



Uncomfortable American History

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May 14, 2023 - A Note About Ron DeSantis

On May 11, 2023, Ron DeSantis signed into law a bill requiring the inclusion of AAPI History in the K-12 curriculum in Florida schools¹. Though this took a tremendous effort on the part of advocates to get this essential part of American history included in the comprehensive studies of students in the Sunshine State, make no mistake about what has occurred here. Ron DeSantis wants to use history to divide people and turn us against one another.

It is dangerous for politicians to dictate what should be taught in our schools. But, unfortunately, DeSantis is now Florida's autocratic education commissioner, with no one to stand in his way. DeSantis and his administration (along with his GOP water bearers in the state legislature) stuck their noses into the business of educators with absolute lies concerning the teaching of Critical Race Theory in K-12² (it never was), having issues with African American AP courses, and, let's not forget, the infamous "Don't Say Gay"³ law.

Black History and LBGTQIA+ History ARE American history, just as AAPI History is. Don't allow DeSantis and his ilk to use history and culture to divide us. Regardless, there is one thing he cannot stop. History has already judged Ron DeSantis; he is simply fulfilling his discriminatory prophecy of trying to ignite culture wars between us.

It will not work. Why? Because, in the end, no matter DeSantis' political ambitions or feelings, we WILL #TeachTruth!

¹ <https://news.yahoo.com/desantis-signs-bill-requiring-aapi-145038229.html#:~:text=Florida%20Gov.%20Ron%20DeSantis%20has,the%20state's%20K%2D12%20curriculum.>

² <https://www.cnn.com/2023/02/03/opinions/ap-african-american-studies-florida-desantis-jones-ctrp/index.html>

³ <https://www.nea.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/FL%20Dont%20Say%20Gay%20KYR%20-%20Updated2022.06.pdf>