exactly hate comes from. It is also important to highlight the brave individuals who fought for what was right.

Alexandra Mazur | Tucson, AZ

White supremacy needs to be squashed and the people it's hurt need to be credited for what they have been through.

Donna Charneskie | Charlotte, NC

Truth matters Critical thinking matters Democracy dies in darkness

Maria Hernandez | Chicago, IL

As a History teacher, I know the importance of learning the truth. I learned a watered down, and misleading history as a child; I was appalled at the truth about our history. I cannot allow our students to be misled. I want them to understand how and why we are where we are today.

Yolanda Turner | Riverview, FL

The truth deserves a hearing

Moira Spillane | New York, NY

Truth matters.

Tracy Kennedy | Charlotte, NC

I will not lie to my students, I will not ignore the history of my students of color, I will not be silent in supporting my students.

Margaret Self | Cambridge, MA

Our children have to know the truth about our past and our present in order to change our future.

Susan Dortch | Bowie, MD

Every child should hear the truth. Children can not make decisions as they get older if they do not know the full truth.

Jana Harter | Canyon lake, TX

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."—George Santayana

Gloria Pelaez | Miami, FL

We can't address what we can't name. There is a need to address systemic racism with facts and with truth. There is a political movement in this country desperate to avoid change and who wants to control the narrative. Enough is enough.

Pat Adkins

History matters! The truth must be told good or bad. It is important to understand why something happened and critically examine it. Being able to understand and think critically is essential for a democracy to survive.

Adriana Caballero | Streamwood, IL

I am a public school teacher.

Erika Mutter | Cumberland, RI

It is our job and obligation to inform the youth of our history including the systematic racism and oppression that has pervaded our nation. It is a disservice to our students to not teach the whole truth and its affect on our society.

Sandra Levin | New York, NY

I teach the truth and want others to have the right to do the same.

Susan Pence | Sunnyvale, CA

...while I teach preschool students who are too young to understand much of our history, they are very aware of fairness, kindness, and how to find common ground and build friendships with people who are different. They are also learning how to problem solve so everyone's ideas and feelings are honored and respected. I believe that teaching truth includes empowering them with the tools they'll need to prevent future injustices.

Donna Sawyer | Silver Spring, MD

It's beyond time that the truth be told about the history of our country: the events that happened, the people who were negatively impacted, the struggles they endured, the contributions that they made. There is so much that has been omitted and it's time to change that.

Pam Read | Cold Spring, NY

Mars Caulton | Chicago, IL

*Slavery is not "fake news". It is part of what distinguishes this country around the world: What other modern country had widespread, outright enslavement of an entire race, which began with an international kidnapping industry, for 400 years?*

Valerie Lynch | Pensacola, FL

Jovita Molina | Watsonville, CA

*The truth will set this country FREE! FREE AT LAST, FREE AT LAST!*

Debra Gibson | Castlewood, VA

*I want you to stop this from happening. What will we become if we do not remember who we were?*

Kiah Johnson Mounsey | Portland, OR

Audrey White | New York, NY

*I refuse to teach a curriculum that perpetuates oppression.*

Carlos Aponte-Salcedo, Jr. | Bellerose, NY

*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Annie Bailey | Olympia, WA

*I will continue teaching the truth, and feel it's entirely inappropriate for politicians to try to dictate what teachers are or are not allowed to discuss with their students.*

Jennifer Abercrombie | Washington, DC

*Our country and society cannot improve in the future if today's students do not learn its full and accurate history.*

Sarah Bugay | Chicago, IL

Aubrey Perry | Concord, CA

*It is our duty as educators and as ethical, engaged citizens to tell the truth and to stand up for what is right and for those we teach.*

Hollis Amsden | Seattle, WA

Katherine Rodgers | Gaithersburg, MD

Zo Clement | Brentwood, MD

*I deeply know that none of us are free until all of us are free. I cannot lie about myself, our history, and work towards my own or anyone else's freedom at the same time.*

Brooke Peters | Brooklyn, NY

Kyrsten Persells | Ypsilanti, MI

*If we are to develop a stronger, more compassionate society, we need to reconcile with the truth behind our country's founding and our current systems.*

Marla McLean | Silver Spring, MD

*Black History is American History. Black History is World History. There is nothing more patriotic than teaching truth, even when it is devastating and racist. Because by doing this, we are bound to the action of making change and creating a more just and compassionate country. Working to make a country better begins with honesty.*

Patricia Cliffe | Saint Louis, MO

*Eliminating big parts of history/herstory is a lie. Children/Teens in Missouri deserve to know the full truth of history/herstory of the United States. Patty Cliffe, MSW*

Joan Krensky | Lexington, MA

Topher Kandik | Washington, DC

*Our history is our history. No matter what anyone says you can't change history.*

Julie Bradley | Cedar Rapids, IA

*Our students deserve the truth!*

Cynthia Mitlo | Alexandria, VA

*I want my students, white and black, to understand the deep roots and history of racism in this country, so that they have the information they need to change our society for the better -- to build a society that is anti-racist and based on equity and justice.*

Megan McMinn | Lewiston, ID

*We need to know better to do better.*

Ebony Marshman | Washington, DC

Jenelle Whittaker | Washington, DC

Bobby Smith | Carrollton, TX

Cassandra Heifetz | Silver Spring, MD

*When our youth understand our past, no matter how painful, they will be better equipped to chart a better future.*

Carlton Ackerman | Washington, DC

*I know from first-hand sources that what is being said on this issue is true. Much more than this needs to be done. We are reverting into a new Dark Age.*

Shannon Nuzzelillo

*Truth and Justice is the only way to liberation.*

Heidi Mackey | Elysburg, PA

Wes Lybrand | Birmingham, AL

Darcy Greco | Newark, NY

Ros Gineczki CA

*It is imperative for our education to teach and develop critical thinking!*

Paul Brown | Sacramento, CA

Mark Takeuchi | Claremont, CA

*Truths are universal and should be upheld, not questioned.*

Genie Hill

*We will not eradicate racism if we don't teach the truth.*

Amanda Saayfan | Saint Petersburg, FL

*I believe in facts.*

Jessica Greenebaum | West Hartford Town of, CT

*I refused to be censored when teaching the truth*

Danielle Cruz | Felton, CA

*Teachers touch the future and our children deserve to know the truth!*

Grant Gilbreath | Ithaca, NY

Joseph Emerson | Yorktown, VA

Allison Enders | Cazenovia, NY

*We will never heal until we acknowledge and practice TRUTH and reconciliation.*

Kurt Knierim | Fort Collins, CO

*The real stories matter*

Wendy Bergeron | Exeter, NH

*Students need to have a full picture of the history of the United States in order to learn from the nation's mistakes and celebrate its successes. Students also need to develop critical thinking and media analysis skills that come from the Social Studies.*

Wendy Bergeron | Exeter, NH

Amanda Redmond | Bend, OR

*Students deserve to know unedited history and it's effects today*

John Armstrong | Hampton, VA

*My role as an educator is to encourage young people to think critically, challenge norms, and inspire positive change.*

Elana Mayer | Malden, MA

Frances Egly | Killeen, TX

*Our population needs to be well-informed and well-rounded. Young people need to learn all aspects of history and then form their own opinions.*

Jennifer McElroy | Middletown, NY

Erin Stevens | Baltimore, OH

*Not teaching history accurately or teaching current events will significantly skew perspectives of students. I teach in a school that is over 50% Black and there are increasing calls to teach about more accurate history and not whitewashed history. This will do the opposite of this.*

Ed Farrell | Fort Lauderdale, FL

Adrienne Sosin | New York, NY

*History is a guide to understanding the present.*

Terry Anzaldi, RI

*This is outrageous affront to education and human decency.*

Mel Lindsay | Cape Coral, FL

Jessica Cisneros | Milwaukee, WI

*Because why not? Why even question whether we should lie to our students? Our students need to know the truths about our past in order to help heal and understand this country's present pain.*

Noel Arretche | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Julie Gill | Boise, ID

*I object to Idaho and other states trying to censor teachers. It's unconstitutional.*

Justine Huber | Orlando, FL

*It is our responsibility to teach facts - no matter how unpleasant those FACTS might be.*

Brenda Rough | Vacaville, CA

*My students deserve to know the truth! Being honest is the only way to make our world better for everyone.*

Jamie Franklin | Los Angeles, CA

*Only with accurate history can we reach justice for victims whose voices were never heard.*

Tara Williams | Sugar Land, TX

*I won't teach lies.*

April Johnson | Salt Lake City, UT

*The truth matters!*

Terry Carpenter | Ypsilanti, MI

Heather Garcia | Tallahassee, FL

Don Lawrence | Radford, VA

Lisa Cantella | Glendale, AZ

*My students deserve the truth and our country can do better.*

K Gibson | Metairie, LA

*Erasing history is a dangerous, dangerous thing to do. Ignoring the ugly parts or the uncomfortable aspects doesn't make us better, it makes us ignorant. It doesn't give us the chance to improve or to learn.*

Kristin Waite | Johnson City, TN

*My students deserve better if they are going to change the world.*

Chelsea Dahlstrom | Kansas City, MO

*America can only heal our future when we face our past.*

Carol Yanity | Boiling Springs, PA

Denise Farrelly | Brooklyn, NY

*The truth in history is sometimes painful, harsh, and humiliating. It sometimes seems easier to sugarcoat our story. Nevertheless, the truth is absolutely necessary, even for young children. Teaching them to think critically and deeply about the multiple perspectives and stories contained in our nation's history can help prepare them to shape our future as citizens in a democratic society.*

Kaci Elder | Cave Junction, OR

*I won't go back to half-formed histories that spread ignorance, which causes misunderstanding and fear. Ready for new archetypes.*

Heather Cook | Philadelphia, PA

Amy Fuentes | Metuchen, NJ

*We can only learn if we teach the truth.*

Melissa Prescott | Norway, ME

*Truth matters.*

Natalie Gray | Pacific Grove, CA

*The selfish, ignorant and mean zealots can't win.*

Tessa Benau | New York, NY

Deb Greene | Greensboro, NC

*When I became an educator, I did so to make the future better. Telling lies won't do that.*

Kelly Shapiro | Granada Hills, CA

Terri Felton | Madison, WI

*Our students deserve the truth about our history. We can't make our world a better place if we don't acknowledge and learn from mistakes in our past.*

Bernadette Lissner | Tempe, AZ

*I believe in the truth.*

Rose Murray | Sea Girt, NJ

*We are for truth-telling and uplifting the power of organizing and solidarity that move us toward a more just society.*

Christine Panzitta | Flemington, NJ

*Students need to hear all perspectives in their US History courses- it should not be cherry picked for them because the material is uncomfortable. Hard history is one we all must face!*

Janell Regaldo | New Orleans, LA

*Children deserve to know the truth and to understand what is going on in their world.*

Erin Timmer | Jenkintown, PA

*I won't tell my students that their lives and their experiences don't matter in this country. I won't let them walk through life thinking the United States has always been a beacon of freedom and always will be. I will teach students that white supremacy is real and always has been - and it can't be rooted out and destroyed unless we, as a nation, address and confront it. The kids are ready...why aren't the adults?*

Mary Ramhoff | Youngstown, OH

Ami Byrne | San Jose, CA

*My students deserve to know the truth about the past and to understand the legacies and connections these events still have in our communities today. Young people deserve to learn about the diversity of experiences and to see themselves reflected in stories of resilience and resistance to systems of oppression. The truth matters!*

Jacob Bley | Tempe, AZ

*I want every student to have the same chance for success and for all of my students to learn about black excellence.*

Judy Roberts-Hawkins | Bellmead, TX

*I want our student's to know the entire truth. I want them to be able to become the best possible young adult and adult that they can be with all the knowledge that is available to them. Our children deserve to know about our country's history and black history. Black history is not just one month, it needs taught all year. Being aware of all struggles that American people have gone through will enable our country to grow and eliminate racism.*

Patricia permetti-landenberger | Kent, OH

*I believe the schools are not teaching the truth.*

Phil Thomas | Youngstown, OH

*My students deserve to see themselves in history and contemporary artworks. I have always wanted to promote inclusivity and diversity in my class and create a safe space for my students.*

Aadrian Thomas | Youngstown, OH

*Our scholars deserve to receive an education that includes ACCURATE depictions/descriptions of historical events, with no bias.*

James Cavanaugh | Avon Lake, OH

*The truth matters*

MARY HALL | Youngstown, OH

Stacey Snyder | Youngstown, OH

Brian Mears | Canton, OH

*I believe the truth will set us free.*

Kaylie Aguilar | Gilbert, AZ

*All history needs to be taught*

Cieleste Tauro | Youngstown, OH

*As a minority myself, I understand how harmful it can be to be a student learning about history that does not represent my story and my place in the world. When I became a social studies teacher and chose to teach in the city, I promised myself to promote diversity and inclusivity so that no one feels like their culture, race, religion, etc. did not contribute to the world that we live in or are not "worthy" of celebration.*

McKenzie Campbell | Ann Arbor, MI

*I will NOT lie to students, and I will not sugarcoat history.*

John Stifler | Sandwich, MA

*As history teachers we know that we must battle ignorance and lies in the pursuit of truth. We also know that the key to our future lies somewhere in the buried past. A past that must be unearthed and displayed in the bright light of eternal justice. If as educators we find our purpose in exposing students to our rightful heritage, then we must accept the evil with the good, the shame with the glory, and we must see with Howard Zinn how it is through the extraordinary acts of ordinary people that we have triumphed as a nation.*

Deanna Celaya | Chandler, AZ

*We need to present the truth.*

Jeremy Meinhardt | South Saint Paul, MN

*Students and people deserve the truth about their history...the good, bad, and ugly!*

Sara Mrljak | Philadelphia, PA

*I know that my students deserve to head the truth!*

Bryan Matthews | Upper Marlboro, MD

*My middle schoolers don't need me to introduce them to racism because they see it, they live it and they feel it. They experience it in their homes, they see it on tv, feel it in the stores they may go to, and want to know why current events like the Jan 6 riot happened. I won't be silent or try to hide literature on racism and slavery from them because they live with the scars that both created. I would not be preparing them for life if I did not educate them about white supremacy and the role racism plays in America, alas, something we learn in class may be necessary for their survival and success.*

Jill MacKinnon | Belmont, MA

*I believe in teaching my students the truth about the United States, its history, and current reality so that we can build a better country that is not rooted in systemic racism and oppression.*

Kathleen Butts | Philadelphia, PA

Donna Brown | Baltimore, MD

*Education is not to be used as a tool to reinforce/justify racism and oppression. Education is not to be used to perpetuate bias and reinforce attitudes based on mischaracterisations, stereotypes and prejudice. Education is to edify to develop applied understanding of knowledge to evolve a culture to its highest virtue based upon truth and practicality. There is no evolution of a society if it operates off of false narratives that justify its lowest values.*



Braxton O'Hearn | South Beloit, IL  
Students deserve to know real history.

Samantha Godden-Chmielowicz | Chicago, IL  
Students deserve to know the truth and formulate their own opinions. History is not pretty, but it needs to be known.

David Hershey | Montpelier, VT

Mary Kazimer | Bellingham, WA

Tim Triveri | Wheeling, WV

History as discipline is a search for the truth. When the past is twisted into happy narratives, it is no longer history. At that point, it has become propaganda. Authoritarians fear truth. A democratic society has nothing to fear from the past.

Shannon Kelly | Spofford, NH

my students deserve the truth and it would be unconscionable for me to deny them that.

Yussra Ebrahim | Portsmouth, NH

Our failure to reckon with the injustices of our past and our tendency to teach racism like it's a thing of the past, or not teach it at all, is what has kept racism alive and thriving in our society today and has kept so many well-meaning, compassionate, intelligent people ignorant of the minority experience and ignorant of how propaganda is deeply rooted into our political and social systems and takes different forms and shapes our thinking; education is one of our best tools against hatred and the different damaging ways in which hatred manifests.

Theresa Fletcher | Miami, FL

Teaching all history is vitally important.

Aj Lentz | Indianapolis, IN

We will never move forward if we can't learn from the past.

Kate Augusta Burke | Newport Beach, CA

I pledge to work to decolonize education.

Cameron Brothers | Vancouver, WA

Special Education students are some of the most vulnerable and overlooked students when discussing equity issues in education. I pledge to teach my students the truth about our history at a level and in a manner at which they will best be able to comprehend, so they can take their rightful place in public instead of continually being forced to the margins.

Shelly Tindle | Tomball, TX

My students deserve to know the truth about racism.

Erica Aguirre | Orange, CA

Denise Felder | Minneapolis, MN

To be the great country that we claim to be, we need to be honest about our history and acknowledge and celebrate everyone who contributes to our society.

Amy Lyga | Saint Paul, MN

I care about all parts of my students' identities and history. I care about the mental health of my students and my students' families - and their future.

Romy Griep | Glendale, CA

My life's work is to challenge systems of oppression, destabilize authoritarianism, and stand witness to and empower marginalized narratives. I refuse to cede my classroom to antediluvian policy makers, bureaucrats, or institutions.

Elizabeth Pisano | Lakeland, FL

Our students deserve to learn the truth about our history.

Olivia Benvenuti | Madison, WI

Our children need to be educated about equity and the white supremacist systems that may hold them back.

LaDawn Haglund | Tempe, AZ

Healing the rifts in society requires empathy, which in turn requires an accurate history of how those rifts came to be. We must face our past in order to create a better future.

Marc-Paul Johnsen | Denver, CO

We cannot compartmentalize the history of the United States to make it more palatable. Our country is defined as much by racism, slavery, and genocide as it is by notions of justice, liberty, and equality. This fragile experiment in democracy hinges upon full and open discourse. To limit that discourse is to embrace ignorant authoritarianism and jeopardize the gains of a society constantly striving for justice.

Kathryn Gawor | New Orleans, LA

Lauren Moss | Rockaway Park, NY

I have a responsibility to my students to teach them about the long-standing forces of oppression that continue to shape our country and world today, as well as the ways groups have worked to face head-on and dismantle these forces.

Nate Merrill | Dorset, VT

I refuse to lie to my students. I refuse to White-wash history. I refuse to "make America great again" by ignoring the deeper truths and darker parts of our history. The only way to move forward is to educate. I refuse to ignore the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history and in current events.

Zeenah Habayeb | Montreal, CA

We need to choose to be an educator is to take an oath to always tell the truth. The most important thing for me as an educator is the protection and the well being of my students from systems of oppression.

Brittany Huyler | Sunland, CA

We cannot provide real and lasting change in our country and communities, if the history behind current systemic problems is not confronted. We have a responsibility to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Michael Ybarra | Katy, TX

History is too important to let reactionary politicians control, our students and nation deserve better.

Stephanie Giddens | Schertz, TX

Elizabeth Charlton | Brockton, MA

I support democracy.

Kaylee Spiegelman | San Francisco, CA

Elizabeth Donnelly | Madison, WI

We need to continue teaching about social justice, and anti-racism. It is one of the best ways for me to be an ally and a co-conspirator with BIPOC colleagues, friends, and community. And it's the only way to create change for the future generations so they don't make the same mistakes and that they continue the great actions of bravery in the name of justice we have seen this year and throughout history.

Mir Finkelman | Brooklyn, NY

words matter and truth matters!

Janice Quiles-Reyes | Sunnyside, NY

U.S History affected the Arts and expressive representation. European beauty standards are NOT what I will teach in any of my classes. Teaching about past and contemporary Indigenous, Black, and artists of color as a basis for my class will be key, as are all of the untold stories of said cultures and communities. That historical perspective is key to creating a full picture of U.S. history in Art.

Athena Robinson | Tehachapi, CA

Continuing to cover up our history doesn't empower our scholars. Truth is what empowers people to go out and make positive change on the world.

Alicia Kitten | Avon Town of, CT

It is essential to discuss the truths behind systemic racism so we can work together to become a better society. Ignoring these truths will only perpetuate oppression. Even covert oppression is still oppression. Let's engage in open discussion so we can ensure a better nation for everyone.

Sulaiman Robinson | Bowie, MD

I've always taught the truth regardless of the law or the state curriculum, that's why I got into teaching history.

LaRett McGown | San Pedro, CA

I completely agree with "telling the truth" and teaching American students the TRUE HISTORY of our country and how to STAND UP and fight against systematic Racism, Sexism, Oppression, Bigotry, and Hatred that runs rampant in our American country and culture. The lies and White Privilege NEEDS TO STOP. I stand for the Truth and Equitable education, salaries and Healthcare for American citizens.

Stephen Wolowitz | Fort Lee, NJ

I am signing my name because it is so very important to teach students more than one point of view in history. History isn't seen exclusively from one group of people. The students need to know that there are other sides to our past and that everyone's voice or actions need to be heard and seen.

Laurine League | Ridgewood, NY

Sandra King Glenn | Tampa, FL

"...how can one teach honestly about the nature of our society without examining how today's racial inequality is a systemic legacy of this country's history?"

Mary Mays-Ridgell | Milwaukee, WI

It is a sin to lie. When the government creates laws to oppress thought and actions in it oppressive and abusive. I will not sin, be oppressed, or abused. I will not be apart of a fraud.

Ashley Atkins-Gabriel | Vista, CA

The truth matters. Students deserve to have the space and skills needed to critically think about the world around them.

Emma Niebaum | Omaha, NE

Students need to know how to make the world a better place. If we want things to change we need the next generation to know what's happening now

Jodi Oliver | Sioux Falls, SD

silencing the perspectives and experiences of Black people and people of color to maintain the status quo is what white supremacy and upholding racist systems looks like.

Lindsay King | Corbett, OR

As Kendi says, denial is the heartbeat of racism. It is only through an honest and truthful reckoning with our history that we can choose an anti racist future.

Katharine Schell | Nampa, ID

Children deserve to know our history and how to prevent it from happening again. Knowledge is power.

Adina Mujica | Miramar, FL

Karla Bretado

My kids deserve to know the truth. I don't want them to think I lied to them or sanitized history. My brown kids need to see themselves reflected in the curriculum and my white kids need to know there's more out there than just people who look like them

Lauren Hermann | Columbia, MO

I will ensure my students are prepared to be highly effective educators, meaning they are well versed in accurate understandings of history and will utilize quality pedagogical practices to ensure all identities are welcomed and accepted and taught within their classrooms.

Alison Ritz | New York, NY

Tanysha Nunnally | Atlanta, GA

I will teach the truth and make my voice heard.

Kate Kessler | Portland, ME

The truth is what children deserve to learn.

Julie Culling | Long Beach, CA

The truth matters.

Stephanie Melendez | West Palm Beach, FL

As an educator of ethnic studies, it is so essential that I teach my students the true history of Black, Brown, and Indigenous people in the United States and the around the world. I will not stand down as legislators try to hid the truth from our students

Helen Nicholson | Pasadena, CA

The true history needs to come out and be examined by the children so they can judge it.

Kelly Sherwin | Shaker Heights, OH

"Truth and reconciliation are sequential" -Bryan Stevenson

Theresa Bouley | Charlestown, RI

Ben Canfield | Morgantown, WV

I believe in teaching our children the truth about the prevalence and persistence of structural racism in our country so that they can observe, analyze, and react to the system of advantages and disadvantages that stems from this structural racism.

Ryan Scheb | New York, NY

decency, dignity, and democracy are never political and cannot be banned from our classrooms.

Noelle Files | Syracuse, NY

I won't be complicit

Sara Newman | Los Angeles, CA

Candace Burckhardt | Minneapolis, MN

Our students deserve to know the truth about our history and to see themselves represented in it.

Meredith Grob Polewski | Milwaukee, WI

Our children deserve the truth about our past!

Anna Troy | Milwaukee, WI

Our students deserve to learn to the truth in history. It is vital that students hear the true stories from multiple perspectives and cultural groups when studying both U.S. and World histories.

Matt Coonan | Lancaster Twp, PA

History must be disclosed.

Gabriel Swiderski | Portland, OR

Caitlin Scheib | Chicago, IL

*I believe teaching the truth matched criticality not only benefits my students' growth, but moreover, this kind of teaching benefits a democratic society.*

Peter Mishler, KS

*Our country will not have a chance at health until it faces, accepts, and, ultimately works to heal from the lie upon which it was founded.*

Christopher Meyer | Lancaster Twp, PA

*Teaching truth is the point of teaching. I'm tired of everything being politicized*

Beth Grabski

*The truth matters! In order for students to think critically and make informed decisions, they need the truth*

Howard Hanson | Lancaster, PA

*we should never have to hide the truth about this country and the western civilization.*

Marisa Shuman | New York, NY

Andrew Lavery | Lancaster, PA

Cameron Leonard | Thornton, CO

*I am committed to teaching the truth, not only to ensure all voices are equally honored but also to empower my students. Whether disenfranchised or privilege, all students need to hear the truth so they can act on it and begin to make the changes needed for a better society, using facts and truth as their backing as opposed to operating under a false, prejudiced narrative.*

Gabriel Painton | Lancaster Twp, PA

*You cannot teach justice without teaching injustice. The truth is that history is riddled with injustice, and I will never not teach the truth.*

Maurice Muhammad | Coldwater, MS

*We must tell the truth or we are a part of the crime. If America is to be a truly Great America her sins and the people who are guilty must be known. And repairing the brokenness starts with being truthful, and accountable. Truth has come to you~*

Deborah Vainstein | Aventura, FL

Vivian Nguyen | Garden Grove, CA

Lynn Lovett Barr | Longmont, CO

Benjamin Otto | Brooklyn, NY

*ignoring our true past will cause us to repeat our blunders. Healing starts with truth and this country can be great, so long as we are willing to look honestly at our past, present and possible futures.*

Jeni Boulanger | Hesperia, CA

*History informs and defines us all, especially the hard history and our ability to acknowledge past mistakes. I can not and will not lie to my students.*

Forest Borie | Berkeley, CA

*We all deserve to know the truth. When we do not allow students to understand the complete, complex history of which our present day is rooted in, we are not doing our job. I, personally, was not allowed access to a thorough understanding of history in my secondary schooling. When I finally began to learn the truth I felt deep resentment. I refuse reproduce this acute offense upon my own students.*

Geri Guidetti | New York, NY

*We need to tell the truth and nobody has the right to take that away from us*

Jesus Gonzalez Moctezuma | San Jose, CA

*Our communities deserved to know their history in order to heal and reimagine a better world for our posterity.*

Tammy Gibson | Hazel Crest, IL

*I refuse to use my social media platform to educate about black history to make some white people feel comfortable.*

bianca bob | New York, NY

*The harder the powers that be try to literally whitewash history, the more we teachers and creatives will focus right back on the true histories, and incorporate it 150% into our projects, lesson plans and permanent game plans.*

Kelly Begy | Rochester, NY

*I believe that children deserve to know the truth about our country, culture, and history. Now and forever.*

Meghan Jump | Houston, TX

*Teaching colorblindness and whitewashed history is harmful and perpetuates racism and white supremacy. We cannot begin to address the harm that comes from racism without owning and acknowledging our true history. Our kids deserve the truth.*

Lina Lenberg | San Francisco, CA

*I want my students to be empowered to create positive social change in their world, and it starts with learning about the troubling history and institutionalized practices of their own country (the U.S.). How can they create change if they don't even know what the problems are? Education with the inclusion of historically marginalized and underrepresented histories is the foundation for future action.*

Daniel Lopez | Denver, CO

*The truth matters.*

Mary Mikesell | Arcadia, IN

*I believe you have to do your best to teach the truth to your students and to your children*

Amber Godwin | Spring, TX

*Teaching authentic history with authentic voice is critical to promoting productive discourse and raising critically thinking citizens of the future.*

Frances Bartolutti | Chicago, IL

Laura Galligan | Oakland, CA

*I refuse to lie. I will always tell it like it is and I won't be hemmed in by any textbook.*

Jose Marquez | Topeka, KS

*it's the just and right thing to do...to teach the truth!*

Cassandra Martinelli | Acworth, GA

*If teachers are silenced, kids can get the message that racism doesn't matter or that it's someone else's problem. To help put an end to racism, everyone has to take an active role, no matter who they are. These kids will grow to be the adults who can help the momentum of change that has been started in 2020. Also, when we teach kids early on that it's OK to talk about race, we help them to understand, respect, and appreciate the differences between people. We can't let fear or those grasping at maintaining the status quo to be the ones who prevent the truth to be taught and taught in totality.*

Shianne M-richards | Peel, CA

Thomas Traut | Lorain, OH

Anna Stevens | Long Beach, CA

*I want my children to learn the truth, and allow them to critically think about their own choices.*

Mike Sarraino | Phoenix, AZ

*Give the educators the ability to teach truth. To teach history from multiple perspectives. The ability for students to see both sides of the discussion and form their own opinion is imperative to critical thinking.*

Dr. Rosemary Wrenn | Pismo Beach, CA

*I believe in preparing young people to have the critical conversations necessary to a just society. I believe any limitations put on teaching history undermine the very democracy this country was built upon. I believe that failure to prepare students for interacting with people who hold differing ideas and identities has led us to this current state of weakness in our country - weakness that is allowing supposed 'leaders' with autocratic goals to overtake the liberty and plain respect we all have a right to enjoy.*

Michael Stewart | Milton, MA

*We can't stand by and allow political forces to lie about our country. Everyone deserves to learn and then deal with the truth.*

SHANNON FRIZZELL | Seattle, WA

*Students deserve to know the truth. It is important to know the truth so we do not repeat mistakes from the past.*

Angela Lea | Kansas City, MO

*all students should learn the truth. History, even hard history, needs to be taught to all.*

Renata Nikolayev | New York, NY

*We cannot support and free this generation until we understand the context in which we are fighting.*

Cate Fosl | Louisville, KY

*Accurate histories of racism and the struggle against it, as well as other social justice issues, are pitifully lacking in most K-12 classrooms and even in some university settings.*

F Berman | Knoxville, TN

Thomas Keene | Ruskin, FL

*We cannot tolerate lies masquerading as education. That kind of "education" is in the past.*

Cesar Lopez | Beaumont, CA

*The truth is nothing to be feared. Facing bad moments in our history help us to learn to be better.*

Emily MacMelburn | New Haven, CT

*My students deserve the truth, from me, from their other teachers, and even from the state curriculum. So far nothing is preventing this, but I stand with other educators around the country. This is important, for everyone, for informed citizens, and for change.*

Rachael Sullivan | Brooklyn, NY

Laura Schwartzberg | New York, NY

*As an educator I worked to teach my students a more inclusive, truthful view of history, rather than the lies and half truths that were passed on to me as a young child. I want to see a more honest and comprehensive approach continue.*

Dawn Bauer | New York, NY

*I cannot teach students a curated version of their own history. Selecting which parts of our nation's story is taught and which parts of are left out, does not honor our students' right to know their own history. It does not honor their intelligence and does not equip them with the tools they need to build the future of their country.*

Ceresta Smith | Miami, FL

*there is no way to teach language arts or broadcast news without asking students to apply a critical lens. Media, in all its genres, necessitates analysis that includes drawing fact-based conclusions on why and how concerning race, gender, and religious practice. As a retired educator that continues to tutor students, I will not gloss over or lie to them to make a select group of mostly white male legislators feel comfortable and in control.*

Rachel McKinney | Reno, NV

Laura Garriguez | Richmond, CA

*We teach history so our youth can learn from past struggles and build a society for the well-being of all humanity and the planet. A history that serves as a tool to break away from oppression in all its forms. Long live the Zinn Education Project!*

Erin Schomburg | Princeton, NJ

Devin Hess | Oakland, CA

*I will not accept a legislated narrative that denies our students the right to critically examine the past so that they can take charge of their future.*

Kyle Prince | Oakland, CA

Dustin Good | New York, NY

*"I'm worried that students will take their obedient place in society and look to become successful cogs in the wheel - let the wheel spin them around as it wants without taking a look at what they're doing. I'm concerned that students not become passive acceptors of the official doctrine that's handed down to them from the White House, the media, textbooks, teachers, and preachers." —Howard Zinn*

Michael Yeong | Crockett, CA

*I am committed to justice for all people of color.*

Sebastian Arze PY

*To paraphrase Orwell, the best way to reduce a people is to control the the stories they tell.*

Tiffany Boyd | Louisville, CO

*We must teach the truth.*

Stephanie Hamblen | Madera, CA

*The whole point of a history class is discovery and understanding. Students must be given the freedom to discover the truth even if it is a hard one. When we censor students' learning we are essentially destroying our own American values of free speech/press, individualism, and liberty.*

brandi berba | Escondido, CA

*I refuse to lie to students! Being patriotic is about teaching the truth. Whether that truth is good or bad.*

Michelle Lynch | Roswell, GA

*I believe that the only way we can start to break down systemic racism in the country is through honestly exploring where we have been as a nation. It's today's students that will create the vision and become the bridge between our darker past and an equitable future for all Americans. They simply can't do that without correct information and a chance to really hash out ideas in a safe environment, which classrooms should be.*

Andrea Van Hagen | Portland, OR

Rachel Kulik | Chandler, AZ

Derek Butler | Saint George, UT

Denisha Jones | Walden, NY

*I refuse to lie to future teachers about the responsibility they face to ensure their students know the full truth about America. America has always strived to be a great country but failed to live up to this ideal for all. If this country is going to great one day, teachers must teach the truth and students must learn the truth.*

Abraham Ornelas-Palacios | Denver, CO

Liz Paige | Salt Lake City, UT

We are not a country with "one story" but many. Our country's strengths are based on the contributions and struggles of all people. For our country to progress, our young people need to understand the inequalities and inequities of the past and today so that they can work to establish "a more perfect Union" for themselves and future generations.

Jaclyn Couture | Leominster, MA

*My children and everyone's children deserve the truth!*

Heather Smith | Youngstown, OH

*I refuse to "school" children and tell them what to learn. The indoctrination of our youth needs to end! I will help educate my students by teaching them how to learn and how to think critically about the world around them using Key Questions and Media Literacy Skills.*

Danielle Poche | Worcester, MA

*our students, their families, and our communities deserve better and the truth will set us free.*

Jayne Conway | Block Island, RI

*We will never live up to the founding fathers' words of liberty and justice for all if we continue to whitewash history. I refuse to lie about the history of this country, or any other for that matter.*

Gina Kilpela | Pittsburgh, PA

Scot Hansen | Wheaton, IL

Kelly Dillon | West Chester, PA

*Truth and transparency are essential to understanding and growth.*

Dina Secchiaroli | Hamden, CT

*For too long our schools have white-washed history. I'm 48 and am only now learning what I should have learned from childhood. It's not about teaching partisanship, it's about teaching the truth. The truth may be inconvenient for some folks, but it's critical in education.*

Carol Moeller | Allentown, PA

*Minoritized voices must not be silenced - educational efforts must be open inquiries. These lies kill and justify killings.*

Robert Buchta | Detroit, MI

*Teaching first and foremost about telling the truth, even when some people don't want to face it.*

Kathleen Anstis | Darien Town of, CT

*Students deserve to be taught the truth.*

Mary Lawrence | New Haven

Megan Brandley | Providence, UT

*I want my students to know the REAL history. To learn from it and shape the future in a more accepting and tolerant way.*

Mary Jameson | Maplewood, NJ

*everyone deserves the truth.*

Kim Sorise | Louisville, KY

*Understanding the truth about our country and our society allows us to better understand ourselves. All of our students deserve to thrive and know these truths, and we, as educators, deserve the right to disseminate and facilitate them.*

Michael Bowles | Farmington, MO

Margaret Stoudnour | Fairlee, VT

*I want to be honest and balanced about teaching history, and I want my students to have the truth, facts and tools they need to be critical thinkers.*

Kelly Connor | Ballston Spa, NY

*I believe we can learn from history and do better and be better. Tough conversations are important and no teacher should be muzzled from teaching the truth.*

Mara Morrison | Truckee, CA

*In order for students to be active contributors, they need to understand history. This requires honesty about discrimination, resilience, resistance, and joy from diverse populations. Our students deserve the truth and if you believe in young people you should believe in that.*

maryann shoup | Apple Valley, CA

Susan Meier | Rochester, NY

*As a 63 year old 42 year education veteran, the deficits in my personal history education continue to emerge and are appalling and inexcusable. This can't continue to happen. It is critically important that current propaganda efforts about the 2020 election, voting rights, history teaching and anti-racism, and the historic oppression of various groups across American history and the parallels to other oppressions across world history are met with loud, continuous, and effective truth-telling.*

Adriana Paez | Kansas City, MO

*We need to start teaching the whole truth about our country's history and the systemic inequities that persist.*

Diane Bosilevac | Kansas City, MO

Chandler Tadlock | El Paso, TX

*How can we raise up a generation to right the wrongs of our nation if we don't teach those things honestly and truthfully? As James Baldwin so aptly put, "I love America more than any other country in the world and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually." Speaking to racism and systematic oppression does not mean we hate America, it means precisely the opposite - we want to see her live up to her democratic ideals for ALL people.*

Lauren Friedman-Way | Havertown, PA

*In order not to repeat history, we must teach the truth about history. Our role as educators is to imbue a sense of curiosity about the world, and provide resources for them to discover their own role in history. There are those will let fear rule them - fear that we will ask questions, challenge the status quo, and overthrow the systems that have kept those in power powerful for so long, and who believe covering up the truth will make it disappear. We can't let fear rule us; we must proceed from a place of love, empathy, curiosity, and care, and allow our students to see the full brutal, beautiful truth of the country they live.*

Leslie Barnhizer | Des Moines, IA

Amy McClellan | Seattle, WA

*We must teach the truth about racism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history. We must face the harsh realities of today that are born out of our past. Students need to be aware and critical thinkers as we find a path of acknowledging the past, the harm done and work towards healing and a better future.*

Tiffany Dreher | Saint Paul, MN

Chanda Fowler | Louisville, KY

*I can't do my job ethically otherwise. I owe it to my students and to my children to teach the truth.*

Laura Ruiz | Los Angeles, CA

*Humanity must know the truth in order to maintain its humanity.*

Sarah Gross | Freehold, NJ

K Jenisha Hasselberger | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth still matters even after four years of lies and fake news. The truth has always set people free. The truth exposes, redeems, emboldens, and teaches.*

Andy Wellspring | Fort Bragg, CA

*The truth is not subjective and must be shared with young people, if we don't share it who will?*

Walls Tonya | Henderson, NV

*Our students deserve to be taught the truth so that we never forget and we continue to teach children who grow up to become adults committed to education for liberation.*

Shannon Doll | Milwaukee, WI

*Truth is truth. Only dictators insist on a perfectionist version of history.*

Marianne Delaporte Kabir | Mill Valley, CA

*In teaching history we are responsible for the future as well.*

Danielle Stobie | Valparaiso, IN

*I refuse to spread propaganda and one-sided narratives. My students deserve the chance to think and evaluate for themselves. The push to control educational curriculums is dangerous to our democracy when it's used to hide and censor history.*

Suzanne Blum Grundyson | Minneapolis, MN

*My students deserve to learn the truth and our communities deserve informed citizens.*

Jaime Ursic | Kansas City, MO

*I believe in multiple perspectives being shared and taught*

Irene Liefshitz | New York, NY

*To willfully deny history is to live a lie. Our past is our present is our future.*

Leah Ragen | Oakland, CA

Shelley L. Gatti | Minneapolis, MN

*teachers have the power to be a force for justice and disrupting legacies of oppression*

John Callaghan | Clifton, NJ

*Honest and accuracy are paramount in a democracy. The liar in chief almost destroyed this country.*

Katie Oglesby | Milwaukee, WI

*The truth is what matters. Not political agendas. Historical facts and truths cannot be whitewashed and reframed or edited to fit America's capitalism and racism. Students are entitled to facts and events that actually took place. They can make up their own mind after learning what took place not what we wished didn't.*

Neal Easterling | Milwaukee, WI

Joel Sanchez | San Antonio, TX

*Truth is truth. People who are trying to silence the truth are doing so because their beliefs are antithetical to progress, and they'd rather silence opposition than look at their own iniquity.*

Francia Williams | Milwaukee, WI

*Truth needs to be told about our history. I will never know the history of my ancestors because they stole and enslaved us.*

GayLynne Levy | San Antonio, TX

*My students deserve to know their history and their role in history.*

Geniese Ligon | San Diego, CA

*All history matters.*

Danielle Deschaine | Saint Paul, MN

Xiomara Nino | New York, NY

*We need to learn about our past so we do not repeat the same mistakes.*

Alyson Paige Warren | Chicago, IL

Samantha Vogel | San Antonio, TX

*Our future leaders will not be lied to, not in my classroom. Hiding from the complex and multicultural past will only worsen our future.*

Kimron Thomas | Brooklyn, NY

Lynda Shanks | Walnut, CA

*Leaving out parts of a story is lying. Children deserve to know the truth, especially since without it there is no hope of healing the deep racial rifts in our country. Forcing teachers to lie through commission or omission is morally wrong.*

LeAndra Evans | Milwaukee, WI

*I support teachers and their rights to teach American history . . . The good, the bad, and the ugly!*

Ashley Cuthbertson | Woodbridge, VA

*Our students deserve the truth*

Aimee Dooley | Cumming, GA

*Our students deserve the right to know the truth. We cannot go forward suppressing the faults of our past. After all, do we not condemn those who are actively suppressing access to knowledge in other countries?*

Arthur Gary | New York, NY

*"not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced" - James Baldwin*

Joan Hurley | Southington, CT

Lauren Hill | Woodbridge, NJ

*This is long overdue and needs to happen. The amount of my students who tell me " Why DIDN'T I learn this in school?" " Why did I have to learn this in college?" is unending.*

Jessica Miller | Beaverton, OR

Sarah Vandre | Milwaukee, WI

*I will not be complicit in the effort to cover up the real history of this nation and the deleterious effects of that history on the peoples it oppresses. As a teacher it is my duty to teach my students to think reflectively, critically, and creatively about all things. This is especially critical when it comes to the history and present state of the United States. I would be failing them if I did not teach them to ask questions, dig deeper, and uncover the things that we are not so proud of. A citizenry that cannot see the defects of its nation is helpless in making it a better place for all. We must move forward to build a more perfect union even if it is uncomfortable, embarrassing, and challenging. As with all of life, change can be painful, but it is necessary for progress. Teachers are meant to teach, and there is no knowledge without honesty, so I will teach with honesty and hope for a better future for my students and my country.*

Kristin McLaren | Winthrop, ME

*Our history is complex and multi-faceted. My students know this and expect me to be honest and open to sharing about history that reflects their diverse stories.*

Hodgkins Natalie | Milwaukee, WI

*I believe our students need to know the truth in order to make changes happen and to develop critical thinking skills.*

Rachel Blumenberg | Mission Hills, CA

*I commit to teaching the history of our country so that no student ever feels left out or underrepresented. We will never push past the issues that hold us back as a country unless and until we are willing to uplift marginalized voices, expose the realities of our history and move forward with compassion and understanding for*

*all of the American experience.*

Elise Kohan | Washington, DC  
I believe in teaching truth.

Eric Wrightson | Bellmead, TX  
Oklahoma passed, and Governor Stitt signed, HB1775, a poorly written and contradictory law that undermines how we teach history. I refuse to lie to my students, most of whom are African American.

Anna Speltz | Brawley, CA

Elizabeth Culp | Indianapolis, IN  
As a POC I'm determined to make a difference and break generationally chains

Michelle Maas | Sussex, WI  
I believe in teaching the truth.

Amie Ostmann | Clermont, FL  
I was fired on January 11th for having a discussion about the attack on the capitol. My students wondered why the attackers weren't stopped sooner when protesters in the summer were shot with rubber bullets and tear gassed. It's racist they said. I agreed with them but assured them it would be sorted out. That was showing bias according to my principal. I had previously come under attack for opening a lesson by telling the students of all the interesting things we would be discussing like the amazing things George Washington and Thomas Jefferson did and also that they were slave holders.

Erin Hallinan , WI  
Our students deserve to learn the truths of how our country was founded and built in order to prevent such atrocities from happening again.

Tina Staszewski | Milwaukee, WI  
My students deserve the truth! The GOP wants God in our schools but, is ok lying to kids?! There is only one reason the GOP wants to lie about history, because the lies keep them in power.

Lauren Dupont | Malden, MA

Erin McCarthy | MILWAUKEE, WI  
I have a responsibility to build informed citizens not because they are responsible for the inequality of the systems or the tragedies of the past, but because knowledge is a power that belongs to all children. Understanding the inequality of the system will help us make a stronger future together.

Mackenzie Smith | Meridian, ID  
I never learned about Japanese Internment camps in high school even though I live 2 hours from Minidoka. Japanese internment camps are finally in our standards and my students learned about it this year. They appreciate not being lied to, and like me, they know when they have been deceived. we will not go back. I will not lie to my students. I will continue to teach the truth, if you want to teach the kids some twisted version of history be my guest – you make 40k before taxes & insurance in Idaho. Good luck. Until then, my students will learn the truth.

Miriam Santos | Milwaukee, WI  
Children deserve to know the truths of all people

Jeff Bonine | San Diego, CA  
The road to equity for all, is the knowledge of the inequities of the past.

Raven Medrano | Denver, CO  
We cannot move forward as a community if students don't even get to learn about what really happened in the past/what's happening in the present. Students deserve the truth.

Alyssa Paolucci | Madison, WI

Kevin Attaway | Madison, WI  
I was raised to stand up to bullies. These pieces of legislation are attempts to bully teachers into inculcating a whitewashed view of our country and its past. There is a lot that is right with the United States, and there is a lot that is not. It is our responsibility to share all of that with our students, and to inspire them to embrace the good and change the bad, and the wisdom to tell the difference.

Jessica Hotz | Madison, WI  
No one should be taught lies.

Danielle Fahey | Milwaukee, WI

Angela Sterling | Milwaukee, WI  
Teaching the truth is the only way to change our actions.

Matt Vaudrey | Fontana, CA  
students need to learn about our uncomfortable history, because accountability and atonement are important.

Andrea Dougherty | Milwaukee, WI

Alondra Garcia | Milwaukee, WI  
we will no be oppressed EVER! The truth will ALWAYS be told. WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH YOU!!! 🍌 ??? 🍌 ?

Meagan Dunn | Milwaukee, WI

Lindsey Nordeen | Milwaukee, WI  
Teaching the truth about our country's history is beyond important and it boggles my mind that we are even debating this. I will always teach my students the truth about our country because everyone has a right to know!

Mary Kay Marrello | Chicago, IL  
Every American student has the right to learn the history of the United States without deletions, fabrications or attempts to glorify past wrong doings, lies or prejudices & injustices.

Katie Lattarulo | East Hartford, CT  
It's been far too long that kids are not being taught the truth about our history!

Corina Haywood | Alexandria, VA  
We owe all our of students the truth, not a convenient version of the truth.

Gregory Shenk | West Hartford, CT  
I grew up with history classes that misled me about my country's history and it gave me a very biased perspective. It gave me no awareness of the atrocities that had been committed by my country and limited empathy for the victims.

James Jackson | Fort Washington, MD  
A single version of history does not support a true democracy. True democracy occurs when all versions are given equal coverage without crafted lies. We lived with that and can't any longer.

Ann Carlsson | Coppell, TX  
Lying about, omitting, and ignoring both historical and current systemic racism to students pushes not only backwards but into the league of totalitarian regimes that punish those who speak up truthfully. We must be better than this.

Jennifer Jones | Colonia, NJ  
As an educator for 23 years, I have taught the history of all people who have built this nation, and others. You cannot change history or erase it.

Todd LaVogue | Jupiter, FL  
It is the right thing to do.

Stuart Chen-Hayes | Bronx, NY  
As a professor of School Counseling at CUNY Lehman College, I center anti-racism and anti-oppression work in all courses for future school counselors as mandated by state regulations and professional codes of ethics. All educators need to do so. The Constitution and tenure protect faculty free speech.

Trinity Stella | Lac Du Flambeau, WI  
I am an enrolled tribal member and want the truth taught. Why is this even a question??? I demand that the truth be taught in our tribally run public school on reservation lands is prayed for.

Dana Huff | Worcester, MA  
I refuse to lie to students. Only if students learn the truth can we improve the world.

kristin babcock | Zamora, CA  
We need to acknowledge and validate all stories of all peoples.

Paul Kreutz | Mesa, AZ  
We need to be able to teach authentic history, not myth.

Kerry Holbrook | Durham, NC  
honesty and integrity are the hallmarks of a good person and citizen. I refuse to lie to children by teaching falsehoods or lie by omitting the truth of the way our country was built on the lives and backs of BIPOC people. As a white woman I am granted privilege simply because of the color of my skin. I will fight for equity and justice calling out structural racism and white supremacy as I see it. I will teach my students the truth in a developmentally appropriate way.

Nicole West-Burns | Toronto, CA

Sarah Turner | Goshen, IN

Megan Taylor | Denver, CO  
Truth seeing is the purpose of history. Without opening or story and being accountable to it, there can be no healing.

Crystal Hardison | Clayton, NC  
This fight is for democracy!

Carrie Giddings | University Place, WA

Danina Garcia | Philadelphia, PA  
My students, despite facing racism and threats their entire lives, talk eloquently about their belief in the United States. They do this not in spite of my teaching them the awful and heartbreaking truths of our past, but because of it. Only these state legislatures appear to believe that racism and hate are so intrinsic to the US that you cannot be a true American if you reject them. These legislators are telling on themselves.

Michael Kelly | Chicago, IL  
We have never needed to tell the true history of our country than right now, and though I teach this topic to graduate-level students, I stand in solidarity with PreK-12 educators who are being bullied by these coordinated legislative and policy attacks across the country.

Michael Anderson | Los Angeles, CA  
Truth is hard to swallow. But we take pills for our health everyday.

Sarah Koch | Berkeley, CA

Eric Fishman , MA  
Every single one of our students deserve the truth about our society. We need this if we have any hope of preparing them to build a future that offers dignity and justice for everyone.

Jennifer Lisy | Delaware, OH  
I am committed to teaching my students to be critical thinkers. This requires them to question and analyze not constrain them to one view of history.

Albert Albanes | Seattle, WA  
As a kid I was taught a version of history that was void of my people, the injustices we've endured, our struggles, and our triumphs. I refuse to continue this cycle of oppressive education that damages our students' potential, especially our marginalized students.

Andrea Ryan | Saint Johns, MI  
This is sending the wrong message to our teachers. We are undermining them by putting restrictions on what they can teach. We need to teach the children true history so they can help repair the nation

MaryJo Soldacki , PA  
School curriculums are weak and unjust when they contain outright lies and lies through omission. Being taught biased and edited information is a danger unbefitting democracy. Our children deserve the right to be taught truths in order to make informed decisions. Our teachers deserve the right -as well as have an obligation - to present them.

Stacey McAdoo | Plain Dealing, LA  
the see no evil, hear no evil, admit no evil and teach no evil approach is unpatriotic and evil. To love is to "see," know, and understand the good and ugly parts and still choose them. I'm signing this because I love learning and teaching and our children and America too much not to.

Angie Alba | Houston, TX

Carlos Velazquez | Glendale, CA

Mary Hart | Silver Spring, MD  
Our children deserve the truth. It is essential that my teachers feel supported and empowered to teach their students the truth about our history as well as present day. Honoring their ability to think critically is essential for our democracy. We cannot move towards true justice and democracy without teaching the truth.

Rebecca Dorsey | Stockbridge, GA

Trey Smith | Philadelphia, PA

Jaimee Johnson | Bellmead, TX

Paul Martinez | San Bernardino, CA

Josh De Lon | Lafayette, IN

I became a social studies teacher to create effective and engaged citizens who can grapple with history and current events with critical thinking and compassion.

Ariel Alford | Washington, DC

The myth-making that has stitched this colonial experiment together needs to be unraveled. The lies have to stop with us. As teachers we must choose on which side we stand - WITH the people or AGAINST the people. I sign this for my students, my ancestors, my descendants, and all those who continue to suffer at the hands of this empire.

NaVonda Marshall | Washington, DC  
It matters

Raphael Bonhomme | Washington, DC

How can we create a country that has hidden facts and stories of so many lives? How can we stand for democracy when everyone's story is not told equally or from their perspective? Does the moral compass not align with logic, or does self-interest over power a blatant caste system?



Melissa Pommier | Houston, TX

*I don't want our future children, both mine and others, to live in ignorance and fear.*

Mary Bouchard | Hartford Town of, VT

*I am committed to working toward equity in education.*

Margie Arac | Portland, OR

*We should be teaching the truth as we know it and not whitewashed history.*

Alma Diaz | Huntington Park, CA

Daniel Barnhart | Los Angeles, CA

Sheryl Garcia | Long Beach, CA

Laura Tucker | Port Townsend, WA

*Teaching the truth is vital to a healthy democracy, and to the emotional development of my students.*

Michele Reyes | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth matters for all of us.*

Gillian Russom | Los Angeles, CA

*In order to build a better future, we need to know the truth about where we have been as a nation. We cannot cover up the injustices that so many in our country have experienced.*

Alexis Feliciano | Washington, DC

April Forsyth | Eatonville, WA

Erika DeLaRosa | Houston, TX

*We cannot address inequities and correct injustices if we do not name the white supremacist ideals and institutions that created them.*

Amanda Carr | Anderson, IN

*History needs to be taught in full not partial*

Marti Anderson | Madison, WI

*It is essential that educators provide students with accurate information about our country's history, which includes systemic racism, in part so they are aware of the past, and in part so they can use critical thinking skills to understand how the past has influenced the present. This knowledge of both past and present events and mindsets can then lead to students using their problem solving skills to design and implement strategies they (and we) can use to create a kinder, more just society. The past doesn't need to dominate their thoughts about our country, but if students are ignorant about the full story of our past, their ability to affect the future is significantly diminished.*

Kenny VBM lankenship | Land O Lakes, FL

*I refuse to lie or water down the truth and facts of history.*

Sarah OShea | Lynn, MA

*An honest and empowering education is vital to the success of students of all color. It is vital to help dismantle racism for future generations.*

Rebecca Rogers | San Francisco, CA

*When I grew up, and learned the real history of our country, I was infuriated that as a child, I was led to believe that the USA was so exceptional - when in fact we had committed atrocities against other humans to get to where we are now. I feel strongly that we can not address what is wrong in our society without addressing the root causes - greed, power, the caste system & racism... We must make reparations and make liberty and justice for all a reality. That means knowing our true history. A whitewashed history does not change the wrongs of the past, but rather perpetuates the wrongs.*

Jennifer Lowery | Portland, OR

*Silence=Violence. The truth will out.*

Anne Tacchino | Philadelphia, PA

*our students deserve to learn honest accounts of this nation's history; the good, the bad and the ugly - so they might grow into the next wave of change makers.*

Melissa Gude | Philadelphia, PA

Joan Braune | Spokane, WA

Rubina Halwani | Sandy, UT

*Utah just banned teaching critical race theory in k-12 schools. I would like to help shed light on this topic and raise awareness. I want to advocate for better understanding and change.*

Joshua Swem | Indianapolis, IN

Sylvia Fagin | Montpelier, VT

*Every person deserves to learn truthful facts so that they can make their own decisions about how to impact the future.*

Lisa Rothenberg | Chicago, IL

*I promise I will teach history the way it was.*

Benjamin Springle | Philadelphia, PA

*Students deserve to know our country for all its strengths and weaknesses, successes and failures. We are entrusted to help young people become their best selves by learning facts, not fiction.*

Heather Griffin | Seattle, WA

*Our children need the truth. They need to know why there is still injustice in the world. They need to know real history so they can let go of the implicit bias and internalized racism that is insidious when we tell lies and hide the truth. They need to know real history so they can change things to be better for themselves and all the babies coming after. We ALL need the truth.*

Leslie Barr | West Chester, PA

*When we do not learn our history, we are doomed to repeat it.*

Amelia Francisco | Vancouver, WA

Claire Wolff | New York, NY

Matt Aumann | Madison, WI

Marin Seng | Philadelphia, PA

Tom Faleti | Washington, DC

*To be effective and lasting, all institutions, education, and morality must be based on the truth. As a nation, we must fearlessly face our greatest achievements and our deepest flaws, knowing that they call us to even greater achievements. Jesus said, "the truth will make you free." Hiding from the truth leads to shackled minds and impoverished lives. Only a clear-eyed view of the truth allows us to be all we are meant to be. That means we need to stop throwing labels around and fearlessly explore our actual history, with all its achievements and flaws. I don't know why anyone would want to hide any part of our past, knowing that understanding our past is the first step toward creating a better future.*

Richard Cieminski | Greeley, CO

*The truth matters!*

Rachel Popp | Baltimore, MD

Carrie Walczynski | Wrightwood, CA

*The whole story matters and attacks on educators to silence the truth is wrong.*

Erica Pierson | Seattle, WA

*I believe by teaching students the facts in an unbiased manner, we are teaching them to be critical thinkers. American history is complicated. Students need to be taught the history so that they can interpret it for themselves through further research. If we teach students that there is only one right answer, we are not teaching them to think for themselves. It is our duty as teachers to teach our students that American history is complicated with no right answer to problems of the past.*

Amanda Moore | Austin, TX

*We cannot continue to rewrite our past so that we feel better about our collective hand in historical events. Doing so does not ameliorate the present; it denies our youth a complete education about societal and economic factors that shape their realities. We become complicit in affording them a narrow worldview. We are heirs to our forefather's ignorance and actions. Together we can either invest that inheritance in attrition and watch as it stagnates and rots us from within. Or we can diversify our portfolio and use those previously learned truths to help us invest in critical enlightenment wherein the rational is marked by freedom of not only self but thought.*

Shawndra Roberts | Portland, OR

*Our country will never move forward or grow if we continue to erase and ignore the true history of how white supremacy is so deeply embedded in every aspect of our society.*

Elizabeth Evans | Santa Rosa, CA

*It's up to all of us to stand against racism and bias by claiming and acting on our allyship.*

Paul Stacy | Ipswich, MA

*Tired of whitewashed world...The truth needs to be told. The kids can handle it better than most adults I have dealt with.*

Julie Ungerer | Philadelphia, PA

*to do otherwise is not an option.*

Aaron Joy | Renton, WA

*Understanding all the histories and struggles that have not been represented throughout history is imperative in a time where progress needs to continue. Ignoring the atrocities that have been committed by white folks, and specifically white men, to communities of color and women is not progress, but instead an attempt to continue spreading this false narrative that we live in a perfect country where these injustices are non-existent. Progress begins with us as adults and educators but it is continued by young people. Young people have every right to learn, know, and understand that this country is broken and that we need to have this education in place in the name of progress and safety for all who call this country home.*

sharice lee | Battle Ground, WA

*Education must be based on facts or it's no longer education, it's propaganda.*

Megan Troutman | Nashville, TN

Jennifer Cancro | Suffern, NY

*This matters!*

Jason Collins | Menomonie, WI

*Education is about knowledge, perspective, awareness and inspiring people to their better selves.*

Peter McKown | Minneapolis, MN

*We have come to where we are because of our refusal to face hard history. We need to practice and be brave with and for our students. We will not be free until we are all free.*

Nichole Pickett | Hayward, CA

John Walcott | Grand Rapids, MI

*I am committed to the development of critical thinking and a clear and complete view of history and society in all of our students. A similar bill has just been proposed in Michigan as well, and I join with and support all teachers and teachers educators who are committed to the truth and anti-racist teaching.*

Julie Lazzaro | Allison Park, PA

Catherine Graybosch | Yorktown Heights, NY

*I am an active anti-racist educator and can no longer sit idly by while our students learn whitewashed history and are not exposed to the truth about our country. How can we grow and become more inclusive if we willingly choose not to share the whole truth, even if it makes us uncomfortable?*

Ben Arthurs | New Albany, OH

*I am an ally and antiracist.*

Lindsay LaRoche | Cincinnati, OH

*my students deserve to know the truth about our country and why things are the way they are today.*

Paulette Scott-Bradford | Fresno, TX

*History is history!!! Tell the truth!!!*

Ronald May | Troutdale, OR

*The only way to change is to understand what is wrong.*

Rebecca Herrin | Ypsilanti, MI

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Nataly Reed | Tucson, AZ

*writing is situated in social, cultural, economic, and academic contexts. I believe in the power of language to compose the future in which students want to live.*

Dr. Ibrahim Shelton | Marina, CA

*Truth is all that matters!*

Stephanie Mann | Indianapolis, IN

Anastasia Schafer | Stowe, VT

Ryan Berry | Atlanta, GA

*This laughable attempt to censor knowledge cannot stand. I refuse to sit idly by while the world of alternative facts tries to change reality. Seeing my students parrot the pledge of allegiance out of a compulsory sense of community, hearing the words "and justice and liberty \*for all\*" ring so, so hollow...to see people putting blinders on with such determination is very problematic, not to mention childish. I encourage all of my fellow educators to read Charles Bukowski's letter on censorship.*

Stuart Chen-Hayes | Bronx, NY

*Students deserve the truth of racism, oppressions. Educators deserve freedom of speech and freedom to choose curriculum as we see fit. You can't have democracy with out it.*

Mary Yockey | Naperville, IL

*I'm signing the pledge because all Americans deserve to know all the history of this country in order to be fully engaged citizens in our democracy. Not knowing all the history will, and I believe has, crippled the ability for those ill-educated citizens to think critically and solve the many problems that confront our global community, as well as our local communities.*

Eva Varga | North Bend, OR

*I teach predominately BIPOC. Truth and representation are imperative to a healthy, positive, and strong society.*

Lauren Wilvers | Minneapolis, MN

*Only when we can understand the past, are we able to make educated choices for the present.*

Aaron Kaka | Lewis Center, OH

Gregory Giorgio | Manchester, NH

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Roseanne Puzzello | Stites, ID

*All students have a right to know history of their society that is representative of all people.*

Lynsey Spaeth | New York, NY

Kathleen Glatthaar | White Plains, NY

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Aubrey Pagenstecher

*We cannot bend the moral arch of this country toward justice if we are not honest about our history and the present.*

Angela Heuvelmans | Crystal Falls, MI

*Teaching an accurate and inclusive curriculum is vital to our children and the world they live in. This is long overdue in the general public school system. I am an autistic homeschool mother of autistic children and I am passionate about rethinking the way we teach and what they learn around here. We must raise critical thinking people who understand a true history and make pathways of access and inclusivity for all students if we want them to be healthy and educated citizens. I refuse to lie to my kids. As a veteran, I refuse to allow this country to continue lying to itself. It has no use but to uphold white supremacy for profit and I refuse to bow to that too. We need educators who are creatively engaged with this work and everyone is better for it. Thank you.*

Josh Rassi | Bozeman, MT

Julia Goldberg | Indianapolis, IN

Kassi Hall | Indianapolis, IN

*Our children must know the past in order to impact our future.*

Kari Weaver | Guysville, OH

*I care about the truth, and after teaching for 29 years, our future decisions makers MUST know and understand the truth about our past.*

Sharon Kramer | New York, NY

*I teach math and numbers don't lie. The playing field is not level and the systems have not treated all people equally. Pretending it is so will not make it so.*

Rae Woodcock | Jamaica Plain, MA

Jerise Fogel | New York, NY

Gail Lelyveld | Washington, DC

Jonathan Levy-Wolins | Olympia, WA

Molly Ewing | Denver, CO

*telling the truth does not make us weak. Telling the truth is how we learn from our mistakes. Telling the truth, the real truth, IS what makes America so awesome. It is our obligation to ensure that the entire story of history makes it to all children, not just the parts that people feel comfortable with. The United States is an extraordinary adventure because we have grown and changed and learned, and the only way we've done that is by speaking honestly about the past. I'm proud to be an American because the America I know doesn't run from a challenge, we face it, even when that challenge is our own history.*

Kelly Phillips | Watertown, MA

*I believe there is implicit and explicit anti-racism. Both are important to building an inclusive classroom that supports all students.*

Evan O'Connell | Queens, NY

*we must continue to work to dismantle white supremacy in our nation, and teaching and learning the truth is one tool toward that end.*

Christopher Martell | Dorchester, MA

Ashley Chu | Washington, DC

*all children deserve to learn honest history, along with the critical thinking skills to understand and analyze what they are learning. It's the only way we can progress into a better future.*

Christopher Green | San Antonio, TX

*I want to be part of the healing that needs to happen in this country. However, that is not possible unless we honestly examine the nation's history and collaboratively commit to repairing the trauma of colonialism.*

Richard Grossman | Chicago, IL

dan le | Los Angeles, CA

*I refuse to lie to students. ever.*

Victoria Hand | Boulder, CO

*I feel that my country lied to me when they did not disclose the true nature of our history. The history books reflected only progress and power, without describing how we became power through slavery and other colonial acts. The men we regard as heroes in our history books are often the ones who brought about the most destruction and pain to others. We owe our children the truth.*

Kathryn Digiioia | Austin, TX

Nicole Willms | Spokane, WA

Gretchen Brugman | Olympic Valley, CA

Tara Montague | Morristown, NJ

*There can be no forward movement if we are dishonest about the path we have taken to get where we are, and shouldn't education be defined by the honest steps we take to give our children a better future?*

Walter Garcia | Pompano Beach, FL

*I refused to stay quiet about vital issues concerning U.S. History therefore I believed I was quietly let go from my position. But somehow they never really met me know the real reasons.*

Sarah Hutchison | Indianapolis, IN

*Not being permitted to talk about what really happened in this country is criminal.*

Constance Palaia | Grants Pass, OR

*Children need to know the truth, much of it ugly and hard. Nonetheless, it's true.*

David Flint | San Francisco, CA

*censoring the ugly side of our past and present isn't teaching history, its spreading propaganda.*

Andres Martinez | Wheat Ridge Co, CO

*Our kids deserve the truth. Ignoring the U.S.'s foundations in the forced take over, colonization, and attempted genocide of Indigenous peoples as well as in the institution of slavery and the key role in establishing the very notion of race and, therefore, racism is far from honest.*

Abbey Grall | Milwaukee, WI

*Teachers have the right to teach the truth and students have the right to learn it! Learning from the wrongs of the past help write the rights of the future!*

Cesar Rodrigo Juarez Ruiz | San Jose, CA

*Uplifting the voices of marginalized communities brings us closer to a world free of systems of oppression.*

Alexis Scott | Alexandria, VA

John Yolich | Chicago, IL

*I use all that curriculum that they want to abolish.*

Tereza Bottman | Portland, OR

*Having grown up in a country controlled by a totalitarian regime, I take very seriously the threat of censorship, and any infringement on academic freedom and freedom of speech. I vehemently oppose the targeting of educators committed to teaching historically accurate content while instilling in their students the ability to think critically about the subject matter and the world around them. Like countless other educators, I oppose these draconian laws and attacks, and refuse to let these tactics intimidate me into silence.*

Chris Rolwes | Cedar Rapids, IA

*In order for our democratic republic to survive, we need an informed citizenry that understands the complexities that make up U.S. History. This will allow our students to become critical consumers of information and to be civically engaged.*

Eliza Bryant | Chicago, IL

*Future generations of Americans deserve to know the truth about our country's past. By learning about the past, we can ensure a better future, especially for those whose rights have been historically threatened or suppressed.*

Wendy Bergman | Fort Collins, CO

*Our History is a history of oppression and pain and the only way we can create a future that is any different is by having an open and honest conversation about our past. Our students know that racism sexism and homophobia are a part of our history and if we don't teach them about it in schools we lose their trust and their investment in education.*

Susan Hopkins | Nevada City, CA

Penny Culliton | Temple Town of, NH

*I refuse to obey a law that causes me to be the agent of injustice to another. And because education is not meant to make people all safe and comfy. Penny Culliton Mascenic Regional High School*

Denise Barnett | Pensacola, FL

*I respect my students too much to lie to them; they deserve to know the history of our country - including the "bad" with the "good". How can we end racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. if we are not allowed to have civil discourse about those topics?*

Deborah Rodrigues | Medina, NY

*Truth should be part of learning, not bullshit*

Kristen Sanchez | Northampton Twp, PA

*I have the courage to learn and teach hard history. All of our students deserve to learn the truth.*

Andrea Barker | Gilbert, AZ

*I will not support inaccurate information being taught in our public schools.*

Steve Claassen | Clovis, CA

*I'm tired of textbook adoptions, and district and state standards that deny teachers the academic freedom to teach without empire promoting propaganda.*

Kim Hett | Lindsborg, KS

*I will not lie to my students.*

Cara Fulton | Washington, DC

*Only with the truth can we truly be free.*

David Cobbins | St Paul, MN

*Teaching the truth is vital to our students and society. It will help us move forward with the struggles we face today.*

Whitney Houston | Pearland, TX

Mara Giglio | Athens, OH

Angel Dolina | Trenton, NJ

*We all have biases. However, personal biases should not impair the American history curriculum.*

Keith Marek | Chicago, IL

Sunshine Jumaily | Lexington, KY

*young people deserve the truth to help them build a future that prioritizes equity and justice.*

Catherine Holub-Ward | Greenville, SC

Christine Johnson | Gresham, OR

*The current history curriculum is not accurate, racist, sexist, stupid and WRONG!!*

Bill Stevens | Washington, DC

*As an American history teacher, I teach the history of the people in America. This includes the voices and stories of ALL people, not just the ones deemed worthy by others.*

Gregg Carleton | Houston, TX

*Education matters and what is education without TRUTH? It is propaganda! Teaching the TRUTH and empowering our students is the best part of teaching.*

Megan Lewandowski | Saint Paul, MN

*I will never lie to students, especially about our nation's history. It is vital for our students' to learn about the oppressive forces that shaped our country and how they continue to do damage to so many.*

Christine Llewellyn | El Paso, TX

Petrina Fowler | Acworth, GA

*This is an important pledge and I am here to do the tough work am truly impact overall change!*

Lydia Petoskey | South Hadley, MA

Anita Romero | Youngsville, LA

Sadie Adams | Portland, OR

*I refuse to lie to students about the history of this nation. It is important to look at the true history of the U.S., not the white-washed version that has been presented historically, if we are going to move forward and make progress toward equality as a country.*

Rebecca Bidwell | Trussville, AL

*Students deserve to know the truth and have the opportunities to analyze the documents and perspectives of history, regardless of who they are. Counter narratives are an important part of learning that history is not written by one person, but by the nation as a whole.*

Melissa Riley | Bothell, WA

*Teaching the truth is the right thing to do for kids.*

Jenn Mooney | Lees Summit, MO

*Student deserve to see themselves in our history and these bills are trying to prevent many of our minority and oppressed students from having that opportunity.*

Chris Carman | Kent, OH

*We cannot improve our country if we lie to our children about its past.*

Lisa Mannion | Peekskill, NY

*The truth matters!*

Rebecca Walker | Aurora, IL

*It is our responsibility as educators to provide opportunities for students to develop the skills necessary to participate fully in our democracy and openingly address the challenges of our society. This includes providing space for young people of ALL ages to think critically, to question injustice, to distinguish fact from misinformation, and to explore a variety of diverse perspectives. Lessons that are intentionally anti-bias, anti-racist, and focused on respectfully discussing the truth of history are essential. I refuse to lie to my students.*

Pete Bretzlaff | Kankakee, IL

*To ignore the role that racism, sexism, and xenophobia played in the development of the United States does a disservice to ALL students and provides them with an incomplete picture of not only OUR history, but also leaves them unequipped to identify and work to solve the problems WE face today.*

Chris Mahalic | Buffalo, NY

*History is about truth and learning from earlier mistakes, by attempting to whitewash history the same mistakes will e make over and over again.*

Yazi Cournia | Milwaukee, WI

Diana Grimes | Oakland , CA

I

Heidi Lamb | Providence, RI

*I will not lie to my students. They need to understand the past to know the present and plan for the future. Facing our history is the first step to moving ahead in a new direction as a nation.*

Christina Sheppard | Gaithersburg, MD

Heather Gossler | Gilbert, AZ

*I am signing my name because teaching complete and accurate history is the only way to show pride in our country and a desire to do better.*

Shaina McSweeney | Tavares, FL

Griffin Pepper | Philadelphia, PA

*The reality of my students' lived experiences is rooted in this history of oppression and racism, and I refuse to teach my students that their truth is false.*

Dylan Guarino | Sudbury, MA

*I refuse to lie about history. We can not raise our children to be the people this world needs without giving them a real and true education of our past. They need to understand how our reality came to be, in order to influence their reality.*

Joseph Feinsilver | New York, NY

*American history matters, context matters, and students deserve the whole truth even if parts are disparaging or even shameful.*

Kathryn Smerke | Fairfax, VA

*It has taken me years to unlearn the colonizers' version of history I was taught. I work to help my own kids and the kids I work with to understand the racism on which the country was founded from a young age. Equipped with this knowledge, they are motivated and prepared to work for change.*

Claire De Leon | Chicago, IL

Joanna Batt | Austin, TX

*I am signing because not trusting our students to know and tackle complex history in all its honesty is not trusting a future where we can be better for it. People's lives, not to mention connected humanity, need and deserve that more equitable future.*

Barry Turner | Oakland, CA

Melissa Cohen | Bronx, NY

*The truth of this country's history must be told - the good, the bad, and the ugly. It's the only way forward.*

John Joyce | Reno, NV

Stephen Pink | Brea, CA

*Teachers have a responsibility to teach the experience of the oppressed in this country and the ongoing legacy of chattel slavery.*

Kristin Teigen | Portland, OR

*Banning real history and true stories won't ever be ok. Students deserve to have the full picture of their history and current realities taught to them -- and I won't ever stop.*

Michele Goostree | Nashville, IL

*My job is to teach students how to understand the United States, not to love it or hate it. We have to understand how the country has changed over time, and why those changes have occurred. I won't lie, and I won't teach mythology.*

Mindy Hall | Westerville, OH

Debra Van Essendelft | Middleboro, MA

*You can not teach the history of the nation or the world without teaching about the negatives or the topics that are not pretty and upbeat. The United States has a dark history of discrimination, sexism, xenophobia and racism that must be addressed in order to teach students about change and how it can be made based on examples from the past.*

Bella Barclay | Healdsburg, CA

*I am signing this because it is unjust and appalling that we are allowing people to continue to leave out the stories and perspectives of so many.*

Judi Freeman | Boston, MA

*our students deserve nothing less than the truth and the tools to confront this history.*

David Detmer | Hammond, IN

*If history has taught us anything clearly, it has taught us that it is not a good idea to let politicians dictate what is, and is not, accurate history.*

Brian Caterino | Holley, NY

Erin Ennis , WI

*I'm a history teacher. Everyone had the right to have their own narratives shared and valued. History is more than 1 side of any story. History can be hard, painful, and ugly but we need to study this to, hopefully, build a future of critical thinkers who will actively participate in changing the future.*

Emily DiCuio | Peekskill, NY

*Black history IS American history. Women's history IS American history. Native American history IS American history. Our role as history teachers is to teach the history, for better or for worse, so that we can become a more perfect union. Teaching patriotism and history are two different things...*

Aaron Callender | South Milwaukee, WI

*I teach U. S. History and American Government and believe students need full access to ideas and the intellectual freedom to work with and examine them so they can create their own voices in the world.*

Emily DiCuio | Peekskill, NY

Josh Walker | Coalinga, CA

donna masters | Jourdanton, TX  
he can not and should not erase history

Rachel Miller | Dover, MA

*It is only through teaching and understanding our nation's full history that we can even hope that there will be a brighter future for all.*

Ashley Strohm | Sunnyside, NY

*Knowledge is power. I want to empower my students to use their voice to influence the spaces they hold. They are learning now how to become informed and active citizens of our democracy. There is no alternative.*

Katie Torres | Longmont, CO

*The truth matters.*

Milly Burnett , TN

ALICIA MCCLUNG | Durango, CO

*It's the right thing to do.*

Ryan Liacos | Medford, MA

Dave Medley | Mesa, AZ

*The lies have to stop if we want to raise children who embrace the truth!*

Nancy Schurr | Chattanooga, TN

Dessie Wakefield | New Brunswick, NJ

*It is of utmost importance that all students be taught the TRUTH about occasions in US History which involve racism, sexism and oppression!*

John Abromeit | Buffalo, NY

*I'm opposed to government mandated falsification of history.*

Anne Lewis | Austin, TX

*The bills against teaching that are moving through the Texas legislature are horrifying. I believe in People's History. I stand in solidarity as a union person with Education Austin and their courageous stand for truth in education. My films have been useful in broadening curriculum -- Fast Food Woman for 11th grade economics in NC; more recently Emma Tenayuca and the 1938 San Antonio Pecan Shellers Strike (4-12) and Annie Mae Carpenter and the Uprising in Nacogdoches (8-12) for history, economics, and ethnic studies.*

Alex Powell | Ogden, UT

KayLee Fredricks | Wyoming, MI

*I refuse to teach the narrative that has been created to make it seem like there is only one group that matters and made long lasting contributions to our nation. Working in a very diverse district I want my students to know that they matter and they are a part of our country's history too.*

Sagie Tvizer | Medford, MA

Sara Palante | Iowa City, IA

*I am committed to teaching students the truth about systemic racism, implicit bias, white privilege, and our country's true history of oppression. I am against any legislation that prevents educators from teaching antiracist curriculum.*

Zoe Schirmer | Oak Park, IL

*Teaching truth matters!*

Lydia Falconnier | Chicago, IL

Jessica Hauger | Durham, NC

E. Pailin Gaither | Baltimore, MD

*Our school's goal is to build active, engaged citizens who are empowered to go out in the world and be change-makers. To effectively create change and build a future that works for ALL, you must know the past, and it is my job to help our students unpack their history -- both its darkness and promise -- so they can do just that.*

Liz Davidson | Portland, OR

*Students expect the truth. Only through the truth can we build a more just and equitable future for everyone.*

Alison Quoyeser | Mill Valley, CA

*The struggle to see and understand all sides of historical events is essential for developing a population of critical thinkers.*

Jase Sutton | Marble Falls, TX

*our understanding of history and how we teach it should not be determined by state legislators, who often have a poor understanding of history themselves.*

Jennifer Eppolito | Pleasant Unity, PA

*White washed history is not acceptable. All voices in history need to be heard and honored. The next generation demands it.*

April Norman | Belvidere, IL

*We have taught lies for way to long! It's time to teach truth.*

Heather Butler | Williamston, NC

*my students deserve to see themselves in history, and to know that people like them have been part of history all along. They also deserve to know the messy, bloody history of our nation rather than a sanitized version that doesn't acknowledge the actual injustices that happened.*

Colin Johnston | Springfield, OR

*It's important for us to learn the whole of history, counter narratives particularly so.*

Yolanda Acey | Hattiesburg, MS

*You can not change the future without accepting the present and being honest about the past.*

Brooke Bernardini | Lansdale, PA

*As history teachers it is our duty to speak the truth about our past - whether it be racism, sexism, xenophobia, patriarchy or privilege. It's imperative we know this history - as well as the stories of resisters and agitators who knew what "liberty" and "freedom" meant, and fought to make those ideals a reality. The only way we can navigate the challenges we face today is to know where we have come from. Even when it's hard, we teach the truth. As Amanda Gorman - poet and activist - said best "Being American is more than a pride we inherit. It's the past we step into and how we repair it."*

Cecilia Brunning | Happy Valley, OR

Laura Tucci | Saint Paul, MN

*History education is supposed to help us understand the past and present. We should not be trying to cover up the past.*

Kelly Huff | Hillsboro, OH

*We can't heal what we don't acknowledge and the evidence of the harm done by the historical lack of accountability is increasingly painful*

JONATHAN ALBERS | Wichita, KS

Zach Whitcomb | Alexandria, VA

*I am signing because I received my teaching education in Missouri, home of this current harmful legislation proposal, and I want to push back against the political silencing of important histories from the racist dominant culture, who, for too long, have called the shots.*

Drew Ames | Needham Heights, MA

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not the TRUTH!

Jessica Bishop | Washington, DC

I refuse to lie to students.

Matt Vriesman | Grand Rapids, MI

I pledge to expose racist mythology in every corner of the curriculum. I pledge to help students identify and expose the racist policies that have led to the deplorable racial disparities in American society. If our society is to have a more equitable 21st century, all Americans must be able to contextualize Black suffering and articulate the history of injustice. Much structural change and healing is needed. As history teachers, we have an immense responsibility to confront racism and call it what it is.

Christian Wrabley | Johnstown, PA

Our students need to discuss current events and the truth and realities of our history, and if they can't do it in our classrooms - designated learning spaces with trained professional teachers - then I don't know where they can safely have these conversations. Their brains will fill in those blanks either way. It's important that professional teachers create spaces to learn and ask questions and seek answers together.

Virginia Boyle | Chicago, IL

It is very important that teachers teach the truth about history. We must verify facts from a variety of validated sources, and teach our students HOW to do the same. With these tools, our students can verify truth for themselves, and they can draw their own conclusions.

Jeanie Aday | Clayton, NC

We teach from primary documents, where you cannot deny the truth. We no longer hide behind propagandist textbooks that most state legislators grew up reading. Stop the brainwashing. Teach the truth now.

Alita Thomas | Bedford, IN

History has more than one side, more than one perspective, and more than one result. Students live in a diverse world and they deserve a more truth than they have been getting.

Lisa Cartwright | Frenchtown, NJ

I believe that all students have a right to the truth and hiding it would be a disservice not only to my students but to the history itself and the people it has affected.

Mary Molnar | Pasadena, CA

The only way we can heal as a country is to acknowledge the painful truths of our past.

William Linn | Cedar Hill, MO

The area I live in and teach in is detached from reality.

