



TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

Summer 2021

Dear Eagles,

Before my children were born, I worked for Zig Ziglar, a world-famous motivational speaker and believer in Jesus Christ. When anyone asked him, “How are you?”, his answer was always, “Super good, but I’ll get better!” I have lived most of my adult life with that attitude, trying to never feel discouraged fighting to ensure Texas families have every opportunity to thrive. While a positive attitude can help us keep going, we have to realize our Nation is in real danger.

As patriotic citizens, who love our country, we must stay involved. Our Nation is under attack from the Marxist revolutionaries who are now in power. We are facing growing dangers on so many fronts—in education, election integrity, economics, immigration, and foreign policy. The good news is many people are waking up and joining us, but if we collectively don’t exercise our God-given rights and privileges to speak up, we will lose them. Now is not the time for the faint-of-heart. Pray for wisdom and guidance on how YOU can make a difference. Yes, Jesus is coming back soon, but we are told to “occupy” until His return.

In the past, we have taken the summer months to create our Legislative Scorecard and enjoy time with our families, but when Governor Greg Abbott called the 30-day special sessions, Texas Eagle Forum was there to continue the fight for Texas families.

The first special session opened with high hopes, but House Democrats refused to do their job and cowardly flew to Washington, D.C. to avoid a quorum. Left on the table once again was important legislation on election integrity, improving the ban on Critical Race Theory (CRT) in public schools, and protecting minors from gender modification.

While the Democrats carry the blame for running out on their duty to Texas, there are others who thwarted good legislation, including the Republican Speaker of the House, Dade Phelan. Despite opposition from his own party, he appointed Democrats as chairmen of important committees, who then let good bills they opposed die in committee in the regular session. Republicans have the majority—all committees should have been headed by Republicans who support our platform. Speaker Phelan should have stripped the Democrat chairs of their position when they abandoned their seats and replaced them with strong Republicans. We believe he must be replaced in 2023, unless we see impactful efforts to support the platform.

TEF can’t ignore the fact that, during the regular session, a couple of Republican committee chairs were instrumental in allowing priority bills to die in their committee, rather than getting a transparent vote on the floor. This protects “R’s” who are actually not conservative at all, and who ignore the priorities of the party’s grassroots.

(over, please)

The second special session has finally achieved a quorum and is racing forward to pass bills, some of them good and a few terrible. In this special session, we witnessed the Senate pass several bills which still contain some concerning language, so we are working with several legislative offices to try to “fine tune” them before they get to the floor of the House. Some stronger bills have been filed in the House but, at this writing, have not yet been assigned to a committee.

We need YOUR help in getting the House to improve Senate bills. PLEASE sign up for our *Alerts* to be informed on current bills and issues, enabling you to succinctly explain your concerns to your legislators. We know informed citizens are critical to getting things done right. You can go to our website at TexasEagleForum.com to sign up online, or email us at TEF@TexasEagleForum.com and ask to be placed on our Alert list.

This month’s *Torch* features TEF Education Chair Karole Fedrick’s excellent overview of Critical Race Theory (CRT) invading our public schools and universities. In addition, we give steps on how to combat CRT in your school, thanks to a comprehensive “A-Z CRT Toolkit” from Citizens For Renewing America. Thomas Jefferson once said, “An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free country.” We couldn’t agree more. Please pass the information on to your family and friends and again encourage them to get involved.

I am honored to be a part of “The Wooden Spoon Brigade,” a group of wonderful, spunky, conservative mamas who all worked hard during the regular session to fight for good government. Headed by JoAnn Fleming of “We the People,” the other ladies and I are on the “Texas Conservative Mamas Truth Tour,” shining the light on the Legislative Sessions. If you are a leader of a group, we would be happy to schedule an event in your area. It has been fun to meet Eagles throughout the State! If you are at one of our events, please say hello.

TEF is pleased former state legislator Matt Rinaldi was elected the new Chairman of the Texas Republican Party. Matt is a stalwart conservative who will fight for Republican principles and represent us well.

We at Texas Eagle Forum strive to keep you informed and engaged. Please heed the call to take a stand as activist citizens and help us in the battle for liberty and freedom in Texas and our Nation.

Thank you for your prayers and financial gifts. We couldn’t do what we do without your support. God bless Texas and the United States of America!

