

Maskoura

In recent years, there have been pushes in front of trains, hit and run with feces, and the same time last year. He also stated that he created an anti-homeless ordinance after role playing with the transportation system. He stated that 22 homeless individuals were removed from the same period in 2021. He also stated that the money will have expired and crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. He also stated that the mayor should remove all the homeless. He also stated that they should be allowed to use the train but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tumblers. He also stated that it is better to have a violence-free environment. He also stated that the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program is for homelessnes and formerly incarcerated individuals. He also stated that the AOT program is mandatory as per the law whenever possible.

Gov. Hochul should support Medicaid waivers, as Adams has urged. These would allow New York to expand services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of people receiving care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the program was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. He also stated that he met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the failing warehouse shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commits wrongdoing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, a 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.

In recent months, subway riders have been pushed in front of trains, hit with a hammer and sledge with forceful random arrests (80% compared to the same time last year). Homelessness and lawlessness have created an emergency in the subway. Mayor Adams announced his subway Safety Plan to reduce crime and remove the homeless from the nation's largest underground transportation system. During the first year of enforcement, only 100 homeless individuals were removed. It's more than 100,000 homeless people who still exist. While the mayor's plan is a welcome change, he and his administration must act with more urgency. Without safe subways, we cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity. Subway ridership and revenue from fares are down significantly compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Metropolitan subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking." What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. the mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off. They should, of course, be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups believe in keeping the mentally ill on the subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his effort to clean up our subways.

To stem the tide of the mentally ill living underground and on our streets, the mayor correctly suggests a greater use of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of homelessness, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding AOT usage is on Rikers Island. The Community Reentry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides case services for formerly incarcerated individuals who have severe mental illness and are reentering the five boroughs upon release from jail. CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. NYC Health and Hospitals, which operates the organization, should make this assessment mandatory as part of continued funding. DHS and HRA also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

Gov. Hochul should apply for Instructions for Medicaid (IMD) Medicaid waivers, as Adams has urged. These would allow New York to use Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently visited the Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the failing warehouse shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commences doing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new policies to help the businesses and startups. My contracts will not succeed by inviting talent into an antiquated system that is a reputation for corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, the homeless New York media in his 2021 report increase by just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the shelter striking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them help themselves, now.

Marlene

In recent months, subway riders have been pushed in front of trains, hit with a hammer and struck with feces. Transit crime is up 80% compared to the same time last year. Homelessness and lawlessness have created an emergency. In response, Mayor Adams announced his Subway Safety Plan to reduce crime and remove the homeless from the nation's largest underground transportation system. During the first week of enforcement, only 22 homeless individuals were removed. A month after rollout, homeless encampments still exist. While the mayor's plan is a welcome change, he and his administration must act with more urgency. Without safe subways, we cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity. Subway ridership and revenue from fares are down significantly compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Meanwhile, subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

