

U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform  
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties  
“Confronting White Supremacy (Part VII):  
The Evolution of Anti-Democratic Extremist Groups and the Ongoing  
Threat to Democracy”

## **Confronting the New Extremism of the Woke Army and its Threat to Democracy and America’s Children**

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Testimony  
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Kamala Harris' parents,  
Shyamala Gopalan  
and Donald Harris



My parents,  
Zafar Nomani  
and Sajida Nomani

## Introduction

Good morning, Chairman Raskin, Ranking Member Mace, and members of the Subcommittee. Thank you for the honor of being able to testify to you about my reporting as a former *Wall Street Journal* reporter and a senior fellow in the practice of journalism at the Independent Women's Network.

I arrived in the United States at the age of four in the summer of 1969 as a Muslim immigrant to America from India, my parents, Zafar and Sajida Nomani, pursuing the American Dream, not much unlike the mother of Vice President Kamala Harris did as a young pioneer herself from India. I grew up in West Virginia, encouraged, supported and befriended by the (mostly white) community around me, starting with Mrs. Alke who gave me my first journal as a seventh grader at Suncrest Middle School, inspiring me to be a writer.

Over the past 20+ years, since the tragic murder of 2,996 innocent people on Sept. 11, 2001, I have investigated anti-democratic extremist groups. The extremism of these groups hit home for me on Jan. 23, 2002, when my colleague and friend from the *Wall Street Journal* left a home I was renting in Karachi, Pakistan, for an interview from which he never returned. He was the journalist Daniel Pearl.

My dining room became the command center for our hunt to find Danny, and I worked beside agents of the FBI to find my friend. We failed. Danny had been slain in the most brutal of ways, beheaded. The Muslim militants who killed him, included the alleged mastermind of the 9/11 attacks – Khalid Sheikh Mohammed – and his minions from anti-democratic Muslim extremist groups scrubbed the floor of Danny’s blood and then spread their prayer rugs to sanction their cruelty in the name of Islam.

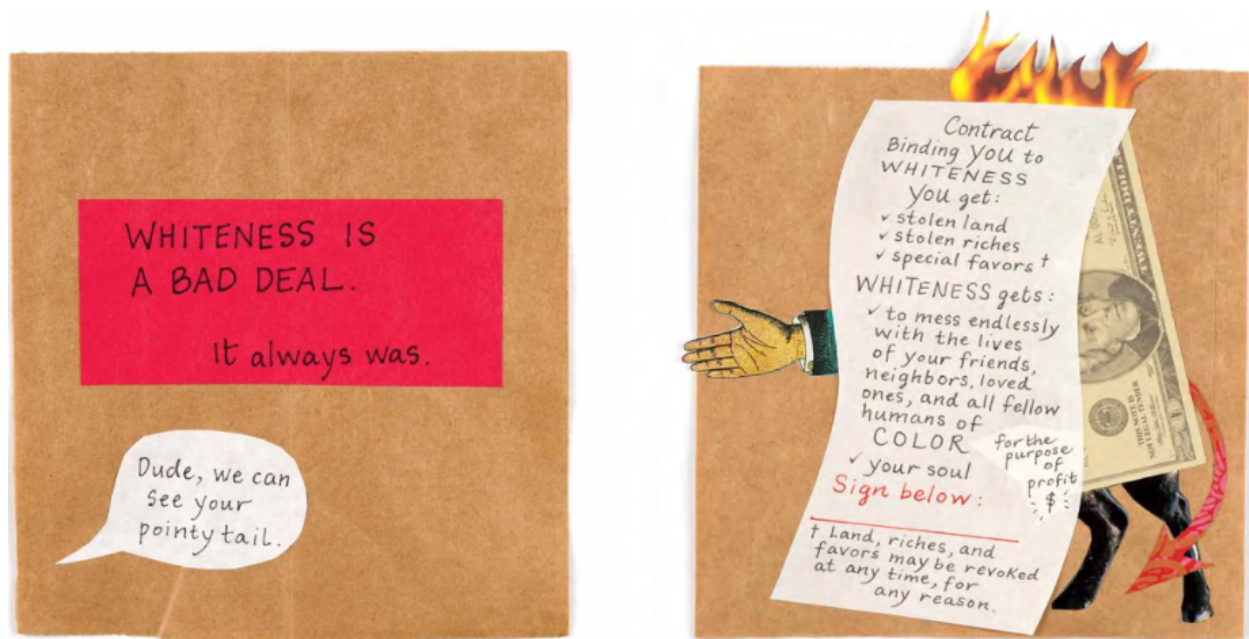
In trying to solve the mystery of my friend’s whereabouts, I got a crash course in how radicalization works. In the spring of 2002, I brought a souvenir back from Pakistan, as my niece says: a son conceived with my boyfriend in Karachi. Back in my hometown of Morgantown, W.V.. I brought my son into the world as a single mother.