Faithfully,



Cindi Castilla
President of Texas Eagle Forum

THE TORCH

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A Brief Overview of Critical Race Theory

By **Karole Fedrick**, Texas Eagle Forum Education Chair

The goal is the destruction of America, our families, and our children.

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is Marxism specifically tailored for the U.S. Marxism sees the world as a battleground with two groups of people—the **oppressed**, and the **oppressors**. In their deception, they believe **it is their moral duty to liberate those who are oppressed to create a utopian world of peace through equity**.

Traditional Marxism divides groups between oppressed and oppressor based on private ownership. The oppressors are the “bourgeoisie”—those who own the means of production as private property in a capitalist economic system. The oppressed are the

workers. The only way to change the status quo is by creating conflict between the two groups, aka Conflict Theory.

American Marxists want to socialize everything, too, but because of our existing rights to private ownership and the number of property owners, the fastest way to seize private property here (without bloodshed) is to **deconstruct** our society through a cultural revolution by creating conflict however possible. With Marxism, “The issue is never the issue. The issue is always the revolution.”

Conflict Theory produced Critical Theory which produced Cultural Marxism which translates into American Critical Race Theory—CRT. The goal is the same—create conflict to divide and conquer by

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using a false inflammatory narrative that stokes division based primarily on race, sex, and sexual identity, instead of property owners and non-property owners.

As with traditional Marxism, CRT views society as **two groups**. It denies the uniqueness, rights, and personal responsibility of the **individual**. CRT **discriminates** against white people as a group. It demeans individuals by labeling them **all** as oppressors, all of whom are **judged guilty** for all offenses ever committed against **people of color**—the oppressed group. According to CRT, all of those offenses are part of the **racist system** that began with the founding of America. The result has been a disparity between the two groups which requires **reparations** through **redistributive racial justice** to achieve **equity**.

To make the Marxism easier to sell here, the language has been softened publicly from oppressor and oppressed to **privileged** and **underprivileged**. Regardless of anyone's actual achievements, or private ownership **all whites are privileged**, while **all people of color are underprivileged**. Some are more privileged than others—wealthy Christian heterosexual white males are the most privileged.

White privilege is not limited to whites. People who “think white”—have a good work ethic, study hard, get good grades, use good English, think rationally, are punctual, plan for the future, believe in a nuclear family, believe in the God of the Bible, own anything, etc.,—are also part of the white privilege group regardless of their skin color. Lists of white stereotypes reveal items of white privilege and grade how privileged people are. Regardless of age, whites are told they must **deconstruct** who they are and come up with a new identity created in the image of the CRT ideal.

Little white kids are held responsible for the sins of their fathers, too. Leander ISD uses a power wheel to teach 7th graders the different levels of power of twelve classifications to help them understand and renounce their privileged status. **By changing their gender identity** to anything other than heterosexual, students can lower their privilege level and become less oppressive.

CRT has become a hot topic as more people become aware of what it is and how it is being used in education, corporate, government, and military training. Based on the technicality that “Critical Theory” is a legal theory taught in law schools, those who push CRT deny it is being taught in K-12.

Rather than using the label, **look for the concepts**. Several were defined in House Bill 3979 and other legislative bills that will prohibit teaching the following concepts in Social Studies, Civics, and History:

(ii) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;

(iii) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex;

(iv) an individual's moral character, standing, or worth is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex;

(v) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex;

(vi) an individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or

any other form of psychological distress on account of the individual's race or sex;

(vii) meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race;

(viii) the advent of slavery in the territory that is now the United States constituted the true founding of the United States;”

Know, too, that CRT has permeated most instruction, including Language Arts, Social Emotional Learning (SEL), anti-bullying programs, etc., **so look for CRT terms like diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)**. There is nothing inherently wrong with those terms, but they are misrepresented by CRT activists and weaponized to advance their agenda and cause division, instill guilt, and produce reverse discrimination.

Equity is the driving force and means achieving equal outcomes, not providing equal opportunity. In CRT education-speak, “equity” means reducing or eliminating opportunities for students to reach their individual highest potential, so that 1) more resources and time can be allocated to less privileged groups, and, 2) setting expectations at a level achievable by everyone. For example, Boston schools have removed advanced learning classes, because they are unfairly overrepresented by whites and Asians.