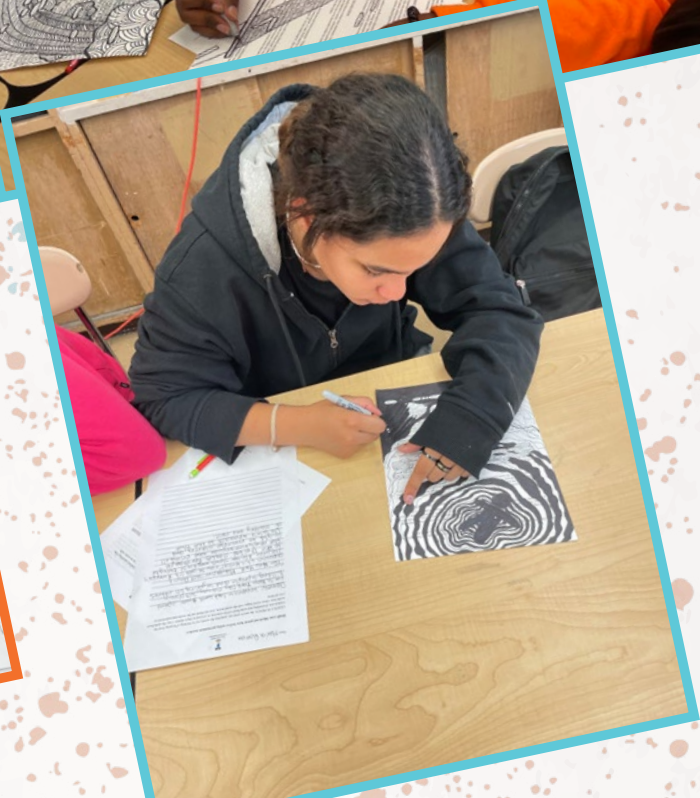
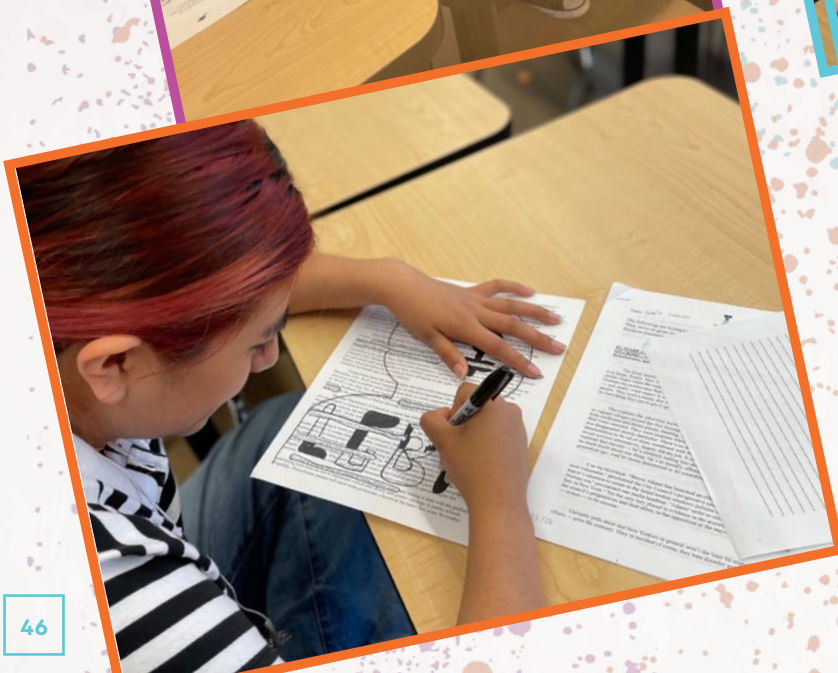
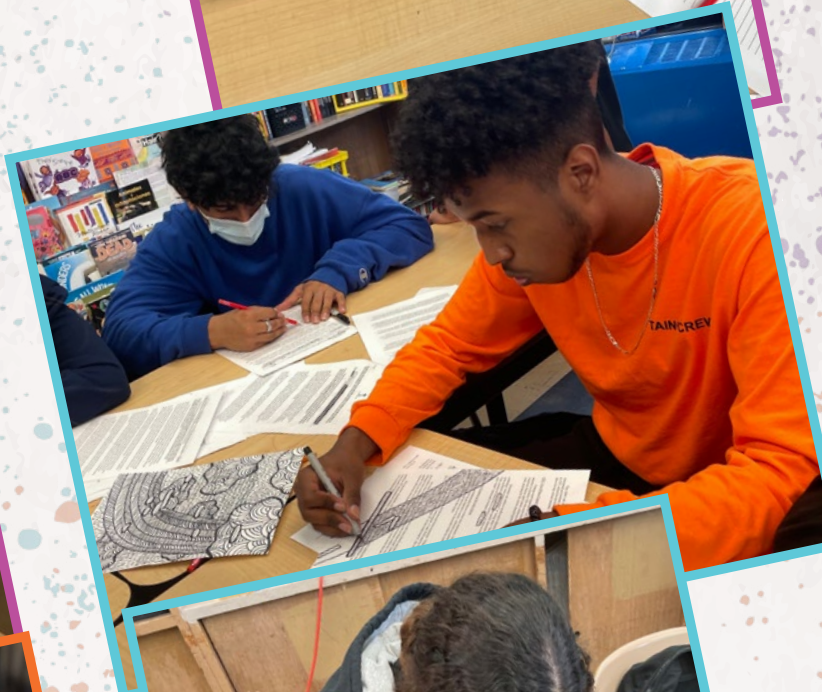
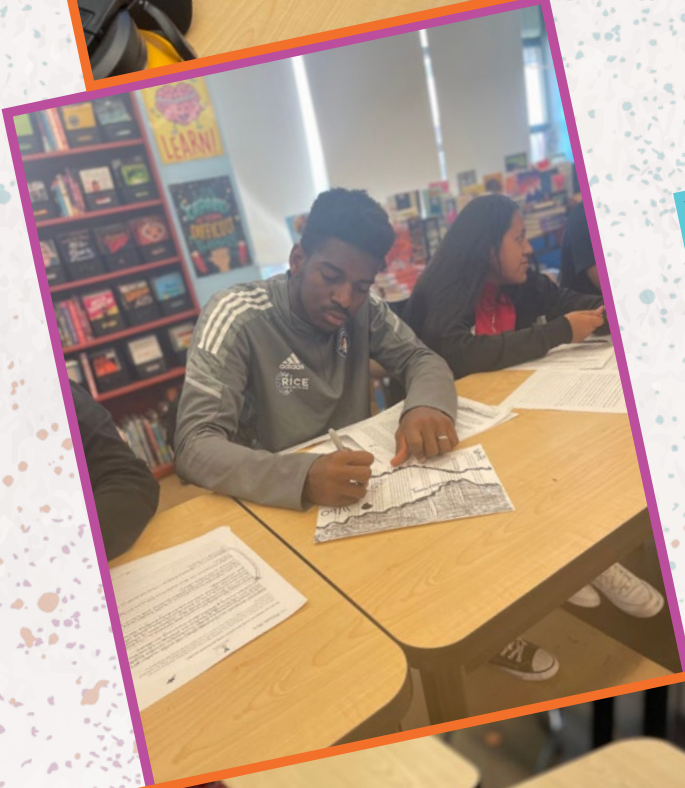
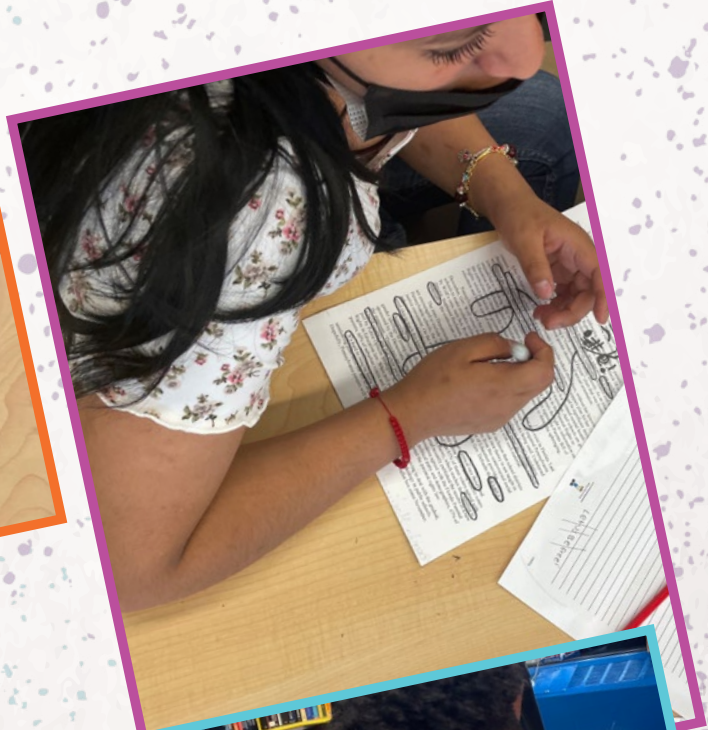
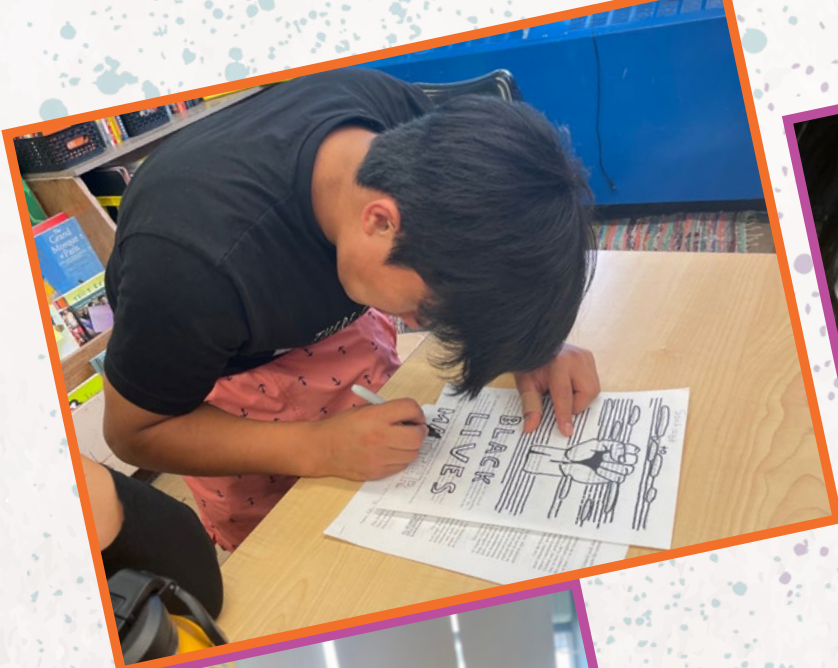
Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking." What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. The mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off. They should, of course, be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and they should exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups sue the city for letting mentally ill people on subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than on the subway. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of people who support his efforts to clean up our subways.

Underground and on our streets, the mayor correctly suggests a greater emphasis on mental health programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs receive police escorts, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding is the Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) which provides support for individuals who have severe mental illness and are reentering the five boroughs. The city should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. The city should support this organization, should make this assessment mandatory for all providers. CRAN also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

Governor Hochul has approved Mental Diseases (IMD) Medicaid waivers, as Adams has urged. These waivers would allow the city to use state funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could help reduce the number of people who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, the city proposed the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. This bill was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials have recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Johnson to discuss the need for a new crisis-style shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even if the city commits wrongdoing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's real problem is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No matter how the city handles this, if contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second highest number of Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet minimum standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city should establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, a 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.



CLASS G

AXEL	46
ALEX	47
KEVIN	48
CHANEL	49
NATALIA	50
EMMANUEL	51
RAUL	52
MARIA	53
IVY	54
ADIN	55
ROSAURA	56
BRENDA	57
ERICK	58
GRACE	59
MARJORIE	60

Axel

A woman in the U.K. wrote in a blog post on Medium that she experienced a real horror play out in the virtual game Horizon Worlds developed by Meta, formerly known as Facebook.

"Within 60 seconds of joining, she wrote in the post from December, "I was verbally and sexually harassed - 3-4 male avatars with male voices, essentially, but virtually gang raped my avatar." She details watching her avatar get sexually assaulted by a handful of male avatars, who took photos and sent her comments like "don't pretend you didn't love it."

The woman is vice president of Metaverse Research for Kabuni Ventures, an immersive technology company. Meta released Horizon Worlds to everyone 18 years and older in the United States and Canada on Dec. 9 after an invite-only beta test a year ago. It features thousands of virtual worlds by creators and is free to download for all users, but Meta plans to monetize the game by facilitating e-commerce and advertising, according to CNBC, similar to how it profits from its social media ventures Facebook and Instagram. Meta did not immediately respond to a request for comment on WEDNESDAY to comment on the report.

Meta envisions a virtual world where people can interact through work, travel or entertainment using VR headsets. Zuckerberg said the metaverse could replace the internet as we know it. "The next platform will be even more immersive than the internet where you're in the experience," he said. "And we call this the metaverse," said Zuckerberg last month after revealing the company's new branding.