Over my past 20 years, raising my son and battling extremism on many fronts, I have seen the disturbing rise of a new extremism, fomented by a Woke Army that distorts truths, spreads disinformation and leverages well-funded special interest groups to sabotage not only communities but also K-12 schools, targeting our nation’s most vulnerable: our children. The Woke Army includes an unholy alliance between Islamists whom I know very well for their ambitions for Islam in politics, not much unlike Christian nationalists, and far-left activists who use identity politics to caricature, demonize and marginalize others, much as white supremacists do.

In my 50+ years in the United States, I could never have imagined the racism, bigotry and prejudice that I have witnessed over the past two-and-half-years, not from white supremacists but from this Woke Army energized by the racial reckoning of 2020.

Why should we discuss the bigotry, racism and hate of the Woke Army? Because white supremacists do not have a monopoly on hate, and we would be remiss if we didn’t confront the threat that the Woke Army poses to democracy by waging its culture war for the hearts, minds and bodies of America’s children, seeking to indoctrinate children when they need something very simple to be productive citizens in our precious democracy: an enlightened education.

I will share with you the results of my investigative reporting and my takeaways.




*Not My Idea: A Book About Whiteness, taught in schools nationwide*

1. We must confront extremism in all forms, from Muslim supremacists to white supremacists and bigoted “anti-racists.”

In 2012, when I first testified in the U.S. Congress before the U.S. Homeland Security Committee on the issue of [radicalization within Islam](#), a curious thing happened: the Democrat representatives turned the debate to the threat of white supremacy and they didn't want to talk about the threats to democracy by extremist groups rooted in Islam. My son was then 10 years old. My mother watched in shock, as the Democrat representatives attempted to discredit me and the other Muslim reformers testifying.

When I spoke again in 2017, with my colleague Ayaan Hirsi Ali, before the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on the topic of [“Violent Extremism,”](#) the committee was shell-shocked this time. A gunman whose politics seemed clearly aligned with the American far-left had just waged a targeted assassination on Republican lawmakers playing softball. Unsurprisingly, Democrats were not raising the specter of “white supremacy” in that attack though the perpetrator was white. In fact, they seemed strangely uninterested in discussing the violence. In other words, their commitment to confronting domestic extremism seems genuine only if the extremists fit their narrative.



TYPE OF OPPRESSION	PRIVILEGED SOCIAL GROUP	BORDER SOCIAL GROUPS	OPPRESSED SOCIAL GROUPS	SOCIAL IDENTITY CATEGORY
<b>RACISM</b>	White People	Biracial People	Asian, Black, Latina/o, Native People	Race
<b>SEXISM</b>	Male assigned at birth	Intersex People	Female assigned at birth	Sex
<b>TRANSGENDER OPPRESSION</b>	Gender conforming CIS- men and women	Gender ambiguous CIS- men and women	Transgender, Genderqueer, Intersex People	Gender
<b>HETEROSEXISM</b>	Heterosexuals	Bisexuals	Lesbians, Gay men	Sexual Orientation
<b>CLASSISM</b>	Rich, Upper Class People	Middle Class People	Working Class, Poor People	Class
<b>ABLEISM</b>	Able-bodied People	People with Temporary Disabilities	Disabled People	Ability/Disability
<b>RELIGIOUS OPPRESSION</b>	Protestants	Roman Catholic (historically)	Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs	Religion

### Missouri attorney general lawsuit, Springfield Public Schools

We know this well because as Ayaan and I testified about Islamic extremism, the Democrat lawmakers ignored us, then-Sen. Kamala Harris even walking out of the room, and the others directing their questions to a white male witness with whom they agreed.

Last year, in 2021, as I went before the House Judiciary Committee to testify on the topic of “Discrimination and the Civil Rights of the Muslim, Arab, and South Asian American Communities,” I brought with me books and lessons taught today in public school districts. These books teach hate against white students, pitting students against each other in an “Oppression Matrix” and indoctrinating students with a sense of racial and gender grievances and divisions, not connection. I will share examples with you shortly.

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee demanded I stop filming her scolding of me for pointing out the bankrupt new ideology. I didn’t stop filming and afterwards invited her to meet. I never heard back. What she didn’t want to discuss was this reality: a new Woke Army is using our educational system, just as Muslim extremists used madrassas, to try to indoctrinate our children with the divisive ideology of critical race theory that stokes division, bigotry and hate.



