

Satirical Public Hearing Comment

Highlighting the bigotry underneath anti-DEI speakers arguments to a public school committee.

What we're up against: A petition was submitted to a public school committee to create an [unelected advisory group of parents](#) for the purposes of removing DEI initiatives from our city's schools. This was a local conservative movement organized and bolstered by anti-equity organization [FAIR](#) (note coded language & dog-whistles).

March 2020: School Committee Public Comment

Hello my name is Ashia Ray and as a parent of Newton students, my objective truth is more informed than the experience of the teachers and students who work in the schools every day. Which is why I am arguing in favor of a task force to make Newton Schools Great Again as the next logical step after defunding NPS in our recent override election.

School is not the place to foster open discussion about society or how marginalization affects students' academic performance!

Parents who can keep quiet about injustice should have the authority to funnel school resources into individuals who have bootstrapped their way into the college track - through hard work, generational wealth, and the favoritism of teachers who share their cultural and social affinities. So task forces like this should drain the time and energy of people who choose to be working poor, single parents, the cripples, the gays, the transes, and the people who choose to be colored.

The goal of this task force is to prevent groupthink - that is, to ban affinity spaces where students who don't like being targets of racism, antisemitism, and other imaginary bigotry, come together for support without people like me butting in to tell them to just avoid the bathrooms with swastikas.

In addition to affinity groups, curriculum informed by people with lived experience and rigorous academic training opens our innocent, vulnerable children to learning American history - and how the policies of our ancestors have impacted the divisions that I am fine with today.

This makes me uncomfortable. Despite being a person who chooses to be colored myself, I have many friends who choose to identify as white, wealthy, and non-disabled. Even though I didn't consult them, I think it's fair for me to speak *for* them. In fact, I'm so convinced of my own intelligence that I obviously speak for *all* people.

A Karens comfort should take priority over how welcome any child feels at school. If a student chooses to identify as Asian, they can do that at *home*. They don't need to bring that perversity to school, and should be tolerant of glaring omissions about voting rights, westward expansion, and how this xenophobia informs the political legislation of today.

In closing, we should:

1. Create this taskforce
2. Ban uncomfortable history
3. Stop letting weirdos share their experiences
4. And prevent free speech unless I agree with what's being said

Intolerance, bigotry, and racism have no place in our schools, which is why we should stop talking about it and hope no one notices.