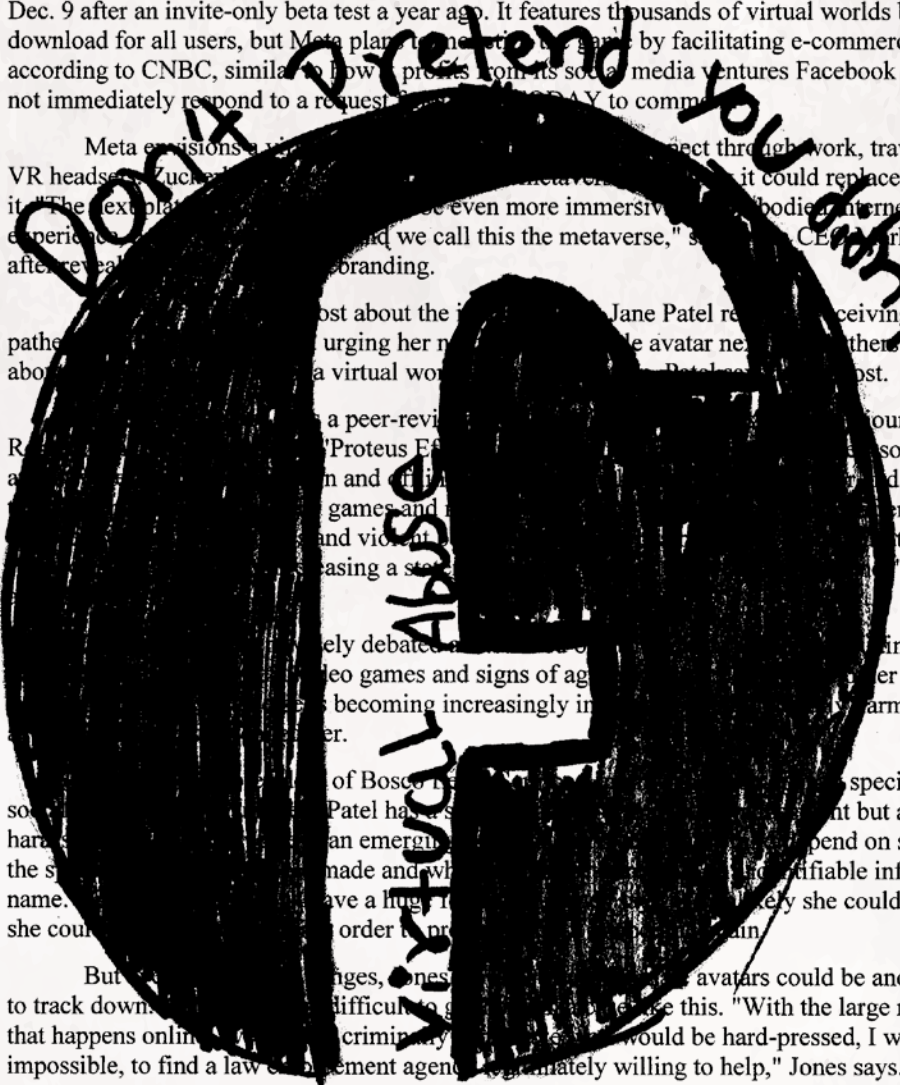
Most about the incident, Jane Patel received comments calling it "a pathetic excuse" and "urging her not to be a victim." The avatar news outlet has raised questions about the incident in a virtual world, Patel said in a post.

In a peer-reviewed journal of Communication Research, "Proteus Effect" and social behavior on the avatar. The study found that more attractive avatars led to more aggressive behavior, but the link was not significant. The American Psychological Association found "evidence" of a causal relationship between avatar appearance and behavior.

Patel has previously written about the issue. Her research shows a link between avatar appearance and behavior. Her research disputing it. Patel said she experienced in her virtual world.

Patel has a background in specializing in cyber and digital security. She acknowledges that harassment in virtual worlds depends on several factors, such as the amount of identifiable information, such as her name. She said she could sue for defamation, but she could not afford to pay for legal fees.

But she said that avatars could be anonymous and may be hard to track down. "It's difficult to get someone to sue this. "With the large majority of harassment that happens online, it's criminally negligent. If I were a lawyer, I would be hard-pressed, I would say almost impossible, to find a law enforcement agency that is ultimately willing to help," Jones says.



Don't pretend you didn't love it

VIRTUAL ABUSE

Alex

White

Our nation has been rocked by at least two significant acts of terrorism. Last week, Frank James opened fire in a New York City subway, injuring 23 people. In Milwaukee, a man named Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing 10 people and injuring 60 others.

Both perpetrators are black. Yet it is a bit unclear why that mass shooting was not seen as a crime perpetrated by white men. More significantly, both Brooks and James are depicted in the news media advocating violence toward white people in the lead-up to their attacks, strongly suggesting race as a key motive for their acts of violence. (Naturally, the news media has neglected to find out if this was indeed their motivation). Did James Quintez Brown, a white supremacist and neo-Nazi, attempt an assassination of a Louisville mayoral candidate in February, and if so, how many people were killed? Five Dallas police officers in 2016. Meanwhile, the lives of black people in this country have plummeted.

These incidents, particularly during increasing white nationalist activity, suggest that CRT has been a detriment to racial progress rather than a force for good. The harmful impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

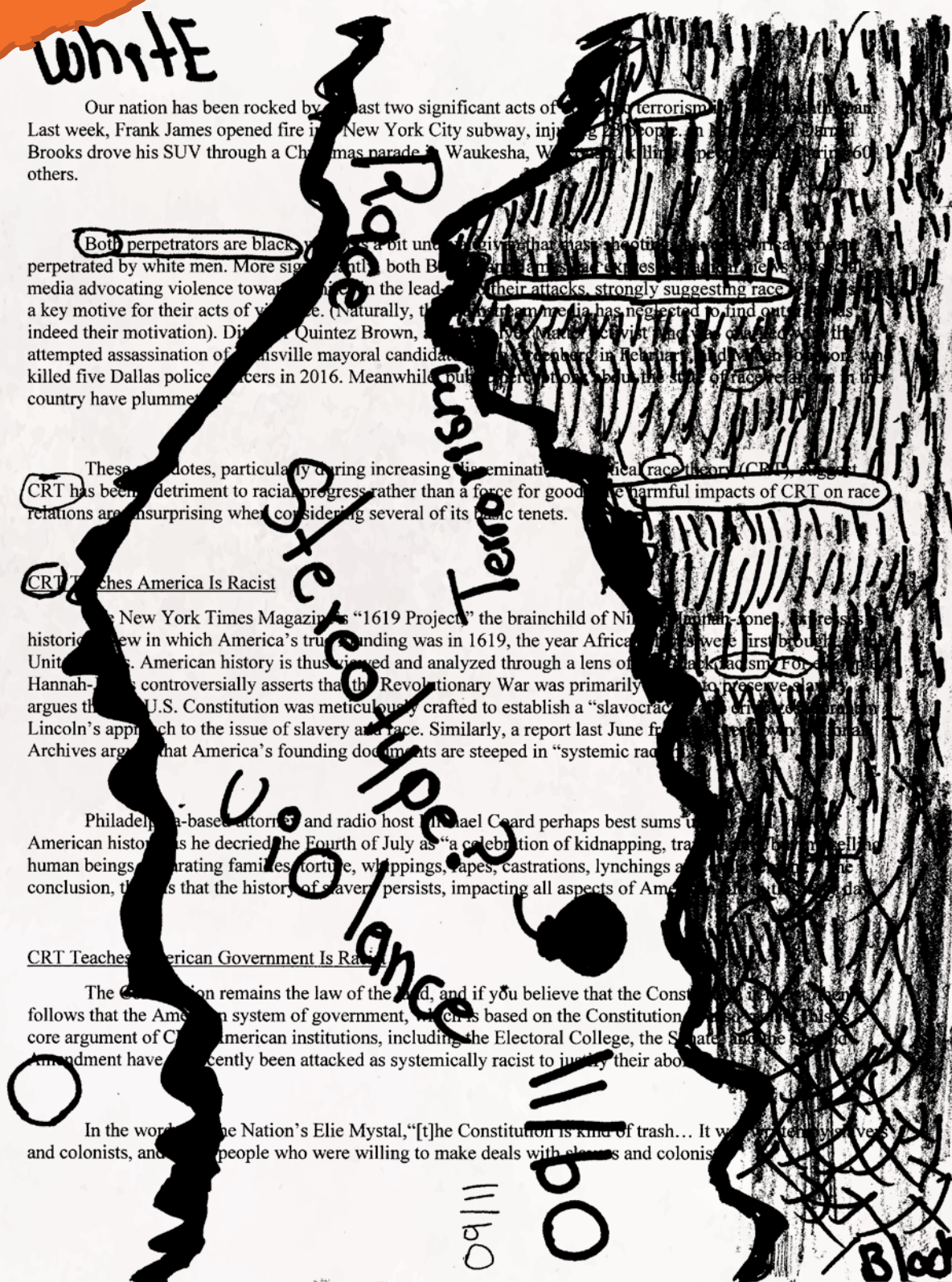
The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project" is the brainchild of Nikole Hannah-Jones, a journalist and historian. In her piece, she argues that American history is thus viewed and analyzed through a lens of racial bias. For example, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery. She argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish a "slavocracy." Similarly, a report last June from the American Archives argues that America's founding documents are steeped in "systemic racism."

