

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 6-22-2021

Name: Karen Cain

Are you representing: **Organization**

Organization (If Applicable): Rocky River Citizens For Transparency

Position/Title: Trustee

Address: 1220 Orchard Park Dr.

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? **Yes**

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 327

Specific Issue: Critical Race Theory (CRT) in Ohio Schools

Are you testifying as a: **Proponent**

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? **No**

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? 4 minutes

Please provide a brief statement on your position: See Attachment.

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*

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## PROPONENT TESTIMONY

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DATE: 6-22-2021

TO: Members of the House State and Local Government Committee

FROM: Karen Cain

RE: Support for H.B. 327: Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, or Promoting Divisive Concepts

Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee, I appreciate the members of this committee hearing proponent testimony on House Bill 327, legislation declaring that Ohio Prohibit Teaching, Advocating, or Promoting Divisive Concepts.

Enter testimony here and sign and date.

I am Karen Cain, and on behalf of Rocky River Citizens for Transparency, I am here to talk about our Rocky River teachers. They are subjected to training from the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio, and as a result, they face an environment of fear and intimidation. Teachers are afraid to speak out about what they have seen and experienced in our school district. So, I am here to speak about the teacher's experiences from stories they have told.

The teachers in our district are required to participate in 5 hrs every year of DCNEO teacher training. They are removed from their classrooms, substitutes are hired to manage their students, and they cannot opt out of the diversity training. They are required to participate in role play activities in which they feel watched to make sure they do what the thought police want them to do. If any dare to challenge the agenda, such dissenters are sharply corrected.

Teachers were shown a video by a DCNEO instructor featuring a black lesbian adult female interviewing a middle school aged boy about his sexuality. Teachers are encouraged to eliminate "gendered" activities and to select books for their "diversity content."

Teachers have been taught in sex and gender acceptance training to use pronouns and names that don't fit the biology of the child. They are required to discuss scenarios like when a student is being misgendered even after asking their classmates to use their pronouns. The teachers are not given two sides to consider in these scenarios, but only one acceptable approach, one that sides with the transgender kid and silences any peers who think their classmate is still the biological sex that they used to be known by.

Teachers have been taught to use terms like "sex assigned at birth female or male." Sex has been separated from gender and students are encouraged to question whether their gender is the same as their sex.

Teachers are encouraged to rehearse responses for parents who object that their children are too young to be talking about LGBTQ content. Teachers are given ways to respond to "misguided" parents who do not want teachers encouraging their child's transgender ideas, alternate names, or pronouns.

This undermines parents' authority. It is the epitome of a "divisive concept" because it tears families apart. Shouldn't parents have more authority than the school when it comes to teaching their own children about sex?

Teachers have been trained that they need to beware of their conscious and unconscious bias otherwise they may "teach lessons they didn't intend" and unknowingly abuse students. Teachers have been taught to question their religious faith. Teachers have been trained that minorities are worse off than white people from similar neighborhoods. Teachers have been taught that racism is an abuse that only flows in one direction... that only people of color can be discriminated against. Teachers have been taught that whites should be discriminated against when it advances the cause of minorities.

Teaching divisive content is not just happening to our students; it is happening to our teachers. They have this indoctrination shoved down their throats whether they like it or not. They are expected to use this compelled speech. For the sake of the children and the teachers, please pass House Bill 327 and prohibit the teaching of these divisive concepts that are harming our schools.

*Karen L. Cain 6-22-2021*