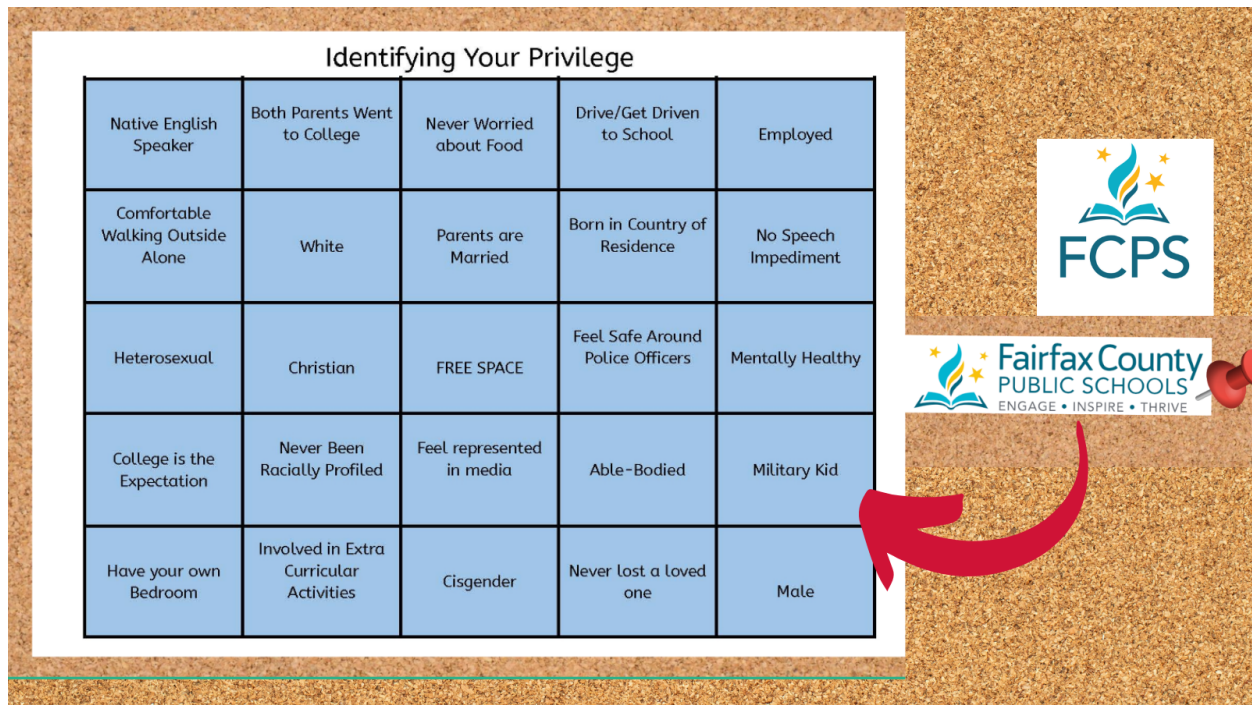
*Outside*

*Centennial Elementary School in Denver, Colorado.*

2. The new racism, bigotry and segregation of “anti-racism” must end. We must not replace the old hierarchy of human value with a *new* hierarchy of human value.

On April 22, 1965, Martin Luther King Jr, [speaking at a meeting](#) of the Massachusetts legislature, lamented the “tragedy” of school segregation. With the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the U.S. had finally dismantled the Jim Crow laws – which King had [joked](#) about burying a decade earlier. The nation had come to King’s conclusion: “Segregation debilitates the segregator as well as the segregated.”

Now, from Massachusetts to Colorado, Jim Crow is being resurrected in public schools – this time not by white supremacists but through euphemisms such as “affinity circles,” “affinity dialogue groups” and “community building groups.” Centennial Elementary School in Denver, for instance, advertised a [“Families of Color Playground Night”](#) earlier this winter, on a marquee board outside the school.



Meanwhile, in an English lesson in Fairfax County, Virginia, students played a game of “[Privilege Bingo](#).” Even “Military Kid” has been shamed as having “privilege.”

Earlier this year, the Wheeler School in Providence, Rhode Island, hosted a “[meet and talk](#)” with actress Karyn Parsons from “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air” — exclusively for its “Students of Color affinity group.” “If you are a student of color or multiracial, please join us!” the invitation from a seventh-grade teacher read.

Bigotry, meanwhile, is back on the curriculum, thanks partly to a “[Black Lives Matter at School](#)” campaign, which earlier this year recommended the book *Not My Idea: A Book about Whiteness* to children as young as six in Evanston/Skokie School District 65, outside Chicago. “Whiteness is a bad deal,” the book argues; it amounts to signing a “contract” with the devil, who is illustrated with an indelicate pointy tail.

It’s a tragedy that today’s schools are more segregated than mine was when I arrived in the United States in the summer of 1969, a four-year-old who knew not a word of English. Born in Bombay, I am the first generation of post-colonial Indians, born after the “white supremacy” of British rule. My father marched with Mahatma Gandhi and my mother cheered independence.



The Civil Rights Act was passed the year before my birth, and I learned the alphabet at Martin Luther King Elementary School in Piscataway, New Jersey. My class photo from 1975 shows 25 diverse, smiling children lined up shoulder-to-shoulder in three rows — organized by height, not skin color.

