

The State of Education CENSORSHIP

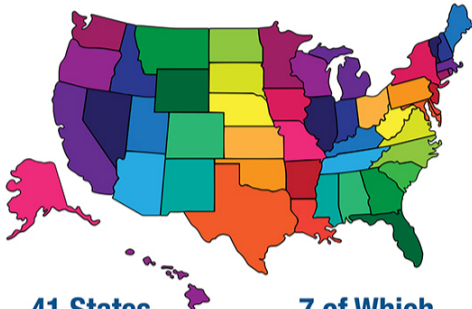


In Institutions of Higher Ed, and
Implications for the Field

33%

Of Live Educational Gag Order Bills and Enacted Laws
Affect Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) Directly.

In the United States



41 States

Have introduced education
censorship bills

7 of Which

Have higher ed gag
orders in force

What's Being Censored Across IHEs?

Discussions and curriculum regarding:



Race and Racism



**LGBTQ + People
and Inclusion**



**Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion**

Legislative Themes Across States Implicating IHEs

1

Scapegoating: Inaccurately defining and vilifying important concepts and pedagogy as "divisive," effectively victimizing and inappropriately centering white, straight, and/or cisgendered students and communities.

2

Uses Broad Language for a Chilling Effect: "Divisive concepts" is a rhetorical association to "diversity," which effectively criminalizes students, faculty, and other educational stakeholders who identify as part of these communities, as well as allies or proponents of diversity of thought in schools

3

Implicates Public Sectors and Their Employees:

Prohibiting "divisive concepts" in public schools, IHEs, and state agencies affords states greater leverage in monitoring and penalizing institutions, agencies and their employees.

4

Threatens to Withhold Funding: States' willingness to withhold funding from institutions sets a precedent that others may use to enforce state-sanctioned, curricular violence against students and faculty in IHEs.

We identified approximately 20 states that use
the term CRT in their prohibitive legislation.

Potential Implications for EPPs

- ✓ Restrict the intellectual freedom of teacher educators and the liberty to create program standards that support this work
- ✓ Create significant and costly bureaucratic burdens that stifles student learning
- ✓ Negatively impact retention and attrition rates among educators
- ✓ Inhibit the ability of educators to fully serve diverse students and their needs
- ✓ Interfere with research-based, instructional practices that maximize critical thinking skills and prepare students to compete in an increasingly globalized market economy
- ✓ Prevent use of innovatively inclusive content and curriculum standards in teacher preparation programs

The Stop CRT Act, proposed by the Senate in July of 2021, includes the prohibition of "the allocation of federal funds to an ... institution of higher education that compels teachers or students to affirm certain race-based theories"

Visit aacte.org to read the full report and explore our Addressing Censorship Toolkit, a resource from AACTE and organizations also combatting censorship.