

Mountain Bears Democratic Club Newsletter June 26, 2021 SPECIAL Edition

CLUB STUFF:

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, July 27th, at 7 PM, either in person at the Alpine Escrow Meeting Room in Blue Jay or via Zoom. If you wish to join us at our monthly meeting, via Zoom, request an invitation from our secretary at: mountainbeardemsecretary@gmail.com

The rest of this newsletter is a dive into Critical Race Theory (CRT): What it is and is not



Teachers Across the Country Are Protesting Laws That Stop Them From Talking About Systemic Racism

“We, the undersigned educators, refuse to lie to young people about U.S. history and current events—regardless of the law.”

https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2021/06/teachers-across-the-country-are-protesting-laws-that-stop-them-from-talking-about-systemic-racism/?utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=naytev&utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR20qTmVVPafum5doU3YIUUMaQ-3ZuxSV4DiW0_K91w80zcyj2jTuL2Eh4Y 6.18.21

BREAKING IT DOWN

Critical Race Theory (CRT)



Critical race theory (CRT) is an academic movement started by legal scholars who seek to critically examine the law as it intersects with issues of race and to challenge mainstream approaches to racial justice. Here are the basic tenets of the theory broken down.

1

Race is a social construct.

2

Racism in the United States is an ordinary experience of most people of color.

3

Legal advances (or setbacks) for people of color tend to serve the interests of dominant white groups.

4

Minorities deal with being stereotyped often.

5

No individual can be identified only in one way. A Black person can also identify as a woman, a lesbian, a feminist, a Christian, and so on.

6

People of color are uniquely qualified to speak on behalf of other members of their group (or groups) regarding the effects of racism.

For more information, please visit:

www.kindacademy.org

Kind Academy

Because education is the best antidote to hatred.

What Is Critical Race Theory, and Why Is It Under Attack?

“Critical race theory is an academic concept that is more than 40 years old. The core idea is that racism is a social construct, and that it is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies.” And “A good example is when, in the 1930s, government officials literally drew lines around areas deemed poor financial risks, often explicitly due to the racial composition of inhabitants. Banks subsequently refused to offer mortgages to Black people in those areas.” **Read more at:**

<https://www.edweek.org/leadership/what-is-critical-race-theory-and-why-is-it-under-attack/2021/05>

Another detailed explanation of CRT:

What Is Critical Race Theory, and Why Is It Under Attack?



[https://fs24.formsite.com/edweek/images/THIS ONE 6-10 CriticalRaceTheory.pdf](https://fs24.formsite.com/edweek/images/THIS_ONE_6-10_CriticalRaceTheory.pdf)

