

NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
*of* SCHOLARS

# Action Guide

Defending our Schools  
from Critical Race Theory and Action Civics

# Social Justice Theory

Social Justice Theory teaches that America is an oppressive regime and that Americans must dedicate every aspect of life to liberating America. Any disparity in outcome between any group of Americans proves America is oppressive. All disparities in outcome between different groups of Americans must be eliminated.

## More Information

*Social Justice Education in America*

<https://www.nas.org/reports/social-justice-education-in-america>

# **Social Justice Activism**

Social Justice Activism works to liberate America from oppression by forming a coalition of politically mobilized groups defined by collective identities such as race and sex and by collective grievance. Social Justice Activists believe that any opposition to Social Justice Theory is immoral and work to silence it.

## **More Information**

*Systemic Social Justice Activism on College Campuses*

<https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2021/04/systemic-social-justice-activism-college-campuses-jay-bergman/>

# Social Justice Education

Social Justice Education applies Social Justice Theory to America's schools. Social Justice Educators want every class to assume the truth of Social Justice Theory and to work to forward Social Justice Activism. Social Justice Educators believe that the point of education is to gain power, not to learn truth.

## More Information

*Learn About Social Justice Education*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/resources/learn-about-social-justice-education>

# Critical Race Theory

Critical Race Theory applies Social Justice Theory to race. Critical Race Theory assigns blame to groups on the basis of race, sex, and other group identities, and asserts that any departure from equality of outcomes is the result of “systemic racism.”

## More Information

*Critical Race Theory Briefing Book*

<https://christopherrufo.com/crt-briefing-book/>

*Critical Race Theory*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/issue-briefs/critical-race-theory>

# CRT Educators

Critical Race Theory (CRT) educators in the schools teach hostility to America, divide students by skin color into oppressors and the oppressed, and yoke every part of school life to the struggle to combat “systemic racism.”

## More Information

*Woke Schooling: A Toolkit for Concerned Parents*

<https://www.manhattan-institute.org/woke-schooling-toolkit-for-concerned-parents>

*Keeping the Republic*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/keeping-the-republic>

# Action Civics

Action Civics teaches students the tactics of how to mobilize Americans to end America's "oppressive regime." Action Civics, also known as "civic engagement" or "service learning," replaces classroom learning with vocational training in the community organizing tactics of the radical Saul Alinsky.

## More Information

"Action Civics" Replaces Citizenship with Partisanship

<https://americanmind.org/memo/action-civics-replaces-citizenship-with-partisanship/>

*Making Citizens: How American Universities Teach Civics*

<https://www.nas.org/reports/making-citizens-how-american-universities-teach-civics>

# “Equity” Means Race Discrimination

CRT educators reject the principle of equality of opportunity and discriminate on the basis of race in decisions such as hiring, promotion, and admission. They call this race discrimination “diversity” or “equity.” CRT educators’ commitment to “diversity” or “equity” requires them to violate the Civil Rights Act.

## More Information

*The Evolution and Implementation of Equity (I and II)*

<https://www.mindingthecampus.org/2021/02/18/the-evolution-and-implementation-of-equity-part-i/>

<https://www.mindingthecampus.org/2021/02/25/the-evolution-and-implementation-of-equity-part-ii/>



# **“Inclusion” Means Suppressing Free Speech**

CRT educators wish to silence all opposition to imposing CRT theory. They call silencing opponents “inclusion.” CRT educator’s commitment to “inclusion” requires them to violate the First Amendment right to free speech.

## **More Information**

Suppressing Free Speech in the Name of Inclusion and Racial Equity at Princeton

<https://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/2020/12/suppressing-free-speech-name-inclusion-and-racial-richard-l-cravatts/>

# **CRT: Indoctrination, not Education**

CRT educators teach anti-intellectual ideologies, self-reinforcing assertions that share a defensive structure that rejects criticism as illegitimate, instead of providing a real education, which must always be open to challenge and disproof.

## **More Information**

*Grievance Studies vs. the Scientific Method*

<https://medium.com/@heyinhg/grievance-studies-goes-after-the-scientific-method-63b6cfd9c913>

# CRT Creates a Climate of Fear

CRT educators require students, teachers, and administrators to assert, and assent to, these ideological concepts and pedagogies, which thereby create a climate of fear and silence, and compel our children, their teachers, and staff to conform to unjust authority rather than to think critically and to speak and act fearlessly.

## More Information

*Data Prove People Self-Censor In Fear of Woke Mobs*

<https://www.goacta.org/news-item/data-prove-people-self-censor-in-fear-of-woke-mobs/>

# CRT Discriminates

CRT educators discriminate especially against white students by teaching that they are racist because of the color of their skin. They teach white students to hate themselves and non-white students to hate white students. They subordinate every class to teaching that white students are racially inferior.