Alexandros Acedo | Fresno, CA

without teaching brutally and unapologetic honest history, and the legacy that it has produced, we can not complete our national reconstruction, that was aborted in 1877 with the corrupt presidential election bargain.

Tip Matthews | Washington, MO

I am sign my name because the core nature of education is the dissemination of truth. Oppression, prejudice, and racism are present in our world. Denying the existence and influence, both from the past and present, will give these hateful ideologies fertile ground to persist. The first step to ending this is to tell the truth.

Hallie Herz | Baltimore, MD

Our students deserve to learn the full story of our country's history.

Douglas Moehle | Denver, CO

History has been written and experienced in multiple ways by multiple groups and obviously it is important that this diversity is reflected in the education our students receive as well. As our nation leans toward polarization, it is important to share with students our common humanity and ensure that ALL voices are represented in future narratives.

Erin Sassaman | Fanwood, NJ

The idea of hiding the truth only deepens the reality of racism and ignorance. By openly accepting that this is what has been done, this is how we've tried to change, and this is what we have left to do, we are building a much better society that one in which, in order for certain people to feel better about themselves, we lie.

Chris Crews | Granville, OH

Students need to know historical truths, no matter how uncomfortable or ugly they are, and any attempts by state or national legislators to stop such efforts must be fought against and resisted.

Eva Zygmunt | Muncie, IN

Elisabeth Bass | Philadelphia, PA

How can my students become empowered without understanding systems of oppression? Too often, the impact of oppression keeps them from seeing themselves as advocates for a better future.

Julie Peake | Linden, MI

Josiah Lookingbill | Owings Mills, MD

I will not purposefully mislead my students and ignore racist injustice

Luke Griffin | Portland, OR

I believe in teaching the truth, even if it is hard for some to hear, to help right the wrongs and so we can have a better future.

Brandon Riddle | Louisville, KY

Students need to understand the social factors that shaped our histories in order to understand those histories and deal with contemporary problems of inequality.

Jacob Clauson | Alexandria, MN

I refuse to lie to students about history. In order to prevent repeating the mistakes of the past, we need to learn about them in an open and honest way.

Eric Rothenberger | Reinholds, PA

Patricia Lucas | Santa Cruz, CA

Our children deserve to know the truth which will support them in knowing their own truth from which they will live their lives.

Jon Durham | Bellingham, WA

It is the clear duty and responsibility of all teachers to always tell the truth to their students. The full truth is the foundation of our students understanding of the world and their place in it.

Justin Strebelle | Fox Lake, IL

I'm doing what is right, just like I teach my students to do.

Susan Whipple | Boise, ID

The only way to make the country a better place is to teach the truth. We have to make students critically think and make decisions for themselves once they have the facts. In memory of George Floyd and Richard Greene and all the others who have perished at the hands of lynch mobs.

Christina Byers | The Villages, FL

I love America. But I cannot in good conscience pretend that there aren't some terribly awful sides to our history. If you want your country to be the best, it has to be honest about its history--talk about the good and the bad. I want my students to be proud to be Americans but also understand that we are not perfect, and we have a long way to get there.

Sarah Hoop | Poughkeepsie, NY

We cannot move forward as a country until we recognize our past. We cannot have an actual WORKING democracy until all people are seen, heard, understood . Our past informs our present. We must make the wrongs of the past a launching point for a true American future, or else we are just cycling away in colonialism....and lies.

Justin Altay | Chicago, IL

*there's no other choice I would ever make when it comes to my role as an educator.*

Amanda Alonso | Portland, OR

John Brewer | Louisville, KY

*I believe in the work you are doing and wholly support the teaching of narratives that center human dignity and decenter sanitized history that does not advance the species.*

Allison Haight | Portland, OR

*My students, and the society at large, deserve to know the truth.*

Laura Citino

Yesenia Zavala | Houston, TX

*My students deserve the truth about their history, no matter how painful or unjust it may be.*

Sarah Bruegger | Newburgh, IN

*My students deserve to learn the facts about history and not have it sugar coated or white-washed.*

Denae Henson | Ypsilanti, MI

ginger hansen | Hampden, ME

*The truth must be told.*

Daven Oglesby | Antioch, TN

June Morris | Corvallis, OR

*As a history and geography teacher, I am aware of the necessity of teaching Hard History. Uncovering and discussing these complex topics makes us stronger, not weaker, as a society.*

TIMOTHY MCMAHON | Atlanta, GA

*I CARE ABOUT OUR DEMOCRACY. A CONFLICT OF IDEAS IS INHERENT IN A STRONG DEMOCRACY, BUT IT MUST BE MANAGED EFFECTIVELY WITH TOOLS OF PEACEFUL AND PURPOSEFUL DISCOURSE, NOT THE FEAR AND BULLYING OF AN AUTHORITARIAN STATE. THE HOLOCAUST, SLAVERY, AND RACISM ARE ALL LINKED BY DEVOTION TO IDEAS THAT TEACH PEOPLE NOT TO LISTEN TO DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES, NOT TO ACT WITH COMMON REGARD OR TO FRAME EVENTS IN WAYS THAT PROPAGATE HATRED.*

Martha Zwicker | Renton, WA

Sara Slager | Halifax, MA

Lindsay Colf | St. George, VT

Laura Farrelly | Eugene, OR

Jonathan Camerucci

Sara Ainsworth | Richmond, IN

*TRUTH MATTERS #socialjusticeadvocate*

Alaina McCallum | Seattle, WA

*Our students deserve to know the truth and deserve to feel seen in the history that they learn.*

Jennifer Quigley | Tucson, AZ

*Our students deserve the truth.*

Nini Hayes | Bellingham, WA

Andrew Hill | Seattle, WA

Jayna Otonicar | Federal Way, WA

*We cannot achieve justice without teaching truth.*

Patricia Helm | Belvidere, IL

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Rebecca Leisher | Seattle, WA

*this is just so basic. Students should have access to the truth and to the tools to think critically and make change in their communities and in our world.*

Debbie Kuttner | Renton, WA

*I cannot think of how to say something professional. I just want to start swearing and screaming. How can we go backwards this dramatically in time?! Education should always strive to speak truths.*

JC Fretz | Seattle, WA

*youth deserve to know the truth and be validated when they know the truth about the society that they live in.*

nikkita oliver | Seattle, WA

Lisa Smith | Austin, TX

*Education must be honest*

Trechiondria Lathan | Iowa City, IA

*I will not simply comply with racist laws or be disrespected, dismissed, and traumatized by administrators and political leaders who openly inflict harm on Black students, families, and educators in this state.*

Agnes Lopez | Bronx, NY

Martha McGlinchy Teien | Avon, CO

Jasmine Getrouw-Moore | Greensboro, NC

Tammy Oesting | Seattle, WA

*We teach who we are and if we do not understand the truth of history we do not understand who we are and are bound to perpetuate, not dismantle, systems of oppression in our nation. To ban learning about Critical Race Theory is antithetical to the ideals of a free and liberatory educational system.*

Andrea Bazemore | Frisco, TX

*We need to teach accurate history.*

Ruben Carrion | Waverly, IA

*The truth will you free!*

JERI L REED | Norman, OK

*Since the US history I teach centers on multiculturalism, it would be impossible for me to follow the scrambled guidelines just passed in my state, Oklahoma. The college where I teach has a big commitment to inclusion, so I do not anticipate problems--but am concerned about what will happen in K-12 throughout the state, which already has a poor track record for teaching inclusive history.*



Carol Ndambuki | Pullman, WA

Pullman, WA is a college town right on the border with Moscow, ID. The State of Idaho is one that passed legislation controlling what teachers, districts, and universities can teach citing "Critical Race Theory" as a method for manipulating children into thinking it is bad to be white. Funds have been cut from those public universities perceived as teaching "Critical Race Theory," including the University of Idaho whose main campus is in Moscow, less than 8 miles from my home. I have been an adult educator for nine years working for the Federal government through Migrant Education grants supporting migrant workers and their children in their pursuit of high school diplomas. I teach in English and in Spanish all four subjects tested in high school equivalency (math, science, social studies and language arts). I have worked with so many adults in preparation for their citizenship test, adults from all over the world who have chosen to come to the United States for the freedoms enshrined in the constitution. We speak frankly about the good those freedoms have brought to our country but also about how those very principles have failed to be supported and observed for all who live here and call the US home.

Hannah Gann | Philadelphia, PA

Shasta Payne | Chandler, AZ

Sheila Wilensky | Tucson, AZ

Telling the truth about history is what I learned from Howard Zinn!

Wendy Shenk-Evans | Hyattsville, MD

The number of proposed state level bills designed to silence discussion of systemic racism in our public schools demonstrates how prevalent resistance to an honest accounting of this nation's history continues to be. We cannot change the future until we are truthful about the past and the present.

Elizabeth Maxon | Portland, OR

It is wrong to attempt to erase history and to deny young children their right to know the truth of oppressive systems in this country.

Gail Bloom | Cincinnati, OH

Kids deserve the truth

Shelley Rees | Oklahoma City, OK

Education is about access to truth, even--perhaps even especially--uncomfortable truth.

Sandie Ragland | Stuttgart, AR

I believe the truth is important. We must be able to see all sides of every issue and event in history. We must be willing to listen and understand, even when it goes against everything we learned and believed out of nondisclosure and misunderstanding.

Heather Gerker | Cincinnati, OH

Today's students will be tomorrow's educators and policymakers, and it is vital to dismantling systemic racism that more individuals have a deep understanding of critical race theory, and ways to counter and eliminate systemic racism and bias.

Jesse Johnson | Amherst Town of, MA

Working in China I see the effects of censorship on society and I expect better from the people who supposedly support the constitution of the united states of america.

Jacob Jansen | Lafayette, CO

No student's positionality should go without an education that provides critical analysis on historical awareness of a nation built through violently oppressed people, cultural eradication, settler colonialism, imperialism, and fascist nationalizing. U.S. politics actively work to rewrite history in the interest of exploitation. Failing to recognize histories of the oppressed creates a harmful continuum that works solely for exploitative benefit. This erasure of studies which highlight atrocities is telling of the inequality we see today. What sort of future is being created for the minds of tomorrow if we cannot educate students on the past that sculpted our present suffering and its embodied people?

Kathryn Derrah | Usaf Academy, CO

banning a text or curriculum promotes ignorance and fear. Students need to gain awareness of the key themes of U.S. history and these programs can provide that.

Eileen O'Brien | Meriden, CT

We have a responsibility to learn from our past so as not to make the same mistakes in the future.

Jasmine Williams | Pensacola, FL

Counter-narratives matter

Michelle Steele | Middlebury, VT

We must teach the truth to all students!

Katy Swalwell | Des Moines, IA

The truth will set us free.

APRIL HENDRICK | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

We study history to learn from it and make sure we are doing our best to prevent horrible events from happening again.

Arnee' Love | Chicago Heights, IL

The True uncensored history needs to be taught.

Michele Sandstrom | Beaverton, OR

My students trust me to tell the truth.

David Smith

we need to study America's debits and credits in order to understand the United States as it is today. The past happened, how we study the past will determine how and if we move forward. Studying America's credits alone will ensure that we will not move forward; studying the sum of our history will empower us to affect a greater future.

Deborah Lemieur | Havertown, PA

I agree and believe in what is said. I also think it's important and even necessary to say these things in the current political climate of this country.

MARK LEVY | New York, NY

The history of slavery, racism, discrimination, exploitation and injustice in our country are not only true parts of America's past but also they are things we need to know about to build a better, fairer, equitable and truly democratic future for us all. A critical awareness of our past is key to our future. Also, students' own experiences and sharp questions often contradict traditionalists' myths and lies -- and teachers must be able to support not silence such analysis and thinking.

Mike Boyer | Corvallis, OR

the truth shall set you free...

Sarah Shamah | Flagstaff, AZ

Holly Johnson | Ventura, CA

Angelina Castagno | Flagstaff, AZ

Carol Johnson | Tempe, AZ

Educators should not be told what to do by politicians. We are perfectly capable of leading our classrooms.

Jessica Kitterman | Bellmead, TX

Kel Lane | Olympia, WA

I'm committed to sharing truths and exposing injustices with future generations

Loretta (Terra) Wilson | Olympia, WA

*I will not lie to children who want to know true history.*

Eric Hitchner | Philadelphia, PA

*I am fortunate to teach at a school that is anti-racist and encourages creativity and critical thinking. I am signing in solidarity with those who are not free to expose and challenge their students with the full picture of our country and in recognition of the constant threat all educators face through censorship and a push to water down the truth.*

Elizabeth Ceccoli | Johns Island, SC

*I want my students to read analytically, and move past the receptive intake of information and lean into a critical examination of historical texts. Critical literacy cannot take place in the history curriculum if teachers prioritize one narrative and purposefully silence the alternative perspectives.*

Mary Metcalf | Austin, TX

Marisa Gutierrez | Madera, CA  
Students deserve the truth..

Lela Kent | Houston, TX

*I am a teacher and my students and community deserve to know the real history.*

Angelica Dunsavage | Nashville, TN

*Critical theory pedagogy is critical for a reason.*

Jae Lancaster | Spokane, WA

*All change towards the good can only manifest on truths...*

Gemma Cooper-Novack | Syracuse, NY

*I will guide my students to teach towards greater justice by engaging with the truth in its multiple and essential dimensions.*

Jeremy Sands | Ventura, CA

*I am committed to antiracist education.*

MARSHA EVANS | Milwaukee, WI

*IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT ALL PEOPLE KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT AMERICA HISTORY. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IDOLIZED FOR YEARS SHOULD HAVE THE ACTIONS EXPOSED. THERE ARE TOO MANY UNTRUTHS BEING TAUGHT TO STUDENTS. THIS CONTRIBUTES TO RACIST ATTITUDES AND FALLACIES. MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LOOKED DOWN UPON AND HAVE HAD TO LIVE IN AN UNFAIR SOCIETY WITHOUT REAL JUSTICE. TRUE HISTORY IS JUST THAT. FOR MANY IT IS DIFFICULT TO CHANGE THEIR BELIEFS, BUT IS NEEDED. STEROTYPES HAVE EXPLODED, AS HAS RACISM AND VIOLENCE AGAINST THOSE WHO DO NOT FIT INTO THE MANY UNTOLD AND/OR UNTRUE STORIES WRITTEN WITH A ONE SIDED VIEW POINT. PEOPLE SHOULD WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH RATHER THAN HIDE IT BECAUSE IT REALLY SHOWS THE TRUE HISTORY OF AMERICA. IT SHOULD ASK WHERE DID THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO AMERICAS COME FROM? THEY WERE OUTCASTS FROM EUROPE AND ABROAD, MENTALLY ILL, ROBBERS, THIEVES, RAPISTS, OF LOW INTELLIGENCE, MURDERS, AND THE LIKE. THEY CAUSED HAVOC EVERYWHERE THEY WENT TAKING OVER WHATEVER THEY COULD CONTROL AND SPREADING DISEASES. IT SURELY IS SHAMEFUL AND THAT IS WHY THEY FIGHT TO KEEP IT UNDER WRAPS. I WILL NOT LIE TO MY STUDENTS AS THEY NEED TO KNOW THE CONTRIBUTIONS THEIR ANCESTORS MADE TO AMERICA. HISTORY BOOKS IN AMERICA ARE FALLACY.*

Kimberly Mitchell | Chicago, IL

*The truth should be told.*

Sarah Woodbury | New York, NY

Bryan Williams | Tallahassee, FL

*I am committed to preparing my students for the future. In order to confront the root causes of racial conflict, bigotry, and discrimination, they will need to understand the unsettling path that brought us to where we are. In this current climate of whitewashing and boldface lying about our history, students need to know the truth in order to speak truth to power. I envision my students' generation righting the wrongs of slavery and discrimination and contributing to a positive world where all can live free and freely.*

Charles Miles | Houston, TX

*When people with a very limited perception of the world gain power, you end up with a society and public that is uniformed and improperly educated which is directly related to the creation of these 12 bills across the country attempting once again to erase history and deny reality. The priority for people paid with our money should be to increase quality of life for ALL of their citizens yet they CHOOSE to conjure up problems (voter fraud, anti-trans bills, bs cancel culture problems etc.) that are only a "problem" because it deflects away from actual governance. Our students deserve so much better than this.*

Caryl Davis | Milwaukee, WI

*The lives of my students, their families, and their communities are valid. Our histories cannot and will not be erased. Subscription to the notion of a dominant culture is antithetical to humanity. We are here, we contribute, we are valid, and we matter. #myhistoryisvalid #mylifeisvalid*

Nicole Fernald | Maynard, MA

*I am standing in solidarity with teachers and students in at least 12 states where lawmakers are passing or attempting to pass bills to limiting how teachers can talk to students about racism, sexism and many other forms of oppression that are part of our current society and built into the history of our country and still determine whose history is even taught.*

Summer Boismier | Piedmont, OK

*My students in Oklahoma deserve the truth from at least one person.*

Marni Wilson | Saint Paul, MN

*It is very important to me to teach the truth. My students of this high diverse high school deserve to know and understand everything about the history of the U.S. No history is complete without including the voices of all people.*

Ben Goodwin | Portland, OR

*The truth matters.*

Debra Watkins | San Jose, CA

*I have devoted the last 45 years of my career in education to truth-telling. I have founded three Black-led organizations and co-founded one Black-led organization focused on resisting oppression and teaching Black students to thrive in spite of it. A Black Education Network (ABEN) has quietly done this work without seeking the spotlight because we intentionally live outside of the White gaze. We have never been bullied and don't plan to be on this issue either. Dr. Frances Cress Welsing predicted this violent response to truth-telling 40 years ago so ABEN is not at all surprised!*

Corina Ontiveros | Tucson, AZ

*We must speak of, study, analyze, and never forget the whole truth of our country! Only then can we recognize that in our shared humanity and real respect for each other, can we truly strive and work to make the United States live up to its promise.*

Catherine Miers | Houston, TX

*I love the Constitution and think the United States is the greatest country in the world. That does not mean that there aren't difficult aspects of the past that need to be acknowledged and studied. The only way to do better, is the know better. Ignoring difficult truths does not make them go away. As an educator it is my job to create informed citizens who can think critically. I refuse to teach a false narrative that glosses over the imperfections of our country. This would be a disservice to the past and the future of our nation.*

Kevan Kiser-Chuc | Tucson, AZ

*Truthful history needs to be taught so that we learn from past mistakes so as we move forward to understand them and not to repeat them.*

Carla Cota | Chapel Hill, NC

Steven Monteleone | Harper Woods, MI

The truth matters!

Michelle Capobres | Oakland, CA

*We cannot sweep the uncomfortable truth about America under the rug. We cannot raise another generation of leaders that do not understand the complexities and atrocities of American history.*

Michael Stewart | Flint, MI

*History is so important but even more important is the ability to decipher the truth from nostalgia. My students, mostly young men and women of color, need to know the true story of this country so they can find a way to live in it. The side that is trying to eliminate the proper and truthful telling of history is only interested in maintaining power. Truth to power is real and I'll fight for that and continue teaching my students (and my own children and anybody else that will listen) real history as I continue to learn it myself.*

Rachael Eggebeen | Tucson, AZ

Harriet Luckman | Sun City West, AZ

*I have a Ph.D in the history of religion and taught in university for 20 years. It's a great day when a student realizes there is so much more to history than what they had been taught in grade school and high school. Now retired, I am giving my time to the lower grades. It's rewarding.*

Jim Murphy | Newton Highlands, MA

*Teaching requires both honesty and the willingness to engage with complex, difficult subjects.*

Emily Haines

Maren Mueller | Tempe, AZ

Nelva Williamson | Houston, TX

*I teach in Texas and the bill about to become law harms my students. I will continue to teach truth to power because my students deserve to see themselves in history, to know that their ancestors were overcomers, and that they MATTER! To the governor...Too late! Last week I taught an intro lesson to US History to my World History students to prep them for next year using the 1619 Project. Today we looked at how enslaved Blacks, free Blacks and Native people were included and excluded from the founding documents as well as the arguments of the Constitutional Convention using primary source documents. These documents were written by the founders and help us to understand not just the world they were living in but also the consequences of their words and actions on current times. Maybe the governor needs to visit my class to get an understanding of what real teaching looks like. Just in case anyone asks....I proudly teach at YWCPA room 336...all day every day! It is a very sad day in Texas when accurate authentic history is considered a threat to fragile feelings brought on by guilt and ignorance. As educators, we need to stay vigilant and be truth tellers.*

Stephanie Gallardo | Seattle, WA

Yvonne parent | Flagstaff, AZ

*We need to teach history so we don't repeat mistakes of the past!*

Ann Marie Gear | Mesa, AZ

*We need to learn from our mistakes not ignore them.*

Matthew Schock | Black Canyon City, AZ

*The truth matters and our students deserve better.*

Dwanna McKay | Colorado Springs, CO

nancy schwartz | Laveen, AZ

Keziah Ridgeway | Philadelphia, PA

*The truth is the truth. CRT is an analyzation of real history.*

Fizza Anwar | Fremont, CA

*I want to stand up and teach the truth. Not have History changed in textbooks.*

Michelle Schulke | Phoenix, AZ

Clarence Burress | Knoxville, TN

Robert Weiner | Delray Beach, FL

*Because I hope that my moron of a governor does not add Florida to that list, because I will never, ever, stop teaching about Henry Ford holding a NAZI Rally in Madison Square Garden.*

Mark Gomez | SEASIDE, CA

*To remain silent is complicit. As a long time social studies educator I have been appalled to see the attacks on fundamental truths and historical facts be cast as unpatriotic and even worse, indoctrination. These are the types of false accusations lauded by folks leaning steadily into Fascism. We focus on historical inquiry, critical interrogation of the histories from multiple perspectives not only to understand the past but to help make sense of the present by contextualizing how we came to be here and now. We also strive to enlist imagination towards the efforts of shaping society to be more just. These legislative efforts are disingenuous at best, racist and anti-democratic at worse. I write to urge elected officials everywhere to recognize them as such and push back with courage, not comply out of fear.*

Kandice Nelson | Scottsdale, AZ

*All history is valuable. It's time we teach history honestly instead of continuing to white-wash what happened. It is too late to change the past. The future relies on an end to lies!*

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*All history is valuable. It's time we teach history honestly instead of continuing to white-wash what happened. It is too late to change the past. The future relies on an end to lies!*

Beth Herbert | Chandler, AZ

Nicholas Schueller | Lannon, WI

KATHLEEN HOLMES | Exeter, NH

*Because there are people like MMc who say things like this, "...from promoting the principles that unite our nation toward promoting radical ideologies meant to divide us." Yup, OK, let's keep funding those principles of hate and xenophobia instead of something radical like the truth. I think Marx could have focused on a different institution; it's not religious beliefs that work as opiates, it's the beliefs of the politicians that keep everyone dulled. Kool-aid, anyone? I cannot comprehend how MMc makes sense to anyone.*

Colleen OBrien | Islip, NY

*Education should be giving the perspectives and facts and points of view of all not just the dominant culture or winner.*

TONY BELLOTTI | Fremont, CA

*Education is the key to our quality of life and our democracy. Do the right thing. Support education of our his. Thank you.*

Marcie Osinsky | Roslindale, MA

Stephany Flores | Nutley, NJ

*We can only move forward and ensure history does not repeat itself by equipping our students with facts.*

Wendy Moore | Cypress, TX

*There is an assault on truth in this nation right now.*

Femi Folami-Browne | Miami, FL

*As a documentary producer I am against revisionist history and efforts to conceal true events. Teaching history affords students the ability to use critical thinking if taught how to examine and analyze the outcomes of certain ideologies and behaviors.*

Heather Lucas | Bemidji, MN

*All students deserve see their ancestors in our shared history. We need to show them both the good and the bad so they learn to think critically about the world with a understanding of how are still stuck with unequal globalization.*

MG Gainer | Mount Zion, WV

*How could I teach about the founding documents of this country and early American literature specifically without addressing the accurate history of the United States? That would be preposterous. I myself was taught that slaves were happy and rarely mistreated and that Black people were better off before being freed. I vowed to never allow such misrepresentation of egregious facts again.*

Noe Garza | San Antonio , TX

*I believe it is the only way America will heal and eliminate white racist fascist nationalism. facing and admitting the truth is the first step.*

Roger Rosenberg | San Jose, CA

*Honesty in the study of history is essential.*

Gloria Boutte | Columbai, SC

*This is a democracy where all people should Be invited to the table.. This is not a totalitarian government where voices should be suppressed*

Kurt Schlanker | Atchison, KS

*I am a teacher with 30 year experience. I believe that all of history much be taught, especially the parts which make people uncomfortable.*

Christine Draper | Beverly, MA

*The truth will set you free.*

Becky Boswell | Lincoln, NE

*I teach the real history of America, not a made up version that always paints the U.S. in a perfect light. Students need to understand the complex, and often ugly, history of our country in order to understand where we are today.*

Alisa Meggitt | Iowa City, IA

*We need to teach truth to power...It only makes sense to teach Systemic Racism to allow our students to see each other in their full humanity. If we omit instruction around harm done to oppressed peoples, the disparities we observe in Jails, schools, wealth, housing, violence and opportunity will feed a narrative that perpetuates white supremacy.A full and honest curriculum wil bring healing to both sides, the oppressor and the oppressed Truth and reconciliation cannot be achieved with a muzzled curriculum protective of the oppressors.*

Kevin Weigel | Buffalo, NY

*We cover attempts to alter curriculum by politicians... The Scopes Trial is a classic example. Twain famously said, "History may not repeat itself, but it does rhyme." When will these politicians learn?*

Margarita Mojica | Moline , IL

Amy Bowton-Meade | Seattle, WA

*We have to tell the truth. We have to teach the truth. There is no other way to heal or to make progress until we acknowledge the truth of our history and our foundations.*

Julee Reese | Brookfield, MO

*I teach a class called Minority Studies and I will not stop utilizing curricula that teaches TRUTH about the bias inherent in not only all of us but in our institutions.*

Bradford Pazant | West Palm Beach, FL

*I am committed to being transparent with my students regarding the history of the United States.*

Farah Giovanna Nations | Alameda, CA

*I believe in the truth in our nations history, in its mistakes, in its successes, in its retelling to the next generation.*

Anna Cicero | Chandler, AZ

*We have too many decision makers fearful of the truth! America is beautiful even with mistakes of the past but, to continue to not take responsibility for our mistakes is tragic and students deserve better. Certain Americans continue to be racist and that's their choice but, don't impose on children lies that continue to add to racism. Sad time in the US!*

Larry Crowe | Dayton, OH

*This Missouri bill represents the kind of closed mindedness that will mark the death of public schools, as such.*

Jane Murphy | Colorado Springs, CO

Dalila Benameur | Bridgeview, IL

*I believe in teaching students multiple perspectives and create independent minds and thinkers. Only by teaching history from the perspectives of others can we strengthen American democracy and understanding of our world.*

Inan Barrett | Brooklyn, NY

*It's due time that we tell the truth about this nation. Only then will we be able to make true progress and become a truly great nation.*

Amy Scholes | Hampton, NH

Amy Scholes | Hampton, NH

*we need truth, transparency, and accuracy in what we share with our students.*

Tom McElhaney | Tucson, AZ

Beth Sanborn | Flagstaff, AZ

*Our society is direly in need of members that understand the events of our past and will use critical thinking skills to help move us to the future.*

Angel Rivera | Berea, KY

*I am not sugarcating nor lying to my students. Exceptionalist b.s. is not going to fly here.*

Melissa England | Litchfield Park, AZ

*Our children deserve nothing less than the truth*

Edward D.Juillard | Chicago, IL

Andrea Mann | Danville, VA

*it is my duty to focus upon the social and emotional learning of my student so that they can believe in themselves.*

Rebecca Kristensen | Tucson, AZ

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Missy Springsteen-Haupt | Ames, IA

*Teaching critical history is essential to developing informed members of a democracy.*

Patricia Roach | Flagstaff, AZ

*Teaching history is about making connections and helping students explore how we became who we are today. There is no room for lies. Presenting truthful information to students, along with the tools to debate, evaluate evidence, understand nuance, and listen to others' point of view is critical for the continued success of our democracy.*

Jan Kelly | Scottsdale, AZ

*Critical thinking and open discussion are essential skills in a democracy*

Anica Erickson | Mesa, AZ

Trevor Anderson | Austin, TX

Silvina Farmin | Albuquerque, NM

*I'm committed to teach the real history of the world*

Prabha Balasubramanian , TX

*It's our responsibility to teach students to be responsible citizens and thus can only happen when they know everything about their history.*

Elizabeth Braun | Columbus, OH

Melissa Puga | Austin, TX

Kaitlin Griffin | Peoria, AZ

*Students deserve the truth.*

Mindy Smith | Pflugerville, TX

Kelli Kirk | Austin, TX

*Our students deserve the truth, they deserve a peaceful world, they deserve equity.*

Edward Wilhelm GH

*Like it or not, history must be seen from many points of view. Too often, history has been written from the oppressor's point of view. I teach my students to ask questions and demand answers. I teach that history can shine a beacon towards a brighter future provided we are considering all perspectives to arrive at the truth. Even today, lies are reshaping our history. We need the future to show students how to resist and logically think for themselves with open minds. Truth!*

Cameron White | Friendswood, TX

Susan Rego | Phoenix, AZ

*Our students deserve not to be lied to.*

Corey Knox | Tucson, AZ

*Truth matters. Justice depends on truth. Real educators are truth-tellers.*

Cynthia Fey | Wilmette, IL

Kristin Larsen | Philadelphia, PA

Tina Sanders | Peoria, AZ

*We can not change our current situation without learning from our past.*

Jennifer Finley | Arlington, TX

*I can not do my job effectively with the structure the new bill proposes. If we do not want to teach history correctly, then why teach it at all?*

Aimee Neumann | Glenview, IL

*honest history is important. If students don't know the bad parts of our history, they are at risk of repeating them. It is our responsibility as educators and responsible citizens to work to make our future more just, humane and equitable than our past.*

Sean Powers | Columbus, OH

Lisa Hutchinson | Tacoma, WA

*I believe society is harmed by maintaining a false and unjust representation of U S history in our school curricula.*

Dennise Grater | Lafayette, IN

Michelle Lantz | Mesa, AZ

*These bills are racist attempts to censor our true history and strengthen our American system of white supremacy. To truly strengthen our country, we should be legislating that all students are required to learn the truth about our history, rather than suppressing it.*

Xavier Miranda | El Paso, TX

*Normalizing human rights violations and colonization merely perpetuate the current injustice plaguing our global communities. Militarism, consumerism, and racism are elements that need to be confronted before our humanity is restored.*

Miriam Walden | Berkeley, CA

*I am trying to be the teacher I needed as a young person growing up.*

George Davis | Pine Bluff, AR

*We can no longer live a lie.*

Barbara Wayne | Tucson, AZ

*One of my roles as a high school principal was to evaluate my teachers and their lesson plans. A professional knows how to present all sides of an argument and provide access to reputable resources for their students. In my career, I had a few occasions where the teacher, the lesson plan, or the resources demonstrated bias. They were few in nature, but I was able to deal with them. That was my job. Don't give it to government.*

Les Johnson | Chico, CA

*People need to understand the history before we can create "liberty and justice for all."*

Yvette Mendez | Houston, TX

*Children need to be taught truth not fairy tale history.*

John Harris | Park Hill, OK

Manuel R Palacios-Fest | Tucson, AZ

*We cannot let the corrupt change history!*

Carla Garcia | Phoenix, AZ

*It is wrong to set limits on the education our students deserve.*

Mariah Moritz | Scottsdale, AZ

Kristel Ann Foster | Tucson, AZ

*Knowledge is Power and as educators, we dedicate our lives to empowering young people. As the demographics shift across the US, these laws are being introduced to keep people of color powerless. We must fight back against this legislation and empower our students with different perspectives and experiences and the critical thinking skills they need to determine the next steps our society must take.*

Anne Greer | Mesa, AZ

*Enough is enough! I will change what I refuse to accept! We are educators!!*

Lauren Spenceley-Sheoran | Phoenix, AZ

James Baker | Baltimore, MD

*They want us to teach a sanitized, villainless history where America did nothing wrong and even if it did it had good reason. History has villains, if your history has none then it is not history, it is propaganda.*

James Wallace | Chandler, AZ

*The truth matters. Kids shouldn't be lied to and I am not a liar. U.S. citizens should know the facts about how and why our country was developed and what has gotten us to this point in time. All of the historical facts should be taught ..... the good, the bad, the beautiful, and the ugly.*

Samuel Williams | Seattle, WA

*The truth needs to be heard and learned anyhow!*

Ann Marie Palmer | Tucson, AZ

*The truth matters.*

Shakealia Finley | Columbia, MO

Rachel Nash | Houston, TX

*The truth shouldn't be against the law.*

Lea Benson | Beverly, MA

*The truth shall set you free.*

Lena Amick | Baltimore, MD

*Knowing our history is life or death; we must choose life!*

Jacqueline Tambone | Mesa, AZ

*This is a ridiculous bill only meant as vengeance towards teachers.*

Erin Donaghy | Tucson, AZ

*This recent law that has come into place in Arizona is unacceptable.*

Jim Byrne | Tucson, AZ

*Gotta embrace reality*

yvonne allen

*I refuse to lie to students and I don't want any teacher to have to break the law to tell the truth to students.*

Neil Shanks | Waco, TX

*To speak a true word is to transform the world - Paulo Friere*

Julie Quiroa | Mesa, AZ

Sarah Bennett | Phoenix, AZ

*We need to teach our students to break patterns of oppression.*

Elisa Gall

*Whether or not something is legal or "the law" has never been a measure for whether it is just. I strive to support all of my students in their learning. This requires teaching the truth.*

Natalie Cardenas | Avondale, AZ

*Censoring history, and hiding truths is an incredibly dangerous deed in any case. But in public schools? It undermines our entire goal: to liberate all American youth through knowledge and critical thinking skills.*

Veronica Jones | Clementon, NJ

*Only the truth will set us free!!!*

Heather Schlemmer | Gilbert, AZ

Rachael Clawson | Mesa, AZ

*I do not indoctrinate my students currently as they analyze multiple perspectives based on primary and secondary sources. But these nationwide efforts are exactly what they claim to be fighting: indoctrination of a particular narrative of history. I'll have no part in it.*

Judith Simons | Chandler, AZ

*These restrictive laws are antithetical to education. They are an attempt to overlook/excuse terrible behavior on the part of previous generations of the ruling class. They ignore/suppress genuine contributions of women & minorities, as well as minimize what they've suffered along the way. Hiding truth doesn't eliminate it.*

Cathering Barnett | Goodyear, AZ

*Teaching truth matters.*

Kathy Steger | Bellmead, TX

*Our students need to hear the truth and facts about history and current events!*

Heather Wingett | Lansing, MI

Stacy Green | Sun City West, AZ

*I can't imagine discussing current economic issues without discussing past decisions and affects of those decisions. When talking about policy that affects all genders and races in my classroom they all need to know they are important and how those policies have or will affect them.*

Kristin Cervantez | Phoenix, AZ

*I refuse to leave out facts due to the inability of some to accept our past when teaching history.*

Cortney Milanovich | Tempe, AZ

*History is complicated. We can no longer ignore the tough stuff and expect to grow and evolve as a society. We have to teach inclusive history with all its difficulties and complexities.*

Sharon Tuttle | Casa Grande, AZ

*Truth matters*

Leda DeVlieger | Gilbert, AZ

*All students deserve to learn about the full history of the US. I want my children and future generations to learn an accurate history.*

Monica DaRugna | Gilbert, AZ

*It is not up to the Government to run our schools.*

Rebecca Garelli | Gilbert, AZ

Kara Bradbury | Hopewell, NJ

*I'm doing a disservice to kids when I'm not honest about things.*

Katie Dunne | Columbia, MO

*Our students deserve a full, unbiased account of our nation's history in order to become critical thinkers and well-educated members of society.*

Alexandra Zamarron | Phoenix, AZ

Andrea Box | Mesa, AZ

*As a multicultural literature teacher, I have carefully and conscientiously chosen my curriculum to focus on Native American, African American, and Hispanic American history, leaders, stories, and literature. I also teach about the Holocaust and its many parallels with the United States. Our history is at times messy, ugly, and shameful, but it must still be taught so that future generations can learn from this past and do better and be better.*

Josie McClain | Gila Bend, AZ

*My students are students of color and deserve to hear an unbiased diverse social studies curriculum and current events.*

Haylee Newton | Tempe, AZ

*I grew up in rural Alabama where the white-washed and watered down History education (currently being supported by the Arizona state legislature) was served on a porcelain white platter to the youth. I left Alabama due to generational racism and hatred. I came to Arizona looking for a more diverse and inclusive community for my husband and future children who will be students of color. Lying about our history does nothing but perpetuate white supremacy. I refuse to participate in that.*

Angela Thomas | Chandler, AZ

Miguel Ramirez | Laveen, AZ

*You cannot sanitize history without losing the lessons we are supposed to learn to improve our society. I will not lie to protect those who wish to erase the truth.*

carole edelsky | Tucson, AZ

Deanna Smith | Tempe, AZ

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Danielle DeGain | Tempe, AZ

Melissa Girmscheid | Peoria, AZ

Rodrigo Palacios-Tenorio | PHOENIX, AZ

*Understanding our history means understanding the ugly parts of it as well. And there are never two sides to injustice. We need to be honest about our colonizer and imperialist culture.*

Melanie Cobos | Glendale, AZ

Malin Lindelow | Austin, TX

*An open conversation about race is essential to the health of our democracy.*

Susan Hennessy | Goodyear, AZ

*This is ludicrous! I truly don't have all the words to describe how half the country wants us to teach our youth lies. My middle school history teaching husband will NOT be changing his curriculum!*

Zach Wilson | San Antonio, TX

*How is it possible to teach about civics without discussing racism? How will our nation ever move past racism if it can't acknowledge that it happened in the first place?*

Jennifer Susko | Atlanta, GA

Christina Dismang | Kansas City, MO

*To change the world, we have to have these difficult discussions and conversations in our classrooms. I will not dilute my curriculum on the whims of some representatives that have never taught in their life. American Exceptionalism has no place in the classroom.*

Janel Vaughan | Phoenix, AZ

*The history of just the people who write the history books is not complete. Once the voices of everyone in the country are heard it will be complete.*

Jen Freed | Philadelphia, PA

Jenna Martin, TX

*Students deserve an inclusive history education--that not only underscores the history and systemic oppression of marginalized groups but also celebrates their accomplishments and resilience.*

Kumar Sathy | Hillsborough, NC

*I want to be on the right side of history. Future generations will talk about this moment, the way legislators and extremist white supremacy groups used fear-mongering and conspiracy theories to stop teachers from teaching the truth. I want it to be known that I was one of countless educators nationwide who taught kids to identify, understand, and work to end racism, sexism, white supremacy culture, and the silencing of marginalized voices from our curricula. Teaching the truth does not mean teaching kids to hate America. It is teaching them that we all play a role in helping our country become a more perfect union.*

Laurie McFarlane | La Canada Flintridge, CA

*Every U.S. student must be given a complete, unbiased education. Access to all facts and points of view together with training in critical thinking are essential elements of a complete, unbiased education.*

Irene Brito | Los Angeles, CA

Stacey Ybarra | Catawba, NC

*I believe in teaching truth and have been prevented from doing so.*

John Terry | Wayne, NJ

*The only path toward any kind of reconciliation in our country is truth-telling. Students have a right to an education that is honest and that provides them with an account of past injustices so that they can problem solve and contribute to a better present and future.*

Autumn Campbell | Dexter, MI

*I will not support or perpetuate white supremacy in my classroom/ school! I am committed to teaching the truth about who we were and who we are -and center intersectional social justice in every area of my practices.*

Rachel Bohenic | Houston, TX

*I am ashamed of my state's attempts to undermine progress and the refusal to take ownership of our past. We will never have an equal society if we cover up the truth. I will continue to allow students to explore and learn about meaningful social justice topics and to be open about systemic injustices when we encounter them in our reading and lessons.*

Daniel Santos | Houston, TX

*My students deserve to know the truth and they deserve to be treated like young scholars.*

Sarah Forsberg | West St Paul, MN

Inga Lucans | Elmwood Park, IL

*Facts are facts*

Emily Rogers | Altadena, CA

*It's time to change the way we teach about our past.*

Marita Fitzpatrick | Philadelphia, PA

*Truth is not political. Teaching lies is wrong. Authoritarian politicians are working to silence the truth.*

Geena Molinaro | Collingswood, NJ

Paula Auble | Surprise, AZ

*We cannot teach students only the history that we like. We have to look at how America has and hasn't lived up to its ideals and let students think critically about what else we need to do in order to form a more perfect Union. Gagging teachers is not the answer here.*

Lara Goldstone | Los Angeles, CA

*Students need to know the full history so that they can make our world a better place.*

noenoe barney-campbell Campbell | Honolulu, HI

Michell Redfoot | Benicia, CA

Wendy Root | Rockville, MD

*I am committed to ending the gaslighting of young minds. Truth is the only path toward empathy, reconciliation and change.*

Abby Wherry | Riverside, CA

*As a historian and an alternative education teacher, I know the importance of teaching history to encompass everyone. Not the traditional old, white, and Protestant Christian history. LGBTQIA+ students need to see themselves in their history books. BIPOC students need to see the struggles of their peoples and the triumphs as well. By understanding our history, we can better handle the events around us and create much-needed change for our country and the world.*

Beth Huber | Cedar Falls, IA

*The only way true change and social justice to occur in our society, is for everyone to know the truth about our history and policies. This teaching must begin when children are young and can begin forming their own understanding of the world.*

Fatimah Hayes | Lawnside, NJ

Rahman Culver | Silver Spring, MD

Brian Gallagher | Philadelphia, PA

Stephanie Green | San Antonio, TX

*To think children are not aware if the inequalities that exist in their everyday lives is ignorant and insulting. Parents and educators have a duty to help them understand what they see, what they hear, and what they experience. Hiding from the ugly truth does not make it go away but only serves to make citizens unable to fight it and change it. A calculated attempt to weaken the populace through misinformation and ignorance is in direct opposition of what a representative government should be and should not be tolerated.*

Ely, Karen | Charlotte, NC

Lora Nelson, WA

Maura Nugent | Chicago, IL

Tiffany Mitchell Patterson | Morgantown, WV

*The road to freedom hinges on the youth knowing the raw and rugged truth about systemic ills of this country. Through truth our young people can imagine and fight for a new world where we are ALL free.*

Stan Karp

*I want my grandkids to learn the truth about the country's past and present, so they can work to make it a more just and democratic society.*

Paul Brown | Sacramento, CA

Amaya Lambert | Falls Church, VA

Charlie McGeehan | Philadelphia, PA

Kristie Lindsay | Mount Vernon, WA

Elena Nickerson | Princeton, NJ

Loreli Stochaj | Summit, NJ

Elizabeth Ihde | Minneapolis, MN

*It is negligent to omit the hard parts of history when we teach it to students. We have a duty to teach them with integrity so that they are not doomed to repeat the injustices of the past.*

Michelle Williams | Lexington, KY

*Those who don't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it. We've made a lot of mistakes in the past. It's time we learned something and got better.*

Jeanie Anderson | Rochester, NY

*while this may be uncomfortable for many, it is an imperative first step toward accepting that much of what we were taught both at school and at home has been completely false.*

Luiza Brown | Gardiner, ME

*I believe it is not until we honestly face our past that we can build a better future for everyone.*

Gene Woods | Bayonne, NJ

*Knowing one's privilege is extremely important. As a White heterosexual male, I understand that educating my students about the voices in history that have been excluded is vital if we really want to make our world a better place. For me this is real patriotism; challenging our bigoted past in our to make a more inclusive future.*

Adel Kessler | Cedar Falls, IA

*We owe it to citizens of our country to be honest and look at these truths. . . we have to do this to be able to understand what People of Color deal with every day. Move forward!!!!!!*

Ken Hoin | Fairfield, CT

*"The role of education at all social levels remains one of the best ways to stop the proliferation of racist and discriminatory discourses and to foster intercultural exchanges." UNESCO report, 2018*

John Flagler | West Chester, PA

*In order to address the issues of white supremacy in the United States, teachers must address white supremacy in school curriculum.*

Sunisa Nuonsy | Brooklyn, NY

*The truth matters*

Sally Myles | Reseda, CA

*Nothing will change unless we teach our students the truth -- the good, the bad and the ugly. Only by facing our past and its tendrils into our present can we change the future.*

Haley Tylka | Holiday, FL

*History needs to be taught not from a single perspective.*

Laura Buffi | Danielson

Maris Talaugon | Santa Rosa, CA

Amy Schramm | Rochester, NY

Ben Maracek | Beaver, PA

*The truth prevails, but it's a chore -Jan Masaryk*

Maya Thieme | Arvada, CO

*i can't teach my students a lie when they are looking to me and others to tell the truth. what good does this lie for them? what does it prepare them for? history may be ugly, be we learn from our past. we will learn nothing if we hide from history.*

Rose Pompey | Virginia Beach, VA

Katja Freeborn | Portland, OR

*My parents grew up in Germany in the early 1930s. Fascism rises from ignorance. We cannot afford to go the way of Nazi German here in America. We have come too far to fall back. As Germany has, America must face its racist history. We must teach OUR true history, so each generation can become more wonderful than the last.*



Mildred Outlaw | Burbank, CA

*I am not teaching a lie.*

Carrie Paulette | Roeland Park, KS

Debora Broderick | Plymouth Meeting, PA

Lorrie Henrie-Koski | Columbus, MT

*We owe our students the best, most honest instruction we can give them to help them become informed, responsible citizens and future leaders.*

Jenifer Hummer | Wilmington, DE

Julia Fliss | Evergreen, CO

*Our collective liberation depends on it.*

Travis Baldwin | Charleston, WV

Matt Hamilton | Ypsilanti, MI

Fay Stump | Hedgesville, WV

*After two masters' degrees, I am dismayed about what I didn't learn in my formal education. It's imperative that we begin to teach the truth.*

Shelby Webster-Payne | Wylie, TX

*I refuse to lie to my students about U.S. History. As an educator and social scientist I know that it is imperative that students learn the value of critically thinking about & examining, researching, and drawing conclusions about all sorts of issues from our country's past in order to effectively understand and deal with the ways in which these past issues manifest themselves in the present. Educators are teaching student bodies that are increasingly more and more diverse that in turn enter a world/society that is more and more diverse. As educators, we would be doing our students a disservice if we were not preparing them for this.*

Chelsea Charlton | Peoria, AZ

Lisa Smulyan | Swarthmore, PA

Katherine Price | Seattle, WA

*Our children deserve honesty to avoid the pitfalls we've already made for them.*

Christian Cauthon | Bentonville, AR

*my students cannot change the world without knowing the truth.*

Lance Latham | North Andover, MA

*Students deserve to know the true story of our country, warts and all. Democracy requires an informed citizenry.*

Debbie Bamberger | Sierra Madre, CA

*An informed electorate is necessary to the survival of democracy. That includes knowing the truth about our history - the whole truth. This work begins in kindergarten with teachers who address our history and present in an age-appropriate manner.*

Joann Fuller | Nacogdoches, TX

*The truth matters!*

Peter Barnett | Tahoe City, CA

*Slavery and prejudice hurt everyone, and have throughout history. Healthcare professionals have and continue to enable this profoundly violent and antisocial behavior. I teach in US and in Japan which has its own similar history to deal with.*

Ed Dyminski | Hilton, NY

*Edward Dyminski*

Courtney Yamamoto | Vancouver, WA

*Our students need to know and acknowledge the truth about our history.*

Jennifer Willson | Seattle, WA

*truth matters.*

Kelly Lawlor | Stow, MA

*The truth cannot be denied. I will teach the hard truths and fullness of our history.*

Misha Kiyomura | OAKLAND, CA

*teaching true history is essential to dismantling white supremacy.*

Jaime White | Brooklyn, NY

*We must free history to free ourselves*

Jessica Inskeep | Wilmington, DE

Trinh Nguyen | Conshohocken, PA

*all of my students deserve to be seen, to feel safe, and to be represented. Learning about the true history of the United States will help all students be better humans at the end of the day and it will also prevent history from repeating itself.*

Joe Query | WINTHROP, WA

tom grych | Seaside, CA

*Lies breed more lies. We must face and teach all of our history before we can affect real change for now and our future.*

Mary Robb | Andover, MA

*We must tell the whole story*

Heidi Kwentus | Saint Louis, MO

Dana Morrison | Philadelphia, PA

Altheria Caldera | Haltom City, TX

*education includes critical thinking about controversial issues!*

Raymond Taddeo | Milton, DE

*I believe in teaching the truth. I believe that you can love your country and also reckon with its history; the good and the bad. I believe that students deserve to be able to know about the history and growth of their country. They deserve to imagine an even better future than the one we've always imagined for the next generation. Anything less than that is a disservice to the country.*

VJ Kopacki | King Of Prussia, PA

Heather Green | Philadelphia, PA

*...because I want my students to have a fuller and more accurate history education than I received.*

JOSHUA PETERS | Laurel, MD

*We should never shy away from the truth. How can we raise young humans to become responsible adults if we do? It is important that our students know the entire truth, both the beautiful and ugly.*

Leigha Walton-Bayne | Memphis, TN

*The teaching of literature REQUIRES that its history be taught as well. For as the literature is often shaped by its history, so too must that history, however unpleasant, be taught responsibly and accurately. .We educators must encourage a respectful discourse that such historical issues have and continue to shape our*

lives. How elitist is it only to teach an altered history that distorts the the truth? Doing so only serves to deny the pain of those who were impacted by said history, and it minimizes accountability for those who perpetuated such egregious acts.

Ashley Weber | Olathe, KS

It is important for students to understand the consequences which the choices of groups of individuals have had all of us. The decisions made by the founders of our nation, the practices and beliefs they adhered to influenced the document designing our nation. Why would we want to hide any part of our past which we must examine closely in order to learn from it and move forward?

Beatrice McGeoch | Providence, RI

Zinn texts are a core part of the Bridge Curriculum at CCRI. I chose them because they enable us to teach history with an inclusive approach which is essential to the success of the adult students who have already faced so many barriers in traditional school. Teaching the truth is vital to effective education, and banning books that teach the truth is a threat to the same.

B Manker | Portland, OR

All voices and perspectives are welcomed and supported in my classroom. I will not be silenced by bigoted, racist, uninformed lawmakers.

Devon Holden | Tucson, AZ

the truth matters.

Chris Gilbert | Canby, OR

our students deserve to understand the US history from diverse perspectives. They need to understand that it is deep and complex in order to make wise decisions in the future. Understanding that the US was built upon the backs of slaves, immigrants and migrants and the poor will help students to question the current power structure in our society.

Diane Codding | Newark, DE

Emily Woolever | Poughkeepsie, NY

History doesn't change, but our understanding of it does. We can not have a full understanding of ourselves as a country today without the full picture of our past. Omitting parts of our country's past because they are too terrible to face or because they are inconvenient to how we want to see ourselves is unacceptable. I have the courage to teach Hard History.

Bobbie Olson | Saint Paul, MN

All students benefit from learning the true history of the United States of America.

Guadalupe Ramirez | Munster, IN

My students are brilliant and powerful. Their history is their birthright. I will not rob them.

Rico Gutstein | Chicago, IL

Ben Riffle | Rockford, IL

Justine Freitas | New York, NY

Our young people deserve to know our history. It is owed to them, and the only way they can build a better future for themselves and our country.

Johanna Foster | Bronx, NY

We cannot move forward and heal in this country if we do not know our past.

Regan Anderson | Eugene, OR

Austin McCredie | Round Rock, TX

Ashlyn Neas-McCaul | Newport, TN

Gianni Gaudino | Philadelphia, PA

Victoria Breakstone | Walnut Creek, CA

The truth is crucial and I will not teach lies.

Barbara Kline | Annandale, VA

The truth should be taught.

Adam Jones | Memphis, TN

I believe that students should not be forced to believe something that is black or white, right or wrong. The purpose of teaching students ELA or history is for them to engage in the material, analyze arguments and perspectives, then find their voice and respond to controversial topics. Without this independence, classrooms will turn robotic and sad. Students need to know the cold facts about their history, while also being hopeful of the redemptive story important leaders have done to transform the United States.

Vivian Heller | Staatsburg, NY

I feel that education is the key to the future of this country, and that if we educate our young people to be blind to the injustices that are part of our history, those injustices stand little chance of being corrected.

Cheryl Mervine | Clarksboro, NJ

I believe that the truth is what will change the paradigm of sweeping under the rug in public schools. The truth will acknowledge the history that our students bring with them into school each day. They will be seen.

Connor Morris | Milwaukee, WI

Nick Bernardini | Philadelphia, PA

Pamela Castro | Palos Heights, IL

I believe that true and factual history should be taught to students. It is important to know how we got to where we are. When people do not know their history they doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Mary Lawrence | New Haven

Dawn Robinson | Auburn, WA

the only way out is through. We MUST teach the full truth about American history so that, instead of making the same choices that disenfranchise those within our borders, we make choices that include access for ALL.

Lisa Pilgrim | Austin, TX

I did not work as hard as I've worked to become an educator to be bullied by legislators who don't know anything about education or students' needs. I entered this field to support the development of free thinkers and self-advocates. I'm not going to stop.

Sharon Wheeler | Burlington, NC

I am trained as a middle school teacher and as a pastor it is important our youth understand all history including systematic racism.

Myleen Deguzman | Long Beach, CA

I am a U.S. History teacher that believes that students have the right to know the truth about the country in which they live and breathe. I want to empower my students to advocate for themselves and for their communities.

Jane Mizzi | Chicago, IL

Carrie Worra | Anacortes, WA

Margot Simonds OM

I believe our students deserve to learn the truth about history!

Raylene Dodson

VIRGINIA COOPER | Brooklyn, NY

Monica Moran | Inglewood, CA

Maya Angelou said it best, "History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage need not be lived again." This is the moment where we stand up and face history with courage so that we ensure the inequities we have faced are abolished.

Rebecca Clark | Seattle, WA

Megan Archer | Clackamas, OR

Black, Brown, and indigenous Lives Matter

Amanda Geist | Croydon, PA

Tamika Walker Kelly | Raleigh, NC

I believe we owe it to our students and ourselves to teach the world accurately in order to give students the tools to dismantle errors of the past. We can have a better world but we must be willing to be courageous and truthful.

Michael Robbins | Raleigh, NC

Every child has a right to education; one that showcases our progress, but also our faults. It's about telling the truth. Students are capable of thinking critically about the past to help understand present injustices and problem solve for a hopeful future. W.E.B DuBois stated in Black Reconstruction in America that "nations reel and stagger on their way; they make hideous mistakes; they commit frightful wrongs; they do great and beautiful things. And shall we not best guide humanity by telling the truth about all this..." Let us teach these things.

Adam Holliday | Ft Mitchell, KY

Students deserve to be treated with respect, which includes respecting them enough to share the difficult parts of our nation's history.

Sara Samples | Oshkosh, WI

Growth requires confronting painful realities

Danielle Mooney | Bridgewater, MA

We've denied our history long enough. Let's form the "more perfect" nation that the ancestors prescribed. That means constantly working to move closer to civil and human rights.

Kerry Alexander | Austin, TX

Our children deserve it.

Dr. Pauline Schmidt | West Chester, PA

Truth is important and our kids need to know it, learn it, and grow from it.

Heather Godley | Greendale Village of, WI

...our students deserve to learn about history and how it continues to affect us today. To do anything less is a disservice to students and to our democracy itself.

Dana Phillips | Buda, TX

We've come too far in recognizing, calling out, and growing to be more inclusive to go back. I will not perpetuate lies.

Abby Saul | Chestnut Hill, MA

Sandy Glasser | Oshtemo Twp, MI

I teach the truth!

Lavandon Nelson | San Francisco, CA

As a teacher, we have to do our part in dismantling injustice and oppression.

Anna Smucker | Bridgeport, WV

To paraphrase the words of esteemed former Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion, but NOT to their own FACTS.

Maureen Sullivan | San Francisco, CA

Rosemary Q. Flores | Henderson, NV

The truth about the history of the U.S.A. must be learned to understand the structures in place. There's inequity in schools. The inequity has to be dismantled through truth.

Deborah McElgin | Baton Rouge, LA

Facts are important.

Anonymous |

We can be proud of our nation while acknowledging its struggles and atrocities. We can learn from the past and do better, be better. History isn't being rewritten, it's been fully examined.

Andrew Nsirim | New York, NY

Rebecca Dell | Concord, CA

Knowing the truth about history is critical to understanding our present and creating a positive future.

Susanna Wingenroth | Fort Myers, FL

Two wrongs don't make a right. Banning the teaching of the truth about the wrongs of our nation's history is wrong. Our nation has a complex history and our children deserve to know the truth, the parts that make us proud and the parts that are shameful. Truth is an important in healing the wrongs of the past.

Laura Reyes | Bowling Green, OH

Darren Smith | Dayton, OH

Students should have a factual understanding of the actual history of the United States and how it impacts the world the students live in today.

Brian Leslie | Las Vegas, NV

educators need to stand together against the hysteria the GOP is whipping up for the sake of 2022 election and the legislation being put forth is 100% unethical. Teachers are very much used to abuse & terrible pay. We will suffer the consequences in order to violate these new laws and not blink an eye.

Carolyn Bloomberg | Watertown, MA

Knowledge is power and those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it.

Deborah Cardona | New York, NY

Betsy Tribble | Denver, CO

Judith Houpert | East Hartford Town of, CT

My students want and need to know the truth of history and government. Perspectives are key to more civil discourse.

Shannon Dery | Portland, OR

I saw that the Daily Wire is publishing the names and hometowns of the teachers who will not be intimidated by the Right. This is clearly an attempt at intimidation. I will not be intimidated. Add my name.

Emer Martin | Palo Alto, CA

Don't bully teachers. This country must change to allow all of its citizens to thrive.

Kamily Sunde | Stevenson Ranch, CA

Our kids have a right to learn ALL history.

Samantha Gil Vargas | Seattle, WA

*Critical race theory and the truth about the systemic oppression in this continue NEEDS to be taught to youth so we can begin to see drastic change in these oppressive systems AND youth deserve the right to learn factual truth about this country.*

Amy Pemberton | McKinney, TX

*There is something very wrong when government factions ban educators from teaching facts - not opinions - real history to young people. Governing in fear is dangerous and the opposite of progression. Kids will eventually learn the truth, don't you want them learning tough historical lessons in a safe and appropriate way with experts who are trained to do so? You'd rather them learn with bias and develop hateful feelings toward our country? Love comes from going through hard times, kids need to know our country made mistakes but are progressively working to improve. Kids need to know THEY are a part of that change and can make a difference. This is a no brainer. Please let EDUCATORS, those who are trained and actually care about the well-being of kids (and our future) make these decisions!*

Christopher Shull | Auburn, GA

Alexandra Teague | Moscow, ID

*It's essential that we face the inequalities on which this country has been built--and by which it still operates--in order to understand (and ask meaningful questions about) how our laws and institutions and social structure operate, and how we might create a more just society.*

Jennifer Williams | Cape Elizabeth, ME

*I feel we need to continue our commitment to develop critical thinking that supports students to better understand problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. We cannot learn from the past if we do not know our past.*

Heather Benson | Santa Rosa, CA

*I became a history teacher to teach the truth to our children who are the future. I claim my first amendment rights and my natural rights today, as well as my ethical responsibility to always speak the truth*

Katherine Riley | Philadelphia, PA

Lakresha Hodge | Paterson, NJ

Brandon Salter | Seattle, WA

*Teaching actual history is important to understanding the dynamics of power and privilege in our country. Those opposed to critical race theory and anti-racist education simply want to uphold the white supremacy culture that harms so many of our students.*

Brian Reid | Saugerties, NY

*Truth matters*

Terese Roberts | South Portland, ME

*this is important.*

Erica Marcus | Cape Elizabeth, ME

Amy Williams | Lehigh Acres, FL

*These new bills and laws are arbitrary, unenforceable, and attempt to either legislate a problem that doesn't exist, or (worse) gloss over crucial aspects of American history to perpetuate the American exceptionalist agenda.*

Claire Ramsbotham | South Portland, ME

*I feel that in order to teach history accurately, we need to talk about all of it, not just a white-washed view. The only way to avoid making the same mistakes that were made in history, such as the Japanese American Internment during WWII, we need to teach kids about it.*

Emily McLaughlin | Bronx, NY

*I will always teach the truth*

Christine Thomas | Reedsport, OR

*History is a pathway to not repeating mistakes. Acknowledging lessons from history will help us do better. Freedom cannot protect itself.*

PAUL WAGNER | Hammond, IN

*I refuse to be forced into teaching white supremacist "history". If you can't take the truth, go somewhere else.*

Lauren Prusecki | Brooklyn, NY

Michelle Brezek | Chicago, IL

*We cannot heal from the past if we do not share the stories.*

Jennifer Enserink | St Louis, MO

Kevin Brodie | Old Saybrook, CT

*Teachers have a right to teach the subjects to the best of their ability without interference from lawmakers who know nothing about professional education. "Those that can, teach. Those that can't, pass laws about education." We also do a disservice to students when we decide that they cannot cope with difficult or challenging concepts. Calling this teaching indoctrination shows no respect for young people's cognitive and critical abilities.*

Kati G Gilson | Tucson, AZ

Carrie Sorensen | Providence, RI

Karen Hemmerich | Tavares, FL

*The truth matters. No one is inherently bad but history will repeat itself if not taught.*

Loraine Snead | Marion, MA

*All Americans have a moral, social and ethical right to learn and examine the historical legacy of systemic racism, classism, sexism, and all other inequalities.*

Lee Waterhouse | Cambridge, MA

Rev. Chuck Currie, DD., DMin., MDiv. | Portland, OR

Kimberlie Todd | Toledo, OH

*Critical thinking requires facts*

Ivonne Rovira | Louisville, KY

*these bills CLAIM they don't want anyone to teach that one race is superior to another; however, the bills erase every part of history that's not exclusively white. That proves that the real point of the bill is to teach that European-Americans were -- and, most importantly, continue to be -- the most important thread in this country's history.*

Daniel Stutzman | Bowling Green, OH

*We all must know the truth of our past and present to move forward. My black, brown, queer, and all "othered" students need to their history, especially the histories of the heroes and champions fighting for true equality and full acceptance.*

Joanna Payne | Cape Elizabeth, ME

John Dube | Plaistow, NH

*I believe in encouraging my students to think critically, gather evidence to support their views and most notably in exposing them to all facets of history.*

Jennifer McKinsey | Wichita, KS

*I will not lie to my students or whitewash history to ease the cognitive dissonance and ignorance that some want to perpetuate.*

Chris Thinnes | Woodland Hills, CA

... (1) this organized attack on CRT demonstrates the legitimacy of CRT by showing how the law is used to perpetuate white supremacy and (2) partisan media is now targeting signers of this petition and I stand with you in solidarity. come what may.

Theresa Bess | Santa Fe, NM

*"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."*— James Baldwin I pledge to always continue to learn and use factual information to develop my understanding of the world around me. Children are human beings and they will lead our world into a more intelligent and kind way of living with each other, therefore students must be fully informed of the truth and reality of our U.S. history.

Deanne Fritschy | Bonney Lake, WA

Nic Digger | Oshkosh, WI

We need to teach kids it's ok to not feel shame when an adult touches their private areas

Robert Lambertz | Seattle, WA

Rob Sampson | Cheshire Town of, CT

Let teachers teach!!!!

Gia Moreno | Sacramento, CA

Lack of knowledge of the truth of American history is detrimental to the growth of our students and our nation.

CeXochitl DeLaTorre | Littleton, CO

All children need to know why and how our country came to be where it's at today. To fully understand how to navigate all systems and institutions, and find work to find solutions to issues.

Indya Champney | Sanford, NC

Raquel Williams | Los Angeles, CA

We're not even asking for Truth and Reconciliation Committees to be mandated, which would be powerful, we just want to ability to teach factual and documented history to our students. Stifling the truth is dangerous for our future.

Amy McCourt | Philadelphia, PA

I believe in teaching facts and truth and antiracist education.

David Backer | Philadelphia, PA

TROY CLARK | Frankfort, IN

The truth matters.

Sofia Noel | Franklin, TN

Kristine Mayle | Albuquerque, NM

Jessy Bppn | Greenville, NC

Maya Anderson | Philadelphia, PA

Tamara Anderson | Philadelphia, PA

Héctor Reyes | San Antonio, TX

There is a continuous path connecting the violence and dispossession of colonialism and racism from the past to the present. To ban the discussion of these ever present realities in any place, but particularly in school and colleges, is to erase us the victims of this oppression, and to impose on us only one option, to surrender our humanity. Screw them!

Shauna Branch | Rio Rancho, NM

I will always tell the truth. I lead both ethically and with integrity. Our children deserve to learn the truth so they can become better citizens as adults.

Mitchell Freedman | Rio Rancho, NM

I believe there is systemic racism and sexism that factually exists throughout our nation's history. However, I wish to be clear I revere our Founders, revere much in our nation's history, and have concluded the lead 1619 Project essay overstated its thesis, and is flawed for reasons Gordon Wood and Sean Wilentz have identified and stated. On the other hand, I have long believed the Zinn Educational Center has much to offer all Americans, not merely high school history students, in terms of highlighting facts that have often been ignored, and provide an important set of perspectives in comprehending patterns in US History. I also believe Critical Race Theory, as it is defined as a scholarly pursuit (not the vague, cynical definitions provided by polemical political commentators), has much to offer in providing important contextual and factual information. The laws being passed in the various states, which attack CRT, Zinn Educational Center, the 1619 Project, etc. must be opposed and rejected as they will, if enforced, undermine the teaching of history in public schools. These laws are as dangerous as laws that forced or force science teachers to not teach Darwin's theory of evolution.

Pyper Dee | Saint Louis, MO

Jonathan Nwaru | New Rochelle, NY

To quote President Lincoln "Tell the people the truth and the country will be okay"

Emma Bechill | Philadelphia, PA

Gabby Linck | Philadelphia, PA

I have a duty as an educator to teach the whole truth

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

Kirsten Clagnaz | North Babylon, NY

Kolya Ludwig | Pasadena, CA

Barbara Johnck | Oakland, CA

Alexandra Jones | Spokane, WA

The truth matters.

Anna Gustafson | El Cerrito, CA

To understand how we got here and what we as a nation need to do to go forward, we need, and our students need, to understand what has happened in the past. It is patriotic to learn true history and how our country can be better

Sarah Khan | Everett, WA

Kelsey Rust | Spokane, WA

We must teach our children how things actually happened in the past if we want them to do better in the future.

Michelle Urrea | Seattle, WA

our stories matter too. You can't continue to traumatize us and white wash us. We deserve to exist in spaces holistically and demand that.

Terri Hewitt | Bellmead, TX

all our students deserve to know the truth!

Laura Lehni | Seattle, WA

Not teaching the truth is LYING. Students deserve the truth and deserve a teacher who is honest with them and leads by example!

Eva Tang | Mountain View, CA

Magaly Juarez Jaimes | Stockton, CA

*When we personally reflect on our past actions we are better equipped to make better decisions in the future. If we apply that as a collective society, we will be able to learn from the past mistakes (and triumphs) and build a better, equitable, just world for future generations. We can only truly reflect and move forward when we reach into our genuine core.*

Erik Peterson | McKinleyville, CA

*I believe education is meant to open doors not close them.*

Katherine Martinez | Elmhurst, NY

Shelly Wong | Woodhaven, NY

Maria Plochocki | Jersey City, NJ

*Without being honest about the past and present, we can't build a better future. Our students deserve to know the truth so that they can make up their own minds.*

Mary Jane Else | South Hadley, MA

*Our students deserve a good education, and that means that teachers are responsible for helping them gain the skills they need to decide what is true.*

Jess Eaton

*It is my responsibility to provide my students with critical thinking skills and accurate historical information.*

Brigette Bloomfield | Joliet, IL

*I'm supporting my school district's commitment to educating our teachers and staff on the topics of white privilege, implicit bias and the systemic historical racism we have seen in the United States for centuries. We want our brothers and sisters of color to know that we seek to understand and that we believe knowledge is power. It is my belief this will open up honest conversations in the classroom as we acknowledge the hateful injustices that have occurred for centuries. (Which were glossed over in textbooks for as long as I can remember)*

Caroline Ludlow | Cali, CO

*Power to the truth, power to empathy, power to the children.*

Meghan LeRoux | Colorado Springs, CO

*It is important that students know the truth about our nation's history and understand the many perspectives from our history.*

Nicole Braun | Chicago, IL

Vivian Jablonski | Durham, NH

*Students deserve to know the truth! We have a responsibility to teach them the facts so they can come to their own logical conclusions.*

Kari Hoose

*Students - and our country - deserve accurate, respectful history and social studies information.*

Colleen Kyle | Gunpowder, MD

*My job is to teach young Americans the truth and I will do it.*

Denise Romero | Wayne, NJ

Amanda Lieber | Mount Laurel, NJ

*I believe in America, and I believe the truth matters. And to move this country forward, it is time to tell the entire story of this land that we call the United States.*

Rachel Bellande | Denver, CO

*I teach for change, for my students, and not for racist, sexist, homophobic, ableist jerk-alerts who are only obsessed with keeping their power at any means.*

Robert Peate | Portland, OR

*The United States were founded on genocide, slavery, racism, and oppression. Institutional racism is a glaringly obvious and defining characteristic of our society today. I will not lie to my students, no matter who wishes me to do so.*

Melissa Easley | Charlotte, NC

*We should no longer be presenting whitewashed history.*

Ella Rogosin | Chula Vista, CA

Leah Licari | Waterbury Center, VT

*Every single one of your students deserves to learn the truth - always.*

Carla Ferreira | Newark, NJ

*In solidarity with all teachers committed to teaching critical thinking and to making their classrooms anti-racist spaces & against all forms of white supremacist intimidation and oppression. Teachers should not fear for their safety or their jobs for teaching accurate histories. If our lawmakers don't want our students learning about racist history in the US, stop creating it!*

Katie Weible | Louisville, KY

*Truth matters*

Christine Callahan | Burlington, VT

Elena Cortez | Sacramento, CA

*The truth must be shared.*

Timothy Jurkovic | Huron, OH

*Systematic racism is real and needs to end.*

Nicole Lamb | Sebastopol, CA

*I refuse to lie about the systemic racism this county was built on and continues to profit from.*

Deborah Bermudez | Santee, CA

*I want current and future generations to know the truth. It breaks my heart to know that most of if not almost all of what I had been taught growing up was incorrect, incomplete, and harmful.*

Kirsten O'Brien | Redlands, CA

*Real teaching demands truth. Anything less than the truth is indoctrination, and our students need the truth to build a better world.*

Leah Marx | Southfield, MI

*I believe the truth needs to be told*

Greg Burrill | Portland, OR

*"Until Americans realize that African-American history IS American history, we will be helpless to solve many problems that plague us."-James Baldwin*

Kevin Murphy | San Francisco, CA

Grace Hogan | St Louis, MO

*Truth matters, and facts must be taught. Children deserve to learn our whole history.*

Kathryn Allen | Washington, DC

Michael Bolt | Bellmead, TX

Molly Renauer | Portland, OR

*I work for equity*

Christopher Gyorgyovich | Pomona, CA

I believe I have an ethical responsibility to teach the truth.

Kelly Carlisle | Florence, MA

Racism is perpetuated by people who refuse to acknowledge it. History should be taught and it should be honest and dynamic and offer a critical lens so we can actually do better.

Mary Fitzgerald | Pasadena, CA

I grew up with Civics classes, but that's not a part of LAUSD curriculum any more.

Laurel Lennon | Annapolis, MD

Sarah Garguilo | Wilmington, NC

...I have been for over twenty years as an educator. Most of my students come to me knowing that in order to heal, we must ask hard questions and face hard truths. In order to empower students, we can't be dishonest about the world they are growing up into. They see right through it; their very lives contradict any bs handed to them about the equality of our country's origins or ideals. If we as educators, parents, guardians and community members are lucky enough to have young ppl looking to us for guidance, we have to be honest. There's no way I can look at my students or children and allow them to think the disenfranchisement they experience is their fault or that they are powerless to change the causes. I will continue to give young scholars material to critically analyze and discuss. I'll continue to give them texts to learn about people who stood up for others; who challenged an inequitable status quo; who persevered and refused to be silent while working to create or support changes our country needed to move toward being a little more equitable for all. I will continue to give them academic opportunities to learn about and openly question the institution of and effects of systemic racism and inequities in our country so that they may be far more creative than us in how to approach systemic healing.

Blair Downie | Philadelphia, PA

Megan Kilar | Candia, NH

Students deserve to know the truth about history, not just the parts we like.

Angelina Caballero | Chula Vista, CA

As educators we have a moral obligation to our students, our community, and our country to teach the truth of our history and how we got here. Equipping people with these truths is the only way to move forward.

Rob Wildes | Philadelphia, PA

As a follower of Christ, I must reconcile w our country's horrid past in order to help others heal.

Sharon Clarke | Seattle, WA

You can't change the future if you don't understand the past. Teach the truth.

Shannon Corwin | New York, NY

Sine Anahita | Fairbanks, AK

structural oppression is real.

Paulette Fistikoglu | Torrance, CA

Truth matters.

WL Chapkis | Portland, ME

Injustice matters.

Tedi Mills | Palo Alto, CA

Limiting the discussions teachers are allowed to facilitate in a classroom diminishes everyone.

Jane Cutter | Seattle, WA

I am an anti-racist educator.

Audrey Arthur | Oakland, CA

Jonathan Pellerin | New York, NY

Tarasa Brierly | Jackson, MS

Students deserve to learn the truth through primary documents and texts, both non-fiction and fiction. This is what I want for not only my students, but for my own children as well. When we give them critical thinking skills and fully formed, honest information, students can and will make their own decisions about what is "true." That is what those who oppose truth in education fear most.

Yayoi Kobayashi | New York, NY

Our country has so much work to do and this is one of the steps we must take!

Shelagh Wilson | West Chester, PA

Children need to learn the full truth about the history of this country. It is what they deserve.

Leslie Pelon | Porterville, CA

Tracy Smith | Lancaster, TX

When we are brave enough to face the truth we break the toxic cycles of history. This is how we become a more perfect union.

Elizabeth Valenzuela | Tucson, AZ

I became an educator to provide a safe space in which all of my students feel heard, seen, loved and are reflected in my teaching. I will not abandon BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant, and disabled children because of white supremacist legislature.

Sonja Franeta | Saint Petersburg, FL

This is an attack on academic freedom and on the teaching of an important subject, especially today—critical race theory

Andrea Reynolds | Liverpool, NY

If history makes you comfortable, are you really teaching history?

Chuck Finkle | New York, NY

Randall Huberman | Kirkland, WA

Students need to be taught HOW to think not WHAT to think! It is my job as an educator to provide my students with accurate information and to allow them to make up their own minds.

Rigoberto Lemus | Los Angeles, CA

My identity markers: queer; Latinx; non-native English speaker; first generation American; educator all inform my teaching. I draw on these identity markers and lived experience to humanize myself to my students and show them how these things influence what I think and how I think about our American history. Above all, our students deserve to know the truth! The truth will help us heal!

Crystal Watford | Helena, AL

If teachers don't teach the truth, how will the future be?

Irene Hess | New York, NY

When I was an elementary school student, I was taught the names of the ships that Christopher Columbus sailed, but not the names of the people who lived on the land that Columbus supposedly "discovered". Teaching certain aspects of history while ignoring many other aspects because they're too complex or difficult to face serves to prop up a system that is clearly not working. We can teach children about Columbus but we also need to teach them about indigenous people, slavery, segregation, genocide, racism, hate, love, political movements, etc., etc., etc.