6.22.21

**BANNING THE TEACHING
OF SYSTEMIC RACISM
IS ACTUALLY A
PERFECT EXAMPLE
OF SYSTEMIC RACISM.**

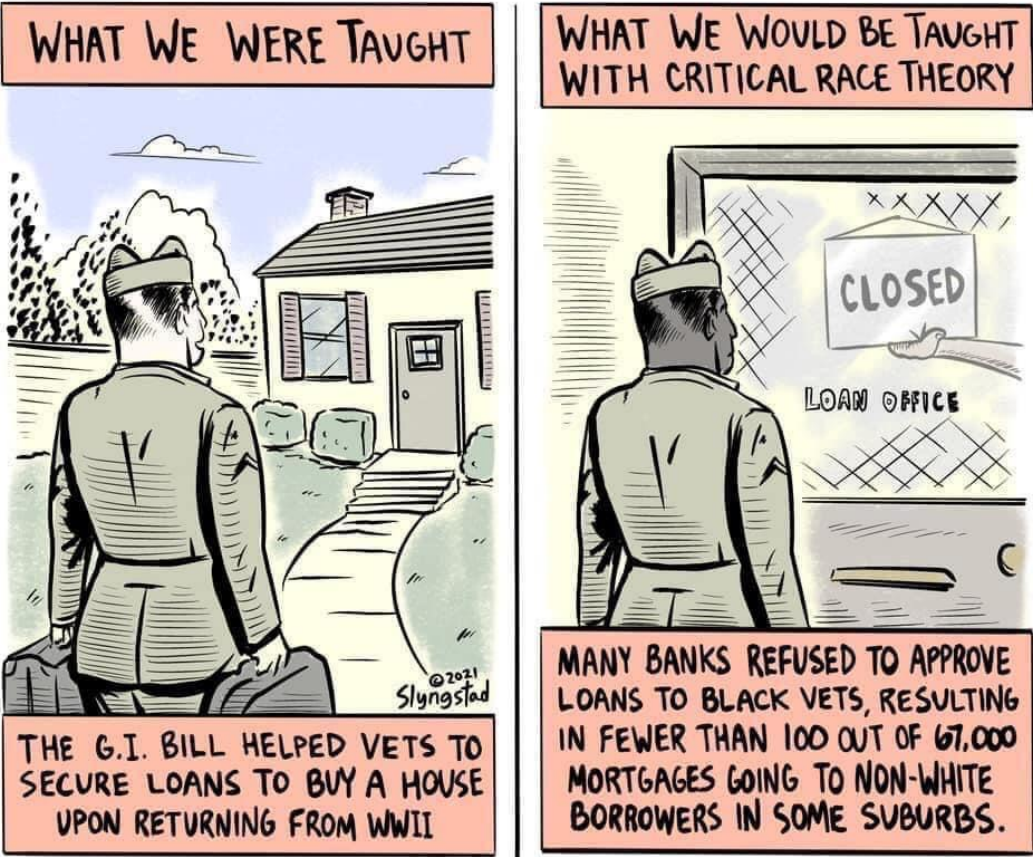
How a Conservative Activist Invented the Conflict Over Critical Race Theory

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/annals-of-inquiry/how-a-conservative-activist-invented-the-conflict-over-critical-race-theory> 6.24.21



Teaching students that WWII veterans were given the GI Bill benefits to help them, is teaching history.

Teaching students that black veterans of WWII were deliberately excluded, is teaching history through the lens of Critical Race Theory.



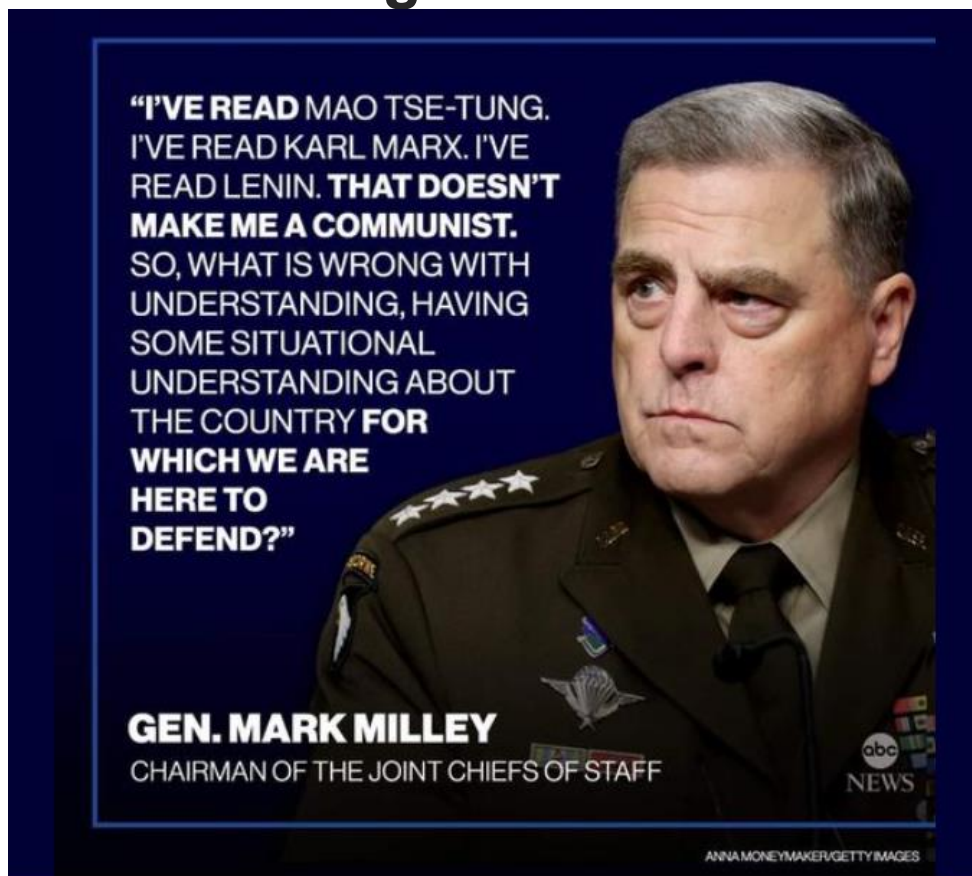
How the GI Bill's Promise Was Denied to a Million Black WWII Veterans