In conclusion, CRT is Marxism. Marxism in any version is a godless, anti-Christ system, which denies the very foundations of God's Word in Genesis 1-3. It denies the existence of God, denies creation, denies man's creation as male and female, denies the family unit as God designed it, denies Christ, and labels it all as racist.

As our country moves farther away from the truth of God, we are watching the darkness of Marxism spread over our land in boardrooms, classrooms, and backrooms, and into Sunday school rooms and pulpits. Churches are being deceived and having their ears tickled with “racial justice” and a “social justice” gospel. Neither “justice” nor “gospel” have adjectives; there is only God's justice, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Churches proudly tolerate things that are intolerable to our Father, all designed by our enemy to destroy the foundations.

If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? Ultimately, the battle is the Lord's, but freedom-loving Americans must rally to reclaim our beloved Constitutional Republic and protect our children from the hands of those intent on our destruction. The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but God wants us to know the freedom that only truth can bring. Pray! Get educated! And stand!

NOTE: HB 3979 was signed into law after the Regular 87th Session. It's a start but quite imperfect. It only bans teaching the concepts of CRT in Social Studies classes and has an odd list of resources if the goal is to teach American Civics. The Governor added this issue to the first Special Session and two bills were filed. The Senate passed an imperfect bill (SB 3), and the House did not get to deal with HB 178, a strong bill which adds parental transparency, removes extraneous resources, and applies the ban created in 3979 to all instruction.

As much as we are frustrated with the Democrats for abandoning their duty to serve as elected officials, we are using the time to work toward getting our legislators to perfect these bills. SB 3 needs the expensive and delayed teacher training removed (it is a back door to getting the banned concepts taught despite the law), and it should add the same transparency as the

House version. Both versions need some language tweaks to keep these Marxist and divisive concepts away from our children. Sen. Jane Nelson added “Media Literacy” to SB 3, a code word for CRT ideas. Sign up for our Alerts at TexasEagleForum.com to help us get CRT out of Texas Schools. Please read the enclosed letter for information on how you can help right now.

Ten Steps on How to Combat CRT in Your School

Excerpts from “Toolkit: Combatting CRT In Your Community,” Citizens for Renewing America, 6/8/21

If CRT is being used in your schools, there is no time to waste! If it is not, now is the time to get involved in your local school boards and community before radical CRT activists take over and you have a real mess on your hands.

Here are some helpful steps to get you started:

1. Examine the materials your child is bringing home from school.
2. Examine school district websites. What types of materials, training, or departments and programs are publicly listed? Do they have diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) materials or offices? If so, review them to see if they utilize a CRT framework. They often do.
3. Much of what you seek may not be front-facing or readily available. Learn how to make public records requests through either the Freedom of Information Act for federal documents, or through public information request processes required by your local government entities and school boards.
4. Contact your elected school board members and ask them their position on CRT. Check out their social media accounts and review their public commentary.
5. Attend your local school board meetings. Getting your elected officials on record is helpful, and non-answers can be revealing.

6. Build a movement to help you raise awareness of the problem and create support for correcting the problem. Start with those closest to you, including your family and friends. Get them up to speed on this issue and make sure they are aligned with you. (TEF resources can help!)
7. Identify everyone you or your friends know that may be concerned about stopping CRT in your schools.
8. Organize your grassroots group. If such a group already exists, join them. You will need motivated, articulate, respectable, and dynamic people to lead and be the spokespersons.
9. You may need legal help. If you have parents who are lawyers, urge them to organize and advise on efforts. Work with vetted and legitimate organizations for support and training.
10. Stay the course. Strength and influence in politics usually boils down to how many people are for or against something—the larger the number of people on your side, the more likely you will succeed. (Pack those school board meetings!)

There is a wealth of information and helpful strategies in Citizens For Renewing America’s Toolkit. If we work together, we can take back our schools from the Left’s American Marxism. Our kids deserve to know what an exceptional country we live in.

CRT: The Great Divide

A new survey by the Heritage Foundation of more than 2,000 parents and teachers shows significant divides about teaching CRT. Fifty-eight percent of Republican parents reject CRT; 60 percent of Democratic parents support it. The divide is even stronger among teachers: 66 percent of Democrats support it, while 61 percent of Republican teachers reject it. Furthermore, urban teachers in support reached 60 percent, compared with rural teachers’ 31 percent. But there is a large consensus that civic content should focus on the rights and duties of citizenship over CRT. Almost 83 percent of teachers and 68 percent of parents placed this topic in an ideal civics curriculum. In other words, parents and teachers overwhelmingly believe that students benefit from civic education on the core function of government and guidance on how to carry out the duties of a citizen. That unity makes us optimistic.

