

"Divisive Concepts" need not be divisive. This bill ignores the fact that we all see the world somewhat differently based on where we are raised, by whom, our schools, church and much more. If we cannot discuss these 'divisive concepts' even in institutions of higher learning, we cannot grow and understand. We cannot overcome the divide.

Just because we do not talk about something uncomfortable or controversial, does not mean it does not exist. It is our **right** to do so in a responsible manner. We must accept that due to someone's circumstances, they may see this issue differently than us. That is exactly why the discussions **MUST** continue. If swept under the rug, we will never get past the obstacles that divide us.

The discussions should be age-appropriate. Educators are uniquely situated to do this job with the support of parents and school administration. Furthermore, we must prepare our teachers to facilitate these discussions towards a positive outcome for all. It is time to come together and do hard things to move us toward a better path.

Anita Burton-Heck (she/her)

513-331-3311