## More Information

*Critical Race Theory Is Just Anti-White Racism*

<https://amgreatness.com/2021/06/27/critical-race-theory-is-just-anti-white-racism/>

# **CRT Betrays America's Ideals**

CRT educators betray the ideals of America's schools. They teach students to hate America rather than to love it. They teach students to hate one another instead of to be friends. They teach students to parrot propaganda instead of opening their minds to learn. They teach students that the only point of education is to gain power.

## **More Information**

*The 1776 Report*

<https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Presidents-Advisory-1776-Commission-Final-Report.pdf>

# CRT Drives Out Good Teachers

CRT educators drive out good teachers, who would rather teach than recite radical propaganda. CRT educators will eliminate the teachers with a passion for getting students to learn. CRT will also discriminate in teacher hiring to achieve “equity” goals. This policy will discriminate against teaching applicants and damage student achievement.

## More Information

*Teacher Dana Stangel-Plowe Speaks Out About Dwight-Englewood School*

<https://www.fairforall.org/profiles-in-courage/dwight-englewood-whistleblower/>

# CRT Doesn't Educate

CRT educators waste students time and don't prepare them for graduation. Students need demanding classroom instruction to prepare them for college and career. Students who don't know mathematics will never be engineers. Students who don't know history will never be lawyers. Students who don't know biology will never be doctors.

## More Information

*Critical Race Theory Is Just Another Faddish Attempt To Hide Public School Failures*

<https://thefederalist.com/2021/04/08/critical-race-theory-is-just-another-faddish-attempt-to-hide-public-school-failures/>

# CRT Places Schools in Legal Jeopardy

CRT educators place school districts in legal jeopardy for violations of the Civil Rights Act's legal requirements for nondiscrimination. They also make the taxpayers who support school districts liable for whatever penalties and fines the school districts may ultimately be found liable.

## More Information

*Judge rules Coalition for TJ's fight can continue in federal lawsuit: What it means for racial discrimination in schools*

<https://pacifical.org/coalition-for-tjs-federal-lawsuit-racial-discrimination-in-schools/>



# **CRT Wastes Taxpayer Dollars**

CRT educators waste taxpayer dollars spent to support the public schools. They also ruin home values. Home buyers pay top dollar for homes in good school districts. No one will buy homes in school districts ruined by CRT.

## **More Information**

*How Does Your School District Impact Nearby Property Values?*

<https://www.homelight.com/blog/school-district-impact-on-property-values/>

# CRT Muzzles Good Teachers

CRT advocates in education bureaucracies and teachers' unions force good teachers to use Critical Race Theory and action civics. Civics reformers can only give these teachers an excuse to resist outside pressure by taking over school boards and passing state laws.

## More Information

*Teachers Union Vows to Support Critical Race Theory Against Parents' wishes*

<https://www.freedomworks.org/content/wall-shame-teachers-union-vows-support-critical-race-theory-against-parents-wishes>

# CRT: Slanders Opponents

CRT educators slander all opposition to their radical agenda as “racism” and “white supremacy.” These insults are meant to silence criticism, not to welcome a fair-minded discussion. Opponents of CRT should expect these insults, but should not fear them. They reveal that CRT educators have no real arguments.

## More Information

*Vox cries ‘racism’ to opponents of Critical Race Theory*

<https://www.aim.org/aim-column/vox-cries-racism-to-opponents-of-critical-race-theory/>

# Remove Critical Race Theory and Action Civics

Parents, taxpayers, and all citizens must act to remove Social Justice Education from the public schools. They must act first to remove Critical Race Theory and action civics. They must act at the local level, at the state level, and at the national level.

## More Information

*Why America needs to ban critical race theory in schools*

<https://nypost.com/2021/07/04/why-america-needs-to-ban-critical-race-theory-in-schools/>

*Why We Need a Civics Alliance*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/nas-announces-the-civics-alliance>

# Educate and Organize

Civics reformers need to educate and organize their friends and neighbors. They need to found Facebook groups, forward memes, gather information, follow and track state bills, and knock on doors. They must work to make their fellow Americans aware of the danger posed by Critical Race Theory and action civics and willing to resist them.

## More Information

*Fighting Critical Race Theory, One Door at a Time*

<https://americanmind.org/memo/fighting-critical-race-theory-one-door-at-a-time/>

*Parents Defending Education: Engage*

<https://defendinged.org/engage/>

# Learn CRT Language

CRT advocates use words such as “equity” and “inclusion” to disguise a radical agenda. Civics reformers must learn what these words really mean and be able to explain them to their friends and neighbors.

## More Information

*Responding to Social Justice Rhetoric*

<https://www.oregonscholars.org/wp-content/uploads/Cheat-Sheet.png>

# Attend School Board Meetings

Civics reformers need to attend school board meetings. They need to bring their friends and neighbors. They must express their opposition to Critical Race Theory and action civics and demand that the school board remove them from the schools. They must demand that the school districts provide proof that they have removed them.

