

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dominic Smith, and I'm a freshman majoring in criminal justice at the University of New Haven. Within my Sociology class, we are discussing race, gender, and immigration. Our professor brought up the bill that was going to be talked about the House Bill 7082 presented by a state representative, named Bobby Gibson. Within this proposed bill he wants to have a representation of African American studies in the Connecticut Public Schools curriculum. In my personal opinion, I believe that this would be a good thing to happen within the public school's system. I believe that it would be useful especially for my major so I can understand why people are committing certain crimes. It would also give me a good viewpoint on where a specific crime may occur. However, this would affect more people than me. I believe that it would allow younger kids to have an insight into the history of African Americans. It would allow them to see how bad of a life the ancestors of today's generation had prior to the civil rights movement. As a Hispanic born male, it was kind of disheartening to hear that there wasn't a curriculum that included Hispanic studies. I believed that if there wasn't such a narrow-headed viewpoint on American Public Schools curriculum, there might be more cultural awareness throughout the next generations. When I say narrow-headed viewpoint, I mean the viewpoint from historical white men, if there were possibly more figures and more viewpoints that could be looked at I think it would benefit everyone. I also believe that it would benefit people if a Cultural Awareness class was taught throughout the k-12 curriculum just so that you can see where people stand and learn how to be less biased throughout your life. I believe that would lessen the amount of bullying that people go through within the k-12 years.

Sincerely,

Dominic Smith