The sweeping bill promised prosperity to veterans. So why didn't Black Americans benefit?

While the GI Bill's language did not specifically exclude African-American veterans from its benefits, it was structured in a way that ultimately shut doors for the [1.2 million Black veterans](#) who had bravely served their country during World War II, in segregated ranks.

https://www.history.com/news/gi-bill-black-wwii-veterans-benefits?fbclid=IwAR0_bMXYdXIQFmKT4RypRb1Dc-BG0uTLF37cTVO1iHZ4GqXLet_A9jOi85w 6.19.21

General's response to Gaetz's question leaves him shaking his head



<https://www.cnn.com/videos/politics/2021/06/23/general-mark-milley-critical-race-theory-matt-gaetz-vpx.cnn?fbclid=IwAR1vmEowpYPoxfWabixbGALBozzweanj2hYNZO1h6y5CdC20GXrbjJHcfy4> 6.24.21

Many citizens could not describe in detail examples of systematic racism in American History. Here are a few:

The struggle to end segregation:

White Supremacists Protest Integration of St. Augustine Beaches; Engage in Violence Over Several Days

On June 24, 1964, hundreds of white people marched through downtown St. Augustine, Florida, to protest the attempted integration of the town's previously all-white beaches, and confronted and attacked peaceful civil rights activists attempting to use public beaches.

https://calendar.eji.org/racial-injustice/jun/24?fbclid=IwAR1XkdS9sRcvmG4JbgR2nUwO5yo_RnsoTzeAslhQW9YRrC2XNMYs3YGLMKU 6.24.21

The effects of racial segregation:

Indian Country Applauds Interior Sec. Haaland's Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative (This is currently happening)



WASHINGTON — The discovery of 215 remains of school children at the Kamloops Industrial Residential School in Canada late last month has prompted the U.S. Department of the Interior to establish a Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative.

<https://nativenewsonline.net/currents/indian-country-praises-interior-sec-haaland-s-federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative> 6.24.21

A 'Forgotten History' Of How The U.S. Government Segregated America



In 1933, faced with a housing shortage, the federal government began a program explicitly designed to increase — and segregate — America's housing stock. Author Richard Rothstein says the housing programs begun under the New Deal were tantamount to a "state-sponsored system of segregation."

https://www.npr.org/2017/05/03/526655831/a-forgotten-history-of-how-the-u-s-government-segregated-america?fbclid=IwAR2Pg4jJUDYW54WPXoWWc_IsAfC6voUxLI3BQym68a1a4E3dDbnOdI9_LQY 6.28.21

Critical Race Theory is ... history that has not been whitewashed.

PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM

DOESN'T TEACH YOU TO HATE CIRCLES

THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

DOESN'T TEACH YOU TO HATE DINOSAURS

CRITICAL RACE THEORY

DOESN'T TEACH YOU TO HATE WHITE PEOPLE

THEORIES ARE TOOLS

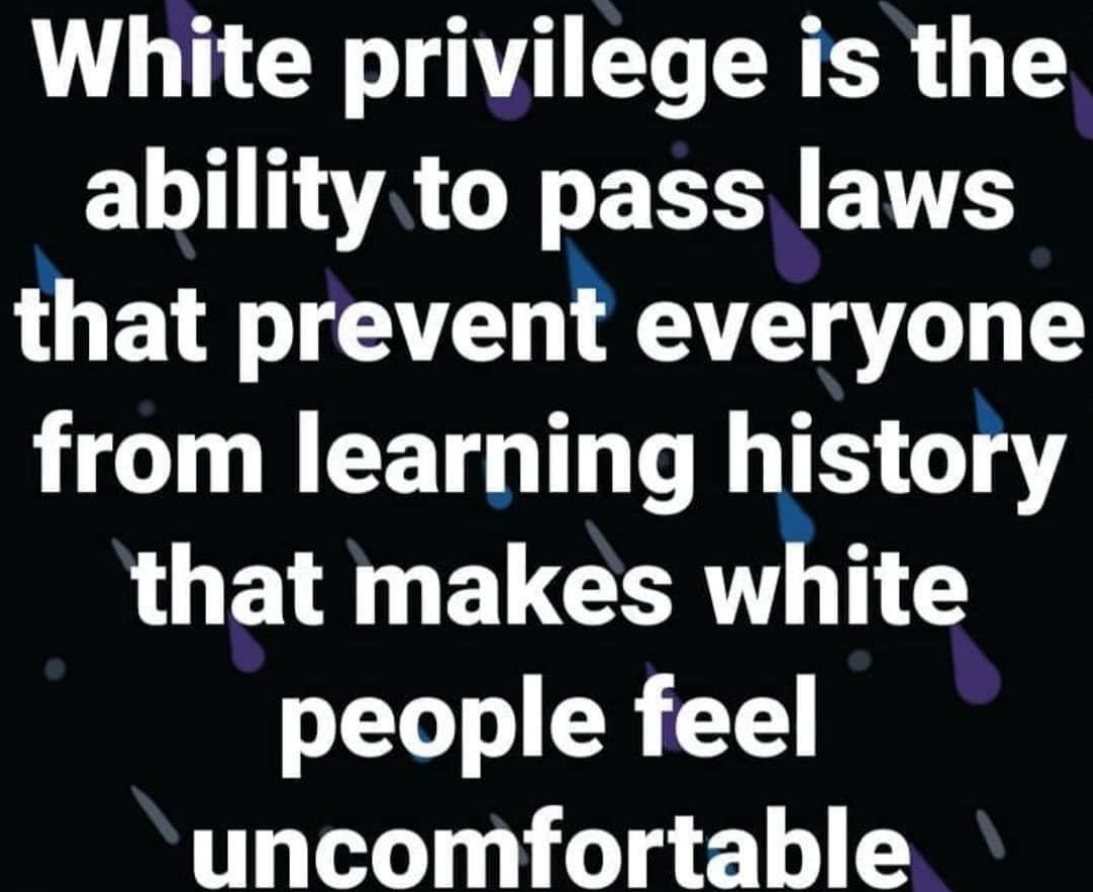
FOR PROBLEM SOLVING AND CRITICAL THINKING

THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE AFRAID OF

Three Black Men Falsely Accused and Lynched in Duluth, Minnesota

“On June 14, 1920, two white teenagers, James Sullivan and Irene Tuskan, attended the John Robinson Circus in Duluth. The next morning, they claimed Mr. Sullivan had been held at gunpoint while six Black circus workers raped Ms. Tuskan. Though a doctor examining Ms. Tuskan found no evidence of assault, six young Black men were arrested and jailed.”

<https://calendar.eji.org/racial-injustice/jun/15?fbclid=IwAR0tf3YJVbDAyc9ILRxXil80cBgIc1LsIN8i7KCWr5KxfEgbSou9r53NbAA>



**White privilege is the
ability to pass laws
that prevent everyone
from learning history
that makes white
people feel
uncomfortable**

Banning teachers from mentioning systemic racism will not make it go away. Preventing them from teaching our children about our nation's ugly history of discrimination will not make it go away.

I don't want my white students to feel "guilty" about being white or about what their ancestors & family members did/ are doing.

I want them to know real history, to understand the society they live in and how/why their navigation through it differs from their Brown & Black classmates. I want them to get pissed at racial injustice and inspired to act by those who resist(ed). I want them to be empathetic and curious and to think critically. I want them to do better than generations past.