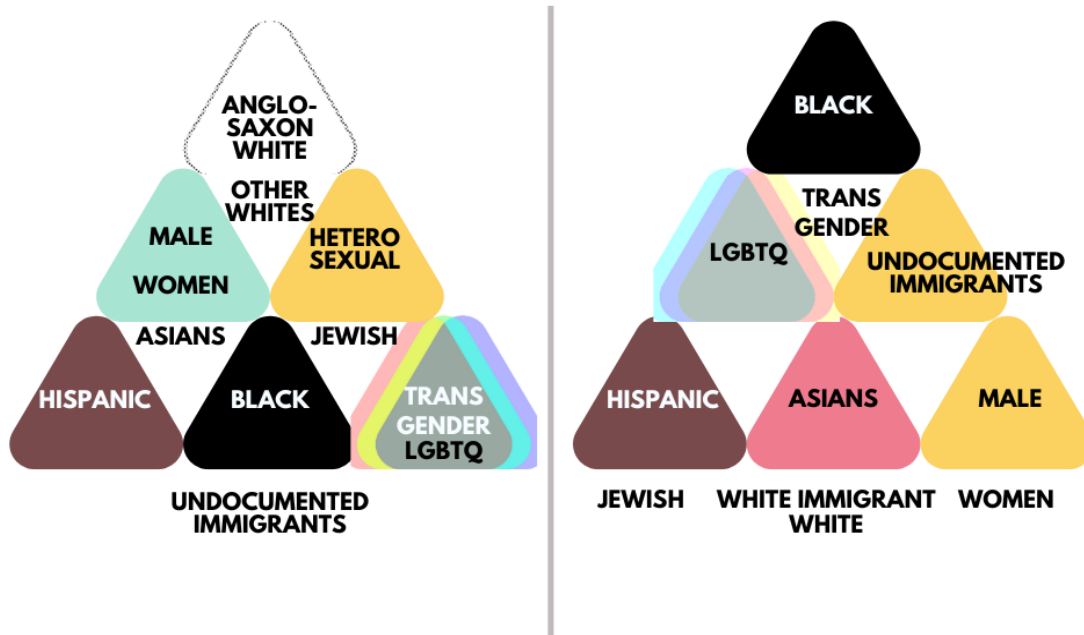
It makes me shudder to think what I would have felt if I had been told, then, to attend a “Families of Color Playground Night.” I happened to be a shy, “brown” girl raised in a Muslim immigrant family. I didn’t understand our classroom “Secret Santa” ritual or Valentine’s Day card exchanges. But I thrived in integration, not segregation.

I learned to read English with the fictional detective Nancy Drew — a white girl — as my best friend. My teachers never told me to check her privilege. Moving to mostly white Morgantown, West Virginia, I became pen pals with a white friend named Barbara I’d left behind in Piscataway; at my new school, I was blessed with exemplary teachers who happened to be white, without whose efforts I couldn’t have become a reporter for the *Wall Street Journal* at the age of 23.



# Hierarchy of Human Value

## How It Started How It's Going



The beauty of Martin Luther King Jr's America was that everyone's humanity, worth and potential was appreciated, not undermined. Fighting racism used to mean rejecting the notion of a hierarchy of human value. But today the morally twisted teachings of "anti-racism" preach that a *new* hierarchy of human value, with whiteness at the bottom, is acceptable — and even evolved and "progressive." Education activists seem intent on pushing the race-shaming, bigotry and segregation of "anti-racism."

Take the example of Wellesley Public Schools, 17 miles west of Boston. It is a system with about 4,800 students in seven elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. According to its [most recent demographics](#), it is about 70.6% white, 13.6% Asian, 6.7% multiracial, 5% Hispanic and 4.1% Black.

In September 2019, [Charmie Curry](#), a black former teacher, became Wellesley's director of "diversity, equity and inclusion". In her "entry plan," Curry wrote that she would "hit the ground, learning." On January 25, 2021, Curry emailed the middle school and high school principals about the first "affinity group" meeting on 10 February, for "our Black and Brown students and alumni." She called it a "Listening Space."

Later, the second “affinity” group meeting met on March 18, 2021, two days after a gunman killed eight people [in three Atlanta spas](#), most of them Asian women. That day, Curry hosted a “Healing Space for Asian and Asian American students (grade 6-12), faculty/staff, and others in the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community who wish to process recent events.”

A Wellesley Middle School teacher asked Curry if white students could participate. Her question answered, the teacher wrote to her students:

*“This is a safe space for our Asian/Asian-American and Students of Color, \*not\* for students who identify only as White. If you identify as White, and need help to process recent events, please know I’m here for you as well as your guidance counselors. If you need to know more about why this is not for White students, please ask me!”*

One mother wrote to the school in protest, arguing:

*“The email immediately pits one group of kids against another, ascribing guilt by mere identity to an entire population of children and adults who are equally scared by the events in Atlanta. I am concerned that in creating spaces for specific groups of students we are perpetuating the feelings of separation, isolation, and difference that we are trying to overcome”.*

If such spaces had existed in my school days, they would have carved up my diverse yet tightly knit class. Barbara and I would have been separated.