Philadelphia-based attorney and radio host Michael Coard perhaps best sums up the view of American history as he decried the Fourth of July as "a celebration of kidnapping, trafficking, selling of human beings, separating families, torture, whippings, rapes, castrations, lynchings and other horrors." His conclusion, therefore, is that the history of slavery persists, impacting all aspects of American life today.

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land, and if you believe that the Constitution is the core of American identity, it follows that the American system of government, which is based on the Constitution, is the core of American identity. The core argument of CRT is that American institutions, including the Electoral College, the Senate and the Supreme Court, are fundamentally racist. The 13th Amendment have recently been attacked as systemically racist to justify their abolition.

In the words of the Nation's Elie Mystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slaves and colonists, and by people who were willing to make deals with slaves and colonists."



Race
Stress
Terrorism
Violence

09/11

09/11

Blot

They didn't ask anybody who looked like me what they thought about the Constitution." Allegations of widespread government-sanctioned suppression of minority voters also continue to persist. Therefore, according to CRT, minorities are forced to live in a system designed to oppress them, and the system is too flawed to allow for any reform internally.

CRT: Non-Whites Cannot Succeed Within the System

Perhaps most important to CRT and "wokeness" is the tenet that you cannot truly be successful as a minority in America. This was most clearly illustrated in a July 2020 display at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which accredited several objective measures of successful behavior (e.g. hard work, planning for the future, delayed gratification, the scientific method) as part of White Culture.

Minorities who achieve wealth and/or educational success in the United States are openly attacked as exhibiting "white characteristics" or "acting white." Successful African-Americans who don't adhere to every woke political or social stereotype are quickly dismissed as "cornball brothers," "oreos," or "Uncle Toms." Thus, success for minorities in America is not taken as evidence of racial progress, but as a sign of conformity with "white" values and a betrayal of racial identity.

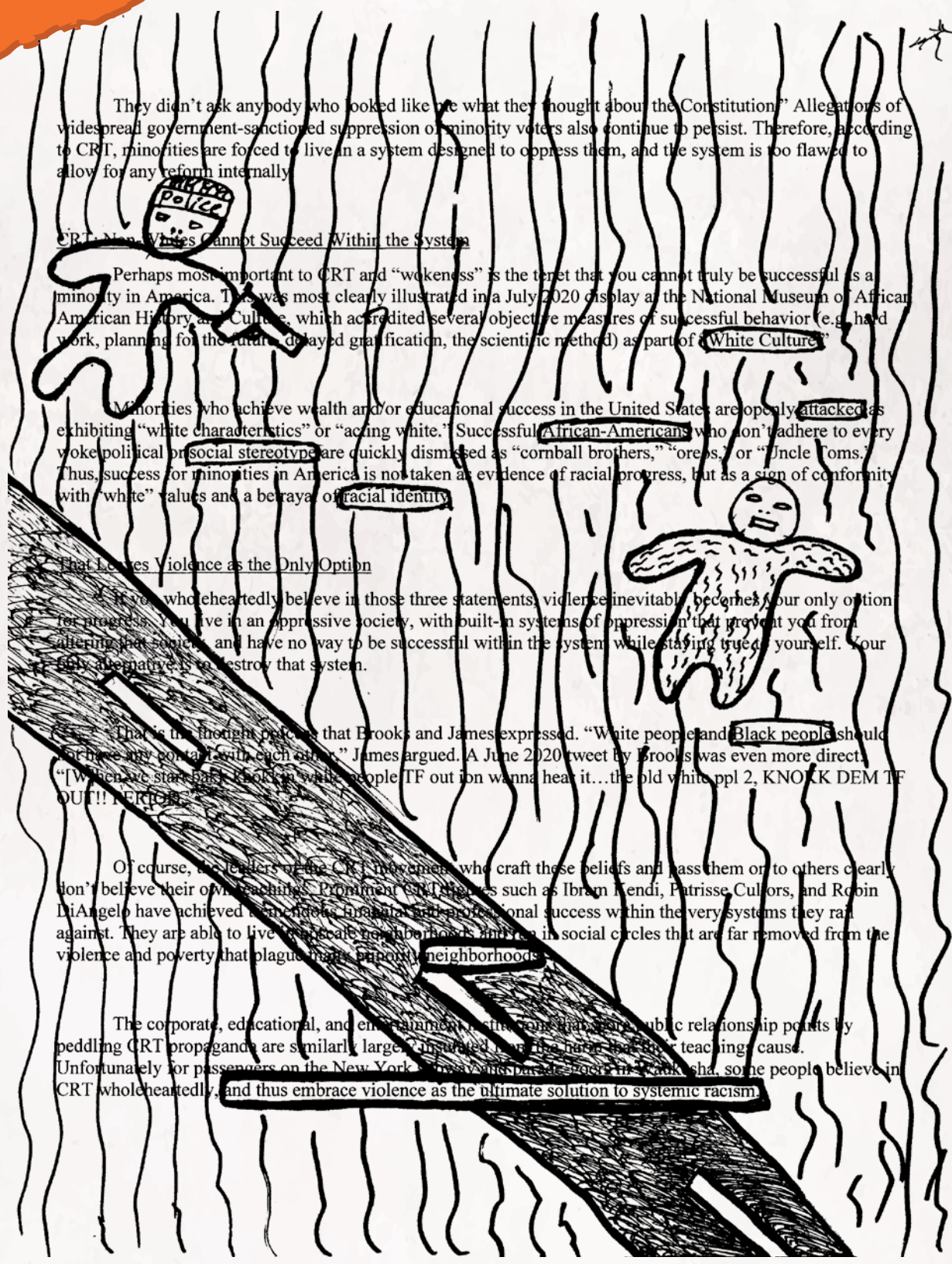
That Leaves Violence as the Only Option

If you who heartedly believe in those three statements, violence inevitably becomes your only option for progress. You live in an oppressive society, with built-in systems of oppression that prevent you from altering that society, and have no way to be successful within the system while staying true to yourself. Your only alternative is to destroy that system.

That is the thought process that Brooks and James expressed. "White people and Black people should not have any contact with each other," James argued. A June 2020 tweet by Brooks was even more direct. "[W]hen we start talking about white people TF out ion wanna hear it...the old white ppl 2, KNOCK DEM TF OUT!! PERIOD."

Of course, the leaders of the CRT movement who craft these beliefs and pass them on to others clearly don't believe their own teachings. Prominent CRT figures such as Ibram Kendi, Patrisse Cullors, and Robin DiAngelo have achieved enormous financial and professional success within the very systems they rail against. They are able to live in upscale neighborhoods and join in social circles that are far removed from the violence and poverty that plague their support neighborhoods.

The corporate, educational, and entertainment institutions that serve public relationship points by peddling CRT propaganda are similarly largely insulated from the harm of the teaching cause. Unfortunately for passengers on the New York City subway parade going in the same direction, some people believe in CRT wholeheartedly, and thus embrace violence as the ultimate solution to systemic racism.



It wasn't that long ago when my three adult children were little kids. Throughout their childhood, I never had to worry about what was being taught in their schools. I never had to worry that a student of the opposite sex was going to play on my children's sports teams or use their school bathrooms. Most importantly, I was never afraid that teachers, counselors, and administrators might deliberately conceal what was being taught in school. But oh, how times have changed in the 10 years since my youngest child graduated from high school. Many parents today are worried that critical race theory and gender ideology are being taught without the parents' knowledge or consent. Neither was included in the curriculum when my kids were in school.

I applaud Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for addressing the concerns many parents have about the changing school curriculum. DeSantis signed the Parental Rights in Education bill at a March 28 ceremony. Dubbed by critics as the "Don't Say Gay" bill, the new law prohibits classroom instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in kindergarten through third grade. After third grade, sex education in Florida must be age appropriate. The law empowers parents to sue school districts over violations. DeSantis said the law was needed because of incidents of LGBTQ indoctrination of young children in Florida schools. As an example, he displayed LGBTQ educational materials including a "Genderbread Person" chart that was found in Florida classrooms and used to teach young children about gender identity and sexual orientation.