**Pero, guilt?
Nah. Guilt serves no one.**

I want my white students to be too busy ripping apart white supremacy alongside the rest of us to feel guilty.

@the_rebellious_history_teacher

Critical Race Theory

It's a decades old academic concept...with the core idea that racism is a social construct..that is embedded in social..legal..and political systems."

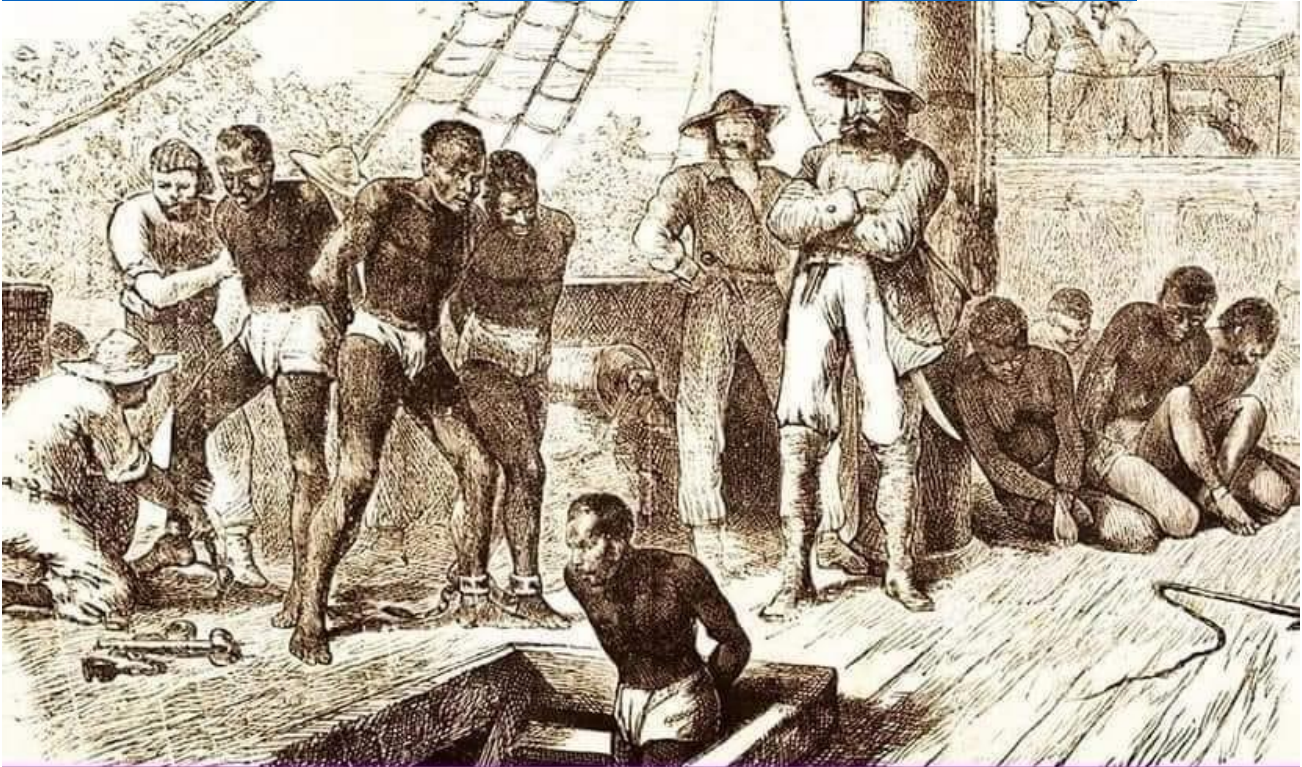
Further reading on the history of lynchings in America:

49 Stories of Lynchings in America

<https://calendar.eji.org/search/node/?keys=lynchings> 6.20.21

Lynching in the United States

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lynching_in_the_United_States 6.20.21



**I can't believe we're
actually fighting about
whether or not teachers
should be allowed to tell
the truth in history class.**

Kolleen @littlewhitty



THEY'RE NOT AGAINST CRT

They just don't wanna explain to their kids what granny's doing in the background of that pic from Social Studies class

made with mematic



The Daily Show 
@TheDailyShow

Happy Juneteenth! The first U.S. holiday that's illegal to teach about in 15 states.