## More Information

*How to Speak to your School Board*

<https://defendinged.org/resources/how-to-speak-to-your-school-board/>

# **At Least One Reformer at Each Meeting**

Ordinary citizens have busy lives, but civics reformers should make sure that some of them are present at each school board meeting. School boards cannot be allowed to make policy without civics reformers present to oppose them and report on their decisions.



# Run for School Boards

Civics reformers need to run for school boards. They must organize campaigns and run on an explicit platform to remove Critical Race Theory and action civics from the schools. Civics reformers need to be in position to change school policy.

## More Information

*School Boards: What to Do*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/resources/local-policy>

# **School Board Members: Use Your Powers!**

Civics reformers need to work actively when they have been elected to school boards. They must attend every meeting and committee. CRT advocates in the schools bureaucracy will attempt to convince school board members that they can't interfere with how the schools are run. School reformers must use their powers to require change.

## **More Information**

*It's Time to Get Involved in Your School Board*

<https://defendinged.org/resources/its-time-to-get-involved-in-your-school-board/>

# Discipline Teachers Who Break the Law

CRT educators have announced that they will defy bans of Critical Race Theory and action civics. Civics reformers must be prepared to discipline and even fire teachers who insist on teaching Critical Race Theory and action civics.

## More Information

*Thousands of teachers pledge to break anti-critical race theory laws*

<https://nypost.com/2021/07/06/teachers-pledge-to-break-anti-critical-race-theory-laws/>

# Work at the State Level

Civics reformers must also work at the state level. State education departments impose Critical Race Theory by regulation, so local CRT advocates can claim that they are only obeying state mandates. State legislators must oversee the state education departments and pass laws to restrict Critical Race Theory and action civics.

## More Information

*State Policy*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/our-work/state-policy>

*Model K-12 Civics Code*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/our-work/state-policy/model-civics-code>

# Work at the Federal Level

Civics reformers must also work at the federal level. Bills such as the Civics Secures Democracy Act would steer billions of dollars to support action civics. Proposed U. S. Education Department rules would steer all history and civics grants toward Critical Race Theory and action civics. Senators and Representatives must oppose these bills and rules.

## More Information

*Federal Policy*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/our-work/federal-policy>

*Counterfeit Civics*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/keeping-the-republic>

# Give Citizens Tools to Use

Civics reformers should work urgently on several reforms at the local and state level that will have the greatest effect to restrict Critical Race Theory and action civics. These reforms focus on giving tools to citizens to resist CRT advocates.

## More Information

### *State Policy*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/our-work/state-policy>

### *Local Policy*

<https://www.nas.org/civics-alliance/our-work/local-policy>

# Partisanship Out of Civics Act (POCA)

State legislators should forbid schools to use Critical Race Theory or action civics. The model Partisanship Out of Civics Act (POCA) provides the best language. A POCA bill has already become law in Texas. POCA restrains local CRT advocates and stops bureaucrats from taking federal money to forward CRT and action civics.

## More Information

*Partisanship Out of Civics Act*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/the-partisanship-out-of-civics-act>

# Prohibit CRT and Action Civics

The school board should prohibit the use of any material that forwards Critical Race Theory or action civics. Use the POCA language as a model. Provide means for whistleblowers to report to the school board. Set penalties for administrators and teachers who refuse to comply. Make sure the school board has the ability to enforce these rules.

## More Information

*Partisanship Out of Civics Act*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/the-partisanship-out-of-civics-act>



# Set Up Enforcement Mechanisms

The school board should enact policies to ensure that all administrators and faculty act and teach in accordance with these commitments, and provide disciplinary sanctions, up to and including termination of employment, for willful and continued refusal to cease using ideologies and pedagogies such as Critical Race Theory and action civics.

# Declare Guiding Principles

The school board should declare that the school district is committed to institutional neutrality on partisan political issues, nondiscrimination by all employees, equality of opportunity among all students and employees, free intellectual inquiry, affection for and allegiance to the United States of America, classroom inquiry, and rigorous standards.

# Repudiate “Systemic Racism”

The school board should declare that the school district is committed to the common humanity of all its students, that it explicitly repudiates concepts such as “implicit racism” and “systemic racism,” and that it will apply equal standards and identical pedagogies to all students, without regard to race, sex, or any other group identity.

# Repudiate CRT and Action Civics

The school board should declare that the school district explicitly repudiates ideological concepts and pedagogies such as Critical Race Theory (CRT), “The 1619 Project”, “action civics,” so-called “anti-racism,” and “diversity, equity, and inclusion,” which would require it to abrogate its duty to teach American ideals and educate children.