Amelia Wurzburg | Lyndonville, VT

*It is my moral obligation to teach the truth about the history of our country.*

Suzanne Brazil | Vernon Hills, IL

*I am an American and want that to mean something good, true, honorable. The truth is necessary to make this country all it can be.*

Christina Bechstein | Portland, ME

DANA DUSBIBER | Sacramento, CA

Alden Dearborn | Brighton, MA

Christine Hagerup | Oakland, CA

*Education is a radical and transformative act.*

Amy Moore | Evanston, IL

Catherine Compton-Lilly | West Columbia, SC

Sheila Rivers | Louisville, KY

*Enough U.S. history is denied already, so why deny students of the entire knowledge of slavery. It did happen and it's fact. Stop burying that that makes white folks uncomfortable or well forever be forced to deal with racism.*

Kirby Green | Seattle, WA

John J. Ferreira | Bellingham, WA

*I see no honest reason to lie to my students.*

Nigger Faggot | Washington, DC

*Working hard and succeeding is an integral part of whiteness and black kids absolutely needs to be taught disempowerment*

Jennifer Molin | Camarillo, CA

*As a California public school teacher and owner and Head Teacher of a preschool I will never teach CRT to my students, my students are all beautiful and equally important regardless of the color of their skin. They are created in God's image and He calls all of us to turn away from racism of every kind.*

Paul Mahler | Pompton Plains, NJ

*As President of PROPEL Pequannock I'm working closely with our school librarians to insure they have access to truth telling materials.*

Peter Goeckner | New York, NY

*it is necessary to encounter the uncomfortable truths of our past in order to move forward. As a wise tweet once said, "Studying history will sometimes make you uncomfortable. Studying history will sometimes make you feel deeply upset. Studying history will sometimes make you feel extremely angry. If studying history always makes you feel proud and happy, you probably aren't studying history."*

Peggy Sharkey | Parma, ID

*The truth shall set you free*

Peggy Sharkey | Parma, ID

*I must tell the truth*

Laura Neustaedter | Sherman Oaks, CA

*I teach people's history!*

Scott Lundgren | Los Angeles, CA

*Because as a white male, I refuse to be complicit*

Zack Elway | Seattle, WA

*dismantling racial capitalism and building a better world requires an honest and thoughtful reckoning of where we have been.*

Jennifer Williams | Oklahoma City, OK

*I refuse to continue perpetuating systemic oppression. Talking about and acknowledging the country's ugly history will help all of us learn from it and begin healing--together. Continuing to cover up just allows discrimination to fester and spread.*

Marissa Felix | Mesa, AZ

Nina Hyatt | San Jose, CA

*It is hideous that educators are being threatened if they tell the truth.*

Sarah Hoop | Poughkeepsie, NY

*Democracy and the future of this nation depend on classrooms that reckon with the past. If we are truly to live up to the dreams of our founding, then we must grapple with how we got to the place we are.*

Linden Higgins | Burlington, VT

*We cannot allow a witch hunt to block best practices in teaching and learning.*

Angela Gabriel | Santa Fe, NM

*I feel like we're rounding a bend toward a more just society and the powers that are in control want to keep it that way. The more they thrash around, bullying, and pressuring people to bend to their will, the more it shows how afraid they are of the truth.*

Delorme MckeeStovall | San Jose, CA

*Because as part of my duties as the former Director of the Santa Clara County Office of Human Rights we were involved in providing more accurate information about the history of the residents culture to reduce conflict and create new understanding and respect. Any attempt to destroy or ignore the truth of American history is an attack on this democratic experiment and the Republic. We must fight to preserve the intellectual capacity and critical thinking of every citizen and resident of this nation.*

Michele Bradley | Springfield, OR

Silvina Farmin | Albuquerque, NM

*I teach History not propaganda*

Beth Carroll

Virginia B. | San Jose, CA

*I will not let this attempt at censorship stop me from educating people of the truth. Our future generations need to know the truth so we can achieve justice in all forms. Real change starts with education, and those that create these censorship laws know this. I will not let them get in the way of spreading awareness of the truth of our society.*

Jennifer J Arlin | Santa Fe, NM

*Truth matters. It is the only way we can right our wrongs and heal our communities.*

Peggy Fulton | Benicia, CA

*Every human needs their story to be told. All of us deserve to hear the truth of others.*

Daniel Cohen | Chicago, IL

Callie Kirsch | Raleigh, NC

*Our students deserve to know the truth so they can be empowered to improve our world.*

Shanikwa Lemon | Paterson, NJ



Melissa Tomlinson | Mays Landing, NJ

*Only by teaching the truth will we make sure our mistakes of the past will not be repeated.*

Melonie Newman | Crownsville, MD

Jerald Kumagai | San Pedro, CA

Marcella Simadiris | Paterson, NJ

*I am committed to the truth*

Mary Spencer | Palm Harbor, FL

Megan Dungan | Bensalem, PA

Rosslyn Kooser | Gwynn Oak, MD

Heather Messner | Sierra Madre, CA

*True history needs to be taught, not suppressed. Bullying tactics to silence educators will not work.*

Omega Jade Williams | Burlington, VT

*I teach Black History through creative writing. I believe all historical facts should be free to discuss and learn about. History repeats itself when we don't take time to learn from our mistakes. Black History is part of American History. Every good, bad and ugly part of it.*

Charles Post | New York, NY

Paul Stacy | Ipswich, MA

*we must stop whitewashing education and begin to lift all Ss up. By speaking truth to history all are given a humanity that wasn't present in earlier teaching.*

Laura Buffi | Danielson

Vikki Riverstone | Alameda, CA

*I will teach the truth and advocate for social justice every way I can.*

Michael Kreiter | Boise, ID

*This one is for you, IFF.*

Tony Osumi | Culver City, CA

*Good teaching is truth telling. Great teaching is exposing myths and lies.*

Douglas Spalding | San Lorenzo, CA

Michele Levin | Los Angeles, CA

Maria Cole | North Palm Beach, FL

Zach Wyner | El Cerrito, CA

Samuel Cohen | Columbia, MO

Lionel Beasley | Burlington, VT

*Truth matters.*

Matt Meister | Akron, OH

*Every year I teach about John Scopes. Those who refused to learn history are repeating it right now.*

Kimberly Leyden | Concord, CA

*I believe it is very important to teach students the truth. They need to be taught what actually happened and how to think critically.*

Sharon Kowski

*History has belonged to the victors: the powerful who always—just like now—try to establish a monolithic and static narrative. It is only through fierce examination, a commitment to nuance and untold stories, that truth evolves more clearly to tell a more complete, & indeed honest reality.*

Danny Baza Blas | San Diego, CA

*I will not stand to be intimidated to do my profession.*

Mari Errico | Philadelphia, PA

Christine Chisholm | Philadelphia, PA

*It's my professional duty to prepare students to be responsible and active members of our democracy.*

Michelle Wing | Barker, NY

*I refuse to lie to my students and to send them into the world ignorant of the history and structures that dictate society.*

Victoria Bellard | Ridgely, MD

*Truth be told*

Amy Lindahl | Portland, OR

*There is no better future without learning the truth of our past and present.*

Nick Vassolo | Streamwood, IL

*We need to learn history from as many voices as we can.*

Geoffrey Guiney | Chicago, IL

William Farrand | Bloomfield Twp, MI

*If we don't teach the truth, we can't learn from our mistakes.*

Tim Whelan | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe in the real true history. I believe in Critical Race Theory!*

Scott Newman | Long Beach, CA

*It is important for students to learn the truth about our countries origins and the past events that have led to current conditions*

Tova Moore | Concord, CA

Meredith Walker | Manchester, NH

*Truth is important. All cultures and perspectives need to be represented and people need to know all parts of history not the just good parts.*

Faris Carter | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students deserve the truth and the ability to think critically.*

Cathryn Chudy | Vancouver, WA

*Children deserve to know the truth and will not trust adults who deceive them by restricting their access to the truth.*

Maye Bryant | Saint Louis, MO

eva okeeffe | Hempstead Town of, NY

Eric Moran | Philadelphia, PA

*As professional educators, we cannot be intimidated into teaching nationalist versions of our history, which will only continue to marginalize many of our students. We will not be bullied by far right elites who profit off of the ignorance of the masses.*

Jessie Cantil , AK

*The impact of systematic racism in this country is far too keenly felt by students learning only partial truths. The history I learned growing up was the history of white America only -with no inclusion for any other Americans who helped construct what has become the greatest nation on earth-which did not happen because it was formulated by white America by any means. We could not have become the greatest nation on earth had we not been assisted in that state of being without the theft of land from Natives, free labor of the slaves, without the indentured servants of the Chinese laborers, without all of the migrant farm workers from Mexico -to name a few-we have systematically lied about the very construction of the fabric that created the woven strength we present to the world -this is unjust. And a lie. the real history is overdue- and a basic building block for dismantling the big lie about why our country became great. We can do better.*

Cassidy Hall | Viola, ID

*History is a set of facts that are not meant to be manipulated. Truth is necessary to not repeat the atrocities that have happened throughout this country's history.*

Natashia Sylvia | Garden City, ID

*CRT is the key to understanding white supremacist systems so that we may disrupt them and create for a better, more equitable world for all.*

Shelly Stafford | Vancouver, WA

*It is important and vital that we talk about our history as a whole and stop glorifying the violence dealt by the white colonizers.*

Carly DeBenedictis | San Pedro, CA

Marcia VanderWoude | Grand Rapids, MI

Matthew Knoester | Ripon, WI

*Kids deserve to know the truth*

DANIEL KUMPREY | Portland, OR

*My pledge is this: "I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law."*

Shawn Riggins | Vineland, NJ

Alisa Patapoff | San Pedro, CA

Omar Dphrepaulezz | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*I will NEVER stop teaching the history(ies) of the pernicious, poisonous, destructive, ideologies of white supremacy and imperialism*

Nick Covington | Ankeny, IA

*We can't change the facts of history to accommodate white rage.*

Stephanie Carta | Fountain Inn, SC

*Never again means never again.*

Evan Greaves | Durham, NC

*I will not be complicit in the whitewashing of history and I refuse to be silenced.*

Jennifer Onopa | Holyoke, MA

Bill Stalnaker | Fairmont, WV

*Students deserve the Truth about our History not some Whitewashed or Diluted version!*

Angela Clifford | Aiken, SC

*We are better together than we are apart and we are responsible for teaching all perspectives so we can truly grow, support and understand each other-even when we feel uncomfortable.*

Jana Harter | Canyon lake, TX

*"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (George Santayana) History helps students understand the roots of inequality today and gives them the tools to shape a just future. It is not just a history of oppression, but also a history of how people have organized and created coalitions across race, class, and gender. The new laws being ushered in by GOP legislatures are a form of doublespeak. George Orwell's 1984 novel warns us against doublespeak. It used to be fiction.*

Desiree Hellegers | Portland, OR

*The assault on history is an assault on democracy.*

Diane Hardy | Las Vegas, NV

*My students come from very diverse backgrounds. They are intelligent critical thinkers, who can tackle difficult subjects with civility.*

Veronica Rivera Savage | NY, NY

*It should not be illegal to teach the truth.*

Danika Nieves | Philadelphia, PA

*"Bans on critical race theory" are bad faith pieces of legislation being pushed by the same people who proclaim to support academic freedom and ridicule "safe spaces" and "trigger warnings." The arguments lack consistency, serve to leverage bigotry, and frankly, most of the proponents of this legislation are unable to define or explain critical race theory.*

Dr. Tina Lageson | Portland, OR

*We should always teach the truth...the good, the bad, the inequities...so we can all work to make improvements with clear knowledge!*

Jenifer Felix | Philadelphia, PA

Lauren Bianchi | Chicago, IL

Tara Shaw | Philadelphia, PA

Stephanie Felder | Philadelphia, PA

*Teaching students to think historically is important.*

Kevin Kelly | Bryn Mawr, PA

Patricia Hynes | Reston, VA

*teaching the historic truth is my job.*

Alex Kopp | Philadelphia, PA

*We must understand the past to improve the future*

Danielle Bullock | Brooklyn, NY

Erin McCarthy | MILWAUKEE, WI

*The existence of structural racism is not an opinion. The success of communities & individuals of color and all groups sidelined to the margins of history for centuries, despite every political, economic, cultural, and social obstacle possible, makes American history captivating. I'll keep teaching it.*

Parker Schramme | Memphis, TN

Mark Nelson | Chicago, IL

*Education should be uncensored in order for individuals to form their own opinions based on all the facts. Apparently indoctrination and propaganda is the only way the GOP can elect their pack of nut jobs, fascists, religious fanatics and low wage monopolists into key government and judicial positions.*

Andrew Saltz | Philadelphia, PA

*If I'm not teaching the truth, I'm lying*

Bobbie Schmaus | Santa Rosa, CA

Gary Falkenberg | Asheville , NC  
White washed history is just wrong.

Victoria Breakstone | Lafayette, CA  
I refuse to lie to young people about history and current events. I will not use curriculum that is incorrect about U.S. history. Children need to learn the history of the U.S. and the world so that it doesn't repeat and the world becomes a better place.

Nicholas Marzuola | Cleveland, OH  
Students need to know *\*all\** of history, including the parts that might make some people uncomfortable. History should not frame events or people in a falsely-created positive view, but rather from events and actions that actually occurred. Anybody who tries to silence reality is likely a fascist. The only way to stop fascism is truth, knowledge, and empowerment.

Jason Spray | St Louis, MO

Steven Buller | Philadelphia, PA  
Fascists are attempting to erode the ability of educators and communities to fight back. Hiding behind mythologies and spreading lies will only further increase authoritarianism. I believe in telling the truth. I will be telling the truth.

Alysia Scofield | Washington, DC

Joan Hurley | Southington , CT  
The nefarious inequities of our legislative and social histories must be made overt & explicit. No topic is taboo. It is through discourse and investigation that our students will become true citizens of democracy.

Peggy Janicki CA

Truth, is a Coast Salish Law, and as an Indigenous Teacher I am obligated to Teach about our Genocide in Canada. Our Indigenous Nations are confirming unmarked graves at the Indian Residential Schools and everyone needs to know.

noenoe barney-campbell Campbell | Honolulu, HI

It's important to teach the truth. For years we have subjected children to myths that have been created and propagated by the government and textbook writers as well as brainwashed school district people. Lets teach the truth no matter how ugly it is!!!

Lindsay helfman | Dearborn, MI

I refuse to teach a government-mandated, whitewashed version of history. I teach my students to be critical thinkers and to weigh evidence about past events. I would rather lose my job than lie to kids.

Judi Freeman | Boston, MA

Tracey Scronic | Brooklyn, NY

... all people deserve to know the truth about the history of our country and its role in the persistence of oppression across the globe. Teaching the truth is the best way I know to tear down the power structure that maintains the oppressive status quo.

Kyle Eichner | Cambridge, MA

Children need to know the whole truth of our country's history - and it is our responsibility as teachers to help them ask questions, look at different perspectives, and figure out what they think about it.

William Ehrenfeld | Brooklyn, NY

Our children deserve the truth!

ANDREA SOBEL | Annandale, VA

Unless we help our children understand our history, we will perpetuate racism in our systems and our society at large.

Seth Kahn | West Chester, PA

I don't want there to be any secret about the fact that I'm committed to racial justice (and all forms of anti-bigotry) in my teaching.

Paul Sheprow | Portland, OR

My students, all of my students, deserve the truth.

Sarah Caswell | Philadelphia, PA

Everyone deserves the truth and to have their story told and we all deserve to know the truth about our country's history.

Sarah Creeley | Hercules, CA

Truth Matters!

Lori Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

Students must be taught the truth

Jennet Tempone | Chicago, IL

Michael Jones | Madison, WI

when I became an educator, I made a promise to help our children understand our complicated world and its history, not obscure it because it makes certain people feel uncomfortable. Our children do not demand perfection from us and our ancestors, but they do demand and deserve honesty. And it is our duty to be honest with the knowledge we have accumulated, not whitewash it.

Tobey Shulman | San Pedro, CA

We can't go backward.

Annie Zirin | Evanston, IL

joseph gannon | Easthampton, MA

I will not follow any laws passed regarding the teaching of hisotry

Larina Warnock | Winston, OR

Equity gaps are especially prominent in business. Part of what I teach is how to read and respond to factual data.

Barron Barron | Portland, OR

Students deserve truth. Many know when we're lying to them.

Richard Restaino | Austin, TX

I never intended to become a propagandist for white supremacy and I am not about to start now.

James Campbell | Greenville, SC

Lindsay Mears | Dunbarton, NH

Teaching without truth is not teaching

Melissa Blount | Portland, OR

My students deserve to know their own histories, and I will not censor the collection of topics in our school library to appease those afraid of learning the truth.

Lori Madel | Rural Hall, NC

I teach Social Studies and feel it's important to teach not only about slavery, but how the African American people have risen since then.

Virginia Teppner | Winter Haven, FL

Education sometimes involves learning difficult content and being able to use critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate situations and fact based evidence. These skills are fundamental to maintaining Democracy.

Wendi Straub | Idaho Falls, ID

*Our systems have racist and classist policies and practices and we all benefit when every student has equitable opportunities to participate in society.*

Kiran Katira | Rio Rancho, NM

Amy Kelly | Albion, MI

*My students deserve it.*

Julie Chien | Georgetown, TX

*We can't be afraid of things that make us uncomfortable or things we don't understand. Hiding from uncomfortable or confusing facts won't help us. The only way forward is to learn all the facts - even the uncomfortable, embarrassing, shocking and painful ones - so we can understand the world we live in and the people we live with.*

Mary Brazeau | Holyoke, MA

*My peers in 21 states face imminent threats to their livelihood by being asked to redact unpleasant history. This affects how we teach literature and Literacy. This affects our relationship to students. We will not lie to our students.*

Barbara Kaufmann | Rindge, NH

*We MUST know and teach our history, no matter whose getting upset. If we do not learn that we fail! Burning books, restricting books and discussions is NOT WHAT the Founders of this country EVER intended! Stop running scared and start understanding! These foolish laws and voter suppression, is by and far the most UN- AMERICAN thing that has been pulled on this country! Not what ANY soldier has fought for EVER!*

xavier estacio | Carson, CA

Ron Bishop | Hockessin, DE

*To lend my voice to stop this educational malpractice.*

houston seals | Saranac Lake, NY

Garrett Shorr | Los Angeles, CA

Brandalyne Evans | Fontana, CA

Denise Gill | San Gabriel, CA

*As a California educator, I am not worried about our legislator creating absurd laws, but stand in solidarity with my colleagues across the country.*

Eric Rude | Pocatello, ID

*The United States is what it is because of its history, the good AND the bad. We cannot understand how to make our country great if we don't understand who we are.*

Laura Gonzalez | Santa Rosa, CA

*I teach history. not Critical Race Theory, but History, the good, bad and ugly.*

Justin Marr | Richmond Town of, ME

*Truth is the guiding light of freedom.*

Mary Anne McGrory | Chubbuck, ID

*I will not be bullied into not teaching the history of this country... The good, the bad, and the ugly.*

Angela Wilcox | Saint Paul, MN

*Otherwise I have no business being an educator. This is our job!*

IM Anidiot | Overland Park, KS

*Do you realize how stupid this is?*

Alan Wilding | Hagerman, ID

*It's ridiculous to keep spewing lies and misinformation about CRT and how it's being taught in schools. As a professor, I refuse to hide the truth or omit facts from my lessons.*

Lizzette Barrios Gracian | Anaheim, CA

*I owe my students the truth. I will never give them anything less than that.*

Maayan Giffen | Spring Valley, CA

*Real change can only come about with real education that does not stem from a black and white view, but, understands that life is complicated and most of life exists in the gray. We need to make sure that ALL voices are represented and empowered and the beginning of representation is education.*

Heidi Earle | Portland, OR

*teaching students to become critical thinkers is my job*

Prentiss Dantzler | Atlanta, GA

Amanda Schlee | Lancaster, PA

*Students deserve the truth.*

Kat Arnold | Anchorage, AK

Lindsay Briggs | Chico, CA

*I believe in teaching all sides of an issue and letting people hear critical perspectives so they can come to their own conclusions.*

Justin Dickens | Anchorage, AK

*Our youth are the leadership we welcome into the next generations. Ours our responsibility to speak truth to power and do better for them. "Being not racist is not enough, we must be anti-racist" Angela Davis Critical race theory allows us to analyze racism dynamics and do something stop them.*

Eve Chan | Bellevue, WA

philip lensi | Plainfield, NJ

*The truth is worth fighting for*

Daphna Gutman | New York, NY

Kimron Thomas | Brooklyn, NY

*The GOP wants a fight and they're gonna get it.*

Daniella May | Eagle River, AK

*It's time to stop teaching children lies, and white washing the history of this nation. We only do a disservice to our future generations by not ensuring our education system is inclusive and equitable. We can no longer stand by in complacency. We must do better.*

Jenny Lewis | El Prado, NM

Amanda Fenlon | Oswego, NY

*Our students need to be taught the truth about our history of systemic racism so they can help create a more just world.*

Gina DacQuisto | Milwaukee, WI

*I don't lie to my students*

Sarah Fuchs | Oakland, CA

Chelsea Foster | Anchorage, AK

Teaching historical truth is important to myself and my family. It is how we break and heal from generational curses.

Bridget Walker, PhD | Mukilteo, WA

All young people in America deserve to know the truth about the history of their country so that they can understand where it came from and better participate in building its future as informed, thoughtful citizens.

Amber Gonzalez | Columbia, MO

I grew up being told to lie about my family's history and I won't continue to allow this system to continue.

Vilas Annavarapu | Jackson, MS

I want my students to have the critical thinking skills to undo past harm without upholding the structures that perpetuate it.

Barbara Beyerbach | Oswego, NY

I am committed to teaching for social justice.

Elena Ailes | Chicago, IL

I come from a family of educators. Both parents and my sister are all teachers. My values, and my families values, are predicated on truth, history and access to a good education.

Patricia Sullivan | San Francisco, CA

The minority in power wish they could silence the majority and continue the lies and whitewashing of American history but it simply can't be done. There are too many windows of access and too few who are willing to pretend the past just didn't happen.

Janet Gordanza | Kansas City, MO

The truth needs to be taught. We need to fight racism with racism. It's the vaccine all kids should must be required to take. We are the woke supremacy!

Ritu Radhakrishnan | Oswego, NY

All stories/voices of our nation's history need to be acknowledged, heard, and understood. Why is the truth so frightening?

Katrina Simpkins | Wilmington, DE

it is important to me that education is provided in an honest, antiracist-oriented manner, especially to the children who lives are forever impacted.

Lennon Murphy | Chicago, IL

Our students deserve empowered educators who are willing and able to help them uncover the truths about our country's past and present.

Tyler Scaletta | Chicago, IL

Sarah Duvall | Boise, ID

Ivory Johnson | Hollandale, MS

whitewashing American history only makes white people feel better. There is no other tangible benefit, and plenty of costs.

Sharon Arthur | Berkeley, CA

I refuse to whitewash history.

Lana Forrester | New York, NY

I am the daughter and granddaughter of Holocaust Survivors whose Grandmother, Aunt, and Uncle were murdered by the Nazis. I am committed to equality and social justice for all, and to transmitting those values to my students of all ages, and ethnic backgrounds.

Francisco Mercado | Anchorage, AK

I believe in this theory and I am not going to all the racist right to stop our progress.

Susan Hofbauer | Ypsilanti, MI

It is important for all students to understand our history.

Amanda Groen | Bala Cynwyd, PA

When we understand how the past impacts our present, then we have an opportunity to create a future we're proud of. Hiding the truth is a disservice to our children, and, frankly, an insult. If we hide the truth, then we are assuming guilt and we are sending the message to our children that they are not worthy of the truth.

Susan Baughn | Ann Arbor, MI

Students deserve to know the truth, not white-washed history.

Galindo Jack | Glendale, CA

Laura Yaussi | Fort Collins, CO

I believe it is critically important to teach children the truth in all areas of learning. When children are taught the truth they can grow into healthy adults who can handle and process difficult conversations powerfully and without shame. I believe parents are uncomfortable with the truth because they are just now being introduced to the true history of our nation and conversations around race. Imagine how much more able to handle it they would be if they have learned it as children. This is why children must know the truth.

Kelly Nelsen | Boise, ID

My students deserve the truth.

Mary Lou Hall | Albuquerque, NM

I am tired of this racism in our country, and no one seems to be doing anything about it or care. I have lived on this earth for almost eighty five years and things are getting worse instead of better. Oncoming generations, will have to turn the tide that has been here for years. It is time for us to wake up and smell the coffee!

Michael Stapleton | Barkhamsted, CT

We must confront our history... even the dark parts ...to move our people closer the the promises of America.

Ryan Howard | Fremont, CA

Jessica Diaz | Henrico, VA

I want to help students learn to use critical thinking and research skills. It's important to use primary sources and help students develop the skills to understand the events of our history so students can make informed decisions to create a better society today.

Margaret Wessel Walker | Canton, MI

I refuse to lie to my students, who are majority Black, about their own history and generational trauma. I refuse to lie.

Sheba Lo | Los Angeles, CA

Andrea Espinoza | Tucson, AZ

I refuse to lie to my students.

Mika Court | Portsmouth, NH

Teaching and learning about systemic racism and sexism, and (more importantly) regenerative and healing alternatives have been my focus since 1989 when I graduated from high school

Ken Carano | Monmouth, OR

We cannot heal without understanding the varied perspectives people have of history. We won't truly be humanizing people if we refuse to listen to their perspectives. A group of people sharing a common space cannot move forward in a productive manner without doing those items.

Sarah Jackson | Portland, OR

Our children deserve to know the truth.

Melissa Gibson | Milwaukee, WI

Lucy Russell | Warrenton, NC  
My students deserve the truth.

Claudia Valles | Norwalk, CA

*My students deserve to know that they play an important part of this country. They need to embrace their heritage, race, language, traditions, and beliefs and know that they can make a difference. Understanding the truth about our past is important for them to know, so they can learn from it and not let history repeat itself like we're currently experiencing right now with laws being passed on voting restrictions in so many states.*

Samantha Ginzberg | New Haven, CT

Naama Levy | Fort Collins, CO

Kathy Diamond | Portland, OR

*We cannot continue to whitewash history*

Kathleen Allen | Englewood, CO

*All students deserve to know the truth of our country and be inspired to build a more perfect union.*

Janis Johnson | Lewiston, ID

*Students should not be lied to. Their intelligence and good character should be respected. They should learn the truth of American history and make their own decisions about what they think and what kinds of people/citizens they want to be.*

Veronica Velez | Marysville, WA

T. Miller | Memphis, TN

*I feel that the truth matters and will be eventually heal many. For too long students, even I as an older American, have heard stories that shared a one sided view of this country. That view has often left many of this country's people feel left out, not a part of, and non purposeful. It's time to help a generation understand and accept the all of this country's history and start true healing that is needed for all Americans young, old and especially those who paid the price of sacrifice. If we don't teach CRT, why? Please don't say to keep one group comfortable or because one group will feel bad. That isn't sufficient because one group has already paved the road that one. The truth could set us all truly free and begin to wash the stain that has soaked so deeply in this country for far too long. Hey the truth is going to stand and come out anyway!*

Tiffany R. Payne-Griffin | Chicago, IL

*It is deplorable and completely unacceptable for people to navigate through life without understanding that this country and every privilege that non-Black people benefit from is due to the long reaching effects of slavery.*

Francois Dupuis | Enfield, CT

*This country cannot heal until everyone understands what the injuries are. The work of historians and sociologists in this field constitutes factual evidence that racism in America is systemic and that White Supremacist ideology continues to perpetuate willful ignorance and the myth of meritocracy in America.*

Susan Langlois | Wakefield, MA

*My students deserve to know the truth of our country's history - the good, the bad, the beautiful, the ugly. Our country is diverse and technology has made the world smaller. Without knowing true history, how can my kids grow to be fully free thinking adults? We need to work together to grow.*

Claire Carlstroem | Santa Ana, CA

Jennifer Jensen | Montclair, NJ

Josefina Padilla | Chino, CA

*I am committed "to develop critical thinking that supports students to better understand problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. [I am ] for truth-telling and uplifting the power of organizing and solidarity that move us toward a more just society."*

Tina Andres | Santa Ana, CA

*Truth must always be taught. Even if it is uncomfortable for some.*

Tracy king | Los Angeles, CA

*Children need to learn complete stories in order to grow up to become responsible, proactive citizens.*

Ellen Kaplan | Granada Hills, CA

*We are responsible to tell the truth not color it to suit whom ever is in power.*

Lee Wygand | San Jacinto, CA

*History should not be whitewashed!*

Shoshanna Holman | Eugene, OR

*It is my responsibility as an educator to provide multiple perspectives and voices in my classroom. My students deserve to learn the truth.*

Marjorie Mayen | La Mesa, CA

*We need to teach the people's truth, not a one sided, bias, romanticized, Eurocentric history.*

Leticia Nieto | Lacey, WA

*this is the moment to stand up for the truth that systemic racism is dehumanizing and it is the work of liberation to counter oppression in all its' forms.*

Priya Bradfield | North Hollywood, CA

Melissa Berlant | Sherman Oaks, CA

Kayla Davis | Irvine, CA

Elizabeth Macminn | Torrance, CA

*We need to teach the truth.*

Kimberly McDonald | Alhambra, CA

*Students must learn about our past to make sense of the world they will be in charge of making decisions for in a few years. Having an educated electorate who can vote with confidence after analyzing and debating topics is the whole point of a democratic republic.*

Carrie Scaife | Sandy, OR

*American history is the history of ALL American people, not just white dominant culture.*

Ben Beaupre | Owatonna, MN

*I believe teaching students about the problematic histories of our past helps us to not repeat our previous mistakes, gives us a strong we understanding of where we are now, and ensures that we provide the resources and thinking skills for a better future for our students and world.*

Adina Sobó | San Diego, CA

*Students deserve to know that biology does not work the way conservative, far-right members of the legislature claim it works. They are wrong about race, sexual identity, sexual preference, how women's reproductive organs work, global climate change, the need for regulations and oversight for pollution, and many other things.*

Kavita Krishna | Albuquerque, NM

Niki Scott | Kansas City, MO

*As a teacher, I will continue to teach history based in fact. Racism is a part of American History, as is slavery. To whitewash our history is to fail my students and I will do everything in my power to teach truth.*

Victoria Ramirez-Santiago | Nikolski, AK  
Ours kids deserve to know the real history.

Denise Maltese | Boiceville, NY  
Systemic sexism and racism have done damage in schools and it's time to upend the power system to create a more just and equitable future.

Cassie Howard | Orlando, FL  
To solve problems, we need to be able to name them.

Keane Burkett | Milwaukee, WI  
I am signing because I'm done with ignoring the truth about our history.

Amy Pippins | Las Vegas, NV  
Kids should be taught truths, and teachers should not be censored.

Kari Vadixx | Tacoma, WA  
My role is to educate my kids with the truth, even when...no, especially when it is uncomfortable. We cannot move forward until we all understand and face our history.

christine Hirsch | Oswego, NY  
Critical or not, racism is an issue in America and should be taught despite those who do not want to acknowledge it (consider those who viewed climate change and ecology as unreal or unnecessary...)

Andrew Notaro | Buffalo, NY  
The world in a classroom goes beyond just our own personal individual experiences that we have faced. I never learned in school that Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves with the sole intention to use them for the war, and then send them off to Liberia. That whole part of history never existed in my classroom. Why was that left out? I have taught in multiple schools with multiple socioeconomic statuses, and there is so much disconnect. Many teachers need to understand the struggles that exist out there in the world for POC, along with students. Whitewashing history to make America seem like the perfect place doesn't do anyone any justice. The way you learn is to analyze mistakes and build on them. That is when we can make true change and start building a country where everyone succeeds.

Alicia Williams | Issaquah, WA

Sam Becker | Worthington, MN  
I believe in teaching the truth, being transparent, and equipping all students with the knowledge of history as they move forward.

Stephanie Hammel | Arlington, VA  
Racism is real today and can be traced back to the foundation of the United States which was built on white supremacist ideas. More information about this historical truth leads to action, not guilt.

Ednie Garrison  
I have spent my entire life watching racist, sexist, homophobic, colonialist hate mongers try to prevent children from knowing the reality about our culture and history, and I am tired of having to work so hard to unbrainwash my students and then strategize ways for them to heal in the face of the deep sense of betrayal they experience when they learn a more truthful history.

Molly McGinnis | Grand Haven, MI  
I became an educator because of education's ability to make a positive change for marginalized groups. I refuse to jeopardize the safety of my minority students for the comfort of white supremacists.

Jolie Valentine | Canton, MI  
I did not learn about Vincent Chin's murder until I was in my 30s, even though he was killed a half hour from my home when I was 6. I did not learn about white Detroiters attempting to lynch Dr. Ossian Sweet until I was in my 40s, although I was assigned To Kill a Mockingbird multiple times. I did not learn the racial history of my own state, including sundown towns and redlining and restrictive covenants, or why my hometown had no Black residents, until middle-age. My students deserve better than I received – they deserve to know about their state and their community in age-appropriate ways, without huge important chunks of history being removed or sanitized to avoid hard conversations about race, privilege, power, and hatred. Kids see these things in their own lives and it is dishonest for adults to prevent them from having opportunities to learn and think and practice working through them. True and meaningful pride comes out of hard work.

Keith Morris | Albuquerque, NM  
Kids need to learn what the USA actually did, all the harm it's caused, and not the Carlson/Rufo/Confederate mythology

Kyle Brown | Katy, TX  
I feel they deserve to hear to truth, to struggle with it, and to reconcile with it. It is an insult to lie to them because some aren't capable of accepting the true history of our country.

elizabeth mancini | Middletown, CT  
Students need to understand issues from a variety of lenses and perspectives.

Kourtne Ballentine | Los Angeles, CA  
Honesty is the only way out of our problems.

Jonathan Beach | Sacramento, CA  
My students and the future citizens/voters of this country deserve to learn the whole truth about the history of this country and the role it has played in shaping the world we know today.

Kathryn Marocchino | Vallejo, CA  
I stand in solidarity with all the K-12 teachers who are being denied their right to teach the truth. As a professor within the California State University System, I am proud to know that our public institutions of higher learning have every intention of teaching CRT this coming fall semester, and will be closely scrutinizing in the classroom all the prejudice and racial inequities this country has perpetuated for years on minorities. Stand strong, educators! Don't let them win! If they try to stop you from teaching the truth, teach the truth anyway! And if they try to stop you again, every single one of you should walk off the job en masse! They can't fire every one of their teachers!

Amber Eby | Washington, DC

Sarah Nelson  
Our democracy depends on an educated populace.

David Lee Carlson | Phoenix, AZ

Tu Lieu Gross | Studio City, CA  
Truth matters. No good can come from sweeping our history under the rug.

Jennifer Robinson , WI  
we cannot destroy American history, true American history.

Patricia Smith | Tacoma, WA  
Healing requires that we tell the truth

kristin Miller | Whitestone, NY  
I pledge to continue to teach the truth.

manno anthony | Alameda, CA  
Two sources have guided me over the years: American Slavery, American Freedom, by Edmund Morgan, and the Virtual Jamestown website. Through them, I discovered that Virginia's planter class essentially created the concept of race in order to create racism, and separate poor whites and blacks from uniting to topple the corrupt Virginia order of things. With the settlement of South Carolina, that oppression deepened and spread.

Angela Russo | Tampa, FL

*We need to learn from the past, not cover it up.*

Leontina Hormel | Moscow, ID

*I am against the unconstitutional actions to censor dialog about US history and the country's dependence on settler colonialism, and the intersectional systems of oppression, including racism, sexism, classism, and homophobia.*

Jennifer Treadwell | La Mesa, CA

*I will teach the truth about this country's story!*

Jeff Bean | Big Rapids, MI

*We don't change until we see the reality.*

Mickalle Hoevelman | Rosharon, TX

*Teaching should be truth.*

Janice Morris | Columbia, MO

*There is ONE truth about the history of the USA whether or not the white Republican establishment wants to acknowledge it!*

Kris Lytle | Houston, TX

*I owe it to my diverse group of students to teach a true version of the history of music in America, at a grade-appropriate level.*

Luciany Melo da Silva | Philadelphia, PA

*#teachtruth*

Shelly Ehrke | Santa Monica, CA

*I pledge to teach the truth.*

Tyler Goble

*Teaching American history correctly and not through a biased faux-patriotic/right-wing lens is intellectually and morally important. I will not cave in or be pressured in teaching the subject I love so much this way.*

Jennifer Cordero | Cordova, TN

Susanne Sawyer | Columbia, MO

Karla Strand | Waukesha, WI

Emma Milius | Nevada, IA

*My students deserve to have all of the facts and make their own decisions and conclusions as the standards direct us to do.*

Steven Moreno-Terrill | Oceanside, CA

*It is necessary to cultivate and nourish a critical consciousness in our students through a humanizing education in order to create a just and democratic society. Teaching about the history and dynamics of race, racism, and white supremacy is a moral obligation for a society committed to justice and freedom. Limiting students' opportunities to learn about their own and others' histories undermines their growth toward becoming critically thinking, culturally competent, ethical, and compassionate members of society. Hiding histories of the inequalities, injustices, and racist violence that shaped and continue to shape the nation promotes a fantasy heritage and monocultural education that upholds white supremacy. Our students and communities deserve empowering opportunities to develop racial justice literacy through a socially just, culturally sustaining, and equity oriented education.*

Michel Coconis | Gahanna, OH

*the truth shall set you free...but first, it will scare you, it will cause a backlash, and, eventually, we will be on the right side of justice. I am not for indoctrination. I am for making sure that these ideas, so absent from curricula for most of the time have had too short of a moment in education. #CriticalThinkingRequiresFacts*

Jacqueline Roller | Sarasota, FL

*History must be taught.*

Ingrid Sabio-McLaughlin | Randallstown, MD

*I am signing because it is vital to our society that our citizenry understand our nation's history and how we have come to some of the disparities in our society. If we don't understand the past, we can't effectively create strategies for the future. Banning learning about history is anti-democratic.*

Tim Sieber | Dorchester, MA

*No matter how old we or our students are, we always need to seek to know and understand more about our truthful past, and to talk about it honestly. This is a life-long process.*

Nola Butler-Byrd | Spring Valley, CA

*Because Conservative Race Theory = modern-day racism must be stopped. Empathy, care, antiracism, inclusion, and true democratic practice must be taught in all of our schools in order for the U.S. to survive and thrive. We need to know our history so we can stop repeating it.*

Dawn Demps | Sahuarita, AZ

Tara Lockhart | San Francisco, CA

*truth is essential to education. We can not understand our present unless we understand our past, and how none of us are free until we are all free.*

Kimberlee Gregory | West Des Moines, IA

*Teaching the truth of history is important. It is also important because as a social worker it is important that I know the history in order to help my clients who may be dealing with traumatic events.*

Grace Helms-Kotre | Ann Arbor, MI

Amanda Skubick | Valley Village, CA

*Justice requires truth.*

Alexandro Ochoa | Watsonville, CA

*I am committed to the truth*

Anthony Franco | Middletown, RI

*I teach a course that would be considered "illegal" if legislation is passed. I'll still teach this course if legislation is passed.*

Parker Kershner | Canyon, TX

*We must teach our children all aspects of our history, no matter how ugly. We are not teaching children to hate white people or the concept of being white. We are teaching them to be critical thinkers and learn from the mistakes of our past so we can have a more tolerant society. I refuse to bow to conservative fear-mongering.*

AJ Craig-Salmon | Milwaukee, WI

*We can not expect children to grow up to be responsible, critical thinkers, and leaders if we do not teach them their history honestly and openly. Beyond the truth of George Santayana's famous quote about ignoring history, why would we ever want to teach our children that lying and hiding the truth and reality are not only appropriate behaviors, but are what we as a society value?*

Nicole Weingart | Gainesville, FL

*These laws and policies are restrictive to teachers and schools and discriminatory to people of color! This is racism and we cannot afford to have whole school systems lying to students about our country's past, present, or future!*

Robert Dice | New York, NY

Shanna Barkume | Columbia, MO



Hugh Janus | Saint Louis, MO

*I am proud to be joining this elite group of teachers who will not distinguish between political theory and truth and will not be bothered with the niceties of logic or rational thought. Untie!*

Mathea Morais | Vineyard Haven, MA

*I will only teach the truth to children*

Karen Halverson | Boulder, CO

*They can handle the truth!*

Sophie Teitelbaum | New Orleans, LA

*teaching anything other than truth is perpetuating white supremacy.*

Kathryn Ellison | Seattle, WA

*I don't lie to children and lies of omission are still lies.*

Elissa Levy | New York, NY

*Equity is everything.*

Christiana Sitbon | Wasilla, AK

*We have a responsibility to teach our children the truth about our history so that they can learn from it and create a better future. We live in a great nation. We need to teach children how to contribute and take pride in their communities.*

Laurel Brooks | Charlotte, NC

*I can't believe it has come to this, teachers need to pledge we will speak truth to our students? But here we are. Of course I will, that is the default my students deserve.*

Caden Sjogren | Eagle Lake, MN

*My students deserve to learn the truth, as well as the skills to process and apply it so we can improve as a society.*

Michael Coard | Philadelphia, PA

*History is truth and truth is essential to students and everyone else.*

Gargi Gangopadhyay | Oakland, CA

*my students deserve to know the truth!*

Kelly Yutesler | Alexandria, VA

*I refuse to teach lies because they make some people happy.*

Christopher Smith | Lubbock, TX

*I will not be intimidated into lying about or falsifying history by bad-faith actors who seek to threaten me.*

Ervanna Little Eagle | Marysville, WA

*I believe in the truth*

Julie Fanelli | Shelter Island, NY

Judith Pack | Red Bank, NJ

*People living in a democracy should be informed. Children should learn the truth of their country's history and not be told lies and fairy tales. Lee cannot be considered a beacon of fairness and light, an example for the world, unless our citizens know the truth and work to make the U.S. actually live up to its ideals.*

Jenifer Bement | Grandville, MI

Teresa Tenorio | Las Cruces, NM

Stuart Greene | Granger, IN

Cindy Muralles | Madison, WI

*We need to teach the real history of this country in order not to repeat the past...*

gina m sully | Buffalo, NY

*Facts matter.*

Janice Law | Tampa, FL

*Only dictatorships and fascists deny truths. I will not be part of that and will always fight against efforts to limit truths in history and education. The easiest way to control a populace is to keep them from asking questions.*

Velia Cortalano

Marybeth Pacilio | Mattituck, NY

*Plain and simple, I refuse to lie to my students.*

Lawrence Ruich | Ferris, TX

Sandra Rigo | Staten Island, NY

*My history has been muddled in lies. I'm interested in truth to resolve today's problems and to avoid future problems in society.*

Gwen Johnston | Seattle, WA

*Critical thinking should be embedded in our educational system. They don't need to be "taught" anything in particular...just given the tools to be able to critically think about and assess our history and the structures of systemic racism in our society. They draw their own conclusions and connections.*

Adam Howard | Waterville, ME

*Truth is important!*

Tomoko Yokooji | Honolulu, HI

Jenna Brito | Tucson, AZ

*I will not let the white establishment silence me. I will continue to teach an accurate account of history. This includes teaching about how racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc is deeply embedded into our society and how it continues to shape our experiences.*

Helen Murdoch | Santa Barbara, CA

*It is important to teach the truth*

Cristina Cordova | Perrysburg, OH

*My students need to know the true history of this country.*

Robin Pugh | San Francisco, CA

*You can't truly teach real estate in the US without teaching the history of redlining and other discriminatory practices that cheat Black and Brown Americans out of the opportunity to build wealth. Students can't understand the world they live in without knowledge of how it got that way. This is why we require the study of history to graduate. I stand with my fellow educators who commit to teaching the full history of the US and developing critical thinking so students can better understand and improve how we all live and work together on this planet.*

Victor Luftig | Charlottesville, VA

*Among the most important educational institutions in the United States today are the 1619 Project initiative of the New York Times, the Learning for Justice Curriculum of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Zinn Education Project, American children deserve first-rate educations, not obfuscations and lies.*

Jacqueline Arnold | Columbia, MO

*Teachers are getting doxxed online for trying to support our students' rights to their own history. I am tired of the truth being buried.*

Omar Dphrepaulezz | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Jennifer Graves | North Haven, CT

Michelle Sánchez | Denver, CO

Darlene Fortier | Santa Fe, NM

*We need to teach truth to our students. Anything less, and we will lose their trust. We need to respect their ability to think critically. Teaching our true history, as it unfolded through time, is that respect.*

Eliza Korshin | Lemon Grove, CA

*Our students deserve it.*

Jackie Taylor | Vancouver, WA

*It is our role as educators to teach our students how to find and know the truth, how to determine credible sources and how to think critically.*

C Lukens | Wausau, WI

*integrity is of the utmost importance to me as an educator.*

Jessica Cummings | Columbia, MO

*The truth is important.*

Colleen Lindsay | Brush Prairie, WA

Katy Swalwell | Des Moines, IA

*Our kids deserve the truth.*

Dr. Wanda Toro-Zambrana | Ann Arbor, MI

*The truth will bring freedom and reconciliation. Then we will be free..*

Casey Schoenborn | Columbia, MO

Cameron White | Friendswood, TX

*Truth matters*

Kimber Scott | Albuquerque, NM

*Changing history is a lie. Truth should win.*

Anne Schwartz | Charlottesville, VA

*I teach my Kindergarten students how important it is for them to tell the truth. And in that vein, it is important that they are taught the truth of history. Maybe one day they will grow up to fight for social justice and create a world where truth matters.*

Hannah Cardenas | Monrovia, CA

Jennifer Fowler | Mckinleyville, CA

Jennifer Monson | Denver, CO

Heather Harris | New Orleans, LA

*History matters. I will never participate in the silencing of truth.*

Lia Lynch | New York, NY

Mike Slys | Kouts, IN

*Our kids deserve the truth and the facts.*

William Leubsdorf | Washington, DC

*My students deserve to know the truth about US history. Teaching them lies is bad teaching and unpatriotic. Loving this country is not about forcing people to believe falsehoods. It is about building a just society that represents our best ideals, and giving students the tools to create that just society.*

Jason Stuart | Albuquerque, NM

*Facts matter.*

Levis Becker CA

*Myth making is embarrassing. Let's be honest with our students. They are amazing. If we don't talk about the wrongs that have happened then those wrongs will continue to happen.*

Maria Rogahn | Albuquerque, NM

Anna Grant | Jasper, IN

*Human histories are complex and diverse! My students deserve to see themselves in the histories shared within my school community.*

Sydney Glenn-Morgan | Oakland, CA

*Telling the truth matters.*

Phillip DeSousa | Lumberton, NJ

Quiana Washington | Mesa, AZ

*Black Lives Matter and the truth must prevail.*

Emily Bushmann | Columbia, MO

*The truth matters and children deserve an honest education.*

Sonia Thacher | Oakland, CA

*Young people need and deserve to know real things about our country, in order to see themselves rightly as worthy and able help shape its future.*

Claire Majerus | Columbia, MO

*Racism is systemic. The only chance we have at eradicating it is to teach children the truth.*

Kristin Sims | Waldoboro, ME

Jessica Saltat | Columbia, MO

*I made a vow to teach ALL students. I cannot adequately do my job for the ALL without teaching the truth of the struggles that so many of our citizens have withstood. It is our job as educators to teach the whole truth. Even when it may be uncomfortable. Our students deserve the right to knowledge as a whole to form their own opinions.*

Jennifer Lee | Temple, TX

*Every student deserves the truth.*

MICHAEL CARTER | Lynnwood, WA

Evan Bourgeois | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe in teaching truth, I believe in righting wrongs, and I believe in the power of humanity to make the world a better place.*

Erick Hernandez | Albuquerque, NM

*our students deserve to know the truth and they deserve an unsanitized version of history.*

Jay Barbuto | Phoenix, AZ

History shouldn't be hidden. Facts are facts.

Grace O'Keeffe | Jersey City, NJ

Andrew Yamakaitis | East Orange, NJ

*The truth needs to be taught every single day*

Abigail Breiseth | Baltimore, MD

*Our nation's civic crisis is arguably a direct result of our failure to teach our history and our civics - at all, to say nothing of well. In my state, history was the first subject on the chopping block in times of low education funding. We MUST do better. I only hope we haven't already missed our window to create the educated populace necessary for the preservation of democracy.*

Jatera Simmons | Bronx, NY

*Promoting an already majority white centered history that also seeks to ban and ignore the contributions of blacks, POC, women and others merely because knowledge of such challenges the status quo and makes people uncomfortable...is fascist and anti democratic.*

Rena Smith | Albuquerque, NM

Sheryl Sargent | Happy Valley, OR

*I won't lie to children. They deserve truth.*

Christopher Gannon | Herndon, VA

*each student deserves a complete education that includes critically examining difficult topics.*

Joni Jameson | Lilburn, GA

*I refuse to be complicit in attempts to marginalize others and perpetuate lies. The truth means we love our country otherwise why fight so hard to save its soul! If you are not uncomfortable on a regular basis you are privileged and delusional.*

Sarah Henley | Columbia, MO

Sheridan Lorraine | Merritt Island, FL

*Every U.S. citizen must know the truth about the way that minority groups had to struggle in order to achieve the rights that were included in "all men are created equal." They need to understand the causes of our policies and laws and the continuum we are on to ensure that everyone - regardless of gender identity, sexual identity, racial, ethnic, and language identity - is given their "inalienable rights."*

Pamela Weissnar | Van Nuys, CA

Aradhana Mudambi | Webster, MA

*As educators, it is not our jobs to put forth false propaganda but to teach all of the truth, the decolonized history, so that students can think for themselves.*

Tony Watkins | Albuquerque, NM

*Without an analysis of how our society became so unequal children of all colors internalize harmful, unhealthy, and inaccurate assumptions about who they are and where they live.*

Gregg Burke | Bristol, RI

*I have always tried to teach my students how to think, not what to think.*

Susan Warrow | Beverly Hills, MI

*I resented not learning the truth about our history when I was in high school. I became a teacher to make sure the truth gets told.*

Whitner Schellingerhoudt | Richfield, MN

Janette Corcelius | Lorton, VA

Kerri Stith | Columbia, MO

*We must teach everyone the true history*

Leia Brooks | Columbia, MO

*the truth matters; no matter what legislators or ill-informed people think. As an educator, it is my job to provide the truth and encourage students to think critically.*

Meredith Fichman | Norwalk, CT

*The children deserve an honest education and a better future.*

Heather Knight | Los Angeles, CA

*"Silence ensures that history repeats itself." –Erin Gruwell*

Jessica Justice | Renton, WA

*Because you can't heal if you don't examine hard truths.*

Danyelle L Matthews | Adrian

*I believe teaching our youth the real history of this country will help them develop empathy and compassion as they will be the leaders sooner than later.*

Elise Schebler Roberts | Plymouth, MN

Mark Peifer | Chapel Hill, NC

*We can best face the future with the facts in hand. Otherwise our children will learn we're lying and never trust us again.*

Ann Niederkorn | Cambridge, MA

*This matters*

Linda Vandepopuliere | Columbia, MO

*It is critical that accurate and truthful history be taught. Students need to understand the past in order to understand our present situation and to make a better future.*

Jessica RODARTE | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth is the only way.*

Bill Cupp | Columbia, MO

David Cochran | Cartersville, IL

Amanda Frank | Belmont, VT

Sidney Dace | Columbia, MO

Ava Hacker | Stanton, CA

Darin Stockdill | Ann Arbor, MI

*It is my responsibility as an educator to speak up for what is right and true.*

Katie Siphon | Columbia, MO

Daniel Noyes | Seattle, WA

*I want to show support to my colleagues who have a harder go teaching our subject outside of the bubble that is Seattle due to fragile and self-serving legislators and voters.*

Karl Marx | Bellmead, TX

MacKenzie Everett-Kennedy | Columbia, MO

Teaching history based in truth matters.

JuanDiego Montemayor | Los Angeles, CA

Truth matters

Roger Moreano | Gurnee, IL

Jennifer Samaniuk | Colonie Town of, NY

My students knowing the truth is more important than keeping white peoples comfortable.

Susannah Livingston | Little Rock, AR

All knowledge is political and true patriots love their country enough that they nature it so it can grow in the right direction for all its citizens.

Tamra Snell | Austin, TX

Maggie LaRiviere | Bingen, WA

Their story, our story, her story all matter as history.

Katie Keier | Alexandria, VA

Abby Cohen | Newton Highlands, MA

Truth is still important!

Traci Jensen | Houston, TX

You can't talk about history without the critical piece. Please do not legislate on something you know nothing about.

Kathy Cook | Minneapolis, MN

Robin Fischer | Buffalo, NY

You cannot teach lies or evade the truth of American history

Deborah Shishido | New York, NY

Nicole Castine | Buffalo, NY

Stacey York | Spring Valley, MN

Systemic oppression is a root cause of injustice and it negatively impacts children's development and well being. A democratic government should not be allowed to silence or ban a major theory because it's inconvenient or uncomfortable.

David Boehnke | Minneapolis, MN

I will do this!

Alexa Chestnut | Columbia, MD

Joe Koeppen | Sheboygan Falls, WI

I will continue to teach the truth

Martha Gensemer-Ramirez | Durham, NC

Amy Schlessman | Annandale, VA

I believe in teaching students the truth and giving them skills to make a better world.

Daria Bliss | Bellaire, MI

Our students are the best hope we have to build the America we want to see in the future. In order for them to be able to do this, they must learn the whole truth about our past and present.

Kelly Walker | Brooklyn, NY

the only way America lives up to its promise is through telling the truth to our young people. Only then might this country become as inclusive and as free as it's always promised to be.

Anne Campbell | Seattle, WA

Sabrina Alli | Brooklyn, NY

Jodi LePla | Hillsboro, OR

We all deserve to learn the truth, but even more so our Black, Indigenous, and Students of Color deserve better.

Sue Bruce | Branford, CT

We have dismissed true historical education for too long, and it stops now!

Titania McGrath | Pinckney, MI

Mimi Goldman | Ithaca, NY

Christina Vasquez | Oswego, NY

Everyone should know the truth about the world we live in. We will only move forward when we truly understand our past actions.

Elizabeth Bertsch | Bridgehampton, NY

I teach real history.

Maureen Curtin | Syracuse, NY

Anne Fairbrother | Oswego, NY

We need to look at history honestly - seeing it from different perspectives - not just the "party line" that people are trying to impose on us. Tell the truth. We owe it to our young people so they have a chance to fix the mess we are in.

Casey Towne | Oswego, NY

I teach students to use the process of statistics to collect, organize, summarize and analyze data. Viewing history through a statistical lens identifies discrepancies between historical fact and fiction all while providing critical thinking opportunities.

Michael Augustine | Seattle, WA

As James Baldwin put it best: "I love America more than any other country in the world and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually."

Glenn Sato | Santa Monica, CA

Christine Thompson | Chicago, IL

Jennifer Diamond | Seattle, WA

Amy Treadwell | Chicago, IL

Mark Roudané | Saint Paul, MN

Our historical amnesia, especially with respect to Black history, is shameful. Anti-racist education is urgently needed!

Jessika ochoa | National City, CA

Johanna Trout | Billings, MT

Students need experience with discussing and responding as a community to current events. If we can teach students how to listen to each other and discuss what is happening around them with their friends they will have an essential skill that will benefit them their whole lives!

Heather Epps | Lakeland, FL

The truth needs to be told.

Michelle Holmquist | Sun Prairie, WI

*Educators have a unique opportunity to influence the future, and I pledge to make sure I do my part to help the next generation embrace our diversity and find strength in unity by teaching them the truth about our past and our present.*

Karin Wilhelm-Safian | San Jose, CA

*Not being able to teach the hard parts of history has led to a lot of the problems we have today.*

Elaine Baca | Monterey, CA

*I have "lied" too many years. Once you know you are compelled to do better.*

Brianne Logan | Laurel, MT

*It's the right thing to do.*

Molly Sterner | San Diego, CA

*This is absolutely disgusting. I currently teach about white supremacy and colonialism in my third-grade classroom.....And will continue to do so!*

Lindsay Yellen | San Francisco, CA

*It's about time we face our history and arm students with the facts of our complicated past. Having the opportunity to examine the often ignored perspectives and narratives of the past will enable students to become stand up citizens and strong allies for equity. The outcome will be greater freedom for all.*

Annelise Meunier | Oakland, CA

*Banning teachers from teaching their students about the complex and rich history that made their country is to destroy that same country by making students ignorant, single-minded and unable to make the right decisions for their own life, but also for their community. How do you expect one to understand their place in a society if they do not have the tools to understand it and its history? How do you expect one to make thoughtful decisions if their perspective is reduced to one story from one point of view? Let's help our students be successful by giving them all the tools they need to move forward on a clearly thought out path.*

Laurie Van Roekel | Billings, MT

*I believe our children must know the truth of the history of our country in order to learn from it and build a stronger, more unified country in the future.*

Sara Kane | Billings, MT

*Our community deserves the truth. Our students need authentic experiences. We must confront the hard parts in order to bring brighter days.*

Amy Wilkinson | Lemoore, CA

*Censorship in any form is wrong. I don't even teach history, but I do teach context, and you can't make anything relevant without an honest discussion of the context of the work and it's relevance to today. Banning the discussion of systemic racism is in itself, systemic racism.*

Helena Gougeon | Redmond, WA

*I believe the truth needs to be taught and the nuances of history are complex, using critical theory allows for deeper understanding of who we are as Americans and as humans.*

Anne-Bernadette Weiner | Chicago, IL

Kimberley Lord | Saint Albans, VT

*I care about teaching the truth and feel it is essential to our future.*

Alaura Cook | Milwaukee, WI

Megan Salinas | Manor, TX

Cap Wilhelm-Safian | San Jose, CA

*We cannot become "a more perfect union" without confronting the injustices of our shared past.*

Linda Serrato | Chico, CA

*We need to teach the true history of the U.S. or our country is doomed.*

matt m | Austin, TX

Brigette Hutchison, TX

*This is important. Children deserve to have a well rounded education with an understanding of CRT & other current events.*

María Teresa Harris | San Diego, CA

*If I am not truthful with my students I am disrespecting them. I will not do that. I*

Dabney Rigby | Austin, TX

*Teaching CRT is a no brainer, and in no way more potentially harmful than carrying on without it. It is a long overdue reckoning, and it is what we OWE to current and future generations, as it will very likely begin a foundational awakening and restructuring of the realities of racism within the hearts of individuals, which, as James Baldwin and so many others taught us, is where it is needed the most in order to help steer this country and the world towards a more fair and equitable, as well as safe society.*

Kelly Benedetti | Tampa, FL

*Facing and grappling with the racism, sexism, and other oppressive worldviews that got baked into enduring policy outcomes is vital for the pursuit of the equality our country purports to bestow.*

Alison Sullivan | Traverse City, MI

*my students deserve the truth. As Ibram Kendi says, if we love our country, we need to be honest about what it is.*

Raquel de Hoyos | San Diego, CA

*The truth is the only way to explain our present. Black people deserve better. By understanding our county's true history we can begin to understand how to better accomplish this.*

Wendy Eccles | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*As a US History teacher it is unconscionable that politicians and history deniers are trying to stifle the people's history, the good, the bad, AND the ugly, in favor of a whitewashed, incomplete, and incorrect account of our past.*

Karyn Young | Woodland, CA

*I believe in an open, honest, truthful, developmentally appropriate presentation of history, with the goal of developing important critical thinking skills and social conscience.*

Meghan Schimmel | Fresno, CA

*History taught from all perspectives matters.*

Gwendolyn Rogers | Providence, RI

*We should not be teachers if we are looking to halt progress for ourselves the world around us.*

Shelly Ehrke | Santa Monica, CA

Arianna Barzman-Grennan | Elk Grove, CA

*It matters that we teach our students accurate information. Without the truth, we cannot hope to have a more informed, knowledgeable population of students and citizens.*

Ruth Luevanos | Simi Valley, CA

*I refuse to teach lies to students.*

Shari Tarbet | Albuquerque, NM

*It is imperative that we all know the kaleidoscope of history.*

Diana Gonzalez | Anaheim, CA

Jane Silva | Vista, CA

*We need to teach the truth about our history, so we can learn from it. #STEAM #SEL*

Anna Castillo | Watsonville, CA

*the truth is the only thing that should be taught in schools.*

Susie Merrick | South Burlington, VT

*As an educator, I have a moral obligation to know, understand, and teach truth-centered history. I am especially passionate about this since I grew up at a time when history was not taught in an accurate, truthful way. As a result, I continue to unlearn what I learned in my own public school in order to re-learn an accurate truth.*

John Breen | Chicago, IL

*I refuse to whitewash history*

Sandra Camp | San Francisco, CA

*Teaching accurate history is the only way to ensure that we don't repeat the same mistakes.*

Nicole Hsu | San Francisco, CA

*We must stand up and fight to expose the truth—always!*

Deborah Riddle | Chicago, IL

*If children don't learn their history, they're destined to repeat it. Also, we learn about Crispus Atticus, Ben Franklin, Christopher Columbus etc., why not OUR truth????*

Adam Geisler | Chicago, IL

*we must defend the importance of truth and justice.*

beth Bartolini-Salimbeni | Corrales, NM

*We strive to teach the difference between fact and opinion; how does one do that by ignoring "what happened?" . . . Or, perhaps Napoleon got it right when he said that "history is a set of lies agreed upon."*

Jennifer Becker | Grand Rapids, MI

Yolonda Kelsor | Cincinnati, OH

*A people who do not know their history are lost! As a lifelong learner, I was taught to be a critical thinker and I don't want this opportunity taken from generations to come. I am a retired educator and my mother was also an educator and a retired librarian. I want all children and young people, especially those who look like me are of an Indigenous background to know the struggles we faced and decide on ways to make the future better.*

Joseph Miller | San Mateo, CA

*I believe in this cause. Thank you for making the effort.*

Julia Snippen | Richmond, CA

*CRT is essential to moving forward with our eyes and hearts open. CRT is essential to moving toward justice for BIPOC and all marginalized communities and people. CRT is essential so children can think for themselves.*

Eric Guthertz | Oakland, CA

Lydia Rose | Chattanooga, TN

*Students without the truth of their history are misguided and have no sense of pride. I have tutored students and discovered that they didn't know about important events in history - The Trail of Tears/Indian Removal, Black Wall Street, Residential Schools, Reconstruction, etc. This can't continue.*

Sharon Merritt | Fresno, CA

Melissa Nelson | New Hampton, IA

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Rick Roadruck | Evergreen, CO

*Truth matters and we must learn from the past to improve the future*

Nicola Turnet | Saint Paul, MN

*I want the truth to be told.*

Sandy Amos | San Francisco, CA

*Teaching the truth about our nation is essential to understanding who America is and how it can live up to its promise.*

Glenn Appell | Pleasant Hill, CA

*The laws that have been passed in a number of states are blatant historical lies about our history!*

Emily Scroggs | Oakland, CA

*It is incredibly important for students to learn more than just a white-washed, glorified account of history*

Tyler Riggs | Portland, OR

Glenetta Krause | Cincinnati, OH

*The truth is the ONLY THING that will set us free.*

Chelsea Killam | Argyle, TX

Janell Stojkovich | Corona Del Mar, CA

*The truth should always be heard. You can't learn from the past if you don't know the truth's past.*

Gretchen Brion-Meisels | Cambridge, MA

*Facing our history is the only way for us to begin to move toward a process of truth, reconciliation and reparations. Our children deserve our honesty.*

tara sessa | San Francisco, CA

*I am a parent and teacher and kids need to know the truth.*

Nancy Herard-Marshall

*I do not believe in teaching my child "alternative" facts. He and all children need to learn about the true history of the United States and the current laws so that they can continue the fight for equality and justice for all.*

Rachel Barker | Dallas, TX

*I refuse to allow history to repeat itself through ignorance and allowing hate to fester.*

Elena Allen | San Francisco, CA

*As a white teacher, I can't teach students of color without acknowledging my white privilege. Power dynamics, and thus race, is part of every conversation we have as humans.*

Izzy Hendry | San Francisco, CA

*Only through truth can we find healing*

Alexandra Kirby | Salem, MA

*students have a right to be presented with historical fact and to be encouraged to think critically. Classrooms are meant to be safe spaces where dialogic opportunities arise, and the historical, systemic injustices in our country are worthy of discussion. Denial of certain topics in the classroom denies students'*

*freedom and antithesizes American values.*

Rebecca Flores | Austin, TX

*It is imperative we teach our students revisionist history, and teach them the ways white supremacy manifests in our society. In order for us to have a more just and equitable society we must teach our students how to critically examine systems of power and to push back and be agents of change.*

Melissa Santa-Cruz | Milwaukee, WI

Michelle Power | Port Orchard, WA

*Revisionist history is a lie and we owe it to the students of this country to pledge to teach the whole truth.*

Macquin Brockington | Mattapan, MA

*I stand for truth and justice. I refuse to lie about history and systems that have ramifications today.*

Susannah Livingston | Little Rock, AR

*Knowledge is never neutral, and education is deterministic*

Cheryl Hart | Westbrook, ME

*We must hear all the voices of all the people who lived, or are living, as our country's story continues to unfold. Examining, questioning, and understanding our history as fully as possible - the noble and the shameful, the bitter arguments and hard-won agreements, the creativity and innovation, exclusion, racism, violence, courage, hate, peace, corruption, activism, fear, compassion - will help us learn, grow, and thrive as a people and mature as a society. This work can be at once messy and uplifting, hard, contentious, and exhilarating. But it can't be ignored because it's difficult or because facing hard truths is damned uncomfortable - not if we're serious about realizing the aspirations we claim to have about living in a just and inclusive country. The proposed bans on what's been labeled "critical race theory" are yet another attempt to avoid the truth, and a search for the truth, about our history as a people, as a country. Why so much fear of truth-seeking? This isn't a zero-sum game. As challenging as it most definitely can be, we're all lifted by facing the truth and working honestly to understand care about one another.*

*This is how we move forward, how we metabolize conflict and trauma and use that energy to help us grow. Shifting the study of history in schools to reflect a fuller telling of our country's story can be done with sensitivity and respect for students' developmental ages, stages, and readiness. Isn't it quintessentially "American" to ask questions and to seek the truth? When did this process become "indoctrination?" Quite simply, it isn't. It's our job, as educators, to help our students learn to think for themselves, not to tell them what to think. Their learning, their understanding, and their development as active, engaged, informed citizens, is supported when we look for truth - not when we settle for lies designed to keep us comfortable and to perpetuate a fragmented, underdeveloped, and incomplete narrative.*

Cheryl Lindstrom | Ocala, FL

Kimberly Boland | Pittsfield, MA

Ebony Murph | Far Rockaway, NY

*I have signed an oath as an educator to teach the truth and will continue to do so, despite lawmakers' attempts to thwart the truth. Knowledge and critical thinking are the most significant parts of a student's education, and I will not jeopardize the future of our country by providing misinformation to young people who look to us as role models. Legislators have absolutely no right to implement said laws because doing so would be unconstitutional, and lawmakers need to uphold the Constitution at all costs. I will do everything in my power to continue educating our youth about racial discrimination, social injustices, systemic inequality, etc so that we keep moving towards a hate-free world.*

Arisa Hiroi | San Francisco, CA

*Forcible omission of truth for the sake of propaganda goes against the values of democracy we supposedly preach as a country. Students need to know all sides.*

Maureen Sullivan | San Francisco, CA

*Our students deserve to learn about their history and this country's history.*

Paula Annicchiarico | San Diego, CA

*History is truth. Facts are truth. It's important to know the truth so we can learn from it to build a more perfect Union. White Supremacy does not want Democracy For The People. White-washing the truth will never help this world.*

Lisa Hiltbrand | Oakland, CA

Hannah Lippstreuier | Milwaukee, WI

*Especially as a history teacher, I'd rather be fired than lie to young adults about the reality of the past and present. They deserve to know the ENTIRE narrative of the U.S. from all perspectives.*

Lynn Wolf | Chelsea, MI

*As a retired teacher, I am still connected to children in many ways. Just because I am no longer in the classroom, does not mean that I ignore the truth that education should provide.*

Margaret Egler | San Diego, CA

*History needs to tell the full story of our attempts and our failures to create a multi racial democracy.*

Susan Katz | Berkeley, CA

*I believe strongly in telling the truth about race and racism.*

Ronald Nober | Southampton Twp, NJ

*only through learning & understanding the truth of our history can we begin to understand each other.*

Anne Carey | Newton, MA

*I am committed to helping young people understand how our country developed and how they can contribute to building a just and equitable society today. Being honest matters.*

Sharon Lanza | West Hartford, CT

*I believe in justice. All Americans must be included in our teaching of history, not a white-centered, polished half-history. History must include mistakes (so we do better) as well as victories, in order to understand where we are in present day and where we will go in the future.*

Michelle McElwaine | Hull, MA

*Our children need to know the gruesome history of enslavement and colonialism to understand the harm that has been done to Black and Indigenous peoples. This is our only hope for a future in which freedom, justice, joy, and the natural world unseat whiteness and reign supreme. "Until we are all free, we are none of us free." -Emma Lazarus*

Jennifer Bennifield | Jonesboro, GA

*History is not history unless every truth is revealed. No matter how painful that truth may be.*

Anna O'Brien

*learning hard history and the impact of slavery, the failed Reconstruction, Jim Crow and the resultant, persistent inequalities are imperative topics in our collective American story . If we aim to continue to form a "more perfect union", there is no other way forward than to take an open-eyed, honest look at this. I can't teach any other way.*

Hinda Joy Laury | Bellmead, TX

*TRUTH has always needed to be taught. Ignorance is disastrous. If the majority acknowledges the truth, many more will come forward to demand change to this white supremacist oligarchy we fight for survival in. We should stand tall together. As a teacher, I have refused to teach their lies.*

Sam Jordan | Palmer, AK

Arielle Nagle | San Francisco, CA

*We can't keep lying. The truth will set us free.*

Stephanie Collins | Chicago, IL

Jenny Davis | Rosemount, MN

*our students deserve to learn the truth about structural and systematic racism.*

Sara Townsend | Rio Linda, CA

*We can't move forward as a country until we teach the truths of our history.*

Colton Reetz | Des Moines, IA

Mary Molnar | Pasadena, CA  
*The truth matters.*

Leslie Grabel | Flagstaff, AZ  
*The truth needs to be told*

Danielle Lewis | New York, NY

*Children and adults deserve to explore the hard parts of history and work through it together, for the sake of clear-eyed justice.*

Julia Fliss | Evergreen, CO

*I teach truth.*

Laura Blanco | Milwaukee, WI

*This matters.*

Deborah Kennedy | Southington, CT

*I believe that a healthy democracy needs discourse based on reliable sources and transparency, not on the opinion, of a part of the population, that believes in conspiracies and false narratives.*

Marissa Pienaar | San Leandro, CA

*Sankofa, tells us you must look back to see where you are going. In order to move to a collective future where everyone can thrive, the truth of the past is necessary. We can't get to freedom without first acknowledging truth.*

Colleen Birchett | New York, NY

*I am committed to this cause.*

Michael Jordan | Midland, TX

*I refuse to lie to my students about the history of race relations in the United States*

Dominic Inouye | Milwaukee, WI

Tracy Kwock | Blacksburg, VA

*Our students deserve the opportunity to learn about all of our nation's history, for without it, then we are not preparing them to think critically or act responsibly in our democratic society.*

Mike Van Pelt | Milwaukee, WI

*Once again. If you don't learn the past, how can you improve the future?*

Beverly Allebach | Chicago, IL

Diane Burton UM

*Our children need to know the truth!!!!*

Marie Taylor | Portland, OR

*history matters.*

Jim Connolly, CA

Jim Connolly, CA

David Carlson | San Antonio, TX

*I oppose prior restrictions on freedom of speech, and I oppose indoctrination of young people. I support the First Amendment and our democratic and civil rights.*

Vaughn Benjamin | New York, NY

*It is important to know and understand who we are and where we come from in order to know where we are going. There are multiple perspectives to accept and consider. Our society will improve when young people can critically think, analyze and make decisions based on truth. Truth is not binary.*

Alejandro Ramos | Winters, CA

William Sell | Milwaukee, WI

*The fight against antiracism is a fraud. It's quite like fighting sunshine.*

Avilee Goodwin | Richmond, CA

*My students deserve the chance to learn the actual history of what this country is and has been.*

NANCY WHEELIS | Round Rock, TX

*Our freedom to teach our students the truth must NOT be taken away.*

Nicole Butler | Ogden, UT

*You can't change facts. Even if they're inconvenient. Don't be so afraid of Gen Z – we're teaching them to go through the difficult reality of our country and come out the other side with empathy and awareness of how people can end up so frightened of the truth. They'll be understanding toward you, but they won't tolerate your b.s. And then you'll grow too. Growth is a good thing; trust me, I'm an educator.*

William Wilson | Pendleton, SC

*I believe in truth!*

Rebecca Russell | New Port Richey, FL

*I pledge to teach the truth, regardless of what was passed on Friday by the Board of Education and signed into law by Governor DeSantis. My students deserve nothing less.*

Michael Surgeon | Medford, OR

Lisa Waszak | Milwaukee, WI

*All children need to hear the truth. We need to end systemic racism, not perpetuate it.*

Jennifer Collier | Kenosha, WI

Lauren Calig | Shaker Heights, OH

*Until we teach the truth about systemic racism, we will not be able to change the systems.*

jacqueline fawaz | Atlanta, GA

*The USA is a democratic country, truth about our history and that of others is crucial in making sure there is equity for all adding transparency to ensure justice and prevent wrongs from being repeated.*

Matt Wiegand | Carson City, NV

*Not teaching about systemic racism is a great example of systemic racism.*

Amanda Laister | Monmouth, OR

Jamie Call | Ogden, UT



Teach the truth.

Cecilia Robinson | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

*All children will be better humans when they hear the stories of all people from multiple perspectives*

Gaye Nickles | Reno, NV

*We used Zinn as our major textbook and supplemented with original materials; that was the right decision.*

Tanya Frierson | Marietta, GA

*The truth can't be censored and we need to encourage critical thinking and critical conversations in and out of the classroom.*

Derek Koehl | Huntsville, AL

*Attempts to censor learning are un-American. Compromising the education of our youth to score political points with white supremacists is despicable.*

Demiana Ghobrial | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Andra Burns | Atlanta, GA

*Because truth matters. History matters. And Black and Brown students matter.*

Lisa Steffen | Gurnee, IL

*Our kids must learn from our history in the effort to not repeat our mistakes.*

Charles Hamilton | Elkton, MD

*I teach in DE and I have had many students of color and the fact that all students regardless of color need to hear the truth, however ugly, about the history of the United States. I love my country but and, maybe because of that, the truth about race and other issues like gender and sexual identity needs to be told unfettered and honestly so that students can learn and make up their own minds about our country and how to make it better for all.*

Christine Truscello | Fair Lawn, NJ

*my students deserve a shot at understanding, questioning, and demanding change for their futures.*

Leo Wolf | Chicago, IL

Adrienne Martin , DE

Jennifer Ward | Canton, GA

Charlotte Shepherd

*In order to develop critical thinking skills that students need to become good citizens and our future problem solvers, students must be taught the entire, unadulterated truth about our nation's history - all the good and bad together without bias.*

Karen Packer | Sherman Oaks, CA

*Lies kill and destroy. Truth supports life.*

Josh Nixon | Hickory, NC

*students need to understand the problems of America's past and present in order to form a better future, and it's essential for teachers to guide their students through the struggles of coming to grips with reality.*

Christopher Naze | Portland, OR

Jenny Padgett | Cupertino, CA

Caryl Crowell | Tucson, AZ

*even though I am no longer a classroom teacher, I still volunteer in classrooms and work with teachers through professional development. I pledge that the books I share with children, and the learning experiences I promote and use to engage teachers and students will be representative of the histories of ALL the people in the room.*

James Zartler | Portland, OR

Shara Troutner | Cleveland, TN

*Political positioning and government overreach should never be allowed to dictate the instruction of a trained educator.*

Chris Padgett | Sacramento, CA

*Teaching lies about the past keeps us sick, and the only way we get healthy is by truthful diagnosis of our past.*

Anna Grizzard | Round Rock, TX

*I believe educators should teach the truth.*

Starla Dawngmatar12@y | Phoenix, AZ

*All people no matter their but especially children deserve to know our history and they deserve the opportunity to discuss what they hear and learn also. You can not outlaw history that already has been lived by so many.*

Marisa Gomez | San Rafael, CA

Brandon backhaus | Pasadena, CA

*Decolonizing the classroom is an important step to teaching the truth. It is the opposite of seditious, traitorous, or cowardly. It is the most patriotic thing an educator can do is to reject the white supremacy that ignores the lessons we can learn from our past misdeed, lessons that will make us a stronger, more adaptable, just, united nation.*

Patsy Spendlove | Marshall, TX

*The truth matters, liking the truth is irrelevant.*

Liz Willis | Paoli, PA

*It is my responsibility as an American historian, educator, and school leader to ensure that students are told the truth about human experience in all of its complexity, to effectively prepare them to engage with the world.*

Zoe Harris | Stamford, CT

*I believe in empowering my students through relating to their culture, identity, and experiences. My role as a teacher is not to only teach them music, but teach them about how to be a good person, develop relationship with others, and make good decisions. Critical race theory, if taught right, should be a way to empower students and help them think critically about situations they find themselves in.*

Kara Applegate | Kalamazoo, MI

*Education is the backbone of our lives, we need education that is accurate and empowering. How we can change people is through education.*

Dana Rodriguez | Sugar Land, TX

MELANIE SHEDD | Chesterfield, MO

*students need to understand their role in society and what systems are in place that benefit some and restrict others, even if unintentionally. We need to learn from our past to move forward.*

Jean Gregorek | Buffalo, NY

Erica Rodriguez | New Port Richey, FL

*Facts matter. Our history is not up for grabs to the highest bidder of democratic destruction!*

Christine Den Adel | Edmonds, WA

*We have to teach truth!*

Nancy Patterson | Bowling Green, OH

*I know that democracy can thrive and needs fresh air and ideas in which to do so.*

Gretchen Kapperman | Milwaukee, WI

*My students deserve to learn the truth about the history and the current structures of the United States.*

Rick Jackson | Cascade Twp, MI

*I am pledging to teach a full understanding of history that includes the difficult topics and how they still reverberate today.*

Kelly Wright | Mesa, AZ

Yvonne Unrau | Kalamazoo, MI

*It's essential to teach from facts and to support meaningful conversation about difficult topics to support connection and shared humanity.*

Jessica Cuello | Syracuse, NY

Melissa Snider | Huntsville, AL

*Learning about racism is the only path to healing it and building a better, stronger nation.*

Paul Thomas | Greenville, SC

*Academic freedom and truth are essential for a free and equitable society*

Nataliya Braginsky | New Haven, CT

Afreen Bhaidani | Conroe, TX

*It is important for our students to learn history and accurate depictions of our world, not just "His Story"*

Erika Riddington | Somerville, MA

*I will not be censored when it comes to documented facts about our history including the recollections and expressions of people's lived experiences, particularly with regard to the pervasive and pernicious influence of racism in shaping systems that have and continue unfairly to deprive people from equal opportunity with liberty and justice for all.*

Carissa Bedi | Bartlett, IL

*I believe in teaching students multiple perspectives about our history in a culturally responsive classroom.*

Josie McClain | Gila Bend, AZ

*Our textbooks have a white, Eurocentric lens that does not accurately portray our country's history and diversity. Our diverse students deserve the truth.*

Chandra Smith | Fort Mill, SC

*All history should be taught*

Katy Rank | Saint Charles, IL

*I refuse to ignore history and truth because it's uncomfortable. Our students need educators willing to work alongside them as we all navigate our past, present and future.*

Donna Sayman | Shawnee, OK

*I will never, ever keep true and factual information from my students simply because I am afraid they might get their feelings hurt*

Susan Shapiro | Columbus, OH

Kathryne Edwards | Los Angeles, CA

Cory Blake | Magnolia, TX

*I will never, ever, willingly impose false information or skip crucial facts to make adults comfortable. I tell my kids from the beginning that I will not lie or sugarcoat the truth. I am not going to start now.*

Saneya Bair | Long Beach, CA

*Telling the truth about history and current events is pivotal to moving towards a more just society.*

Kia Saunders | Garner, NC

*Silencing the truth about America's history in racism and oppression of people of Color is a gross disservice to students! Furthermore, the undeniable truth is that the residual affects of slavery are impacting students TODAY!*

Kayla Jolly | Long Beach, CA

Mary Hillebrand | Sun Prairie, WI

*Some people in the community where I teach do not understand why we need to teach the truth, or they are afraid of the truth. Our school district is taking action to right the wrongs, and I support them in the face of this resistance.*

Kate Hooper | State College, PA

*Truth!*

Aubrey Noonan | Iowa City, IA

*we should learn from the past so that we do not replicate it! Rather than placating adults who are scared of systems and change, we should be teaching our students how to dismantle the systems and look at the world from a different lens.*

Don Cooney | Kalamazoo, MI

Marilyn Davis | San Jose, CA

Tiffany Henderson | Milwaukee, WI

*I believe in the work being done .*

Jessie Sabree | Long Beach, CA

*Youth deserve to know real history! Stop underestimating youth's capacity to process information about race & gender. If they're old enough to recognize it, they're old enough to talk about it!*

Daniel Husman | Minneapolis, MN

Lisa Bowstead | New York, NY

*It is our duty to our students to teach ALL history and to train them in critical thinking. A society must examine and study its failures if it is to grow and evolve.*

Lissa McLaughlin | Madison, WI

*We destroy our children's opportunities to think, dream and hope by denying them the truth, and by lying about our responsibilities to the past.*

Elizabeth Swaggerty

*In order to recognize and disrupt racism, we need to know and teach the whole truth.*

Oneida Fox Roye | Dedham, MA

*I believe ALL of our students need to learn the truth.*

Ambria Reed | Denver, CO

*My students deserve to examine the complicated history of our country, warts and all.*

Brandon Hawk | Johnston, RI

Kirsten Rossum | Elk River, MN

*students have a right to learn about all of history, not just the text written by white men and women that disregard the truths of people of color.*

Sarah Willner | Oakland, CA

*There is a huge shift that needs to happen to tell the truth about the history of this country, founded on the genocide of indigenous people in order to steal their lands. As well, wealth was built by enslaving others, especially Africans, for the past 400 years. Capitalists used and continue to use racism as a reason to strip the land and other people of resources.*

Danielle Howard | Los Angeles, CA  
Truth matters!

