

Censoring Our Schools

Members of the Virginia House of Delegates introduced legislation revoking teacher's licenses and charging misdemeanors for teaching so-called "divisive concepts." House Bill 781, patroned by Republican Delegate Wren Williams in 2022, defines twelve examples of "divisive concepts" and creates punishments, including a Class 4 misdemeanor and revoking a teacher's license. According to Yahoo News, "Critical race theory — an academic concept not widely used outside university-level instruction — has become a frequent punching bag for conservative politicians and commentators, resulting in numerous legislation being proposed at the state level to regulate how teachers discuss sensitive topics in classrooms." In the attempt to confine what historical topics teachers could discuss, the bill included a glaring historical error claiming Abraham Lincoln debated abolitionist Frederick Douglass. [Yahoo News, [1/14/2022](#); WUSA, [1/20/2022](#); VA HB 781, House: Left in Education, [02/15/22](#)]