

It is imperative that we implement education on the racist history of Oregon and of the USA in our public school system. The history of racism has created the foundation of racism that we experience every day, in this state and in this country. American and state history ARE the history of indigenous, of black people, and of people of color - of their resistance to racism, genocide, and enslavement, of their resilience, of bravery & culture. To continue erasing half of our history in the service of white supremacy does a vicious disservice to public education. It leaves our children woefully unprepared for their current and future responsibilities to heal and repair the damage that our laws, institutions, and cultural mores have enacted on millions upon millions of our citizens, across centuries, and the millions who were here before there was a 'country' to be 'citizens' of. I fully support SB 683, and I further recommend that the organization which chooses the curriculum for racist history education be primarily composed of black, indigenous, and other people of color - particularly women.