



For Immediate Release
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The TEACH Coalition is a collective of teachers, professors, community workers, parents, and students across Texas who are committed to raising awareness about histories of race, racism, Indigenous genocide, slavery, and settler colonialism. We strongly oppose the new law signed by Governor Greg Abbott that prohibits educators from teaching about these histories and about social movements that have fought to achieve a more just society.

As we demonstrate in a [recent letter to Attorney General Ken Paxton](#), Texas students are deeply impacted by racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination in their schools. Discrimination is often embedded in school district policies and can be perpetrated by fellow students, teachers, or campus staff. Any laws, decisions, or policies that curtail diversity, equity, and inclusion work in schools are detrimental to the academic, social, and general wellbeing of children and encroach on their legally protected freedoms. By contrast, ensuring that teaching, teacher training, and administrative practices are diverse, inclusive, and culturally responsive is proven to enhance educational outcomes for *all* students, especially students of color.

As we explain in this [open letter](#) from parents and caregivers, our students need equitable learning environments where their voices are heard and where their experiences and identities are reflected in curricula. We insist that there should be no political censorship of U.S. history and current events. The passage of HB 3979 and SB 3 means that our children cannot learn the truth about key events in our nation's history such as the forced removal of Indigenous peoples from their lands; the Jim Crow laws that legalized racial segregation; Juneteenth, which has just been declared a national holiday; the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; or Executive Order 9066, which led to the internment of tens of thousands of U.S. citizens of Japanese descent. These new laws make it difficult and unsafe for students to openly discuss the ethical concerns surrounding historical and current events and to make connections between our histories and our present.

We therefore stand in full solidarity with Texas teachers who teach the truth about U.S. history and current events and who employ culturally responsive pedagogies. We call for teachers to be protected from racist attacks and for their professional expertise to be respected. Questions of racism, justice, and equity must be part of all our children's education if they are to learn from the past, take pride in the contributions of their communities, and conduct themselves responsibly in our multiracial society. Armed with knowledge and truth, we can all work in community for a better future.

For further information about the TEACH Coalition and our advocacy efforts, please contact

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