

Testimony for public hearing on HB 7082

I am writing in support of requiring African American history to be covered in our public school curricula. This should include the selection of a broad representation of age-appropriate texts and resources from which to teach, and may well require teacher training to assure competent treatment of colonization, slavery, reconstruction, Jim Crow, mass incarceration, drug laws, police violence and other modern day aspects of white supremacy.

It is long past time to continue to believe that by declaring something to be in the past, we can avoid carrying it with us into the present and future. We cannot aspire to being a "post-racial" society if we cannot be honest about the ongoing impact of "race" on the lives of people of color and well as on white people.

Nancy Bowden
7 Scotland Road
Bloomfield CT