# Commit to Intellectual Diversity

The school board should declare that the school district will seek and commit to intellectual diversity in hiring practices, curriculum development, guest speakers, contractual agreements, and external partnerships.

## More Information

*South Dakota Intellectual Diversity Recommendations*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/statement/south-dakota-intellectual-diversity-recommendations>

# Require Transparency

Require transparency. School boards and state lawmakers should require school personnel to post immediately on a public website all school materials, including standards, curricula, lesson plans, committee remits, and professional development and training material. Set penalties for administrators and teachers who refuse to comply.

## More Information

*Academic Transparency Act*

<https://www.nas.org/storage/app/media/New%20Documents/civics-alliance-website-our-work-model-civics-code-19-academic-transparency-act.pdf>

# Require Financial Transparency

Require financial transparency. School boards and state lawmakers should require school districts to provide transparent, detailed financial statements that will allow civics reformers to remove funding for staff or materials that forward Critical Race Theory or action civics.

## More Information

*University of Idaho Budget Books*

<https://www.uidaho.edu/finance/budget-office/budget-books/fy2021-budget-books>

# Contractor Nondiscrimination

Require nondiscrimination by all contractors. School boards and state lawmakers should require contractors for school districts to prohibit the use of Critical Race Theory-inspired programs that require race discrimination.

## More Information

*Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping*

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/09/28/2020-21534/combating-race-and-sex-stereotyping>



# **Defund CRT and Action Civics**

Follow the money and defund all Critical Race Theory and action civics. Examine every expenditure and demand a detailed explanation. If your school board does not already have a line-item veto, enact one.

# Read Every Textbook

Read all textbooks and any other school materials that require taxpayer dollars. Do not allow any money to go to textbooks or other materials that forward Critical Race Theory or action civics. Seek out alternatives yourself and require the school district to consider their use. If the school districts reject them, require the bureaucrats to explain why.

## More Information

*Albuquerque Public Schools: Book List*

<https://mobile.twitter.com/ConceptualJames/status/1413189925105766402>

# Look for Disguised CRT

Investigate every sort of school activity, to see if it has been taken over by CRT advocates. For example, CRT advocates often use programs such as health, counseling, and social-emotional learning to channel CRT propaganda and discrimination. Civics reformers must ensure that their school allows CRT advocates no refuge.

## More Information

*Social-Emotional Learning, Part 2: How SEL Became a Vehicle for Critical Race Theory*

<https://idahofreedom.org/social-emotional-learning-part-2-how-sel-became-a-vehicle-for-critical-race-theory/>

# Set Rigorous Course Standards

Establish rigorous course standards. School boards and state lawmakers should establish detailed course standards with rigorous expectations of factual knowledge. The more time students must spend learning real knowledge, the less time will be available for CRT advocates to indoctrinate them.

## More Information

*Massachusetts History and Social Science Curriculum* (2003)

<https://www.nas.org/storage/app/media/New%20Documents/2003-08.pdf>

# Protect Conscience

Give teachers and students conscience protections against CRT and action civics mandates. Forbid mandates that compel teachers and students to undertake CRT and action civics programs, and establish whistleblower policies that will protect teachers and students who protest against outside pressure.

## More Information

*Partisanship Out of Civics Act*

<https://www.nas.org/blogs/article/the-partisanship-out-of-civics-act>

# Lawmakers Must Approve Course Standards

Require legislative approval of course standards. Education bureaucrats now can impose course standards on schools without legislative approval. State lawmakers should enact laws based on the model Legislative Review Act, which follows the language of existing law in Oklahoma, to require legislative approval for any new state course standard.

## More Information

*Legislative Review Act*

<https://www.nas.org/storage/app/media/New%20Documents/civics-alliance-website-our-work-model-civics-code-20-legislative-review-act.pdf>

# Reform Teacher Education and Licensure

Enact teaching education and licensure reform. CRT advocates in education schools require would-be teachers to endure CRT indoctrination. CRT advocates in education departments will make CRT indoctrination required for teacher licensure. State lawmakers should set up alternate education and licensure pathways.

# Shift School Board Election Dates

Shift school board election dates. School board elections frequently now take place on dates different from the general election, with low voter participation. CRT activists take advantage to dominate school board elections. Town, counties, and states should shift school board election dates to the same day as the general election.



# Tell Federal Lawmakers to Step Up!

Inform federal lawmakers that your support requires making a priority of effective opposition to Critical Race Theory and action civics. Follow up with support for active opponents to Critical Race Theory and action civics. Consider organizing primary campaigns against federal lawmakers who won't lead on this issue.

# Set Up State Organization

Join or form a state affiliate of the Civics Alliance, to coordinate local and statewide work to oppose Critical Race Theory and Action Civics.

## More Information

Contact: David Randall ([randall@nas.org](mailto:randall@nas.org)), Policy Director, Civics Alliance