After DeSantis spoke, Florida mom January Littlejohn talked about how, without her knowledge or consent, a Florida middle school created a transgender, gender nonconforming support plan for her 13-year-old daughter. "Social transition is a medical and mental health intervention that can lead to significant decisions that will impact the child's mental and physical well-being," said Littlejohn, who is a licensed mental health counselor in Florida. "Often social transition is the first step toward medical transition. And schools are grossly unqualified to be taking these steps without parental involvement." In addition to the Parental Rights in Education bill, DeSantis signed curriculum transparency legislation giving parents the right to information on the curriculum and library books in their children's schools. Last year, DeSantis signed the Parents Bill of Rights, which prohibits the government from infringing on the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education and health care of minor children.

Pennsylvania lacks the parental rights and curriculum transparency laws that now exist in Florida. Last December, Gov. Wolf vetoed transparency in education legislation that would have required Pennsylvania schools to make available online information such as curriculum, textbooks being used. Undeterred by Wolf's veto, state Sen. Ryan Williams is crafting legislation that would require the Department of Education director, Stephanie Buchanan, to get parental consent before using any sexually explicit materials in the curriculum or before allowing students to access library books with such material.

The state Department of Education website has information on equity and inclusion that school districts are encouraged to include in their curriculum, while the website states that critical race theory is not taught in Pennsylvania schools. The information on the website uses many of the concepts from this controversial social justice movement. On the website, under equity and inclusion, the Department of Education provides information on LGBTQ inclusive curricula starting in kindergarten. I agree with Gov. DeSantis that it's not a good idea to teach this kind of material to young children.

According to recent polls, voters across party lines disapprove of teaching critical race theory and gender ideology to young children in public schools. For instance, a recent online poll of swing district voters sponsored by the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee found that 61% of these voters agreed with the statement, "Democrats are teaching kids as young as five critical race theory, which teaches that America is a racist country and that white people are racist." The Wall Street Journal recently published the results of a new poll by Public Opinion Strategies. According to the poll, 61% of respondents agreed with the Florida Parental Rights in Education law. When poll participants were categorized by political party and demographics, 67% of parents, 60% of suburban voters and 55% of Democratic voters supported the parental rights law.

It's hard to imagine being the parent of young children today and having to deal with the gradual, unrelenting push from the left to implement critical race theory and gender ideology in public schools. Hopefully, Pennsylvania parents will teach woke politicians a lesson at the ballot box come November.

It wasn't that long ago when my three adult children were little kids. Throughout their childhood, I never had to worry about what was being taught in their schools. I never had to worry that a student of the opposite sex was going to play on my children's sports teams or use their school bathrooms. Most importantly, I was never afraid that teachers, counselors, and administrators might deliberately conceal what was being taught in school. But oh, how times have changed in the 10 years since my youngest child graduated from high school. Many parents today are worried that critical race theory and gender ideology are being taught without the parents' knowledge or consent. Neither was included in the curriculum when my kids were in school.

I applaud Florida Governor DeSantis for addressing the concerns many parents have about the changing school curriculum. DeSantis signed the Parental Rights in Education bill at a March 28 ceremony. Dubbed by critics as the "Don't Say Gay" bill, the new law prohibits classroom instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in kindergarten through third grade, sex education in middle school, and any instruction that is not appropriate. The law empowers parents to sue school districts over violations. DeSantis said the law was needed because of incidents of LGBTQ indoctrination of young children in Florida. As an example, he said a teacher displayed LGBTQ educational materials including a "Genderbread Person" poster that was found in Florida classrooms and used to teach young children about gender identity and sexual orientation.

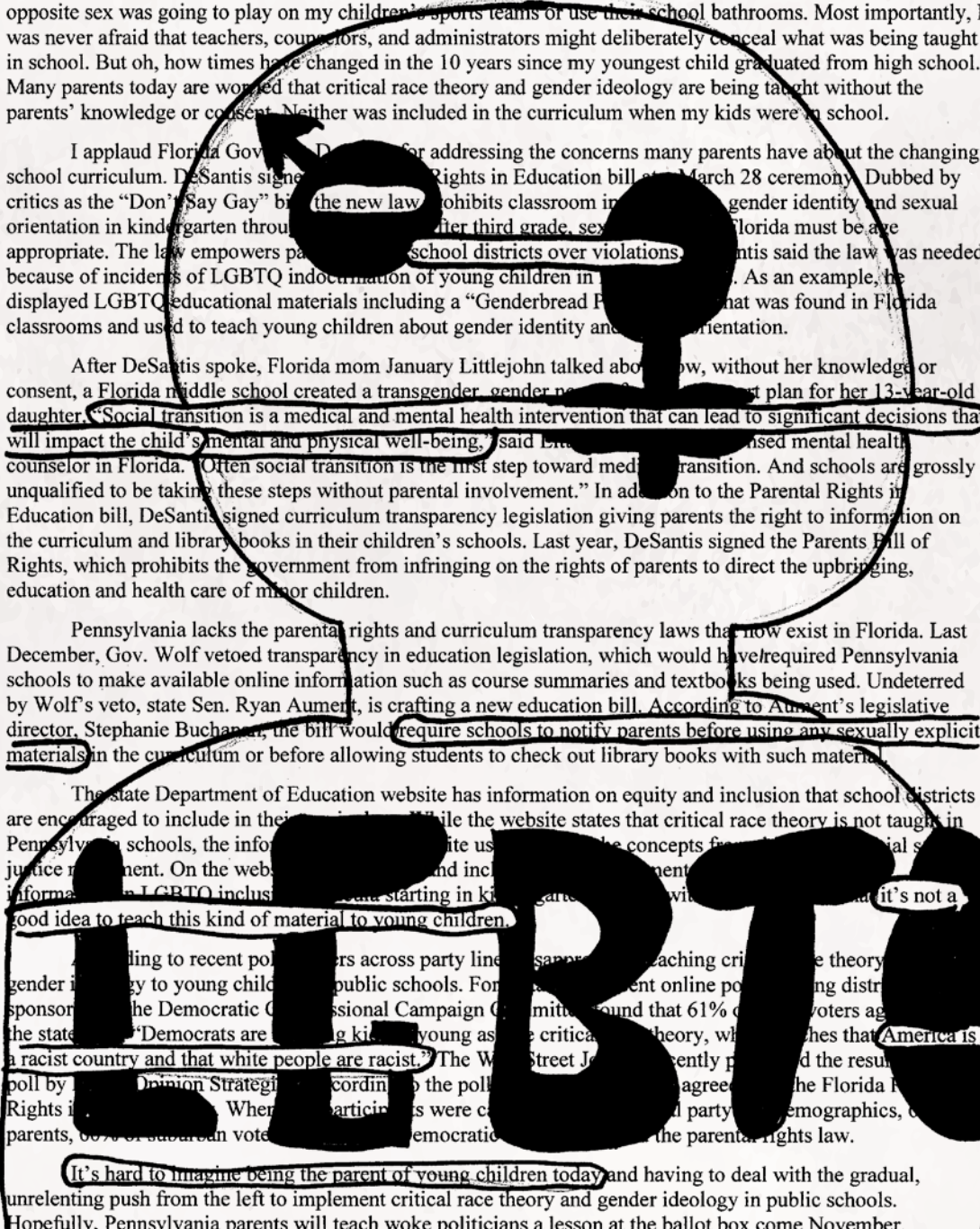
After DeSantis spoke, Florida mom January Littlejohn talked about how, without her knowledge or consent, a Florida middle school created a transgender gender plan for her 13-year-old daughter. "Social transition is a medical and mental health intervention that can lead to significant decisions that will impact the child's mental and physical well-being," said Littlejohn, a licensed mental health counselor in Florida. "Often social transition is the first step toward medical transition. And schools are grossly unqualified to be taking these steps without parental involvement." In addition to the Parental Rights in Education bill, DeSantis signed curriculum transparency legislation giving parents the right to information on the curriculum and library books in their children's schools. Last year, DeSantis signed the Parents Bill of Rights, which prohibits the government from infringing on the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education and health care of minor children.

