

As a former social studies teacher at a Portland High School with a large minority population, I know how important it is to give not only minority students but majority students a realistic, anti-racist education. A lot of fear exists about the possibility of indoctrination rather than education, and that by teaching the whole truth about American history, racial tensions will increase. That is possible with a badly designed curriculum, but that is not what this bill proposes. Both majority and minority students should benefit from an objective look at how our society came to where it is, and as a result what changes are needed to produce a racism-free community.