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I oppose Senate Bill 683, because I feel it promotes racism and division.

A quote from Senate Bill 683 on page 2 states: "whereas the racist history of this country and this state have ongoing consequences for Black Americans..."

How are the ongoing consequences for black Americans measured? Racism in all forms is abhorrent, but do these statements stroke divisions into oppressor versus oppressed--promoting victimization?

Andrea Matthews, LPC calls this "victim identity." She contends that these belief systems are in place to protect the victim from ever having to really engage life and hurdle its hurdles."

Retrieved from <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/traversing-the-inner-terrain/201102/the-victim-identity>

I acknowledge that some black Americans have faced atrocities based on the color of their skin. How to proceed and mend race relations is what is in question.

The broad statement that this country was built on slavery, indicts the entire country; stating that historical racism has ongoing consequences for black Americans is impossible to verify.

Unity is enhanced by all parties feeling valued and acknowledged. This bill does the opposite, leading me to believe the intent is not to encourage cohesiveness but discord.

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