But Wellesley is far from unusual. During the 2020 summer of racial reckoning, schools across the country clamored to virtue signal their message of “social justice.” “Affinity groups” have sprung up everywhere. At [Pierce Middle School](#) in Milton Public Schools, Massachusetts, the “Mosaic Club” meets for “students of color who identify as African American/Black, Latinx/Hispanic American, Native American, Middle Eastern American, Asian/Asian American, or Multiracial.” Across the country, at [Pathfinder Elementary School](#) in Seattle Public Schools, students meet in “Lunchtime Community Building Groups for BIPOC & Multiracial Scholars, K-8.”

And in [Indianapolis Public Schools](#), “affinity groups” have held meetings with this potpourri of names: “Ability Diverse,” “Black/African American,” “LatinX,” “Asian/Pacific Islander,” “Native American/Indigenous,” “Jewish,” “Muslim,” “LGBTQIA+,” “Women’s Network,” “Multi-Racial,” “Multi-Lingual” and “Confronting White Privilege.” In private schools, too, children are segregated. [Allen-Stevenson School](#) in New York City hosts meetings of “BOCAS: Boys of Color at Allen-Stevenson” and “WISE: White Identifying Students for Equity.”

Across the country, “diversity” officers and “equity” consultants are spinning a tale that segregation is virtuous. The historically progressive Southern Poverty Law Center, established in 1971 to fight racism, now provides schools with an online “[Toolkit](#)” to create “affinity groups,” through lesson plans it calls “Learning for Justice.” It argues that “affinity groups help marginalized students to be seen and heard.” It even shows schools how to “troubleshoot questions,” like the obvious: “Aren’t affinity groups exclusionary?”

It’s strange to think that, in 2022, supporting racial segregation is not an expression “white supremacy” but a bigotry of “anti-racism.” Like most people, I am appalled by actual racism — and I am also appalled by the efforts of doctrinaire progressives to impose their divisive worldview on children. A new Jim Crow is being promoted, often by stealth, by a small cadre of illiberal activists — woke school boards, “diversity” officers and compliant teachers. They often steamroll a community with their bad ideas.

Their doctrine is abundantly clear. Whites — and only whites — are the oppressors and must acknowledge their “privilege,” and admit their shame. Blacks and “people of color,” meanwhile, are portrayed as perpetual victims, people unable to hold their own against white people, hence the need for “affinity spaces.”

Could anything be more racist? This philosophy is blatantly cultish, peddling the idea of original sin, but without the forgiveness. No wonder clear-thinking parents of all races rebel against such transparent nonsense. Teaching children there is a hierarchy of human value is as illiberal — and regressive — today as it was when King called it a “tragedy.”



- Parents are not “racist,” “domestic terrorists,” “white supremacists” or “QAnon moms.” Parental engagement is the best indicator of a child’s success and parents must be supported to nurture our youth into being healthy participants in our democracy..

Today, I am before you to tell you that, after covering violent anti-democratic extremism for 20 years as a classic liberal, I am confounded by the direction of the Biden administration and its allies – many of them assembled here today – in their strange and partisan obsession with “white supremacy.” Of course, where it exists, let us root it out.

But as an Asian American immigrant, I know that national security resources have been diverted to use “white supremacy” as a foil to ignore serious violence, including against Asian Americans. We can no longer call out “white supremacy” effectively if even parents of color – like me – are being accused of being “white supremacists.”

My son became a student in Fairfax County, Va., attending America’s No. 1 high school where we—parents and students—organized a successful protest against efforts by a woke school board to abolish the prestigious high school’s merit system for the sole purpose of favoring some racial groups over others. My son, other Asian students and

parents were targeted and slurred as “white adjacent” because we had the temerity to stand up against a proposed racialized and divisive admission system that clearly targeted us. I just learned that the principal of the school hid from about 240 of our parents the fact that our children were honored as National Merit Commended Students. She is a white principal who also tell us we should check our “privileges.”

In 2021, the San Francisco school board replaced merit-based admissions to Lowell High School with a lottery, reducing the number of Asian admissions and inspiring the recent recall of three Democratic school board members with a resounding majority of almost 80% of voters. One of those school board members, Alison Collins, once [disparaged](#) Asians as “house n\*\*\*\*r” and “the help.”

[According](#) to FBI data, anti-Asian hate crimes rose 73% between 2019 and 2020. New York City saw a 361% increase. It’s said COVID contributed to this spike. But we have something even more diabolical happening.

In the name of “equity,” a national network of illiberal activists and ideologues stoke bias against Asians, an inconvenient minority to be white-washed and shamed. In late 2020, North Thurston Public Schools in Washington state, Asian students were [not recognized](#) as “students of color” and lumped in with white students.