IT'S NO ACCIDENT THAT:

You learned about Helen Keller instead of W.E.B. DuBois

You learned about the Watts and L.A. Riots,
but not Tulsa or Wilmington.

You learned that George Washington's dentures were made
from wood, rather than the teeth from slaves.

You learned about black ghettos,
but not about Black Wall Street.

You learned about the New Deal, but not "red lining."

You learned about Tommie Smith's fist in the air at the 1968
Olympics, but not that he was sent home the
next day and stripped of his medals.

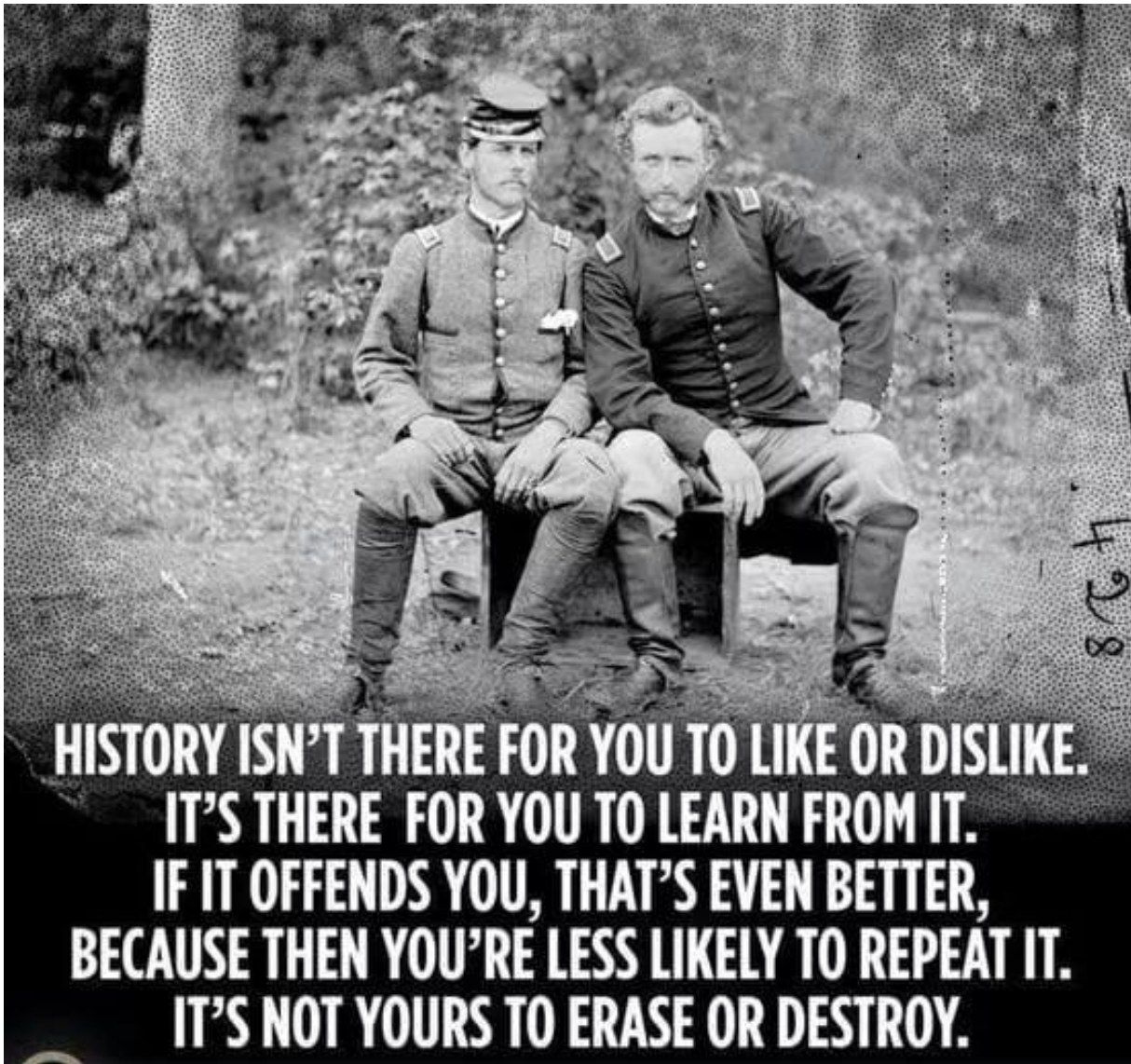
You learned about "black crime," but white criminals were
never lumped together and discussed in terms of their race.