SOURCE: “Most Parents and Teachers Are Done With Critical Race Theory,” Heritage Foundation, 7/7/21

NEA Website Scrubs CRT Resolutions

Dozens of pages of proposed resolutions disappeared from the National Education Association’s (NEA) website just days after the largest teachers union held their annual conference “remotely” in late June. The pages provided the status of resolutions that “convey the consensus of the NEA members for all of the positions the Association may take on education and social justice issues.” One of the resolutions that disappeared was the New Business Item 39, which conveyed the NEA’s desire to “fight back against anti-CRT rhetoric.” That resolution passed. Another that passed—New Business Item 2—said the “NEA will research organizations attacking educators doing anti-racist work and ... put together a list of resources and recommendations ... to utilize when they are attacked.” Heritage Foundation’s Jessica Anderson asks, “Why are they covering up their support for CRT?” No comment from the NEA.

SOURCE: Tyler Olson, Fox News, 7/6/21



EAGLE *Cliff Notes*

MO College Sues Biden Administration Over Directive to Open Women's Dorms to Men

In April, Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) attorneys representing the College of the Ozarks filed a lawsuit to halt a Biden administration directive that would force the small private Christian college to violate their religious beliefs by opening their sex-specific dorm rooms and shared shower spaces to members of the opposite sex. The Housing and Urban Development directive requires private religious colleges to place biological males who identify as female into female dormitories and to assign them as females' roommates. The college faces "serious fines and penalties and potential liability" if it does not comply. An injunction seeking to halt the directive while the lawsuit moved forward was denied in May, but the 8th Circuit recently granted ADF's request to expedite the case and hear oral arguments in November. "The Biden administration's unilateral actions violate women's privacy and religious liberty," writes College of Ozarks President, Dr. Jerry C. Davis. SOURCE: Jerry C. Davis, "Uncle Sam does not belong in Girls' Dorms or Showers," nationalreview.com, 4/27/21, and adfmedia.org, 7/30/21

Biden Just Guaranteed More Chinese Espionage in U.S.

For nearly two years now, the FBI has nabbed dozens of Chinese Communist Party spies who, while posing as graduate students and research scholars at top academic institutions, siphoned out America's most cutting-edge national defense material for untold years. The spies found an unguarded path through America's cultural exchange and student visa programs. All of the arrested Chinese spies used the J and F visas to relieve top American research institutions and their naive professors of their most sensitive and prized national defense research. Recently, the Biden Department of Homeland Security (DHS) withdrew a 2020 regulation that the Trump administration had proposed to force the J and V visa holders of 59 countries to renew them every two or four years, plenty to complete an average graduate degree program or research project. The most valuable part of the process would have had DHS conduct highly useful interviews with renewal applicants. The agents also would collect biometric information, spot-check progress at academic institutions, and double-check that originally claimed purposes remained valid going forward. But no more.

SOURCE: Todd Bensman, "Joe Biden Just Condemned America To More Chinese Espionage—and Worse," Center for Immigration Studies, 7/19/21

Let's Not Force Our Daughters to Register for Draft

As Congress hashes out the contours of funding bills making their way through Congress, there is one in particular we shouldn't overlook: the Senate Armed Services Committee has approved an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would require women to register for the draft. While framed as a women's equality issue, this is actually unnecessary, dangerous, and very revealing of America's moral decline. Women already serve honorably in the armed forces, and will continue to do so. This provision in the NDAA isn't required so that women can serve. This is about forcing all women to sign up to possibly serve—when many men are sitting idly by. Senator Josh Hawley (R-MO) says, "It's one thing to allow American women to choose this service, but it is quite another to force it upon our daughters, sisters, and wives."

SOURCE: Tony Perkins, Washington Update, 7/28/21

Quote of the Month

"To define each of us by our race is nothing short of a denial of our humanity."

~ U.S. Supreme Court

Justice Clarence Thomas

Great American Quote

"Those who would give up essential Liberty to purchase a little temporary Safety deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."

~ Benjamin Franklin

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