

# RESOURCES for FURTHER LEARNING Understanding the Anti-CRT (Critical Race Theory) Movement

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## • In Federal & State Law •

Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping (<u>Executive Order 13950</u> of September 22, 2020)

A Presidential Document by the Executive Office of the President.

"Thanks to the courage and sacrifice of our forebears, America has made significant progress toward realization of our national creed, particularly in the 57 years since Dr. King shared his dream with the country.

Today, however, many people are pushing a different vision of America that is grounded in hierarchies based on collective social and political identities rather than in the inherent and equal dignity of every person as an individual. This ideology is rooted in the pernicious and false belief that America is an irredeemably racist and sexist country; that some people, simply on account of their race or sex, are oppressors; and that racial and sexual identities are more important than our common status as human beings and Americans."

## Wisconsin <u>2021 SENATE BILL 411</u> introduced in June 2021; now in committee https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/proposals/sb411

Among the concepts that are prohibited from being taught under the bill are: that one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex and that an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for acts committed in the past by other individuals of the same race or sex. The bill provides that the state superintendent of public instruction must withhold 10 percent of state aid distributions from a school board or operator that violates these prohibitions. The bill also provides that a parent or guardian of a student may bring a claim against a school district or operator of a charter school for violation of the prohibitions.

### What is CRT & What is the Anti-CRT Movement about?

Why are states lining up to ban critical race theory? Nathan M. Greenfield, University World News, June 12, 2021.

What Is Critical Race Theory, and Why Is It Under Attack? Education Week, May 2021.

What should Wisconsin kids learn about race in schools? How a proposed law is stoking the debate over 'critical race theory'. Devi Shastri & Amy Schwabe, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, July 2, 2021 A good article that includes a factual 2 minute explainer video by USA Today re: the FAQs of CRT.

## Texas school official says classrooms with books on Holocaust must offer 'opposing' views

In a recording obtained by NBC News, curriculum director describes 'political mess' after passage of state law. The Guardian, Oct 14, 2021.

<u>Death threats, online abuse, police protection: School board members face dark new reality.</u>
Washington Post, 11/9/21

## Banning Toni Morrison's books doesn't protect kids. It just sanitizes racism.

'Beloved' and other works by the Nobel laureate have faced censorship battles before. Washington Post, 10/28/21.

Opinion: The cold truth about Republicans' hot air over critical race theory. Eugene Robinson, New York Times, June 28, 2021. A concise, precise argument with historical facts to back it up.

<u>#Truth Be Told Campaign</u> of the African American Policy Forum, founded and co-directed by Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw, legal scholar (Columbia University) and an early Critical Race researcher and writer, coiner of the term "intersectionality."

"After unprecedented global protests for racial justice that followed the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, right-wing groups across America instigated and intensified well-funded, orchestrated disinformation campaigns against critical race theory, intersectionality, and other forms of racial and gender justice discourse. Starting with Donald Trump's <a href="Equity Gag Order">Equity Gag Order</a> banning federal agencies, contractors, and grant recipients from conducting trainings and programs that address systemic racism and sexism, this campaign has now morphed into a full-on war against racial and gender justice itself....

Across the country, this moral panic over what and how we learn about history has led to teachers being fired and courses canceled. Parents have been deceived, tensions have been stoked, and over a half century of efforts to amend the misleading narratives about our history are being reversed. If you marched last year for George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, if your eyes were opened by what you have seen and learned about race and racism in our society, if you have witnessed the value of anti-racist education in your own and in your children's lives, then don't be confused by the lies."

#### FUNDERS & OTHER NATIONAL SUPPORTERS OF THE ANTI-CRT MOVEMENT

**Uncovering Who Is Driving The Fight Against Critical Race Theory In Schools** 

The obscure foundation funding "Critical Race Theory" hysteria

<u>Conservative groups are training activists to swarm school board meetings.</u> Spectrum News, July 2021

## • ANTI-CRT'S USE OF HOLOCAUST IMAGERY, HOLOCAUST EDUCATION & ANTI-SEMITISM •

<u>Carroll ISD superintendent issues apology, clarification regarding Holocaust comment administrator</u> <u>made during staff training.</u> Community Impact Newspaper, Oct 14, 2021.