You learned about "states rights" as the cause of the
Civil War, but not that slavery was mentioned
80 times in the articles of secession.

Privilege is having history rewritten so that you don't
have to acknowledge uncomfortable facts.

**Racism is perpetuated by people who refuse
to learn or acknowledge this reality.**

@TheFortySevens



The History of Slave Patrols, Black Codes, and Vagrancy Laws

This is the [*second Teaching Idea in a series*](#) designed to help students think critically about the long and troubling history between law enforcement and Black Americans.

<https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources/current-events/policing-legacy-racial-injustice/history-slave-patrols-black-codes-vagrancy-laws> 6.24.21

For further reading:

Every day reports of incidents of bigotry and hatred across the globe show us how fragile democracy can be.

<https://www.facinghistory.org/why-facing-history> 6.24.21



Here are some examples of Black Codes:

In Louisiana, it was illegal for a Black man to preach to Black congregations without special permission in writing from the president of the police. If caught, he could be arrested and fined. If he could not pay the fines, which were unbelievably high, he would be forced to work for an individual, or go to jail or prison where he would work until his debt was paid off. If a Black person did not have a job, he or she could be arrested and imprisoned on the charge of vagrancy or loitering.

This next Black Code will make you cringe. In South Carolina, if the parent of a Black child was considered vagrant, the judicial system allowed the police and/or other government agencies to "apprentice" the child to an "employer". Males could be held until the age of 21, and females could be held until they were 18. Their owner had the legal right to inflict punishment on the child for disobedience, and to recapture them if they ran away.

This (peonage) is an example of systemic racism - Racism established and perpetuated by government systems. Slavery was made legal by the U.S. Government. Segregation, Black Codes, Jim Crow and peonage were all made legal by the government and upheld by the judicial system. These acts of racism

were built into the system, which is where the term "Systemic Racism" is derived.

This is the part of "Black History" that most of us were never told about."