Pennsylvania lacks the parental rights and curriculum transparency laws that now exist in Florida. Last December, Gov. Wolf vetoed transparency in education legislation, which would have required Pennsylvania schools to make available online information such as course summaries and textbooks being used. Undeterred by Wolf's veto, state Sen. Ryan Aument, is crafting a new education bill. According to Aument's legislative director, Stephanie Buchanan, the bill would require schools to notify parents before using any sexually explicit materials in the curriculum or before allowing students to check out library books with such materials.

The state Department of Education website has information on equity and inclusion that school districts are encouraged to include in their curricula. While the website states that critical race theory is not taught in Pennsylvania schools, the information on the website uses the concepts from the critical race theory social justice movement. On the website, it says "and inclusion of the concepts from the critical race theory social justice movement." Information on LGBTQ inclusion starts in kindergarten. "It's not a good idea to teach this kind of material to young children."

According to recent polls across party lines, support for teaching critical race theory and gender ideology to young children in public schools. For example, a recent online poll by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee found that 61% of voters agree with the statement "Democrats are teaching kids that young as the critical race theory, which says that America is a racist country and that white people are racist." The Washington Post recently published the results of a poll by the Pew Research Center. According to the poll, 61% of voters agree with the Florida Parental Rights in Education bill. When asked if they support the bill, 61% of voters, regardless of party, demographics, or race, supported the parental rights law.

It's hard to imagine being the parent of young children today and having to deal with the gradual, unrelenting push from the left to implement critical race theory and gender ideology in public schools. Hopefully, Pennsylvania parents will teach woke politicians a lesson at the ballot box come November.



Emmanuel

subway riders have been pushed in front of train. Transit crime is up 80% compared to the same time last year. Homelessness and lawlessness have created an emergency. Mayor Adams announced his Subway Safety Plan to remove the homeless. Homeless individuals were removed. We cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Meanwhile, subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking." What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. The mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off. They should, of course, be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups believe in keeping the mentally ill on subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his efforts to clean up our subways.

Let's get all the homeless off our streets, the mayor... great... Suburban... Treatment... programs better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of homelessness, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding AOT usage is on Rikers Island. The Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides services for... who have severe mental illness and are reentering... CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for... health and... supports... organization, should make this assessment... DHS and HRA... need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever... sible

Gov. Hochul should apply Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Medical waivers, as Adams has... These would allow New York to use Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was... Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the... shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider... doing, often that provider continues to receive... the city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.

...seconds of joining, she was harassed by 50 male avatars, with male voices, essentially, but virtually gang raped my avatar. She details watching her avatar get sexually assaulted by the beautiful male avatars who took photos and sent her comments like "don't report."

The woman's voice is soft and calm. She is wearing a black and white patterned top. She is looking directly at the camera. She is speaking in a clear, articulate manner. She is wearing a black and white patterned top. She is looking directly at the camera. She is speaking in a clear, articulate manner.

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg has been bullish on the metaverse, believing it could replace the internet as we know it. "The next platform medium will be even more immersive and embodied internet where you're in the experience, not just watching it, and we call this the metaverse," said Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg last month.

After her initial blog post about the incident, Nina Jane Patel recounts receiving comments calling it a pathetic cry for attention and urging her not to pick a female avatar next time. Others have raised questions about whether getting hurt in a virtual world is truly a concern, Patel says in the post.

In response, Patel cites a peer-reviewed study in 2009 and published in the journal Communication Research that investigated the "Proteus Effect," which found that people based their social behavior on the attractiveness of their avatar, on and offline. The players who were assigned taller and more attractive avatars made more positive contributions, negotiated more aggressively, and were more likely to be the link between two people. The study also found that behavior offscreen has been linked to behavior onscreen. "The link between behavior offscreen and behavior onscreen is not surprising," says the study's author, "because the virtual world is a reflection of the real world." The study also found that the more immersive the experience, the more likely people were to be aggressive and offend others.

Joseph Jones, president of Boston Legal Services, an investigation agency specializing in cyber and social media, says it's unlikely Patel has a strong legal case for sexual harassment but acknowledges that harassment in the metaverse is an emerging space. He says the case would depend on several factors, such as the specific comments people made and whether her avatar reveals any identifiable information, such as her name. Given that she doesn't have a huge following, Jones says, it's unlikely she could sue for defamation, but she could file a civil restraining order to prevent it from happening again.

But even that has challenges, Jones says, because the male avatars could be anonymous and may be hard to identify. "It could be difficult to identify someone like this." With the large volume of harassment in the metaverse, it's hard to track down the perpetrators.

OFF

ON

Last week

opened fire in a New York City subway

domestic terrorism,

Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60

...which is a bit unusual given that, significantly, both Brooks and ... whites in the lead-up to their attacks ... violence. (Naturally, the mainstream media has ... Ditto for Quintez Brown, a Black Lives Matter acti ... on of Louisville mayoral candidate Craig Greenberg in Feb ... police officers in 2016. Meanwhile, public perceptions about the state of race ... meted.

These anecdotes, particularly during increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest that CRT has been a detriment to racial progress rather than a force for good. The harmful impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project" expresses a historical view in which America's founding was ... the year African slaves were first brought to the United States) American history is viewed and ... ed through the lens of a ... racism. For example, Hannah-Jones' controversial ... ts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery; ... argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted ... ish a "slaveocracy," and ... izes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery and race. Similar ... from our ... National Archives argued that America's ... documents ... in "systemic racism."

Philadelphian ... they and radio host ... Michael Coard perhaps best sums up the ... view ... America's history ... decried the ... as "a celebration ... transpor ... ing ... human beings ... families ... ure, whiplash ... apes, casual ... and ensl ... conclusion ... is that the ... of slavery ... persists, impacting all aspects of ... on life ...

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land and ... it follows that the American system of government ... is racist ... The ... con ... argu ... of CRT ... American institutions ... with the ... and ... Second Amendment have ... ecedently been attacked ...

The views of The Nation ... the ... It is ... by ... an ... col ... sts, and ... white people who ...

ivy

Our nation has been racked by at least two significant acts of domestic terrorism in a five-month span. Last week, Frank James opened fire in a New York City subway, injuring 23 people. In November, Darrell Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60 others.

Both perpetrators are black, which is a bit unusual given that mass shootings have historically been perpetrated by white men. More significantly, both Brooks and James had expressed radical views on social media advocating violence towards whites in the lead-up to their attacks, strongly suggesting race relations were a key motive for their acts of violence. (Naturally, the mainstream media has neglected to find out if it was indeed their motivation). Ditto for Quintez Brown, a Black Lives Matter activist who was charged with the attempted assassination of Louisville mayoral candidate Craig Greenberg in February, and Micah Johnson, who killed five Dallas police officers in 2016. Meanwhile, public perceptions about the state of race relations in the country have plummeted.

These anecdotes, particularly during increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest CRT has been a detriment to social progress rather than a force for good. The harmful impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project," the brainchild of Nikole Hannah-Jones, expresses a historical view in which America's true founding was in 1619, the year African slaves were first brought to the United States. American history is thus viewed and analyzed through a lens of anti-black racism. For example, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery, argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish "slavocracy," and criticizes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery and race. Similarly, a report last year from our very own National Archives argued that America's founding documents are steeped in "systemic racism."

Philadelphia-based attorney and radio host Michael Coard perhaps sums up the CRT view of American history, as he decried the Fourth of July as "a celebration of kidnapping, transporting/buying/selling human beings, separating families, torture, whippings, rapes, castration, lynchings, and enslavement." The conclusion, then, is that the history of slavery persists, impacting an aspect of American life to this very day.

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land, and if you believe that the Constitution is racist, then it follows that the American system of government, which is based on the Constitution, is also racist. This is a core argument of CRT: American institutions, including the Electoral College, the Senate, and the Second Amendment have all recently been attacked as systemically racist to justify their abolition.

In the words of The Nation's Elie Mystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slavers and colonists, and white people who were willing to make deals with slavers and colonists."

A woman in the UK wrote in a blog post on Medium that she experienced a real horror play out in the virtual game Horizon Worlds developed by Meta, formerly known as Facebook.

"Within 60 seconds of joining," she wrote in the post from December, "I was verbally and sexually harassed – 3-4 male avatars, with male voices, essentially, but virtually gang raped my avatar." She details watching her avatar get sexually assaulted by a handful of male avatars, who took photos and sent her comments like "don't pretend you didn't love it."