As immigrants, we are unapologetic in our defense of our children — and all children. We are hard-working enterprising contributors to America who understand education is the great equalizer. The immigrant leaders in our parent group, called Coalition for TJ, overcame cultural fears of retaliation to speak out. For us, nobody gets in between a parent and a child’s education. We became the mama bears and papa bears in today’s parents’ movement. And the opposition we faced weren’t white supremacists but rather activists in the Woke Army.

We oppose the new movement called “equity” that has become a Trojan horse for racism. One of the architects of antiracism, Ibram X Kendi, [wrote in his book](#), *How to Be an Antiracist*, “The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination.”

That is unacceptable. That is illegal. That is unconstitutional. We cannot woke-wash racism and bigotry. The United States Constitution — and common sense — tell us that a just society requires equality of opportunity, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or social status. “Equity” is a divisive, illiberal system fundamentally at odds with this ideal, because it preaches that there is a quota of opportunities for every group; children are now shamed and judged for their skin color, not their hard work or the content of their character. That sounds like the values of white supremacy to me.

Unfortunately, that is what is happening with the new philosophies that have become ingrained in our school systems. You can assign one of many names to this phenomenon. Critical race theory. Culturally responsive pedagogy. Antiracism. Diversity, equity and inclusion. Magical unicorn theory. By any name, it is racism. Yet, for our efforts—our Constitutional right to protest and dissent—we became the objects of something far larger and more sinister.

In the fall of 2021, we watched as the Biden administration, in league with school board bureaucrats, attempted to unleash the FBI and DOJ’s national security powers to conduct a politicized investigation of *us* as potential domestic terrorists because we loudly made our position known at school board meetings.

It inspired me to hand make this shirt: I am a mom. Not a domestic terrorist. And, today, I wear a shirt that my father, now 88, made for me with the slurs that I have been called as an accidental parent activist: “QAnon Mom,” “Disinformer,” “Domestic Terrorist” and “White Supremacist.”

You may hear today about the allegedly “white supremacist” parents in my neighboring county of Loudoun County, Va., with comparisons made between our local parents and the Proud Boys. What you will not hear is this truth: a grand jury in Loudoun County, Va., just *yesterday* indicted the school superintendent, Scott Ziegler, and his public information officer, for perjury and other acts in a cover up of the anal rape of a girl in the girls’ bathroom by a troubled boy.

Where is the bipartisan support for a Congressional investigation of this misuse and abuse of power? We’re still waiting.

**Denise - Pamela Denise Long** @PDeniseLong  
Imagine being this proud of coming to somebody else's country, suing to destroy things that don't belong to you, while— instead of fixing it—you fled a country ordered by skin color, caste, discrimination, and anti-Black racism. #India #Asia #AffirmativeAction #SCOTUS

**Asra Nomani** #WomanLifeFreed... @AsraNomani  
Born in India, I was on an emotional roller coaster today in the Supreme Court, listening to 3 justices + 4 lawyers try to gaslight America on the reality of anti-Asian racism. Fortunately, 4 justices argued fiercely. My bet: 6-2, Harvard loses. 6-3 UNC loses. America wins 🇺🇸

**Tariq Nasheed** @tariqnasheed  
**'This woman'**  
This is called PROJECTION... People who come from cultures rooted in systematic anti-Black hatred, love to project like this. This woman is from India, where their icons like Gandhi practiced anti-Black racism...  
But FBA icons fought to help get her here

**Asra Nomani** - Living in "somebody else's count... @AsraNomani... Nov 2  
Sincere question: If Black "anti-racist" activists want to dismantle "White supremacy" why have they put in their crosshairs Asian Americans who also seek civil rights and equal rights under the law?

**jmonet** @jmonet14  
**"wipes their butts"**  
Replying to @AsraNomani @Marcel4Congress and 3 others  
While ASSra's over here being a loudmouth racist, her CULTURE:  
1 treats black indians (dalit) like TRASH  
2 has a public defecation problem & wipes their butts with their hands (yup)  
instead of being a racist here, ASSra's time could be better spent fixing HER CULTURES issues

6:56 PM · 11/7/22 · Twitter Web App

**Asians are 'ignorant leeches'**

4. White supremacists don't have a monopoly on the "Great Replacement Theory." Black supremacists also preach it. We must counter bigotry wherever we confront it.

We have heard about the "Great Replacement Theory" of white nationalism. Let me introduce you to some of the smears I have heard in my experience as an Asian American immigrant, hearing the tenets of the "Great Replacement Theory" from members of a group that calls itself "Foundational Black Americans." Because I have dared to speak out against anti-Asian discrimination in admissions to Harvard University, self-described anti-racists have bombarded me with the view that I am "white adjacent," "honorary white," "white passing," and part of the "dominant culture."

