

Anti-Racist Task Force

Kent State University School of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Studies

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TLC's Vision: Fostering courageous thought, innovative research and practices, and local and global community engagement for a more just world.

Welcome!

On November 5, the Anti-Racist Task Force held a critical conversation about two pieces of legislation currently in the State and Local Government Committee of the House. We'd like to offer gratitude to all who came and contributed their brilliance (including our wonderful graduate students)! Our conversation focused on how the legislation has been modified several times, and how much of the language contained in it is troubling for educators across the state. The legislation impacts K-12 and higher education and while we agree with much of it, there are many aspects that would constrain our teaching and our programs, not to mention what our students will be able to do in their future classrooms.

We also want to offer resources for those of you who could not attend the conversation, but might be interested in learning more about what's at stake. Below you'll find links to items that have been helpful to us in our continued thinking around these issues. We hope you read/view/listen to the resources and consider sharing them with your professional and personal networks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Anti-Racist Task Force at ARTF-TLC@kent.edu.

Anti-Racist Task Force: Rhonda Hylton, Elizabeth Kenyon, Doug Ellison, Lisa Testa, Bridget Mulvey, Jen Walton-Fisette, Marty Lash, and Francisco Torres

The Bills

[HB 327 Bill Analysis](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=16997&format=pdf) [https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=16997&format=pdf]

This is the summary of HB 327 as initially introduced. Pay close attention to the divisive concepts as outlined here as they are very important in all forms of the legislation.

[SB 327 Comparison](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17680&format=pdf) [https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17680&format=pdf]

This shows how the bill has evolved over two iterations. Note the consequences for recklessly not complying with the law for both K-12 teachers and state institutions of higher education.

[HB 322 Bill Analysis](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17005&format=pdf) [https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=17005&format=pdf]

This is a similar bill that is also in the same committee (state and local government committee). This one applies to K-12 schools and teachers.

Organizations Working Against the Bills

[Ohio AAUP: Teaching About Race](https://www.aaup.org/issues/teaching-about-race) [https://www.aaup.org/issues/teaching-about-race]

[Ohio Council of Social Studies: House Bill 322 & 327](https://ocss.org/House-Bill-322-&-327) [https://ocss.org/House-Bill-322-&-327]

[Ohio League of Women Voters: Why Honesty in Education Matters | LWV Ohio](https://www.lwvohio.org/honesteducationmatters)
[https://www.lwvohio.org/honesteducationmatters]

How to Write and Submit Testimony

Here are [videos from the workshop with the Ohio Poverty Law Center](#) that Elizabeth attended.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10nq2xKAbKmrR7LRxKkASkgqzceQvM_8DoCqfOO7BC1E/edit?usp=sharing]

You can watch the entire training or the parts that matter most to you. There are also written instructions linked here. The “Changing the Narrative” segment has some clips from the first hearing from the bills that are helpful to listen to.

This is from the League of Women Voters: [Statehouse](#)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/18uTA26ATX1NuOJ8vtsFZtvSUoMEFDnZ_ko71_xfDoo4/edit#]

Learn More!

[Gloria Ladson-Billings - Critical Race Theory](#)

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufKusk6dQI8>]

This is a great one to share with your students - a brief 10 minute video of Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings explaining Critical Race Theory.

[What is the impact of not talking about race?](#)

[<https://www.dispatch.com/story/opinion/columns/guest/2021/10/25/what-impact-not-talking-race/6139490001/>]

This is a great article from the Columbus Dispatch. The video at the top is also really important and helpful for understanding multiple perspectives and arguments.

[IMKC Podcast Episodes | AAPF](#)

[<https://www.aapf.org/imkc-podcast-episodes>]

This is the Intersectionality Matters podcast with Kimberlé Crenshaw.

This episode is particularly relevant to the conversation about CRT legislation:

[Stream 39. The Insurgent Origins of Critical Race Theory by Intersectionality Matters with Kimberlé Crenshaw](#)

[<https://soundcloud.com/intersectionality-matters/39-looking-back-to-move-forward-the-insurgent-origins-of-critical-race-theory>]

[Teaching Race And History In America's Schools : 1A](#)

[<https://www.npr.org/2021/06/08/1004430386/teaching-race-and-history-in-americas-schools>]

This gets to the larger debates around what history we teach in schools.

[Uncovering Who Is Driving The Fight Against Critical Race Theory In Schools](#)

[<https://www.npr.org/2021/06/24/1009839021/uncovering-who-is-driving-the-fight-against-critical-race-theory-in-schools>]

This Fresh Air episode is with a journalist who has been tracing the movement against more critical history from local to national levels.

Organization supporting the legislation: [Protect Ohio Children Coalition](#) [<https://protectohiochildren.net/>]

This is an organization who is supporting the legislation and is working at the school board level as well. It is helpful to see their reasoning/understanding of the issue and also see what is already set up to report “CRT in schools.”