'It's the Jews': An antisemitic tirade at an Arizona school board meeting spurs a response, and a debate. Forward, November 2, 2021.

Extremists See Critical Race Theory as Evidence of "White Genocide", ADL (Anti-Defamation League), June 2021.

Holocaust education for Wisconsin students required for grades 5-12. Fox News, April 2021

'Hateful' mummy blogger slammed for vile comparison of 'segregated' anti-vaxxers to Jewish Holocaust victims - after she pinned Star of David on her kids and dressed in striped prison gear. Daily Mail, Oct 2021.

<u>Can aggressors be 'victims'? Ideologues on the right think so.</u> When anti-maskers wear yellow stars, the real victims of extremism are pushed out of the spotlight. Washington Post, Nov 1, 2021.

## • Example: The Mequon-Thiensville School Board Recall •

Mequon-Thiensville School Board candidate, Kleefisch campaign team member deletes tweets on white supremacy, transgender issues. Journal Sentinel Online, 10/19/21.

Mequon-Thiensville recall fails to unseat any school board members after high-spending race with national attention. Journal Sentinel Online, 11/2/21.

## • How Opponents Explain Their Views of CRT •

<u>Critical Race Theory, the New Intolerance and Its Grip on America.</u> Heritage Foundation. Dec 2020 Heritage, founded in 1973, is one of the most influential conservative think tanks in the USA and helps develop politically conservative public policies and laws.

<u>Sen. Kennedy blasts critical race theory 'fairytale' promoted by the left: 'Dumb as a bag of hair'</u>
Largest teachers union now endorses controversial curriculum. Fox News, July 2021.

<u>Critical Race Theory In Wisconsin K12 Education</u>, McIver Institute, May 2021.

"Christopher Rufo, Director of the Initiative on Critical Race Theory at the Manhattan Institute, writes that "Critical Race Theory prescribes a revolutionary program that would overturn the principles of the Declaration of Independence and destroy the remaining structure of the Constitution."

Critical Race Theory replaces the founding principles of this country such as equality, excellence and equal protection under the law and replaces them with the communist ideal of equity, that is, every American, no matter their ability, work ethic or moral fiber, should end

up achieving the same result. Instead of every single one of us, no matter the color of our skin, no matter our ethnicity or our current lot in life, being guaranteed certain unalienable rights by our Creator, under CRT, we would be dictated to by the all-mighty government that no matter our individual merit, ability or talent, we will all end up in the same place, an equal place."

## • RELATED ACTIVITIES OF ANTI-CRT EXTREMISTS •

## Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism, White Supremacy, and Far-Right Militancy in Law Enforcement.

The government's response to known connections of law enforcement officers to violent racist and militant groups has been strikingly insufficient. Brennan Center, August 2020.

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A Former Far-Right Extremist Testified About How "Unite The Right" Rally Organizers Planned For A Racial Holy War. Buzzfeed News, November 2, 2021.

Samantha Froelich said she overheard white nationalists discussing "right-wing death squads" for the 2017 Charlottesville rally and the legality of using cars as weapons against counterprotesters.

The hidden agenda in GOP attacks on critical race theory. Berkeley News, July 2021

#### American Insurrection, PBS documentary film, 2021

Over the last three years, FRONTLINE has collaborated with ProPublica to investigate the rise of extremism in America. In the aftermath of the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol, FRONTLINE, ProPublica and Berkeley Journalism's Investigative Reporting Program team up to examine how far-right extremist groups have evolved in the wake of the deadly 2017 Charlottesville rally — and the threat they pose today.