

Dear Editor:

NOTE: IT'S PREFERABLE TO GET AN ELEMENTARY TEACHER TO SIGN THIS ONE.

I know the joke is that the politicians and right-wing activists clamoring about CRT couldn't explain the theory to save their lives. I'm sure that's true, but, sadly, it's no joke. Their understanding of CRT is so flawed that, in Tennessee, the anti-CRT forces want to ban the award-winning book "The Story of Ruby Bridges."

Williamson County, Tenn., which borders Kentucky, is ground zero for anti-CRT hysteria, and Republicans there are claiming that a book that describes how a little Black girl helped to integrate a school in New Orleans in 1960 somehow teaches students to hate white people. Huh?

I've been teaching since XXXX, so I've actually read this book — unlike its detractors. It was released in 1995, and somehow no one ever thought it was racist until Fox News invented the CRT crisis a few months ago. And it's obvious why not: it's ridiculous! Does learning about the American Revolution make us hate the British? Does learning about the War of 1812 make us hate Canada? Does learning about child labor make us hate factory owners? Does learning about labor unions make us hate mining magnates? Does learning about extinct species make us hate hunters? It would be funny if the inmates weren't in charge of the asylum.