The woman is vice president of Metaverse Research for Kabuni Ventures, an immersive technology company. Meta released Horizon Worlds to everyone 18 years and older in the United States and Canada on Dec. 9 after an invite-only beta test a year ago. It features thousands of virtual worlds by creators and is free to download for all users, but Meta plans to monetize the game by facilitating e-commerce and advertising, according to CNBC, similar to how it profits from its social media ventures Facebook and Instagram. Meta did not immediately respond to a request from USA TODAY to comment.

Meta envisions a metaverse level or entertainment using VR headsets. Zuckerberg has been bullish on the metaverse, believing it could replace the internet as we know it. "The next platform and medium will be even more immersive and embodied internet where you're in the experience, not just looking at it, and we call this the metaverse," said Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg last month after revealing the company's rebranding.

After her initial blog post about the incident, Nina Jane Patel recounts receiving comments calling it "a pathetic cry for attention" and urging her not to pick a female avatar next time. Others have raised questions about whether getting hurt in a virtual world is truly a concern, Patel says in the post.

In response, Patel cites a peer-reviewed study in 2009 and published in the Journal Communication Research that investigates the "Proteus Effect," which found that people based their social behavior on the attractiveness of their avatar, on and offline. The players who were assigned taller and more attractive avatars tended to perform better in the games and negotiated more aggressively in person afterward. But the link between violent video games and violent behavior offscreen has been called into question. The American Psychological Association releasing a statement saying there is "insufficient evidence" of a causal relationship as of March 2020.

The topic has been widely debated and studied over the years. Some longitudinal studies show a correlation between violent video games and signs of aggression in children and other research disputing it. Patel points out that the metaverse is becoming increasingly immersive, and the bodily harm she experienced in her avatar shocked and offended her.

Joseph Jones, president of Bosco Legal Services, an investigation agency specializing in cyber and social media, says it's unlikely Patel has a strong legal case for sexual harassment but acknowledges that harassment in the metaverse is an emerging space. He says the case would depend on several factors, such as the specific comments people made and whether her avatar reveals any identifiable information, such as her name. Given that she doesn't have a huge following, Jones says, it's unlikely she could sue for defamation, but she could file a civil restraining order to prevent it from happening again.

But even that has challenges, Jones says, because the male avatars could be anonymous and may be hard to track down. And it could be difficult to get help on a case like this. "With the large majority of harassment that happens online, even if it is initially reported to the police, they would say almost impossible, to find a law enforcement agency that's really willing to help," Jones says.

A woman in the U.K. wrote in a blog post on Medium that she experienced a real horror play out in the virtual world Horizon Worlds developed by Meta, formerly known as Facebook.

"Within 60 seconds of joining," she wrote in the post from December, "I was verbally and sexually harassed - 3-4 male avatars, with male voices, essentially, but virtually - targeted my avatar." She details watching her avatar get sexually assaulted by a handful of male avatars, who took photos and sent her comments like "don't pretend you didn't love it."

The woman is vice president of Metaverse Research for Kabuni Ventures, a metaverse technology company. Meta released Horizon Worlds to everyone 18 years and older in the United States and Canada on Dec. 9 after an invite-only beta test a year ago. It features thousands of virtual worlds by creators and is free to download for all users, but Meta plans to monetize the game by facilitating e-commerce and advertising, according to CNBC, similar to how it profits from its social media ventures Facebook and Instagram. Meta did not immediately respond to a request from USA TODAY to comment.

Meta envisions a virtual world where digital avatars connect through work, travel or entertainment using VR headsets. Zuckerberg has been bullish on the metaverse, believing it could replace the internet as we know it. "The next platform and medium will be even more immersive and embodied internet where you're in the experience, not just looking at it, and we call this the metaverse," said Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg last month after revealing the company's rebranding.

After her initial blog post about the incident, Nina Jane Patel recounts receiving comments calling it "a pathetic cry for attention" and urging her not to pick a female avatar next time. Others have raised questions about whether getting hurt in a virtual world is truly a concern, Patel says in the post.

In response, Patel cites a peer-reviewed study in 2009 and published in the journal *Communication Research* that investigates the "Proteus Effect," which found that people based their social behavior on the attractiveness of their avatar, on and offline. The players who were assigned taller and more attractive avatars tended to perform better in the games and negotiated more aggressively in person afterward. But the link between violent video games and violent behavior offscreen has been called into question. The American Psychological Association releasing a statement saying there is "insufficient evidence" of a causal relationship as of March 2020.

The topic has been widely debated and studied over the years. Some longitudinal studies show a correlation between violent video games and signs of aggression in children and other research disputing it. Patel points out that the metaverse is becoming increasingly immersive, and the bodily harm she experienced in her avatar shocked and offended her.

Joseph Jones, president of Bosco Legal Services, an investigation agency specializing in cyber and social media, says it's unlikely Patel has a strong legal case for sexual harassment but acknowledges that harassment in the metaverse is an emerging space. He says the case would depend on several factors, such as the specific comments people made and whether her avatar reveals any identifiable information, such as her name. Given that she doesn't have a huge following, Jones says, it's unlikely she could sue for defamation, but she could file a civil restraining order to prevent it from happening again.

But even that has challenges, Jones says, because the male avatars could be anonymous and "may be hard to track down." And it could be difficult to get help on a case like this. "With the large majority of harassment that happens online, even if it is criminally actionable, you would be hard-pressed, I would say, almost impossible, to find a law enforcement agency legitimately willing to help," Jones says.

Brenda

...was being taught in their schools. ... I was never afraid that teachers, counselors, and administrators might do anything to me. But oh, how things have changed in the 40 years since my 60th birthday. I graduated from high school. Many parents today are worried that critical race theory and gender ideology are being taught without the parents' knowledge or consent. Neither was included in the curriculum when I was in school.

I applaud Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for addressing the concerns many parents have about the changing school curriculum. DeSantis signed the Parental Rights in Education Act at a March 28 ceremony. Dubbed by critics as the "Don't Say Gay" bill, the new law prohibits teachers from instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in kindergarten through third grade. After third grade, sex education in Florida must be age appropriate. The law empowers parents to sue school districts over violations. DeSantis said the law was needed because of incidents of LGBTQ+ harassment of young children in Florida schools. As an example, he displayed LGBTQ+ educational materials, including a "Genderbread Person" chart that was found in Florida classrooms, and used to teach young children about gender identity and sexual orientation.

After DeSantis spoke, Florida mom January Littlejohn talked about how, without her knowledge or consent, a Florida middle school created a transgender, gender nonconforming support plan for her 13-year-old daughter. "Social transition is a medical and mental health intervention that can lead to significant decisions that will impact the child's mental and physical well-being," said Littlejohn, who is a licensed mental health counselor in Florida. "Often social transition is the first step toward medical transition. And schools are grossly unqualified to be taking these steps without parental involvement." In addition to the Parental Rights in Education bill, DeSantis signed curriculum transparency legislation giving parents the right to information on the curriculum and library books in their children's schools. Last year, DeSantis signed the Parents Bill of Rights, which prohibits the government from infringing on the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education and health care of minor children.

