

# Parent's Truth Matters for Students Toolkit

EDUCOLOR



A resource for parents 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 Black students who have a long tradition in this country of resisting racist systems.

## What can I do to fight back?

### Connect!

Find other parents and community members 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.

### Speak Up!

Talk to your children's teachers & administrators about why teaching truth matters to you.

### Show Up!

Attend school board meetings, organize meetings and other events where you can advocate for your children.

## Who can I talk to?

Always begin with your student's teacher. Ask them what they're doing to address anti racist teaching ideas and how they're incorporating it into their lessons. If you need further support, then find the director of curriculum or the department chair. If they cannot answer those questions, then consider talking to the Assistant Principal. After that, you can turn to the Principal and ultimately the School Board.

**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.