These attacks are reminiscent of the words of white extremists. And yet they come from this movement called "Foundational Black Americans" — which espouses the "Great Replacement" theory of white supremacists, accusing immigrants, including black immigrants from the Caribbean and Africa, of stealing resources. In one radio show, founder Tariq Nasheed accuses black immigrants of being "tethers" to America with

“anchor babies,” “smelling like booty juice and flies,” “smelling like cheetah pee” and taking jobs and resources owed to Black people born in the U.S.

Nasheed says Foundational Black Americans is not a hate group, but rather a “lineage.” My suspicion that the ire directed at me was a comment on my immigrant status has been confirmed. I got a message recently: “Go back to India.” I’ve been accused of coming from an “upper caste family” (though I am Muslim, not Hindu); of being a “white Aryan Indian,” allegedly descending from the Aryan tribe that captured [Hitler’s imagination](#), and of having “musty underarms.”

“You Asians are the pets of white supremacy, flat face,” wrote [one Twitter user](#) from the group, Foundational Black Americans.



5. Education is a civil rights issue. Denying children appropriate education – many in protected classes – is a hate crime. We must refocus on the basics of education – writing, reading, math, science and history, instead of culture war issues of anti-racism and gender and sexual ideology, if we are to combat anti-democracy extremism.

Reasonable people of all political stripes want our nation to be vigilant against all strains of domestic terrorism regardless of the political affiliations.

How do we best accomplish moderation, rationality and critical thinking? A movement of mama bears and papa bears nationwide is dedicated to the achievement of merit, the equality of all students and the fundamental need to teach children well, so that they do not become victims to learning loss and succumb to the siren call of extremists who would indoctrinate them to nefarious purposes..

The World Bank estimates the current generation of students will lose \$21 trillion in lifetime earnings in present value, or the equivalent of 17% of today's global GDP, because of the impact of shutting down of school systems worldwide during the COVID pandemic. It calls this "learning poverty."

The U.S. Congress – including the lawmakers on the committee – have pumped billions of dollars of federal funds – from legislation with acronyms like "IDEA" and "ESSER" – into school districts – including your own. Yet, many parents watch in despair as too many of our school boards lavish that money on turf football fields and expensive consultants, many of whom are peddling a thoroughly modern kind of racism in the form of critical race theory and extreme identity, gender and sexual politics.

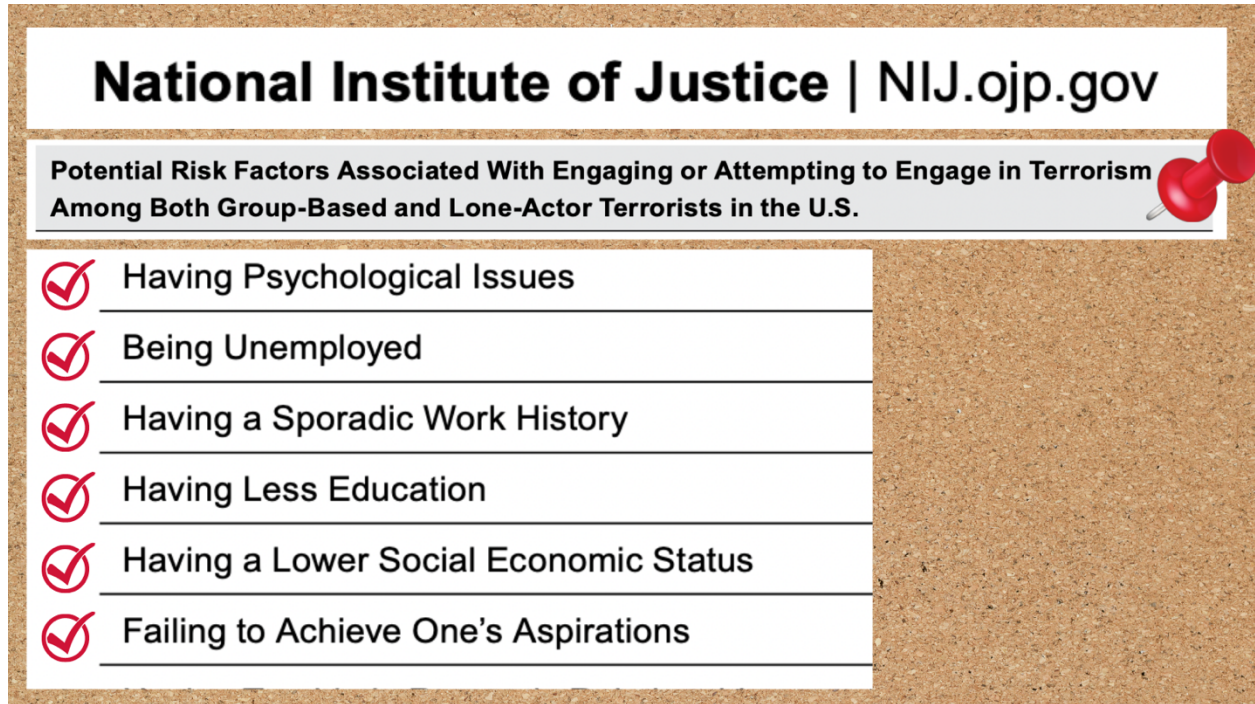
Many schools can't seem to teach our kids to read or write at grade level or prepare them for a college STEM career. But they do seem to have lots of money to throw at intrusive surveys that try to divine the gender and sexual proclivities of some small sliver of students. We need to reallocate existing funds and return resources to parents, who hold their children's best interest at heart and who are best equipped and placed to understand their educational needs.