Charlie Martel | Annapolis, MD  
*the purpose of education is teach the truth, as we are given to know it, and to help our students learn the skills they need to find the truth in their studies, their work, and their lives. Part of the truth of American history is our noble principles and achievements. But part of it is our tragedies and how we have fallen short of those principles. We need to teach children about racism in our history, and racism now, in our country. This is particularly true as to racism against Black people in this country. The attacks on fields such as Critical Race Theory and work such as the New York Times "1619 Project" are wrong, and laws and political censorship of these and similar studies violates the First Amendment. Of course all these studies are subject to free and fair debate, but it is wrong to ban or demonize them. Nothing is more American than honest exploration and reflection with the goal of making things better and righting wrongs.*

MEREDITH Coffin | Stratham, NH

*My students deserve to know the whole story so that they can be better informed citizens, and humans who recognize that everyone has their own story and experience.*

Sara Rich | Conway, SC

*As a professor at a state university in South Carolina, I am concerned that misinformed policies and positions among our state leaders, who promise to prohibit instruction about the causes and effects of racial disparities in our country and in our state, will have a negative impact on all students. Honest history matters. And it is for this reason that I am particularly concerned that historical and cultural omissions from classroom curricula will have a disproportionate impact on our Indigenous, Black, Hispanic, and Asian students. Legislation such as SC H 3002 and SC H 4325 are examples of "curricula discrimination." We all know how essential it is for students to recognize themselves in their own education, and we all know the importance of understanding the past in order to understand why we are where we are - as a nation, as a people, and as citizens. Inhibiting fact-based classroom instruction on matters of history and race inhibits inquiries into our identities and duties as citizens. Such curricular inhibitions amount to state-sponsored censorship and racially-motivated indoctrination, and there is no place for either in South Carolina or anywhere in the United States of America.*

Ben Denton | Southern Pines, NC

Brenna Barringer | Richmond, VA

Farrell Vaughn | Reno, NV  
I teach hard history

Josh Coran | Saugus, MA

*You can't whitewash history by cutting out the parts you don't like.*

Rebecca Moericke | Fairfax, VA

*I pledge to teach the truth, because I will not minimize or make my student feel invisible. I will not participate in the whitewashing of our National history to promote the inequitable and unjust status quo. I will teach and affirm my students' identities, and protect and celebrate their voice. History should be the truth, not a work of fiction.*

Sydney Hart | Chicago, IL

*We cannot solve social problems unless we fully understand their genesis and contemporary manifestations. Racism, especially but not only against Black people, is a root cause of many current social problems from police brutality to economic injustice. If we cannot understand the history of racism in the U.S., we cannot eradicate it.*

Walter Miske | Pflugerville, TX

Daniel Grenier | Laurel, MD

*I refuse to allow laws to obstruct teachers from educating students with the most current, accurate, and researched information.*

Jody Zirkelbach | Racine, WI

*It is important for us to share ALL of our history and not just what is comfortable for us to recall. Our children deserve to know the truth about the past so they can make informed decisions about how to act and what to do in the future.*

Abbie Huck | Kenosha, WI

Elizabeth Blake

*It is my job to provide accurate information to my students, and to allow them to draw conclusions based on the data available.*

Cedrita Demus | Tallahassee, FL

*All children deserve to learn the truth about the country and the world they live in. The truth should not be hidden to appease the feelings of a certain group. The atrocities that were committed against the First Peoples and the Africans needs to be rectified. We will continue to stay stagnant and be at odds in this country if the truth is never exposed. Learning the truth will provide an opportunity for healing, growth and real partnership amongst citizens.*

Heather Levine | Malden, MA

*I will always fight for the right to teach the truth.*

Dana Pollock | Bainbridge, GA

D Myrie | Bronx, NY

*Teaching History Is about teaching the truth*

Robin Cooper | Cincinnati, OH

*It is the truth that will make us free. Children of all ages need to know the history of this country as it directly affects the present. We must teach our students to be interruptors of the status quo not perpetrators of it. The truth heals.*

Sarinea Meserkhani | Tujunga, CA

Dylab de Guzman | Garden Grove, CA

*it is important for people to take ownership back of their education.*

Beth Gardner | Portland, OR

*We have to learn from the mistakes we have made if we hope to avoid repeating them in the future. Only when we are honest about the state of things can we improve them for our historically marginalized communities.*

Kaon Suh | Irvine, CA

Megan Barringer | Monroe, NC

*I am signing my name because, I care for my students and their education!*

Ingrid Semien | Maurice, LA

Rachel Pendergast | Seattle, WA

*It is my duty to teach the truth and raise our children so they know the truth and make this world better. It is my duty to leave the world a better place than the way I found it.*

Angeline Zalben | Seattle, WA

Molly O'Neil | Seattle, WA

*Let's get the authentic history of America out there! Ethnic Studies Now!!*

Lora Worden | Portland, OR

*our students deserve, not only to learn the truth about our history, but to learn to critically evaluate information so they can decide for themselves what is accurate, what is reliable, what is authentic. Our students need critical thinking skills to be active, engaged, and informed citizens in our democracy. Additionally, our students deserve to hear from multiple perspectives in historical and contemporary events (in all stories and all areas of life!). This helps our students develop empathy, which is also an essential skill. Our students deserve to hear the whole story of our history so they can decide for themselves how they think and feel about it and decide for themselves what kind of citizen they want to be and what kind of country they want.*

Lauren Litle | Spring, TX

*We shouldn't shelter students from the truth or try to inhibit their formation of critical thinking skills. If we start censoring here, where does it end?*

April Wyche | Lake Park, NC

*Teaching the truth is the only way to expose the lies.*

Jaime Brody | La Habra, CA

*In order to learn from history, we need to know it.*

King Chan | Los Angeles, CA

*We need to stand strong for education reasons and our family values of everyone getting a knowledgeable worldly education.*

Kathryn Lafever | Hamilton, OH

*We should teach the truth.*

Katherine Volin | Philadelphia, PA

Lori DiCenzo Carter | Charlotte, NC

*All students deserve the opportunity to learn about the contributions their ancestors made to the United States. If we hope to end systemic racism and oppression, white students in particular need to learn the truth of our nation's history before we can ever hope to make change.*

Lori Stahl-Van Brackle | Ozone Park, NY

*I am signing in solidarity. Truth can not be silenced in this country anywhere!*

Daniel Woleslagle | Williamsport, PA

*Every student deserves the truth. Denying our students the whole story enforces racism and denies representation for all groups. It's time for all student voices to be present in the classroom.*

Sebastian Castillo | Long Beach, CA

*Lack of access to knowledge will keep this cycle going longer than it needs to, change today leaves hope for tomorrow*

Misty Bennett | Las Vegas, NV

*I teach facts and I refuse to lie. Teaching is not about staying comfortable.*

Rebecca Kleinbart | New York, NY

*Students deserve the truth! I teach for a more just society, not a more comfortable society for white people.*

Audrey Melzer | Oberlin, OH

*Any education must include facts and critical thought. To legislate that educators should not be allowed to teach our students and challenge them is to deny them a proper education that will able them to be future leaders who will learn from the past. I refuse to teach inaccuracies. I refuse to have yet another part of my profession undermined by people who have no training and no expertise.*

Joshua Aguilar | Long Beach, CA

*Well im signing because im a student that had taken this class and it has impacted my daily living and how i jnteract with others in a good way. So i feel if this were to stop being taught there would be a bigger problem in society.*

Falica McClain | Los Angeles, CA

*Because the truth MUST be revealed! How will children K-12 learn about systemic and institutionalized racism if they cannot recognize it's passive and subtle forms?*

Cheryl Thompson | Doswell, VA

*History helps us recognize and learn from our mistakes. We must tell the whole truth if we want our children to believe in democracy.*

Jenny Jacobs | Jamaica Plain, MA

*Understanding systems of oppression activates student learning.*

Susan Dobrian | Aliso Viejo, CA

*Truth is important. Our job as educators is to teach our students to think. To do so, it is imperative that all points of view be available to them. To deny certain truths is to create a generation of people without critical thinking skills*

Nikea Carwell | Los Angeles, CA

Erika Chavarria | Columbia, MD

Christopher Buttimer | Melrose, MA

*Our students deserve nothing less than the truth.*

Jennifer Greenwald | Madison, WI

*History matters. The truth matters. Children can handle complexity. It's better for our collective future if we acknowledge the full truth of our past.*

Jennifer Greenwald | Madison, WI

*History matters. The truth matters. Children can handle complexity. It's better for our collective future if we acknowledge the full truth of our past.*

Toby Lavergne | New Braunfels, TX

*"A great nation does not hide its history, it faces its flaws, and corrects them." We must be free to "teach the truth that a country founded on the promise of liberty held millions in chains, that the price of our union was America's original sin." I will teach the truth, soberly, honestly, and how it happened. Quoted lines are from President George W Bush, September 2016*

Paul Spies | Minneapolis, MN

*As a white guy, I was denied knowing the truth about the past growing up and was disempowered from this lack of knowledge. Knowing the full truth about the past empowers not only BIPOC, but also whites and together we can work for racial justice and equity.*

Lesley Newman | Heathsville, VA

*We are finally in a moment of progress in this country, and the youth's future depends on us continuing this trajectory. Denying young people access to the truth is not democratic, and it is holding us back at a time when we need to push forward more than ever.*

Margaret Bokelman | Mechanicsburg, PA

*Students deserve to learn the truth . . . and to be exposed to multiple perspectives. Passing legislation ruling on what teachers CANNOT teach is particularly terrifying. It's a terrible precedent to set.*

Katherine Gambino | New Paltz, NY

*I was taught incorrect history that not only moseducated us but left huge chunks of important historical events nd info out completely. When I finally attended a college course for history of the United States last year my professor taught us as much as he could but even he said he wasn't allowed to tell us about certain things I asked him because he had to stick to the curriculum. We need to teach our youth the truth so that past mistakes will not be repeated!*

Jeanette Swank | Catonsville, MD

*glossing over or sugar coating our history is not okay. We must teach the truth so our students understand that our country has made mistakes and continues to make mistakes. We cannot allow our marginalized groups to be further oppressed by creating nonsense laws that stop educators from having their students look at race through different lenses.*

Chelsea Slade | Morgantown, WV

Lisa Huggins | Manteca, CA

*I do not believe that I need to be told how to provide information that will encourage critical thinking. I believe in order to make this country better and to have citizens who can think for themselves, the history of this country that tells the story of all of its citizens needs to be taught so that we can move forward.*

David Grapka | Altamont, NY

*No politician is qualified to tell me what to teach, and no politician has the right to restrict teaching the truth. It is inconvenient for them to have to face the truth, but they must.*

Deanna Haurie | Oakland, CA

*Our students deserve to learn about all facets of US history so that they can shape a country that is better than the one standing today. Educators play no role in uplifting or furthering the oppression, isolation, endangerment, and marginalization of communities.*

Deborah Wyttenbach | Reston, VA

*I believe in teaching the truth.*

Stephanie Miller | Auburn, WA

*the truth will always win.*

Lauren Thompson | Milwaukee, WI

*Discussions of race and sex are important to student development. They see and hear and live things that they have questions and concerns about. I shouldn't be restricted from having open and honest conversations with them about things that matter; it will inhibit relationship development and trust within my classroom.*

Lauren Doherty | Kailua Kona, HI

*As educators we have a responsibility to teach and educate our students on the truth with facts and accurate historical accounts and how they have affected our country throughout time. Refusal to teach about the documented and real issues regarding systemic racism and discrimination in our country and government is to distort our history and the struggles that African-Americans faced in the past and still today. We teach the factual truth, not someone's version of it.*

Connor Sheridan | Somerville, MA

*I will always teach the truth, no matter what.*

Christine Franzkeit , WA

*We must teach the truth!*

Louise Pajak | Plaistow, NH

*Children should be taught the truth.*

CHRISTOPHER DAIKOS | Seattle, WA

Kassie DeMarsh | Camp Sherman, OR

*We need to learn from our past to make educated decisions about our future.*

Pamela Oppenheimer | Philadelphia, PA

*Music and art are representative of and created from cultural experiences. I cannot teach about music without teaching accurate representations of past and current cultural experiences. It would be a disservice and a lie to my students to ignore the history of racism, sexism, xenophobia, and oppression marginalized groups have faced in this country that have created countless songs, musical artists, and shaped genres of music and the shape of American music and global music today.*

Deborah Abram | Bridgeport, CT

*I believe omitting the true history as we teach our students is unacceptable and setting them up to not be socially and critically aware of the world around them, Specifically the country in which they reside, The United States Of America. So let us as just teachers of truth not allow this omission to happen by speaking out, in addition to signing this petition.*

Cliff Hanna | Albuquerque, NM

*The past can teach us about ourselves but only if we acknowledge all the evidence, regardless of our personal convictions. Teaching the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth lights our path to a brighter future.*

Yael Engel | Pittsburgh, PA

White People | Custer, WA

*White people be living in caves before black folx taught them how to bathe. White folx be enslavin us and buyin us from the tribe that captured us. Dat aint right. White aint right. Black power.*

Scott Rush | Boston, MA

*My students have often discussed the importance of having open and at times uncomfortable conversations about our history. To quote James Baldwin, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."*

Autumn Sannwald | La Mesa, CA

Lydia Cochran | Philadelphia, PA

*not doing so would be cheating my students out of a truth that they need to know in order to navigate the world they live in and become contributing citizens of.*

Don Collins | Chico, CA

*What's the point of studying history if we don't try to get to the truth. Racism is on the wrong side of history.*

Stephen Harris | Apex, NC

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Carla Garcia | Phoenix, AZ

*Students need to be told both sides of history to be able to critically analyze what they can do to improve the community and world they live in.*

Juanita Montes de Oca | Providence, RI

Cooper Smallidge | Blue Hill Town of, ME

Dana Bockman | Decorah, IA

*it is unethical to withhold truths from our students and for an entity of government to expect educators to change our history. It is our duty as educators to provide facts and allow students to develop their own opinions and beliefs.*

Melissa James | Kalamazoo, MI

*The truth always matters.*

Steve Somerson | Madison, WI

*We will not truly heal as a nation and make progress on understanding each other until we... \* discontinue the sugar-coated history in our classrooms, \* use an equitable lens to teach our youth about oppression as well as the resilience of peoples, \* honestly reflect on our past and how these events affect current events*

Brandon Hagan | Somerville, MA

*Knowledge is the only way forward. We cannot reckon with the past until we address how racism has shaped this country going all the way back to 1619.*

Nicholas Smith | Memphis, TN

Margaret Verner | Atlanta, GA

Rebecca Carson | Missoula, MT

*English and creative writing classes are about telling stories and exposing students to a chorus of diverse voices. How can I expect my students to create narratives or arguments with integrity and fair examination of all sources if we as teachers are forbidden from doing just that? The story of our nation needs to be told in its entirety. The ugly bits don't just exist in the past and history will continue to repeat itself until we can consistently offer an educational experience that demands critical thinking and empathy. All voices deserve to be honored.*

Allison Levine | Los Angeles, CA

*Our students need to know the truth about the good, the bad, and the ugly of our country. If they don't know about it, how will they learn to make this country a better place?*

Mari Ann Banks | Decatur, GA

*I believe in the right and duty of teachers to tell the truth. I believe in the transformative nature of education. I have seen each consecutive generation in the US move toward the light and I REFUSE to accept a move back toward the ignorance, cruelty, and misinformation of our past. Black Lives Matter*

Christopher Peraza | Hollywood, FL

*To understand the full breadth of what makes this country great, we must understand where we came from, what we've done wrong, and what we must still overcome. Young people must be presented with the truth of our history, that slaves have been here since the 1620s, that compromises by the government had to be cajoled, because so many were unwilling to grant native born people their rights, and finally that America still does not offer the promise that all men are created equal to all of its citizens.*

Elizabeth Sanders | Milwaukee, WI

*This is how we heal and how we move forward as a better society.*

Matthew Gross | Coral Springs, FL

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Chelsea Griffis | Toledo, OH

*What's the point other than telling the truth to understand the present?*

Ashley Leverenz | Milwaukee, WI

Synnika Alek-Chizoba Lofton | Chesapeake, VA

*American students need a thorough investigation of American history, including all the racist, sexist, and violent acts that are embedded in that history. America cannot continue to hide its historical sins, while praising specific individuals of the past.*

Laura Toerck | Crivitz, WI

*erasing or changing history is just what the Nazis did. I'd like to think we're better than the Nazis...*

Katy Hopkins | Pocatello, ID

*The kids are the future and they need to be armed with the truth*

Katherine Catron | Dallas, TX

Lisa Brown | Austin, TX

*Student deserve to learn the truth about slavery and its impact on the economy in the colonies and after the United States was founded. Likewise, we must accurately represent the history of discrimination past and present so that we can work toward a more just and equitable nation.*

Keith Kohlmann | Racine, WI

*Only the truth can set you free...*

BARRY FARGO | Upper Marlboro, MD

Christina Held-Hulsing | Buffalo, NY

*My students deserve the whole story about our nation's history. Since they are going to be entrusted with creating a more inclusive future, they need to know about the mistakes that we have made in the past.*

Corey Beirne | Normal, IL

Adrienne Pierluissi | Saint Francis, WI

*I would like solutions to our systemic racism and believe the answers are with the youth. They need to have the difficult conversations in order to create change.*

Peter Mader

*I was listening to growing up*

Helen Kubilus | Hoboken, NJ

*We need to reckon with our nation's history and the only way to do that is to have FULLY informed citizens.*

Whitney Alfrey | Portland, OR

*Students need to be taught to draw their own conclusions after being presented with multiple perspectives of an issue.*

Kyleen Carpenter | Pawtucket, RI

*Teaching lessons about our country's historical origins is absolutely key in helping to empower and educate our children, not only our children of color, but our white children, as well. So many stories have not been heard, and so much of history has been told from only one perspective. Our country needs change, and this is one way to launch critically-important change.*

Dani Graf | Milwaukee, WI

*The truth needs to be acknowledged and taught.*

Melissa H Krause | Saint Louis, MO

*History must be based in comprehensive fact, not just the cherry-picking of easy truths.*

Justine Philyaw | Philadelphia, PA

Kevin Boyle | Hicksville, NY

Magaly Rivera | Framingham, MA

*History should be taught accurately and not erased to paint a narrative that favors the dominant culture. It does more harm to keep people in the dark.*

Paul Thebert | Detroit, MI

*I will not lie to my students to maintain white privilege. Growth rarely happens in comfort.*

Shawna McEvoy | Columbus, OH

Meredith Thomson CA

*kids deserve to learn the truth. Confronting past atrocities is also happening in schools north of the border, in Canada.*

Elise Butler-Pinkham | New Orleans, LA

Michael Eckert | Prairie Grove, AR

*This is a shameless attempt to shut down necessary discussions about racial issues infecting society today, not just in the past. This is a massive overreach from republican politicians who will do anything to ensure that America remains mired in the status quo.*

Rhonda Leopold | North Highlands, CA

*History, correct and accurate history needs to be learned*

Dan Oh | Santa Clara, CA

*We teach about the darker aspects of our history not because we believe the country to be irredeemable as opponents charge, but because we along with our students can create the change to dismantle systemic oppression. Teaching a people's history that is honest fosters hope that we can fulfill the promise of America so everyone enjoys it regardless of who they are.*

Erin Adams | Seattle, WA

*I will not be a part of this institutional racism. I will not perpetuate the lies.*

Ramona Becker | Wichita, KS

*Our democracy is fragile.*

Jana Giles | Monroe, LA

*The truth will set us free.*

Riann Sahnou | Broomfield, CO

*The truth is important.*

Maureen Canter | Schertz, TX

*Truth is beautiful and everyone deserves it.*

Kevin Guenzi | Lakewood, WA

*Truth is easier to explain than lies are to defend.*

Larissa Andersen UM

Jill Leet-Otley | Decorah, IA

*The truth matters!*

Marc Handelman | Brooklyn, NY

Lisa Ebel | Cambridge, MA

Tyler Wilch | Spokane, WA

Jenn Smitley | Marshall, IL

Elissa Algaba | Shingle Springs, CA

*My students deserve to know the true history of the United States*

Eric McGee | Killen, AL

*Ignoring the truth doesn't make it disappear. If we ever hope to live up to the promises and proclamations of our Founding Documents, we must shine light on the good and the bad alike. The good will enable us to see the path we must trod, and the bad will enable us to quit roaming around aimlessly wondering why things never change.*

Alyson Catalan | East Providence, RI

Dorothy Higuera | Yuma, AZ

*I know for a fact we have not been teaching the true history of America. Those that oppose it are just putting out a false narrative, like they do with everything else. They have not full read or studied it. I pledge to teach our students the truth!*

James Miller | Louisville, KY

Nicola Williams | Marina, CA

*This is not a theory. The fact that people (Bhagat Singh Thind, Takao Ozawa) had cases heard by the Supreme Court about whether or not they were white proves that definitions on race have changed over time in our country's history but have always mattered a great deal. Teaching students the truth empowers them. We should be careful not to teach a "white guilt version" of history, but to focus on the agency of people of every ethnicity under systems that certainly did oppress them. To deny the truth is not to teach; to re-structure the historical narrative for our own convenience is the work of less democratic, less freedom-loving countries than our own. It is unconscionable that states are banning this.*

Maile Anderson | Seattle, WA

*As a college graduate, it's important that those students in early education know the truth about American history, they aren't told lies about how this whole system was built.*

Erin Boyce | Aurora, CO

*Without teaching the truth, we are allowing history to repeat itself and worst of all, not providing our students the opportunity to analyze history and think critically on their own*

Patricia Sales | Leander, TX

*Students deserve an education that that is honest and prepares them for the world after grade school. Students cannot develop critical thinking skills if we hide and cherry pick information for them.*

Jane Gottfried | Saint Paul, MN

Alana Harte | Williamstown, MA

Renee Piernot | Glover, VT

*I believe in teaching the truth. I believe in freedom and democracy.*

Dana Huekell | Framingham, MA

*the only way to dismantle systemic racism and to create a true country for all is to speak the truth!*

Judy Donovan | Napa, CA

*It is time to tell the truth about racism and sexism in our history. Our children will be well served to hear the facts. They should be able to have open discussions about this topic with well informed teachers guiding the conversation. Truth is patriotic.*

Anne-Marie Reidy | Washington, DC

*Children deserve the truth.*

Carly Neun | El Cajon, CA

*Legislators do not teach and do not have any business mandating we not allow difficult discussions in the classroom on the off chance it makes a parent uncomfortable. There is racism and sexism, and a whole host of other issues in our history; That does not make America totally evil or mean we teach hatred of country. On the contrary, it means we teach love of the American ideals through addressing the obstacles in our way and how they came to be.*

Leslie Neilsen | Charlotte, NC

*There is ugly truth we need to learn about. It's hard to hear the truth, but we are a nation of humans...and humans are subject to make mistakes. It's how we grow.*

Brianna Carter | Charlotte, NC

*To tell the truth about history is to celebrate the resilience of my family history within the thread of American and world history. Furthermore, in teaching civics, students are able to recognize the pain and promise of our country.*

Laurie Carroll | Jackson, GA

*It is imperative that our children know the truth about the foundation of this country and the truths behind the racism that existed throughout our country's history.*

Jamie Abney | Fayetteville, NY

*It is key for Young people to recognize the context of history that continues to impact the world today. Further, BIPOC, low income, LGBTQ+, and other historically marginalized populations, deserve for their narrative to be integrated in daily learning to create proper empathy and understanding.*

Haley Barbier | Youngsville, LA

*Students deserve to know the truth, and should be encouraged to seek it.*

Kristi Martinez | Bonney Lake, WA

*truth and representation for all students matters.*

Kimberly DAuria | Danbury, CT

*The truth of factual events is the truth. All the ism's need to be covered to have our students be well rounded and go through life as critical thinkers. We learned from our past and we look forward to our future. Do not take the teachers voices away. We heard everyday what our student want.*

Randy Harrison-Dixon | Newark, DE

*Teaching the truth to my students about who they are and who I am as a Black Woman has become one of the most important things to me as an educator. I am the mother of Black Children, the Wife of a Black Man, the Daughter of a Black Retired Distinguished Principal and Black USAF Brigadier General, Descendent of Slaves, Educator of children, anti-racist, social activist, and abolitionist of all things false*

Patricia Patricia | Hinsdale, NH

*I want to be honest with my students, and want them to understand and learn from our past so that we can become One Nation and not repeat the past.*

Nick Belsky | Alstead, NH

*Citizens should know all History, not whitewashed History.*

Cassie Brickell | Everett, WA

*Our students deserve the right to learning a true account of history.*

Mara Johnson | Saint Paul, MN

*it's the right thing to do and because children deserve to learn the truth about our history.*

Nils Headley | San Mateo, CA

*my children and my students, when presented with the primary sources, can draw the conclusions that will allow them to be informed and critical voters.*

Warren Buck | Jacksonville, FL

*All of our students deserve to know the whole truth and teachers need to be trusted to best know the needs of their classes.*

Naomi Ramsay | Chicago, IL

*we cannot lie to our children. We must give them the whole truth so they are able to understand and navigate the society they live in. We need to give them the truth so they are able to change our society for the better. If they actually learn and understand how racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and ableism function in our society they will be better prepared to disrupt these systems in the future. Moreover, they will feel empowered to do so! I will not lie to my students!*

Rachel Poulton , MA

*Our country cannot go backwards and further into racism in the future*

Sarah Downing | Keene, NH

*We need to understand our history in order to make informed decisions as active citizens. This includes all the mistakes we have made as a nation. Rewriting the past is a symptom of tyranny and we need to stand up for democracy and preserve our rights to speak truth to power.*

Paula Feldman | Columbia, SC

*Legislators should not require teachers to lie to their students or suppress the truth.*

Laura White | Spofford, NH

*I believe the health of our nation depends on citizens to be able to look critically at our past and present to understand current inequities in order to make lasting change. Difficult issues are often uncomfortable to discuss. And schools are great places to help teach how to talk about these things respectfully. Those who love our country are willing to look both its achievements and its failures in the face and work to make it great. I will continue the rich discussion we have in fifth grade about race and other issues in order to raise a compassionate and literate generation that can speak knowledgeably and comfortably about these issues. Legislation that attempts to gag such discourse is wrong and unpatriotic.*

Hannah Golladay | Forest Grove, OR

*It is important for students to know the true history of the US and to understand race and racism.*

Cyndi Stone | Fort Walton Beach, FL

*My students deserve to know the truth. All my students are known and valued and need to know the truth*

Caroline Gannon | Rotonda West, FL

*I neither wish to hide behind the truth nor lie to future generations*

Jodi Blue | Forest Grove, OR

*I value truth, history, and ALL our students.*

Nurit Stites | Reno, NV

*I will not lie to my students about American history of racism, sexism, bigotry, anti semitism, anti- LGBTQ, xenophobia, and suppression of communities and entities.*

Julia Palazzi | Chandler, AZ

Laura Paul | Seaford, NY

Cooper Simmons | Cincinnati, OH

*I pledge to teach the truth and an educators purpose is someone who leads others out of ignorance.*

William Puishys | Brookfield, MA

*Truth must overcome lies*

Rachel Andres | Redwood City, CA

*Our children deserve schooling based in truth.*

Carol LaVallee | Sarasota, FL

*I teach only the truth!*

Deb Witt | Vienna, VA

*Understanding how we got here is the only way we will move forward.*

Marley McClune | Ogden, UT

*My students deserve the truth!*

Reid Fore | Forest Lake, MN

*I make this pledge because only the truth will allow us to make progress as a nation, as a community, and as individuals. As the saying goes, "Those who do not understand history are condemned to repeat it."*

Green Clare | Oakland, CA

NICOLE ENTWISTLE | Takoma Park, MD

*I believe children need to learn the truth in order to change the racist systems our country is based upon.*

Steven Ernsky | Tucson, AZ



Marianne King | Downers Grove, IL

Alana Murray | Elkridge, MD

Julia Leonard | Davenport, IA

*The idea that teachers should be limited in what they teach based on an incorrect perception of 'critical race theory' is unacceptable and also a very thinly veiled attempt to avoid huge swaths of American history and its role in persistent racist behaviors as a culture and as individuals.*

Elizabeth Israel-Davis | Portland, OR

*my students deserve the truth. They deserve to see their culture and language as an asset. They deserve to know that their families and ancestors built the wealth and power of this nation and that they deserve that wealth and power fully. They deserve to see the systems which were purposely built to keep them from that wealth and power so that they can dismantle them. I will teach the truth for this generation so that they can teach it to generations to come.*

Chuck Goetz | Baltimore, MD

*I believe the study of history requires knowing the good and the bad of the past because both are still influencing the present and will continue to influence the future. I am privileged to teach in an independent school that believes in this vision as well but am signing this petition to support my fellow history educators who work in places that would like to sugarcoat the past by restricting what knowledge of the past can be taught to students.*

Melissa Hauke | Falls Church, VA

*How can we change the future if we don't understand the policies, beliefs and ideas that brought us to the present?*

Robert Gotwals | Durham, NC

*Teachers need to be able to address difficult issues in the classroom*

Emma Dickinson | Reno, NV

*I feel this cause is really important. The lack of critical thinking and open, scientific education is a real threat to our democracy.*

Padriag Mahoney | Cranston, RI

Chyanne Smith | El Paso, TX

*Talking about race in my classes is important to helping my students think critically about the society they live in so that when they graduate they 1. Aren't shocked to find out that school sugar coated the truth and 2. So that they can be the change they want to see in the world.*

Kyle Liao | New York, NY

*We need to understand history to avoid repeating it.*

Yvette Felarca | Oakland, CA

*teachers have a right and an obligation to teach young people the truth about systematic and institutional racism in our nation's history and today. I stand in solidarity with educators across the country who are committed to defy racist local, state, or even national laws if necessary. More than anything, this is about young people's right to learn the truth about history so they can change the course of history and make this nation live up to its most egalitarian ideals and promises.*

Viki Yamashita | Long Beach, CA

*I will not be censored by racists and trans/homophobes who thump the bible in the name of White Fragility and white supremacy.*

Joanna Auclair | Queen Creek, AZ

*Truth matters*

Whitney Blankenship | Austin, TX

*I was taught a feel good version of American history in school and I remember the shock of learning about things like Japanese American Internment when I got to collage;I was taught a Eurocentric version of World History that did not address cultures outside of Europe, especially Africa;As a historian my job is to look at the documents and interpret those documents based on corroboration of evidence across sources from multiple perspectives to arrive at an interpretation. Real history is messy and makes us uncomfortable at times. But it is through those experiences that we learn and grow in our understanding of the world as a complicated place;After teaching about race, class and gender in U.S. history I watched my students grow angry that they were in the last years of the public education and no one had ever mentioned these topics;Students should learn the critical thinking skills that will allow them to be functioning members of society;Black Lives Matter; LGBTQIA+ Lives matter. Research has shown that students who do not see their history in school do not do as well as their peers.It is the right thing to do.*

Carole Ancona | Scottsdale, AZ

Dr. Judith Dunkerly | Stites, ID

*the entire history of this country must be taught. We cannot literally whitewash out the parts that involved the oppression of, and violence towards BIPOC individuals.*

Ashley Wade | Reno, NV

Kirsten Hansen | San Leandro, CA

*I remember when I finally learned the real history and felt utter betrayal from my educators. I don't want students to feel that anger about their own learning.*

Laurie Newman | Sparks, NV

*I believe in teaching a balanced approach to history that represents all groups.*

Beth Levin | Portland, OR

*students want to know the truths about U.S. history, not a literally "whitewashed" version that erases the effects of slavery or other atrocities.*

Stephen Lafer | Reno, NV

*We need to develop a robust defense fund for teachers who resist the strictures being imposed. Massive resistance is what is needed and by it, a campaign to inform the public as to why it is in its best interests for teachers to so resist.*

James Crider | Arvada, CO

nancy schwartz | Laveen, AZ

Jarmila Darby | Portland, OR

Robert Kaneko | Portland, OR

Drew Robinson-Woods | Portland, OR

*The brutal history of our country must be taught that so oppression can end. This is the foundation for change, we must admit what happened.*

Farid Matuk | Tucson, AZ

Kristen Stamey | Watkinville, GA

*Students deserve the time and space to have tough conversations about America's history; An accurate portrayal of history does not mean we have to love America any less; it actually affirms we are learning from it.*

Aaron Guest | Columbus, GA

JOHANNA COENEN | Madison, WI

Heidi Smith | Centerville, UT

Rachel Fisher | Reno, NV

*The cycle of violence cannot end by denying our true history and the ramifications the cycle of oppression continues to have on our society. Educators cannot empower their students with the tools and knowledge to break these cycles of abuse if they are not empowered themselves to speak the truth.*

Nellie Ruby | Decatur, GA

theory is what education is about. We learn history, we learn to think, we learn to respond. Education is power. Suppressing information is violent oppression.

Ashleigh Howard | Greenville, NC

Ann Hebble | Saint Paul, MN

Janet Gabriel | Arroyo Hondo, NM

I believe in truth and my young friends are smart enough to know when they are being tricked.

Shanon Puckett | Berkeley, CA

The only way we can truly come together as a nation, is to critically examine our past in order to better understand the present and make more informed decisions in the future. If we do not acknowledge the ugly racism and sexism that has been at the root of political action in this country since the very beginning, there is no way we will be able to completely move away from it. Who will benefit from whitewashing history? The same people who have always benefited from spreading lies and feeding the racial conflict within this country...the same people who have always benefited from these deep antagonisms. This cycle has got to be broken once and for all.

Eric James | Columbus, MS

All truths are essential in developing young minds. Shielding or buffering is one thing, but act as though things didn't occur is blasphemous to generations who truly built this nation.

Karen Tucker | South Lake Tahoe, CA

Anita Waters | Columbus, OH

I believe that teachers should not be afraid to tell students the facts.

Lori-Anne Wallen | Bronx, NY

It's time that we empower our students with the truth.

Jennifer Dorsey | Wilsonville, OR

Learning from truthful historical events is how we change for the better. I remember as a child in elementary school constructing a California mission out of sugar cubes for a school project and being Indians wearing paper bag vests and cheap color feathers. I absolutely cringe reflecting about this. We all deserve the truth.

Kate Phipps | Portage, MI

I believe students need to learn and understand the truth.

Susanna Arnold | Athens, GA

Karen Davis | Middletown, DE

None of us are free until we are all free.

Roberto Diaz | Mcallen, TX

"One has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws." -Dr. Martin Luther King

John Gordon | Jackson Heights, NY

A nation and a people need to know the truth about their history. The good and bad of history must be taught together. Knowing the truth about the past makes a people and a nation stronger not weaker. I have always believed this and taught History this way to my students because anything less is cheating them.

Jessica Loomis | Portland, OR

history is about cause and effect. We are not in a post-racial society. The harm caused in the past is harm lived through today. We study history to understand ourselves and what we are capable of and to understand who we are today. We study history to better understand inequities and injustice that exist today. We study history so that we can have a better future for our children.

Tevin Washington | Danville, KY

Lisa Zander | Seattle, WA

Mario Garcia | Tucson, AZ

The cat is out of the bag. Things hidden can't be out back or ignored. We have a racist past and present. All we can do is try to make the future a better place, like the truth-tellers before us.

Tasha Lebow | Pinckney, MI

Setting curriculum is a Free Speech and Local Control issue. History is the study of FAXcS and ACTIONS.... including the uncomfortable events. We must be honest in our content if we are to really know our history.

Maria Gonzalez | Merced, CA

I believe in teaching my students the 3D history of our nation's story.

Melissa Moore | Somerville, MA

Kathryn Grimble | Riverside, CA

Our students deserve to be taught the truth and provided with opportunities to think critically about history in order to make better decisions for the future. Our historically marginalized students learn these lessons outside the classroom daily. It's time that we provide space and skills for them to process, learn from, and act upon their experiences in schools.

Melinda Wimbish | Altamonte Springs, FL

We can only fully appreciate our present and plan for our future if we have a real perspective of our past.

Amanda Lyon | Lake Oswego, OR

Elizabeth Frost | Alexandria, VA

I will not lie to my students about our history; the truth(s) might be painful - but they must be shared.

Brian Burak | Ypsilanti, MI

Teaching does not mean indoctrinating. Forcing people to only teach one limited perspective is the real indoctrination. Fascist, racist educational restrictions are the sign of desperation. I reject small-mindedness. I respect that kids are not idiots and can learn that more than one thing can be true at once. America can be founded on racism and inherently racist and you can still live your country. I could go on, but the point is these laws are stupid and need to be opposed and resisted at every turn.

ezra kohn | Calabasas, CA

Deborah Donahue-Keegan | Medford, MA

Leilani Verango | Kirkland, WA

I learn, teach, and advocate against systemic racism.

Allison Hammer | Acton Town of, MA

We need to know about our past so we can do better in our future.

Janine JeffBaah | Tucker, GA

I will teach the truth no matter what.

Carolee Barber | Concord, NC

The truth is essential!

Billie Sue Lyons | Huntsville, TX

The truth about our American History needs to be taught no matter how horrific it may be because it is truth. The truth shall set you free.

Jenifer King | Las Vegas, NV

*Students deserve the truth of the building and the sustenance of our nation. They will be the ones to dismantle the horrific systems designed and built by oppressors, enslavers, rapists, murderers, and supremacists, but as long as they are taught the whitewash, they will continue to believe that they are either entitled to be superior (white) or that they don't really exist (all other colors and backgrounds). We cannot keep doing the same thing and expect a different result.*

Katie Wilkinson | Sandy, UT

*I want my son, and my students to learn to think critically about the world around them. Whitewashing history and the world will not prepare them for lives outside of school, and outside of their parents.*

Robert Lieberman | Elkins Park, PA

*As a young student, I was never exposed to the atrocious real history in America. Today's students deserve better! They desperately need to hear the truth, so they may make informed decisions in life.*

Kacey Dewing | Medford, OR

*I teach truth so students can learned the history of the United States in order to make it better.*

Leenisha Stennis | Columbus, OH

*I want my students to know thé truth.*

William Anderson | Imperial, CA

*The truth will set you free.*

Gene Thompson-Grove | Newport, RI

Jillian Miesen | Maryland Heights, MO

*I will not whitewash history and hinder minority perspectives in my class. I will honor every voice and every history, just as primary and secondary sources report.*

Danley Phillips | Lehi, UT

*I will teach history and facts.*

Sylvia Duckworth | Toronto, CA

*Students need to know true history.*

Kevin Smith | Jacksonville, FL

*My students are capable of learning and thinking critically about a diverse range of subjects. I will not lower my expectations of them or the quality of my instruction in order to appease the fickle winds of political favor.*

Mike Maes | Pueblo, CO

Alison Baran | Baltimore, MD

*Our children deserve the truth!*

Shawn Powell | Santee, CA

*I believe that a better understanding of the true history of our country will lead to a better version of our country in the future.*

RONDA MCINTYRE | Columbus, OH

*We only evolve as a nation if young people learn the truth about our history. As a teacher of American History in 4th grade and of the western hemisphere in 5th, oppression of minorities and those without wealth and power or is a fact. This history has become our legacy as systemic racism and marginalization of " others" remains a daily reality for so many, including my students. The way forward is NOT to sweep it under the rug.*

Debra Marshall | Melbourne, FL

*I am concerned that my state's recent legislation will stifle my ability to teach students about how they fit into our histories and why they fit where they fit in society today. Being white is not mutually exclusive to the goals of contextually teaching the reality of various American histories and the roles of various groups within that history. Young people understand this, and it is our job to be both thoughtful and critical when we have discussions about race, gender, class and other methods of social classification. Having the state legislate teaching by eradicating the voices of minorities is scary, and while it might just be happening in the social sciences today, the path is now open for this kind of regulation to happen in all disciplines.*

Crystal Isaac | New York, NY

*If we do not teach students the true history of this country, how will they know how to avoid the same mistakes in the future. Teaching them about the past will enable them to have more empathy and respect for others who they may see as different from them.*

Jenny Richard | Sherman, TX

*I believe my role as a history teacher is to create informed citizens who make a better world. My students need to know where we came from, the mistakes we've made as a country, so they can try to do better in the future. I want it country to be a place where everyone is truly equal and able to pursue their dreams without threats of violence or systemic racism. That can't happen unless we address the inequalities of the past.*

John Maloy | Owasso, OK

*I believe it is critical to the future of America to teach the unvarnished truth about our past.*

Brian Delgado | San Diego, CA

*In some sense education of our youth is societal creation, and we must teach historical truth if we ever hope to have a chance at healing past injustices.*

Jeannee Turner | Chicago, IL

*To not learn the truths of our history is dangerous. To not know what is happening in the world is choosing blindness. Knowing America's true history reveals our strengths to build on and our faults to not commit again.*

Darlene Cameron | New York, NY

*Critical Race Theory is accurate*

Gary Kidd | Commerce City, CO

*We must learn about our past so we can shape our future.*

Nina Abelson | Washington, DC

*Not only do students need and deserve to know the negative history and, especially, present events in our country, lawmakers dictating what CAN and CANNOT be taught is a tilt away from a diplomatic nation.*

Laurie Walsh | Bend, OR

*With truth, there can be reconciliation and a path forward for ALL of our citizens.*

Livia Simmons | Atlanta, GA

*Teach the TRUTH.*

Jennifer Vacca | Grafton, MA

*Our teaching should not be predicated on a need to make the dominant culture comfortable at the expense of everyone else.*

Jill Vanoverbeke | Cheyenne, WY

*Restrictions against teaching historic facts are anti-education.*

Jennifer Choate | Abbeville, LA

*I am concerned about the whitewashing of our country's history. We must acknowledge the good AND the bad of our past. Only through 100% transparency can we deal with the underlying evil of racism and take steps to eradicate it once and for all.*

Alicia Messing | Phoenix, AZ

*it is time that we make changes to how our country understands its past and to work towards ending racism in America.*

Kathy Hanson | Annapolis, MD

*It is my job to educate responsible citizens to uphold our democracy and that includes teaching history as it happened not as it was written by old white men and current events in true context. It includes teaching against racism, sexism, and any kind of oppression against others. It not me, then who will.*

Stacy Swenck | Murrieta, CA

*I see the pain my students suffer because of racism and bigotry in their community. They don't feel safe. My silence makes it worse.*

Meggan Jordan | Modesto, CA

*Sanitized history sucks but putting it into law is even worse*

Tim Hargesheimer | Louisville, KY

Tiffany Taylor | Kent, OH

*Teaching the truth about past and present inequalities is teaching the truth. And we cannot lessen inequality in the future if we do not learn from the past and present.*

Aimee Trier | West Palm Beach, FL

*I believe we need to teach the whole truth - no matter how uncomfortable- so that we don't make the same mistakes again!!!!*

Jeri Bond Whatley | Philadelphia, PA

*It is vital that we teach the truth about our country's history because it is vital that our young people learn it, know it, and act to correct systems that hinder our growth and prosperity as individuals of every race, religion, gender, and sexual orientation; hinder our growth and prosperity as citizens; and hinder our growth and prosperity as a country. To acknowledge the harms of the past is to avoid repeating them in the future. To acknowledge the achievements of past is to highlight and celebrate them now and in the future. Our children deserve to know our true history, not whitewashed or selective history. These are our truths and we must not hide or ignore them. To do so will lead to our downfall.*

Mary Twellmann | Vienna, VA

*The history of racism, sexism, and oppression of Native Peoples is this history of America as well as the story of exploration and the Immigrant experience. History is complicated and unfolding as we gain new insides into our past. I love this country and I refuse to whitewash it's history. America is not about limiting its history to one perspective. Our strength lies in our striving to do better and be better.*

Donna Cywinski | Catlett, VA

*I cannot allow the truth to be regulated by legislators who have an ideological agenda. I teach history and it is imperative that we teach the history of all Americans. That includes the history of slavery, white supremacy, misogyny and anti-immigrant policies. Structural racism continues to be a barrier to realizing equality. Students should be able to learn the truth- not some made up fairy tale about white protestants triumphantly marching across North America bringing Christianity and civilization.*

Mike Lewis | Columbia, MD

*Teachers have the right to create curriculum appropriate for their students. Teachers are professionals and have been trained to do this. For the State to dictate to teachers how to teach and what to teach sounds like a Stalinist approach to education. If the teacher's can't be creative to teach the students what they need, how will the students be creative to provide the solutions to the problems they will encounter in their lives*

Stephen Werner | Saint Louis, MO

*The future of America is in the hands of good teachers who are free to speak the truth!*

Jennifer Little | Rochester, NY

*The curriculum in its entirety is incomplete and does not educate students about the actual US history of structural racism in the US beginning with the European colonization. Marginalized people are also still underrepresented in all aspects of current US k-12 curriculum across all subjects.*

Tim Martindell | Houston, TX

*I believe in academic freedom and that the truth of our collective history is key to continuing the democratic traditions of our country.*

Andrew White | Burtonsville, MD

*We cannot move forward if we are hiding our past*

Keri Troehler | Portland, OR

*I don't want students to actually live in George Orwell's 1984.*

Jason Cohen | Bensalem, PA

*I will not sit idly by and watch as fascist elements undermine the education system in our country. As a teacher of humanities - specifically US History - it is my job to provide resources and materials that allow students to uncover the truth of this country's racist and genocidal past and present so that we can all work to create a better future for ALL Americans.*

Marita Beachy-Owusu | Cincinnati, OH

*Only from acknowledging the truth of our history can we learn from it, restore justice and be better and progress as a society. The true history of each student's identity deserves and needs to be taught. Our students deserve more. They deserve the truth and we need to hold ourselves accountable for the true history of this country and the lives it's built upon.*

Timothy Bechtel | Lancaster Twp, PA

*We must teach truth*

Linden Higgins | Burlington, VT

*Only through consideration of context and diverse points of view can we come to address the long-standing systemic racism in science and other fields of human knowledge.*

Alexis Stubbe | Rochester, NY

Erica Talbot | Cleveland, OH

Astrid Riecken | Washington, DC

Renee Mottaz | Indio, CA

*History is necessary for a Democracy.*

Lianne Prentice | South Tamworth, NH

*Our school was founded on the concepts of open dialogue, critical thinking, and respect. We could not fulfill our mission if we chose elements of our nation's history to ignore.*

Gina Morgan | Los Angeles, CA

Suzanne Amenta | Ottawa, CA

*Because I'm an American citizen living abroad watching in horror as my fellow Americans ignorantly, pro-actively, and aggressively sell our democracy downstream. It's easy to sign my name as I work in a Canadian school in a Canadian school board which is taking full action to teach everyone how to be anti-racist and how to be equitable and just. Educators need to put themselves at risk, hold on tight to their moral compasses, and include everyone's voices and everyone's experiences in our history.*

Susan Ohanian | Charlotte, VT

*Those who cannot understand the past are condemned to repeat it.*

Christopher Pagliarini | Baltimore, MD

Terri Richmond | Bakersfield, CA

*Truth matters. We only go backward with lies.*

Dale Fritch | Austin, TX

JH Gerhard | Nokesville, VA

*I refuse to let Republicans censor me in my classroom.*

Rose Arthur | Brockton, MA

*Children should be taught the truth.*

John Sarkissian | Youngstown, OH

Majella van der Werf | Baltimore, MD

Marjorie Hanft | Charleston, IL

*Years of teaching crisis intervention, in which I addressed issues of historical trauma and listened to the history of my students, many of whom had dealt with either systemic racism and/or anti-LGBTQ educational curricula, taught me the importance of the kind of curricula that the Missouri bill seeks to ban.*

Kelsey Rodriguez | Cedar Park, TX

*History must be retold- Truthfully for the growth and change of the next generations*

Rachel Rachel Kaiser | Conshohocken, PA

*I am a teacher and I can't do my job of teaching the truth without including these prohibited topics. Do not outlaw the truth about the history of the United States for e. We will be damned to repeat it.*

Tom Lucy | Saint Paul, MN

MR Russo | Pompano Beach, FL

*Pushing back on fascism, and promoting truth to students!*

Janice Vitullo | Youngstown, OH

Amy Spies | Port Orange, FL

*Our nation's true story must be told. We cannot hide from the truth. We can only heal and move forward when ALL voices have been heard and stories shared.*

Dominique Akpore | Fort Madison, IA

*I refuse to lie to my students about US History. Iowa has passed a law banning the truth and I can't stand for it.*

Rob Spivey | Sykesville, MD

*I believe in the collective and individual value of strong social science education and that includes teaching students to engage in challenging conversations about our past and present.*

Rahman Culver | Silver Spring, MD

*those who do not know their history are doomed to repeat it.*

Andrea Trivax | West Bloomfield Twp, MI

*I believe in teaching the truth and acknowledging the fact of institutional racism in the United States.*

Rudolph Ware | Goleta, CA

*The truth shall set us free, lies have always enslaved us.*

James Horn | Nashville, TN

*The history of the United States should not be sanitized to spare the feelings of white supremacists who would prefer to deny the incontrovertible events of the past which continue to shape the present. The fact is that another generation of legislators have chosen to use their institutional prerogative to pass more censorious laws aimed to subvert the truth demonstrates us that critical race theory is not a theory at all but, rather, an undeniable fact derived by living in a nation whose vast wealth was built on the backs of slaves.*

Michelle Frye | Cedar Rapids, IA

*I care about students - and they deserve to know the truth. They are able to handle uncomfortable realities and are engaged in these discussions - even if the governing bodies in this state are not.*

David Nitchman | West Newbury, MA

Jethroe Moore | San Jose, CA

Heather Williams | Fort Myers, FL

*Teaching the truth is paramount to preserving democracy. The way to a more just society is through education. Ignorance ultimately leads to corruption in government and violence in it's people.*

Peter Robinson | Cincinnati, OH

*The very existence of this country and its ideals, founded on enlightened principles that liberty cannot exist without the free pursuit of truth, is in peril by this censorship.*

Emily Rosaso | Germantown, MD

*It's time to stop whitewashing history.*

Sarah Bustin | Lowell, MA

*Students deserve to know the truth. The only way this country will end racism is by educating all of its people.*

Cara Brackins | Asheville, NC

*The truth matters*

Shae Savoy | Baltimore, MD

Eirka Siemsen | Milwaukee, WI

Nicole Gasparini | Rockford, IL

*Educators will not go backwards*

Alice Shea

*Our students deserve the truth. We must decolonize education.*

Melinda Bowers | Golden, CO

*It is important to teach history, the good and the bad, to understand how our past has created our present.*

Laura Wilkinson | Richmond, VA

*I believe that if we continue to whitewash the events of the past, we are doomed to repeat them. Haven't we seen the damage of not learning from our past already?*

Carl Ackerman | Narberth, PA

Jon Van Camp | Hyattsville, MD

*Teaching about race, the origins of race, and the nature of racism is not only key to understanding history, it's key to understanding our world today. The efforts by governments to restrict the teaching of race can only be a detriment to our students and can only serve to reinforce white supremacy.*

Terrence Ross | New York, NY

Maria Niforos | Pompano Beach, FL

*I will continue to teach truth and not lies to all my students. Nothing and no one will change that.*

Jason Austin | Framingham, MA

*It is our role to provide students access to the truth, not to indoctrinate them with propaganda. Better said--in the words of my students--we learn history: 1) To not repeat the mistakes of the past; 2) to understand how the past has shaped the present; and 3) To find positive patterns and events from the past to inspire us as to what could be possible in the future.*

Candice Walker | Baldwin, NY  
*Children should know the good, the bad, and the ugly about American History.*

Amy Eckert | Lafayette Hill, PA  
*I care that my students learn true history of our country, their own cultures, and the cultures of others.*

Stephanie Waters | Philadelphia, PA  
*Teaching hard history is important. Even at a young age.*

Troy Petrie | Louisville, KY  
*The fact is, the truth is largely ignored in our Social Studies classrooms. While supporters of this legislation see it as a remedy to some form of perversion of our national narratives, they're really just a white supremacists prophylactic.*

Sara Harvey | Framingham, MA  
*Our children deserve to know the whole truth.*

Debbie Flaks | Lafayette Hill, PA  
*As a South African who attended public school in South Africa during apartheid, I know first-hand the dangers of not teaching the truth. I will never perpetuate a system that consciously chooses to whitewash history.*

Erin Tyburski | Bellmead, TX  
*My students need assurance that public education will validate and value their history, who they love, how they think, and allow them to lead their learning.*

Susan Edgerton | Readsboro, VT  
*I am appalled by the efforts to prevent the teaching of historically accurate accounts of race and racism in the United States. Our democracy depends on having a well educated citizenry.*

Stephanie Cohen | Williamsburg, VA

Suzanne Marcinkiewicz | Annapolis, MD

Scott Simmons | Wilmington, NC  
*Everyone deserves to know the truth about their country's past.*

Lauriann Stanley | San Diego, CA

Michael Griffin | Saunterstown, RI  
*We must fight to save our democracy from racist authoritarians who try to censor the truth!*

BARBARA KUTTNER | Dpo, NJ  
*Education is learning the truth*

Richard Shryock | Blacksburg, VA  
*Students should be able to learn about all aspects of our history - good and bad. It's part of making our country better.*

Abigail Gollins GB  
*Chil*

Todd Ryan | Berlin, MA  
*The future of the world depends upon knowing and understanding the events of the past.*

Melanie Edwards | Nashville, TN  
*I will teach the truth, always. As a nation we will never heal, until we all join together to understand. Our students are our future.*

Carol July | Fort Worth, TX  
*It is IMPOSSIBLE to teach a song like "Follow the Drinking Gourd" without explaining why it's a code song or why it needed to be in code. The smart students will NOT accept 'have your parents ask your legislators' as an educated answer.*

Dr. Shadi Seyedyousef | Los Angeles, CA  
*our children deserve to know their histories*

Jeanette Providence | Sacramento, CA  
*Our students deserve the truth - they can handle the truth!*

Benjamin Poirier CA  
*I believe we should all know our past, good and bad*

Benjamin Gorman | Independence, OR  
*I have a moral obligation to my students which supercedes my obligation to politicians who make ignorant and unethical policy. I will continue learning and teaching the truth as long as I am allowed to do so.*

Marcie Donaldson | Marietta, GA  
*my students are the future leaders, and they deserve to learn to be critical thinkers and solvers of problems.*

Rozlyn Grady-Wyche | Anchorage, AK  
*teaching the truth matters, i am signing my name because children deserve to know their true history and what has happen and what has taken place in America.*

Eliza Palumbo | Tinley Park, IL

Giavanni Coleman | Hayward, CA  
*The truth must be taught, even if it makes us uncomfortable! This is necessary for us to build a true Democracy moving forward.*

Andrew Dirks | Atlanta, GA  
*I refuse to lie to my students about our nations history and trust them to navigate complicated global issues with me as their guide.*

Siri Miller | Seattle, WA  
*They need to know the true history in order to change anything and really understand the systems in place today.*

Alex Cooper | Seattle, WA  
*Without learning about the history of racism in this country and the ways in which it persists today, students will be unable to understand why the world is the way that it is. They may be left with the disheartening conclusion that our current injustices are somehow natural. Understanding how and why people have created systems of injustice is the only to begin dismantling those systems and building a better world.*

Neil Slobin | Cleveland, OH

Ruth Richardson | Pasadena, CA  
*As a white teacher of black and brown high poverty students it is vital that I acknowledge the degree to which all white people are marinated in racism from the moment of their birth, and the degree to which racism is interwoven into every aspect of our country's history. You can't lie to students about history just to ensure that one group of privileged students feels good about themselves.*

Robert Scribner | Bethesda, MD

Jenny Ryan | San Francisco, CA

*We can't move forward until we tell the truth about the past.*

Elizabeth Merrill | Flagstaff, AZ

*Without learning about past mistakes and atrocities how can they be avoided or recognized in the future? We do a disservice to students, future voting citizens, by not educating about the uncomfortable and negative aspects of history. To see positive change there needs to be acknowledgement of problems.*

Andrea Adams | Ypsilanti, MI

*By passing these bills, governments are attempting to rewrite or erase history which provides insight to the social injustice of today. My job as an educator is not only to give information, but to challenge students to analyze situations, discuss and collaborate with others about difficult issues, and prepare to be leaders in the future. We do not accomplish this by starting with lies.*

susan rich | Albuquerque, NM

Valarie Gold | Austin, TX

*It is my duty as a 1st year teacher to strive to be a culturally responsive educator.*

Candace Truitt | Odenton, MD

*My job is to teach students and not to lie or gloss over parts of our shared history. A subject like music must have cultural connections and significance if students are to learn such a deeply diverse and wide ranging art form. Those cultural connections are key.*

Kristine Morrow | Philadelphia, PA

*There can be no reconciliation in this fissured nation, there can be no meeting the aims of justice and equality intrinsic to the democratic ideal; there can be no end to the discrimination, injustice and violence so much more widespread in this democracy than among our democratic peers without the truths of the past being fully told.*

Charles Smith | Beloit, WI

*the students I teach deserve to know the truth about their country's history. I will not teach a whitewashed version of US history to promote an agenda that supports ignorance.*

Aimee Nixon | Vancouver, WA

*The truth matters.*

Mara Fulmer | Flint, MI

*The notion that educators cannot teach subjects that might make someone feel uncomfortable about their view of the world around them, and themselves, is ridiculous. It's called critical thinking. Challenging our perspectives and learning new ways of viewing and understanding history and current events and each other is vital to the development of an educated and thinking populace.*

Joanne Klein | Boise, ID

*If it isn't messy, it isn't history.*

Rhett Savage | Portland, OR

*I think it is important to let teachers teach.*

Emily Solberg | Berkeley, CA

*I teach FACTS.*

Amber Thornton | Milwaukee, WI

*If we don't teach our youth the true history, we are destined to repeat it. Our students deserve to know accurate history, not a censored version like something from a dystopian novel.*

Patricia Weaver | Atlanta, GA

kathleen marrs | Indianapolis, IN

Jane Marcellus | Murfreesboro, TN

*These restrictions are fascist.*

Kellen Deau | Kalamazoo, MI

Karena Martin | San Mateo, CA

Sarah Walsh | Salt Lake City, UT

Jack Werstein | Washington, DC

*The facts must be known, in order for students to gain the ability to think and analyze freely, on their own.*

Gregory Esteve | Lake Wales, FL

*The truth matters!*

Don Haring | Skippack Twp, PA

*I believe in freedom and justice for all, and there is still work to be done.*

Abigail Quinn | Fairfax, VA

*The only way we can change the future for the better is by having honest conversations about the past.*

Catherine Graham , WA

*Students deserve the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in order to think critically and make informed decisions. Our children deserve a better and more equitable future than our past. The language of these bills and the spirit in which they are offered make it easy to funnel education to a specific political party rather than teaching above and beyond politics as public educators ought to do. This is the United States, not North Korea.*

Cat Hernandez | Mesquite, TX

*Our students deserve the truth about the history of this country, so they can help lead our country to a more equitable place. If we continue to lie to them, we will see the same injustices repeated, year after year, day after day.*

Chad Finley | Las Vegas, NV

*We cannot equip our students to change the world if we first lie to them about the world they are inheriting.*

Bruce Mansfield | Bellingham, WA

*I am concerned about the efforts to sustain white supremacy through laws that restrict the teaching of US history.*

Kellie Pancost | Wakeman, OH

*If we want America to be the best it can be, we need to be honest about our history.*

Brett Baron-Marianetti | Brooklyn, NY

*It took forever for the truth about the development America to become part of mainstream instruction nationwide and we are not going to allow an ever-shrinking group of White and mostly male power holders to turn back the clock now because they fear their guaranteed advantage is eroding.*

Frank Edler | Omaha, NE

*I believe that education demands the free, open, and responsible inquiry into any and all subjects. The attempt to muzzle inquiry into the history of any minority is reprehensible. Uncovering the truth, no matter how difficult it may be, is the only basis for reconciling a people to move together toward a common future.*

Alissa Reicherter | New York , NY

*We must be honest in teaching the next generation about our history. Knowing our past can help us reckon with our present and work toward our future.*

Alissa Reicherter | New York , NY

*We must be honest in teaching the next generation about our history. Knowing our past can help us reckon with our present and work toward our future.*

Melanie Grigsby | Liberty, MO

Lance Duff | Jacksonville, FL

*We can't let propaganda ruin our country*

Douglas Burns | Arlington, VA

*We cannot hide from our own history; my students deserve the right to be informed about their nation's past; to form their own opinions free from bias and agenda; to recognize their teachers are unafraid to pursue difficult conversations; to be part of the racial reckoning this country so acutely requires; to raise their own children in a land which seeks to reconcile rather than repudiate.*

Stephanie Lee | San Luis Obispo, CA

*The children and citizens of the United States of America deserve a full education of this country's history; including it's history of oppression of people of color, and people of minority religions and gender/sexual identities and how that has created our nation today.*

Kealy Duke | Baton Rouge, LA

*Politicians should not interfere in curriculum decisions, and students should make their own decisions based on truthful instruction. Not prioritizing education has brought us to this moment where ignorance and racism disguised as political authority can dictate what professionals teach.*

Justine Brunett | Memphis, TN

*My students have the power to create a more just society, but they must understand the truth about injustice first.*

Danielle Cruz | Felton, CA

Kelly Feinstein-Johnson | Erie, CO

*I'm am here to stand up for truth, fact, and the importance of teaching nuanced history.*

Kurt Handrich | Beloit, WI

*It is unethical to hide the truth of our history in the United States, especially when that history shows we have not lived up to our ideals that all people are created equal. Pretending racism has not been a central issue in our history, past an present, will not help us bring healing, restitution, or equity. Only honestly teaching the truth will help us bring the change that we need.*

Robert Mostow | Silver Spring, MD

*Facts are facts!*

Jennifer Fullilove | Portland, OR

*All of our students deserve to know the truth of our history, based on facts that represent all of us.*

Sarah Mogab | Leander, TX

Christopher Winne | Austin, TX

Simon Paddock | Gloucester, MA

Laura Wagenman | Osseo, MN

*Every child needs to have access to all the truths of history.*

L Lewis | Mechanicville, NY

*Truth and facts matter. Life doesn't get better for all by pretending our ancestors didn't treat others inhumanely. We must be able to look truth square in the face and accept our role in making the world a better place for every single person.*

Anna Cordeiro | Attleboro, MA

*"A hard truth is better than an easy lie." - Leigh Bardugo*

Stacy Newsom Kerr | Santa Cruz, CA

*History is not just propaganda that makes kids feel good about being American. It is real stories about real people that allows us to understand how we got where we are. That we would want otherwise means we only want mythology.*

Jeffrey Isen | Dorchester, MA

*Truth matters and education matters.*

Saskia Mizushima | Redmond, WA

*Students should not be lied to. Teaching the truth about our history is necessary for us to truly heal as a society.*

Katelyne Thomas | Mason, MI

Heather Hyvari | Hampton, NH

*the truth matters, and it's important that people are educated, compassionate, and understanding. If we aren't here to make the lives of others better and to care for our environment and one another, then we are of no good use to anyone or anything. Integrity, empathy, and kindness are of the utmost importance for the betterment and survival of our people and planet.*

Belen Magers | San Leandro, CA

*I care about teaching the truth of our history to our youth. Social justice and equity should be part of our youth's education always. We can't be bullied; we can't be silenced.*

Tenille Wright | Harvey, IL

*I know the difference teaching the truth can make and inspire the youth.*

Angela Novak CA

Sue Lozinski | Yorktown Town of, NY

*All parts of our history are important.*

Samantha Aguirre | San Francisco, CA

*Teaching is intrinsically a political act, there is no such thing as being "neutral" and it's incredibly important to counter-act the oppression of teaching American exceptionalism in schools*

Yvonne Burton-Smith | Pittsburg, CA

*Children must be taught the truth. The only way for our society to move towards equity for all is by studying the true history of our country.*

Tasa Marie | Olympia, WA

*We cannot move forward with integrity if we cannot look back with honesty.*

David Carrier | Salt Lake City, UT

*Adopting laws that actively promote denial and ignorance is a strategy that will not move society forward. My best guess is that very few teachers will actually conform to these new mandates. Many of us will respond by increasing class time spent on critical race theory, structural sexism, and LGBT oppression.*

Rebecca Horwitz | Rosendale, NY

*I will never lie to my young students. They deserve to learn the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.*

Katia Hazen | Berkeley, CA

*Truth matters.*

Gloria Custodio | Bradenton, FL

*The hard truths of history should be faced, not ignored or whitewashed. Classrooms are places for open and honest discussion, not censorship.*

Kristin Moilanen | Morgantown, WV



Sean O'Neil | Santa Fe, NM

*Teaching US History without talking about racism is like teaching reading without talking about vowels.*

Jessica Leveto | Conneaut, OH

*Our students deserve to learn how systems have been created to work for some and not others. It is not until we understand how these systems have been constructed that we can take them down and rebuild, equitably, together and for a better, brighter future.*

Todd Craig | Colorado Springs, CO

*The truth will set you free.*

Therese Gibson | Takoma Park, MD

*Truth matters. Critical thinking matters.*

Robert Wilkison | Jacksonville, FL

Lisa Gann | Kansas City, MO

Lisa Labella | Arlington, VA

*It is time to align the public school curriculum with the truth. As the world evolves and more about our world and our history is revealed, we must be intentional about presenting this information and providing these resources to our students.*

Norma Bowles | Los Angeles, CA

*We have to make sure our youth learn the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.*

Jo Carlisle | Jacksonville, FL

Eleanor Scott | San Francisco, CA

*I'm descendant of settler colonizers, I'm also a teacher. I am trying to interrupt intergenerational and present day racial and heteropatriarchal trauma that serves to keep white bodies comfortable and ignorant. Racism and racist policies are a failure of imagination. And by lying (both outright and by omission) to students, teachers are eroding Youth's prodigious critical thinking skills and creativity. I will not be part of this ongoing oppression and hegemony.*

Nina Dorrance | Albuquerque, NM

Lee Stierwalt | Delano, CA

Monica Aguirre | Seattle, WA

*I am a person of color who has been disfranchised through public education and as an adult now am trying to change that for my BIPOC youth*

Barbara DeBarger | San Ramon, CA

*Children deserve to know the truth of our history to learn from it. Not a whitewashed version.*

Amanda Day | Riverside, RI

Jennie Sharp | Camp Sherman, OR

*History and truth matter.*

Tim Gilmore | Jacksonville, FL

*I will not stop teaching the facts.*

Vyom Raval | Seattle, WA

*Learning our true histories is the only way we can understand the root causes of problems, escape the one dimensional existence of domination and subjugation, and become whole.*

Aline Aguirre | Seattle, WA

*Our youth and communities deserve to learn about BIPOC history to empower them toward liberation.*

Shannon Woodruff | Dripping Springs, TX

*Teach the truth, let trust be our guide. Good trouble!*

Grace Howley | Newark, NJ

Michael Rollolazo | Denver, CO

*I am dedicated to fighting willful ignorance one student at a time.*

Bethany Valint | Kenmore, WA

*Students need to know their histories to fight oppression and know their identities.*

Josephine Valentine | Harrisonburg, VA

*I am committed to teaching social justice and making schools a safe place for all of my students. I see it as a responsibility to teach students the truth so that they learn empathy at an early age and use their critical thinking skills to create a more just world. Without knowing the truth, students can't know how to move forward in fairness.*

Angela Thomas | Chandler, AZ

Michele Murphy | Falls Church, VA

*The truth of our history is complex and needs to be voiced, examined and discussed so that we can evolve into a more just and democratic nation.*

Rebecca Funk | Silver Spring, MD

Christina Jameson | Mesa, AZ

Michelle Wilson-Banks | Kalamazoo, MI

*Everyone deserves to know the TRUTH of the history of the United States and beyond. It only breeds "isms" and entitlement when facts are kept out.*

Heidi Schmittel | San Jose, CA

*it is my job to teach my students what has actually happened in the past; not some version of the truth that glosses over reality just to try and make white people feel better about where we came from. So many of the painful events of the past are directly impacting the present and until we acknowledge and attempt to come to grips with the truth, true racial equality will never happen and people will continue to suffer. We must teach the truth if we are ever going to heal our nation.*

Jerald Goo | Seattle, WA

*To understand race in America today, you have to understand our nation's history. To understand our nation's history, you have to discuss race.*

Ashley Kiddle | Chicago, IL

Michele Steriti | Cherry Hill, NJ

*As a parent and an educator I am committed to learning more than I was taught because I have an obligation to every child in my care to help them grow in wisdom, understanding, empathy, and compassion. It is a devastating shame to not learn from the mistakes of our past.*

Peter Mullins | Orange, CA

Michael Sova | San Francisco, CA

*Further progress cannot be made when thoughtful, nuanced and critical though and discussions are prohibited.*

Danah Opland-Dobs | Milwaukee, WI

Renee Sumner | Blue Springs, MO

*I sign because if we don't know our history we are doomed to repeat it.*

Lindsay Vanderbeek | Mountain View, CA

*Teaching the truth about our country's past is an important part of shaping our future.*

Amberlynn Lane | Vancouver, WA

*We are teaching about race either way, intentionally or not. I choose truth about our past with hope for a better future.*

Nisha Sensharma | Falls Church, VA

*An educated and engaged citizenry is critical to a democracy. Free and public discourse about issues that affect our lives is impossible without ACCURATE information about the diverse experiences and actions of ALL the people in our country's past and present.*

Steve Munczek | Mesa, AZ

*No American student should be kept from knowing the truth about this country and its foundation and development, regardless of whether the truth is ugly or not. By knowing what has occurred in the past to our fellow citizens, today's and tomorrow's students will learn how to avoid repeating the same mistakes.*

Kristen Tahour | Jefferson City, MO

*We need to teach the truth, not just the victors' propaganda and indoctrination.*

Joanne Walters | Portage, MI

*It is essential that accurate facts are reported regarding history.*

Christopher Wingett | Athens, OH

*I am not a bad person.*

Lawrence Hashima | La Mirada, CA

*My job is to teach students how to analyze history, not to conceal facts from them.*

Violeta Duran | Redondo Beach, CA

*Students deserve the truth.*

Michelle Rhodes | Maplewood, NJ

*The truth matters.*

Shannon Headley | Brighton, MI

*I am afraid for our democracy, and legislation banning something that is not even taught, is VERY DANGEROUS!!! Democracy is being threatened and I am on the front lines daily. Students have access to all information online, so by manipulating our teaching, they hope to continue White Supremacy, and BLACK LIVES MATTER!!!*

Michelle Leyesa

*Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it.*

Dan Gonzalez | East Hanover, NJ

Christian Montalvo | Elmhurst, NY

*I believe that things need to change.*

Sariah Hoskins | Jersey City, NJ

*I want students in the US to learn the truth*

Faye Holland | Austin, TX

*I want to be able to teach the truth.*

Charlotte Sparacino | Saratoga, CA

*Our young people deserve the truth.*

Nikki Dunn | Wyncote, PA

*We have a responsibility as educators to help our students discover and investigate the truth of our past and present so that they can make informed decisions about their futures.*

Rachel Pehle | Fairview Heights, IL

Lauren Peelen | Bronx, NY

*it's the right thing to do for my students, my community, my country and my world. To develop a nation of the critical thinkers we need, we must allow them to critically think about and analyze the different "truths" of our history.*

David Benson | Colorado Springs, CO

Jeremy Buehl | Madison, WI

*teaching about the history of country has to include the parts that we would rather ignore including the explicit pattern of white supremacy that has and continues to exist.*

Fran Hopkins | Cupertino, CA

*It is only through truly understanding the history of our country can we move forward to create a more perfect union.*

Sophia Schuster | Philadelphia, PA

Kathy marmor | Baltimore, MD

*It is very important to teach truth. It is when uncomfortable truths and facts about race and identity are disavowed, buried and deleted that prevents us all from learning from those who stories are vital to our understanding of history and given what I teach, creativity and and its rich reflection of our social complexities .*

Nickie Michaud Wild | Oelwein, IA

*As a University professor, I'm kind of tired about being the first person to tell young people the truth!*

Alethea Maldonado | San Marcos, TX

*I am a teacher, but specifically I am a teacher to incredible immigrants to our country. All of my students are Spanish-speaking, and they deserve to know our history, especially as it pertains to their rights and their peers' rights. We cannot mask the truth. We must face it head on and discuss it as individuals and a community.*

Sally Myles | Reseda, CA

*In order to dismantle racism and other oppressions, they must be named and the structures that support them identified and analyzed. Every individual needs to know how they are affected by these oppressions on personal, institutional and systemic levels and how they can develop collective solutions. No one is free from responsibility -- silence, inaction and narratives that suppress the truth support oppression, create divisions, and cost lives.*

Matthew Peterson | Kansas City, KS

*My students deserve to see themselves and their identities in the lessons being taught in my classroom and every classroom. Teaching about oppression and those who have worked to change oppressive structures empowers my students to think critically about what they want society to be and how their actions matter. In my classroom we will always seek to include all voices; especially those that have been historically marginalized and ignored.*

Amirra Malak | Hood River, OR

Holly Huckeba | Bellevue, WA

*Thinking like a historian is a critical-thinking skill every teenager learns in high school. Thinking like a historian is an essential skill enabling future citizens to learn how to understand, analyze and identify FACTS. Students in public education must NEVER be told by their government which facts they are allowed to learn and which ones they are forbidden from learning.*

Garret Virchick | Somerville, MA

*To gag teachers from teaching about systemic racism in the United States is one step closer to fascism.*

Erin Lee | Alexandria, VA

*I believe in teaching our students our true history from multiple perspectives. Then give students the space to have discussions, to share their opinions, and ultimately learn from each other. We should not censor our teachers. By teaching the truth we can become more understanding, more compassionate, and better as a nation. Teach from the heart and don't be afraid.*

Alethea Work | Portland, OR

*Teaching the truth matters. We can not let legislatures make reality illegal to discuss and teach.*

Morris White | Los Angeles, CA

Alexis Abrams | Portland, OR

*Only by learning about the injustices perpetrated by our country's institutions and examining still-present systemic racism can we move toward healing divisions and building a more humane future.*

Mary Vogt | Portsmouth, NH

*Sick of the government punishing people for telling the truth.*

Debbie Blane | Issaquah, WA

*So much of the "real" history of this country has been minimized, hidden, obscured. I want our youth to learn our true history long before the age that I was when I began to.*

Mary Cowhey | Florence, MA

*It is our duty and responsibility to teach the truth in history. When we teach the truth, with all of its messy contradictions, students become more engaged in our democracy. We need that now more than ever.*

Tracy Smallacombe | Carthage, NC

*This is appalling. Our next generations deserve the truth. How else can we learn from our mistakes?*

Ary Nassiri | Orange, CA

*We need honest education for youth to help them understand their role in the world, how systems have lead to unfair treatment for people in need.*

Jessica Titus | Downingtown, PA

Leslie Grinner | Providence, RI

*I am committed to anti-racist education, including the illumination of Bigotry in US culture*

Kulsoom Shah | Salem, OR

Elizabeth Considine | Half Moon Bay, CA

*I believe that we need to teach the truth about our history; all of it! History is complex, and we need to teach children the what, how, and why events occurred, and the consequences of those actions, in order to effect change and justice in the future.*

Nataly Reed | Tucson, AZ

*-Writing is situated in social, cultural, economic, and academic contexts.-Writers scrutinize power structures and critically interrogate societal inequities such as but not limited to racism, sex and gender discrimination, ableism, and xenophobia.-I believe in the power of language to compose the future in which students want to live.*

Stacy Gaugler | Niles, OH

*I am not an educator, but I am a human being who is a citizen of the United States and I am entitled to the truth. My children and my childrens children are entitled to the truth. How can we move forward if we refuse to recognize our history?*

Dusti Morales | Oak Harbor, WA

*The numbers don't lie.*

Frances Goff | Pasadena, CA

*Education - or lack of it - is how we arrived at this ignorant impasse; Education is how we will survive*

Erica Conwell | Aurora, IL

*We need to be able to share the different stories that has helped shape our nation. As well as help students understand how things within our society has effected us from the past and continues to influence things that are happening today in our society. "You don't know where you are going until you know where you have been." We will be doomed to repeat the same mistakes if we are not able to teach history through multiple perspectives.*

Dennis Canady | Apple Valley, CA

*I refuse to comply to fear, intimidation, and ignorance.*

Gregory Lewis | Seattle, WA

*The truth needs to be taught everywhere, both inside and outside the classroom.As a self-defense instructor, I would be doing my students a huge disservice if I didn't expose them to the shady underbelly of the U.S. justice system or speak candidly about the realities of violent crime in the United States.*

Sharon Safarik | Seattle, WA

Diana Levy | Hayward, CA

Lesla Holley | Rowlett, TX

*I am passionate about the beautiful complex story of America. The only way to teach it is to understand race and racism, in the past and in the present. I pledge to teach the truth to my students because I love them and because they deserve honesty in the classroom.*

Christian Rewoldt | Mansfield, TX

*I am a veteran and defend the constitution of the United States against ALL enemies, foreign AND domestic.*

Jacob Galfano | Mount Vernon, WA

*I am signing my name because opponents of teaching social justice in schools fail to understand that all that means is teaching young people to think critically about the society in which they exist and to use their voices -- both individually and collectively -- to make change that benefits everyone. Instead, opponents appropriate and misuse concepts and labels, and choose poorly conceived talking points... a stark absence of the very critical thinking that we want young people to practice.*

Kay Crittenden | Mesa, AZ

*Everyone deserves to know the correct history. I grew up learning whitewashed history, and I felt betrayed when I learned the truth. I don't want any of my students feeling that way.*

Stefanie Campanella | Gilbert, AZ

*The truth matters.*

Dolly Higgins | Boise, ID

*The truth matters - and it's the only way forward.*

Jessica Taylor | Liverpool, NY

Katherine Dodsley | Seattle, WA

*I firmly believe that children and youth need to know the true history of our country, especially the periods from 1492-1619 and 1619 to now. White supremacy and anti-black racist systems in the United states started with settler colonialism and indigenous genocide, continued with chattel slavery and Jim Crow, and persist with color-blindness and white nationalism. So long as black, indigenous, and people of color are systematically oppressed, no one in this country is truly free. Knowing and teaching our country's true history benefits everyone because when we can acknowledge the harm that has been perpetrated we can prevent it from*

*happening again and restore racially just and gender inclusive practices that support the lives and futures of communities of color. Diverse societies are more successful, more creative, and better equipped to combat serious challenges to their survival like climate change.*

Diane Elliott | Corvallis, OR

*It is important that children learn the truth of our history. Not all history is "pretty" but ALL children deserve to know the truth. They also ALL deserve to be seen in their schools and classrooms.*

Debbie Hoggard | San Antonio, TX

*As an educator, it is my responsibility to teach truth, authenticity, and inclusion in our curriculum, so as to better teach to the realities of ALL my students.*

Misty Youngblood | Camas, WA

*Every child deserves an education that is truthful. We must tell the stories of the past so that we do not repeat it.*

Kenechukwu Eneli | Belton, TX

*The truth sets you free is said, then why hide the truth or stop the truth from being told/taught.*

Daniel Cox | Los Alamos, NM

*Censorship of teachers and educators inhibits learning*

Carolyn Sanders | Chula Vista, CA

*Young people have the right to learn about actual his/herstory - not what legislators want them to learn.*

Roberto German | Austin, TX

*I support programs and curriculum that dismantle White supremacy and teach the history of the various people groups in this country.*

Irene Sanchez | Azusa, CA

*The truth should be taught. Our history is U.S. history.*

Shannon Howard | San Diego, CA

*The truth matters and is the only catalyst for true change!*

Avis Judd | Tucson, AZ

*"Truthfulness is the foundation of all human virtues."We cannot do justice to our students by omitting the reality of the world in which they live. Our students are not ignorant of the racism, sexism, and homophobia which impact their lives. In many cases they are more knowledgeable about these injustices than their teachers. When we fail to acknowledge or address these issues we lose the trust of our students. Without that trust they won't hear anything else we teach them. We cannot segregate curriculum from reality. Truthfulness!*

Nicole Haahr | Dover, NH

*I did not learn enough about racial justice and systemic racism in my formal and informal education. Most of what I learned was in college and afterwards. Kids are impressionable and they need to learn the true history of our country, and kids of different backgrounds need to be represented and seen in their classrooms.*

Yvonne Kunz , WA

*my students deserve to see their truths reflected in curriculum.*

Jennifer Mullet | Tucson, AZ

*Everyone deserves the truth so they can make their own choices for the future.*

Robert Rivera-Amezola | Philadelphia, PA

Catherine Livingston | Albany, NY

Kim Zembsch | Moraga, CA

*Efforts to hide the truth in order to protect feelings leaves everyone ignorant.*

Yvonne Benn | New York, NY

Whitney Kahn | Seattle, WA

Audrey Brinkers | Chicago, IL

*My students deserve to feel empowered by learning the truth.*

Anissa Weinraub | Philadelphia, PA

Marta Repollet | Portland, OR

*Students have a right to learn the truth of our past in order to better shape their future.*

Miriam Oppenheimer | Philadelphia, PA

*I can't wait to get started*

Sarah Harris | Fresh Meadows, NY

*All students must learn all history. Especially history that show intersectionality.*

Georgina Paredes | Copenhagen, NY

Jonathan Satlow | Philadelphia, PA

Jonathan Goulet | Philadelphia, PA

*As an educator, it is my role to help teach my students the true history of our country and the current inequities.*

John Nimmo | Portland, OR

*Teachers have an ethical responsibility to share the truth with young children and to support them in making sense of the society around them. Children have a deep sense of fairness and want to be change makers.*

Emily Simpson | Philadelphia, PA

Jennifer Willard | Yarmouth, ME

*We must teach the truth. How can anyone understand the challenges of today unless they understand the causes, the bed of fire laid down in history. It is time to explain and examine the frustration and anger that has led us here. It is past time.*

Hanin Burnham | Atlanta, GA

Phyllis D.K. Hildreth JD | Nashville, TN

*Freedom and justice for all require truth, restoration, reparation, then reconciliation. Teaching complete, if contested, histories of social systems and civic governance is an indispensable predicate to shared and lasting peace in Beloved Community.—pdkh 12 June 2021 #TeachTruth*

Erin Haley | West Chester, PA

*The manipulation of what CRT is has created a hysterical reaction that undermines the reality that CRT is higher-concept learning at the university level; not taught at primary or secondary levels. As a result, parents and administrators have become equally hysterical and candid in their desire to whitewash history and make it 'pretty' rather than truthful.*

Lea Kelly | Phoenixville, PA

Stacey Ditlevson | Euclid, OH

*I am committed to teaching young people to think critically about the past and the present to create a better future.*

Kandice Nelson | Scottsdale, AZ

*Our students deserve the truth. It's past time whitewashed history left classrooms forever.*

Abby Hood | Portsmouth, NH

Lucia Reyes | Lancaster, CA  
Our kids deserve the truth

Julie Antupit Antupit | San Mateo, CA

*I feel it's so important to teach children the whole truth about our history and to teach them critical thinking skills to keep learning throughout their lives!*

heather may | Rosenberg, TX

Kari Lindstrom | Portland, OR

*there is a difference between opinion and fact and as a teacher it is my job to teach the facts the best that I can. I was not taught the facts and have had to relearn so much over the years. We can only get better, do better and be better when we know what happened in the past so we don't repeat or continue racist actions and beliefs.*

Geralyn Leannah | Sheboygan, WI

Lisa Bohórquez | San Francisco, CA

*We have an obligation to our students and families to teach the truth*

Mary Diamond | Auburn, AL

*the truth about history matters!*

Marisa Oste | Pico Rivera, CA

Constance Thayer | Washington, DC

*My students deserve a more just world, which can only start by ensuring the truth is known.*

Vanessa Small | Monroe, LA

*The Louisiana resource book for 7th grade social studies begins in 1754 (after the French and Indian War) through Reconstruction (including Wade Davis). There is a small picture of Crispus Attucks with a caption under it. After that through the Industrial Revolution, there is not mention of African Americans. When they talk about it, there is a PARAGRAPH. We are supposed to do outside readings of four American American authors' excerpts. Some of them are really hard. There is not mention of African Americans during the Civil War other than mentioning some fought for the Union. There's no mention of African Americans, aside from mentioning them as a group in a few sentences. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!! I bring in outside things and stories for the students to understand it.*

Phillip Edmonds | Madison, WI

*This is proposed legislation is fear based and promotes deception to gain political strength.*

Jessica Jones | Doylestown, PA

*All voices in our history need to be heard.*

Rebecca Meyer | New York, NY

Kayla Gulbranson | Portland, OR

*The truth is important; and if I expect my children to tell the truth, then so should we.*

Runa Zaman | Chicago, IL

Stephanie Caesar | Houston, TX

*Those who forget the last are doomed to repeat it.*

Nubia Gerima | Washington, DC

*Our students deserve to know true history. It's the only way the nation will progress racially.*

Michael Misciagna | Philadelphia, PA

Wes Oswald | Tucson, AZ

*We can learn from the past and become a better society.*

Jennifer Courtney-Keyse | Denver, CO

*ALL of my students should be taught THE TRUTH!*

Nekoda Garbes | Waterloo, IA

*I believe in teaching the truth and teaching real honest history.*

Cathy Nostrand | Portland, OR

*we need to see society and the past more clearly in order to impact and change the present for the better of all.*

Mel Katz | Monmouth Junction, NJ

Dr. Brittany C. Vinson (DD)(h.c.) | Madison, AL

*I am honored to be an International Orator/Advocate with a readiness to rage. My special needs family are subject to and victims of UNCONSTITUTIONAL behaviors from a SYSTEM WHO CRIES WOLF..... HOW MANY MORE FAMILIES ARE OUT THERE...HONESTLY, a local school district, judicial system and community INTRODUCED ME to THEIR FIELD! Government Officials have turned a deaf ear, a blind eye dehumanizing citizens deliberately. Such are unethical mannerisms that are insidious and unjust. Most are intimidated by autonomous citizens..... they prey and plot against individuals maliciously and murderously. Sadly, most get away with doing such a thing!HOWEVER, there is a SLIM chance suspects are held accountable and found GUILTY! "Her soul is eager with a readiness to rage, yet humble as she conveys. Such eloquence unites and creates an integral impact leading to a NATION under GOD. With liberty and justice for all. I am The Matriarch of the Nation,Dr. Brittany C. Vinson (DD)(h.c.)*

Michelle Tooson | Marietta, GA

*It matters*

Leanne Haghghi | San Jose, CA

*All students deserve to be taught the truth, for we are doomed to repeat history when we are ignorant to our past.*

Anne Greer | Mesa, AZ

*We need to be better people, not a bunch of White-washers of history. You can stop us from teaching about racism but obviously that won't change the fact that you are a bunch of racists!*

lauren Atkinson | Greenbank, WA

*I believe we must teach the truth of our history to understand the present, to inform and reimagine our future. A future that supports the health and well-being of all beings, including Mother Earth.*

sarah chrosniak | INDIAN VALLEY, VA

Rey Horowitz | New York, NY

*our students deserve our honesty in naming the impact of our racist history on the present.*

Jordan Dietrich | Elk Grove, CA

Dan'etta Jimenez | Cambria Heights, NY

Jessica Wainman | Denver, CO

*I will never lie to my students, knowingly. I will do all that I can to ensure that they know the truth: that white supremacy is in the air and we need to fight against it.*

Michaela Caldwell | Corvallis, OR

Laura Roth | Spring City, PA

*We all need to teach the true history so we do not repeat it!*

Scott Springer | Blue Hill Town of, ME

*When we learn essential truths (of history, climate, self-development) taught with honest self-reflection, opportunities for conversation, and hope for transformation, our society is strengthened, our society becomes a nourishing place for our young to grow, our society has a sustainable purpose. That is why I teach.*

John Ward | Wilmette, IL

*Let the chips fall and let all history lead us where it leads. This may be the bravest thing we ever do.*

Nicollette Ruiz | Brooklyn, NY

*Students need to know the truth in order to engage in critical thinking about the world around them!*

Heather Mulford | West Vincent Twp, PA

*It's ridiculous that I feel the need to sign this! How can anyone think it's appropriate to avoid the uncomfortable historical events of the United States when educating our youth? History can be very ugly - but it's through learning, discussing & applying critical thinking skills to our students that we can grow as a nation. Ignoring the uncomfortable topics creates a dangerous precedent of false Nationalism & a generation of students that are incapable of positive growth & critical communication skills.*

Caol Conti | Blackstone, MA

*How can we understand our nation today if we don't acknowledge all aspects of our past?*

Danielle Grodek | Philadelphia, PA

Amia Bridgeford | Louisville, KY

Brendan Gagnon | Petaluma, CA

*Education is the path to social justice. We must challenge the dominant culture narratives and include the experiences of those communities who have historically been left out of the lesson plan. We must educate students so that may create change for a better future.*

Emily Kruger | Alexandria, VA

*Y'all will not silence us from telling the truth!!*

Jennifer DeLorge McKeown | Silver Spring, MD

*Our students deserve truthful history and honest discussions about race.*

Sean Gratrix | Las Vegas, NV

*The truth will out.*

Ricardo Medina | Chula Vista, CA

*In order for youth to tackle racism and forms of oppression that they have inherited, they must be taught truth about our country's history and be provided with tools and skills to address new tomorrows.*

Jennifer Franke | Key West, FL

*It is important for us to know history and the mistakes that were made so they are not repeated. It is also important to know the truth so we can grow.*

Kelly Bridges | Riverside, CT

Erin Brumbaugh | Elkins, WV

*Now, more than ever, we need to expose bigotry in all its forms for what it is - stupidity.*

Fayette Colon | Bronx, NY

Jeremy Glazer | Philadelphia, PA

Jennifer Robinson | Tampa, FL

*My students deserve the truth*

Mark Sass | Denver, CO

*I have a professional and ethical responsibility to the profession and society to ensure students understand where they come from and where we can go.*

Casey Chrapuch

*our students DESERVE to know the truth.*

Suzanne Stone | Scotts Valley, CA

*I teach 4th grade and this is a critical age to speak the truth - even if it means keeping it simple. I believe that laying a foundation of critical thinking is key to teaching history at the higher educational level.*

Ed Sage | Gresham, OR

*I'm scared of people who are scared of being honest about our past.*

Karoline Khamis | Las Vegas, NV

*Teaching true history replaces hate with conversation.*

Ayesha Syed | New York, NY

*Children deserve to learn the truth*

Amanda Harris | Liverpool, NY

Sara Hughes | East Syracuse, NY

*In order to make the future better we need to accurately teach the past.*

Kim McLeveighn | Bronx, NY

Laura Weaver | Saint Paul, MN

*If we don't learn about our history, we are doomed to repeat it.*

Gheon Selemon | Columbus, OH

Scott Grant | San Diego, CA

Rebecca Riley | Columbus, OH

*Cultural change begins with education. Social justice and equity begins with cultural change.*

Steve Bronson | Emeryville, CA

*To ban or defy the truth of our nation's history is to repeat it. We need a reckoning without past to move forward to complete racial and social justice. If I had taught social studies I would have certainly used Zinn's The People's History of the United States as my textbook and guide. I always encouraged my social studies colleagues to do the same. Knowledge is power. Knowledge is transformation.*

Adam Blyweiss | Philadelphia, PA

Courtney Watkins | Georgetown Twp, MI

Zachariah Beasley | Seattle, WA

*Students deserve to know the truth about our country-their country- whose precarious future is in their hands. They deserve to know that people who look like them have always fought for what is right, believing that a better world is possible.*

Sherry Crane | Battle Creek, MI

Anita DeRouen | Jackson, MS

Karen Brink | Kinderhook Town of, NY  
Teaching the truth is the only option.

