

One of the most dishonorable forms of conduct in my family was speaking on a subject without knowing what it was we were talking about in the first place. Even utilizing a vocabulary word that we did not know the full definition of was instantly regarded as disgraceful and unacceptable. Any suggestion that accurate, thorough, relevant history and current events education about our country and our state on any age appropriate subject, especially racism towards Black Americans, will be inappropriate, outdated, reckless or overreaching is an attempt to rob our children of their right to think and speak with authority and responsibility when they wish to do so. It is now and will always be parents' and families' roles to teach our children how to best interpret the knowledge they acquire, to help them understand right and wrong. It is our educational system's duty to present true, thorough and age appropriate information on such subjects that are vital to navigating life. I strongly support SB 683 for this reason and thank the legislature for considering this important step towards both empowering our youth's freedom of speech and forming a more perfect union.