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Chair Weisz, Chair Lee, Members of the Committee.

I am here today to speak in opposition to HB 1508.

As the parent of an African-American, I have tried to follow the argument surrounding Critical Race Theory. In a search, I found literally 100's of links where each had a varied definition of what exactly Critical Race Theory is.

I found this statement which is attributed to Kimberlé Crenshaw, one of three pioneers in the academic discipline and a

Put simply, according to Crenshaw, who coined the term intersectionality, which refers to how different forms of discrimination (such as sexism and racism) can overlap and compound each other, critical race theory is a way to talk openly about how America's history has had an effect on our society and institutions today.

She also states:

What is going on today is about racial justice. "This hysteria is just that. It has nothing to do with a legal theory that has been around for decades, and that you may never have heard of until now," Crenshaw said. "If you marched last year in the wake of George Floyd's murder, if you have a Black Lives Matter sign on your lawn or a bumper sticker on your car, if you had diversity training at your job and now you understand how you can do better, then you support racial justice."

It is my understanding that Critical Race Theory is not being taught in our classrooms. Why are we making an issue of it now?

Before we start to mandate via legislative direction what can't be taught in the classroom, let us correct the root cause of racism in our cities, counties, and state. Let us start there with racial justice. Where we are all truly equal in the eyes of the law, regardless of race.

Respectfully,

Carl Young

<https://news.columbia.edu/news/what-critical-race-theory-and-why-everyone-talking-about-it-0>