Dennise Gackstetter

"Truth" is not just one point of view, one story. "Truth is multidimensional and multifaceted. All events are made of several layers of stories. Each story reveals the perspective and understandings of that participant. To really understand the impact and implication to an era or event, we must hear ALL the stories and perspectives. In this way we can build empathetic bridges of meaning and understanding. This is the common ground that becomes the foundation for change. Once we can understand what others have experienced, then we can begin to make real change. Everyone deserves to have their stories told.

Athena Ayers | Atlanta, GA

Aletha Fields | Louisville, KY

Kim Moore | Frederick, MD

I am a social studies teacher and understand that teaching the WHOLE truth about our social, economic and political is what makes us true patriots that love their nation with all its glory and faults.

Kristin Ferguson | Mill Valley, CA

I believe that teachers must always teach the truth. As a history teacher I must teach ALL of the history so that my students may truly understand our collective history.

Christine Chmielniak | Seattle, WA

Kristin Wachtelhausen | Harvard, MA  
It matters.

Monique McKenney | Philadelphia, PA

Veronica Guevara | Bethlehem, PA

We as a nation need to teach the truth and not continue to curate curriculum that promotes falsehoods about our past. Our democracy is still dynamic and deserves a frequent review and refresh to meet the future we hope it will see.

Becky Martinez | Denver, CO

Elissa Grobman | La Mesa, CA  
refuse to lie because it makes people uncomfortable.

Brian Lawler | Kennesaw, GA

I oppose hiding the truth in order to perpetuate white supremacy.

Christian Kadlec | Oak Park, IL

Angela Grabuloff | Derry Twp, PA

ALL history and ALL perspectives are AMERICAN History- we should not silence any of it especially if we ever truly hope to be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Jane Audette | Milwaukee, WI

Social workers in education must interrogate our personal racial identities and listen and learn about the racial identities of staff, students and families. We must be willing to learn, teach and live in the truth about racial systemic oppression.

Megan Archer | Clackamas, OR

Jessica Boisen | Englewood, NJ

Lashira Lemons | Papillion, NE  
I commit to teaching true Black History

Shelley Park | Orlando, FL

In a democracy, politicians don't interfere with educational curricula. Students deserve real education and not censored versions of a people's history.

Lara Knight | Houston, TX

It is important to teach the truth. It is important to teach all children that they have value.

Angela Iovine | Philadelphia, PA

We must tell our students the truth!

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

Brenna McLaughlin | Brooklyn, NY

I am committed to the un whitewashing of history in American.

Jill Hanson | Atlanta, GA

Amanda Deter | Birmingham, AL

We already are committed to teaching true, difficult, inclusive history that honors all the students in the classroom and ones that aren't represented in our small school. I believe that our society will change as we give every student access to true history. Our students become witnesses to history and will grow into magnanimous citizens, activists, educators!

Kare Mercurio | Rumford, RI

A more just society requires that we look at our history honestly. We need to teach our students how to listen to stories that are different than their own and build empathy. As a parent, I do not ignore my child's past experiences. I use them to help my child grow and create positive change.

Yaasiyn Muhammad | Elkins Park, PA

A people without a knowledge of their past is like a tree without roots.

Ali Haverty | Harrisonburg, VA

My job as an educator is to guide students in practice of their critical thinking skills. To ask questions which build understanding of the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the past, the present, and the future. I refuse to ignore that/those which/who has/have been systematically erased and ignored in this practice.

Martha Lawson | Liverpool, NY

all of my students deserve to be represented in the history of our country. They deserve to have role models of persistence, determination and success. We do not learn from knowing one side of anything. We learn from mistakes. We learn from struggle. We learn from differences. We as teachers, as citizens, as humans are called to do better. We cannot do better by ignoring the history of half the population. We owe it to our students, our neighbors and our country to do everything in our power to ensure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

Susan Warrow | Beverly Hills, MI

I was in college in the 1980s when I learned the lies I was taught about Columbus and Native Americans. That's when I decided to be a teacher who teaches the truth, and I have been now for over 20 years.

Rebecca McAllister | West Chester, PA

An educated student is one who can think critically about current events. One who will not be fooled into thinking these events are new. And one who will know that they can make change and have a positive impact. Educated students will educate others, recognizing bigotry in systems and individuals. I stand with Zinn

Education Project in this mission.

Adam Keller | Athens, AL

*If the truth appears biased, perhaps that's your problem and the problem of the misinformation you're consuming? Young people deserve to know the good, the bad, and the ugly of our past in order to understand the present and improve the future.*

Annie LovettHall | Philadelphia, PA

*We need the truth*

Charis Sharp | D.C.

*It's important*

Deron Albright | Havertown, PA

*"...[Man] is in his actions and practice, as well as in his fictions, essentially a story-telling animal. He is not essentially, but becomes through his history, a teller of stories that aspire to truth. But the key question for men is not about their own authorship; I can only answer the question 'What am I to do?' if I can answer the prior question 'Of what story or stories do I find myself a part?'" - Alasdair MacIntyre*

Janet Turner | Decatur, GA

*my job as an educator is to shine a light that helps students see the world in which we live, not to hide uncomfortable truths with silence.*

Michele Blumberg | Encinitas, CA

*I have used Zinn history with my students for years. It is important to tell the truth.*

Whitney Howarth | Concord, NH

*Without the freedom to teach the truth, face our history and understand the most troubling parts of our past, we can not move forward, heal, repair and bring justice to all.*

Nicole Steverson | Tucker, GA

*Telling the truth about American history helps free them from oppressive systems.*

Taylor Stoermer | Providence, RI

*I stand with others for truth and honesty in teaching about our past absent nationalist mythology. That's how we strengthen and celebrate diverse communities, by tackling how we all got here.*

Marcus Logan | Covington, GA

*Our students deserve the truth.*

Leigh Yakubowski | Bronx, NY

Andrew Haglin | Brooklyn, NY

*I believe students need to know the true history of our country if we hope to ever hope to address the prejudices and structural inequalities that persist to this day.*

Matthew Evangelisti | Litchfield, CT

*Lies only benefit a few, the truth benefits us all!*

Allen Cross | Madison, WI

*If we want to meet the promises of our democracy, we need a well-informed and critical thinking citizenry.*

Mario Galvan | Carmichael, CA

*Democracy - and human decency - requires truth, and not only in education! Anyone who thinks truth can - or even should - be banned by legislation, is displaying a sick and twisted mentality trying to use perverted logic to hide or defend some inhumane or criminal action or event.*

Meagan Major | Fairfax, VA

*We are not teaching revisionist history- for the first time, many of our students are learning a broader range of perspectives than just the white men who wrote the history books.*

Gretchen Moran | Crownsville, MD

*The history we teach must be our real history.*

Talina Hogan , CT

*As a multi racial person growing up in America, I know first hand the damage that comes from the ignorance passed down in many families about race, gender and privilege. When I became an educator, I made it my mission to teach the truth through literature when I started 17 years ago. Nevertheless, the anti anti-racist curriculum movement (under the guise of CRT ) being promoted now is just a last desperate gasp from people who cannot accept that this country is changing in many ways, and laws may slow that down, but will never change what is happening. The browning of America is a long time coming, and we will all be better for it.*

Tamar Cloyd | Shaker Heights, OH

*The truth is the only option...*

Robert Nuxoll | New York, NY

petr dann | Sun Prairie, WI

Michelle Prieditis | Baltimore, MD

*I believe that history's truth must be revealed and taught. Period. No more withholding of how we got to where we are nowadays. Let's go!*

Andrew Maryniuk | Richmond, VA

*Our history can't be rewritten, but we will repeat and relive it if we try to ignore it. Truth and reconciliation over toothless, poisonous fictions.*

Erica Ince | Charlotte, NC

*History was been whitewashed. We're so scared of hurting someone's feeling or offending someone, we sugarcoat the truth. Not being honest about our history is what is causing most of our countries problems. We can't fix them if we don't face them.*

Jacob Bennett | Chester, NH

*The proliferation of misinformed bills, laws, and rules banning teaching of "divisive concepts" suggest that the real evil is inquiry into historic iniquities and their living vestiges, rather than the iniquities themselves. I will seek the truth.*

Shannon Sandberg | Bellingham, WA

*I support everything Zinn Ed!*

Roger Baker | Phoenix, AZ

*We must allow students to hear and read the truth (facts) about the history of our country so they can make intelligent decisions about how they will treat others*

Morgan Marchbanks | Santa Rosa, CA

Fatim Byrd | Philadelphia, PA

*children need to learn the truth about their history.*

Dorothy Hines | San Jose, CA

*The only way people learn is if someone speaks the truth whether it's through reading, listening, or observing.*

Benita Gordon | Miami, FL

*We must teach the truth. We can't afford to repeat history!*

Tom Riviere | Solna, Stockholm, SE

*"The U.S where innocent people lose their lives to social inequality and racism every day, where over 600,000 people died of a novel coronavirus, is itself human rights wasteland". " North Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs." So Who's accountable for this.....why it's "We the People" willfully steeped in unimaginable ignorance,*



wrapped in faux nationalism and silent acceptance, tempered by an apathetic disregard for humanity. Now you may choose to look the other way....but you can never say again that you didn't know.....

Jeff Newby | Bakersfield, CA  
The truth matters.

Jennifer Paulsen | Cedar Falls, IA  
I believe in evidence, data, and an accurate representation of history.

Katie Rose | Salinas, CA  
Our students know the realities of the world they live in today. They deserve to know all that happened before today, the good, bad, and ugly, that made this country what it is...broken and afraid of progress.

Jesus Fernandez Jr | Geyserville, CA  
this "legislative" assault on the teaching on critical race theory is nothing more than a brazen attempt to silence the teaching and understanding of real-life experiences of real-life people for the young generations of the 21st century. It is utterly critical for our young people to learn about their local, state and federal histories, good and bad, warts and all, in order to prevent entire generations from being indoctrinated and/or brainwashed by radical politicians who wish to keep us thinking like sheep. How am I to teach what happened to the local Pomo tribe when white settlers moved in? How am I to teach about what happened to former Mexicans after the U.S. - Mexico War? How am I to teach the Alien Land Law of 1913? How am I to teach the Chinese Massacre of 1871? How am I to teach the Zoot Suit Riots, Watts Riots, and aftermath of the Rodney King beating? How am I to teach the Civil War knowing that at the January 6th Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, was a protestor who entered with the Confederate battle flag? The uncomfortable primary sources must be taught as much as the comfortable primary sources, lest we become an ignorant society led by our fears instead of our acquired, understanding about ourselves in order to make better, informed decisions about our present, into our common future. I refuse to be silenced by these ridiculous directives from backward-thinking individuals. As Flava-Flav always said, "Fight the Power!"

Alexis Padilla | Hesperia, CA  
I cannot continue to spout false history that's erased the victories and struggles of minorities in America.

Melody Cortés | West Covina, CA  
Because students deserve to practice being critical thinkers without "sugar coating," history.

Noah Zeichner | Seattle, WA

Keith Brooks | Brooklyn, NY  
i could write a book about why i'm signing. actually, i am writing a book to be titled "MythAmerica: the Hidden Histories, Dirty Little Secrets, Half-Truths and Outright Lies of Amerian History"

Laura-Susan Thomas | Santa Maria, CA  
I feel we need to look at our truths from the past in order to not repeat them. In order for us to grow and come together as a people.

Krista Martin | Portland, OR  
Truth matters. Hiding the true story has gone on long enough.

Niku Bolourchi | San Francisco, CA  
Being honest about where we've come allows us to soberly see and address where we are right now and how we want to shape the future. Restorative justice for a reimagined future.

Brooke Warren | Portland, OR

Alexandra Sheridan | Irvine, CA  
The only way the future can make change is by truly understanding the past.

Melissa Arechiga | Long Beach, CA  
Indigenous people are still here! The US government labels us immigrants on our own LAnd and continent when we are the rightful heir of the LAnd. 2021 indigenous people live under consist government occupation of our stolen LAnd. Are children are locked away in cages and family's separated. In order to cause kill our spirit. Just like they did with when stole indigenous children and put them in residential school. Now we are finding our indigenous children bodies buried under these horrible places. History is repeating. As an indigenous woman I need to educate my people, community, and relatives. In addition fight for accounting from those in power and corporation who have harmed us and continue to take from us without offering anything back and a lack of remorse. For example the #dodgers corporation #Displacers #IndigenouseLAnd #StolenLAnd #Honorthetreaties #TeachthekidstheTruth #LAndBack #VivaPaloVerde #LaLoma and #Bishop #NotChavezRavine #buriedundertheblue #ArechigaFamilyPresent 🍌

Kayla Frank | Tacoma, WA  
I love all of my students and refuse to lie to them. They deserve to learn the truth, to expand their critical thinking skills, develop their own styles of activism, and to pursue a more just world.

Akemi Mercedes | Emeryville, CA  
everyone deserves an opportunity to learn the truth

Jen Blackwood | Seattle, WA

Eric Schroeder | New Orleans, LA

Danielle Sanders | Lynnwood, WA  
It's time to tel the truth and start to heal.

Abigaiut Palof | Louisville, KY

Donna Rottier | San Diego, CA  
I am committed to developing students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills, and this cannot be done without access to truth.

Alexa McConville | Blackfoot, ID  
Telling schools they can have more money if they pledge to not teach race theory is the reason Idaho ranks so low in education. It's embarrassment. It. Is. Racist.

Sarah Peters | Portland, OR  
Education is the only remedy to ignorance and hate

Semmel Jessica | New York, NY  
I teach my students to be actively anti racist everyday and the true history of this country. Children can reckon with the country's past bc they want it to be better

Kim Malolepsy | Portland , OR  
The truth matters and it needs to be taught!

Lea Hansen | Richland Center, WI  
As a professional educator, I cannot in good conscience teach an incomplete and/or inaccurate history of the United States to my students. To do so would do my students a disservice. The study and practice of history and historical thinking skills are vital in the development of an informed, engaged citizenry. Civic engagement is essential to the health and well-being of our nation.

Gloria Boutte | Columbai, SC  
I believe in the democratic principle of freedom of speech. History should not be whitewashed.

Ivonne Montoya | Lovington, NM  
As an older sibling. I would want and will teach my younger siblings the truth about history. And I would expect their teachers to teach them too. It took adulthood for me to do my own research on history that school nor college classes taught me. I pledge so my siblings can leaen the truth. Not lies one man or a group of men

*decided to tell for the whole world.*

Michelle Ring | Seabeck, WA

*I value a more just society where teachers can speak the truth about touchy subjects that affect us all.*

Candice Zawoiski | Cleveland, OH

*Learning the truth about the country's history is the only way to change the present and create a better world. It's integral to learn about the history of oppression and injustice in order to fight to end all forms of oppression and injustice.*

Emmy Talian | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students deserve to hear multiple, critical perspectives and to reach their own conclusions from complete information.*

Jordan Preston | Council Bluffs, IA

*Until we examine the true history of our world and its people, we cannot make societies and spaces where everyone has a voice and everyone is equal.*

Ashley Roane | San Diego, CA

*We need to be aware of the truth in order to create a better future for us all.*

Liz Sugano | Kent, WA

*All our future generations deserve to know the truth about our countries history so that it isn't repeated.*

Malik Moore | Columbus, OH

*We need to honestly reckon with our past to create a future where all people can feel confident that the things we are afraid to talk about will stay in the past - unless some are hoping they become a reality again.*

Lisa Bonilla | Pflugerville, TX

*The truth matters and our students deserve it!*

Lorena German

*Students deserve a curriculum that is truth-telling and one that affirms their identity.*

Michael Pitblado CA

Bree K | Bellmead, TX

Alicia Boock | Steilacoom, WA

*My child lives in an area stolen from Native tribes and deserves to know the truth about the founding of our country, how part of the family was treated poorly and the other part was not based on their skin color and language. History of our land will not be hidden - this should be the same in schools.*

Edie Mileham | Madison, WI

*Truth is truth; it may be ugly, but facing it is how we change. If we cannot be honest with our young people about our history and how it has led us to an unfair social system, how can they ever build the beautiful world we want them to live in: a world of kindness, justice, and love of the truth?*

Evelyn Israel | New York, NY

*It is important that students are exposed to the oppression and challenges that certain groups have faced throughout history in our country, and continue to face today. I thought it was bad enough that my teachers did not include much history of systemic oppression in my curriculum throughout primary and secondary school, but to imagine that it would be outlawed for teachers to do that is horrible.*

Grace Lacques | Los Angeles, CA

Courtney M | San Luis Obispo, CA

Marshata Caradine | East Saint Louis, IL

*Our children MUST know the truth to change the trajectory of their life's journey. Because of BLACK PEOPLE they are, have been.*

Jessica Duarte | Woodland, CA

*Teaching history means teaching the truth!*

Kelly Curtright | Clio, MI

*All of U.S. History should be taught: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.*

Thomas Fiori | Miami Beach, FL

Victoria Hay | Gerstungen

*To create a Culturally relevant curriculum includes critical perspective of knowledge bases. We have to share all histories.*

Dehlia Seim | Duluth, MN

*failing to teach the truth holds back progress. It allows hate to grow and history to repeat itself. When we know better, we must do better. Our job as adults/educators is to give children the knowledge and tools to think critically about these facts so as to create a future that is better for all people, not just the normative white supremacy.*

Tina Tryforos | Rumford, RI

*it is essential that we teach the truth about racial inequity and its history in the US.*

Katherine Towle | Silver Spring, MD

Michelle Conway | Tacoma, WA

*Teaching the truth is essential to change. "If not me then who?" We can no longer stand by and allow ignorance to be our excuse for our intolerance.*

Joellen Kriss-Broubalow | Springfield, VA

*I will not lie to young people.*

Kristin Strasser | San Diego, CA

Liane Hicks | Wayland, MA

Christa Marlowe | Milwaukee, WI

*My scholars deserve the truth!*

Emily Jang | Fairport, NY

*I'm tired of the decades long silencing of the minority voice. I'm tired of the very same people who benefit from our labor, who consume our culture, who eat our "authentic food" while at the same time trying to erase our history, deny our struggles, and silence our voices. Enough.*

Maki Scott | Haines City, FL

*Teaching lies shouldn't be tolerated in education.*

Ashley Gourley | Brentwood, CA

Annie Jackson | Chicago, IL

*Black Student's Lives Matter*

Elena Brown | La Puente, CA

Katie Herrmann | Pewaukee, WI

*Teaching the truth is imperative for democracy.*

Duncan McGinnis | Richards, TX

*Kids deserve to know the truth. There is simply no way to understand history if you don't know the whole story.*

Jamie Holifield | Milwaukee, WI

*I have the courage to teach the hard truth and not lie to students about the history of our country and its implications on society today.*

Harmony Gerlach | Newton, KS

*History doesn't belong to just one group of people and it's incredibly important to try and tell every group's story.*

Alissa Campbell | Dekalb, IL

*Students are the future and therefore deserve to learn the truth about the past to inform their thoughts about the present. Equipped with truth they can better lead us towards liberty for all.*

Karl Gardner | Portland, OR

*I believe in teaching history. I believe in listening to people's stories. I believe in the lived experiences of those who experience a life different than my own. I believe truth matters. I believe in teaching empathy. I believe you cannot teach empathy while denying the lives of those you teach. I believe that denying history, statistics, studies, and the lives of those impacted by inherent racist structures is to be teaching hate and indifference. And I believe in teaching love. So listen.*

Dana LoVecchio | Santa Clara, CA

*My students are entitled to the truth*

Shirletta Kinchen | Louisville, KY

*I do not support the erasure of historical truths*

Laura Smith | Staten Island, NY

Denise Tarr | South Gate, CA

*you can't learn from your past if you don't know what it is. If you don't learn from your past then you will end up repeating it. My students believe in creating a more just world for all citizens of the planet. I will stand by them and help to make that happen.*

Dianna Rogers Wells | West Townshend, VT

*Im a Wisconsin teacher who believes in teaching history from the silent and marginalized point of view. This bill would impact so many of my students who need to be heard.*

Jennifer Schley-Johnson | Beverly, MA

*Our children deserve to learn and be empowered by the truth for a more just and thriving future.*

Deb Godner | Albany, CA

Jennifer Perez | Harrison, NJ

*It'll be a disservice for our youth to not learn the truth about the US.*

Zach Stille | Seattle, WA

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Maria Wilson | Phoenixville, PA

Sophia Underwood | Santa Rita, GU, GU

*I believe in giving my students the opportunity to develop historical perspective with truth and critical analysis of the past.*

D. Hunter | Decatur, GA

*I believe that if we do not teach our children the truth; we are failing them about the facts of history and how to become leaders for the future.*

Diane Welchans | Lawrence, KS

*"From police violence, to the prison system, to the wealth gap, to maternal mortality rates, to housing, to education and beyond, the major institutions and systems of our country are deeply infected with anti-Blackness and its intersection with other forms of oppression. To not acknowledge this and help students understand the roots of U.S. racism is to deceive them – not educate them."*

Connie Compton | Kent, WA

*Truth matters. Facts matter.*

Callie Laz Davis | Wheeler, WI

*If we don't teach the truth, then we cannot learn from our past to create a better future.*

Stacey Cohen | Washington, DC

*Teaching the truth about history should not be a luxury, and we will never be a racially healthy society without dealing with history honestly. I pledge to always teach my students the truth; they deserve nothing less.*

Daryl Jackson | Pelham, NY

*The truth must be told, we can no longer hid what built this country. Especially if we want to improve this country. Regardless of what the racist on the right think. The narrative that it will guilt white kids is just another BS talking.*

Morgan Carcamo | Odenton, MD

Megan Gibbs | Fullerton, CA

*Students deserve to know some uncomfortable truths.*

Kristen Cater | Seattle, WA

Kayla Mains | Chula Vista, CA

*Students deserve to know the whole truth. They crave it, and they engage with the curriculum when they hear it.*

Stephanie Willis | Houston, TX

*It is important for students to understand the history of the United States good or bad. Glossing over and ignoring history and the effects that it has had on multiple generations is irresponsible. One can't change what is not acknowledged.*

LarryVFP skwarczynski | Hamtramck, MI

Because LEARNING IS KNOWLEDGE.

Sarah Csiga | Wilsonville, OR

*I wanted to know the truth as a student, why should we not teach the students the truth? It can still be the truth and be age appropriate. Teach the truth, not some cover-up.*

Elizabeth Ceccoli | Johns Island, SC

Stacy Uyeda | Albany, CA

*My middle school students deserve respect and deserve the truth. We cannot move forward and make our country a more equitable place without learning a more inclusive narrative of U.S. history. Taught carefully and thoughtfully, students do not leave the classroom feeling guilty or traumatized about U.S. history; instead, they feel empowered to do better than our ancestors and to be more compassionate about people who are suffering today.*

Kathy Kimball-Wurster | Washingtonville, NY

*I believe in teaching all history...*

Tara Willging | Fredericksburg, VA

Catherine Perez | Houston, TX

*We are obligated to teach facts. It's a fact that our nation was founded on the backs of enslaved people and at the expense of indigenous people. I don't really know what else to say, it's pretty simple.*

Kisha Delgado | Mesa, AZ

*Children deserve a stinger, truthful, education.*

Katie Ruhland | Duluth, MN

*Our current students are our future leaders and they need the information and thinking skills to create positive change.*

Jeanette Antaki | Livermore, CA

*We need to be honest with our students. I refuse to white-wash history!*

Jennifer Jones | Philadelphia, PA

*It's hard to watch people perform extreme mental gymnastics to qualify their inability to take responsibility for the way history has \*actually\* happened. The more people continue to deny history, and the fewer people there are who stand up and take them to task, it's the same thing playing out over and over for our tired, unfortunate, destructive US education status quo. Discomfort should be the norm, and instead it's avoided at all costs. It hurts everyone more in the end. Everyone.*

Jaclyn DuBois | Bradenton, FL

*Our children deserve to know the truth so that we can honor past generations and make our country a safer space for current and future generations.*

Olivia Santillan , CA

*Teaching the truth about the motivations, causes, and impact that created our current context is one step towards liberation and justice for all. I want our children to experience a humanizing educational system where they are seen, valued, and heard.*

Caitlin Ross | Denver, CO

*Students deserve to understand the origins of our nation's current dilemmas - and that means teaching some ugly truths in order to prepare our students to help solve them.*

Charlotte Woosley | Murrieta, CA

*Sharing the stories of the unheard is vital to a complete understanding of history and in order to teach my students critical thinking they need all the facts*

Leah Ballantyne

*This is the most important part of education. This is right. This is what we all need to do.*

Ruby Pena | Red Oak, TX

*We need to teach the truth*

Denise Leonard | Tujunga, CA

*Students deserve to understand all people's history—and their place within it.*

Gina Sorrentino | Germantown, MD

Vincent Sepe | Fountain Hills, AZ

*Now, more than ever, the truth matters.*

Laura Markley | Orlando, FL

*Kids deserve to know that part of loving America is learning about the uncomfortable and sad parts of her history. When we give students historically accurate facts and allow them to look critically at where we could have done better, it creates civics-minded and socially-just students who want to create a more fair and just America for all.*

Lisa M. Sparaco | San Diego, CA

*We need teachers prepared to serve our diverse communities for a more inclusive, democratic society!*

Jessie Kingston | Providence, RI

*Attempts to suppress long overdue teaching about the history of systemic racism are an overt racist act that must be countered by any means possible. Learning more about a topic is always helpful in counteracting prejudice and fear born of ignorance of the facts.*

Ellie Friedman | Orchard Lake Village, MI

*I am a pre-service teacher, and I (will) teach the truth because I believe in the liberation of all people, because I understand education as a tool for social change, and because I believe all identities should be represented and affirmed.*

Olivia Jones | Philadelphia, PA

*I refuse to lie to children in order to strengthen the hold of white supremacy on our society.*

Vickey Bolling | Marietta, GA

*I am a biracial woman Who has experienced firsthand the problem in our society pertains to race and gender. My family has and continues to struggle do to being part black and part white. I'm signing this petition because we need to answer questions not heard from them. We need to teach people to be critically thinkers-to ask questions and explore what they encounter.*

Jessica Janicki | Lynnwood, WA

*The ten year olds in my classroom deserve to know that every story, including history, is told from someone's point of view.*

Sean Freeland | Morgantown, WV

*Teaching the truth is essential to liberate the lives of minoritized people, and it is especially important and rare in mathematics education.*

Adriana Robledo | Sarasota, FL

Julia Ratchford | Chula Vista, CA

*Teaching the truth matters. Lying to students teaches them that we are lying about the past.*

Nicole Genua | New York, NY

*I am an educator and my students deserve the truth.*

Christopher Kozina | Bainbridge Island, WA

*The skills and lessons of history are a tool that can be used to help us do our jobs as citizens and bring about the society we want to be a part of (or build toward for those who come after us). Just like any tool can be used as a weapon, the stories we tell ourselves of the past can be used in the same way. I want to help students have tools to use so that they too can be good ancestors going forward and exercise their power as citizens to bring about the society that they wish to live in.*

Harriet Wingard | Portland, OR

Adrienne Westlake | Hydes, MD

*My students deserve a well-rounded education. They must be informed of the messy underbelly of our country's history and its ties to current events as they become the citizens of tomorrow.*

Lashawn Jenkins | Killeen, TX

*I believe children should be given the knowledge of U.S history regardless if it does not fit the narrative of others.*

Maryann Fox | Bellmead, TX

*We always need to tell the truth. Always. Who will trust us if we dont tell the truth. I am embarrassed about how the last adm lied daily.*

Stacy Stuehrenberg | Mountlake Terrace, WA

Ed Dorgan | Storrs Mansfield, CT

*It is critical to get the truth out to today's students.*

Karen Jones | Raleigh, NC

Ashleigh Elder | Jackson, MS

Rene Antrop-Gonzalez | New Paltz, NY

Victoria Weiss | Mahopac, NY

Angela Taflampas | Lutz, FL

*Children must be able to trust the adults in their lives if they are to develop into well-adjusted adults. If we are silent or walk away from certain topics, we tell our students that we are not the ones to trust or worse, that their feelings and experiences are not valid or worthy of discussion.*

Ingrid Kamphaus | Springfield, IL

*I believe in transparency, truth, and justice. If not now, when?*

Akiko Minami | Watsonville, CA

*Students deserve to learn the true history of our country, the world, and current events. They are engaged in these discussions and develop strong critical thinking skills. They have a right to know the truth, the good and the bad.*

Brian Ward | Madison, WI

Jennifer Fought | Lynnwood, WA

*It is the right thing to do. Students need to see all perspectives and facts about history. I respect my students too much to lie to them.*

Cathy Rohrer | Pittsburgh, PA

*No one should have to fight for their rights. We all need to acknowledge how so many people in this country have been denied their rights in ways both overt and subtle. Our students need to be prepared to build a more just future for all.*

Katrina Levin | Portland, OR

*I teach Ethnic Studies.*

Jane Barber | Aurora, CO

*For too long 400 years our children have been brainwashed about. The history of the United States They need to learn the truth so it can be rectified I am incensed that so many states are trying to hide the truth.*

KIMBERLEY LENZ | Santa Cruz, CA

*Change only comes with truth.*

Pam Williamson | Fairfield, CA

*It's time to end the lies. It's time for the United States to own up to its real history - the good and the bad.*

Jessica Keenan | Cedar Hill, MO

Marsha Abelman | Bellmead, TX

*I love our youth and want them to have accurate history.*

Merna Ann Hecht | Vashon, WA

*I join my colleagues in holding to the fundamental importance of teaching to equip young people to understand history in order to better prepare them to imagine, believe in and work toward a more just, sustainable and humane system of governance and social policies for the good of all. The complicity of silence and the censoring of truthful teaching delivered in a fair, age-appropriate manner stunt this possibility and further degrade our fragile democracy. This is a dangerous move and ultimately harmful to learning and to the well-being of our country.*

Sarah Michaels | Worcester, MA

*Students deserve the opportunity and support to engage in deliberative dialogue/discussion -- to think deeply and critically -- reading the word and the world -- in collaboration with peers and other thinkers, texts, and experiences in the world. My goal as an educator is to promote community thriving -- for the many, not the few -- in our deeply troubled world, through collaborative knowledge building, mutual respect, and deep listening to others. Dialogue rather than authoritarian censorship is key.*

Kelly Hill | Nashville, TN

*I want to give students the education that I did not receive in school and free them from having to unlearn/relearn history as an adult as I am now having to do.*

Hillary Katz | San Francisco, CA

Nicole Janzen | Milwaukee, WI

*Racism still impacts us every day, and hiding the truth does not serve anyone. We need to accept where we are, where we came from in order to know how to move forward to work toward healing the continual hurt of racism, sexism and other isms.*

Natalie Bernasconi | Salinas, CA

*Truth heals. Silence festers.*

Jesse Dobson | Portland, OR

Tiffanie Sherman | Las Vegas, NV

Christine Nicholson | Beaverton, OR

*Ignoring the truth of our imperfect history is like ignoring angry, throbbing, infected wounds. We have to be a part of healing our society - to expose the infections, to educate about and model ways heal them, knowing that although they made fade, the scars will always be visible. As we do this, we teach our students how to avoid inflicting more wounds. Only then can we have a healthier society.*

Jessica Mills | Leawood, KS

James Palmer | Whittier, CA

*Our country needs to know the truth and honest history of its own development.*

Sydney Early | Fort Wayne, IN

*I want the students coming into any classroom to have access to the truth by those responsible for their education. They deserve to be prepared to the highest level to engage in society responsibly and adequately.*

Brigid McMaster | Bronxville, NY

*Truth and Reason are the foundation of our future as a free society.*

Marlena Maestas | Portland, OR

*My team and I have developed/taught and we thread knowledge through all learning that is based on the historical and present truth of racism, fair trade, immigration, gender identity and homelessness. We have been told consistently that 5 and 6 years old are too young to discuss these topics. We disagree and know that children of all ages need to be told the truth and have the opportunity to discuss what they see, hear, think and know what actions they can take.*

Katelyn Hoffman | Iola, WI

Andrea Schneider | Woodinville, WA

*It is my responsibility as an educator to deepen my knowledge about implicit and explicit racism, inequities for marginalized groups, cultural knowledge of diverse populations, and discriminatory practices so I can inform my actions and advocacy for anti-racism and equity. In order to develop cultural competence and promote justice for all, I must learn about and pay attention to the ways historical contexts contribute to current realities and inequities. Our students deserve nothing less.*

Mary Alice Osborne | West Topsham, VT

*The truth matters! We must teach about the past; the good and the bad, so we will never relive the atrocities which occurred again. We must give a voice to those who suffered and say their names, tell their stories so they will be remembered and not have died in vain. The future depends upon how we deal with the past. It cannot be hid under a rug.*

Myra Mendible | Fort Myers, FL

*I live in a democracy not in the former Soviet Union. What does it mean to teach history "objectively"? To sugar coat it? Should we teach the Holocaust "objectively"? Genocide? Slavery? Nazism? There are "good people on both sides"?*

Kristen Kimball | Jacksonville, FL

*I will always teach the truth of our nation's history.*

Erin Whitney | Chico, CA

*The only way to move forward as a nation is to work through the trauma of the past. Doing this doesn't "teach hate" but helps students grapple with the roots of racial inequality in our country, think critically, and avoid making similar mistakes. Hiding the truth doesn't make it go away.*

Faith Jennings | Fullerton, CA

*We have silenced different perspectives of history and the experiences of the disenfranchised for too long. Too many of our students have sat in classrooms year after year never hearing about the resilience, bravery, and fortitude of people who look like them. We need to stop sanitizing and white-washing our nation's history so we can move forward in a more equitable, inclusive and just manner. If we don't, we will all continue to suffer the consequences.*

Cleta Harrell | Williamston, NC

Amine Yakine | Malden, MA

*To be neutral with the truth in history is to be against the truth. Time to face our history with courage and conviction that we can reconstruct a better future.*

Monica Stanley | Gresham, OR

*All students deserve to know the truth.*

Christine Betley | Centerville, MD

*our students deserve to learn true history. Society needs to trust them with our future, and we need to earn their trust with the honest curriculum. We need to equip them with accurate knowledge so they may become critical thinkers and compassionate neighbors.*

Robert Handy, Ed.D. | Bel Air, MD

Marcy Campos | Washington, DC

*It's essential we educate ourselves around the US history and foreign policy we were not taught and reshape our understanding of this society. Only then can we begin to create a truly fair, socially just and equitable country.*

Shannon Foxley | Portland, OR

*As a country we have been actively white washing history to stay within a narrative that supports white dominance. Our students deserve better. They deserve the truth.*

Fina-Lee A. Pengosro | San Francisco, CA

*it is my responsibility to myself and to my students.*

Willow Barnosky | San Jose, CA

*As a white American, I am deeply saddened to only now as an adult learn all of the ways in which history has been hidden from me, including the history of discrimination and racism in this country, and the countless ways in which whiteness has been treated as the standard, white experience as the only experience that counts, and white Americans as the only Americans that matter.*

Kristie Pretti-Frontczak | Akron, OH

Lizaday Rancap-Perez | Newark, CA

*I believe that our students need to know the truth.*

Jackie Kazimir | Jenkintown, PA

Shannon Carey | Oakland, CA

Christopher Nemecek | Usaf Academy, CO

*You can't be neutral on a moving train.*

Sarah Affolter | San Francisco, CA

John Garibaldi | Seattle, WA

*I'm committed to the idea that we cannot learn from the past if we are not honest about the past - we fail as teachers if we avoid problematic issues our students already are or will face soon.*

Jenni Conrad | Seattle, WA

*Our students, families, and democratic futures depend on our willingness to be honest with ourselves and our history.*

Alyson Battistel | Portland, OR

*Truth leads to reckoning. Reckoning leads to healing.*

Aine Dooley | Lake Oswego, OR

Jessica Anderson | Louisville, KY

*I did not begin learning the truth about our nation's history until college. We owe it to our students and our society to teach a more full and honest picture of our history. This is necessary in order for us to heal and move forward.*

Jessica Farlow | Fort Wayne, IN

*I refuse to lie to children to appease white fragility. Children deserve to know accurate history about their country.*

Theresa Koenigsnecht | Telluride, CO

Michaela Thomas | San Geronimo, CA

*It's important we listen to black, indigenous and people of color's experiences and perspectives. It is the only way our country can begin to repair and heal.*

Jean Kosky | North Andover, MA

Pamela Poniowski | Barrington, RI

*When my music curriculum, in giving the students history about the song they are about to sing ( Hold On) says, "when black people came over from Africa", we have a problem.*

Susan Cintra | Richmond, KY

*Students should learn how to critically think and that means learning and examining multiple perspectives to reach a conclusion.*

Linda Warrick | Oakland, CA

*Because I myself was not taught truth in History!*

Andrea Anderson | Portland, OR

*Teaching historical facts is our job as educators; denying students the opportunity to learn the truth is censorship and inhibits the development of crucial critical thinking skills.*

Sarah Norsworthy | Yarmouth, ME

*Our students deserve the complete history of the world they are growing into. They can handle big feelings. They are capable of understanding that when we know better, we do better. They feel the white-washing, and dissonance it creates. I trust our students to handle the truth and to use it to better our shared world.*

Susan Hodgkin | Providence, RI

*It is our moral duty to be truth-tellers, to shine light on past policies and actions, to encourage critical thinking and problem-solving, and to offer space for justice and hope.*

Julie Cobb-Cooper | Edmonds, WA

*I am appalled by state legislatures criminalizing accurate instruction and conversation about our history and the ongoing systemic problems because of this history. I want future Americans to have accurate information, & an environment where they can challenge and debate.*

Melissa Sims | Racine, WI

*Our children are the future. They need to have 100% facts about history if they want to have a chance for a better world. It is unfair for our children to be lied to in the school system. The school systems benefit monetarily from all children, especially children of color, to be enrolled. Why should we continue to keep our school systems funded if they are lying to the students. I think it would be admirable and teach a valuable lesson, if we as a country can admit the mistakes of the past and work together to avoid repeating them.*

Marian Killian | Petaluma, CA

*As a white person growing up in this country, I was dehumanized by the mythological version of American History I was taught. I'm in this struggle to achieve justice, access to resources and opportunities for people of color. Also, I'm in this to repair the damage that was done to me.*

Michael Berger | Roxbury Crossing, MA

*I believe the true history of this country is the only history to be taught to students: that Europeans came here and deliberately destroyed, enslaved and colonized indigenous people of the Americas and enslaved Africans and brought them here. The wealth and culture of this nation was built by African people through violence, murder and rape by the ruling white people. This perpetual violence of Indigenous and African people was justified, hidden, and whitewashed in order to maintain the illegal and immoral system of slavery, Jim Crow and incarceration to this day. We white Americans have never reckoned with, apologized for or otherwise faced our culpability in systemic racism and in fact fight back violently every time Black, Brown or Indigenous people gain any power or suggest that we are in fact racist and culpable in systemic racism and oppression. If we can't face this awful truth, nothing will change and we will never be able to be a democratic, fair or just society.*

Kayren Gray | Harker Heights, TX

Angela McMillan | Portage, MI

*a ban on teaching the truth about the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression only leads to more racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression, and that is unacceptable.*

Cynthia Trapanese | San Francisco, CA

*I believe that we can create a better future when we understand the truth of the past.*

Tracey Mansfield | Hayward, CA

*I'm a teacher committed to truth and justice. I will not lie and continue to push a whitewashed narrative about the history of this country.*

Mary Mazei | Oshtemo Twp, MI

*My students deserve the truth!*

Dawn Kahler | Kalamazoo, MI

*My children and all humans deserve to know the truth of who we are.*

Mohammad Raza | Irvine, CA

*as a student of color, I could've avoided years of bullying and racism if my peers were educated enough not to be racist. It has costed me years of therapy to gain some sort of peace from the hate I experienced.*

Yekaterina McKenney | Hampton, NH

*I come from the Soviet Union - a country where schools taught propaganda instead of history. Many of my Russian friends and relatives are still blind, content consumers of their current state's propaganda. This is why I refuse to propagate more lies and be part of the brainwashing machine. Knowing one's true history doesn't make one unpatriotic; it prevents self-serving nationalism.*

Noelle Walters | Boston, MA

*Our children deserve to learn the most accurate and up-to-date, research- and evidence-based information. Teachers deserve to be able to provide the most accurate, up-to-date, research- and evidence-based information available to their students. It is essential that our children learn to think critically, to ask questions, and develop the capacity to make the decisions that will shape our country and our world. PLEASE don't disenfranchise children or their teachers by limiting their rights as citizens. Our democracy depends on an informed public.*

Heather A. | Southington, CT

*teaching our past (all of it) can inform our future for the better.*

Jody Silver | Oakland, CA

*As a former teacher, I have seen the damage that can be caused when someone's voice has been left out of our history. Also, Howard Zinn was a former prof of mine and it's important to honor his legacy! 😊*

Elizabeth Humphries | Oakland, CA

*Re-writing history to erase the truths of racism and oppression prevents us all from being able to make meaning of the world around us. It also does lasting harm to those people who experience racism daily, by denying their lived experience. Banning the teaching of historical truths is*

Michelle Nicola | Portland, OR

*We cannot heal and unite as a nation unless we first teach and talk about the truth of our history.*

Monica Garcia | Redlands, CA

*We cannot whitewash our history. It is possible to teach history honestly.*

Karen McShane | Philadelphia, PA

*as the saying goes, those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it. Without learning about difficult truths, children become adults who don't understand the world that they live in. Without learning about different perspectives, children become adults who hate and fear what they don't understand. We cannot allow a generation of students to become become the next generation of Nazis, believing a homogenous, mythological history that excludes (at best) and scapegoats (at worst) anyone who is Other.*

iris meinolf | Lagunitas, CA

*I denounce the actions of these legislators, which force teachers to lie to students about the roles that racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression have played throughout U.S. history.*

Laura McNeill | Philadelphia, PA

*History should not be whitewashed.*

ELISABETH Jones | Cookeville, TN

**THE TRUTH MUST BE TAUGHT.**

Meghan Byrne | San Francisco, CA

*We all deserve to know the history of our country. Only by understanding our history and how we got to where we are, can we make our country better. We the People, All of Us This Time!*

Jerry Abraham | Kenmore, WA

*The truth will set us all free!*

Cate Johnson | Morgantown, WV

Peggy Appleby | South Bend, IN

Truth to children  
Truth to power  
Right the wrong

Amber Ward | Ithaca, NY

Children deserve to know ALL of American history. American history is more than white saviors, white ideas, and white ideologies. By learning black, Hispanic, Indigenous, and Asian American history in his entirety will show our children that all people in this country have made impacts and have bettered us to this day.

Haley Mackenzie | Carlsbad, CA

Education without the perspectives of and impact on marginalized people is just propaganda.

Rossana Duffy | Drexel Hill, PA

Kerry Forsell | Worthington, MN

Our students should know the truth so they can learn from history instead of repeating it.

Angela Keith

I am dedicated to teaching for social justice and teaching the truth as a way to work with students towards social change.

Audra Carli | San Mateo, CA

it is imperative that we teach students ALL of US History - the good, the bad and the ugly. Students need to understand roots of current movements and look to the future critically and thoughtfully. WE CANNOT REWRITE AND WHITEWASH US HISTORY.

BreAnna Herron | Green River, WY

We need to teacher the truth in order to help students make sound decisions in the future.

Rob Tucker | Brier, WA

I can't lie to my students. They deserve the truth about our shared history, so they can address the challenges they face in the world today.

LaTasha Mack | Fayetteville, NC

Education is the first step in understanding and identifying change  
Z the work begins with the hope of understanding our past

Kelley Howard | Scotts, MI

The more open, honest information, the better decisions we make.

Jazelle Prado-Domingo | Lake Oswego, OR

Connie Dakin | North Tazewell, VA

I am 65 years old. I am ashamed and appalled. To just now learn about the injustices to my fellow humans here in America. I was not taught about the native American Indians being separated from their families and deaths of so many children. We were also never taught about the horrifying burning down of a township just because they were black. Shame on America for keeping honest caring people in the dark.

Jason Motta | Jupiter, FL

We must create the opportunity and structure for our students to become critical thinkers. We absolutely have to provide them with a variety of viewpoints and experiences from our storied past. Only with this added perspective do we truly have a chance to continue to build to a more perfect and inclusive ideal. How can we truly solve a problem without looking at all the factors in a critical way? We need to continue to build a shared lexicon that allows for thoughtful and nuanced discussions on how to mitigate our past and the best way to build our future.

Judy McCoid | Edmonds, WA

We need to teach the truth about our history to live up to our founding ideals.

Andrae Smith | Misco, OH

I refuse to lie about the imperfections of the United States of America.

Lauren Ingber | Austin, TX

Open and honest discussions about our country's history are the first step in acknowledging and ending racism. We have the opportunity to affect change within our classrooms by presenting history from multiple, diverse perspectives.

Annie White | Greeley, CO

I believe that educators strive to do what is best, not only for our students, but for our communities, societies, and overall bigger world. It's essential to teach history truthfully, and to uplift the voices of those who have been marginalized, even though they've contributed greatly to our society. Our youth DESERVE to know the truth. By knowing and understanding the world more truthfully, students will have the tools to make decisions that could help increase wealth, gender, and racial equity. By ignoring true history, we perpetuate unequal positions of power. "Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world." - Paulo Freire, Pedagogy of the Oppressed

Lauren Billings | Holt, MI

I believe in fighting for the truth.

Shelby Thompson | Mandeville, LA

I strongly believe that students need to learn a well rounded version of history that looks at events from multiple perspectives. The white washed history that has been taught for ages needs to go and teachers need to be supported in their anti-racism teaching endeavors.

Kent Grelling | Orinda, CA

I believe

Margaret Venema | Grand Rapids, MI

Adam Hughes | Webb City, MO

To teach history without the truth is neither right nor safe.

Kyra Rengstorf | Lynnwood, WA

Valarie Gibson | Christiana, TN

I believe our children are the FUTURE! You cannot manifest with the present, or the future without learning the truth! It is our duty to teach all children that we are all One Entity here on Mother Earth, and every facet you can imagine is a part of you too. I believe the next generation will be better at Unity, Compassion, Love, Knowledge, Strength, Forgiveness, and seeking the truth at all costs. I am extremely grateful and hopeful that your ZINN EDUCATION PROJECT is a blessing on this Planet! May God, Jesus, The Faeries, and the Universe be with you!

Lynda Holman | Kent, WA

Holly Rawlings | Salt Lake City, UT

If we want to achieve the goals of founding fathers, we need to talk about the truth.

Mary Hufford | Amelia, OH

It's wrong to lie.

Saul Schultheis-Gerry | San Leandro, CA

Freedom and truth is everything!

Rodney López | East Providence, RI

Traditional history curricula have been mostly inadequate in educating our children about the complexity of race in the history of the United States. CRT and anti-racist teaching seek to correct a mostly one-sided view of history. That there is such an uprising against it, unfortunately, exposes the deep-seated commitment that some have to a curriculum that centers whiteness, while othering the experiences of people of color.

Suzie Quiney | San Mateo, CA



SHERRY ANOUSH | San Mateo, CA

*I refuse to lie to my students about the important history of racism and gender discrimination in our country.*

Nathan Geer | San Francisco, CA

*I believe the truth about our past will set us up for the our best, most responsible and inclusive future.*

Robin Wrice | Sugar Land, TX

*All students should be taught to know the truth.*

Lyly Pham | San Francisco, CA

*We as a society have a duty to share and teach about this country's true and real history. We must teach our students have the hardships BIPOC and marginalized groups continue to face each day. We cannot make change without first knowing our past.*

Nicholas Herb | Fairview, OR

*Our students deserve an honest, truthful education. We cannot hope for a better future if we cannot be honest about the world we live in. Let us prepare them to the best of our abilities to make the world a better, brighter place for all.*

Michele Zirelli | Redwood City, CA

*Children should be taught the truth and have a growth mindset about life!*

Fran Powell | Johns Island, SC

*To not teach systemic racism is basically to deny its existence. To acknowledge its existence and NOT teach it is amoral and neglects our jobs as educators.*

Mary Woerner | Seattle, WA

*It's important to teach the truth.*

Lindsey Hamilton | Nashville, TN

*We deserve to speak and tell the truth*

Beth Raisman | Portland, OR

Trina Corley | Usaf Academy, CO

*We all deserve to know the true history of our country.*

Catharine Reznicek | Camarillo, CA

*I fully support expanding our teaching practices to include critical race theory. Educators should not be banned from teaching essential information about the history and conditions of all individuals.*

Stephen Smith , TX

*I want children to know the truth*

Katie O'Brien | River Edge, NJ

Daniel Chanin | San Mateo, CA

*I refuse to lie to my students about the important history of racism and gender discrimination in our country.*

Michelle Kaba | Brooklyn, NY

Katy Fontneau | Boring, OR

Mark Clinton | Holyoke, MA

*I cannot countenance lying to my students.*

Joana Chacon | Jamaica Plain, MA

*I urge people to not reduce the work that educators working in antiracism are doing down to a few inflammatory talking points. This is serious scholarly work, nuanced and complicated work. We are professionals studying the achievement gap, studying how to approach curriculum and pedagogy in order to close the gap and to create schools in which all kids thrive. As a Latina whose brother and mother and father dropped out of school, I know first hand the cost that ignoring the problem and going on with business: it affects lives Real people's lives. The point of antiracism is not to bring anyone down, but to bring everyone up.*

Cailey Mastrangelo | Wolfeboro, NH

Craig Lewis | Glendale, CA

*I believe in Educating for American Democracy. I believe that systemic oppression is real, that the threat to voting rights and democracy is real, and that telling the stories that have not been told, or not been told well is my responsibility.*

Eric Meth | Franconia, NH

John Jackson | Clovis, CA

*Citizens and potential citizens need to know the unvarnished truth about the history of the country they are part of, or could be part of.*

Maria McNamara | Roxbury Crossing, MA

Erica Saville | Southgate, MI

*Kids want to know the truth, and handle it with grace and aplomb.*

Mark Ellis | Fullerton, CA

*Without an awareness and understanding of the past, especially of the biased beliefs that influenced the foundation of our system of public education in the early 20th century, we are bound to repeat and reinforce it.*

Tiffany Minton | Dayton, OH

*Who tells history? The victors. But their story isn't the ONLY story. It is imperative to teach historical experiences from multiple perspectives. Our country's history from slavery to lingering racism still impacts our society today. Validating the experiences of People of Color is not meant to vilify the white majority. It acknowledges the experiences of our fellow Americans.*

Amanda Smith | Ann Arbor, MI

*We must teach the truth!*

Joshua Younger | Los Angeles, CA

*I am a black educator who believes that the truth should always trump lies. Our children deserve to receive a real education, not a cherry picked, white washed education.*

Debbie Johnston | Brookhaven Town of, NY

*I supported this same issue as a teacher on Long Island during my entire career till my retirement.. Every time new textbooks are issued, more and more topics deemed "uncomfortable " by the publishers, who are in Texas, are edited out. Teach the truth! It will set us all free.*

John Clark | Durham, NC

*I believe it is wrong to ban anything from being taught. We need our children to grow up to be good citizens and that requires that they have a good understanding of where we all came from in this country. Many times that requires that we learn about upsetting things that occurred in our countries and personal history.*

Elizabeth Waldrop | Pflugerville, TX

*Hiding the truth from children will not make them responsible, critical thinking adults. Teaching a variety of perspectives is necessary for students to take in the entire picture of events and make decisions based on all the information available with consideration for all stakeholders involved. Give students the truth and teach them to think critically about their history and the world.*

Christina Fattore | Morgantown, WV

I refuse to whitewash our history. I wasn't taught what \*really\* happened in our country... I discovered more and more on my own as an adult. I don't want this to happen to my kids or my students.

Paul Trombley | Detroit, MI

This is a major moment in our history and we must stand up for what is the truth. We strive at our school to be inclusive and to teach children to question and explore the world around them. We must set the foundation early on for children to be open and engaged in the world.

Barbara Tobin | Pelham, NH

Not only do I want teachers to communicate the truth, but I want educators to guide education, NOT politicians!

Christina Freschl | Berkeley, CA

Jessica Marley | Schenectady, NY

The truth matters if we are to achieve liberation.

Karl Marx | Washington, DC

Kenneth Williams | Dallas, GA

Silencing teachers is what Nazis did in Germany during the 1930s and 1940s. I will not be censored by government tyranny.

Barbara Paulin | Tallahassee, FL

as an educator, I have an obligation to speak truth to all students seeking knowledge and the legislation being sought by the Republican Party means allowing the corruption of truth by boot-stepping racists.

Cathy Blake | Stites, ID

Knowledge of the whole! picture of our country's history should not be hidden. We must take a 360° look at our past to guide us to a better place.

Elana Mayer | Malden, MA

Maren Tillman | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Emma Klein | Seattle, WA

Andrea Urquhart | Monroe Twp, NJ

Teach the truth in our schools!

Joanne Lazarus | Newmarket, NH

Understanding the role race has played in our history only allows for true academic and social growth. Ignoring race only leads to conflict and misunderstanding. It is NOT about political correctness nor cancel culture it IS about moving forward with understanding and positive intent.

Melanie Thiesse | Dayton, OH

Brianne Mayhew | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Emma Cudahy | Indianapolis, IN

Alyssa Mason | Providence, RI

I believe my students deserve the full truth of our history to truly understand the world we live in and how to best navigate it. Taking away teachers ability to talk to students about topics relating to social inequality is a huge disservice to our students--they deserve to know the FULL truth of events that have lead us to our current society so that they can help dismantle systems of oppression in their communities and address inequity as it shows up in their lives.

Julie Bernicker | North Brunswick, NJ

M J Redlinger | Riverside, IA

Teachers need to stand against stupid lawmakers who want to control education with the intent to manufacture youth they can control.

Louise Braswell | Spring Hill, TN

The truth, women, African Americans, Asian Americans (et al), and the future of the world matter. OUR children deserve to know OUR history in order to make a better world. Knowledge about OUR history isn't always pleasant but it is necessary in order not to repeat it. You see, the future depends upon human beings behaving respectfully, responsibly, and compassionately to each other.

Amy Eastman | Galesburg, MI

We need to teach the truth. We need to make our young people aware of the oppression that so many groups of people faced and still face if we want to be the change!

Beth Elam | San Antonio, TX

Sheryl Depker-Barau | Grand Rapids, MI

In order to create a more just society that lives up to the ideals of this country, we need to educate our students about the true history of this country. White exceptionalism is not the true history. Denying the role of racism doesn't erase the facts, but it does keep us from making progress. As a teacher, my goal is to move students forward in their knowledge and ability to think critically.

Wendy Perkins | Winchester, VA

The truth needs to be told. All students need to know their own stories. The truth needs to be told. Public educators have a responsibility to serve and nurture all students. The truth needs to be told.

Sammi Mahoney | Washington, DC

my future students deserve to be taught history as it was, in the fullest sense, so they are not fed the lies so many of us had been. They deserve the truth of this country so they can be emboldened to change it how they see fit, with us guiding them along the way.

Thomas Finley , RI

Luke Lofland | Indianapolis, IN

Because the Tulsa Massacre should not be a "Today I Learned" thread

Kristina Batalden | Idaho Falls, ID

I believe in teaching the truth.

Carole Hosey | Detroit, MI

It is imperative that we teach the real history of this country.

Leah Huber | Largo, FL

It's the right thing to do!

David Soman | Rosendale, NY

The truth will set you free

Casey McLellan | Madison Heights, MI

Because I don't believe in teaching government lies. Young people deserve to know what really happened in our history as a nation.

Joanna Hirsch | Clearwater, FL

History should be taught through the full scope of its facts. Albeit unflattering to some ethnic groups, the complete and honest stories of the American past should be taught so society and our growing youth have a clear and honest understanding of this nations history.

Christiann MacLean | Indianapolis, IN

I have an obligation to teach my students the truth.

Cecilia Campbell | Dania, FL

*"The truth will set us free." It has been proved that there must be truth telling in order for there to be justice, peace, and reconciliation.*

Shane Mangrum | Alpharetta, GA

*In order to build a better future and overcome the issues of the past, it is critically important that teachers be able to speak honestly, openly about our history as a people. To not be able to talk about issues of race in America feels like the attempts to curtail conversation about evolution because some people felt threatened by open dialogue.*

Beth Bresnahan | Cinnaminson Twp, NJ

Miranda Compton | Lakemont, GA

*the only way to teach history is by telling students the truth and letting them interpret for themselves. The Georgia Board of Education just passed a resolution that bans critical race theory. Anytime you ask educators to lie, to children, you are in the wrong.*

Deatrice Childs | Aurora, IL

*Truth is what can bring forth growth as a nation.*

Jennine Vizcaino | New York, NY

*We need to teach truthful full history so it won't repeat itself.*

Erin Garvey | Farmingdale, NY

*The truth matters.*

Emily abedon | Providence, RI

*Crt serves and benefits everyone. Teaching truth is good for our future .*

Gary Falkenberg | Asheville , NC

*White washed history won't work.*

Brionna Harder | Saint Paul, MN

Summer Thompson | Portland, OR

David Emmanuelle Castillo | Milwaukee, WI

Alicia Arnold | Seattle, WA

Amy Manlapas | Decatur, GA

*I became a teacher to tell the truth to students because no one told the truth to me. I am breaking the cycle.*

Elissa Werve | Milwaukee, WI

*I am an anti-racist educator who doesn't believe in white-washing the history that I teach to my high school students. I am a teacher, and with that title comes the obligation to be truthful.*

Rae Chappelle | Milwaukee, WI

Holly Cullom | Portland, OR

*I am committed to teaching the truth about our history and exposing present realities about how people are oppressed in this country due to their race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, religion, immigration status, and other identifying factors.*

Marianne Lowery | Portland, OR

Deborah Bellemore | Turner, OR

*Students should learn to critically analyze the truth about the history of the United States.*

Destiny Wilson | Terre Haute, IN

*I was always told growing up, if you don't know your history, you don't know yourself. I will do all I can to protect my history for myself and my daughter.*

Lisa Padua | Deptford, NJ

*The truth shall set us free. I will not, knowingly lie to students. The lack of knowledge would lead to ignorance and students deserve to know the truths.*

Becca Priddy | Fairview, OR

Melanie Jackson | Cheltenham, PA

*My students are empowered by the truth.*

Sean Russell | Manchester, NH

*We have a moral obligation to tell the WHOLE story.*

Rosaleigh Blackmer | Philadelphia, PA

Kathy Lloyd | Lake Oswego, OR

*I refuse to lie about US History.*

Melissa Young | VICTOR, ID

*Students not only deserve to learn true history, but our future is these students using their voices as global citizens to make our world a better place.*

Melissa Young | VICTOR, ID

Leequanda Turner | Milwaukee, WI

*It is my firm belief that the truth needs to be told in order to prevent the past from repeating itself. Why are Americans afraid to be uncomfortable? Change won't happen if we are staying in the comfort zone! The ideal of concealment to me shows that so many people are living in a privilege that they'd like to maintain at any cost.*

Alexandra Fagan | Worthington, MN

Cassidy John | Concord, NH

Kate Zimar | Lee, NH

*I believe the only way for systemic racism to truly change is through a critical theorists approach to all teaching and learning. This bill is an insult to educators, families, and our youth! Shame on those in power attempting to pass this politically charged bill for no other reason than to maintain the positions in power held by the dominant white culture.*

Cindy Falabella | Concord, NH

*I believe in equal rights for all.*

Janice Rawlings | Nanuet, NY

*I care about children education! The Truth...be told!*

Herb Jahnce | Portland, OR

*Politics should not dictate education.*

Kristi Lockhart | Newmarket, NH

*real history matters! Our students deserve to learn the facts.*

Lukas Wierer | Milwaukee, WI

*the truth matters*

Samia estassi | Portland, OR

*I believe we need bold action to begin to dismantle the racist systems in place in education and the entire county.*

Kelly Wright | Mesa, AZ

Jessica Palo | Somerdale, NJ

Mary O'Connell | Erie, PA

Brian Ford | Montclair, NJ

Alondra Garcia | Milwaukee, WI

*my students and EVERYONE deserve to know the TRUTH!*

JoCelyn Roundtree | Charlotte, NC

*As a social studies teacher this is very near and dear to me. I pride myself on providing my students with well rounded views of the world we live in and have absolutely NO PLANS on discontinuing the practice in the future. Truth is relative...BUT...everyone's truth deserves to be heard and acknowledged!*

JoCelyn Roundtree | Charlotte, NC

*As a social studies teacher this is very near and dear to me. I pride myself on providing my students with well rounded views of the world we live in and have absolutely NO PLANS on discontinuing the practice in the future. Truth is relative...BUT...everyone's truth deserves to be heard and acknowledged!*

Michelle Romero | Los Angeles, CA

*It is DANGEROUS and shameful to attempt to hide and neglect our parts of our horrendous history.*

Carol Sperry- Suziedelis | Lancaster Twp, PA

*Making laws that forbid teachers from teaching the truth is one of the most insidious and ignorant policies I have ever heard of. For shame! Education brings the light. It must not be interfered with. What is the real agenda of these politicians? I shudder to think.*

Mandilyn Veeder , WI

*Dishonesty is an epidemic. It's time to speak the truth.*

Michelle Jones | New York, NY

*We have the first amendment in this country for a reason. As a teacher, I work hard to educate myself on the history that I'm teaching, and figure out a way to teach it in an age appropriate manner that covers the standards and helps my students develop critical thinking skills. I am honestly not proud of the history education I got in the public school system growing up. It skipped over a lot of the "not-so-nice" parts, and I didn't really understand any context. Frankly, it was boring. These laws seem to be trying to move us back to that way of teaching. While our country's history may not be perfect, the solution is not to cover it up like in the past. And I certainly refuse to be a part of that for the next generation. When you know better, do better.*

Sandra Campanaro | Englishtown, NJ

*In order to live a good life and create a positive society, we all must know the truth. We must know our past and present in order to improve our future for everyone. We must know the truth in order to be empathetic and loving towards everyone.*

Barbara Kraft | Hillsboro, OR

*I am committed to teaching a fuller, more inclusive history of the United States.*

Wyly Kight-Moore | Idyllwild, CA

*during my 49 yrs as a full time teacher, mostly of middle schoolers, I never misrepresented nor marginalized my student's ancestor's struggles for freedom, justice, equity. My little town presents Helen Hunt Jackson's story of white ranchers cruelty to our local tribal members in the past, and how some ranchers disagreed, and how the triumph of good over evil still leaves behind shattered lives and fortunes of humble, oppressed people.*

Paul Bansen | Escalon, CA

Joe Wegwert | Flagstaff, AZ

*Teachers need to teach the truth and students need to hear the truth!*

Julie Castellano | Highland Park, NJ

*as both a parent and teacher, it is essential we teach our children the truth.*

Maria Ponciano | Elmhurst, NY

*We live in a multicultural society. We ALWAYS have been! History should be taught from a multicultural lens. Anything else is just white supremacy. It's time!*

Emory Oeding | Portland, OR

*Students come to school to learn and be empowered by truth and knowledge, by accurate information that affects their lives, their families' lives and their communities, by true stories that can lead to change, growth and justice.*

Lisa Albrich | Eugene, OR

Olivia Bregani | Marlborough, NH

*Students need to study (the true) history, and critically analyze the world to overthrow all oppressive systems.*

Cathy Weirick | Otsego, MI

*I believe sharing the truth keeps us from committing the same atrocities over and over again.*

Candace Andrada | Kailua, HI

*I believe in order for our country to be more just and equitable, our students need to know the good and bad of our history. Our students need to understand what happened in the past lead to what is happening currently and that they can change what they don't agree with. There is no agenda here other than truth.*

Charlotte Scott | Exeter, NH

*I find it outrageous that politicians could have a say in what we teach. Leave it to the NH department of Education to figure out what is best for NH students. They have the right to be given tools to determine truth and critically think for themselves without teachers being muzzled over facts.*

Lauren Loser | Sicklerville, NJ

*I care about my students and the diverse population of students in our school.*

Barry Sparks | Boulder, CO

*Students are entitled to the truth and educators are obliged to tell it.*

Pam Brown | Orangevale, CA

*I teach truth not lies.*

Thuynga Barr | Eugene , OR

Donnamarie Shilling | Warren, OH

*Students deserve to know the truth about history!*

Lauren Duquette | Andover, NH

*The truth matters. It's the most important structure for a society.*

Claire Garrott | Portland, OR

Sarah McFarlane | Seattle, WA

*We all deserve to know our true history!*

susan vasher | Portland, OR

*It's our duty to teach the truth and stop the trauma of a racist America.*

Miranda Massa | Elk Grove, CA

*The truth matters!*

Nicholas Kapranos | Portland, OR

Sarah Atkinson | Portland, OR

Amy Heath | Austin, TX

Ellie Graiziger | Portland, OR

*If we are ever going to live beyond White Supremacy, we are going to have to acknowledge it exists. White families, teachers, administrators, and students need to get over their fragility and personal guilt which prevents all of us from working within reality towards a better future for everyone. When we deny things exist, we continue to oppress those who feel its affects every day by denying their full existence.*

Chelsea Rowell | Portland, OR

*We need to teach our students how to be anti-racist and exhibit this ourselves. We need to teach the truth!*

Alyssa Reed-Stuewe | Portland, OR

*Students and educators who self identify as Black and Brown deserve to express pain and loss at the atrocities of slavery and climate change, just as Jews and other groups targeted by Nazis deserve to express their pain and loss about the Holocaust. Our country cannot heal until the majority of Americans acknowledge that this historical oppression was an atrocity, kids can't get to that point if we are forced to lie about the nationally sanctioned threats to Black lives, or threats to Brown lives. The American people are not homogenous and neither is our history*

Danika Perde-Zundel | Wilsonville, OR

Maggie Byrkit | Portland, OR

*Only fully informed youth can change our future.*

Marcelle Valladares | Portland, OR

Jennifer Miller | Somerdale, NJ

*We cannot change the past, we can only learn from it.*

Paul Scott | Clermont, FL

*Teaching "American Exceptionalism " and ignoring race in U. S. History is indoctrination.*

Ryan Ham | Benton Harbor, MI

*The erasure and ignorance of history does not adequately equip our students with the tools they need to make their own decisions and come to their own understandings of national and world events. Exposure to information is not indoctrination.*

Amy McClellan | Shoreline, WA

*We must speak the truth and teach our students to be critical thinkers. We must analyze our past and the systems of power and oppression that were built, to then think about the current reality of injustice and inequalities. We need to embrace our collective history to move towards building a future where all people can experience justice and freedom. Students need to learn and grow in their understanding of themselves, their narratives and the narratives of groups that have been left out or marginalized in our curriculum and educational system. Reckoning with our collective history we can move to a space of healing and full humanity for all.*

Vanessa Holmgren | Portland, OR

Jennifer Collins | Cedarburg, WI

Lisa Davidson | Portland, OR

*We should all be truth seekers. As an educator I am obligated, by nature and job, to educate and facilitate learning. I will NOT hold back truths or knowledge.*

Michal Otten | Portland, OR

*I was educated in this country and am learning more on my own as an adult about the real history of this country than I did in over 12 years of history classes. We need to teach the full truth, even and especially when it is painful and uncomfortable, in order to learn from our mistakes and build a stronger future. That is the only way we will truly tear down the white supremacist structures that continue to hold people of color back.*

Jessica Sawyer | Portland, OR

Elyse Newport | Portland, OR

*"If we do not live an examined life, we do not grow." Jason Reynolds.*

Susan Ratajski | Collingswood, NJ

*Students need the truth!*

Joan Bradbury | Chicago, IL

*I believe it is vitally important that children learn about our country's history and ideals, and come to understand there is much work for "we the people" to do together so our country's reality comes closer to it's ideals. I believe that is most effectively done with students learning "from the inside out", experiencing historic struggles and engaging with issues of a past time and/or specific location.*

Paul Pasaba | Pawtucket, RI

*truth matters. These laws represent the forces of white supremacy telling us to "sit down and shut up" about the reality of what is going on in our communities. As an Asian American person, these laws communicate to me that when racist attacks are happening against my people -- as they have been in record numbers for the past year -- that I should keep quiet about it. As an educator, it is important to me to help students understand truth. Denying white supremacy's impact on our history and it's continuing impact on our lives means ignoring reality and shirking my responsibilities as a teacher.*

Anne Wright | Long Beach, CA

*The truth is essential.*

Mikhaila Schweikowsky | Buffalo, NY

Bethany Moslen | Elk Grove, CA

*As educators our job is to prepare students for their next steps in life which is usually a career after HS or going to College. Overall, being able to navigate this world while helping it change for the better. Without providing our students with proper information they will feel lost and uninformed in a world that is always advancing and where others actually care about different cultures and peoples. Choosing to remove history, not only states that a State is racist and anti-LGBTQIA+, but it just further supports how the system always has been instead of actually developing to the next level as a country, which is to tell the true history and to embrace all people so others can gain empathy and understanding. Not only would these laws tell BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ students that you do not matter to us, we will also be setting our students up for failure if we continue to teach the white europeans centric voice that has always been taught in schools. Don't erase the voices and lived experiences of others who are harmed and have been harmed the most in our country, it will only lead towards more students harming themselves and others.*

Lissa Feldman | Portland, OR

*It is easier to teach the truth at a young age than teach the truth to adults who have been lied to all their lives! And young people need to learn the truth so we can create a just world where racism is no longer able to thrive.*

Nicolas Furtado | Portland, OR

*I want to give students the education that they deserve.*

Emily Wagner | Houston, TX

*Educators should be able to teach FACTS. No more sugar coating and whitewashing.*

Sasha Leveton | Pittsburg, CA

*No one should be allowed to re-write or censor the narrative to fit an agenda. History has to stay untouched.*

Rick Searing | Kalamazoo, MI

Jennifer Lukaszewski | Milwaukee, WI

*if we want a better future for our children we must teach ALL parts of history, not white washed history! Our students deserve representation.*

Deborah Franklin-Feingold | Kingston, NY

*we need to teach our students the true history of our nation so they can improve it.*

Meta Van Sickle | North Charleston, SC

Julie Whitaker | Portland, OR

*Our students have the right to truth. Educators lay the foundation of a person's knowledge of the history of a place, whether it is local, national, or global. To selectively (or naively) omit how racist ideology has and continues to powerfully influence our institutions and identities is to deny our students the opportunity to repair and rebuild those institutions as young people and in later life. Not speaking to racism and other oppressive -isms does harm to the predictably oppressed AND to those who predictably engage in oppression (whether it is with intent or not). "I didn't know" and "I never knew that" and "I never learned about that" cannot be the norm for another generation, our current students who will grow into adults. It is the job of educators to inform, to teach students to critically think, and to develop a deep care for community in all of its diversity. Our young scholars need knowledge in its fullness in order to do this well. I pledge to teach the truth. The hard truth. The messy truth. The nuanced truth. I pledge to teach the truth.*

Kelly McBride | Oakland, CA

*Kids deserve to know the truth about our history so they can make informed decisions and be critical thinkers.*

Breck Foster | Lake Oswego, OR

*Education is the answer to so many of our societal problems, and without teaching the history of systemic racism in the United States, we would not be equipping our young people with the knowledge they need to truly understand why we are where we are now as a nation, and to help be problem-solvers and change-makers to help build a more just country. We are at a tipping point in a collective consciousness around our past and we cannot go backward.*

Courtney Shimek | Morgantown, WV

*If we erase our history we are bound to repeat it.*

Sally Grant | Portland, OR

Megan Hut | Morgantown, WV

*teaching the truth about the history of this country is the only way for change in the future.*

Amy LaRosa-Peters | Portland, OR

*All students need to hear all the hard history of white supremacy*

Tim Kubik | Berthoud, CO

*If all are not free, none of us are.*

Wendy Peer | Fort Smith, AR

*I teach the truth about history from multiple viewpoints. Every citizen needs to know what happened no matter how ugly it was so that we can begin to heal and ensure it does not continue to happen.*

Annie Neeley Kirkpatrick | Bridgeport, WV

*Hiding the truth of our nation's history does not prepare our young people to be active participants in an active and inclusive democracy.*

Naomi Baumgarten | New York, NY

*Knowing the truth starts the healing process.*

Alexandra Caldwell | Yarmouth Town of, MA

Gina Horiates | Palmyra, NJ

Cristin Butler | Mount Laurel, NJ

*The truth needs to be taught*

Denise Murray | Newark, DE

*without the next generation having a complete picture of how we came to be the way we are, we as a whole society will never move past or solve the problems we have because of racism, sexism, heterosexism, etc.*

Marilyn Cortez | Long Beach, CA

*It's important for students to know the history of race and gender relations in this country in order to understand the race and gender issues that exist today. How can they be problem solvers in their communities without a complete understanding of their own history and how that history influences tomorrow's policies.*

Mark Hansen | Portland, OR

*A just world will only come from a shared understanding of what has been and what is possible.*

Lindsey Harrah | Portland, OR

*Students deserve the truth.*

TARA WEST | Portland, OR

*our children deserve to know the truth in the hopes that it will make the future better for all of us.*

Cecilia Terrazas | Oakland, CA

*It is imperative that all of our students learn the history of our country, both our successes and failures, and addition to the history of oppression and racism that continues to plant this country. Anti-racist education is good for all Americans, and I am committed to continuing to teach students to be critical, resistance, I had to push for equity for the sake of all Americans*

Erica Greenberg | Seattle, WA

*I am committed to teaching the truth.*

Holly Salvatore | Portland, OR

Maggie Michaels | Portland, OR

Chelsea Blair | Portland, OR

Kate Meisel | Los Angeles, CA

*lying to children to protect the feelings of adults is abhorrent*

Karen Margolis | Portland, OR

Chris Snyderbrown | Portland, OR

Jon Skoog | Seattle, WA

*The truth might hurt but it needs to be shared with our kids.*

Alicia Nicholl | Portland, OR

*Students deserve to and need to hear the whole history of all citizens. From the very beginning, students must know the truth, including the often horrific and systemic oppression of everyone who wasn't a white well-to-do male.*

Ashley Muncie-Jarvis | Portland, OR

*The truth about our history is the only way to work towards dismantling white supremacy.*

Caryn Anderson | Portland, OR

*Our students deserve to know the truths that exist in our nation's history, not just through a white cultured lens.*

Sarita Flores | Portland, OR

Dena Yassky

Finn Menzies | Seattle, WA

Molly Meck | Seattle, WA

*it is way past time that we stand up and tell the true story of our history. I was 30 before I realized that everything I had been taught in school about the origins of our history was a lie.*

Lindsay Paiva | Providence, RI

*This type of legislation and line of thinking is absolutely contrary to the democratic purpose of schooling. Schools are microcosms of society, and as such, should be spaces where students can ask questions, process complex topics, and work together to understand their worlds. Pretending that racism and sexism do not exist in order to reduce the shame of students from the dominant group is a white supremacist and sexist approach. Just a few weeks ago the third grade teachers at our school decided to conduct a teach-in to support students to understand the ways in which the Coronavirus pandemic is increasing racism against people who are of Chinese or Asian descent. Over the past year since the outbreak of COVID-19, teachers have heard numerous incidents of anti-Asian rhetoric and racist comments from even our youngest students. While we have addressed these issues in the moment and as they have surfaced, and have had many conversations with students on this topic, we feel it is time for a more formal teach-in around this issue, especially since the recent spikes in anti-Asian violence across the U.S. Another critical part of my job is supporting students to develop the critical thinking skills necessary to comprehend and analyze the problems we face as a society and to dream up solutions and actions grounded in community organizing and uplifting marginalized voices to help shape the changes our world needs. If we are not able to do this work, our democracy and society as we know it, will be in peril. We cannot keep protecting white supremacist interests. We must keep moving toward justice.*

