

Declaring racism as a public health crisis is a must. The detriment that our communities of colors face from law enforcement, lack of their histories in school, and lack of belief in healthcare is immense. The lack of all of these things leads to consistent trauma that cannot be healed from because of the constant exposure and re-exposure daily. How can our BIPOC communities thrive like their white counterparts if they aren't even given the chance from as early as pre-k? These communities are constantly torn down and looked down upon by the white community and it shows in all facets of daily Oregonian life. The histories of BIPOC communities should be taught in school year round just like the watered down version of white history so that BIPOC children can also see the greatness that their ancestors brought to help build this country.