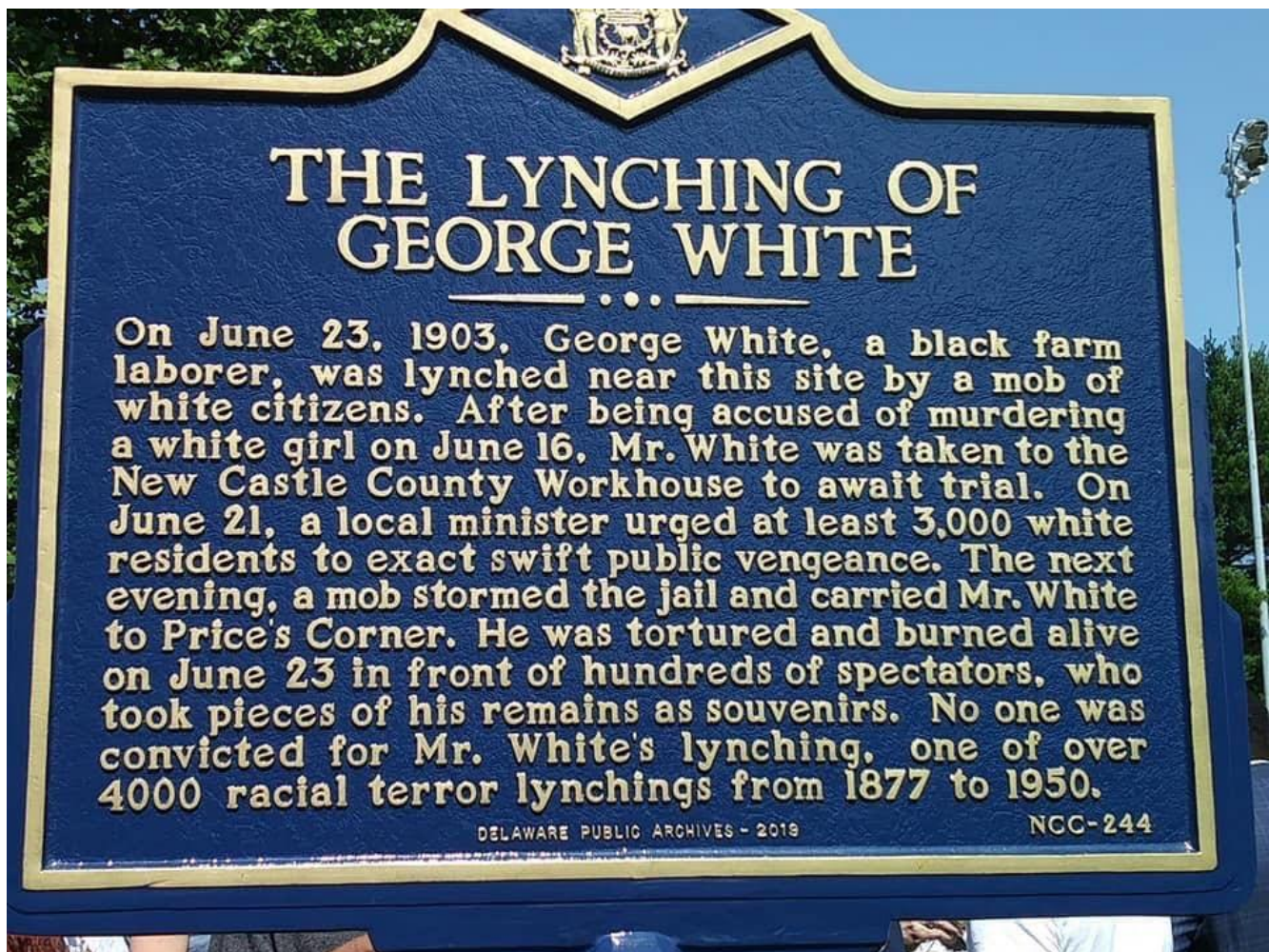


ANDREW GOODMAN **JAMES EARL CHANEY** **MICHAEL HENRY SCHWERNER**

**"57 years ago today, civil rights workers
Andrew Goodman, James Chaney
and Michael Schwerner
were murdered by the KKK for trying
to register Black people to vote.
We MUST honor their legacy by fighting
against voter suppression today."
- ARI BERMAN, Voting Rights Activist
RO KHANNA DEMOCRAT FOR CONGRESS**

White Mob of Thousands Burns Black Man to Death in Wilmington, Delaware

On June 23, 1903, a white mob of more than 4,000 people in Wilmington, Delaware, burned a Black man named George White to death before he could stand trial. Mr. White, who had been arrested and accused of killing a young white woman, adamantly denied any involvement in the crime and never had the opportunity to defend himself in court.



https://calendar.eji.org/racial-injustice/jun/23?fbclid=IwAR1f0quZrkc2UxMCLP1-jSmtlrN6vt6akHIBnkHSf8aH_qaYKvNXByOozo! 6.23.21

no one is asking you to
APOLOGIZE FOR BEING WHITE.

no one is asking
**YOU TO APOLOGIZE
FOR THE SINS OF YOUR ANCESTORS.**

**≡ WHAT WE ARE ASKING IS ≡
THAT YOU HELP DISMANTLE
THE OPPRESSIVE
SYSTEMS THEY BUILT,
≡ THAT YOU STILL BENEFIT FROM. ≡**

SO TO RECAP...

**THE PEOPLE THAT
COMPLAINED ABOUT
THE REMOVAL OF
CONFEDERATE
STATUES AS
"ERASING HISTORY,"
DONT WANT
SCHOOLS TO TEACH
WHAT THESE MEN DID.**