Ty Brack | Portland, OR

Shalyn Baylor | Morgantown, WV

*I am signing my name to show support for all students that enter my classroom.*

Jeanie Marinella | Seattle, WA

*We can't make progress in our society without teaching students about historical and current events.*

Francine Buker | Portland, OR

*The truth will set you free!*

Jon Wert | Ridgewood, NY

*I support teachers and would like to see the quality of education improving around the country.*

Katie Cryan Leary | Seattle, WA

*We need to center truth and healing to ensure educational justice for all of our students.*

Bonnie McBee | Portland, OR

*The truth is power*

Melissa Lim | Portland, OR

Julie Colando | Seattle, WA

*kids deserve to learn the truth AND it's the only way we'll be on a path to a just society.*

Jeanne Friedman | Portage, MI

*Students have a right to the truth*

Kevin Crotchett | Portland, OR

Aneesah Jarrett | Philadelphia, PA

*I will not lie to my students about the history of their ancestors in this country. It is our duty as Americans to know and accept the actions of the past. It will only unite and strengthen us for the future.*

Jessica Quindel | Los Angeles, CA

Abigail Levin | Seattle, WA

*"The world changes according to the way people see it, and if you can alter, even by a millimeter, the way people look at reality, then you can change the world." - James Baldwin*

Laura McCutcheon | Santa Fe Springs, CA

*Historical facts matter.*

Jennifer Garcia | Howell, MI

*We can't make progress with out truth and reparations.*

Megan Boyeas | Portland, OR

Ryan-O'Neil Edwards | New York, NY

*This country will never get better if we hide our heads in the sand like cowards.*

Jacqueline Miller | Milwaukee, WI

*I the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Meghan Kahn | Portland, OR

*The history of where we all have come from is imperative to deal with the inequities. We must learn how we got here to improve*

Lynnett Redhead | Baltimore, MD

*We tell our children to tell the truth, be honest etc. Well, it is time for people in authority and legislation to tell the truth as well. We do not need anymore white washing the truth. We can and our children CAN handle the truth. It is simply just time. This country will not adequately progress without the truth.*

Caitlin Hickerson | New York, NY

*I want to speak truth to power so my students know that they can and should do the same. I want to pass on what I was taught about what it means to be a engaged citizen.*

Rob Costilla | Milwaukee, WI

*It is important to teach the truth about US history, the good, the bad and the ugly. Censoring stories of marginalized people does a disservice to the full story of the United States.*

Fatima Montiel | Los Angeles, CA

*I am committed to educating our children in all aspects to empowered them to make informed choices and generate their own ideas of what freedom really means in this country.*

Dalton Caudill | Clackamas, OR

*the truth matters.*

carlos contreras | Los Angeles, CA

*Critical race theory is a result of our historical past.*

Elsa Flores Guiles | Long Beach, CA

*I believe in antibias curriculum.*

Margaret Buck | Tacoma, WA

*These bills are directly in conflict with the purpose of education.*

Kristin Cheever | Milwaukee, WI

*I owe it to my students, they deserve to know the truth about our history.*

Carlee Stoker | Portage, MI

Rebecca Sloan | Milwaukee, WI

*our education system is rooted in injustice and racism. For too long, marginalized groups have been oppressed and our history has attempted to erase this oppression from the record books. My students deserve a nuanced, full understanding of the place they call home.*

Martha Santa Maria | Vergennes, VT

*Truth matters.*

Alanna Merchant | San Francisco, CA

*I want to support ALL of my students, including those who have been forgotten, underserved, and left behind historically. I want to help create a more equitable society, which means helping students understand our country's history and why things are the way they are, so that we can make changes to make it better for everyone.*

Ginger Taylor | Portland, OR

*The truth of history matters!*

Chris Reynaga | Seattle, WA

*We cannot create meaningful change in our society until we understand the legacy of systemic racism, dispossession and genocide of Indigenous peoples and other injustices.*

Amanda Brown | Greenfield, IN

*my students deserve to have an education that is honest and examines bias of all types.*

Ann Lamble | Portage, MI

*True history is important! So many stories are not being told! Kids are so much more intelligent than the average adult thinks they are!*

sheri usher | Ojai, CA

Erin Anderson | Denver, CO

Jennifer Dunn | Seattle, WA

*"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." -James Baldwin*

Heather Anderson | Newark, DE

*I believe my students deserve to know all of the truth of our history and I could never lie about it or cover things up. They will use this truth to make the world much better than it's ever been.*

Barbara Janssen | Fort Collins, CO

*Our students deserve to know the truth. We must present our history accurately if we are to continue to grow, improve and come together as a nation.*

Whitney Weiner | Kalamazoo, MI

*Education needs to be unbiased and based on factual, realistic history*

Dustin Kidd | Philadelphia, PA

Jerriel Hall | Philadelphia, PA

Ashley Bowen | Portage, MI

*my students matter and education is power!*

Amber Dixon | Portage, MI

*Students deserve to be informed of all sides and have an open education!*

Karen Casagrande-Dave | Livonia, MI

*Everyone deserves to know the ugly truth of America*

Zeynep Isik-Ercan | Cherry Hill, NJ

Audra Johnson | Chandler, AZ

Jaclyn Sarnese | San Diego, CA

*Students deserve to learn the truth, which includes all sides of history- the good, the bad, and the ugly sides of our past, if we truly want to prevent history from repeating itself*

Elaine Ferrell-Burns | Portland, OR

*As a semi-retired teacher-librarian who remains passionate in educating are youth using accurate information, I fully support the right to do so.*

Bethany Gravert | Grand Rapids, MI

*We cannot continue white-washing history to make white people feel comfortable. America does not have a pretty story, and we cannot grow and build a better future until we can acknowledge that.*

Melissa Sabga | Portland, OR

Dionne Gordon-Starks

*Education in its most highest form facilitates inclusive perspectives while promoting truth, critical thinking and tolerance.*

monét cooper | Ann Arbor, MI

*Our histories contain multitudes. In order to truly understand history, language, and ourselves, we have to engage the messiness, the chorus of voices, the tensions of the truth – the beauty and the violence.*

Carrie Beatty | Morgantown, WV

*White washing history is not the way to a better understanding of the past nor does it lead to enlightenment.*

Kara Stephens | Philadelphia, PA

Hallie Kristalyn | Garden City, KS

*I will not lie.*

Tamek Holman | Philadelphia, PA

*I will teach the truth.*

Jami Forrester | Bentonville, AR

*I will teach my students to critically think about history and learn to examine and use evidence based analysis without omitting people and their cultures.*

Rodrigo Palacios-Tenorio | PHOENIX, AZ

Tina Bravata | Portage, MI

*I support telling the truth, identifying and understanding problems in our society, and to develop collective solutions to those problems. I believe change to our society is crucial to our existence. I believe we must come together in solidarity to move to a more just and inclusive society.*

Sally Schuler | Richmond, VA

*Teaching honest history is the key to a free society.*



Corey Davila | Philadelphia, PA

Kevin Kinney | New York, NY

*Student needs to know the truth about history and what really happened so they're more prepared to face the harsh realities of their own existences.*

Eva Varga | North Bend, OR

*It is imperative that we understand the past to move forward together. When we better understand the past, we can better understand and appreciate our differences. My students are predominately BIPOC and I speak for them. I am their advocate.*

Betsy Osborne | Morgantown, WV

*Not only do our future teachers need to have the freedom to work with standards and curriculum that do not contribute to white supremacist ideas, but my own children deserve to hear the multiple perspectives which social studies offers. Never trust anyone who tells you there is only one truth- they most definitely are attempting to keep the wool over your eyes.*

olivia johnstone | East Orange, NJ

*All stories should be heard.*

Roxanna Thomas Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*Today and past students be able to have a voice about their history of injustice miss education about the truth and why was it suppressed all these years.*

Rebecca Ray | Philadelphia, PA

*Students need to know the truth about their history, their culture and their heritage. We have white washed history for too long. I also think it is important to include racism in the curriculum.*

Parents United for Public Education Advocacy | Philadelphia, PA

*Belief in whitewashed lies continues to fuel gross inequities in public education. Children deserve the promise that a strong fully resourced truthfully public education can provide. Truth Matters. Teach truth.*

Robin Roberts | Philadelphia, PA

*The truth is important.*

Nick Bernardini | Philadelphia, PA

Robin Lowry | Philadelphia, PA

*If I don't teach the truth in Health class then students marginalized by the health care system or suspicious of the health care system based on historical policies and practices in this country will not develop agency in managing their own health and understanding their feelings. No child should wonder if they are alone or "the only one who feels this way." I will always speak the truth about the history of health care, the realities of environmental racism and the facts of human sexuality and identity.*

Denise Douglas | Philadelphia, PA

*We can't progress and change, if we don't know the truth!*

AJ Householder | Kalamazoo, MI

*We can't learn from the past if we erase chunks of it from curriculum.*

Jaime Higgins | Philadelphia, PA

*Our students live in a disenfranchised world were they know some people will get everything they ask for and some (mostly them) will get nothing. I work to fight this mentality everyday and will continue to do so regardless of what politicians want me to teach. History should not only be what the victorious write. History should be all sides of every story, not just the shiny parts.*

Mary Pieri

*I was lied too and am extremely behind in being aware of the world and more than the white man's history. No student deserves to be lied to!*

Holly Peterman-Gomez | Grand Rapids, MI

*I feel it is my responsibility to teach truthfully.*

Grace Voisin | Wixom, MI

Loren Koella | Belmont, MI

*Banning the truth is unlawful and only continues the cycle of oppression. It needs to stop.*

Nate Loman | Akron, OH

*the US is not perfect.*

Meagan McGovern | San Mateo, CA

*If we don't teach about race and our country's history, we can't expect our students and future generations to change our country and world. There is so much injustice happening. Our students deserve to know the truth so they can help make change!*

Thuynga Barr | Eugene, OR

Jessica Lawson | Burlingame, CA

*I love and respect my students. They deserve to learn the truth in school!*

Samara R | Oakland, CA

Claudia Diez | Griffin, GA

*I am a mother, a white mother with white children, and they MOST LEARN about the racial injustice and racism in the history of this country...*

Charquita Arnold | Vallejo, CA

*It is an assault on truth and justice to require events that happened to not be communicated or taught. It is unfair and causes us to live in a world based on false ideas, half truths, and full lies. To repair our nation, we must face our history...all of it.*

Amber Watts | Austin, TX

Trevor Bradley | Spokane, WA

*Citizenship that is based in critical thinking, inquiry, and a desire for the truth is fundamental to a society that seeks its own betterment. The oppressive dynamics of racism, sexism, classism, and colonialism permeate our past and present; so too will they fill our future if we don't take subversive action to undermine them now. Education is central to the mission of righting the wrongs of the past and realizing a just world for ourselves and for future generations. I will not give up on this mission. I pledge to teach the truth.*

Christopher Sikich | Philadelphia, PA

*The truth about the history of this country and humanity in general is vital to understand our place in a just and fair future.*

John Cosby | Kalamazoo, MI

*legislation like this would have our students believe that this nation fixed everything with the Civil War, and everything else with Martin Luther King, Jr., and that isn't true.*

Jeanette Greenzweig | Wilmington, DE

*Truth matters. We need to understand our past so we can move forward and, hopefully, not repeat past mistakes. We can teach truthfully and in developmentally appropriate ways.*

Ashley Offidani | Portage, MI

Will Saunders | Montgomery Village, MD

*I support authentic education. Nobody should be silenced from teaching the truth.*

August Leppelmeier | Richmond Hill, NY

*The past should not be whitewashed. The peoples' tribulations and their organizing should not be erased through modern day censorship.*

Paig Spender | Grand Rapids, MI

*Students should know the truth about our nations history! Teaching the truth and allowing for open and honest conversations gives students a chance to become better leaders for tomorrow and create a more welcoming world.*

Abram Taber | Philadelphia, PA

*to ignore the racism in our past is to do a disservice to our students in the present. Uncomfortable events shouldn't be ignored or sugar-coated, equally in music education as in history and social studies. There is a reason Elvis is called "the king of rock and roll" and not one of the numerous Black American musicians who pioneered the genre long before Mr. Presley set voice to tape. My students deserve to know who was left out of our country's (and world's) music history and why, in order reckon with and remedy these errors and omissions.*

Takisha Johnson | Kalamazoo, MI

*The truth you don't want to teach is the history of my people and our youth deserve to know the truth.*

Lindsay Carlson | Grand Rapids, MI

*I think the history speaks for itself, but the idea of gagging teachers is frightening and Draconian.*

Briana Klug | Grand Rapids, MI

Nikki Bartolo | Wilmington, DE

Joline Andrews | Wyoming, MI

*Students deserve to know the truth. They need to be taught to think critically and to question things. The world will continue to be racist, sexist, and homophobic if we aren't taught about history.*

Lisa Yau | Philadelphia, PA

*History needs to be taught: the good, the bad and the ugly.*

Christopher Bradley | McAlester, OK

*I pledge to teach our state and national history with truth and accuracy.*

Joel Ford | Portland, OR

*Teachers need to be supported and protected to teach the truth.*

Scott Parsons | Newark, DE

*I believe that it's important that my students know that we, their teachers, stand with them, and I believe it's essential that we give our students the knowledge and tools to work against systems of oppression in our country band around the world.*

Michelle Elizondo | Byron Center, MI

*If we continue to pretend racism does not exist, then hate and violence will continue in our society. If we don't talk about the past we cannot change the future. One political party is controlling the education system and the rhetoric and it will damage the public education for students learning history and the truth. We should not be suppressing history even if it's painful.*

Amy Kemmer | Clarkston, MI

Jessica Wittebols | Usaf Academy, CO

*History cannot be erased. It is not right to ignore the facts of the cruelties of the past. The truth should be taught.*

Lindsey Daems | Benicia, CA

*I believe in the truth.*

Akeem Layne | Burlingame, CA

Rachael Dupon | Wyoming, MI

*We can't be BETTER without teaching the things that matter.*

Emily Márquez | Wyoming, MI

*Our students deserve to be exposed to a true and accurate representation of our past and present in order to form their own opinions and visions for their (our) future.*

Lisa Rhea | Alpena, MI

*I teach social studies. In particular US history from the explorers through reconstruction. There is no way to not talk about the impact of different cultures when talking about the formation of the United States of America.*

Pat Simpson | Portage, MI

*Students deserve to see themselves and their history reflected in their curriculum. We do Black and Brown students harm by ignoring or denying the impact that systemic racism has on their daily lives. Educators must work to upend systems of oppression, not perpetuate them.*

Kelsey Clapp | Grand Rapids, MI

*It's important that our students are taught the truth about our history so we can learn and grow from it, and hopefully become better*

Kiersten Greene | Highland, NY

Karen Johnson | Grand Rapids, MI

*Ignoring history is not going to change things. It will only make it worse. Our students deserve better. Our future deserves better. This bill is wrong.*

Nicole Durso | Grand Rapids, MI

Jill Gleason | Grand Rapids, MI

*I teach, in part, because I believe in truth. It is imperative we start talking about the reality of our origins.*

Kelli James | Portland, MI

*I teach a diverse group of students, and the struggles they and their ancestors have faced do matter and need to be heard of we really want change to happen in our country.*

Sierra Barton | El Sobrante, CA

*All of our students deserve to learn an honest, reflective, justice-oriented approach to history – not a revisionist one.*

Caitlin Oliver | Lowell, MI

*We cannot erase history because it makes us feel uncomfortable.*

Shannon Bertoni | Philadelphia, PA

Heather Phillips | Rockford, MI

*The truth is that structural racism is embedded into the fabric of our society and we cannot progress as a nation by pretending that it doesn't exist. Ignoring the issue will do nothing but aid in the continued marginalization of vulnerable populations.*

Liana Conrade | Grand Rapids, MI

*Our students deserve to be taught accurate history and current events.*

Emily Pearce | Grand Rapids, MI

AmySue Hopkins | Mason, MI

*The truth matters.*

Heather Bell | Tisbury Town of, MA

Rich Novack | Orange, CT

*We need a hypocritical oath. This is the closest thing I've seen.*

Danielle Allen | Warren, MI

*This Bill is wrong and harmful*

Christine Chisholm | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe that schools are an essential part of a working democracy, helping to create informed voting citizens. We shouldn't be afraid to face our history as Americans; in fact, we must do so if we want to keep our democracy alive.*

Maranda Anderson | Greenfield, IN

Sheila Myers | Philadelphia, PA

*My students deserve to know truth and justice.*

Rachel Zuffa | Racine, WI

*if the truths of equality matter in the United States, that every individual is deserving of "life, liberty, and the pursuit happiness," then the truths of our country's past and present have to be known and named for a tomorrow to exist.*

Laurie Bowers | Buffalo, NY

*I can't believe this is even an issue! I would have been so much more informed in school if I knew then what I know now. The truth is the truth...nothing less is acceptable!*

Empress Modupe Olufunmi-Jacobs | Pahoa, HI

*I am an descendant of kidnapped and enslaved Africans. My ancestors' bodies, culture, language, health, labor, resources and spirituality, were sacrificed in order for me to be here today. As an educator it is my duty and my right to teach about the historical foundations of the United States. It is important that the history, cultures, legacy and struggles of the Indigenous peoples of the Americas, Africa, and Asia; as well as their valuable contributions to making the United States the nation it is today, is not distorted, erased and forgotten by future generations.*

Alexa Bergeski | Hazel Park, MI

Christina Toppen | Grand Haven, MI

Lawrence Blum | Cambridge, MA

*This legislation flies in the face of everything education and educators stand for--teaching accurate history, teaching students to think, teaching students to examine evidence, teaching them to look critically at received perspectives. Legislators should not be telling educators what to teach, and the attempt to do so would have a chilling effect on the profession of teaching.*

Arsenia Reilly-collins | Brooklyn, NY

Garrett King | Coos Bay, OR

*Because I am not a Liar*

Joseph Brusky | Milwaukee, WI

*We need to teach the truth!*

Yulee Kim | San Ramon, CA

Sean Keating

*Banning curriculum that strives to create more racial and gender equality is not a wise decision. It displays a lack of compassion for our fellow community members who, for generations, have been mistreated and marginalized.*

Samaah Mohammed | Portland, OR

*for the truth to be told*

Megan Dobson | Round Rock, TX

*I refuse to be used as a tool of oppression. In my role as a teacher, I have an opportunity and an obligation to work to dismantle white supremacy in our society, not to serve as a cog in its vast machinery. As the incoming Social Studies Department Chair at my school, I have two foundational tenets going into the new year: 1. Healthy professional boundaries for everyone. 2. Make good trouble.*

Catherine Rayes | Livonia, MI

Kirsten Smith | San Carlos, CA

*we need to be teaching the truth about our history to our youth. We need to teach the next generation of peace makers the Truth!*

Lauren Bishop | Escanaba, MI

*True patriotism is looking at past transgressions and making a concerted effort to do better. We can't erase the past, so we must learn from it.*

Dana Reisboard | Ardmore, PA

Danielle Peck | Clawson, MI

Aaron Whitmore | Burlingame, CA

Akemi Kashiwada | Burlingame, CA

*even though I'm two generations removed from the members of my family that were forced into the Japanese internment camps, it still affects my life, and I want my children to understand that as well.*

Emily Halls | Waterford, MI

*For far too long we have erased the accomplishments of people of color and erased atrocities of white people. I will not lie to students about the history of this country and its people. I will not teach students that white culture is the norm to aspire to.*

William Dominick | Doylestown, PA

*We must ALWAYS tell our students the truth.*

Jessica Blei | Portland, OR

Leah Owens | Newark, NJ

Alisa Harvey | Portland, OR

Amelia Tedesco | Philadelphia, PA

Alison Cundiff | Tucker, GA

*Education is an evolving process. It is wrong to tell the stories of one group without acknowledging those of the other. If education is to continue as an honest institution, we must all commit to growing with it.*

Tasha Russell | Philadelphia, PA

Erika Chavarria | Columbia, MD

Daniel Stowell | Exeter, NH

*This result of this legislation is to scare educators into self-censorship on topics that have been too long ignored.*

Rachel Burlison | Dallas, TX

*It is brainwashing and criminal to hide, whitewash and rewrite this part of our history. It's a sham. This is a pathetic attempt to maintain white supremacy and control by avoiding these conversations or discussing our past mistakes as we work toward being better humans. Everyone can see that and it's embarrassing. I have been a proud public educator for over 20 years and this infringes on my moral and ethical beliefs. I am being forced into an ideology I do not support. This is the real push towards fascism.*

Catherine Tucker | Portland, OR  
*teaching about racial equity and social justice is a human right and needs to be weaved into education.*

Alba Lamar | Tampa, FL  
*history and social studies and epistemology is so much more than colonial school models let us learn about.*

Katie Kelly | Greenville, SC  
*I am committed to teaching and learning about equity and justice.*

Danielle Awad | Granada Hills, CA  
*My students deserve to know the truth and to think critically about history and its impact on the present. I refuse to lie to my students by teaching them a whitewashed version of history that denies the pain and suffering of our indigenous nations and black citizens, among many other cultural and ethnic groups. My students deserve to learn accurate US history so that they can grow to be critical thinkers and responsible citizens who strive to make America a better place to live for ALL its citizens, regardless of race, gender, religion, or identify, rather than citizens who live in constant denial of the oppression faced by millions throughout our country.*

Andrea Ward | Benicia, CA

Melissa McCoul | Bryan, TX

Rose Bruce | Philadelphia, PA  
*my students deserve the truth always not just when it's convenient for politicians.*

Erin Carroll | Brooklyn, NY

Ismael Jimenez | Philadelphia, PA

Vincent Brannigan | Bethesda, MD  
*I'm a law professor emeritus. My field is science based safety regulation. Teaching the truth in accordance with academic standards is our passion. In my case IT SAVES LIVES*

Jennifer Garcia | Brooklyn, NY  
*I believe that true education, freedom and empowerment come from truth.*

Paul Menard | Nashua, NH  
*Understanding the influences on events and people in the past does not demonize, villainize, or blame a person sitting in the room across from me. Teaching how a belief shaped events that influence us today helps us both see how our own thoughts and feelings impact us currently and helps frame solutions. Is it not a measure of greatness to admit our wrongdoings and work tirelessly to address them?*

Michaeline Neu | North Wales, PA  
*Teaching the truth about historical facts is necessary so history doesn't repeat itself. All human beings, no matter what race, color, creed or sexuality deserve equality and equity. Our country has most recently been going down the dangerous path of repeating segregation and suppression.*

Alison Dempsey | New York, NY  
*My students need the tools to recognize, challenge, and dismantle white supremacy. That starts with learning the truth about our country's history.*

Mitch Powell | Santa Ana, CA  
*It's autocratic, authoritarian, even fascistic to limit the educational materials that broaden one's awareness of transgressions in our past so that one can grow from them, and not repeat and sustain the systemic racism seen, still, in society today.*

Bettina Mow | Portland, OR  
*I taught for 25 in California and my last year teaching I was asked not talk about the rise of fascism and students and administration were taken aback when I spoke up about first amendment rights and the right that Colin Kaepernick had to kneel. I felt the system was racist and students of color were ignored.*

Leticia Cortinas | Lake Oswego, OR  
*We teach our children not to lie. We shouldn't lie to them either. It's time to teach the truth and speak truth to power always.*

Margaret DesCamp | Portland, OR  
*We cannot grow as a country, and create the democracy we were promised, unless we honestly analyze the mistakes our forefathers made, so we can learn from them.*

Hilary Haskell | Appleton, WI  
*I believe we need to fully understand our history as a country in order to understand one another.*

Celine O | Chico, CA  
*If we do not learn our true history, we are doomed to repeat it. I believe one of the most important things we can teach our young people today is to think critically, and without teaching the truth, how can we expect them to learn to think for themselves? To question and consider? To celebrate their own heritage and/or learn how to do better?*

Catherine Hatcher | Louisville, KY

mary dent | Silver Spring, MD  
*Enough is Enough*

Patty Fleetwood | Philadelphia, PA  
*The truth matters. Free speech matters. Speaking out matters.*

Alex Mantz | Norristown, PA

Jennifer Eckert-Toler | San Juan Capistrano, CA  
*I have the courage to teach hard history, to teach the truth, to teach my students about the real, unvarnished history of our country.*

Linda Smart | Eugene, OR  
*So much of what are in our textbooks has been whitewashed. True events are left out in order to highlight the perspective that is Eurocentric. We leave out or minimize the genocide of the Indigenous population of this country. We do not give credit to the black and brown hands who built our country, much of that with forced and minimally or unpaid (enslaved) labor. We leave out voices of those who have been oppressed by the European settlers. We leave out the atrocities that have been at the hands of those with European background. Let's consider the massacre in Oklahoma. The first time there was an aerial attack on our homeland. This was done to wipe out Blacks who were successfully living and prospering there. We minimize the racism toward Asian Americans and Latinx people. Some of the arguments given in the states who are trying to wipe out the telling of authentic history is that we do not wish to make any students feel bad. They leave out the word White. They do not want White people to feel bad. What about our students of color who only see themselves being oppressed, minimized or not even shown at all? Although there is supposed to be separation of church and state, material is presented from a "Christian" point of view. Students or staff who identify as non-binary are also viewed in the negative or simply erased. All of our students need to see themselves in the history that we teach and teachers should not be threatened for telling the whole truth. We consider ourselves to be a democracy. How is that represented in what we are teaching?*

Danielle Farley | Philadelphia, PA  
*We cannot move forward if we don't teach the truth.*

Shaw MacQueen | Philadelphia, PA

Kelli Joy | Portland, OR

*Our students deserve to learn the truth so they don't make the same mistakes we made.*

Janet Frey | Dallas, TX

*teaching kids the truth is a powerful tool for creating lasting positive change for the communities that inhabit this land and make up our society.*

monica Semeria | Portland, OR

*my students deserve the truth. This country needs the truth in order to become the great nation it says it is.*

Athena Andrews | Portland, OR

Victoria Lebrón | Baltimore, MD

*Students deserve to know the truth about this country so that they can identify systems and structures. It will also enable them to dismantle those structures that oppress and imagine new ones.*

Gab Sussman | Baltimore, MD

Chris Lodore | Portland, OR

Leesa Ferguson | Portland, OR

*All Lies Matter, Our children deserve to learn the truth. Period.*

Christine Williams | Houston, TX

*I think all history needs to be taught. The good, bad and the ugly.*

Denise Oglesby | Athens, GA

*Learning the truth will help all of us, not the least of which are marginalized people, but White folks too will benefit. Being a member, or aspiring to be a member, of the oppressor class takes a social-emotional, mental health toll.*

Heather Mathewson | Portland, OR

Elizabeth Young | Hamden, CT

*Teaching the Truth is the most important thing teachers can do to help save and improve this nation.*

Jennifer Kuhn | Portland, OR

*I care about my students knowing the truth about our country so we can build a better future for all.*

Linda Huerta | Richmond, CA

*I grew up in Richmond, CA and all of the teachers that I've had, have always told us the truth about history in the United States, they don't sugarcoat anything. I am a strong believer that our future generations deserve to know the truth and shouldn't be "brainwashed" or kept away from the true history to this country. If my generation was able to put 2 and 2 together, and we weren't taught exactly every single thing, then everything would make sense to the newer generations with the politics within this country that they have seen.*

Jane Strugatsky | Portland, OR

Mary Beckloff | Greenville, NC

Laura Buffi | Danielson

*We cannot make meaningful progress until we are, at the very least, honest about our past.*

Jocelyn Merrill | Nashua, NH

*Not only does a bill like NH HB544 add insult to injury, but it insults my students who are responsible and critical thinkers. They crave and deserve to have these "difficult" discussions in brave spaces like my classroom and in the classrooms of my fellow educators. As an English teacher, identity is one of the largest themes that my students and I tackle, and within that comes celebrating all parts of my students'. One of the most valid ways I can do that is through dialogue and offering literature that both speaks to them and their experience AND broadens their perspective on the experiences that people who do not look like them have.*

Anne Mulligan-Brinson | Happy Valley, OR

Carolyn Blum | Portland, OR

Kate Soucy | Nashua, NH

*I am committed to empowering students with knowledge and TRUTH.*

Sarah Kaka | Delaware, OH

*I refuse to lie to my students, and to teach them to lie to their students. Instead of pulling the wool over their eyes and continuing to teach a whitewashed, false narrative, we should be teaching the truth and helping them become critical consumers of historical information. The K-12 classroom allows us to manage the debate they may already be participating in/aware of, and provide and correct, unbiased information so that they can be more civically aware.*

Allison Ojeda | Louisville, KY

*I am not afraid to teach the "hard" topics. It's time. Our kids deserve better - they deserve the truth.*

idalia bamert | New York, NY

Andrew Scopp | New York, NY

*Kids deserve to know the whole truth about our nation's history, even if it's hard to hear.*

Shauna Jackson | Orlando, FL

*Teachers are supposed to educate. We are supposed to be trusted and looked to for guidance. I will not teach white painted history that is smothered in lies.*

Bill Smith | Brick, NJ

Michelle Munizaga | Louisville, KY

*It is my civic duty to all students to teach and speak truth.*

Derek Ault | Chicago, IL

*my students need to know the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.*

Rachel Hanes | Portland, OR

*I don't want to lie to my students. I want my students to understand the complexity of our history so they can uphold the ideals of liberty and justice for all that we have yet to make a reality for all members of our society.*

dawn miller | San Diego, CA

Jamilah Scott | Leander, TX

*I am a Black woman, mother of Black children, and an educator. I refuse to lie to my students. I became an educator to empower students, especially the most marginalized among us. That role comes with a responsibility to engage with them authentically and in truth. That is what I have always done and will continue to do so.*

Amber Cameron | Alameda, CA

Sumita Soni | Berkeley, CA

Jessie Nimeh | Rochester, NY

*Children must know the truth to make the future better*

Mary Kay Maslanka | Riga Town of, NY

Tim Swinehart | Portland, OR

Noe Garza | San Antonio , TX

*our nation can only set itself free when it's people know the whole truth regardless how uncomfortable it is. Then we can begin to heal and make sure it is never repeated. Si Se Puede.*

Zoe M Ehrenberg | Philadelphia, PA

Adrian Galvan | Everett, WA

*All students should learn a unbiased truth of history.*

Helen Turner | Louisville, KY

*I want our future to know our true history in order to prevent similar things from happening again. Knowledge is POWER*

Bonita Hampton | Oswego, NY

*It's not only ironic but unfortunate that we have people among us who would do anything, including passing Bills, to continue the perpetuation of an incomplete historical record, even though, like now, the truth (a more complete history) will out!!*

Chas Foster | Silver Spring, MD

*While this type of legislation has not yet been proposed in Maryland, an erosion of any teacher's freedom to speak the truth is an assault of all our freedoms.*

Helen Serafino-Agar | San Francisco, CA

*the students need to hear the truth.*

Lihi Rosenthal | Berkeley, CA

Sara Stellfox | Chicago, IL

*It's important to acknowledge and study our historical and current events to support our students in becoming informed citizens.*

Aimee Sutherland | Kittery, Town of, ME

*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Shelah Kelso | Beaverton, OR

Mima Takemoto | Atherton, CA

Blake Mazurek | Grand Rapids, MI

*Learning about our past SHOULD illicit a degree of uncomfortableness and challenge us. Understanding the truth about our troubled past will help us recognize the work we still have before us. It should also serve as a warning bell to guard against the rising threats to our nation. No, I do not hate America... I simply have high expectations for a republic dedicated to the proposition that all people are created equal and a government of, by and for the people.*

Guthrie Fleischman | El Sobrante, CA

Jaimee Taborda | Oxford, MA

*Students deserve the truth. Learning about our difficult past is a necessity in order to make better decisions in the future. How can we expect our students to think critically if we conceal the truth?*

Brennan Brockbank | Portland, OR

Kathy Zaleski | Arvada, CO

*Students must know the truth about what really happened in history as well as how our economy and government works. I became a teacher because I learned a whitewashed, revisionist version of history and wanted to do better for my students.*

Sherri Lucas-Hall | Lawrenceville, GA

*I know that unless we teach TRUTH to students they will be unable to make INFORMED decisions about their futures and the future of this nation.*

Jill Waters | Sonoma, CA

*It is important*

JoEllen Marley | Bristol, PA

Kristin Thompson | Maple Grove, MN

Maria Pflanz | Fort Lee, NJ

*Truth and integrity should never be feared. Why are you afraid? The children should be honored and trusted with the truth. Integrity, respect, and genuine care for our humanity naturally lead to freedom, which is under attack with these bills that are based on fear of that which makes us all so powerful together. Truth. Integrity. Facing our own history, owning it, repairing, and improving. Don't be afraid. Educate yourselves! You owe it to your constituents, children, future generations, and the country.*

Sabrina Sears | Beckley, WV

*I refuse to teach my diverse body of students a whitewashed, false truth. The voices of minorities WILL BE HEARD in my classroom!*

Natasha Beck | Portland, OR

*I'm a veteran social justice organizer, multi-disciplinary educator, and writer who knows we must continue to speak truth to power and, in the words of the late John Lewis, "make good trouble."*

Leo (they/them) Soell | Portland, OR

*All students deserve to understand real histories rather than oppressive whitewashed curriculum. BIPOC, queer, trans, immigrant, poor, and all oppressed identities matter and have been erased since colonization. I will teach the truth because that is my job as a teacher.*

Christine Manzo | Louisville, CO

*True history needs to be taught, so children can make decisions and be critical thinkers as they age.*

Steven McCullough | Falls Church, VA

*Attempts to mute student thought, stifle the voices of teachers or cut off critical discussion in the classroom is what is truly un-American, moreover, it prevents our young people from talking about the difficult chapters in our nation's history and impacts their ability to heal from intergenerational trauma. We must build an informed, empowered, and engaged generation of students who understand their history and are equipped to talk about the challenges of racism in order to build stronger communities.*

Nathan Beck | Portland, OR

*Truth matters.*

Darrin Hoop | Renton, WA

Mauria McClay | Portland, OR

Franki Dennison | Portland, OR

*Lies are always more dangerous than the truth. Equity depends on the truth.*

Kelli Modine | Bellmead, TX

Dina Modine | Charlotte, NC

*I believe we only learn through true stories we share with one another. History is alive. It involves context, perspective and people...all of which must be honored and respected for us to work together for US...not one group, but all people.*

Marianne Lowery | Portland, OR

Sarah Mykkanen | Portland, OR

*We can't build a better future if we don't teach students the truth of the past.*

Leah Starr | Portland, OR

*It's time for ALL teachers of ALL content areas to include explanations of how systemic racism affects not only the local education systems that we teach in but the larger systems of politics and economics that we are preparing our students to participate in.*

Kelly Greenberg | Portland, OR

Zina Toure | Minneapolis, MN

*I understand the intersection of history and raising interest in young learners to follow path , break down previous unsustainable pattern, foster healthy curiosity and understanding of any perceived «other», see injustices as a matter of choices and begin to deem themselves as power wielding individuals.*

Samantha Gross | Philadelphia, PA

Anna Jablonski | Portland, OR

*WE MUST TEACH THE TRUTH TO HEAL AND GROW HEALTHY AS A SOCIETY. It fucking pisses me off that I wasn't taught as a kid or young adult and that the truth is still concealed.*

Mary Watkins | Portland, OR

Audrey Patterson | Portland, OR

Kayla Long | Arlington, TX

Carrie Betti | San Mateo, CA

*Multiple perspectives and the truth must be taught in our schools for social justice and our future.*

Rena Long | Arlington, TX

*I feel it is overstep to institute this legislation.*

Kealy Barrow Strange | Portland, OR

Jessica Paul | Portland, OR

*Denying the ugly truth of America's history is not what unifies us, it's what continues to divide us. The truth is what sets us free. Teaching our history and giving justice and opportunity to those harmed by it is our only way forward.*

Melissa Immesoete | Portland, OR

*We are stronger together on a foundation of truth.*

Elicia Blackford | Portland, OR

Ann Rarden | San Mateo, CA

*our children need to hear the truth so they can act on dismantling the systems of injustice and inequity*

Susan Speyer-Boilard | San Francisco, CA

*It is time to be honest!!!*

Tracy Scott | Tustin, CA

*Only through the truth can we truly understand how history influences the present; only through the truth can we lovingly reshape our country to better match its ideals; only through the truth can we achieve the real American Dream- All people are created equal with inalienable rights.*

Laura McLeod | Richland, WA

Jennifer Edelson | Portland, OR

*Education is authentic and needs the truth, no matter how inconvenient to some.*

Shane Safir | Oakland, CA

Arielle King | San Diego, CA

Briana Gonzales | Denver, CO

Colette Cann | San Francisco, CA

Leila Kayed | Cary, NC

Rosie Herold | Mount Pleasant, SC

Anne Nelson | Conifer, CO

Bob Peterson | Milwaukee, WI

*Because if we never teach about the horrors of racism, there will never be a reason for the upcoming generation to be anti-racist. And we need all people in this country to be anti-racist.*

Tina Beck | Hilton Head Island, SC

*I have always taught the truth and I refuse to stop! My students deserve it and all are stronger for knowing it. It makes them want to reach the nation's professed ideals even more. Knowledge is power, which is clearly what conservatives are trying to take away - our power! Only by facing the truth will we move forward and become truly great.*

Venessa Valdez | Denver, CO

*I believe the truth must be told. Our students, my children deserve the truth now.*

Kelly Bayes | Largo, FL

Kim Klett | Gilbert, AZ

*It is imperative that we teach with accuracy and truth so our students trust us and learn, continuing to move us forward.*

Kathe Hetter | Ann Arbor, MI

*Every high school students needs to learn our true and factual history of the United States, the good, the bad, and the ugly. Every perspective must be given*

Kari Taylor | Fpo, CA

*All students deserve to know the actual history of their country. Even though I am not a history teacher, I will support my fellow teachers and supplement where I can in the science curriculum. This is crucial to our democracy.*

Allison Newton | Portland, OR

*I stand for human rights and justice. I will not let the history of the human experience in our country continue to be edited to keep white people in power and to make them feel comfortable, justified, or innocent. In solidarity- Allison*

Jackson Mowe | Portland, OR

*When students find truth amongst nation-sized myths it nourishes a hopeful future.*

Tamara Erickson | Seattle, WA

*Our kids deserve to learn the unbiased facts of our history.*

Megan OLeary | Portland, OR

Georgia Childs | Ayden, NC

Garrett Mattson | Portland, OR

*Our K-12 history has been to ignore the depth and breadth of how this nation has systemically discriminated against BIPOC people.*

Janet Olsson | Portland, OR

*Our students, including my own children, deserve to know the truth of our country's racist past and the role it has played in our country's racist present. We cannot fix what we do not see.*

Katherine Kondylis | Portland, OR

*Anti-racist teaching requires us to face the truth of our history and it's continued negative impact on marginalized groups. My students deserve to not only know the truth of the past, but also strategies to resist oppression and role models who look like them and have changed the world for the better!*

Sarah Prigmore | Alexandria, VA

*I believe that we should stop white-washing history. Our country was founded on policies made by white males, but built on the back of all others. We have to condemn, address, and destroy institutional racism and not try to hide it as we've done in the past. We must face the injustices in this country and throughout education and take action through speaking the real history of the United States.*

Anne Laufe | Portland, OR

Cathy Skach | Portland, OR

*I care about preserving the TRUTH!*

Jeri Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*Students have a fundamental right to know the truth.*

Aarika Elwer | Portland, OR

*People, including my students, deserve to know that history is not a monolith.*

Nicole Hagans | Oklahoma City, OK

*I will teach the truth about how our nation came about the good, the bad and the ugly. I will also help my students see all sides of a situation, so they can become informed members of society.*

Kristin Irwin | Portland, OR

*We must teach the truth in order to dismantle white supremacy and systematic racism.*

Gina Azzaro-Budak | Portland, OR

*"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it!" -George Santayana 1905*

Kristin Werts | Portland, OR

Maricruz Padilla | Portland, OR

*Teaching people's history will improve people's future in the United States of America.*

Christi Lossner | Portland, OR

Jo Lane | Portland, OR

*I am committed to teaching my students their whole history and truth.*

Diane Williams | Salem, OR

*The only way to do right is to look squarely at past wrongs, whether my own or my ancestors', and make amends.*

Tamara O'Malley | Portland, OR

*I believe in telling the truth and acknowledging past and present wrongs so we can attempt to heal them.*

LeeAnne Heuberger | Portland, OR

*If we are not able to teach and address our complete history we will never move forward as a nation.*

Megan Kendall | Portland, OR

Brandy Takacs | Portland, OR

*I am one of few teachers of color in Oregon. Erasing our Truth from History is erasing who we are as people. All sides of an issue should be viewed in our History.*

Mercedes Munoz | Portland, OR

*I am tasked with helping to shape the future, one student at a time. If I cannot teach them to think critically and examine history--- how can I hope to see new outcomes? We cannot lie about the history of the United States.*

Tara Straubinger | Portland, OR

Shannon Hennrich | Portland, OR

*I am a social justice warrior of 22 years with twice Exceptionalities myself. I have been teaching truth since the 80s and will continue til my last breath.*

Ryan Shipe | Portland, OR

*Unless kids understand the reality of the our world they will be ill equipped to work towards making it better.*

Audrienne Manansala | Portland, OR

Dori Isakson | Portland, OR

Anjanette Hawksford | Portland, OR

*all students should learn the true US History.*

Amanda Lyon | Lake Oswego, OR

Jennifer Hellman | Portland, OR

*I am a committed anti racist, social justice educator. I stand in solidarity with all teachers who are committed to teaching the truth of U.S. History and the role of white supremacy in order to work to dismantle systemic racism.*

Eric Levine | Portland, OR

*I teach truth!*

Lindy Settevendemie | Atlanta, GA

*The truth will set us all free. Our children have the right to learn the truth about the reality of white supremacy and the racist systems that have always governed our country and continue to shape our lives. It is my hope that in learning the truth, children will begin to heal and will be able to imagine and create a more equitable world. We need truth, reconciliation, and reparations.*

Christina Velasco | San Francisco, CA

*It's time to dismantle white supremacy. Teach the truth. HISTORY is bound to repeat itself unless we learn from it.*

Alison Anson | San Carlos, CA

*History needs to be about all people, not just those who conquered others. Students will be very excited to learn about history that is relevant to their lives and includes all people's stories.*

Michael Moon | Grifton, NC

*Studying history will sometimes make you uncomfortable. Studying history will sometimes make you feel extremely angry. If studying history always makes you feel proud and happy, you probably aren't studying history.*

Myra Quadros | San Francisco, CA

*I believe we must teach our students a different history, the truth.*

Zarina Ahmad | Oakland, CA

*I am signing my name because I was a young adult before I learned the truth about the racist, oppressive and demoralizing principles that played a major role in the founding of the United States. I strongly believe that if we learn the truth at an early age about racist practices, we can begin to heal and break down the walls*



that separate us all as people. We can all learn from mistakes but first we must acknowledge that the treatment of African American people in this nation has been cruel. The black people of Tulsa, Rosewood and ancestors of enslaved people should be compensated for all that they and for the years of free labor that benefitted others. Exclusion from federal taxes, free college tuition and actual cash payments are long overdue.

La Vina Lowery | Atherton, CA

Jim Argent | Raleigh, NC

We can not stay silent and allow the truth to be washed away. Just as Germany teaches about Nazism, we too must teach of the atrocities that occurred in building this nation!

Donnella Quattrman | Jacksonville, FL

For to long have Blacks been denied the truth of their ancestry and brainwashed to believe that we did not have a vibrant, brilliant ancestral history.

Alexa Arboleda | Washington, DC

I care about sharing all stories, understanding all perspective, and not conflating objectivity with oppression or silence.

Courtenay Forward | Kaufman, TX

Sabre Goldman | Washington, DC

I am signing to speak out against the pro-racist and heteronormative education laws being passed which will only further marginalize our underrepresented students and cultures. Teachers should never fear to teach the need for change and for liberation.

Amy Adams | Kittery, Town of, ME

Only the truth can set us free.

Lisa Montgomery | Jacksonville, FL

I teach adult literacy, and I refuse to lie to my students about American history and the roles of slavery, racism, and sexism in the formation of our culture, our government, and our cities.

Tom Calvanico | Rumson, NJ

It matters!

Christine Leishman | San Francisco, CA

I do not want a generation to go by without living up to our ideals of ALL PEOPLE being created equal.

Brady Bennon | Lake Oswego, OR

Students deserve to know the truth so that our society can grapple with ways to make the world more just, equitable, and fair. We cannot get there by burying our history.

Myra Haase | Indianapolis, IN

There is a danger in anytime there is a single story. "History can only teach its lesson if it is remembered," and history is not just 'in the past' it has and is shaping our students present. They are agents for the future. They need to have the truth if they are going to learn from history.

Michele Cerino | Westport, CT

Our students deserve to know the truth, have a voice, and make choices about what it means to be a responsible global citizen. Education to defend our democracy!

Michael Smaczyllo | Philadelphia, PA

I refuse to lie to my students about the structures that have been put in place to keep them disempowered.

Jenifer Felix | Philadelphia, PA

the truth is important and all children deserve to know how history has shaped their reality

Joseph Jones | Philadelphia, PA

all of American history needs to be able to be part of the school experience for all our students.

Aimee Shelton | Philadelphia, PA

Students need to be taught the truth.

Sarah Goldman | Philadelphia, PA

my students deserve to learn the truth behind racism and Eurocentrism in math history and beyond!

James Hardy | Philadelphia, PA

Education requires truth.

Frank Pinzarrone | Piritanna, VA

I feel strongly about telling the students the whole truth about our history and recognizing not one but all who contributed to our history.

Kristian Ogungbemi | Philadelphia, PA

Michelle Desjardins | Philadelphia, PA

kids deserve to learn the truth and evaluate it on their own accord.

Nellie Kollar | Philadelphia, PA

Yhane Smith | New York, NY

Kevin Kinney | New York, NY

It's been time for a long time that His story stopped being told and the real truth (History) actually be told. Only then will a clear picture of existence in America be properly viewed and every human being be seen in the light of truth and the harsh reality of our existence. Then and only then will individuals be recognized for their positive or negative behaviors and contributions. LET THE TRUTH BE REVEALED AND DEALT WITH!

Theresa Luongo | New York, NY

It is our responsibility as educators to make sure the truth is told and students have the opportunity to learn from history.

Evalyn Bladstrom | New York, NY

I believe young people need to be educated in civics to participate in a democratic government and democracy requires participation of it's citizens to work.

elizabeth colucci | Martinsville, NJ

It is imperative more than ever that we begin to teach the truth about our history as a country in relation to our treatment of people of color. It is our duty to share this information with future generations. In this current climate we have an opportunity to make change.

Mallory Hutchings-Tryon | Kansas City, MO

Lisa Young | Harker Heights, TX

I believe our children have a right to know the truth no matter how painful or messed up it was. We can't teach them so young not to lie and then turn around and do the very opposite. If those who are trying to omit the truth believe it was right, then why not embrace it. Allow generations after us to know what happened. It can bring about change in this country & also the world.

Naomi Smith | New York, NY

"History can only teach its lesson if it is remembered," but what if the history was never taught or talked about? We must teach it to save our souls and save our Nation.

Laree Henning | Thousand Oaks, CA

We must face the true history of our country if we are to make true change in our country.

Jane Zanger | Annapolis, MD

*I didn't learn the truth of our history until I was an adult. The only way to reconciliation of racial inj*

Katherine Lauher | Philadelphia, PA

Jessica Blanchard, Anti-Oppression Ally (she/her/hers) | San Diego, CA

*I am committed to educating students how to connect the dots between society's oppressive roots sown in the past and the thriving manifestations of oppression in the present. I am committed to partnering with equity/social justice-minded allies to teach our youth how to be more educated on oppression in all its forms so they can join our anti-oppression ancestors in leading the way to be a more accepting, caring, and thoughtful generation committed to genuine, humanizing liberation for all. I am committed, also, to those folks who resist, who deny, who fear anti-oppression ideology and action. I stand with my ally partners in not giving up on you. Change. It is hard. But possible. Always possible. I believe this. This is why I sign my name. Jessica Blanchard*

Brian Lozenski | Saint Paul, MN

*You cannot legislate against truth. You cannot negotiate liberation. I will always teach about the knowledge, lives, struggles, and triumphs of my ancestors.*

Liz Williams | Decatur, GA

*I am deeply concerned about a resolution our state DOE is considering that will dictate what I can teach in the classroom, at a time when I feel we have only just begun to teach the whole story.*

Diane Pecknold | Louisville, KY

*Students deserve to know the full truth.*

Tracy Binet-Perrin | Brattleboro Town of, VT

*Our students need to know the truth about our history. Knowing the truth is one of the foundations needed for our students to make change and create equity among all people. We need to stop legislating hatred and oppression.*

Elizabeth Devan | San Mateo, CA

*I have experienced and witnessed racism/bias/inequality/unfair treatment my whole life. I want my child to learn about the past, learn what is just and not, and not contribute to the cycle of injustice. We should always teach the truth - even if it is not pretty.*

Paula Eisenrich | Seattle, WA

*accurately representing what is happening allows students to critically think about events and determine if there area alternative solutions to try!*

Christopher Coash | Oshtemo Twp, MI

*the truth matters.*

Christopher Michel | Plainfield, IL

*we need to bring people forward to be more understanding and accepting of all people. We have to stop the lies and continued cover up of past atrocities. The rewriting of history needs to be corrected. The evidence needs to be shared so the real history can be taught. By starting with the truth at the younger generations, all of us can hopefully bring along the older groups.*

Nancy Hale , CA

*I believe all Americans deserve to know their history-- all of their history. If we don't allow students to be exposed to all of history, if we censor our history, if we ban our history, what kind of citizens are we producing?*

Jesse Dobson | Portland, OR

Jason Collins | Menomonie, WI

*White supremacy needs to end.*

Louis Russo | Vineland, NJ

*Students deserve to hear the full story and the factual truth about the history of our nation. Howard Zinn was inspirational to me and many others students. In his name, I will carry on with the teaching of history with full attention to all facets of our history. No child should receive an education in history that is short-circuited by politically biased propaganda. The truth is sometimes uncomfortable, but acknowledging it is essential.*

Geri Kinlaw | Simpsonville, SC

Diana Bass | Draper, UT

*I refuse to lie to students. A country cannot truly delcare itself great when it refuses to learn from its past. While we have made progress, there is much work to do.*

Lauren Gaston | Phoenix, AZ

*My students deserve to know and understand American history, the FULL, COMPLETE history. They cannot be informed citizens who use critical thinking if they do not know their country's accurate history. Many students are represented through the different events and people of the past, and deserve to be represented in class.*

Katherine Grunewald | San Jose, CA

Michelle Murano | San Mateo, CA

*Knowledge is power.*

DEBBIE REESE | Urbana, IL

*It is necessary that children be given accurate materials about Native peoples. This usually means correcting the narrative found in most history textbooks. That correction is not well-received by white people who don't want to face that facts of white invasion and exploitation of Native homelands and in the past--and in the present, too. We've seen positive growth of honest histories in children's books, but all of that growth is at risk in these 15 states and elsewhere, too. Native people are still here because our ancestors fought back against oppression. We continue to do that. I continue to do that with my work at American Indians in Children's Literature.*

Carissa Smith | Schenectady, NY

*I believe that teaching students how to think critically about information is paramount to helping them develop as responsible adults. By limiting what teachers can and can't discuss with students in regards to racism, classicism, sexism, etc., only cripples their education and by extension leads to an ill-informed public.*

Donna Sharer | Philadelphia, PA

*As a student, I was not told the truth. We need school to be safe spaces to explore, critique and challenge injustice and inequity to build a more humane and equitable society for everyone - in the U.S. and around the world.*

Daniel Helms | Kannapolis, NC

*We cannot fully understand our history without confronting the uncomfortable pieces. History is the story of humans, beings that are not perfect. Why should we attempt to hide that?*

Catherine Pickering | Philadelphia, PA

Jude Smithey | Morton, PA

*my children are being taught revisionist history and exclusionist history. We need to tell the truth even when it's hard. Otherwise we are doomed to repeat history and continue to live in a white supremacist society. None of us is free till all of us are free!*

Lauren Vargas | Philadelphia, PA

Martina Vit | Ypsilanti, MI

Jose Lopez | Moreno Valley, CA

Stephanie Devaney | Akron, NY

*As a librarian and educator it is my professional and ethical duty to teach truth and critical thinking skills. I will teach truth as a way to show my students the love and respect they deserve.*

Adriana Robledo | Sarasota, FL

*It is an essential component of the immigration process that my students learn the true history of the U.S.*

Beth Huber | Cedar Falls, IA

*Lies have been told for far too long and have contributed to the achievement gap in education. All children need to learn and understand the truth, so that we may all move forward.*

Nyshawana Francis-Thompson | Clifton Heights, PA

*We need to elevate the voices of marginalized groups in telling history because we have all been harmed by history taught from the colonizers perspective*

Allison Aubrey | Chattanooga, TN

*The bill that's been passed further marginalizes and pushes to the side the reality of many of the students we serve in our community. I want to uphold the truth.*

Louise Connolly | New York, NY

*I believe that if we do not ensure our young students are exposed to all people's stories, then all people will never be acknowledged and affirmed in our society. Our children are the ones who will possibly be the first ones ever to have been taught by teachers who want to face the omissions and erasures that are perpetuated in schools. They might be the first generation of US students who are taught to be anti-racist. I want to be a part of that.*

Erin Schauder | Atlanta, GA

*Our students deserve to know the truth! We must acknowledge the past to learn from it and do better by it.*

Therese Upperman | Wooster, OH

*I believe in telling the truth to dispel racism and sexist thinking.*

Jennifer Lisy | Delaware, OH

Carrie Odgers Lax | Oakland, NJ

Megan Owens | Philadelphia, PA

*As someone who has been educated in this country and is now an educator, I realize that so much of what should shame us about our racial history has been suppressed. We can not have true racial reconciliation and equity if we do not tell the truth. And no teacher should have to worry about legal action against them if they are teaching historical truth.*

Patricia González-Villaseñor | Austin, TX

*if we don't stop and reflect on what WE as a society are ignoring, we will not be able to reach wisdom. It is important to understand the roots of all our inequalities and think about strategies and tools that we could use to reshape our present and our future. It is not just a history of oppression, but also a history of how people have organized and created coalitions across race, class, and gender. This is a very important topic that needs to be think, discuss to advance as a society.*

Charles Alexander | Silver Spring, MD

*Because we must teach the whole of our history. Loving one country is a lot like loving one's family. WE should not avoid difficult discussions, we embrace them with the hope that our unit becomes stronger in the end. We need to understand our country's flaws and glows both. We must understand where we have fallen short of the ideal so we can better strive to reach the ideal as each generation transitions into positions of leading her.*

Jessica Cresseveur | Louisville, KY

*College is not just about "career training." It is also about shaping conscientious citizens who can and should make positive change regardless of which career field they choose. I want my students to know the complete story of American (and global) history, no matter how disturbing that history is. As the old saying warns, those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it. Likewise, those who know about the past can analyze the mistakes of our ancestors and use that information to create a truly just world.*

Dena Stanley | Hillsborough, NC

*North Carolina is one of those states that has a House Bill like many of those other states. We have been able to fend it off so for the time being. But if nothing changes I'm sure it will pass eventually.*

Jenn Siegel | Boise, ID

Katrina Martin | Oakland, CA

*What's the purpose of education if we don't teach the truth?*

susan gittinger | Overland Park, KS

*I am signing my name because truth is the the point at which justice, dignity, and freedom intersect. It is the point from which the ray of hope for the future begins.*

Jennifer Flaherty | Kent, OH

Scott Browne | Castle Hills, TX

*freedom of speech and racial injustice in America is not, and has never been, just a problem of isolated instances of individual bias and private prejudice which we can solve by enacting 'color-blind' laws and policies.*

Chris Trevehan | Springfield, MA

*I am a teacher, an educator. I work with learners who make changes for the better. Teachers ought to help not hinder.*

Laura Rivera | Bronx, NY

Misty Crompton | New Boston, NH

*I am signing this pledge because I am deeply disturbed by both the attempted culture war and censorship being thrust upon schools and other organizations all across the nation. The teaching of truth to people of all ages is essential so we can examine our past and create a society focused on progress. Good teaching also means utilizing a rich landscape of stories and perspectives that are all around us and I refuse to bury that truth as it is shared with the world.*

Lawrence Miller | Newtown Square, PA

*I am not a professional educator but I pledge to teach my children of the legacy of slavery that can still be seen and felt in modern times.*

Chloe Polentes | Philadelphia, PA

*Students need to know true history in order to aid in change.*

Mary Stokke Vides | Sacramento, CA

William Heuisler | Los Angeles, CA

*We have lied about our past for too long and it is a detriment to ALL Americans. America is a great nation but it will never be what it proclaims to be until we reckon with our full past.*

Michelle Yee | Palo Alto, CA

Jennifer Matsunaga | Burbank, CA

*The only way to fix the future is to tell the truth about the past*

Emma March | Bronx, NY

*My students matter and deserve to know the truth.*

Sarah Amos | San Carlos, CA

*The truth will set us free!*

Silvana Oderisi | Washington, DC

Sarah Tarutani | Louisville, KY

Maria Torres | Homestead, FL

*Children need to know the truth to break this cycle! They need to be able to distinguish between the right way and wrong way to treat others!*

Esme Pierzchala | Washington, DC

LAURIE MAZER | Philadelphia, PA

*I want our teachers to be free to teach the truth about our world. Lawmakers in at least 15 states are attempting to pass legislation that would require teachers to lie to students about the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history. I support our educators across the U.S. who are signing a pledge to teach the truth.*

Burnett Gallman | Columbia, SC

*Racism is alive and well and thrives in America, the bastion of white supremacy.*

Jody OBryan, LMSW | Ypsilanti, MI

*my responsibility is to leave a legacy of love by teaching the truth.*

Kenneth Brown | Las Vegas, NV

*What can be said about a nation that would choose to actively lie about its history instead of facing the truth? Is the premise and promise of America so weak that it cannot withstand a look in the mirror? If it is, then we no longer should refer to ourselves as exceptional in any meaning of the word. We should earn our place in the world by acknowledging and correcting past mistakes without self-congratulation for doing so. If we want America to truly be great, we must first acknowledge that the supposed greatness has come at the expense of peoples who are responsible for building the nation.*

Debra Stoleroff | Plainfield, VT

Ebony LePenn | Roxbury, MA

*The truth will set us all free, and I'm doing my part! No more inherited Lies disrupting our next several generations!*

Rachel Lugo GE

Lydia Tippet | Marriottsville, MD

Danyelle L Matthews | Adrian

*Students need to know the truth in order to learn from mistakes made in order to allow them to develop their own thoughts and perspectives. This in turn will lend itself to progressive, yet collaborative and cooperative, change for our country. These students are conscious of worldly events. Providing them with the truth will allow them to become active in civic affairs and participate in our democracy.*

Thomas Guglielmo | Washington, DC

*"I think the past is all that makes the present coherent and ... the past will remain horrible as long as we refuse to assess it honestly." --James Baldwin, 1949*

Dee Crescitelli | Georgetown, KY

*We have an obligation to tell the truth, even when it is unpleasant and unflattering information about our heroes. Humanity deserves to know the complexity of the experiences that have brought us to this point in time, and we must really examine these in detail in order to come to terms with damages done. We can celebrate as well as critique the events that forged us as a nation, and in fact we must if we intend to keep moving toward forming that more perfect Union first described in the Constitution.*

Lawrence Wirth | Fairport, NY

*As an educator, I have the responsibility to convey the truth, whether it is in science, where the truth is also being attacked, or in history and the social sciences. As a nation, we have to accept and come to terms with that history and our responsibility to repair the damage done to others.*

Wesley Hogan | Durham, NC

*We owe all children (and adults) the full unvarnished truth about who we are today as a people, and who we have been, in order to have a chance at building a future together where we can keep getting closer to carrying out the country's mission, to build a society where " all are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." We can't build that society on who we wish we had been. It must be based on who we have been, and are today.*

Emily Twyman | Bellmead, TX

Ginnia Hargins | Los Angeles, CA

*the truth about institutionalized racism must be revealed through students' education in order to better ourselves and our futures.*

Alisha Paroo | Irving, TX

*Teaching and learning the truth is important. Without students understanding and knowing the truth of the land, there can be no true growth and understanding.*

Bruce Nelson | Mesa, AZ

*Bruce Nelson is an independent curator and documentary filmmaker from Mesa, Arizona. His work as a curator and documentarian focuses heavily on his experience of living in the once segregated Washington Escobedo neighborhood. His method of curation uses community input as its foundation to thereby reflect and celebrate community members of this often overlooked neighborhood. Nelson's film practice has developed to be in conversation with compatible exhibitions without either relying on one another for context.*

Dana Ziegler | Las Vegas, NV

*It is time we stop covering up our past, take responsibility for it & learn from it. It is time for change.*

Heidi Wakeman | Gloucester, MA

*We have an opportunity and a responsibility to teach our students about our shared American history. We have an opportunity to present a fuller, more nuanced, more accurate history of these United States. We cannot change our future until we understand our past.*

Patricia Mitchell | Stuart, FL

*Only through truth comes change.*

Erica Sturdevant | Greenville, NC

*I believe teaching our students authentic history is a long time coming.*

Monica McKinney | Raleigh, NC

*Lack of knowledge and narrow perspectives are dangerous for a democratic society.*

Jeff Gower | Lansing, MI

*The truth matters*

Chloe Hutcherson | Lansing, MI

*I care about the real American history*

Adam Bailey | Philadelphia, PA

*we must understand our world in order to change it!*

Robin Strizhak | Chelmsford Town of, MA

*In order to move forward, we must be honest and reflective with our past.*

Alexander Lalagos | Iowa City, IA

*we have suppressed the truth long enough and must battle against those who find it inconvenient.*

Nicole Scheidler | Siletz, OR

*those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it!*

Shel Dockery | Silver Spring, MD

*It is my belief (religious) to not lie but speak the truth.*

Sara Kolo | Wisconsin Rapids, WI

We MUST learn the past in order to understand the present.

Susan Stover | Yarmouth, ME

Nicole Braxton | Washington, DC

*We need to teach our youth the truth about our nation so that true healing and understanding of each culture is reached.*

Rebecca Svmmitt | Woonsocket, RI

*I believe in the truth. If you deny the past, you are likely to repeat it. I am of German decent and I do not make that statement lightly.*

Tarek Hbeichi | Alexandria, VA

*I believe it is imperative to teach children and adults alike the whole truth and allow them to form their own opinions rather than pushing a narrative and manipulating the truth and their perspective.*

Cecil Gray | Baltimore, MD

*It is right, good, and necessary to tell and teach the Truth.*

Laura Gluckman | Chicago, IL

Jenny Roley | Germantown, MD

*My white children need to know our country's true history*

Kristen Bell | Durham, NC

*A diverse and accurate portrayal of history is important in not only the development of minority children, but all children.*

Kely Friedman | Astoria, NY

Nicole C. Raeburn, Ph.D. | Richmond, CA

Brittanie Houriet | La Mesa, CA

*It's my responsibility to teach the truth*

Margot Holtzman | Larkspur, CA

*It is critical that the truth be told. Omitting stories is erasure and we cannot reach equity and justice without knowing our history and all of the many stories that make up our nation.*

Liliana Cortez | Los Angeles, CA

Mark Shellaway | Nazareth, PA

*I am anti racist*

rachel schmidt | Glendale, AZ

*our teachers and students deserve better.*

Kimberly Knight | TRUMANSBURG, NY

*Students deserve to know the truth and we cannot make a better world if we don't know our history and confront oppression.*

Max Page | Amherst Town of, MA

Debbie LeeKeenan

*Truth must lead the way for a more fair and just world.*

Stephanie Yelder-Stovall | Portland, OR

*Children deserve to learn the truth, and be empowered w/knowledge.*

Molly Camp | Brighton, MA

Ryan Backes | Cockrell Hill, TX

*I believe that students deserve all of the information provided in class so they can be part of a brighter and safer future.*

Ylisse Yopez | Blissfield, MI

*Truth is the anecdote to fear. I am too angry to be afraid!*

leah wood | Philadelphia, PA

Alisha Chavez-Downing | Portland, OR

*I refuse to lie to my students about the truth! It is important to teach about the racist past and present that exists in our country.*

LeeVonnice Johnson | Long Beach, CA

*I believe African Americans and other ethnic groups are allowed to research their own history and publish it. The 1619 project is an excellent example of outstanding research and interpretation of American History, Black History. We as Americans can no longer hide behind extreme inaccuracies in American history published by corporations. Corporations and "so called" Scholars who try to denounce the writings of anyone who contradict's the past writings of American history or present a new narrative wrong. I support the teaching of the 1619 project. Stop the lies.*

Makai Kellogg | Washington, DC

*Children deserve the truth.*

Corinne Calabretta | Rochester, NY

Amy Moening | Macomb Twp, MI

*Students need to know ALL of history in order to make responsible life decisions, not just the history of a select few.*

Rixa Evershed | Rainier, WA

*History should be accurate. Full stop. The good, the bad and the ugly.*

Stefanie Kelly | Federal Way, WA

*The truth of our Country's history must be told. Retelling what we like is hiding who we are and where we as a country have come from. It is time we face the truth how we gained power and expanded to the borders we have now.*

Mickey Mariash | Paterson, NJ

*I think it's imperative to teach kids the truth, address the difficult conversations, and change the narrative.*

Edwin Keener | Boise, ID

*We must know truth as it happened. Truth does not diminish white people.*

Karen Levy | Albany, NY

*The true history of America must be taught, whether it includes, race, sexual orientation, gender and whatever else makes us unique. It is painful, as the truth often is, but it's essential that the true history be told. As the mom of two adult biracial children, who are direct descendants of slaves, and grandma to two granddaughters, their history needs to be told.*

Leslie Leff | Goshen Town of, MA

*As future voters, children will not be able to make decisions based on reality, if they don't know the truth.*

Lizandaa Alburg | Somerset, NJ

*I am a Founding Member of the Passaic County Equity Seekers and one of our objectives is to lift up the voices of all who have been a part of American and World history. We intentionally and actively engage in promoting racial equity and social justice among our colleagues, fellow union members, communities and students. Consequently, signing this petition is important our members and me.*

Brian Deller | Baltimore, MD

*I refuse to lie to my students and I promise teach the truth of our history because I will not be part of the system of oppression that has created white supremacy and inequality in our society. The only way to dismantle it is to know the real story and give young people the ability to make up their minds for themselves, decide how they feel about it and whether they are content accepting it in their lives. The first step to liberation is accepting the uncomfortableness of the truth and reconciling what role will we have played in it and what role we will choose in the future: that of an enabler and apologist of oppression, or that of an ally or freedom fighter?*

My Linh Le | Los Angeles, CA

*My students deserve and want to learn true history. We can't fight systems of oppression until we learn the origins of these systems and how they continue to enforce White Supremacy, especially when they are being enforced through laws. We need to learn about those who showed resistance, resilience, and empowerment during times when they were being oppressed. We need to see that protests, marches, rebellions, happened long before we were born so we can learn from those who fought before us, and we can continue the fight for social justice for all. Learning our true history can be hard, but forgetting it or lying about it would be wrong, as well as devastating to change and progress.*

Scott Ritchie | Atlanta, GA

*We must face the ugly truths from past and present in order to evolve as a society. Lying, whether outright or by omission, is unethical and dooms us to repeat earlier mistakes. Too many of us didn't learn real history until we were adults, and even then it was only a select few who were able to access the truth. There is ample research that children are perfectly capable of learning complex ideas, and kids have a strong sense of fairness. It's time we educate for liberation rather than domestication.*

Dan Ferat | Fair Lawn, NJ

*I will not promote myths and lies about what happens in this country. If people are so worried about how the future will view them, they should take that into account before they act.*

Jim Moreno | San Diego, CA

*Hate and ignorance are not my America. This action of teaching the truth is my America.*

Cortnee Gray | Louisville, KY

*My whole life I've been dedicated to truth and justice and education. I feel like you can not have one without the others and education is the role I was born for. It's my goal to always install truth and justice and all the tools needed to educate the world. The truth should never be repressed or taken away and all students deserve an opportunity to have the most authentic learning experience possible.*

Diane Greeley | Waltham, MA

*Madeline Rainey | Spring Grove, MN  
our students deserve to know the full picture, motivations and connections that led us to the present. Only through this can students grasp our reality and work to make positive change for our future.*

Mary Ponce | Woodland, CA

*I believe in liberation, Equity and justice.*

Teresa Price | Washington, DC

*It is very important to teach the truth to the adults and the children*

Eva Weiss | Philadelphia, PA

Christian Holmes | Denver, CO

*The deep inequalities in our country cannot be addressed by hiding the truth.*

Charles D. Battles | Beltsville, MD

*As an educator I must teach the truth about racism, sexism, heterosexism and oppression in the United States over the years in order to preserve our true history.*

Jody Ellis | Durham, NC

*I believe in teaching children the truth just as I believe our national community, both adults and children, needs to come together in this country and acknowledge the systemic racism of our past while we move forward into a more just, compassionate and equitable future.*

Tanisha Garrett | Oakland, CA

Amy Young | Washington, DC

*I believe that for our democracy to survive we need to give our young people the full history of our country. Only by teaching the difficult as well as the proud history of this country can we move forward and grow as a united republic. Our children deserve to explore any moment in our history through multiple lenses from this country' founding to the present day.*

Gail Kantor | Philadelphia, PA

*Our children deserve and need to know the truth about the history of our country...good and bad.*

Elizabeth Richert | Fort Walton Beach, FL

Geralynne Papa | Milwaukee, WI

Stacy Salters Jackson | Oshtemo Twp, MI

*I have learned information as an adult about the truth of racism in this country that could have changed my whole trajectory. Instead of hating history, I could have learned how many people made it through struggles and trials and changed the world. Instead of hating art because I wasn't represented, I could have learned that millions of artists looked like me and created anyway. The truth changes things and if you are dedicated to making things better, this is work you need to support.*

Dylan Perry | Minneapolis, MN

Kathleen Pyne | Washington, DC

*In order to heal from the violence of racism and establish greater unity, we must be able to see and teach truth.*

Henry Mills | Brooklyn, NY

*I am not going to tighten a blindfold around the eyes of my students.*

Allison Curry | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth will set you free!*

MC Horrigan | Edmonds, WA

*Youth want to know the truth. They thirst for diverse perspectives, they want to have the freedom to inquire about events and people that have influenced the history of this country, both negatively and positively. Learning the real truth, the fact-based truth can be difficult to understand for a young person but when the truth is taught and honestly discussed then change is possible. Denying the teaching of real history is denying the right of equity in education.*

Josephine Pryce | Northport, AL

*There are too many students who do not know their American history both the positives and the negatives. They are cheated of real knowledge.*

Marcella Simadiris | Paterson, NJ

*I believe in the spirit of truth.*

Patricia Mullaney | Syracuse, NY

*I believe that our students have the capability of handling hard history. They deserve to hear about the struggles as well as the triumphs.*

Meg Blinkiewicz | Oshtemo Twp, MI

Tracey Lantz | Maimón, DO

*We must allow all voices to be heard or we will continue to repeat the same atrocities. We can't change the past but we must not stand by and allow racism to continue.*

Kevin Hanlin | Paullina, IA

*Our history is written in hatred and bigotry and we have to come to terms with the disgusting things we have done and that have happened the world. We need to teach truth to hopefully change the future*

Amy Callaghan | Safety Harbor, FL

*marco durant | West Covina, CA  
truth must be told especially when dealing with the history of our nation*

Jessica Duarte | Woodland, CA

*there is no other way. We must teach the truth!*

Elizabeth Phillips | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*the truth deserves to be told*

Hanna Nelson | Culver City, CA

*Olivia DeJohn | Missoula, MT  
history cannot only be told from one point of view. Hard history is still history and how we ensure we don't repeat past mistakes and help people make sense of why things are the way they are.*

Ryan Buchanan | Concord, NH

*Whitewashing history does not change the harm our pasted actions has caused.*

Bret Linvill | San Jose, CA

*we can't move forward unless we honestly acknowledge the truth.*

Alexandra Falconieri | Long Beach, NY

*I'm tired of the white washing being taught in American classrooms; silence to the inequity and social injustice demonstrated in the news every day.*

Claudia Adame | Fort Worth, TX

Mary Joyce Laqui | Teaneck Twp, NJ

*We must do what we can to interrupt patterns of oppression reinforced by the violent status quo.*

Kim Praser | Lansing, IL

*I teach the truth in order to coach students to be critical thinkers.*

Tiffany Bartucci | Chicago, IL

Alicia Salazar

*History shapes the future Our present day events are tomorrow's history. Teaching critical thinking is a serious responsibility to help our students become responsible for our future.*

JACQUELINE LANG | Bronx, NY

*Truth, justice, and inclusive community*

Sheetal Shah | Brooklyn, NY

*Howard Zinn taught me everything I know*

J. Michael Buzene | Toledo, OH

Chelsey Pulda | Columbus, OH

*I teacher ALL of U.S. History, the good and the bad. I do not teach my students to hate themselves or this country. I teach them to use their voice and change it for the better! I refuse to lie to my students.*

Cynthia Mochowski | Gloucester, MA

*Truth is always worth fighting for.*

Susan Andrien | Emeryville, CA

*Young people deserve to know the truth about history and I will not be a part of white washing of history. The lie hurts us all.*

Claudia Bloom | Mesa, AZ

Steven Gaskill | Las Vegas, NV

*Our children deserve to know the truth about the world they live in, how it came to be this way, and how they can work to make their lives better. It is morally wrong to condemn children to ignorance about the sins of their fathers. Standing by silently while this happens can only lead to future violence as the children of the oppressed grow up and come to find out for themselves that not only are their compatriots benefiting from centuries of oppression, they are also suppressing the truth. Only the most contemptible cowards and evil fascists among us would be so afraid of the truth that they would pass laws banning teachers from empowering children with it.*

Katie Miller | Philadelphia, PA

Richard Doringo | Willoughby, OH

*I am signing this bill because the recently proposed legislation to dictate to teachers is censorship and the whitewashing of US history. If our kids are going to be prepared for the challenges of their future, we as their teachers need to foster an honest representation of the past, while giving them the critical thinking skills and the empathy to treat all people with respect and understanding. These proposed bills are indoctrination, where we teachers need to promote an inclusive history so young people can make informed decisions about their futures.*

Melissa Mcsweeney | Oxford, MI

*I believe in truth and I am not afraid of it. If we are to be a greater republic, we need to acknowledge that truth and reconcile with those who have been harmed.*

Ellen Gilbert

*it is important for history to be honest and inclusive, sharing both the good and the bad, so that our children understand issues of today, both the riches and the inequities and isms, in our quest to to build a more welcoming, inclusive society that recognizes our commonalities, promotes cross-cultural understanding and respect, and enables us to avoid atrocities of the past as we build a more compassionate and empathetic future.*

Maurice Tome | Washington, DC

Stephanie Biese Patton | Madison, WI

Jill Horn | Lansing, MI

CURTIS LANOUE | Stites, ID

Kimberly Ellis | San Francisco, CA

*When people know better, they do better.*

Ruth Eller | Cupertino, CA

*We will never change without looking honestly at our past.*

Tara La O Garcia | Phoenix, AZ

*it is important to tell the truth about what has happened in U. S. history so that those mistakes are not repeated. Having discussions about controversial topics builds critical thinking skills. It is my job to educate and teach young people how to think critically so that they can be productive citizens.*

Jennifer Wade | Oxford, OH

*The truth needs to be spoken in the bright light of day.*

Stephanie Brokstad-Franks | Lansing, MI

Katherine Boydston | Duncan, OK

Cristobal Chapa | Alamo, TX

*Nothing under the sun can ever be hidden*

Mark Esperanza | San Juan, TX

*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Jennifer Wernau | Pine Island, MN

*The truth matters.*

Teresa Brown | Elyria, OH

*Today's youth must know the true history of their country.*

Carla Sulli | Bellmead, TX

Travis Baldwin | Charleston, WV

*Teaching truth about the past is essential for our actions now and in the future!*

William Carney | Lawton, OK

Erin Bronstein | Lansing, MI

Melissa Cardinali | Sunnyside, NY

Carol Jackson | Waldorf, MD

PHILIP HARRINGTON | Cache, OK

*I will not participate in ongoing oppression by pretending it doesn't exist.*

Erin Chumbler | Gainesville, GA

*Our children deserve to grow up in a country that recognizes and learns from its mistakes.*

Jennifer Lowe | Washington, DC

*I am an educator who is white and understands how black and brown people have been denied, disenfranchised, tortured, murdered and so many more atrocities at the hands of white people, law enforcement, etc. I will always tell students the truth about that, while highlighting the amazing accomplishments of men and women of color, despite all the hardship they faced. These atrocities and accomplishments have been overlooked from most history books and school materials.*

Candace Moulton | Manchester, NH

Kim Bywater | Downers Grove, IL

Jillian Gaeta | Brooklyn, NY

Sarah Donovan | Stillwater, OK

Jennifer Kaufmann | Cabin John, MD

Yulisa Cruz | Silver Spring, MD

*I am no longer standing with SHAME. I am no longer in service of its shenanigans. I want children to feel better about who they are and where they are. The truth is the only path to feeling better. We are worth more than racism, classism, sexism, and all the other -isms at play, when we exclude and marginalize groups. "Hatred is love that has lost its way."*

Laura Kmetz | Plano, TX

*Lies of omission are still lies. Young people are intelligent and deserve better.*

Kate Slater | Waltham, MA

*All white people are racist.*

Brian Wright | Thousand Oaks, CA

*As teachers, it's our duty to guide students to the truth. American history is messy and brutal and sometimes beautiful and always worth exploring with a steadfast duty to seek the truth.*

Erika Dawson Head | New Britain, CT

*It is important to teach about the past so we can have a better future. "Never forget"*

Kathryn Curry | Safety Harbor, FL

Joyce Johnson | Philadelphia, PA

*I believe we should teach our children the truth. The truth of this country's oppression of people of color. Of how we are concerned for the safety of every child of color and why we have to worry everyday about our children, especially those of color.*

Annette Wylie | Saint Petersburg, FL

*Truth must be told.*

Zoe Rooney | Philadelphia, PA

*collective liberation comes through understanding the truth.*

Leslie Roberts | San Jose, CA

*I believe in the truth and that children deserve the truth. I believe we can do better. I believe that from a foundation of truth we can develop empathy and work toward a world of inclusion and equity. We can no longer say, "We've always done it this way" which is based on fear and ignorance.*

Gretchen Brehm | Braintree, MA

Jailenne Gil-Arroyo | Athens, GA

*Our kids deserve to know the whole truth. Our kids deserve to be critical thinkers and think for themselves. By not teaching kids about these important issues, we raise an ignorant generation and it erases any past/present efforts to overcome systemic racism/sexism/etc.*

Beth Beach | Downingtown, PA

*I don't want my grandchildren taught lies or living in a socialist country*

Jamee Schleifer | Brooklyn, NY

*I am interested in future generations to be educated and not indoctrinated about American history. I believe if complete history is taught, empathy for other people can be increased. I am 62 years old and I am learning more now about history than I ever did in all my years in school. As a former public school dance teacher, I was told by classroom teachers...if it's not on the test, the teachers don't teach it. Additionally, subject teachers were so overwhelmed with teaching to the test that there was never any time to even supplement their classrooms. Lesson plans; letters home; books and reading materials are checked by administration and YouTube bans certain video for schools. If schools are to move forward, parents and teachers need to work with their administrations and get the conversation started about how to teach people's history.*

Mercedes Murphy | Goleta, CA

*Our country must acknowledge the past to heal and move forward. Knowledge of the truth will empower our students to be engaged citizens and justice-seekers.*

Joseph Mish | Pine Island, MN



*We can only move forward in our country if we acknowledge the mistakes we've made.*

Adrienne Friend | Gresham, OR

*My students deserve to learn the truth and be empowered to be change makers.*

Tammy Howard | Dublin, GA

*We must embrace all of our history. The government should not dictate what we should know about the past. History is available for all of us to learn from presently in order to prepare for a better FUTURE!*

Heather Poland | Chula Vista, CA

Kimberlyn Fauson | Lansing, MI

*The legislators creating these bills are spinning a narrative that is simply incorrect. Teaching about oppression throughout U.S. history isn't divisive. It helps students understand how the past influences the present so that we can build a more perfect union together.*

Lillian Garcia | West New York, NJ

Anna Traffanstedt | Athens, GA

*Truth should never be banned.*

Andrew Tisdale | Lansing, MI

Johanna Hebert | Columbia, MD

*Knowing our history is the only way we keep our democracy. Just look at where ignorance has gotten us. We cannot lose to a group whose only goal is power and control.*

Marianne Salcetti | Troy, NH

*Truth matters.*

Megan McBride | Anchorage, AK

Elyse Poller | Storrs Mansfield, CT

*Public education was established to create an informed citizenry. Understanding our past - the good and the bad - helps us address current issues and create opportunities for the future.*

Maris Talaugon | Santa Rosa, CA

*If we are never taught the truth then we never learn the truth we cannot do better.*

Andrea Jackson | Houston, TX

*Students are not fragile beings that can't handle the truth of our country's past and present. They deserve the truth.*

Peter Murrugarra | Westport, CT

Megan DeWall | Lansing, MI

Fred Arcoleo | New York, NY

*The truth belongs to the working class, and it is something we have to continually fight to discover. The future depends on us!*

Veronica Foley | Largo, FL

Deborah Grotzke | Sedro Woolley, WA

*I have to explain?*

Heather Johnson | Memphis, TN

*Our students deserve to know the truth!*

Linda Price | San Rafael, CA

*I believe everyone needs to know the truth of our history. We can never move forward as a civilisation unless we face hard truths.*

Jessica Vaughn-Clark | Gulf Breeze, FL

*historical context is necessary for the critical thought needed to make America reach its potential as the world's oldest democracy.*

Adam Brandt | Macomb Twp, MI

*We cannot let our students think that our country is perfect and truly equal. We are still in a fallout from the Civil War when it comes to racial equality. Beyond that, anything that has challenged norms faces discrimination and we must have open conversations about that and how we can learn from the last to not make the same mistakes or same style of mistakes again.*

Dana Palmieri | New Haven, CT

*Those who have been systematically oppressed deserve to have their stories told. History isn't pretty and students need to know that.*

Helen Davis | Mountain Top, PA

*the history of ALL Americans matters. If we can't be honest about our history, how can we ever hope to achieve the founding goals of equality and liberty for all? I am signing because "[I] hold these truths to be self evident": that all people in this country were created equal and deserve equal rights, which includes a right to accurate historical representation of their ancestral and current history.*

Liam Lair | Philadelphia, PA

Krista Howell | Washington, DC

*Students deserve to learn the truth and how to ensure that they have the skills to combat the racism, sexism, bias and white supremacy they will inevitably face.*

Travis Neller | Lansing, MI

*It's simply the right thing to do. History is learned because it helps us know what happened and why it happened. All information and events needs to be taught.*

Fallon Keplinger | Washington, DC

*Students deserve to know the truth.*

Tyrell Albin | Lawton, OK

*The truth matters. Education should always deal in truth, not mythology, or outright lies. We cannot change the past, but if we learn it accurately, we can find ways for all of us to move forward and create a better future for all Americans.*

Leslie Harris-Johnston | Kirkland, WA

Victoria Marcetti | Kalamazoo, MI

*It is my job to empower youth to do whatever is needed to create and support strong and healthy communities. None of us can do that without knowing our history. To deny our youth access to the truth is a fascist act.*

Allie McCullen | Athens, GA

Rosaline Kuiper-Price | Lansing, MI

*History should be taught from as many vantage points as possible. We need to be culturally responsive in educating our children.*

Shawntika White | District Heights, MD

*I refuse to be a part of another generation of lies.*

Heather Nicholson-Bester | Dearborn Heights, MI

*I believe in truth.*

Elizabeth Sprout | Dryden Town of, NY

The TRUTH matters.

