

Community's Truth Matters for Students Toolkit

EDUCOLOR



A resource for community members who want their local schools to #teachtruth in an age of censorship and misinformation. Thoughtfully brought to you by the folks at EduColor and The Expectations Project.

What's going on?



The CRT bans occurring across the country are intended to incite fear and alarm. CRT bans limiting students' education do not have students' well-being in mind. A consistent pattern in CRT bans is criminalizing anything that examines systems of oppression and the unequal distribution of power—in other words teaching the truth. Therefore, we must equip and empower ourselves and our children to resist the restrictions and gain access to quality education.

Why does teaching truth matter?



Students deserve a school system that honors its ethical responsibility not to knowingly teach false or distorted information. More importantly, unless schools support students in developing a full and honest understanding of the history and current realities of the world you're inheriting, they do students harm by distorting their view of themselves, of the situations they must confront, and of the society they will one day change and lead. This is especially important for students of color who have a long tradition in this country of resisting racist systems.

What can I do to fight back?

Connect!

Find other people or groups who want truth taught so you can support each other.



Learn!

Find current, accurate information on the anti-CRT policies affecting schools in your community.



Support!

Seek out local teachers/educators who are teaching truth to offer your support.



Show Up!

Attend school board meetings, organizing meetings and other events to where you can support parents, students and teachers in advocating.



Who can I talk to?

You can go to the local school board meeting and make a statement about the need for anti racist teaching and how you support this for students in your community. Turning to them to demand the teaching of truth shows it's valued in your community.

KEY TERMS:

Anti-racism: A proactive approach to policies, practices, and procedures to promote racial equity. **Critical Race Theory:** An academic framework for critically examining the extent to which racism is embedded in U.S. law. **Culturally Responsive Education:** A research based method of teaching that integrates student's lived experiences, cultures, and languages into curriculum. **Equity:** An approach to education that ensures everyone has access to the resources they need to be successful. **1619 Project:** A journalism initiative developed by Nikole Hannah-Jones, which seeks to center the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans in the American historical narrative.