

Ohio House Bill 322

I know it's unusual to start a speech with a summary, but that's exactly what I'm going to do here. In short, supporters of Critical Race Theory (CRT) teach how racism shaped public policy and life in America. Opponents, like the sponsors and supporters of Ohio House Bill 322, call it a dangerous and divisive theory.

Why? Here are a couple of examples: 1) Do you know that middle-schoolers in California were given a "homework assignment" to accomplish over the summer? They were instructed to read a paper entitled, Why I'm a Racist, by Jeff Cook. After reading this book, they were to do a book report on it explaining, LITERALLY, why THEY were a racist. 2) Do you know that 6- and 7-year-olds are now going home and asking their parents if they are racist? Do you know that they are asking their parents why they're being raised to be a racist? Do you want this in Ohio?

CRT indoctrinates ALL children to look at EVERYTHING through a "race first lens". White children are asked to examine their "whiteness" and "check their privilege". It is an ANTI-American doctrine that has no place in any Ohio school – or any school in this entire country / world, for that matter! The core of CRT is that white people are oppressors and irredeemable, and any race other than white are the oppressed and losers of society. It's a package of hate speech wrapped in the lies of the idea that systemic racism infects all forms of American life. This is a falsehood that should NOT be taught in our school systems. It goes totally against what Martin Luther King, Jr. preached ... that we should support the principals of equality – NOT equity – and that we need to evaluate each other on our personal character rather than the color of our skin. Now proponents of CRT say that Martin Luther King's speech was racist – absolutely UNBELIEVEABLE!

I have a personal story to relate. When I was 10 years old, I invited several friends to a pool party. My sister, who is 6-1/2 years older than me, asked me when I started being friends with a "black kid". LITERALLY, until that VERY MOMENT, I never saw Erica as "black". She was a friend and an absolute sweetheart. 20/20 vision now makes me wonder if my sister, who was in high school at the time, was very subtly being indoctrinated regarding race even back in the late 1960s. Now there's no subtlety about it. It's in our faces and it disgusts me. You may ask the reason for this personal account. Here you go ... children do not look at people on the basis of race until they are TAUGHT to do so. And THAT's what Critical Race Theory does!

My first lesson in race came to me when I was just 10 years old. NOW it's being taught to children as young as 5 & 6 years old. How DARE school boards and teachers allow CRT in our school system! They will be raising racists that will beget more racists and the outcome will be that this state, and our entire country, will never survive it. I implore you to pass HB 322 and disallow CRT from ever being taught in any Ohio classroom.

Thank you,

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