Angela Hawkins | Oak Park, IL

Amy Bakken | Humble, TX

*The truth should be taught. BIPOC students, staff, and families deserve accurate representation.*

Jaylynn Kerr | Bettendorf, IA

*Students need to know the truth. We are the future and need to be aware of the truthful history. That way we can try to prevent history from repeating itself.*

Bonnie Fraylick | Elyria, OH

*Students deserve the truth.*

Krista Benson | Grand Rapids, MI

*There's no place in education for lies. We must teach our students the truth of what America is, how it was founded, and the actions that we as a country are engaged in today.*

Sherry Frost | Dover, NH

*I am signing my name because too many people learned about Tulsa via HBO's Watchmen. I'm signing because learning our \*true\* history makes us better citizens (and better humans). I'm signing because I don't think politicians should dictate what happens in classrooms.*

Michael McCollom | Medford, OR

*I teach middle school social studies and refuse to lie to my students; period.*

Matthew Stein | Philadelphia, PA

*Legislation banning the teaching of discrimination isn't just a pathway to totalitarianism; it is totalitarian by definition.*

Sean Welch | Philadelphia, PA

*We cannot hide the truth from the next generation.*

Stefany Gary | San Luis Obispo, CA

James Gregg | Colorado Springs, CO

*Continuing to teach a white washed narrative is doing nothing but continuing a hurtful false good that will do nothing but continue to negatively impact future generations.*

Ben Maracek | Beaver, PA

*Lesson 5: Remember Professional Ethics "When politicians demand obedience, professionals must insist on acting ethically. Hitler convinced German lawyers that the law was a political tool that he could use however he wanted, including in the service of war and genocide. He had lawyers running concentration camps where physicians experimented on prisoners and businessmen profited from forced labor. All these people abandoned the normal ethical rules underpinning their professions, which must be enforced and strengthened in precisely the circumstances when governments say they should be abandoned. Otherwise, by "just following orders," professionals end up committing and participating in horrific acts of violence." - "On Tyranny" (Timothy Snyder)*

Rainie Au Yeung | New York, NY

*History classes should encourage students to become critical thinkers and engaged citizens.*

Jennifer Rumpke | Bremerton, WA

*I refuse to lie to my students. Teaching the truth about the history of the United States means acknowledging the good, the bad, and the ugly. My role is not to censor historically accurate information. My job is to provide students with the critical thinking skills necessary to make sense of our past and influence the future in positive ways.*

Alejandra Suarez | Brooklyn, NY

*it is the RIGHT thing to do!*

Meghan Turner | Chester, PA

*I want to provide an eye-opening education to my students. I want to support my students of Color, I want to know more about their history, and want them to know about their cultural history as well. I want to teach from a lens of a true historian, not from a lens of white-washed history.*

Morgan Martinez | Portland, OR

Pamela Ransome | Temple Hills, MD

*Truth matters*

Suzanne Russell | San Diego, CA

*Teaching real hard history matters. Truth is key to an informed citizen....even the uncomfortable truth.*

Kara Smith | Brownsburg, IN

Jessica Gaynor | Spokane, WA

*I think Howard Zinn said it best when he said: "History is important. If you don't know history it is as if you were born yesterday. And if you were born yesterday, anybody up there in a position of power can tell you anything, and you have no way of checking up on it" (Howard Zinn). I pledge to teach the truth so that those in power do not erase the realities and truths of history. I pledge to teach the truth so my students are critical thinkers who are empowered to make a real change in this world. I pledge to teach the truth because social justice matters.*

Joshua D. Taylor | Bridgeport, CT

*Let's make a change!*

Marvella G | Warren, MI

Lila Schooler | Southport, CT

*I condemn any level of white supremacy and to omit the truth from our curriculum is condoning and being complicit with white supremacy. It is important for all students to understand the truth that many of our history books leaves out.*

Erin Moller | Bristow, VA

Thomas DeLong | Lansing, MI

Scott Ramsey | Denver, CO

Amberlynn Lane | Vancouver, WA

*Teaching truth is not divisive. Tracing children to think for themselves is not brainwashing. I believe in children to understand the difference between right and wrong.*

Marged Dudek | Logan, OH

*Obscuring truth, history, and data obscures improvement, stagnates innovation, and leads to the impoverishment of citizens and the justification of cruelty, every time.*

Patrick Patterson | Honolulu, HI

Tom Cadorette | Alexandria, VA

Laura Braytenbah | Arlington, TN

*History should not be washed away just because it's uncomfortable.*

Lorraine Curtis | Lansdale, PA

*I feel strongly that to be a good, solid, patriotic member of our society, it is essential to have an understanding of all the movements and belief systems that are divisive and discriminatory.*

Alyssa Smith | Brooklyn, NY

Deborah Wagner | Philadelphia, PA

*There is nothing more important than truth and education. It is simply autocratic brain washing to prevent professional educators from teaching history and science as we now know it.*

Jordan Love | Silver Spring, MD

*Teaching the truth is the only way to justice.*

Amanda Jewart | Wilsonville, OR

*Our next generations and the future of the human race depends on the quality of the educational experiences that our nation provides. Educators must stand for equality, justice and truth - lives depend on it.*

Cassandra Santos | Bronx, NY

*I believe in being honest and transparent with children. You cannot be educated if you are taught lies*

AJ Craig-Salmon | Milwaukee, WI

*Students must have the truth and all the facts in order to become critical thinking and well rounded citizens.*

Charles D. Battles

*The truth about racism, sexism, heterosexism and oppression throughout our country's history can not be ignored. The full, complete and true history must be taught to our students in order that our history can be preserved for future generations.*

Tiffani Hudgins | Daphne, AL

*We can't erase the truth!*

Thelma Ramsey | East Orange, NJ

*Our students need to understand the true history of the founding of country and the damage it has done to indigenous people and enslaved Africans.*

ELSA Duarte | San Antonio, TX

*although retired I support teaching the truth with multiple perspectives in the social sciences. This is outrageous and unconstitutional! It will be challenged & defeated! 🍕?*

Patricia Savage-Williams | Skokie, IL

Brittany Szombati | Lansing, MI

*The truth matters!*

Tracey Phillips | Worcester, MA

*Our children need to be educated on the reality of what American was built upon. There should not be any type of ban on the truth. The history must be told, so future generations will learn and grow and end racism, and oppression in all it's forms.*

Howard Winant | Santa Barbara, CA

*In defense of the First Amendment, academic freedom, and the search for truth!*

Louis Ackelsberg | Philadelphia, PA

Theresa Hopkins | Knoxville, TN

*I think it is not only wrong, but ridiculous for states to tell teachers they cannot teach the truth of the history of our nation.*

Katana Diegel | Metairie, LA

Alison Kronstadt | Jamaica Plain, MA

*Building a better world requires teaching accurate history so we can learn from the past*

Shelly Higgins | Knoxville, TN

Gregory Sotir | Portland, OR

Laurel DiGianni | Brooklyn, NY

Laurence Sears | El Paso, TX

*the truth always matters.*

Natalie Queen | Lansing, MI

*Students deserve to know the truth*

Stormyhae Kelsey | Philadelphia, PA

*You cannot hide American history because it is "divisive", we must confront the truths of our past so we can do better in the future. "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced" - James Baldwin*

mary stricker | Philadelphia, PA

*We must reckon with our hard truths as a step towards transformative liberation for all of us!*

Valerie Bass | Charlottesville, VA

*A full instruction on American history that includes imperfect and unjust decisions can help to address today's racial disparities.*

Lee Schere | Brooklyn, NY

*Our democracy depends on a full and true reckoning with this nation's past!*

Jordan Laks | Bronx, NY

*truth is important in history, and history is important for truth. Although U.S. history might be uncomfortable to some, that does not mean it shouldn't be taught. We all need to continue learning.*

David Elesh | Philadelphia, PA

*It is outrageous that teachers be restricted to teaching biased history.*

Claudia Chiang | Phoenix, AZ

*Students have the right to know the truth behind historical events, in order to understand the present, and change our futures.*

Kosta Kyriacopoulos | Salisbury, MD

Katherine Franklin | Lansing, MI

*White-washing history for the comfort of the privileged perpetuates racist systems and institutions.*

Leslie Ringler | Tempe, AZ

*My students deserve the truth and to explore narratives from multiple perspectives that are informative, healing and life-giving to ALL humans!*

Dimitri Wevers | Sharon Hill, PA

*Truth matters*

Amber Butler | Lansing, MI

*Truth matters.*

Barbara Ferman | Bala Cynwyd, PA

*Education built on lies is not education. We can only move forward as a nation by confronting and acknowledging our past.*

Shannon Jones | Hyattsville, MD

*Our students deserve the truth. We can grow and be better but only if we are honest about our past.*

Jessica Perry | Denver, CO

Jamie Jauch | Fullerton, CA

*History is uncomfortable, but facts are not controversial.*

Hilary Grant | Liberty Hill, TX

*Teaching about diversity is how great changes are made in this country.*

Michelle Oppenheim

*We should be allowed to reach the truth. We should be REQUIRED to teach the truth. Students deserve to hear THEIR history taught, not some whitewashed version of history where the bad guys don't look so bad.*

David Scholten | Portland, OR

*Exposing the indoctrination that education systems have been founded upon and continue today is not itself indoctrination. It's time to be less defensive because educators are being attacked for teaching the truth.*

Jen Bradley | Philadelphia, PA

Jennie Hanna | Lawton, OK

*No matter how much lawmakers try to control and contain it, the truth will always be there, and I know what side of history I want to be on.*

Julius Cajigas | Chicago, IL

*Our students need to learn the truth about the U.S. and the current world climate it is built upon and how racist it really is.*

Teryn Henderson | Holt, MI

Kimberly Cavanagh | Bluffton, SC

Ashley Sullivan | Alexandria, VA

*Lying to my students about the true nature of US history goes against everything I stand for*

Staci Martin | Virginia Beach, VA

*Truth matters*

William Naess | Brooklyn, NY

Marina Konold | Forest Lake, MN

*Our students have the right to know the truth about their past in hopes of making a better future.*

Asma Shakir | Chicago, IL

Amir Ballard Ballard | Washington Twp, NJ

*The truth shall set us free. We cannot move on as a nation until we face the reality of our history. Once we face it, we can overcome it and create a more equitable society. We must do this for generations past and generations to come.*

Liora Valero | Washington, DC

*The truth is vital to liberating all people!*

Adaline Bouldin | Albuquerque, NM

*Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.*

Jodie Boehlke | Detroit, MI

*How can we call ourselves educators if we teach lies and half truths?*

Veronica Labrador Monteiro | Astoria, NY

*Our students deserve to know the truth.*

Michelle Knotts | State College, PA

Alex Guyton | Washington, DC

*It is essential that children learn the truth about our history so that they can learn from the mistakes of others and make better choices for their future.*

Marco Magbitang | Allentown, PA

Bobbi Boles | Ypsilanti, MI

*My students deserve better. They deserve truth. They deserve to know their own rich history. When we know better, we do better. America needs truth to heal.*

Murphy Timothy | Sebring, FL

*I refuse to whitewash history just to assuage your white guilt. Your time is over.*

Jackie Shipley | Commerce Twp, MI

John Meredith | Brooklyn, NY

*"That which is not just cannot be law." – William Lloyd Garrison "When you see the good fight, get in it!" –Vernon Johns "Good trouble." –John Lewis*

Tiernan O'Rourke | Lansing, MI

*My students are smart. They can learn that history is full of struggles. They need to learn that history is full of struggles, so the future doesn't have so many.*

Kelly Molinet | Boulder, CO

*White supremacy must be dismantled.*

Ashley Balbian | Rockland, MA

*Teach the truth, our students deserve it.*

Sara Barber-Just | Leverett, MA

*I believe no country can move forward without reckoning with its past and repairing it. If we erase history we are only doomed to repeat it. The teachers at my school talk about social and racial justice every day and our students are better for it. Year after year, they sign up for more of these discussions; though we offer classic courses, the most highly enrolled English electives at our school are African American Literature, LGBTQ Literature, and Contemporary Literature. We believe it is our moral obligation to give our students the tools to understand the real world they live in so they are equipped to make transformation and justice for all possible.*

Dan Kemsley | Lansing, MI

*Truth must prevail.*

Claudia Titus | New York, NY

Thomas Leighty | Milford, DE

Cassady Cooper | Reserve, LA

*What and how we choose to remember the past matters and reflects who we strive to be as a people.*

Todd Simon | Lansing, MI

*These laws are detrimental to democracy and free speech.*

Matthew Stowell | Dublin, OH

*"The historian's task is not to disrupt for the sake of it, but it is to tell what is almost always an uncomfortable story and explain why the discomfort is part of the truth we need to live well and live properly. A well organized society is one in which we know the truth about ourselves collectively, not one in which we tell pleasant lies about ourselves." — Tony Judt*

Arely De Leon Barrientos | Silver Spring, MD

Krista Schneider | Liberty Hill, TX  
I refuse to be silent any longer.

Janice Howell | Seminole, FL

Rose Langstaff | Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Martin Bergoffen | Rockville, MD  
The truth matters.

Dorcus Johnson | Cleveland, OH  
Truth is life! Teach truth not hypocrisy. Teach United States and global history correctly!!

Will Kelley | Memphis, TN  
As a history educator, my job is literally about teaching students what happened in the past and the effects past events have on today's world. Such bills are anathema to education in general, and are a dangerous step towards indoctrination.

Amanda Fenner | Abingdon, VA  
Children deserve the truth

Renee Fields | Lansing, MI  
The truth matters.

Rachel Babich | Lake Orion, MI  
I want my students to know truth and see that history matters. I want my students to develop their empathy and ability to understand each other better.

Carolyn Boutte | Baton Rouge, LA

shane parmely | Bonita, CA

Donna Rueth | Seattle, WA

Steven Rodgers | Knoxville, TN  
It is impossible to adequately teach music without teaching the culture it came from. How do you expect children to understand "Strange Fruit" if they can't be taught about the racism that caused the lynchings? How can I explain why Morgan Wallen had the action taken against him by the CMA? If I'm teaching children about responsibility and kindness and accountability in kindergarten, why am I not going to teach them about how adults in the real world sometimes don't live up to that? How do I explain away hundreds of thousands of hours of music centered around that theme?

Granville Caldwell QA  
It's what we do as righteous teachers!

Britte Marsh | Portland, OR  
Black Lives Matter.

Rosalie Leishman | Portland, OR

Abdul Jabbar | San Francisco, CA  
Any law that takes away teachers' right to academic freedom and fact-based teaching will not be acceptable and challenged in court

Megan McQueen | Corvallis, OR

Timothy Cashman | Santa Teresa, NM  
As a person who has worked in education for over 40 years I do not recall a time when the truth has been more threatened. Enough is enough.

christine kelle | Albany, NY  
As a teacher and a mother, I will never lie to or deceive any child. I will not promote dishonesty by falsifying history. I will continue to promote truth & justice vs. lies & betrayal. I will continue to work toward the complete dismantling of white supremacy & the rebuilding of a nation founded on truth & justice. Simply put, it is the right thing to do!

CJ Hendrickson | Denver, CO  
How can we make the US better if we don't/ can't/ aren't allowed to speak the truth of the past? Whitewashed history is a lie, told from one perspective only: the white victors. There were millions living here before the Europeans showed up who committed genocide, enslaved people of color, and oppressed women. Germany has admitted to its past, so why can't we?

Rachael Thrash | Helsinki, FI  
we can't let the backlash against justice dictate the terms!

Karrie Bundsen | Sacramento, CA

Lisa Neal | Fort Collins, CO  
In order to not repeat history it must be remembered.

Heather Carr | Boulder, CO  
I will NEVER lie to my students. Education is power and I will fight until I'm dead those trying to steal knowledge and power from my students. Educators kill fascism.

Ingrid Hutchins | Sacramento, CA

Matthew Maley | Seattle, WA

Henry Sun | Benicia, CA

Linda Swoyer | Carrolls, WA  
I retired this year but I always included Social Justice in my classroom and will continue to do so when able as a substitute teacher. We need to learn the ugly parts of our history, not to invoke feelings of guilt or sadness, though those feelings may come up, but to make sure that we do not repeat history and to understand that America has an underbelly too. It doesn't make us a bad country, it just means we need to strive to improve and we can't do that if we don't turn that underbelly over and look at it.

Kelley Gribuski | Phoenix, AZ  
I will no longer stand in silence.

Athena Kopsidas | Washington, DC  
Every child should have the opportunity to learn how their own ancestors contributed to the creation of the United States. This is an opportunity many generations have been deprived of in this country. Thank you.

Katie Pertschi | Orlando, FL  
I've been a history teacher for the past 13 years. Tomorrow I'm leaving the profession for good. Laws like this make the broken system even more apparent and I cannot ethically work for such a system.

Coral Noguerras | New York, NY

Kriya Lenzion | Asheville, NC

American History is the history of each of us and the totality of our history. We can't tell the story of who we are as individuals or a nation without telling, hearing and reconciling with the truth. Only then can we heal where needed, strengthen where weak, assure that all Americans have equal voices and rights, and truly have a united and strong country.

Anneliese Paulson | Minneapolis, MN

Angela Chan | Philadelphia, PA

Michele Mack | Jersey City, NJ

Samantha Daniels | Philadelphia, PA

It is unethical for me as a social worker in a school not to support my students in processing systemic racism and to be complicit as these conversations are silenced.

Matt Garcia | Greenfield, CA

If we want to make progress in the future, we must have a reckoning with our past. We cannot have this reckoning if do not teach the truth about American history.

christopher dunne | Washington, DC

the truth matters, and I want to offer a more honest and analytical education than I received at the K-12 level.

Melanie Mckenzie | Enumclaw, WA

All generations deserve to be taught the truth about our history and not teaching or distorting the truth does irreparable damage to our society and world. We need to do better to ensure a more equitable, inclusive, non systematic racism in our country.

Phillip Sanders | Katy, TX

We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.

Alyssa Barber | Dallas, TX

Brenda Barnhart | Walnut Creek, CA

Sara J. Schmidt | ARNOLD, MO

We can't move forward until we know what happened in the past.

Martha Jaegers | St Louis, MO

Melodie Biegaj | Riverview, FL

Kids will not trust you again once they've learned you lied to them. More importantly our history is our history, the good the bad and the ugly. It helps the next generation understand why we function the way we function and where exactly hate comes from. It is also important to highlight the brave individuals who fought for what was right.

Alexandra Mazur | Tucson, AZ

White supremacy needs to be squashed and the people it's hurt need to be credited for what they have been through.

Donna Charneskie | Charlotte, NC

Truth matters Critical thinking matters Democracy dies in darkness

Maria Hernandez | Chicago, IL

As a History teacher, I know the importance of learning the truth. I learned a watered down, and misleading history as a child; I was appalled at the truth about our history. I cannot allow our students to be misled. I want them to understand how and why we are where we are today.

Yolanda Turner | Riverview, FL

The truth deserves a hearing

Moira Spillane | New York, NY

Truth matters.

Tracy Kennedy | Charlotte, NC

I will not lie to my students, I will not ignore the history of my students of color, I will not be silent in supporting my students.

Margaret Self | Cambridge, MA

Our children have to know the truth about our past and our present in order to change our future.

Susan Dortch | Bowie, MD

Every child should hear the truth. Children can not make decisions as they get older if they do not know the full truth.

Jana Harter | Canyon lake, TX

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."—George Santayana

Gloria Pelaez | Miami, FL

We can't address what we can't name. There is a need to address systemic racism with facts and with truth. There is a political movement in this country desperate to avoid change and who wants to control the narrative. Enough is enough.

Pat Adkins

History matters! The truth must be told good or bad. It is important to understand why something happened and critically examine it. Being able to understand and think critically is essential for a democracy to survive.

Adriana Caballero | Streamwood, IL

I am a public school teacher.

Erika Mutter | Cumberland, RI

It is our job and obligation to inform the youth of our history including the systematic racism and oppression that has pervaded our nation. It is a disservice to our students to not teach the whole truth and its affect on our society.

Sandra Levin | New York, NY

I teach the truth and want others to have the right to do the same.

Susan Pence | Sunnyvale, CA

...while I teach preschool students who are too young to understand much of our history, they are very aware of fairness, kindness, and how to find common ground and build friendships with people who are different. They are also learning how to problem solve so everyone's ideas and feelings are honored and respected. I believe that teaching truth includes empowering them with the tools they'll need to prevent future injustices.

Donna Sawyer | Silver Spring, MD

It's beyond time that the truth be told about the history of our country: the events that happened, the people who were negatively impacted, the struggles they endured, the contributions that they made. There is so much that has been omitted and it's time to change that.

Pam Read | Cold Spring, NY

Mars Caulton | Chicago, IL

Slavery is not "fake news". It is part of what distinguishes this country around the world: What other modern country had widespread, outright enslavement of an entire race, which began with an international kidnapping industry, for 400 years?

Valerie Lynch | Pensacola, FL

Jovita Molina | Watsonville, CA

The truth will set this country FREE! FREE AT LAST, FREE AT LAST!

Debra Gibson | Castlewood, VA

*I want you to stop this from happening. What will we become if we do not remember who we were?*

Kiah Johnson Mounsey | Portland, OR

Audrey White | New York, NY

*I refuse to teach a curriculum that perpetuates oppression.*

Carlos Aponte-Salcedo, Jr. | Bellerose, NY

*I refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Annie Bailey | Olympia, WA

*I will continue teaching the truth, and feel it's entirely inappropriate for politicians to try to dictate what teachers are or are not allowed to discuss with their students.*

Jennifer Abercrombie | Washington, DC

*Our country and society cannot improve in the future if today's students do not learn its full and accurate history.*

Sarah Bugay | Chicago, IL

Aubrey Perry | Concord, CA

*It is our duty as educators and as ethical, engaged citizens to tell the truth and to stand up for what is right and for those we teach.*

Hollis Amsden | Seattle, WA

Katherine Rodgers | Gaithersburg, MD

Zo Clement | Brentwood, MD

*I deeply know that none of us are free until all of us are free. I cannot lie about myself, our history, and work towards my own or anyone else's freedom at the same time.*

Brooke Peters | Brooklyn, NY

Kyrsten Persells | Ypsilanti, MI

*If we are to develop a stronger, more compassionate society, we need to reconcile with the truth behind our country's founding and our current systems.*

Marla McLean | Silver Spring, MD

*Black History is American History. Black History is World History. There is nothing more patriotic than teaching truth, even when it is devastating and racist. Because by doing this, we are bound to the action of making change and creating a more just and compassionate country. Working to make a country better begins with honesty.*

Patricia Cliffe | Saint Louis, MO

*Eliminating big parts of history/herstory is a lie. Children/Teens in Missouri deserve to know the full truth of history/herstory of the United States. Patty Cliffe, MSW*

Joan Krensky | Lexington, MA

Topher Kandik | Washington, DC

*Our history is our history. No matter what anyone says you can't change history.*

Julie Bradley | Cedar Rapids, IA

*Our students deserve the truth!*

Cynthia Mitlo | Alexandria, VA

*I want my students, white and black, to understand the deep roots and history of racism in this country, so that they have the information they need to change our society for the better -- to build a society that is anti-racist and based on equity and justice.*

Megan McMinn | Lewiston, ID

*We need to know better to do better.*

Ebony Marshman | Washington, DC

Jenelle Whittaker | Washington, DC

Bobby Smith | Carrollton, TX

Cassandra Heifetz | Silver Spring, MD

*When our youth understand our past, no matter how painful, they will be better equipped to chart a better future.*

Carlton Ackerman | Washington, DC

*I know from first-hand sources that what is being said on this issue is true. Much more than this needs to be done. We are reverting into a new Dark Age.*

Shannon Nuzzelillo

*Truth and Justice is the only way to liberation.*

Heidi Mackey | Elysburg, PA

Wes Lybrand | Birmingham, AL

Darcy Greco | Newark, NY

Ros Ginieczki CA

*It is imperative for our education to teach and develop critical thinking!*

Paul Brown | Sacramento, CA

Mark Takeuchi | Claremont, CA

*Truths are universal and should be upheld, not questioned.*

Genie Hill

*We will not eradicate racism if we don't teach the truth.*

Amanda Saayfan | Saint Petersburg, FL

*I believe in facts.*

Jessica Greenebaum | West Hartford Town of, CT

*I refused to be censored when teaching the truth*

Danielle Cruz | Felton, CA

*Teachers touch the future and our children deserve to know the truth!*

Grant Gilbreath | Ithaca, NY

Joseph Emerson | Yorktown, VA

Allison Enders | Cazenovia, NY

*We will never heal until we acknowledge and practice TRUTH and reconciliation.*

Kurt Knierim | Fort Collins, CO

*The real stories matter*

Wendy Bergeron | Exeter, NH

*Students need to have a full picture of the history of the United States in order to learn from the nation's mistakes and celebrate its successes. Students also need to develop critical thinking and media analysis skills that come from the Social Studies.*

Wendy Bergeron | Exeter, NH

Amanda Redmond | Bend, OR

*Students deserve to know unedited history and it's effects today*

John Armstrong | Hampton, VA

*My role as an educator is to encourage young people to think critically, challenge norms, and inspire positive change.*

Elana Mayer | Malden, MA

Frances Egly | Killeen, TX

*Our population needs to be well-informed and well-rounded. Young people need to learn all aspects of history and then form their own opinions.*

Jennifer McElroy | Middletown, NY

Erin Stevens | Baltimore, OH

*Not teaching history accurately or teaching current events will significantly skew perspectives of students. I teach in a school that is over 50% Black and there are increasing calls to teach about more accurate history and not whitewashed history. This will do the opposite of this.*

Ed Farrell | Fort Lauderdale, FL

Adrienne Sosin | New York, NY

*History is a guide to understanding the present.*

Terry Anzaldi , RI

*This is outrageous affront to education and human decency.*

Mel Lindsay | Cape Coral, FL

Jessica Cisneros | Milwaukee, WI

*Because why not? Why even question whether we should lie to our students? Our students need to know the truths about our past in order to help heal and understand this country's present pain.*

Noel Arretche | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Julie Gill | Boise, ID

*I object to Idaho and other states trying to censor teachers. It's unconstitutional.*

Justine Huber | Orlando, FL

*It is our responsibility to teach facts - no matter how unpleasant those FACTS might be.*

Brenda Rough | Vacaville, CA

*My students deserve to know the truth! Being honest is the only way to make our world better for everyone.*

Jamie Franklin | Los Angeles, CA

*Only with accurate history can we reach justice for victims whose voices were never heard.*

Tara Williams | Sugar Land, TX

*I won't teach lies.*

April Johnson | Salt Lake City, UT

*The truth matters!*

Terry Carpenter | Ypsilanti, MI

Heather Garcia | Tallahassee, FL

Don Lawrence | Radford, VA

Lisa Cantella | Glendale, AZ

*My students deserve the truth and our country can do better.*

K Gibson | Metairie, LA

*Erasing history is a dangerous, dangerous thing to do. Ignoring the ugly parts or the uncomfortable aspects doesn't make us better, it makes us ignorant. It doesn't give us the chance to improve or to learn.*

Kristin Waite | Johnson City, TN

*My students deserve better if they are going to change the world.*

Chelsea Dahlstrom | Kansas City, MO

*America can only heal our future when we face our past.*

Carol Yanity | Boiling Springs, PA

Denise Farrelly | Brooklyn, NY

*The truth in history is sometimes painful, harsh, and humiliating. It sometimes seems easier to sugarcoat our story. Nevertheless, the truth is absolutely necessary, even for young children. Teaching them to think critically and deeply about the multiple perspectives and stories contained in our nation's history can help prepare them to shape our future as citizens in a democratic society.*

Kaci Elder | Cave Junction, OR

*I won't go back to half-formed histories that spread ignorance, which causes misunderstanding and fear. Ready for new archetypes.*

Heather Cook | Philadelphia, PA

Amy Fuentes | Metuchen, NJ

*We can only learn if we teach the truth.*

Melissa Prescott | Norway, ME

*Truth matters.*

Natalie Gray | Pacific Grove, CA

*The selfish, ignorant and mean zealots can't win.*

Tessa Benau | New York, NY

Deb Greene | Greensboro, NC

*When I became an educator, I did so to make the future better. Telling lies won't do that.*

Kelly Shapiro | Granada Hills, CA

Terri Felton | Madison, WI

*Our students deserve the truth about our history. We can't make our world a better place if we don't acknowledge and learn from mistakes in our past.*

Bernadette Lissner | Tempe, AZ

*I believe in the truth.*



Rose Murray | Sea Girt, NJ

*We are for truth-telling and uplifting the power of organizing and solidarity that move us toward a more just society.*

Christine Panzitta | Flemington, NJ

*Students need to hear all perspectives in their US History courses- it should not be cherry picked for them because the material is uncomfortable. Hard history is one we all must face!*

Janell Regaldo | New Orleans, LA

*Children deserve to know the truth and to understand what is going on in their world.*

Erin Timmer | Jenkintown, PA

*I won't tell my students that their lives and their experiences don't matter in this country. I won't let them walk through life thinking the United States has always been a beacon of freedom and always will be. I will teach students that white supremacy is real and always has been - and it can't be rooted out and destroyed unless we, as a nation, address and confront it. The kids are ready...why aren't the adults?*

Mary Ramhoff | Youngstown, OH

Ami Byrne | San Jose, CA

*My students deserve to know the truth about the past and to understand the legacies and connections these events still have in our communities today. Young people deserve to learn about the diversity of experiences and to see themselves reflected in stories of resilience and resistance to systems of oppression. The truth matters!*

Jacob Bley | Tempe, AZ

*I want every student to have the same chance for success and for all of my students to learn about black excellence.*

Judy Roberts-Hawkins | Bellmead, TX

*I want our student's to know the entire truth. I want them to be able to become the best possible young adult and adult that they can be with all the knowledge that is available to them. Our children deserve to know about our country's history and black history. Black history is not just one month, it needs taught all year. Being aware of all struggles that American people have gone through will enable our country to grow and eliminate racism.*

Patricia permetti-landenberger | Kent, OH

*I believe the schools are not teaching the truth.*

Phil Thomas | Youngstown, OH

*My students deserve to see themselves in history and contemporary artworks. I have always wanted to promote inclusivity and diversity in my class and create a safe space for my students.*

Aadrian Thomas | Youngstown, OH

*Our scholars deserve to receive an education that includes ACCURATE depictions/descriptions of historical events, with no bias.*

James Cavanaugh | Avon Lake, OH

*The truth matters*

MARY HALL | Youngstown, OH

Stacey Snyder | Youngstown, OH

Brian Mears | Canton, OH

*I believe the truth will set us free.*

Kaylie Aguilar | Gilbert, AZ

*All history needs to be taught*

Cieleste Tauro | Youngstown, OH

*as a minority myself, I understand how harmful it can be to be a student learning about history that does not represent my story and my place in the world. When I became a social studies teacher and chose to teach in the city, I promised myself to promote diversity and inclusivity so that no one feels like their culture, race, religion, etc. did not contribute to the world that we live in or are not "worthy" of celebration.*

McKenzie Campbell | Ann Arbor, MI

*I will NOT lie to students, and I will not sugarcoat history.*

John Stifler | Sandwich, MA

*As history teachers we know that we must battle ignorance and lies in the pursuit of truth. We also know that the key to our future lies somewhere in the buried past. A past that must be unearthed and displayed in the bright light of eternal justice. If as educators we find our purpose in exposing students to our rightful heritage, then we must accept the evil with the good, the shame with the glory, and we must see with Howard Zinn how it is through the extraordinary acts of ordinary people that we have triumphed as a nation.*

Deanna Celaya | Chandler, AZ

*We need to present the truth.*

Jeremy Meinhardt | South Saint Paul, MN

*Students and people deserve the truth about their history...the good, bad, and ugly!*

Sara Mrljak | Philadelphia, PA

*I know that my students deserve to head the truth!*

Bryan Matthews | Upper Marlboro, MD

*My middle schoolers don't need me to introduce them to racism because they see it, they live it and they feel it. They experience it in their homes, they see it on tv, feel it in the stores they may go to, and want to know why current events like the Jan 6 riot happened. I won't be silent or try to hide literature on racism and slavery from them because they live with the scars that both created. I would not be preparing them for life if I did not educate them about white supremacy and the role racism plays in America, alas, something we learn in class may be necessary for their survival and success.*

Jill MacKinnon | Belmont, MA

*I believe in teaching my students the truth about the United States, its history, and current reality so that we can build a better country that is not rooted in systemic racism and oppression.*

Kathleen Butts | Philadelphia, PA

Donna Brown | Baltimore, MD

*Education is not to be used as a tool to reinforce/justify racism and oppression. Education is not to be used to perpetuate bias and reinforce attitudes based on mischaracterisations, stereotypes and prejudice. Education is to edify to develop applied understanding of knowledge to evolve a culture to its highest virtue based upon truth and practicality. There is no evolution of a society if it operates off of false narratives that justify its lowest values.*

Braxton O'Hearn | South Beloit, IL

*Students deserve to know real history.*

Samantha Godden-Chmielowicz | Chicago, IL

*Students deserve to know the truth and formulate their own opinions. History is not pretty, but it needs to be known.*

David Hershey | Montpelier, VT

Mary Kazimer | Bellingham, WA

Tim Triveri | Wheeling, WV

History as discipline is a search for the truth. When the past is twisted into happy narratives, it is no longer history. At that point, it has become propaganda. Authoritarians fear truth. A democratic society has nothing to fear from the past.

Shannon Kelly | Spofford, NH

*my students deserve the truth and it would be unconscionable for me to deny them that.*

Yussra Ebrahim | Portsmouth, NH

*Our failure to reckon with the injustices of our past and our tendency to teach racism like it's a thing of the past, or not teach it at all, is what has kept racism alive and thriving in our society today and has kept so many well-meaning, compassionate, intelligent people ignorant of the minority experience and ignorant of how propaganda is deeply rooted into our political and social systems and takes different forms and shapes our thinking; education is one of our best tools against hatred and the different damaging ways in which hatred manifests.*

Theresa Fletcher | Miami, FL

*Teaching all history is vitally important.*

Aj Lentz | Indianapolis, IN

*We will never move forward if we can't learn from the past.*

Kate Augusta Burke | Newport Beach, CA

*I pledge to work to decolonize education.*

Cameron Brothers | Vancouver, WA

*Special Education students are some of the most vulnerable and overlooked students when discussing equity issues in education. I pledge to teach my students the truth about our history at a level and in a manner at which they will best be able to comprehend, so they can take their rightful place in public instead of continually being forced to the margins.*

Shelly Tindle | Tomball, TX

*My students deserve to know the truth about racism.*

Erica Aguirre | Orange, CA

Denise Felder | Minneapolis, MN

*To be the great country that we claim to be, we need to be honest about our history and acknowledge and celebrate everyone who contributes to our society.*

Amy Lyga | Saint Paul, MN

*I care about all parts of my students' identities and history. I care about the mental health of my students and my students' families - and their future.*

Romy Griep | Glendale, CA

*My life's work is to challenge systems of oppression, destabilize authoritarianism, and stand witness to and empower marginalized narratives. I refuse to cede my classroom to antediluvian policy makers, bureaucrats, or institutions.*

Elizabeth Pisano | Lakeland, FL

*Our students deserve to learn the truth about our history.*

Olivia Benvenuti | Madison, WI

*Our children need to be educated about equity and the white supremacist systems that may hold them back.*

LaDawn Haglund | Tempe, AZ

*Healing the rifts in society requires empathy, which in turn requires an accurate history of how those rifts came to be. We must face our past in order to create a better future.*

Marc-Paul Johnsen | Denver, CO

*We cannot compartmentalize the history of the United States to make it more palatable. Our country is defined as much by racism, slavery, and genocide as it is by notions of justice, liberty, and equality. This fragile experiment in democracy hinges upon full and open discourse. To limit that discourse is to embrace ignorant authoritarianism and jeopardize the gains of a society constantly striving for justice.*

Kathryn Gawor | New Orleans, LA

Lauren Moss | Rockaway Park, NY

*I have a responsibility to my students to teach them about the long-standing forces of oppression that continue to shape our country and world today, as well as the ways groups have worked to face head-on and dismantle these forces.*

Nate Merrill | Dorset, VT

*I refuse to lie to my students. I refuse to White-wash history. I refuse to "make America great again" by ignoring the deeper truths and darker parts of our history. The only way to move forward is to educate. I refuse to ignore the role of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history and in current events.*

Zeenah Habayeb | Montreal, CA

*to choose to be an educator is to take an oath to always tell the truth. The most important thing for me as an educator is the protection and the well being of my students from systems of oppression.*

Brittany Huyler | Sunland, CA

*We cannot provide real and lasting change in our country and communities, if the history behind current systemic problems is not confronted. We have a responsibility to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.*

Michael Ybarra | Katy, TX

*History is too important to let reactionary politicians control, our students and nation deserve better.*

Stephanie Giddens | Schertz, TX

Elizabeth Charlton | Brockton, MA

*I support democracy.*

Kaylee Spiegelman | San Francisco, CA

Elizabeth Donnelly | Madison, WI

*We need to continue teaching about social justice, and anti-racism. It is one of the best ways for me to be an ally and a co-conspirator with BIPOC colleagues, friends, and community. And it's the only way to create change for the future generations so they don't make the same mistakes and that they continue the great actions of bravery in the name of justice we have seen this year and throughout history.*

Mir Finkelman | Brooklyn, NY

*words matter and truth matters!*

Janice Quiles-Reyes | Sunnyside, NY

*U.S History affected the Arts and expressive representation. European beauty standards are NOT what I will teach in any of my classes. Teaching about past and contemporary Indigenous, Black, and artists of color as a basis for my class will be key, as are all of the untold stories of said cultures and communities. That historical perspective is key to creating a full picture of U.S. history in Art.*

Athena Robinson | Tehachapi, CA

*Continuing to cover up our history doesn't empower our scholars. Truth is what empowers people to go out and make positive change on the world.*

Alicia Kitten | Avon Town of, CT

*It is essential to discuss the truths behind systemic racism so we can work together to become a better society. Ignoring these truths will only perpetuate oppression. Even covert oppression is still oppression. Let's engage in open discussion so we can ensure a better nation for everyone.*

Sulaiman Robinson | Bowie, MD

*I've always taught the truth regardless of the law or the state curriculum, that's why I got into teaching history.*

LaRett McGown | San Pedro, CA

*I completely agree with "telling the truth" and teaching American students the TRUE HISTORY of our country and how to STAND UP and fight against systematic Racism, Sexism, Oppression, Bigotry, and Hatred that runs rampant in our American country and culture. The lies and White Privilege NEEDS TO STOP. I stand for the Truth and Equitable education, salaries and Healthcare for American citizens.*

Stephen Wolowitz | Fort Lee, NJ

*I am signing my name because it is so very important to teach students more than one point of view in history. History isn't seen exclusively from one group of people. The students need to know that there are other sides to our past and that everyone's voice or actions need to be heard and seen.*

Laurine League | Ridgewood, NY

Sandra King Glenn | Tampa, FL

*"...how can one teach honestly about the nature of our society without examining how today's racial inequality is a systemic legacy of this country's history?"*

Mary Mays-Ridgell | Milwaukee, WI

*It is a sin to lie. When the government creates laws to oppress thought and actions in it oppressive and abusive. I will not sin, be oppressed, or abused. I will not be apart of a fraud.*

Ashley Atkins-Gabriel | Vista, CA

*The truth matters. Students deserve to have the space and skills needed to critically think about the world around them.*

Emma Niebaum | Omaha, NE

*Students need to know how to make the world a better place. If we want things to change we need the next generation to know what's happening now*

Jodi Oliver | Sioux Falls, SD

*silencing the perspectives and experiences of Black people and people of color to maintain the status quo is what white supremacy and upholding racist systems looks like.*

Lindsay King | Corbett, OR

*As Kendi says, denial is the heartbeat of racism. It is only through an honest and truthful reckoning with our history that we can choose an anti racist future.*

Katharine Schell | Nampa, ID

*Children deserve to know our history and how to prevent it from happening again. Knowledge is power.*

Adina Mujica | Miramar, FL

Karla Bretado

*My kids deserve to know the truth. I don't want them to think I lied to them or sanitized history. My brown kids need to see themselves reflected in the curriculum and my white kids need to know there's more out there than just people who look like them*

Lauren Hermann | Columbia, MO

*I will ensure my students are prepared to be highly effective educators, meaning they are well versed in accurate understandings of history and will utilize quality pedagogical practices to ensure all identities are welcomed and accepted and taught within their classrooms.*

Alison Ritz | New York, NY

Tanysha Nunnally | Atlanta, GA

*I will teach the truth and make my voice heard.*

Kate Kessler | Portland, ME

*The truth is what children deserve to learn.*

Julie Culling | Long Beach, CA

*The truth matters.*

Stephanie Melendez | West Palm Beach, FL

*As an educator of ethnic studies, it is so essential that I teach my students the true history of Black, Brown, and Indigenous people in the United States and the around the world. I will not stand down as legislators try to hid the truth from our students*

Helen Nicholson | Pasadena, CA

*The true history needs to come out and be examined by the children so they can judge it.*

Kelly Sherwin | Shaker Heights, OH

*"Truth and reconciliation are sequential" -Bryan Stevenson*

Theresa Bouley | Charlestown, RI

Ben Canfield | Morgantown, WV

*I believe in teaching our children the truth about the prevalence and persistence of structural racism in our country so that they can observe, analyze, and react to the system of advantages and disadvantages that stems from this structural racism.*

Ryan Scheb | New York, NY

*decency, dignity, and democracy are never political and cannot be banned from our classrooms.*

Noelle Files | Syracuse, NY

*I won't be complicit*

Sara Newman | Los Angeles, CA

Candace Burckhardt | Minneapolis, MN

*Our students deserve to know the truth about our history and to see themselves represented in it.*

Meredith Grob Polewski | Milwaukee, WI

*Our children deserve the truth about our past!*

Anna Troy | Milwaukee, WI

*Our students deserve to learn to the truth in history. It is vital that students hear the true stories from multiple perspectives and cultural groups when studying both U.S. and World histories.*

Matt Coonan | Lancaster Twp, PA

*History must be disclosed.*

Gabriel Swiderski | Portland, OR

Caitlin Scheib | Chicago, IL

*I believe teaching the truth matched criticality not only benefits my students' growth, but moreover, this kind of teaching benefits a democratic society.*

Peter Mishler , KS

*Our country will not have a chance at health until it faces, accepts, and, ultimately works to heal from the lie upon which it was founded.*

Christopher Meyer | Lancaster Twp, PA

*Teaching truth is the point of teaching. I'm tired of everything being politicized*

Beth Grabski

*The truth matters! In order for students to think critically and make informed decisions, they need the truth*

Howard Hanson | Lancaster, PA

*we should never have to hide the truth about this country and the western civilization.*

Marisa Shuman | New York, NY

Andrew Lavery | Lancaster, PA

Cameron Leonard | Thornton, CO

*I am committed to teaching the truth, not only to ensure all voices are equally honored but also to empower my students. Whether disenfranchised or privilege, all students need to hear the truth so they can act on it and begin to make the changes needed for a better society, using facts and truth as their backing as opposed to operating under a false, prejudiced narrative.*

Gabriel Painton | Lancaster Twp, PA

*You cannot teach justice without teaching injustice. The truth is that history is riddled with injustice, and I will never not teach the truth.*

Maurice Muhammad | Coldwater, MS

*We must tell the truth or we are a part of the crime. If America is to be a truly Great America her sins and the people who are guilty must be known. And repairing the brokenness starts with being truthful, and accountable. Truth has come to you~*

Deborah Vainstein | Aventura, FL

Vivian Nguyen | Garden Grove, CA

Lynn Lovett Barr | Longmont, CO

Benjamin Otto | Brooklyn, NY

*ignoring our true past will cause us to repeat our blunders. Healing starts with truth and this country can be great, so long as we are willing to look honestly at our past, present and possible futures.*

Jeni Boulanger | Hesperia, CA

*History informs and defines us all, especially the hard history and our ability to acknowledge past mistakes. I can not and will not lie to my students.*

Forest Borie | Berkeley, CA

*We all deserve to know the truth. When we do not allow students to understand the complete, complex history of which our present day is rooted in, we are not doing our job. I, personally, was not allowed access to a thorough understanding of history in my secondary schooling. When I finally began to learn the truth I felt deep resentment. I refuse reproduce this acute offense upon my own students.*

Geri Guidetti | New York, NY

*We need to tell the truth and nobody has the right to take that away from us*

Jesus Gonzalez Moctezuma | San Jose, CA

*Our communities deserved to know their history in order to heal and reimagine a better world for our posterity.*

Tammy Gibson | Hazel Crest, IL

*I refuse to use my social media platform to educate about black history to make some white people feel comfortable.*

bianca bob | New York, NY

*The harder the powers that be try to literally whitewash history, the more we teachers and creatives will focus right back on the true histories, and incorporate it 150% into our projects, lesson plans and permanent game plans.*

Kelly Begy | Rochester, NY

*I believe that children deserve to know the truth about our country, culture, and history. Now and forever.*

Meghan Jump | Houston, TX

*Teaching colorblindness and whitewashed history is harmful and perpetuates racism and white supremacy. We cannot begin to address the harm that comes from racism without owning and acknowledging our true history. Our kids deserve the truth.*

Lina Lenberg | San Francisco, CA

*I want my students to be empowered to create positive social change in their world, and it starts with learning about the troubling history and institutionalized practices of their own country (the U.S.). How can they create change if they don't even know what the problems are? Education with the inclusion of historically marginalized and underrepresented histories is the foundation for future action.*

Daniel Lopez | Denver, CO

*The truth matters.*

Mary Mikesell | Arcadia, IN

*I believe you have to do your best to teach the truth to your students and to your children*

Amber Godwin | Spring, TX

*Teaching authentic history with authentic voice is critical to promoting productive discourse and raising critically thinking citizens of the future.*

Frances Bartolutti | Chicago, IL

Laura Galligan | Oakland, CA

*I refuse to lie. I will always tell it like it is and I won't be hemmed in by any textbook.*

Jose Marquez | Topeka, KS

*it's the just and right thing to do...to teach the truth!*

Cassandra Martinelli | Acworth, GA

*If teachers are silenced, kids can get the message that racism doesn't matter or that it's someone else's problem. To help put an end to racism, everyone has to take an active role, no matter who they are. These kids will grow to be the adults who can help the momentum of change that has been started in 2020. Also, when we teach kids early on that it's OK to talk about race, we help them to understand, respect, and appreciate the differences between people. We can't let fear or those grasping at maintaining the status quo to be the ones who prevent the truth to be taught and taught in totality.*

Shianne M-richards | Peel, CA

Thomas Traut | Lorain, OH

Anna Stevens | Long Beach, CA

*I want my children to learn the truth, and allow them to critically think about their own choices.*

Mike Sarraino | Phoenix, AZ

*Give the educators the ability to teach truth. To teach history from multiple perspectives. The ability for students to see both sides of the discussion and form their own opinion is imperative to critical thinking.*

Dr. Rosemary Wrenn | Pismo Beach, CA

*I believe in preparing young people to have the critical conversations necessary to contribute to a just society. I believe any limitations put on teaching history undermine the very democracy this country was built upon. I believe that failure to prepare students for interacting with people who hold differing ideas and identities has led us to this current state of weakness in our country - weakness that is allowing supposed 'leaders' with autocratic goals to overtake the liberty and plain respect we all have a right to enjoy.*

Michael Stewart | Milton, MA

*We can't stand by and allow political forces to lie about our country. Everyone deserves to learn and then deal with the truth.*

SHANNON FRIZZELL | Seattle, WA

*Students deserve to know the truth. It is important to know the truth so we do not repeat mistakes from the past.*

Angela Lea | Kansas City, MO

*all students should learn the truth. History, even hard history, needs to be taught to all.*

Renata Nikolayev | New York, NY

*We cannot support and free this generation until we understand the context in which we are fighting.*

Cate Fosl | Louisville, KY

*Accurate histories of racism and the struggle against it, as well as other social justice issues, are pitifully lacking in most K-12 classrooms and even in some university settings.*

F Berman | Knoxville, TN

Thomas Keene | Ruskin, FL

*We cannot tolerate lies masquerading as education. That kind of "education" is in the past.*

Cesar Lopez | Beaumont, CA

*The truth is nothing to be feared. Facing bad moments in our history help us to learn to be better.*

Emily MacMelburn | New Haven, CT

*My students deserve the truth, from me, from their other teachers, and even from the state curriculum. So far nothing is preventing this, but I stand with other educators around the country. This is important, for everyone, for informed citizens, and for change.*

Rachael Sullivan | Brooklyn, NY

Laura Schwartzberg | New York, NY

*As an educator I worked to teach my students a more inclusive, truthful view of history, rather than the lies and half truths that were passed on to me as a young child. I want to see a more honest and comprehensive approach continue.*

Dawn Bauer | New York, NY

*I cannot teach students a curated version of their own history. Selecting which parts of our nation's story is taught and which parts of are left out, does not honor our students' right to know their own history. It does not honor their intelligence and does not equip them with the tools they need to build the future of their country.*

Ceresta Smith | Miami, FL

*there is no way to teach language arts or broadcast news without asking students to apply a critical lens. Media, in all its genres, necessitates analysis that includes drawing fact-based conclusions on why and how concerning race, gender, and religious practice. As a retired educator that continues to tutor students, I will not gloss over or lie to them to make a select group of mostly white male legislators feel comfortable and in control.*

Rachel McKinney | Reno, NV

Laura Garriguez | Richmond, CA

*We teach history so our youth can learn from past struggles and build a society for the well-being of all humanity and the planet. A history that serves as a tool to break away from oppression in all its forms. Long live the Zinn Education Project!*

Erin Schomburg | Princeton, NJ

Devin Hess | Oakland, CA

*I will not accept a legislated narrative that denies our students the right to critically examine the past so that they can take charge of their future.*

Kyle Prince | Oakland, CA

Dustin Good | New York, NY

*"I'm worried that students will take their obedient place in society and look to become successful cogs in the wheel - let the wheel spin them around as it wants without taking a look at what they're doing. I'm concerned that students not become passive acceptors of the official doctrine that's handed down to them from the White House, the media, textbooks, teachers, and preachers." —Howard Zinn*

Michael Yeong | Crockett, CA

*I am committed to justice for all people of color.*

Sebastian Arze PY

*To paraphrase Orwell, the best way to reduce a people is to control the the stories they tell.*

Tiffany Boyd | Louisville, CO

*We must teach the truth.*

Stephanie Hamblen | Madera, CA

*The whole point of a history class is discovery and understanding. Students must be given the freedom to discover the truth even if it is a hard one. When we censor students' learning we are essentially destroying our own American values of free speech/press, individualism, and liberty.*

brandi berba | Escondido, CA

*I refuse to lie to students! Being patriotic is about teaching the truth. Whether that truth is good or bad.*

Michelle Lynch | Roswell, GA

*I believe that the only way we can start to break down systemic racism in the country is through honestly exploring where we have been as a nation. It's today's students that will create the vision and become the bridge between our darker past and an equitable future for all Americans. They simply can't do that without correct information and a chance to really hash out ideas in a safe environment, which classrooms should be.*

Andrea Van Hagen | Portland, OR

Rachel Kulik | Chandler, AZ

Derek Butler | Saint George, UT

Denisha Jones | Walden, NY

*I refuse to lie to future teachers about the responsibility they face to ensure their students know the full truth about America. America has always strived to be a great country but failed to live up to this ideal for all. If this country is going to great one day, teachers must teach the truth and students must learn the truth.*

Abraham Ornelas-Palacios | Denver, CO

Liz Paige | Salt Lake City, UT

*We are not a country with "one story" but many. Our country's strengths are based on the contributions and struggles of all people. For our country to progress, our young people need to understand the inequalities and inequities of the past and today so that they can work to establish "a more perfect Union" for themselves and future generations.*

Jaclyn Couture | Leominster, MA

*My children and everyone's children deserve the truth!*

Heather Smith | Youngstown, OH

*I refuse to "school" children and tell them what to learn. The indoctrination of our youth needs to end! I will help educate my students by teaching them how to learn and how to think critically about the world around them using Key Questions and Media Literacy Skills.*

Danielle Poche | Worcester, MA

*our students, their families, and our communities deserve better and the truth will set us free.*

Jayne Conway | Block Island, RI

*We will never live up to the founding fathers' words of liberty and justice for all if we continue to whitewash history. I refuse to lie about the history of this country, or any other for that matter.*

Gina Kilpela | Pittsburgh, PA

Scot Hansen | Wheaton, IL

Kelly Dillon | West Chester, PA

*Truth and transparency are essential to understanding and growth.*

Dina Secchiaroli | Hamden, CT

*For too long our schools have white-washed history. I'm 48 and am only now learning what I should have learned from childhood. It's not about teaching partisanship, it's about teaching the truth. The truth may be inconvenient for some folks, but it's critical in education.*

Carol Moeller | Allentown, PA

*Minoritized voices must not be silenced - educational efforts must be open inquiries. These lies kill and justify killings.*

Robert Buchta | Detroit, MI

*Teaching first and foremost about telling the truth, even when some people don't want to face it.*

Kathleen Anstis | Darien Town of, CT

*Students deserve to be taught the truth.*

Mary Lawrence | New Haven

Megan Brandley | Providence, UT

*I want my students to know the REAL history. To learn from it and shape the future in a more accepting and tolerant way.*

Mary Jameson | Maplewood, NJ

*everyone deserves the truth.*

Kim Sorise | Louisville, KY

*Understanding the truth about our country and our society allows us to better understand ourselves. All of our students deserve to thrive and know these truths, and we, as educators, deserve the right to disseminate and facilitate them.*

Michael Bowles | Farmington, MO

Margaret Stoudnour | Fairlee, VT

*I want to be honest and balanced about teaching history, and I want my students to have the truth, facts and tools they need to be critical thinkers.*

Kelly Connor | Ballston Spa, NY

*I believe we can learn from history and do better and be better. Tough conversations are important and no teacher should be muzzled from teaching the truth.*

Mara Morrison | Truckee, CA

*In order for students to be active contributors, they need to understand history. This requires honesty about discrimination, resilience, resistance, and joy from diverse populations. Our students deserve the truth and if you believe in young people you should believe in that.*

maryann shoup | Apple Valley, CA

Susan Meier | Rochester, NY

*As a 63 year old 42 year education veteran, the deficits in my personal history education continue to emerge and are appalling and inexcusable. This can't continue to happen. It is critically important that current propaganda efforts about the 2020 election, voting rights, history teaching and anti-racism, and the historic oppression of various groups across American history and the parallels to other oppressions across world history are met with loud, continuous, and effective truth-telling.*

Adriana Paez | Kansas City, MO

*We need to start teaching the whole truth about our country's history and the systemic inequities that persist.*

Diane Bosilevac | Kansas City, MO

Chandler Tadlock | El Paso, TX

*How can we raise up a generation to right the wrongs of our nation if we don't teach those things honestly and truthfully? As James Baldwin so aptly put, "I love America more than any other country in the world and, exactly for this reason, I insist on the right to criticize her perpetually." Speaking to racism and systematic oppression does not mean we hate America, it means precisely the opposite - we want to see her live up to her democratic ideals for ALL people.*

Lauren Friedman-Way | Havertown, PA

*In order not to repeat history, we must teach the truth about history. Our role as educators is to imbue a sense of curiosity about the world, and provide resources for them to discover their own role in history. There are those will let fear rule them - fear that we will ask questions, challenge the status quo, and overthrow the systems that have kept those in power powerful for so long, and who believe covering up the truth will make it disappear. We can't let fear rule us; we must proceed from a place of love, empathy, curiosity, and care, and allow our students to see the full brutal, beautiful truth of the country they live.*

Leslie Barnhizer | Des Moines, IA

Amy McClellan | Seattle, WA

*We must teach the truth about racism, heterosexism, and oppression throughout U.S. history. We must face the harsh realities of today that are born out of our past. Students need to be aware and critical thinkers as we find a path of acknowledging the past, the harm done and work towards healing and a better future.*

Tiffany Dreher | Saint Paul, MN

Chanda Fowler | Louisville, KY

*I can't do my job ethically otherwise. I owe it to my students and to my children to teach the truth.*

Laura Ruiz | Los Angeles, CA

*Humanity must know the truth in order to maintain its humanity.*

Sarah Gross | Freehold, NJ

K Jenisha Hasselberger | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth still matters even after four years of lies and fake news. The truth has always set people free. The truth exposes, redeems, emboldens, and teaches.*

Andy Wellspring | Fort Bragg, CA

*The truth is not subjective and must be shared with young people, if we don't share it who will?*

Walls Tonya | Henderson, NV

*Our students deserve to be taught the truth so that we never forget and we continue to teach children who grow up to become adults committed to education for liberation.*

Shannon Doll | Milwaukee, WI

*Truth is truth. Only dictators insist on a perfectionist version of history.*

Marianne Delaporte Kabir | Mill Valley, CA

*In teaching history we are responsible for the future as well.*

Danielle Stobie | Valparaiso, IN

*I refuse to spread propaganda and one-sided narratives. My students deserve the chance to think and evaluate for themselves. The push to control educational curriculums is dangerous to our democracy when it's used to hide and censor history.*

Suzanne Blum Grundyson | Minneapolis, MN

*My students deserve to learn the truth and our communities deserve informed citizens.*

Jaime Ursic | Kansas City, MO

*I believe in multiple perspectives being shared and taught*

Irene Liefshitz | New York, NY

*To willfully deny history is to live a lie. Our past is our present is our future.*

Leah Ragen | Oakland, CA

Shelley L Gatti | Minneapolis, MN

*teachers have the power to be a force for justice and disrupting legacies of oppression*

John Callaghan | Clifton, NJ

*Honest and accuracy are paramount in a democracy. The liar in chief almost destroyed this country.*

Katie Oglesby | Milwaukee, WI

*The truth is what matters. Not political agendas. Historical facts and truths cannot be whitewashed and reframed or edited to fit America's capitalism and racism. Students are entitled to facts and events that actually took place. They can make up their own mind after learning what took place not what we wished didn't.*

Neal Easterling | Milwaukee, WI

Joel Sanchez | San Antonio, TX

*Truth is truth. People who are trying to silence the truth are doing so because their beliefs are antithetical to progress, and they'd rather silence opposition than look at their own iniquity.*

Francia Williams | Milwaukee, WI

*Truth needs to be told about our history. I will never know the history of my ancestors because they stole and enslaved us.*

GayLynne Levy | San Antonio, TX

*My students deserve to know their history and their role in history.*

Geniese Ligon | San Diego, CA

*All history matters.*

Danielle Deschaine | Saint Paul, MN

Xiomara Nino | New York, NY

*We need to learn about our past so we do not repeat the same mistakes.*

Alyson Paige Warren | Chicago, IL

Samantha Vogel | San Antonio, TX

*Our future leaders will not be lied to, not in my classroom. Hiding from the complex and multicultural past will only worsen our future.*

Kimron Thomas | Brooklyn, NY

Lynda Shanks | Walnut, CA

*Leaving out parts of a story is lying. Children deserve to know the truth, especially since without it there is no hope of healing the deep racial rifts in our country. Forcing teachers to lie through commission or omission is morally wrong.*

LeAndra Evans | Milwaukee, WI

*I support teachers and their rights to teach American history . . . The good, the bad, and the ugly!*

Ashley Cuthbertson | Woodbridge, VA

*Our students deserve the truth*

Aimee Dooley | Cumming, GA

*Our students deserve the right to know the truth. We cannot go forward suppressing the faults of our past. After all, do we not condemn those who are actively suppressing access to knowledge in other countries?*

Arthur Gary | New York, NY

*"not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced" - James Baldwin*

Joan Hurley | Southington , CT

Lauren Hill | Woodbridge, NJ

*This is long overdue and needs to happen. The amount of my students who tell me " Why DIDN'T I learn this in school?" " Why did I have to learn this in college?" is unending.*

Jessica Miller | Beaverton, OR

Sarah Vandre | Milwaukee, WI

*I will not be complicit in the effort to cover up the real history of this nation and the deleterious effects of that history on the peoples it oppresses. As a teacher it is my duty to teach my students to think reflectively, critically, and creatively about all things. This is especially critical when it comes to the history and present state of the United States. I would be failing them if I did not teach them to ask questions, dig deeper, and uncover the things that we are not so proud of. A citizenry that cannot see the defects of its nation is helpless in making it a better place for all. We must move forward to build a more perfect union even if it is uncomfortable, embarrassing, and challenging. As with all of life, change can be painful, but it is necessary for progress. Teachers are meant to teach, and there is no knowledge without honesty, so I will teach with honesty and hope for a better future for my students and my country.*

Kristin McLaren | Winthrop, ME

*Our history is complex and multi-faceted. My students know this and expect me to be honest and open to sharing about history that reflects their diverse stories.*

Hodgkins Natalie | Milwaukee, WI

*I believe our students need to know the truth in order to make changes happen and to develop critical thinking skills.*

Rachel Blumenberg | Mission Hills, CA

*I commit to teaching the history of our country so that no student ever feels left out or underrepresented. We will never push past the issues that hold us back as a country unless and until we are willing to uplift marginalized voices, expose the realities of our history and move forward with compassion and understanding for all of the American experience.*

Elise Kohan | Washington, DC

*I believe in teaching truth.*

Eric Wrightson | Bellmead, TX

*Oklahoma passed, and Governor Stitt signed, HBI775, a poorly written and contradictory law that undermines how we teach history. I refuse to lie to my students, most of whom are African American.*

Anna Speltz | Brawley, CA

Elizabeth Culp | Indianapolis, IN

*As a POC I'm determined to make a difference and break generational chains*

Michelle Maas | Sussex, WI  
I believe in teaching the truth.

Amie Ostmann | Clermont, FL  
I was fired on January 11th for having a discussion about the attack on the capitol. My students wondered why the attackers weren't stopped sooner when protesters in the summer were shot with rubber bullets and tear gassed. It's racist they said. I agreed with them but assured them it would be sorted out. That was showing bias according to my principal. I had previously come under attack for opening a lesson by telling the students of all the interesting things we would be discussing like the amazing things George Washington and Thomas Jefferson did and also that they were slave holders.

Erin Hallinan , WI  
Our students deserve to learn the truths of how our country was founded and built in order to prevent such atrocities from happening again.

Tina Staszewski | Milwaukee, WI  
My students deserve the truth! The GOP wants God in our schools but, is ok lying to kids?! There is only one reason the GOP wants to lie about history, because the lies keep them in power.

Lauren Dupont | Malden, MA

Erin McCarthy | MILWAUKEE, WI  
I have a responsibility to build informed citizens not because they are responsible for the inequality of the systems or the tragedies of the past, but because knowledge is a power that belongs to all children. Understanding the inequality of the system will help us make a stronger future together.

Mackenzie Smith | Meridian, ID  
I never learned about Japanese Internment camps in high school even though I live 2 hours from Minidoka. Japanese internment camps are finally in our standards and my students learned about it this year. They appreciate not being lied to, and like me, they know when they have been deceived. we will not go back. I will not lie to my students. I will continue to teach the truth, if you want to teach the kids some twisted version of history be my guest – you make 40k before taxes & insurance in Idaho. Good luck. Until then, my students will learn the truth.

Miriam Santos | Milwaukee, WI  
Children deserve to know the truths of all people

Jeff Bonine | San Diego, CA  
The road to equity for all, is the knowledge of the inequities of the past.

Raven Medrano | Denver, CO  
We cannot move forward as a community if students don't even get to learn about what really happened in the past/what's happening in the present. Students deserve the truth.

Alyssa Paolucci | Madison, WI

Kevin Attaway | Madison, WI  
I was raised to stand up to bullies. These pieces of legislation are attempts to bully teachers into inculcating a whitewashed view of our country and its past. There is a lot that is right with the United States, and there is a lot that is not. It is our responsibility to share all of that with our students, and to inspire them to embrace the good and change the bad, and the wisdom to tell the difference.

Jessica Hotz | Madison, WI  
No one should be taught lies.

Danielle Fahey | Milwaukee, WI

Angela Sterling | Milwaukee, WI  
Teaching the truth is the only way to change our actions.

Matt Vaudrey | Fontana, CA  
students need to learn about our uncomfortable history, because accountability and atonement are important.

Andrea Dougherty | Milwaukee, WI

Alondra Garcia | Milwaukee, WI  
we will no be oppressed EVER! The truth will ALWAYS be told. WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH YOU!!! 🍌 ??? 🍌 ?

Meagan Dunn | Milwaukee, WI

Lindsey Nordeen | Milwaukee, WI  
Teaching the truth about our country's history is beyond important and it boggles my mind that we are even debating this. I will always teach my students the truth about our country because everyone has a right to know!

Mary Kay Marrello | Chicago, IL  
Every American student has the right to learn the history of the United States without deletions, fabrications or attempts to glorify past wrong doings, lies or prejudices & injustices.

Katie Lattarulo | East Hartford, CT  
It's been far too long that kids are not being taught the truth about our history!

Corina Haywood | Alexandria, VA  
We owe all our of students the truth, not a convenient version of the truth.

Gregory Shenk | West Hartford, CT  
I grew up with history classes that misled me about my country's history and it gave me a very biased perspective. It gave me no awareness of the atrocities that had been committed by my country and limited empathy for the victims.

James Jackson | Fort Washington, MD  
A single version of history does not support a true democracy. True democracy occurs when all versions are given equal coverage without crafted lies. We lived with that and can't any longer.

Ann Carlsson | Coppell, TX  
Lying about, omitting, and ignoring both historical and current systemic racism to students pushes not only backwards but into the league of totalitarian regimes that punish those who speak up truthfully. We must be better than this.

Jennifer Jones | Colonia, NJ  
As an educator for 23 years, I have taught the history of all people who have built this nation, and others. You cannot change history or erase it.

Todd LaVogue | Jupiter, FL  
It is the right thing to do.

Stuart Chen-Hayes | Bronx, NY  
As a professor of School Counseling at CUNY Lehman College, I center anti-racism and anti-oppression work in all courses for future school counselors as mandated by state regulations and professional codes of ethics. All educators need to do so. The Constitution and tenure protect faculty free speech.

Trinity Stella | Lac Du Flambeau, WI  
I am an enrolled tribal member and want the truth taught. Why is this even a question??? I demand that the truth be taught in our tribally run public school on reservation lands is prayed for.

Dana Huff | Worcester, MA



*I refuse to lie to students. Only if students learn the truth can we improve the world.*

kristin babcock | Zamora, CA

*We need to acknowledge and validate all stories of all peoples.*

Paul Kreutz | Mesa, AZ

*We need to be able to teach authentic history, not myth.*

Kerry Holbrook | Durham, NC

*honesty and integrity are the hallmarks of a good person and citizen. I refuse to lie to children by teaching falsehoods or lie by omitting the truth of the way our country was built on the lives and backs of BIPOC people. As a white woman I am granted privilege simply because of the color of my skin. I will fight for equity and justice calling out structural racism and white supremacy as I see it. I will teach my students the truth in a developmentally appropriate way.*

Nicole West-Burns | Toronto, CA

Sarah Turner | Goshen, IN

Megan Taylor | Denver, CO

*Truth seeing is the purpose of history. Without opening or story and being accountable to it, there can be no healing.*

Crystal Hardison | Clayton, NC

*This fight is for democracy!*

Carrie Giddings | University Place, WA

Danina Garcia | Philadelphia, PA

*My students, despite facing racism and threats their entire lives, talk eloquently about their belief in the United States. They do this not in spite of my teaching them the awful and heartbreaking truths of our past, but because of it. Only these state legislatures appear to believe that racism and hate are so intrinsic to the US that you cannot be a true American if you reject them. These legislators are telling on themselves.*

Michael Kelly | Chicago, IL

*We have never needed to tell the true history of our country than right now, and though I teach this topic to graduate-level students, I stand in solidarity with PreK-12 educators who are being bullied by these coordinated legislative and policy attacks across the country.*

Michael Anderson | Los Angeles, CA

*Truth is hard to swallow. But we take pills for our health everyday.*

Sarah Koch | Berkeley, CA

Eric Fishman , MA

*Every single one of our students deserve the truth about our society. We need this if we have any hope of preparing them to build a future that offers dignity and justice for everyone.*

Jennifer Lisy | Delaware, OH

*I am committed to teaching my students to be critical thinkers. This requires them to question and analyze not constrain them to one view of history.*

Albert Albanes | Seattle, WA

*As a kid I was taught a version of history that was void of my people, the injustices we've endured, our struggles, and our triumphs. I refuse to continue this cycle of oppressive education that damages our students' potential, especially our marginalized students.*

Andrea Ryan | Saint Johns, MI

*This is sending the wrong message to our teachers. We are undermining them by putting restrictions on what they can teach. We need to teach the children true history so they can help repair the nation*

MaryJo Soldacki , PA

*School curriculums are weak and unjust when they contain outright lies and lies through omission. Being taught biased and edited information is a danger unbefitting democracy. Our children deserve the right to be taught truths in order to make informed decisions. Our teachers deserve the right -as well as have an obligation - to present them.*

Stacey McAadoo | Plain Dealing, LA

*the see no evil, hear no evil, admit no evil and teach no evil approach is unpatriotic and evil. To love is to "see," know, and understand the good and ugly parts and still choose them. I'm signing this because I love learning and teaching and our children and America too much not to.*

Angie Alba | Houston, TX

Carlos Velazquez | Glendale, CA

Mary Hart | Silver Spring, MD

*Our children deserve the truth. It is essential that my teachers feel supported and empowered to teach their students the truth about our history as well as present day. Honoring their ability to think critically is essential for our democracy. We cannot move towards true justice and democracy without teaching the truth.*

Rebecca Dorsey | Stockbridge, GA

Trey Smith | Philadelphia, PA

Jaimee Johnson | Bellmead, TX

Paul Martinez | San Bernardino, CA

Josh De Lon | Lafayette, IN

*I became a social studies teacher to create effective and engaged citizens who can grapple with history and current events with critical thinking and compassion.*

Ariel Alford | Washington, DC

*The myth-making that has stitched this colonial experiment together needs to be unraveled. The lies have to stop with us. As teachers we must choose on which side we stand - WITH the people or AGAINST the people. I sign this for my students, my ancestors, my descendants, and all those who continue to suffer at the hands of this empire.*

NaVonda Marshall | Washington, DC

*It matters*

Raphael Bonhomme | Washington, DC

*How can we create a country that has hidden facts and stories of so many lives? How can we stand for democracy when everyone's story is not told equally or from their perspective? Does the moral compass not align with logic, or does self-interest over power a blatant caste system?*

Melissa Pommier | Houston, TX

*I don't want our future children, both mine and others, to live in ignorance and fear.*

Mary Bouchard | Hartford Town of, VT

*I am committed to working toward equity in education.*

Margie Arac | Portland, OR

*We should be teaching the truth as we know it and not whitewashed history.*

Alma Diaz | Huntington Park, CA

Daniel Barnhart | Los Angeles, CA

Sheryl Garcia | Long Beach, CA

Laura Tucker | Port Townsend, WA

*Teaching the truth is vital to a healthy democracy, and to the emotional development of my students.*

Michele Reyes | Los Angeles, CA

*The truth matters for all of us.*

Gillian Russom | Los Angeles, CA

*In order to build a better future, we need to know the truth about where we have been as a nation. We cannot cover up the injustices that so many in our country have experienced.*

Alexis Feliciano | Washington, DC

April Forsyth | Eatonville, WA

Erika DeLaRosa | Houston, TX

*We cannot address inequities and correct injustices if we do not name the white supremacist ideals and institutions that created them.*

Amanda Carr | Anderson, IN

*History needs to be taught in full not partial*

Marti Anderson | Madison, WI

*It is essential that educators provide students with accurate information about our country's history, which includes systemic racism, in part so they are aware of the past, and in part so they can use critical thinking skills to understand how the past has influenced the present. This knowledge of both past and present events and mindsets can then lead to students using their problem solving skills to design and implement strategies they (and we) can use to create a kinder, more just society. The past doesn't need to dominate their thoughts about our country, but if students are ignorant about the full story of our past, their ability to affect the future is significantly diminished.*

Kenny VBM Iankenship | Land O Lakes, FL

*I refuse to lie or water down the truth and facts of history.*

Sarah OShea | Lynn, MA

*An honest and empowering education is vital to the success of students of all color. It is vital to help dismantle racism for future generations.*

Rebecca Rogers | San Francisco, CA

*When I grew up, and learned the real history of our country, I was infuriated that as a child, I was led to believe that the USA was so exceptional - when in fact we had committed atrocities against other humans to get to where we are now. I feel strongly that we can not address what is wrong in our society without addressing the root causes - greed, power, the caste system & racism... We must make reparations and make liberty and justice for all a reality. That means knowing our true history. A whitewashed history does not change the wrongs of the past, but rather perpetuates the wrongs.*

Jennifer Lowery | Portland, OR

*Silence=Violence. The truth will out.*

Anne Tacchino | Philadelphia, PA

*our students deserve to learn honest accounts of this nation's history; the good, the bad and the ugly - so they might grow into the next wave of change makers.*

Melissa Gude | Philadelphia, PA

Joan Braune | Spokane, WA

Rubina Halwani | Sandy, UT

*Utah just banned teaching critical race theory in k-12 schools. I would like to help shed light on this topic and raise awareness. I want to advocate for better understanding and change.*

Joshua Swem | Indianapolis, IN

Sylvia Fagin | Montpelier, VT

*Every person deserves to learn truthful facts so that they can make their own decisions about how to impact the future.*

Lisa Rothenberg | Chicago, IL

*I promise I will teach history the way it was.*

Benjamin Springle | Philadelphia, PA

*Students deserve to know our country for all its strengths and weaknesses, successes and failures. We are entrusted to help young people become their best selves by learning facts, not fiction.*

Heather Griffin | Seattle, WA

*Our children need the truth. They need to know why there is still injustice in the world. They need to know real history so they can let go of the implicit bias and internalized racism that is insidious when we tell lies and hide the truth. They need to know real history so they can change things to be better for themselves and all the babies coming after. We ALL need the truth.*

Leslie Barr | West Chester, PA

*When we do not learn our history, we are doomed to repeat it.*

Amelia Francisco | Vancouver, WA

Claire Wolff | New York, NY

Matt Aumann | Madison, WI

Marin Seng | Philadelphia, PA

Tom Faleti | Washington, DC

*To be effective and lasting, all institutions, education, and morality must be based on the truth. As a nation, we must fearlessly face our greatest achievements and our deepest flaws, knowing that they call us to even greater achievements. Jesus said, "the truth will make you free." Hiding from the truth leads to shackled minds and impoverished lives. Only a clear-eyed view of the truth allows us to be all we are meant to be. That means we need to stop throwing labels around and fearlessly explore our actual history, with all its achievements and flaws. I don't know why anyone would want to hide any part of our past, knowing that understanding our past is the first step toward creating a better future.*

Richard Cieminski | Greeley, CO

*The truth matters!*

Rachel Popp | Baltimore, MD

Carrie Walczynski | Wrightwood, CA

*The whole story matters and attacks on educators to silence the truth is wrong.*

Erica Pierson | Seattle, WA

*I believe by teaching students the facts in an unbiased manner, we are teaching them to be critical thinkers. American history is complicated. Students need to be taught the history so that they can interpret it for themselves through further research. If we teach students that there is only one right answer, we are not teaching them to think for themselves. It is our duty as teachers to teach our students that American history is complicated with no right answer to problems of the past.*

Amanda Moore | Austin, TX

*We cannot continue to rewrite our past so that we feel better about our collective hand in historical events. Doing so does not ameliorate the present; it denies our youth a complete education about societal and economic factors that shape their realities. We become complicit in affording them a narrow worldview. We are heirs to our forefather's ignorance and actions. Together we can either invest that inheritance in attrition and watch as it stagnates and rots us from within. Or we can*

*diversify our portfolio and use those previously learned truths to help us invest in critical enlightenment wherein the rational is marked by freedom of not only self but thought.*

Shawndra Roberts | Portland, OR

*Our country will never move forward or grow if we continue to erase and ignore the true history of how white supremacy is so deeply embedded in every aspect of our society.*

Elizabeth Evans | Santa Rosa, CA

*It's up to all of us to stand against racism and bias by claiming and acting on our allyship.*

Paul Stacy | Ipswich, MA

*Tired of whitewashed world...The truth needs to be told. The kids can handle it better than most adults I have dealt with.*

Julie Ungerer | Philadelphia, PA

*to do otherwise is not an option.*

Aaron Joy | Renton, WA

*Understanding all the histories and struggles that have not been represented throughout history is imperative in a time where progress needs to continue. Ignoring the atrocities that have been committed by white folks, and specifically white men, to communities of color and women is not progress, but instead an attempt to continue spreading this false narrative that we live in a perfect country where these injustices are non-existent. Progress begins with us as adults and educators but it is continued by young people. Young people have every right to learn, know, and understand that this country is broken and that we need to have this education in place in the name of progress and safety for all who call this country home.*

sharice lee | Battle Ground, WA

*Education must be based on facts or it's no longer education, it's propaganda.*

Megan Troutman | Nashville, TN

Jennifer Cancro | Suffern, NY

*This matters!*

Jason Collins | Menomonie, WI

*Education is about knowledge, perspective, awareness and inspiring people to their better selves.*

Peter McKown | Minneapolis, MN

*We have come to where we are because of our refusal to face hard history. We need to practice and be brave with and for our students. We will not be free until we are all free.*

Nichole Pickett | Hayward, CA

John Walcott | Grand Rapids, MI

*I am committed to the development of critical thinking and a clear and complete view of history and society in all of our students. A similar bill has just been proposed in Michigan as well, and I join with and support all teachers and teachers educators who are committed to the truth and anti-racist teaching.*

Julie Lazzaro | Allison Park, PA

Catherine Graybosch | Yorktown Heights, NY

*I am an active anti-racist educator and can no longer sit idly by while our students learn whitewashed history and are not exposed to the truth about our country. How can we grow and become more inclusive if we willingly choose not to share the whole truth, even if it makes us uncomfortable?*

Ben Arthurs | New Albany, OH

*I am an ally and antiracist.*

Lindsay LaRoche | Cincinnati, OH

*my students deserve to know the truth about our country and why things are the way they are today.*

Paulette Scott-Bradford | Fresno, TX

*History is history!!! Tell the truth!!!*

Ronald May | Troutdale, OR

*The only way to change is to understand what is wrong.*

Rebecca Herrin | Ypsilanti, MI

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Nataly Reed | Tucson, AZ

*writing is situated in social, cultural, economic, and academic contexts. I believe in the power of language to compose the future in which students want to live.*

Dr. Ibrahim Shelton | Marina, CA

*Truth is all that matters!*

Stephanie Mann | Indianapolis, IN

Anastasia Schafer | Stowe, VT

Ryan Berry | Atlanta, GA

*This laughable attempt to censor knowledge cannot stand. I refuse to sit idly by while the world of alternative facts tries to change reality. Seeing my students parrot the pledge of allegiance out of a compulsory sense of community, hearing the words "and justice and liberty \*for all\*" ring so, so hollow...to see people putting blinders on with such determination is very problematic, not to mention childish. I encourage all of my fellow educators to read Charles Bukowski's letter on censorship.*

Stuart Chen-Hayes | Bronx, NY

*Students deserve the truth of racism, oppressions. Educators deserve freedom of speech and freedom to choose curriculum as we see fit. You can't have democracy with out it.*

Mary Yockey | Naperville, IL

*I'm signing the pledge because all Americans deserve to know all the history of this country in order to be fully engaged citizens in our democracy. Not knowing all the history will, and I believe has, crippled the ability for those ill-educated citizens to think critically and solve the many problems that confront our global community, as well as our local communities.*

Eva Varga | North Bend, OR

*I teach predominately BIPOC. Truth and representation are imperative to a healthy, positive, and strong society.*

Lauren Wilvers | Minneapolis, MN

*Only when we can understand the past, are we able to make educated choices for the present.*

Aaron Kaka | Lewis Center, OH

Gregory Giorgio | Manchester, NH

*We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.*

Roseanne Puzzello | Stites, ID

*All students have a right to know history of their society that is representative of all people.*

Lynsey Spaeth | New York, NY

Kathleen Glatthaar | White Plains, NY  
I refuse to lie to my students.

