Legislators in KY are perpetuating structural violence against Kentuckians with anti-DEI bills!

These violent bills SB 6 (ky.gov) SB 93 (ky.gov) HB 9 (ky.gov):

- Censor learning about power dynamics that influence our treatment and care for racial, gender, religious, and other groups in today's society;
- Stifle our abilities to prevent and resolve intergroup bias and identity-related conflicts that exist due to ignorance of history; this harms children;
- Attack evidence-based pedagogy by stating that instructors can't engage students in critical social justice; legislators who choose to stifle pathways for justice, safety, hope, academic achievement, and equity are criminal, and they impede the very “liberty and justice for all” that the United States serves from its lips;
- Inequitably place power of financial and legal consequences in the hands of those who will object to truth, allowing them to weaponize their personal discomfort, willful ignorance;
- Are antithetical to the jurisdiction of the Kentucky General Assembly's Commission on Race and Access to Opportunity Statutory Committee – no evidence-based research has been used to justify the time and resources being wasted on sanitizing, omitting, and obstructing truth, freedom, and justice in education; the process actually illustrates legislators' creation of laws triggered by personal discomfort, non-critical group thinking, and a disregard for the well-being of their constituents.

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Tell your Kentucky Legislators to OPPOSE Senate Bill 6, Senate Bill 93, & House Bill 9 ☒

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, the majority (60%) of Kentucky's P-12 students are economically disadvantaged with Black (80%) and Latine (76%) kids disproportionately impacted. Many of these kids are impacted by social and environmental traumas such as violence, floods, and tornadoes. Legislators eliminating trauma-informed training with a racial lens = the state imposing more trauma onto our vulnerable youth. This will decrease students' abilities to learn, which enhances a lifetime trajectory for poverty, illness, and early death. **This is Kentucky state-sponsored legislative violence.**

Researchers and practitioners bring in tens of millions of extramural dollars across Kentucky's post-secondary institutions that sustain yearly operating budgets to equip employees and students to serve community needs. Employees will lose jobs and students will lose funding, sending a critical number of individuals and families into poverty. **This is Kentucky state-sponsored legislative violence.**

Mandatory equity education and training is central to public health, nursing, dental, medicine, and mental health, and social service employees and students because they are being prepared to raise the health profile of our society as charged by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by treating and eliminating premature death, disease, injury, and disability especially in marginalized communities, which includes but is not limited to rural, Appalachia, impoverished white, Black, Latine, and migrant communities. Without training, these communities will be negatively impacted by increased death, disability, disease, and injury, which increases the costs of care on human service systems and society. **This is Kentucky state-sponsored legislative violence, and ALL OF THIS is chronic genocide of ALL U.S. community members.**

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