As another immigrant parent, Kandice Lucas, an advocate for special-needs students, based in Richmond, Virginia, says, "Education is a civil rights issue. If you don't adequately educate a child – a child of color, a child with disabilities, any child – you are denying them their equal opportunity and protection. You are denying them their civil rights. Many of these children are in a protected class. Withholding education from them is a hate crime."

We must stop being myopic in our focus on "white supremacy" as the great threat facing America. In the true spirit of intersectionality, we must recognize that anti-democratic extremism comes in many forms. In their myopia, Democrat lawmakers are holding their seventh hearing on "confronting white supremacy," while ignoring the hate, racism and intolerance fomented by many other groups, including Islamic extremists, Black nationalists and the far left, who target Asian Americans, Jewish people, innocent children, parents and others, in their divisiveness.

As the Biden administration criminalizes parents as "domestic terrorists," Democrat lawmakers also ignore the greatest domestic threat our children face today: learning loss and system failure in our public schools, where activists are wasting federal, state, and local money on indoctrination, instead of education. To truly defeat extremism in all communities, we must raise a next generation of educated, enlightened citizens contributing to our great democracy.

We must stop framing parents as a domestic threat and credit them with being the frontline against the forms of indoctrination that, in fact, are the fertile ground for domestic terrorism.



Lower levels of education are a risk factor for radicalization into extremist groups, according to a [Department of Justice report](#), “Risk Factors and Indicators Associated With Radicalization to Terrorism in the United States: What Research Sponsored by the National Institute of Justice Tells Us.”

Risk factors include factors such as being unemployed, having psychological issues, having a sporadic work history, failing to achieve one’s aspirations and having a lower social economic status. All of these elements are on the rise in the U.S.

Since it is the Democrats who organized this hearing on the domestic threat to democracy, allow me to reveal the challenges that the youth face in your school districts. Please let me know if you see an error in the data. The source is Niche.com, a credible source of data about school districts. You will see that the challenges are many.

Representative	School District	Reading – Percent Proficient on State Assessment	Math – Percent Proficient on State Assessment
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14)	<a href="#">PS 69 Jackson Heights</a> (school)	59%	62%
Debbie Wasserman Schultz (Florida, 23 <sup>rd</sup> )	<a href="#">Broward County Public Schools</a>	58%	60%
Eleanor Norton (DC)	<a href="#">District of Columbia Public Schools</a>	40%	33%
Ayanna Pressley (Massachusetts, 7 <sup>th</sup> )	<a href="#">Boston Public Schools</a>	37%	35%
James Raskin (MD)	<a href="#">Montgomery County Schools</a>	32%	30%
Danny Davis – (Illinois, 7 <sup>th</sup> )	<a href="#">Chicago Public Schools</a>	27%	24%
Kweisi Mfume (Maryland, 7 <sup>th</sup> )	<a href="#">Baltimore City Public Schools</a>	21%	16%
Rashida Tlaib, (Michigan, 13 <sup>th</sup> )	<a href="#">Detroit Public Schools Community School District</a>	18%	12%
Robin Kelly (Illinois, 2 <sup>nd</sup> )	<a href="#">Hazel Crest School District 152 1/2</a>	13%	6%

If lawmakers want to not only combat extremism but also despair and unhappiness, we must focus on combatting the youth brain health crisis, which many call a mental health epidemic, exacerbated by school closures, working to ensure economic opportunities so that people are attached to meaning in their work – and don't seek meaning in an extremist group – and fostering a healthy culture of family and community life, so that people don't self-isolate as "loners" and turn against humankind.

The policy prescriptions for reducing extremism mean focusing on building a healthy society, economy and education system – all things that the far-left seem intent on destroying.

And we must recognize that the greatest domestic threat we face in America today is the learning loss from which children have not yet recovered. Instead of living in silos, concerned about only one type of extremism directed against our self-identified identity groups, It is our sacred duty to confront – and investigate – system failures in our school systems from Loudoun County, Virginia, to Dearborn, Michigan, allowing education dollars to follow the child, ending divisive indoctrination from all extremists and raising a next generation of educated, enlightened citizens contributing to our great democracy.

Thank you.

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