Aubrey Pagenstecher  
We cannot bend the moral arch of this country toward justice if we are not honest about our history and the present.

Angela Heuvelmans | Crystal Falls, MI  
Teaching an accurate and inclusive curriculum is vital to our children and the world they live in. This is long overdue in the general public school system. I am an autistic homeschool mother of autistic children and I am passionate about rethinking the way we teach and what they learn around here. We must raise critical thinking people who understand a true history and make pathways of access and inclusivity for all students if we want them to be healthy and educated citizens. I refuse to lie to my kids. As a veteran, I refuse to allow this country to continue lying to itself. It has no use but to uphold white supremacy for profit and I refuse to bow to that too. We need educators who are creatively engaged with this work and everyone is better for it. Thank you.

Josh Rassi | Bozeman, MT

Julia Goldberg | Indianapolis, IN

Kassi Hall | Indianapolis, IN  
Our children must know the past in order to impact our future.

Kari Weaver | Guysville, OH  
I care about the truth, and after teaching for 29 years, our future decisions makers MUST know and understand the truth about our past.

Sharon Kramer | New York, NY  
I teach math and numbers don't lie. The playing field is not level and the systems have not treated all people equally. Pretending it is so will not make it so.

Rae Woodcock | Jamaica Plain, MA

Jerise Fogel | New York, NY

Gail Lelyveld | Washington, DC

Jonathan Levy-Wolins | Olympia, WA

Molly Ewing | Denver, CO  
telling the truth does not make us weak. Telling the truth is how we learn from our mistakes. Telling the truth, the real truth, IS what makes America so awesome. It is our obligation to ensure that the entire story of history makes it to all children, not just the parts that people feel comfortable with. The United States is an extraordinary adventure because we have grown and changed and learned, and the only way we've done that is by speaking honestly about the past. I'm proud to be an American because the America I know doesn't run from a challenge, we face it, even when that challenge is our own history.

Kelly Phillips | Watertown, MA  
I believe there is implicit and explicit anti-racism. Both are important to building an inclusive classroom that supports all students.

Evan O'Connell | Queens, NY  
we must continue to work to dismantle white supremacy in our nation, and teaching and learning the truth is one tool toward that end.

Christopher Martell | Dorchester, MA

Ashley Chu | Washington, DC  
all children deserve to learn honest history, along with the critical thinking skills to understand and analyze what they are learning. It's the only way we can progress into a better future.

Christopher Green | San Antonio, TX  
I want to be part of the healing that needs to happen in this country. However, that is not possible unless we honestly examine the nation's history and collaboratively commit to repairing the trauma of colonialism.

Richard Grossman | Chicago, IL

dan le | Los Angeles, CA  
I refuse to lie to students. ever.

Victoria Hand | Boulder, CO  
I feel that my country lied to me when they did not disclose the true nature of our history. The history books reflected only progress and power, without describing how we became power through slavery and other colonial acts. The men we regard as heroes in our history books are often the ones who brought about the most destruction and pain to others. We owe our children the truth.

Kathryn Digiioia | Austin, TX

Nicole Willms | Spokane, WA

Gretchen Brugman | Olympic Valley, CA

Tara Montague | Morristown, NJ  
There can be no forward movement if we are dishonest about the path we have taken to get where we are, and shouldn't education be defined by the honest steps we take to give our children a better future?

Walter Garcia | Pompano Beach, FL  
I refused to stay quiet about vital issues concerning U.S. History therefore I believed I was quietly let go from my position. But somehow they never really met me know the real reasons.

Sarah Hutchison | Indianapolis, IN  
Not being permitted to talk about what really happened in this country is criminal.

Constance Palaia | Grants Pass, OR  
Children need to know the truth, much of it ugly and hard. Nonetheless, it's true.

David Flint | San Francisco, CA  
censoring the ugly side of our past and present isn't teaching history, its spreading propaganda.

Andres Martinez | Wheat Ridge Co, CO  
Our kids deserve the truth. Ignoring the U.S.'s foundations in the forced take over, colonization, and attempted genocide of Indigenous peoples as well as in the institution of slavery and the key role in establishing the very notion of race and, therefore, racism is far from honest.

Abbey Grall | Milwaukee, WI  
Teachers have the right to teach the truth and students have the right to learn it! Learning from the wrongs of the past help write the rights of the future!

Cesar Rodrigo Juarez Ruiz | San Jose, CA  
Uplifting the voices of marginalized communities brings us closer to a world free of systems of oppression.

Alexis Scott | Alexandria, VA

John Yolich | Chicago, IL  
I use all that curriculum that they want to abolish.

Tereza Bottman | Portland, OR  
Having grown up in a country controlled by a totalitarian regime, I take very seriously the threat of censorship, and any infringement on academic freedom and freedom of speech. I vehemently oppose the targeting of educators committed to teaching historically accurate content while instilling in their students the ability

to think critically about the subject matter and the world around them. Like countless other educators, I oppose these draconian laws and attacks, and refuse to let these tactics intimidate me into silence.

Chris Rolwes | Cedar Rapids, IA

In order for our democratic republic to survive, we need an informed citizenry that understands the complexities that make up U.S. History. This will allow our students to become critical consumers of information and to be civically engaged.

Eliza Bryant | Chicago, IL

Future generations of Americans deserve to know the truth about our country's past. By learning about the past, we can ensure a better future, especially for those whose rights have been historically threatened or suppressed.

Wendy Bergman | Fort Collins, CO

Our History is a history of oppression and pain and the only way we can create a future that is any different is by having an open and honest conversation about our past. Our students know that racism sexism and homophobia are a part of our history and if we don't teach them about it in schools we lose their trust and their investment in education.

Susan Hopkins | Nevada City, CA

Penny Culliton | Temple Town of, NH

I refuse to obey a law that causes me to be the agent of injustice to another. And because education is not meant to make people all safe and comfy. Penny Culliton/Mascenic Regional High School

Denise Barnett | Pensacola, FL

I respect my students too much to lie to them; they deserve to know the history of our country - including the "bad" with the "good". How can we end racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. if we are not allowed to have civil discourse about those topics?

Deborah Rodrigues | Medina, NY

Truth should be part of learning, not bullshit

Kristen Sanchez | Northampton Twp, PA

I have the courage to learn and teach hard history. All of our students deserve to learn the truth.

Andrea Barker | Gilbert, AZ

I will not support inaccurate information being taught in our public schools.

Steve Claassen | Clovis, CA

I'm tired of textbook adoptions, and district and state standards that deny teachers the academic freedom to teach without empire promoting propaganda.

Kim Hett | Lindsborg, KS

I will not lie to my students.

Cara Fulton | Washington, DC

Only with the truth can we truly be free.

David Cobbins | St Paul, MN

Teaching the truth is vital to our students and society. It will help us move forward with the struggles we face today.

Whitney Houston | Pearland, TX

Mara Giglio | Athens, OH

Angel Dolina | Trenton, NJ

We all have biases. However, personal biases should not impair the American history curriculum.

Keith Marek | Chicago, IL

Sunshine Jumaily | Lexington, KY

young people deserve the truth to help them build a future that prioritizes equity and justice.

Catherine Holub-Ward | Greenville, SC

Christine Johnson | Gresham, OR

The current history curriculum is not accurate, racist, sexist, stupid and WRONG!!

Bill Stevens | Washington, DC

As an American history teacher, I teach the history of the people in America. This includes the voices and stories of ALL people, not just the ones deemed worthy by others.

Gregg Carleton | Houston, TX

Education matters and what is education without TRUTH? It is propaganda! Teaching the TRUTH and empowering our students is the best part of teaching.

Megan Lewandowski | Saint Paul, MN

I will never lie to students, especially about our nation's history. It is vital for our students' to learn about the oppressive forces that shaped our country and how they continue to do damage to so many.

Christine Llewellyn | El Paso, TX

Petrina Fowler | Acworth, GA

This is an important pledge and I am here to do the tough work am truly impact overall change!

Lydia Petoskey | South Hadley, MA

Anita Romero | Youngsville, LA

Sadie Adams | Portland, OR

I refuse to lie to students about the history of this nation. It is important to look at the true history of the U.S., not the white-washed version that has been presented historically, if we are going to move forward and make progress toward equality as a country.

Rebecca Bidwell | Trussville, AL

Students deserve to know the truth and have the opportunities to analyze the documents and perspectives of history, regardless of who they are. Counter narratives are an important part of learning that history is not written by one person, but by the nation as a whole.

Melissa Riley | Bothell, WA

Teaching the truth is the right thing to do for kids.

Jenn Mooney | Lees Summit, MO

Student deserve to see themselves in our history and these bills are trying to prevent many of our minority and oppressed students from having that opportunity.

Chris Carman | Kent, OH

We cannot improve our country if we lie to our children about its past.

Lisa Mannion | Peekskill, NY

The truth matters!

Rebecca Walker | Aurora, IL

It is our responsibility as educators to provide opportunities for students to develop the skills necessary to participate fully in our democracy and openly address the challenges of our society. This includes providing space for young people of ALL ages to think critically, to question injustice, to distinguish fact from

*misinformation, and to explore a variety of diverse perspectives. Lessons that are intentionally anti-bias, anti-racist, and focused on respectfully discussing the truth of history are essential. I refuse to lie to my students.*

Pete Bretzlaff | Kankakee, IL

*To ignore the role that racism, sexism, and xenophobia played in the development of the United States does a disservice to ALL students and provides them with an incomplete picture of not only OUR history, but also leaves them unequipped to identify and work to solve the problems WE face today.*

Chris Mahalic | Buffalo, NY

*History is about truth and learning from earlier mistakes, by attempting to whitewash history the same mistakes will e make over and over again.*

Yazi Cournia | Milwaukee, WI

Diana Grimes | Oakland , CA

I

Heidi Lamb | Providence, RI

*I will not lie to my students. They need to understand the past to know the present and plan for the future. Facing our history is the first step to moving ahead in a new direction as a nation.*

Christina Sheppard | Gaithersburg, MD

Heather Gossler | Gilbert, AZ

*I am signing my name because teaching complete and accurate history is the only way to show pride in our country and a desire to do better.*

Shaina McSweeney | Tavares, FL

Griffin Pepper | Philadelphia, PA

*The reality of my students' lived experiences is rooted in this history of oppression and racism, and I refuse to teach my students that their truth is false.*

Dylan Guarino | Sudbury, MA

*I refuse to lie about history. We can not raise our children to be the people this world needs without giving them a real and true education of our past. They need to understand how our reality came to be, in order to influence their reality.*

Joseph Feinsilver | New York, NY

*American history matters, context matters, and students deserve the whole truth even if parts are disparaging or even shameful.*

Kathryn Smerke | Fairfax, VA

*It has taken me years to unlearn the colonizers' version of history I was taught. I work to help my own kids and the kids I work with to understand the racism on which the country was founded from a young age. Equipped with this knowledge, they are motivated and prepared to work for change.*

Claire De Leon | Chicago, IL

Joanna Batt | Austin, TX

*I am signing because not trusting our students to know and tackle complex history in all its honesty is not trusting a future where we can be better for it. People's lives, not to mention connected humanity, need and deserve that more equitable future.*

Barry Turner | Oakland, CA

Melissa Cohen | Bronx, NY

*The truth of this country's history must be told - the good, the bad, and the ugly. It's the only way forward.*

John Joyce | Reno, NV

Stephen Pink | Brea, CA

*Teachers have a responsibility to teach the experience of the oppressed in this country and the ongoing legacy of chattel slavery.*

Kristin Teigen | Portland, OR

*Banning real history and true stories won't ever be ok. Students deserve to have the full picture of their history and current realities taught to them -- and I won't ever stop.*

Michele Goostree | Nashville, IL

*My job is to teach students how to understand the United States, not to love it or hate it. We have to understand how the country has changed over time, and why those changes have occurred. I won't lie, and I won't teach mythology.*

Mindy Hall | Westerville, OH

Debra Van Essendelft | Middleboro, MA

*You can not teach the history of the nation or the world without teaching about the negatives or the topics that are not pretty and upbeat. The United States has a dark history of discrimination, sexism, xenophobia and racism that must be addressed in order to teach students about change and how it can be made based on examples from the past.*

Bella Barclay | Healdsburg, CA

*I am signing this because it is unjust and appalling that we are allowing people to continue to leave out the stories and perspectives of so many.*

Judi Freeman | Boston, MA

*our students deserve nothing less than the truth and the tools to confront this history.*

David Detmer | Hammond, IN

*If history has taught us anything clearly, it has taught us that it is not a good idea to let politicians dictate what is, and is not, accurate history.*

Brian Caterino | Holley, NY

Erin Ennis , WI

*I'm a history teacher. Everyone had the right to have their own narratives shared and valued. History is more than 1 side of any story. History can be hard, painful, and ugly but we need to study this to, hopefully, build a future of critical thinkers who will actively participate in changing the future.*

Emily DiCuio | Peekskill, NY

*Black history IS American history. Women's history IS American history. Native American history IS American history. Our role as history teachers is to teach the history, for better or for worse, so that we can become a more perfect union. Teaching patriotism and history are two different things...*

Aaron Callender | South Milwaukee, WI

*I teach U. S. History and American Government and believe students need full access to ideas and the intellectual freedom to work with and examine them so they can create their own voices in the world.*

Emily DiCuio | Peekskill, NY

Josh Walker | Coalinga, CA

donna masters | Jourdan, TX

*he can not and should not erase history*

Rachel Miller | Dover, MA

*It is only through teaching and understanding our nation's full history that we can even hope that there will be a brighter future for all.*

Ashley Strohm | Sunnyside, NY

*Knowledge is power. I want to empower my students to use their voice to influence the spaces they hold. They are learning now how to become informed and active citizens of our democracy. There is no alternative.*

Katie Torres | Longmont, CO  
The truth matters.

Milly Burnett , TN

ALICIA MCCLUNG | Durango, CO  
It's the right thing to do.

Ryan Liacos | Medford, MA

Dave Medley | Mesa, AZ  
The lies have to stop if we want to raise children who embrace the truth!

Nancy Schurr | Chattanooga, TN

Dessie Wakefield | New Brunswick, NJ  
It is of utmost importance that all students be taught the TRUTH about occasions in US History which involve racism, sexism and oppression!

John Abromeit | Buffalo, NY  
I'm opposed to government mandated falsification of history.

Anne Lewis | Austin, TX  
The bills against teaching that are moving through the Texas legislature are horrifying. I believe in People's History. I stand in solidarity as a union person with Education Austin and their courageous stand for truth in education. My films have been useful in broadening curriculum -- Fast Food Woman for 11th grade economics in NC; more recently Emma Tenayuca and the 1938 San Antonio Pecan Shellers Strike (4-12) and Annie Mae Carpenter and the Uprising in Nacogdoches (8-12) for history, economics, and ethnic studies.

Alex Powell | Ogden, UT

KayLee Fredricks | Wyoming, MI  
I refuse to teach the narrative that has been created to make it seem like there is only one group that matters and made long lasting contributions to our nation. Working in a very diverse district I want my students to know that they matter and they are a part of our country's history too.

Sagie Tvizer | Medford, MA

Sara Palante | Iowa City, IA  
I am committed to teaching students the truth about systemic racism, implicit bias, white privilege, and our country's true history of oppression. I am against any legislation that prevents educators from teaching antiracist curriculum.

Zoe Schirmer | Oak Park, IL  
Teaching truth matters!

Lydia Falconnier | Chicago, IL

Jessica Hauger | Durham, NC

E. Pailin Gaiter | Baltimore, MD  
Our school's goal is to build active, engaged citizens who are empowered to go out in the world and be change-makers. To effectively create change and build a future that works for ALL, you must know the past, and it is my job to help our students unpack their history -- both its darkness and promise -- so they can do just that.

Liz Davidson | Portland, OR  
Students expect the truth. Only through the truth can we build a more just and equitable future for everyone.

Alison Quoyeser | Mill Valley, CA  
The struggle to see and understand all sides of historical events is essential for developing a population of critical thinkers.

Jase Sutton | Marble Falls, TX  
our understanding of history and how we teach it should not be determined by state legislators, who often have a poor understanding of history themselves.

Jennifer Eppolito | Pleasant Unity, PA  
White washed history is not acceptable. All voices in history need to be heard and honored. The next generation demands it.

April Norman | Belvidere, IL  
We have taught lies for way to long! It's time to teach truth.

Heather Butler | Williamston, NC  
my students deserve to see themselves in history, and to know that people like them have been part of history all along. They also deserve to know the messy, bloody history of our nation rather than a sanitized version that doesn't acknowledge the actual injustices that happened.

Colin Johnston | Springfield, OR  
It's important for us to learn the whole of history, counter narratives particularly so.

Yolanda Acey | Hattiesburg, MS  
You can not change the future without accepting the present and being honest about the past.

Brooke Bernardini | Lansdale, PA  
As history teachers it is our duty to speak the truth about our past - whether it be racism, sexism, xenophobia, patriarchy or privilege. It's imperative we know this history - as well as the stories of resisters and agitators who knew what "liberty" and "freedom" meant, and fought to make those ideals a reality. The only way we can navigate the challenges we face today is to know where we have come from. Even when it's hard, we teach the truth. As Amanda Gorman - poet and activist - said best "Being American is more than a pride we inherit. It's the past we step into and how we repair it."

Cecilia Brunning | Happy Valley, OR

Laura Tucci | Saint Paul, MN  
History education is supposed to help us understand the past and present. We should not be trying to cover up the past.

Kelly Huff | Hillsboro, OH  
We can't heal what we don't acknowledge and the evidence of the harm done by the historical lack of accountability is increasingly painful

JONATHAN ALBERS | Wichita, KS

Zach Whitcomb | Alexandria, VA  
I am signing because I received my teaching education in Missouri, home of this current harmful legislation proposal, and I want to push back against the political silencing of important histories from the racist dominant culture, who, for too long, have called the shots.

Drew Ames | Needham Heights, MA  
Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not the TRUTH!

Jessica Bishop | Washington, DC  
I refuse to lie to students.

Matt Vriesman | Grand Rapids, MI  
I pledge to expose racist mythology in every corner of the curriculum. I pledge to help students identify and expose the racist policies that have led to the deplorable racial disparities in American society. If our society is to have a more equitable 21st century, all Americans must be able to contextualize Black suffering and

articulate the history of injustice. Much structural change and healing is needed. As history teachers, we have an immense responsibility to confront racism and call it what it is.

Christian Wrabley | Johnstown, PA

Our students need to discuss current events and the truth and realities of our history, and if they can't do it in our classrooms - designated learning spaces with trained professional teachers - then I don't know where they can safely have these conversations. Their brains will fill in those blanks either way. It's important that professional teachers create spaces to learn and ask questions and seek answers together.

Virginia Boyle | Chicago, IL

It is very important that teachers teach the truth about history. We must verify facts from a variety of validated sources, and teach our students HOW to do the same. With these tools, our students can verify truth for themselves, and they can draw their own conclusions.

Jeanie Aday | Clayton, NC

We teach from primary documents, where you cannot deny the truth. We no longer hide behind propagandist textbooks that most state legislators grew up reading. Stop the brainwashing. Teach the truth now.

Alita Thomas | Bedford, IN

History has more than one side, more than one perspective, and more than one result. Students live in a diverse world and they deserve a more truth than they have been getting.

Lisa Cartwright | Frenchtown, NJ

I believe that all students have a right to the truth and hiding it would be a disservice not only to my students but to the history itself and the people it has affected.

Mary Molnar | Pasadena, CA

The only way we can heal as a country is to acknowledge the painful truths of our past.

William Linn | Cedar Hill, MO

The area I live in and teach in is detached from reality.

Alexandros Acedo | Fresno, CA

without teaching brutally and unapologetic honest history, and the legacy that it has produced, we can not complete our national reconstruction, that was aborted in 1877 with the corrupt presidential election bargain.

Tip Matthews | Washington, MO

I am sign my name because the core nature of education is the dissemination of truth. Oppression, prejudice, and racism are present in our world. Denying the existence and influence, both from the past and present, will give these hateful ideologies fertile ground to persist. The first step to ending this is to tell the truth.

Hallie Herz | Baltimore, MD

Our students deserve to learn the full story of our country's history.

Douglas Moehle | Denver, CO

History has been written and experienced in multiple ways by multiple groups and obviously it is important that this diversity is reflected in the education our students receive as well. As our nation leans toward polarization, it is important to share with students our common humanity and ensure that ALL voices are represented in future narratives.

Erin Sassaman | Fanwood, NJ

The idea of hiding the truth only deepens the reality of racism and ignorance. By openly accepting that this is what has been done, this is how we've tried to change, and this is what we have left to do, we are building a much better society that one in which, in order for certain people to feel better about themselves, we lie.

Chris Crews | Granville, OH

Students need to know historical truths, no matter how uncomfortable or ugly they are, and any attempts by state or national legislators to stop such efforts must be fought against and resisted.

Eva Zygmunt | Muncie, IN

Elisabeth Bass | Philadelphia, PA

How can my students become empowered without understanding systems of oppression? Too often, the impact of oppression keeps them from seeing themselves as advocates for a better future.

Julie Peake | Linden, MI

Josiah Lookingbill | Owings Mills, MD

I will not purposefully mislead my students and ignore racist injustice

Luke Griffin | Portland, OR

I believe in teaching the truth, even if it is hard for some to hear, to help right the wrongs and so we can have a better future.

Brandon Riddle | Louisville, KY

Students need to understand the social factors that shaped our histories in order to understand those histories and deal with contemporary problems of inequality.

Jacob Clauson | Alexandria, MN

I refuse to lie to students about history. In order to prevent repeating the mistakes of the past, we need to learn about them in an open and honest way.

Eric Rothenberger | Reinholds, PA

Patricia Lucas | Santa Cruz, CA

Our children deserve to know the truth which will support them in knowing their own truth from which they will live their lives.

Jon Durham | Bellingham, WA

It is the clear duty and responsibility of all teachers to always tell the truth to their students. The full truth is the foundation of our students understanding of the world and their place in it.

Justin Strebel | Fox Lake, IL

I'm doing what is right, just like I teach my students to do.

Susan Whipple | Boise, ID

The only way to make the country a better place is to teach the truth. We have to make students critically think and make decisions for themselves once they have the facts. In memory of George Floyd and Richard Greene and all the others who have perished at the hands of lynch mobs.

Christina Byers | The Villages, FL

I love America. But I cannot in good conscience pretend that there aren't some terribly awful sides to our history. If you want your country to be the best, it has be honest about its history--talk about the good and the bad. I want my students to be proud to be Americans but also understand that we are not perfect, and we have a long way to get there.

Sarah Hoop | Poughkeepsie, NY

We cannot move forward as a country until we recognize our past. We cannot have an actual WORKING democracy until all people are seen, heard, understood. Our past informs our present. We must make the wrongs of the past a launching point for a true American future, or else we are just cycling away in colonialism....and lies.

Justin Altay | Chicago, IL

there's no other choice I would ever make when it comes to my role as an educator.

Amanda Alonso | Portland, OR



John Brewer | Louisville, KY

*I believe in the work you are doing and wholly support the teaching of narratives that center human dignity and decenter sanitized history that does not advance the species.*

Allison Haight | Portland, OR

*My students, and the society at large, deserve to know the truth.*

Laura Citino

Yesenia Zavala | Houston, TX

*My students deserve the truth about their history, no matter how painful or unjust it may be.*

Sarah Bruegger | Newburgh, IN

*My students deserve to learn the facts about history and not have it sugar coated or white-washed.*

Denae Henson | Ypsilanti, MI

ginger hansen | Hampden, ME

*The truth must be told.*

Daven Oglesby | Antioch, TN

June Morris | Corvallis, OR

*As a history and geography teacher, I am aware of the necessity of teaching Hard History. Uncovering and discussing these complex topics makes us stronger, not weaker, as a society.*

TIMOTHY MCMAHON | Atlanta, GA

*I CARE ABOUT OUR DEMOCRACY. A CONFLICT OF IDEAS IS INHERENT IN A STRONG DEMOCRACY, BUT IT MUST BE MANAGED EFFECTIVELY WITH TOOLS OF PEACEFUL AND PURPOSEFUL DISCOURSE, NOT THE FEAR AND BULLYING OF AN AUTHORITARIAN STATE. THE HOLOCAUST, SLAVERY, AND RACISM ARE ALL LINKED BY DEVOTION TO IDEAS THAT TEACH PEOPLE NOT TO LISTEN TO DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES, NOT TO ACT WITH COMMON REGARD OR TO FRAME EVENTS IN WAYS THAT PROPAGATE HATRED.*

Martha Zwicker | Renton, WA

Sara Slager | Halifax, MA

Lindsay Colf | St. George, VT

Laura Farrelly | Eugene, OR

Jonathan Camerucci

Sara Ainsworth | Richmond, IN

*TRUTH MATTERS #socialjusticeadvocate*

Alaina McCallum | Seattle, WA

*Our students deserve to know the truth and deserve to feel seen in the history that they learn.*

Jennifer Quigley | Tucson, AZ

*Our students deserve the truth.*

Nini Hayes | Bellingham, WA

Andrew Hill | Seattle, WA

Jayna Otonicar | Federal Way, WA

*We cannot achieve justice without teaching truth.*

Patricia Helm | Belvidere, IL

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Rebecca Leisher | Seattle, WA

*this is just so basic. Students should have access to the truth and to the tools to think critically and make change in their communities and in our world.*

Debbie Kuttner | Renton, WA

*I cannot think of how to say something professional. I just want to start swearing and screaming. How can we go backwards this dramatically in time?! Education should always strive to speak truths.*

JC Fretz | Seattle, WA

*youth deserve to know the truth and be validated when they know the truth about the society that they live in.*

nikkita oliver | Seattle, WA

Lisa Smith | Austin, TX

*Education must be honest*

Trechiondria Lathan | Iowa City, IA

*I will not simply comply with racist laws or be disrespected, dismissed, and traumatized by administrators and political leaders who openly inflict harm on Black students, families, and educators in this state.*

Agnes Lopez | Bronx, NY

Martha McGlinchy Teien | Avon, CO

Jasmine Getrouw-Moore | Greensboro, NC

Tammy Oesting | Seattle, WA

*We teach who we are and if we do not understand the truth of history we do not understand who we are and are bound to perpetuate, not dismantle, systems of oppression in our nation. To ban learning about Critical Race Theory is antithetical to the ideals of a free and liberatory educational system.*

Andrea Bazemore | Frisco, TX

*We need to teach accurate history.*

Ruben Carrion | Waverly, IA

*The truth will you free!*

JERI L REED | Norman, OK

*Since the US history I teach centers on multiculturalism, it would be impossible for me to follow the scrambled guidelines just passed in my state, Oklahoma. The college where I teach has a big commitment to inclusion, so I do not anticipate problems--but am concerned about what will happen in K-12 throughout the state, which already has a poor track record for teaching inclusive history.*

Carol Ndambuki | Pullman, WA

*Pullman, WA is a college town right on the border with Moscow, ID. The State of Idaho is one that passed legislation controlling what teachers, districts, and universities can teach citing "Critical Race Theory" as a method for manipulating children into thinking it is bad to be white. Funds have been cut from those public universities perceived as teaching "Critical Race Theory," including the University of Idaho whose main campus is in Moscow, less than 8 miles from my home. I have been an adult educator for nine years working for the Federal government through Migrant Education grants supporting migrant workers and their children in their pursuit of high school diplomas. I teach in English and in Spanish all four subjects tested in high school equivalency (math, science, social studies and language arts). I have worked with so many adults in preparation for their citizenship test, adults from all over the world who have chosen to come to the United*

*States for the freedoms enshrined in the constitution. We speak frankly about the good those freedoms have brought to our country but also about how those very principles have failed to be supported and observed for all who live here and call the US home.*

Hannah Gann | Philadelphia, PA

Shasta Payne | Chandler, AZ

Sheila Wilensky | Tucson, AZ

*Telling the truth about history is what I learned from Howard Zinn!*

Wendy Shenk-Evans | Hyattsville, MD

*The number of proposed state level bills designed to silence discussion of systemic racism in our public schools demonstrates how prevalent resistance to an honest accounting of this nation's history continues to be. We cannot change the future until we are truthful about the past and the present.*

Elizabeth Maxon | Portland, OR

*It is wrong to attempt to erase history and to deny young children their right to know the truth of oppressive systems in this country.*

Gail Bloom | Cincinnati, OH

*Kids deserve the truth*

Shelley Rees | Oklahoma City, OK

*Education is about access to truth, even--perhaps even especially--uncomfortable truth.*

Sandie Ragland | Stuttgart, AR

*I believe the truth is important. We must be able to see all sides of every issue and event in history. We must be willing to listen and understand, even when it goes against everything we learned and believed out of nondisclosure and misunderstanding.*

Heather Gerker | Cincinnati, OH

*Today's students will be tomorrow's educators and policymakers, and it is vital to dismantling systemic racism that more individuals have a deep understanding of critical race theory, and ways to counter and eliminate systemic racism and bias.*

Jesse Johnson | Amherst Town of, MA

*Working in China I see the effects of censorship on society and I expect better from the people who supposedly support the constitution of the united states of america.*

Jacob Jansen | Lafayette, CO

*No student's positionality should go without an education that provides critical analysis on historical awareness of a nation built through violently oppressed people, cultural eradication, settler colonialism, imperialism, and fascist nationalizing. U.S. politics actively work to rewrite history in the interest of exploitation. Failing to recognize histories of the oppressed creates a harmful continuum that works solely for exploitative benefit. This erasure of studies which highlight atrocities is telling of the inequality we see today. What sort of future is being created for the minds of tomorrow if we cannot educate students on the past that sculpted our present suffering and its embodied people?*

Kathryn Derrah | Usaf Academy, CO

*banning a text or curriculum promotes ignorance and fear. Students need to gain awareness of the key themes of U.S. history and these programs can provide that.*

Eileen O'Brien | Meriden, CT

*We have a responsibility to learn from our past so as not to make the same mistakes in the future.*

Jasmine Williams | Pensacola, FL

*Counter-narratives matter*

Michelle Steele | Middlebury, VT

*We must teach the truth to all students!*

Katy Swalwell | Des Moines, IA

*The truth will set us free.*

APRIL HENDRICK | Rancho Cucamonga, CA

*We study history to learn from it and make sure we are doing our best to prevent horrible events from happening again.*

Arnee' Love | Chicago Heights, IL

*The True uncensored history needs to be taught .*

Michele Sandstrom | Beaverton, OR

*My students trust me to tell the truth.*

David Smith

*we need to study America's debits and credits in order to understand the United States as it is today. The past happened, how we study the past will determine how and if we move forward. Studying America's credits alone will ensure that we will not move forward; studying the sum of our history will empower us to affect a greater future.*

Deborah Lemieur | Havertown, PA

*I agree and believe in what is said. I also think it's important and even necessary to say these things in the current political climate of this country.*

MARK LEVY | New York, NY

*The history of slavery, racism, discrimination, exploitation and injustice in our country are not only true parts of America's past but also they are things we need to know about to build a better, fairer, equitable and truly democratic future for us all. A critical awareness of our past is key to our future. Also, students' own experiences and sharp questions often contradict traditionalists' myths and lies -- and teachers must be able to support not silence such analysis and thinking.*

Mike Boyer | Corvallis, OR

*the truth shall set you free...*

Sarah Shamah | Flagstaff, AZ

Holly Johnson | Ventura, CA

Angelina Castagno | Flagstaff, AZ

Carol Johnson | Tempe, AZ

*Educators should not be told what to do by politicians. We are perfectly capable of leading our classrooms.*

Jessica Kitterman | Bellmead, TX

Kel Lane | Olympia, WA

*I'm committed to sharing truths and exposing injustices with future generations*

Loretta (Terra) Wilson | Olympia, WA

*I will not lie to children who want to know true history.*

Eric Hitchner | Philadelphia, PA

*I am fortunate to teach at a school that is anti-racist and encourages creativity and critical thinking. I am signing in solidarity with those who are not free to expose and challenge their students with the full picture of our country and in recognition of the constant threat all educators face through censorship and a push to water down the truth.*

Elizabeth Ceccoli | Johns Island, SC

*I want my students to read analytically, and move past the receptive intake of information and lean into a critical examination of historical texts. Critical literacy cannot take place in the history curriculum if teachers prioritize one narrative and purposefully silence the alternative perspectives.*

Mary Metcalf | Austin, TX

Marisa Gutierrez | Madera, CA  
Students deserve the truth..

Lela Kent | Houston, TX  
*I am a teacher and my students and community deserve to know the real history.*

Angelica Dunsavage | Nashville, TN  
Critical theory pedagogy is critical for a reason.

Jae Lancaster | Spokane, WA  
*All change towards the good can only manifest on truths....*

Gemma Cooper-Novack | Syracuse, NY  
*I will guide my students to teach towards greater justice by engaging with the truth in its multiple and essential dimensions.*

Jeremy Sands | Ventura, CA  
*I am committed to antiracist education.*

MARSHA EVANS | Milwaukee, WI  
IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT ALL PEOPLE KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT AMERICA HISTORY. THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IDOLIZED FOR YEARS SHOULD HAVE THE ACTIONS EXPOSED. THERE ARE TOO MANY UNTRUTHS BEING TAUGHT TO STUDENTS. THIS CONTRIBUTES TO RACIST ATTITUDES AND FALLACIES. MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LOOKED DOWN UPON AND HAVE HAD TO LIVE IN AN UNFAIR SOCIETY WITHOUT REAL JUSTICE. TRUE HISTORY IS JUST THAT. FOR MANY IT IS DIFFICULT TO CHANGE THEIR BELIEFS, BUT IS NEEDED. STEREOTYPES HAVE EXPLODED, AS HAS RACISM AND VIOLENCE AGAINST THOSE WHO DO NOT FIT INTO THE MANY UNTOLD AND/OR UNTRUE STORIES WRITTEN WITH A ONE SIDED VIEW POINT. PEOPLE SHOULD WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH RATHER THAN HIDE IT BECAUSE IT REALLY SHOWS THE TRUE HISTORY OF AMERICA. IT SHOULD ASK WHERE DID THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO AMERICAS COME FROM? THEY WERE OUTCASTS FROM EUROPE AND ABROAD, MENTALLY ILL, ROBBERS, THIEVES, RAPISTS, OF LOW INTELLIGENCE, MURDERS, AND THE LIKE. THEY CAUSED HAVOC EVERYWHERE THEY WENT TAKING OVER WHATEVER THEY COULD CONTROL AND SPREADING DISEASES. IT SURELY IS SHAMEFUL AND THAT IS WHY THEY FIGHT TO KEEP IT UNDER WRAPS. I WILL NOT LIE TO MY STUDENTS AS THEY NEED TO KNOW THE CONTRIBUTIONS THEIR ANCESTORS MADE TO AMERICA. HISTORY BOOKS IN AMERICA ARE FALLACY.

Kimberly Mitchell | Chicago, IL  
*The truth should be told.*

Sarah Woodbury | New York, NY

Bryan Williams | Tallahassee, FL  
*I am committed to preparing my students for the future. In order to confront the root causes of racial conflict, bigotry, and discrimination, they will need to understand the unsettling path that brought us to where we are. In this current climate of whitewashing and boldface lying about our history, students need to know the truth in order to speak truth to power. I envision my students' generation righting the wrongs of slavery and discrimination and contributing to a positive world where all can live free and freely.*

Charles Miles | Houston, TX  
*When people with a very limited perception of the world gain power, you end up with a society and public that is uniformed and improperly educated which is directly related to the creation of these 12 bills across the country attempting once again to erase history and deny reality. The priority for people paid with our money should be to increase quality of life for ALL of their citizens yet they CHOOSE to conjure up problems (voter fraud, anti-trans bills, bs cancel culture problems etc.) that are only a "problem" because it deflects away from actual governance. Our students deserve so much better than this.*

Caryl Davis | Milwaukee, WI  
*The lives of my students, their families, and their communities are valid. Our histories cannot and will not be erased. Subscription to the notion of a dominant culture is antithetical to humanity. We are here, we contribute, we are valid, and we matter. #myhistoryisvalid #mylifeisvalid*

Nicole Fernald | Maynard, MA  
*I am standing in solidarity with teachers and students in at least 12 states where lawmakers are passing or attempting to pass bills to limiting how teachers can talk to students about racism, sexism and many other forms of oppression that are part of our current society and built into the history of our country and still determine whose history is even taught.*

Summer Boismier | Piedmont, OK  
*My students in Oklahoma deserve the truth from at least one person.*

Marni Wilson | Saint Paul, MN  
*It is very important to me to teach the truth. My students of this high diverse high school deserve to know and understand everything about the history of the U.S. No history is complete without including the voices of all people.*

Ben Goodwin | Portland, OR  
*The truth matters.*

Debra Watkins | San Jose, CA  
*I have devoted the last 45 years of my career in education to truth-telling. I have founded three Black-led organizations and co-founded one Black-led organization focused on resisting oppression and teaching Black students to thrive in spite of it. A Black Education Network (ABEN) has quietly done this work without seeking the spotlight because we intentionally live outside of the White gaze. We have never been bullied and don't plan to be on this issue either. Dr. Frances Cress Welsing predicted this violent response to truth-telling 40 years ago so ABEN is not at all surprised!*

Corina Ontiveros | Tucson, AZ  
*We must speak of, study, analyze, and never forget the whole truth of our country! Only then can we recognize that in our shared humanity and real respect for each other, can we truly strive and work to make the United States live up to its promise.*

Catherine Miers | Houston, TX  
*I love the Constitution and think the United States is the greatest country in the world. That does not mean that there aren't difficult aspects of the past that need to be acknowledged and studied. The only way to do better, is the know better. Ignoring difficult truths does not make them go away. As an educator it is my job to create informed citizens who can think critically. I refuse to teach a false narrative that glosses over the imperfections of our country. This would be a disservice to the past and the future of our nation.*

Kevan Kiser-Chuc | Tucson, AZ  
*Truthful history needs to be taught so that we learn from past mistakes so as we move forward to understand them and not to repeat them.*

Carla Cota | Chapel Hill, NC

Steven Monteleone | Harper Woods, MI  
*The truth matters!*

Michelle Capobres | Oakland, CA  
*We cannot sweep the uncomfortable truth about America under the rug. We cannot raise another generation of leaders that do not understand the complexities and atrocities of American history.*

Michael Stewart | Flint, MI

History is so important but even more important is the ability to decipher the truth from nostalgia. My students, mostly young men and women of color, need to know the true story of this country so they can find a way to live in it. The side that is trying to eliminate the proper and truthful telling of history is only interested in maintaining power. Truth to power is real and I'll fight for that and continue teaching my students (and my own children and anybody else that will listen) real history as I continue to learn it myself.

Rachael Eggebeen | Tucson, AZ

Harriet Luckman | Sun City West, AZ

I have a Ph.D in the history of religion and taught in university for 20 years. It's a great day when a student realizes there is so much more to history than what they had been taught in grade school and high school. Now retired, I am giving my time to the lower grades. It's rewarding.

Jim Murphy | Newton Highlands, MA

Teaching requires both honesty and the willingness to engage with complex, difficult subjects.

Emily Haines

Maren Mueller | Tempe, AZ

Nelva Williamson | Houston, TX

I teach in Texas and the bill about to become law harms my students. I will continue to teach truth to power because my students deserve to see themselves in history, to know that their ancestors were overcomers, and that they MATTER! To the governor...Too late! Last week I taught an intro lesson to US History to my World History students to prep them for next year using the 1619 Project. Today we looked at how enslaved Blacks, free Blacks and Native people were included and excluded from the founding documents as well as the arguments of the Constitutional Convention using primary source documents. These documents were written by the founders and help us to understand not just the world they were living in but also the consequences of their words and actions on current times. Maybe the governor needs to visit my class to get an understanding of what real teaching looks like. Just in case anyone asks...I proudly teach at YWCPA room 336...all day every day! It is a very sad day in Texas when accurate authentic history is considered a threat to fragile feelings brought on by guilt and ignorance. As educators, we need to stay vigilant and be truth tellers.

Stephanie Gallardo | Seattle, WA

Yvonne parent | Flagstaff, AZ

We need to teach history so we don't repeat mistakes of the past!

Ann Marie Geair | Mesa, AZ

We need to learn from our mistakes not ignore them.

Matthew Schock | Black Canyon City, AZ

The truth matters and our students deserve better.

Dwanna McKay | Colorado Springs, CO

nancy schwartz | Laveen, AZ

Keziah Ridgeway | Philadelphia, PA

The truth is the truth. CRT is an analyzation of real history.

Fizza Anwar | Fremont, CA

I want to stand up and teach the truth. Not have History changed in textbooks.

Michelle Schulke | Phoenix, AZ

Clarence Burress | Knoxville, TN

Robert Weiner | Delray Beach, FL

Because I hope that my moron of a governor does not add Florida to that list, because I will never, ever, stop teaching about Henry Ford holding a NAZI Rally in Madison Square Garden.

Mark Gomez | SEASIDE, CA

To remain silent is complicit. As a long time social studies educator I have been appalled to see the attacks on fundamental truths and historical facts be cast as unpatriotic and even worse, indoctrination. These are the types of false accusations lauded by folks leaning steadily into Fascism. We focus on historical inquiry, critical interrogation of the histories from multiple perspectives not only to understand the past but to help make sense of the present by contextualizing how we came to be here and now. We also strive to enlist imagination towards the efforts of shaping society to be more just. These legislative efforts are disingenuous at best, racist and anti-democratic at worse. I write to urge elected officials everywhere to recognize them as such and push back with courage, not comply out of fear.

Kandice Nelson | Scottsdale, AZ

All history is valuable. It's time we teach history honestly instead of continuing to white-wash what happened. It is too late to change the past. The future relies on an end to lies!

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All history is valuable. It's time we teach history honestly instead of continuing to white-wash what happened. It is too late to change the past. The future relies on an end to lies!

Beth Herbert | Chandler, AZ

Nicholas Schueller | Lannon, WI

KATHLEEN HOLMES | Exeter, NH

Because there are people like MMc who say things like this, "...from promoting the principles that unite our nation toward promoting radical ideologies meant to divide us." Yup, OK, let's keep funding those principles of hate and xenophobia instead of something radical like the truth. I think Marx could have focused on a different institution; it's not religious beliefs that work as opiates, it's the beliefs of the politicians that keep everyone dulled. Kool-aid, anyone? I cannot comprehend how MMc makes sense to anyone.

Colleen OBrien | Islip, NY

Education should be giving the perspectives and facts and points of view of all not just the dominant culture or winner.

TONY BELLOTTI | Fremont, CA

Education is the key to our quality of life and our democracy. Do the right thing. Support education of our his. Thank you.

Marcie Osinsky | Roslindale, MA

Stephany Flores | Nutley, NJ

We can only move forward and ensure history does not repeat itself by equipping our students with facts.

Wendy Moore | Cypress, TX

There is an assault on truth in this nation right now.

Femi Folami-Browne | Miami, FL

As a documentary producer I am against revisionist history and efforts to conceal true events. Teaching history affords students the ability to use critical thinking if taught how to examine and analyze the outcomes of certain ideologies and behaviors.

Heather Lucas | Bemidji, MN

All students deserve see their ancestors in our shared history. We need to show them both the good and the bad so they learn to think critically about the world with a understanding of how are still stuck with unequal globalization.

MG Gainer | Mount Zion, WV

*How could I teach about the founding documents of this country and early American literature specifically without addressing the accurate history of the United States? That would be preposterous. I myself was taught that slaves were happy and rarely mistreated and that Black people were better off before being freed. I vowed to never allow such misrepresentation of egregious facts again.*

Noe Garza | San Antonio , TX

*I believe it is the only way America will heal and eliminate white racist fascist nationalism. facing and admitting the truth is the first step.*

Roger Rosenberg | San Jose, CA

*Honesty in the study of history is essential.*

Gloria Boutte | Columbai, SC

*This is a democracy where all people should Be invited to the table.. This is not a totalitarian government where voices should be suppressed*

Kurt Schlanker | Atchison, KS

*I am a teacher with 30 year experience. I believe that all of history much be taught, especially the parts which make people uncomfortable.*

Christine Draper | Beverly, MA

*The truth will set you free.*

Becky Boswell | Lincoln, NE

*I teach the real history of America, not a made up version that always paints the U.S. in a perfect light. Students need to understand the complex, and often ugly, history of our country in order to understand where we are today.*

Alisa Meggitt | Iowa City, IA

*We need to teach truth to power...It only makes sense to teach Systemic Racism to allow our students to see each other in their full humanity. If we omit instruction around harm done to oppressed peoples, the disparities we observe in Jails, schools, wealth, housing, violence and opportunity will feed a narrative that perpetuates white supremacy.A full and honest curriculum wil bring healing to both sides, the oppressor and the oppressed Truth and reconciliation cannot be achieved with a muzzled curriculum protective of the oppressors.*

Kevin Weigel | Buffalo, NY

*We cover attempts to alter curriculum by politicians... The Scopes Trial is a classic example. Twain famously said, "History may not repeat itself, but it does rhyme." When will these politicians learn?*

Margarita Mojica | Moline , IL

Amy Bowton-Meade | Seattle, WA

*We have to tell the truth. We have to teach the truth. There is no other way to heal or to make progress until we acknowledge the truth of our history and our foundations.*

Julee Reese | Brookfield, MO

*I teach a class called Minority Studies and I will not stop utilizing curricula that teaches TRUTH about the bias inherent in not only all of us but in our institutions.*

Bradford Pazant | West Palm Beach, FL

*I am committed to being transparent with my students regarding the history of the United States.*

Farah Giovanna Nations | Alameda, CA

*I believe in the truth in our nations history, in its mistakes, in its successes, in its retelling to the next generation.*

Anna Cicero | Chandler, AZ

*We have too many decision makers fearful of the truth! America is beautiful even with mistakes of the past but, to continue to not take responsibility for our mistakes is tragic and students deserve better. Certain Americans continue to be racist and that's their choice but, don't impose on children lies that continue to add to racism. Sad time in the US!*

Larry Crowe | Dayton, OH

*This Missouri bill represents the kind of closed mindedness that will mark the death of public schools, as such.*

Jane Murphy | Colorado Springs, CO

Dalila Benameur | Bridgeview, IL

*I believe in teaching students multiple perspectives and create independent minds and thinkers. Only by teaching history from the perspectives of others can we strengthen American democracy and understanding of our world.*

Inan Barrett | Brooklyn, NY

*It's due time that we tell the truth about this nation. Only then will we be able to make true progress and become a truly great nation.*

Amy Scholes | Hampton, NH

Amy Scholes | Hampton, NH

*we need truth, transparency, and accuracy in what we share with our students.*

Tom McElhaney | Tucson, AZ

Beth Sanborn | Flagstaff, AZ

*Our society is direly in need of members that understand the events of our past and will use critical thinking skills to help move us to the future.*

Angel Rivera | Berea, KY

*I am not sugarcoating nor lying to my students. Exceptionalist b.s. is not going to fly here.*

Melissa England | Litchfield Park, AZ

*Our children deserve nothing less than the truth*

Edward D.Juillard | Chicago, IL

Andrea Mann | Danville, VA

*it is my duty to focus upon the social and emotional learning of my student so that they can believe in themselves.*

Rebecca Kristensen | Tucson, AZ

*I refuse to lie to my students.*

Missy Springsteen-Haupt | Ames, IA

*Teaching critical history is essential to developing informed members of a democracy.*

Patricia Roach | Flagstaff, AZ

*Teaching history is about making connections and helping students explore how we became who we are today. There is no room for lies. Presenting truthful information to students, along with the tools to debate, evaluate evidence, understand nuance, and listen to others' point of view is critical for the continued success of our democracy.*

Jan Kelly | Scottsdale, AZ

*Critical thinking and open discussion are essential skills in a democracy*

Anica Erickson | Mesa, AZ

Trevor Anderson | Austin, TX

Silvina Farmin | Albuquerque, NM

*I'm committed to teach the real history of the world*

Prabha Balasubramanian , TX

*It's our responsibility to teach students to be responsible citizens and thus can only happen when they know everything about their history.*

Elizabeth Braun | Columbus, OH

Melissa Puga | Austin, TX

Kaitlin Griffin | Peoria, AZ

*Students deserve the truth.*

Mindy Smith | Pflugerville, TX

Kelli Kirk | Austin, TX

*Our students deserve the truth, they deserve a peaceful world, they deserve equity.*

Edward Wilhelm GH

*Like it or not, history must be seen from many points of view. Too often, history has been written from the oppressor's point of view. I teach my students to ask questions and demand answers. I teach that history can shine a beacon towards a brighter future provided we are considering all perspectives to arrive at the truth. Even today, lies are reshaping our history. We need the future to show students how to resist and logically think for themselves with open minds. Truth!*

Cameron White | Friendswood, TX

Susan Rego | Phoenix, AZ

*Our students deserve not to be lied to.*

Corey Knox | Tucson, AZ

*Truth matters. Justice depends on truth. Real educators are truth-tellers.*

Cynthia Fey | Wilmette, IL

Kristin Larsen | Philadelphia, PA

Tina Sanders | Peoria, AZ

*We can not change our current situation without learning from our past.*

Jennifer Finley | Arlington, TX

*I can not do my job effectively with the structure the new bill proposes. If we do not want to teach history correctly, then why teach it at all?*

Aimee Neumann | Glenview, IL

*honest history is important. If students don't know the bad parts of our history, they are at risk of repeating them. It is our responsibility as educators and responsible citizens to work to make our future more just, humane and equitable than our past.*

Sean Powers | Columbus, OH

Lisa Hutchinson | Tacoma, WA

*I believe society is harmed by maintaining a false and unjust representation of U S history in our school curricula.*

Dennise Grater | Lafayette, IN

Michelle Lantz | Mesa, AZ

*These bills are racist attempts to censor our true history and strengthen our American system of white supremacy. To truly strengthen our country, we should be legislating that all students are required to learn the truth about our history, rather than suppressing it.*

Xavier Miranda | El Paso, TX

*Normalizing human rights violations and colonization merely perpetuate the current injustice plaguing our global communities. Militarism, consumerism, and racism are elements that need to be confronted before our humanity is restored.*

Miriam Walden | Berkeley, CA

*I am trying to be the teacher I needed as a young person growing up.*

George Davis | Pine Bluff, AR

*We can no longer live a lie.*

Barbara Wayne | Tucson, AZ

*One of my roles as a high school principal was to evaluate my teachers and their lesson plans. A professional knows how to present all sides of an argument and provide access to reputable resources for their students. In my career, I had a few occasions where the teacher, the lesson plan, or the resources demonstrated bias. They were few in nature, but I was able to deal with them. That was my job. Don't give it to government.*

Les Johnson | Chico, CA

*People need to understand the history before we can create "liberty and justice for all."*

Yvette Mendez | Houston, TX

*Children need to be taught truth not fairy tale history.*

John Harris | Park Hill, OK

Manuel R Palacios-Fest | Tucson, AZ

*We cannot let the corrupt change history!*

Carla Garcia | Phoenix, AZ

*It is wrong to set limits on the education our students deserve.*

Mariah Moritz | Scottsdale, AZ

Kristel Ann Foster | Tucson, AZ

*Knowledge is Power and as educators, we dedicate our lives to empowering young people. As the demographics shift across the US, these laws are being introduced to keep people of color powerless. We must fight back against this legislation and empower our students with different perspectives and experiences and the critical thinking skills they need to determine the next steps our society must take.*

Anne Greer | Mesa, AZ

*Enough is enough! I will change what I refuse to accept! We are educators!!*

Lauren Spenceley-Sheoran | Phoenix, AZ

James Baker | Baltimore, MD

*They want us to teach a sanitized, villainless history where America did nothing wrong and even if it did it had good reason. History has villains, if your history has none then it is not history, it is propaganda.*

James Wallace | Chandler, AZ

*The truth matters. Kids shouldn't be lied to and I am not a liar. U.S. citizens should know the facts about how and why our country was developed and what has gotten us to this point in time. All of the historical facts should be taught ..... the good, the bad, the beautiful, and the ugly.*

Samuel Williams | Seattle, WA

*The truth needs to be heard and learned anyhow!*

Ann Marie Palmer | Tucson, AZ

*The truth matters.*

Shakealia Finley | Columbia, MO

Rachel Nash | Houston, TX  
*The truth shouldn't be against the law.*

Lea Benson | Beverly, MA  
*The truth shall set you free.*

Lena Amick | Baltimore, MD  
*Knowing our history is life or death; we must choose life!*

Jacqueline Tambone | Mesa, AZ  
*This is a ridiculous bill only meant as vengeance towards teachers.*

Erin Donaghy | Tucson, AZ  
*This recent law that has come into place in Arizona is unacceptable.*

Jim Byrne | Tucson, AZ  
*Gotta embrace reality*

yvonne allen  
*I refuse to lie to students and I don't want any teacher to have to break the law to tell the truth to students.*

Neil Shanks | Waco, TX  
*To speak a true word is to transform the world - Paulo Friere*

Julie Quiroa | Mesa, AZ  
Sarah Bennett | Phoenix, AZ  
*We need to teach our students to break patterns of oppression.*

Elisa Gall  
*Whether or not something is legal or "the law" has never been a measure for whether it is just. I strive to support all of my students in their learning. This requires teaching the truth.*

Natalie Cardenas | Avondale, AZ  
*Censoring history, and hiding truths is an incredibly dangerous deed in any case. But in public schools? It undermines our entire goal: to liberate all American youth through knowledge and critical thinking skills.*

Veronica Jones | Clementon, NJ  
*Only the truth will set us free!!!*

Heather Schlemmer | Gilbert, AZ

Rachael Clawson | Mesa, AZ  
*I do not indoctrinate my students currently as they analyze multiple perspectives based on primary and secondary sources. But these nationwide efforts are exactly what they claim to be fighting: indoctrination of a particular narrative of history. I'll have no part in it.*

Judith Simons | Chandler, AZ  
*These restrictive laws are antithetical to education. They are an attempt to overlook/excuse terrible behavior on the part of previous generations of the ruling class. They ignore/suppress genuine contributions of women & minorities, as well as minimize what they've suffered along the way. Hiding truth doesn't eliminate it.*

Cathering Barnett | Goodyear, AZ  
*Teaching truth matters.*

Kathy Steger | Bellmead, TX  
*Our students need to hear the truth and facts about history and current events!*

Heather Wingett | Lansing, MI

Stacy Green | Sun City West, AZ  
*I can't imagine discussing current economic issues without discussing past decisions and affects of those decisions. When talking about policy that affects all genders and races in my classroom they all need to know they are important and how those policies have or will affect them.*

Kristin Cervantez | Phoenix, AZ  
*I refuse to leave out facts due to the inability of some to accept our past when teaching history.*

Cortney Milanovich | Tempe, AZ  
*History is complicated. We can no longer ignore the tough stuff and expect to grow and evolve as a society. We have to teach inclusive history with all its difficulties and complexities.*

Sharon Tuttle | Casa Grande, AZ  
*Truth matters*

Leda DeVlieger | Gilbert, AZ  
*All students deserve to learn about the full history of the US. I want my children and future generations to learn an accurate history.*

Monica DaRugna | Gilbert, AZ  
*It is not up to the Government to run our schools.*

Rebecca Garelli | Gilbert, AZ

Kara Bradbury | Hopewell, NJ  
*I'm doing a disservice to kids when I'm not honest about things.*

Katie Dunne | Columbia, MO  
*Our students deserve a full, unbiased account of our nation's history in order to become critical thinkers and well-educated members of society.*

Alexandra Zamarron | Phoenix, AZ

Andrea Box | Mesa, AZ  
*As a multicultural literature teacher, I have carefully and conscientiously chosen my curriculum to focus on Native American, African American, and Hispanic American history, leaders, stories, and literature. I also teach about the Holocaust and its many parallels with the United States. Our history is at times messy, ugly, and shameful, but it must still be taught so that future generations can learn from this past and do better and be better.*

Josie McClain | Gila Bend, AZ  
*My students are students of color and deserve to hear an unbiased diverse social studies curriculum and current events.*

Haylee Newton | Tempe, AZ  
*I grew up in rural Alabama where the white-washed and watered down History education (currently being supported by the Arizona state legislature) was served on a porcelain white platter to the youth. I left Alabama due to generational racism and hatred. I came to Arizona looking for a more diverse and inclusive community for my husband and future children who will be students of color. Lying about our history does nothing but perpetuate white supremacy. I refuse to participate in that.*

Angela Thomas | Chandler, AZ

Miguel Ramirez | Laveen, AZ

You cannot sanitize history without losing the lessons we are supposed to learn to improve our society. I will not lie to protect those who wish to erase the truth.

carole edelsky | Tucson, AZ

Deanna Smith | Tempe, AZ

We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events – regardless of the law.

Danielle DeGain | Tempe, AZ

Melissa Girmscheid | Peoria, AZ

Rodrigo Palacios-Tenorio | PHOENIX, AZ

Understanding our history means understanding the ugly parts of it as well. And there are never two sides to injustice. We need to be honest about our colonizer and imperialist culture.

Melanie Cobos | Glendale, AZ

Malin Lindelow | Austin, TX

An open conversation about race is essential to the health of our democracy.

Susan Hennessy | Goodyear, AZ

This is ludicrous! I truly don't have all the words to describe how half the country wants us to teach our youth lies. My middle school history teaching husband will NOT be changing his curriculum!

Zach Wilson | San Antonio, TX

How is it possible to teach about civics without discussing racism? How will our nation ever move past racism if it can't acknowledge that it happened in the first place?

Jennifer Susko | Atlanta, GA

Christina Dismang | Kansas City, MO

To change the world, we have to have these difficult discussions and conversations in our classrooms. I will not dilute my curriculum on the whims of some representatives that have never taught in their life. American Exceptionalism has no place in the classroom.

Janel Vaughan | Phoenix, AZ

The history of just the people who write the history books is not complete. Once the voices of everyone in the country are heard it will be complete.

Jen Freed | Philadelphia, PA

Jenna Martin, TX

Students deserve an inclusive history education--that not only underscores the history and systemic oppression of marginalized groups but also celebrates their accomplishments and resilience.

Kumar Sathy | Hillsborough, NC

I want to be on the right side of history. Future generations will talk about this moment, the way legislators and extremist white supremacy groups used fear-mongering and conspiracy theories to stop teachers from teaching the truth. I want it to be known that I was one of countless educators nationwide who taught kids to identify, understand, and work to end racism, sexism, white supremacy culture, and the silencing of marginalized voices from our curricula. Teaching the truth does not mean teaching kids to hate America. It is teaching them that we all play a role in helping our country become a more perfect union.

Laurie McFarlane | La Canada Flintridge, CA

Every U.S. student must be given a complete, unbiased education. Access to all facts and points of view together with training in critical thinking are essential elements of a complete, unbiased education.

Irene Brito | Los Angeles, CA

Stacey Ybarra | Catawba, NC

I believe in teaching truth and have been prevented from doing so.

John Terry | Wayne, NJ

The only path toward any kind of reconciliation in our country is truth-telling. Students have a right to an education that is honest and that provides them with an account of past injustices so that they can problem solve and contribute to a better present and future.

Autumn Campbell | Dexter, MI

I will not support or perpetuate white supremacy in my classroom/ school! I am committed to teaching the truth about who we were and who we are -and center intersectional social justice in every area of my practices.

Rachel Bohenic | Houston, TX

I am ashamed of my state's attempts to undermine progress and the refusal to take ownership of our past. We will never have an equal society if we cover up the truth. I will continue to allow students to explore and learn about meaningful social justice topics and to be open about systemic injustices when we encounter them in our reading and lessons.

Daniel Santos | Houston, TX

My students deserve to know the truth and they deserve to be treated like young scholars.

Sarah Forsberg | West St Paul, MN

Inga Lucans | Elmwood Park, IL

Facts are facts

Emily Rogers | Altadena, CA

It's time to change the way we teach about our past.

Marita Fitzpatrick | Philadelphia, PA

Truth is not political. Teaching lies is wrong. Authoritarian politicians are working to silence the truth.

Geena Molinaro | Collingswood, NJ

Paula Auble | Surprise, AZ

We cannot teach students only the history that we like. We have to look at how America has and hasn't lived up to its ideals and let students think critically about what else we need to do in order to form a more perfect Union. Gagging teachers is not the answer here.

Lara Goldstone | Los Angeles, CA

Students need to know the full history so that they can make our world a better place.

noenoe barney-campbell Campbell | Honolulu, HI

Michell Redfoot | Benicia, CA

Wendy Root | Rockville, MD

I am committed to ending the gaslighting of young minds. Truth is the only path toward empathy, reconciliation and change.

Abby Wherry | Riverside, CA

As a historian and an alternative education teacher, I know the importance of teaching history to encompass everyone. Not the traditional old, white, and Protestant Christian history. LGBTQIA+ students need to see themselves in their history books. BIPOC students need to see the struggles of their peoples and the triumphs as well. By understanding our history, we can better handle the events around us and create much-needed change for our country and the world.

Beth Huber | Cedar Falls, IA



*The only way true change and social justice to occur in our society, is for everyone to know the truth about our history and policies. This teaching must begin when children are young and can begin forming their own understanding of the world.*

Fatimah Hayes | Lawnside, NJ

Rahman Culver | Silver Spring, MD

Brian Gallagher | Philadelphia, PA

Stephanie Green | San Antonio, TX

*To think children are not aware of the inequalities that exist in their everyday lives is ignorant and insulting. Parents and educators have a duty to help them understand what they see, what they hear, and what they experience. Hiding from the ugly truth does not make it go away but only serves to make citizens unable to fight it and change it. A calculated attempt to weaken the populace through misinformation and ignorance is in direct opposition of what a representative government should be and should not be tolerated.*

Ely, Karen | Charlotte, NC

Lora Nelson, WA

Maura Nugent | Chicago, IL

Tiffany Mitchell Patterson | Morgantown, WV

*The road to freedom hinges on the youth knowing the raw and rugged truth about systemic ills of this country. Through truth our young people can imagine and fight for a new world where we are ALL free.*

Stan Karp

*I want my grandkids to learn the truth about the country's past and present, so they can work to make it a more just and democratic society.*

Paul Brown | Sacramento, CA

Amaya Lambert | Falls Church, VA

Charlie McGeehan | Philadelphia, PA

Kristie Lindsay | Mount Vernon, WA

Elena Nickerson | Princeton, NJ

Loreli Stochaj | Summit, NJ

Elizabeth Ihde | Minneapolis, MN

*It is negligent to omit the hard parts of history when we teach it to students. We have a duty to teach them with integrity so that they are not doomed to repeat the injustices of the past.*

Michelle Williams | Lexington, KY

*Those who don't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it. We've made a lot of mistakes in the past. It's time we learned something and got better.*

Jeanie Anderson | Rochester, NY

*While this may be uncomfortable for many, it is an imperative first step toward accepting that much of what we were taught both at school and at home has been completely false.*

Luiza Brown | Gardiner, ME

*I believe it is not until we honestly face our past that we can build a better future for everyone.*

Gene Woods | Bayonne, NJ

*Knowing one's privilege is extremely important. As a White heterosexual male, I understand that educating my students about the voices in history that have been excluded is vital if we really want to make our world a better place. For me this is real patriotism; challenging our bigoted past in our to make a more inclusive future.*

Adel Kessler | Cedar Falls, IA

*We owe it to citizens of our country to be honest and look at these truths. . . we have to do this to be able to understand what People of Color deal with every day. Move forward!!!!!!*

Ken Hoin | Fairfield, CT

*"The role of education at all social levels remains one of the best ways to stop the proliferation of racist and discriminatory discourses and to foster intercultural exchanges." UNESCO report, 2018*

John Flagler | West Chester, PA

*In order to address the issues of white supremacy in the United States, teachers must address white supremacy in school curriculum.*

Sunisa Nuonsy | Brooklyn, NY

*The truth matters*

Sally Myles | Reseda, CA

*Nothing will change unless we teach our students the truth -- the good, the bad and the ugly. Only by facing our past and its tendrils into our present can we change the future.*

Haley Tylka | Holiday, FL

*History needs to be taught not from a single perspective.*

Laura Buffi | Danielson

Maris Talaugon | Santa Rosa, CA

Amy Schramm | Rochester, NY

Ben Maracek | Beaver, PA

*The truth prevails, but it's a chore -Jan Masaryk*

Maya Thieme | Arvada, CO

*i can't teach my students a lie when they are looking to me and others to tell the truth. what good does this lie for them? what does it prepare them for? history may be ugly, be we learn from our past. we will learn nothing if we hide from history.*

Rose Pompey | Virginia Beach, VA

Katja Freeborn | Portland, OR

*My parents grew up in Germany in the early 1930s. Fascism rises from ignorance. We cannot afford to go the way of Nazi German here in America. We have come too far to fall back. As Germany has, America must face its racist history. We must teach OUR true history, so each generation can become more wonderful than the last.*

Mildred Outlaw | Burbank, CA

*I am not teaching a lie.*

Carrie Paulette | Roeland Park, KS

Debora Broderick | Plymouth Meeting, PA

Lorrie Henrie-Koski | Columbus, MT

*We owe our students the best, most honest instruction we can give them to help them become informed, responsible citizens and future leaders.*

Jenifer Hummer | Wilmington, DE

Julia Fliss | Evergreen, CO  
Our collective liberation depends on it.

Travis Baldwin | Charleston, WV

Matt Hamilton | Ypsilanti, MI

Fay Stump | Hedgesville, WV

After two masters' degrees, I am dismayed about what I didn't learn in my formal education. It's imperative that we begin to teach the truth.

Shelby Webster-Payne | Wylie, TX

I refuse to lie to my students about U.S. History. As an educator and social scientist I know that it is imperative that students learn the value of critically thinking about & examining, researching, and drawing conclusions about all sorts of issues from our country's past in order to effectively understand and deal with the ways in which these past issues manifest themselves in the present. Educators are teaching student bodies that are increasingly more and more diverse that in turn enter a world/society that is more and more diverse. As educators, we would be doing our students a disservice if we were not preparing them for this.

Chelsea Charlton | Peoria, AZ

Lisa Smulyan | Swarthmore, PA

Katherine Price | Seattle, WA

Our children deserve honesty to avoid the pitfalls we've already made for them.

Christian Cauthon | Bentonville, AR

my students cannot change the world without knowing the truth.

Lance Latham | North Andover, MA

Students deserve to know the true story of our country, warts and all. Democracy requires an informed citizenry.

Debbie Bamberger | Sierra Madre, CA

An informed electorate is necessary to the survival of democracy. That includes knowing the truth about our history - the whole truth. This work begins in kindergarten with teachers who address our history and present in an age-appropriate manner.

Joann Fuller | Nacogdoches, TX

The truth matters!

Peter Barnett | Tahoe City, CA

Slavery and prejudice hurt everyone, and have throughout history. Healthcare professionals have and continue to enable this profoundly violent and antisocial behavior. I teach in US and in Japan which has its own similar history to deal with.

Ed Dyminski | Hilton, NY

Edward Dyminski

Courtney Yamamoto | Vancouver, WA

Our students need to know and acknowledge the truth about our history.

Jennifer Willson | Seattle, WA

truth matters.

Kelly Lawlor | Stow, MA

The truth cannot be denied. I will teach the hard truths and fullness of our history.

Misha Kiyomura | OAKLAND, CA

teaching true history is essential to dismantling white supremacy.

Jaime White | Brooklyn, NY

We must free history to free ourselves

Jessica Inskeep | Wilmington, DE

Trinh Nguyen | Conshohocken, PA

all of my students deserve to be seen, to feel safe, and to be represented. Learning about the true history of the United States will help all students be better humans at the end of the day and it will also prevent history from repeating itself.

Joe Query | WINTHROP, WA

tom grych | Seaside, CA

Lies breed more lies. We must face and teach all of our history before we can affect real change for now and our future.

Mary Robb | Andover, MA

We must tell the whole story

Heidi Kwentus | Saint Louis, MO

Dana Morrison | Philadelphia, PA

Altheria Caldera | Haltom City, TX

education includes critical thinking about controversial issues!

Raymond Taddeo | Milton, DE

I believe in teaching the truth. I believe that you can love your country and also reckon with its history; the good and the bad. I believe that students deserve to be able to know about the history and growth of their country. They deserve to imagine an even better future than the one we've always imagined for the next generation. Anything less than that is a disservice to the country.

VJ Kopacki | King Of Prussia, PA

Heather Green | Philadelphia, PA

...because I want my students to have a fuller and more accurate history education than I received.

JOSHUA PETERS | Laurel, MD

We should never shy away from the truth. How can we raise young humans to become responsible adults if we do? It is important that our students know the entire truth, both the beautiful and ugly.

Leigha Walton-Bayne | Memphis, TN

The teaching of literature REQUIRES that its history be taught as well. For as the literature is often shaped by its history, so too must that history, however unpleasant, be taught responsibly and accurately. We educators must encourage a respectful discourse that such historical issues have and continue to shape our lives. How elitist is it only to teach an altered history that distorts the truth? Doing so only serves to deny the pain of those who were impacted by said history, and it minimizes accountability for those who perpetuated such egregious acts.

Ashley Weber | Olathe, KS

It is important for students to understand the consequences which the choices of groups of individuals have had all of us. The decisions made by the founders of our nation, the practices and beliefs they adhered to influenced the document designing our nation. Why would we want to hide any part of our past which we must examine closely in order to learn from it and move forward?

Beatrice McGeoch | Providence, RI

Zinn texts are a core part of the Bridge Curriculum at CCRI. I chose them because they enable us to teach history with an inclusive approach which is essential to the success of the adult students who have already faced so many barriers in traditional school. Teaching the truth is vital to effective education, and banning books that teach the truth is a threat to the same.

B Manker | Portland, OR

All voices and perspectives are welcomed and supported in my classroom. I will not be silenced by bigoted, racist, uninformed lawmakers.

Devon Holden | Tucson, AZ  
the truth matters.

Chris Gilbert | Canby, OR

our students deserve to understand the US history from diverse perspectives. They need to understand that it is deep and complex in order to make wise decisions in the future. Understanding that the US was built upon the backs of slaves, immigrants and migrants and the poor will help students to question the current power structure in our society.

Diane Codding | Newark, DE

Emily Woolever | Poughkeepsie, NY

History doesn't change, but our understanding of it does. We can not have a full understanding of ourselves as a country today without the full picture of our past. Omitting parts of our country's past because they are too terrible to face or because they are inconvenient to how we want to see ourselves is unacceptable. I have the courage to teach Hard History.

Bobbie Olson | Saint Paul, MN

All students benefit from learning the true history of the United States of America.

Guadalupe Ramirez | Munster, IN

My students are brilliant and powerful. Their history is their birthright. I will not rob them.

Rico Gutstein | Chicago, IL

Ben Riffle | Rockford, IL

Justine Freitas | New York, NY

Our young people deserve to know our history. It is owed to them, and the only way they can build a better future for themselves and our country.

Johanna Foster | Bronx, NY

We cannot move forward and heal in this country if we do not know our past.

Regan Anderson | Eugene, OR

Austin McCredie | Round Rock, TX

Ashlyn Neas-McCaul | Newport, TN

Gianni Gaudino | Philadelphia, PA

Victoria Breakstone | Walnut Creek, CA

The truth is crucial and I will not teach lies.

Barbara Kline | Annandale, VA

The truth should be taught.

Adam Jones | Memphis, TN

I believe that students should not be forced to believe something that is black or white, right or wrong. The purpose of teaching students ELA or history is for them to engage in the material, analyze arguments and perspectives, then find their voice and respond to controversial topics. Without this independence, classrooms will turn robotic and sad. Students need to know the cold facts about their history, while also being hopeful of the redemptive story important leaders have done to transform the United States.

Vivian Heller | Staatsburg, NY

I feel that education is the key to the future of this country, and that if we educate our young people to be blind to the injustices that are part of our history, those injustices stand little chance of being corrected.

Cheryl Mervine | Clarksboro, NJ

I believe that the truth is what will change the paradigm of sweeping under the rug in public schools. The truth will acknowledge the history that our students bring with them into school each day. They will be seen.

Connor Morris | Milwaukee, WI

Nick Bernardini | Philadelphia, PA

Pamela Castro | Palos Heights, IL

I believe that true and factual history should be taught to students. It is important to know how we got to where we are. When people do not know their history they doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Mary Lawrence | New Haven

Dawn Robinson | Auburn, WA

the only way out is through. We MUST teach the full truth about American history so that, instead of making the same choices that disenfranchise those within our borders, we make choices that include access for ALL.

Lisa Pilgrim | Austin, TX

I did not work as hard as I've worked to become an educator to be bullied by legislators who don't know anything about education or students' needs. I entered this field to support the development of free thinkers and self-advocates. I'm not going to stop.

Sharon Wheeler | Burlington, NC

I am trained as a middle school teacher and as a pastor it is important our youth understand all history including systematic racism.

Myleen Deguzman | Long Beach, CA

I am a U.S. History teacher that believes that students have the right to know the truth about the country in which they live and breathe. I want to empower my students to advocate for themselves and for their communities.

Jane Mizzi | Chicago, IL

Carrie Worra | Anacortes, WA

Margot Simonds OM

I believe our students deserve to learn the truth about history!

Raylene Dodson

VIRGINIA COOPER | Brooklyn, NY

Monica Moran | Inglewood, CA

Maya Angelou said it best, "History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage need not be lived again." This is the moment where we stand up and face history with courage so that we ensure the inequities we have faced are abolished.

Rebecca Clark | Seattle, WA

Megan Archer | Clackamas, OR  
*Black, Brown, and indigenous Lives Matter*

Amanda Geist | Croydon, PA

Tamika Walker Kelly | Raleigh, NC

*I believe we owe it to our students and ourselves to teach the world accurately in order to give students the tools to dismantle errors of the past. We can have a better world but we must be willing to be courageous and truthful.*

Michael Robbins | Raleigh, NC

*Every child has a right to education; one that showcases our progress, but also our faults. It's about telling the truth. Students are capable of thinking critically about the past to help understand present injustices and problem solve for a hopeful future. W.E.B DuBois stated in Black Reconstruction in America that "nations reel and stagger on their way; they make hideous mistakes; they commit frightful wrongs; they do great and beautiful things. And shall we not best guide humanity by telling the truth about all this..." Let us teach these things.*

Adam Holliday | Ft Mitchell, KY

*Students deserve to be treated with respect, which includes respecting them enough to share the difficult parts of our nation's history.*

Sara Samples | Oshkosh, WI

*Growth requires confronting painful realities*

Danielle Mooney | Bridgewater, MA

*We've denied our history long enough. Let's form the "more perfect" nation that the ancestors prescribed. That means constantly working to move closer to civil and human rights.*

Kerry Alexander | Austin, TX

*Our children deserve it.*

Dr. Pauline Schmidt | West Chester, PA

*Truth is important and our kids need to know it, learn it, and grow from it.*

Heather Godley | Greendale Village of, WI

*...our students deserve to learn about history and how it continues to affect us today. To do anything less is a disservice to students and to our democracy itself.*

Dana Phillips | Buda, TX

*We've come too far in recognizing, calling out, and growing to be more inclusive to go back. I will not perpetuate lies.*

Abby Saul | Chestnut Hill, MA

Sandy Glasser | Oshtemo Twp, MI

*I teach the truth!*

Lavandon Nelson | San Francisco, CA

*As a teacher, we have to do our part in dismantling injustice and oppression.*

Anna Smucker | Bridgeport, WV

*To paraphrase the words of esteemed former Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion, but NOT to their own FACTS.*

Maureen Sullivan | San Francisco, CA

Rosemary Q. Flores | Henderson, NV

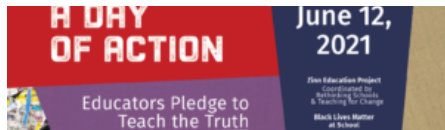
*The truth about the history of the U.S.A. must be learned to understand the structures in place. There's inequity in schools. The inequity has to be dismantled through truth.*

Deborah McElgin | Baton Rouge, LA

*Facts are important.*



## Related Resources



NEWS

### A Day of Action: Educators Pledge to Teach the Truth

To raise public awareness about the danger of the state bills that limit the teaching of history, educators will take a public stand at historic sites on Saturday, June 12, 2021.



NEWS

### Teachers Defy GOP Bills to Ban History Lessons

Thousands of teachers from across the United States have signed a pledge not to lie to their students.



NEWS

### Jesse Hagopian on CBS News: Decries GOP Attacks on Teaching History

Zinn Education Project team member and Rethinking Schools editor Jesse Hagopian spoke on CBS News about the increasing number of GOP bills to prohibit the teaching of Black history.



## 2 comments on "Pledge to Teach the Truth: Despite New State Bills Against It"

Marianne Golding on May 9th, 2021 - 5:20pm



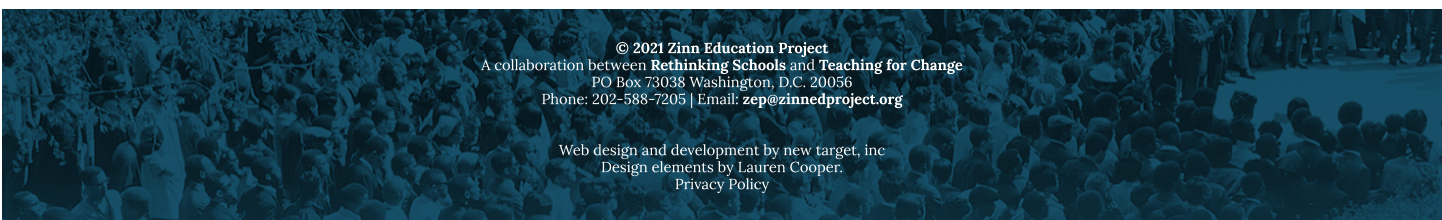
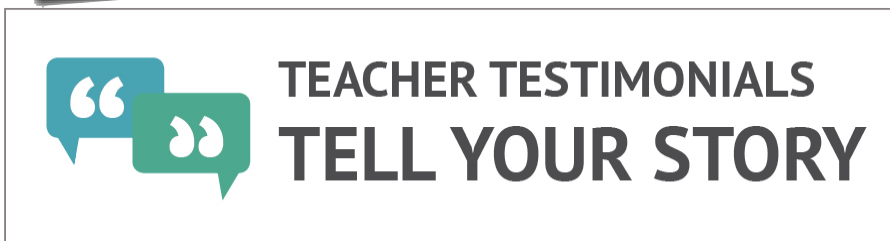
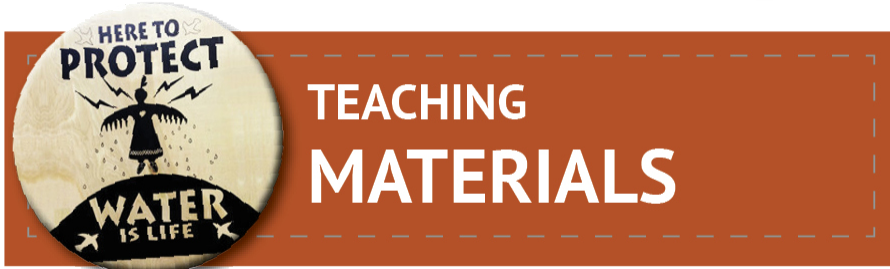
Yes, the truth of American history needs to be taught, but also its impact on the rest of the world, such as its role in WWII. I just finished teaching a college-level course on the Holocaust, and could not believe how little the students knew about the rest of the world's participation in the war! They seemed to believe that WWII was ended by the US alone!



Deborah Millikan on May 7th, 2021 - 4:13pm

Our young people deserve the truth and it is our kuleana (responsibility) to give space and opportunity for the truth and the difficult conversations.

Comments are closed.



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