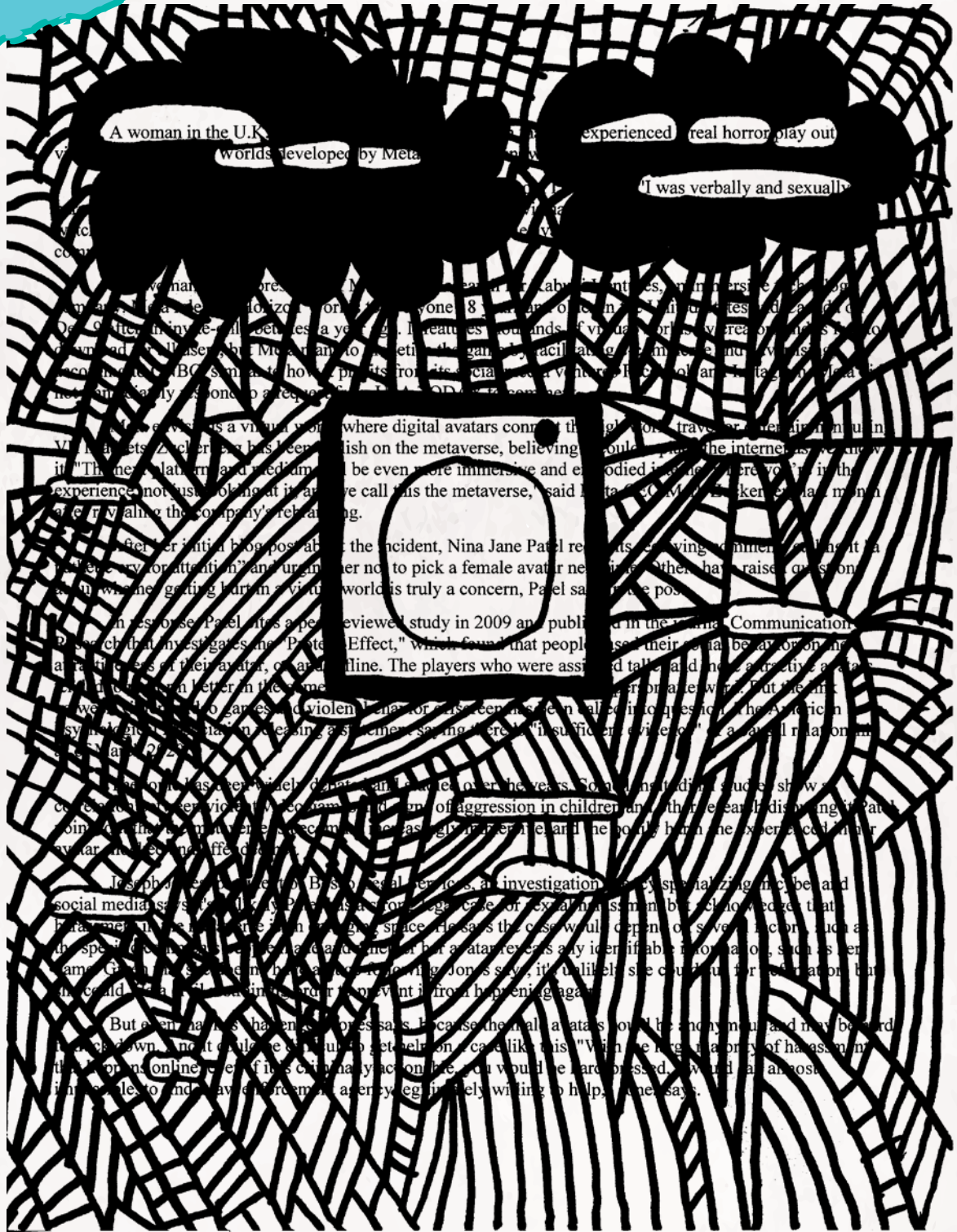
Pennsylvania lacks the parental rights and curriculum transparency laws that now exist in Florida. Last December, Gov. Wolf vetoed transparency in education legislation, which would have required Pennsylvania schools to make available online information such as course summaries and textbooks being used. Undeterred by Wolf's veto, state Sen. Ryan Ruament, is crafting a new education bill. According to Alliance for American Education director Stephanie Buchanan, the bill would require schools to notify parents before using any sexually explicit materials in the curriculum or before allowing students to check out library books with such material.

The state Department of Education website has information on equity and inclusion that school districts are encouraged to include in their curriculum. While the website states that critical race theory is not taught in Pennsylvania schools, the information on the website uses many of the concepts from this controversial social justice movement. On the website, under equity and inclusion, the Department of Education provides information on the CRT inclusive curriculum starting in kindergarten. I agree with Gov. DeSantis that it's not a good idea to teach this kind of material to young children.

According to recent polls, voters across party lines disapprove of teaching critical race theory and gender ideology to young children in public schools. For instance, a recent online poll of swing district voters sponsored by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee found that 61% of these voters agreed with the statement, "Democrats are teaching kids as young as five critical race theory, which teaches that America is a racist country and that white people are racist." The Wall Street Journal recently published the results of a new poll by Public Opinion Strategies. According to the poll, 61% of respondents agreed with the Florida Parental Rights in Education law. When poll participants were categorized by political party and demographics, 67% of parents, 60% of suburban voters and 55% of Democratic voters supported the parental rights law.

It's hard to imagine being the parent of young children today and having to deal with the gradual, unrelenting push from the left to implement critical race theory and gender ideology in public schools. Hopefully, Pennsylvania parents will teach woke politicians a lesson at the ballot box come November.





A woman in the U.K.

worlds developed by Meta

experienced real horror play out

I was verbally and sexually

...woman in the U.K. ... worlds developed by Meta ... experienced real horror play out ... I was verbally and sexually ...

... where digital avatars connect through ... travel or ... in ... the internet ...

... after her initial blog post about the incident, Nina Jane Patel ...

... in response Patel cites a peer-reviewed study in 2009 and published in the journal Communication Research that investigates the "Proteus Effect," which found that people use their avatars to ...

... has been widely debated and ... of aggression in children and ...

... social media says ... a strong legal case for sexual harassment but ...

... But even ... because the real avatars could be anonymous and may be ...

domestic terrorism (five-month) (New York City) subway, injuring 23 people. In November, Darrell Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60 others.

Race For immigrant People

Both perpetrators are black, which is a bit unusual given that mass shootings have been perpetrated by white men. More significantly, both Brooks and James had social media advocating violence towards whites in the lead-up to their attacks, race relations were a key motive for their acts of violence.

These anecdotes, particularly during increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest CRT has been a detriment to racial progress rather than a force for good. The following examples of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project," the only major news outlet to embrace a historical view in which America's true founding was in 1619, the year African slaves were first brought to the United States. American history is thus viewed and analyzed through a lens of anti-black racism. For example, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery, argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish a "slavocracy," and criticizes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery and race. Similarly, a report last June from our very own National Archives argued that America's founding documents are steeped in "systemic racism."

Board perhaps best sums up the CRT view of kidnapping, transatlantic slave trade, lynchings and enslavement as the defining acts of American life to

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution, American system of government, which is based on racist, and the Second Amendment have all recently been attacked as systemically racist to justify their abolition

In the words of The Nation's Blie Mystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slavers and colonists, and white people who were willing to make deals with slavers and colonists.

Marjorie



Transit... homelessness... subway... individuals... prosperity... significantly compared to pre-COVID... and the MTA deficit is projected to be \$2 billion... the same period in 2022... the subway system...

Efforts to get... police and... What's actually... they should... fully... into their living spaces.

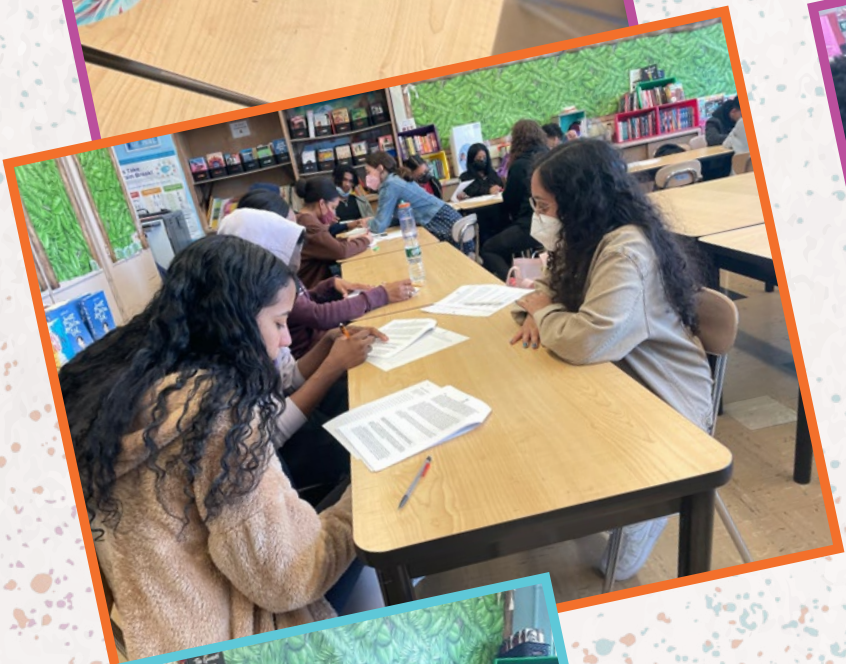
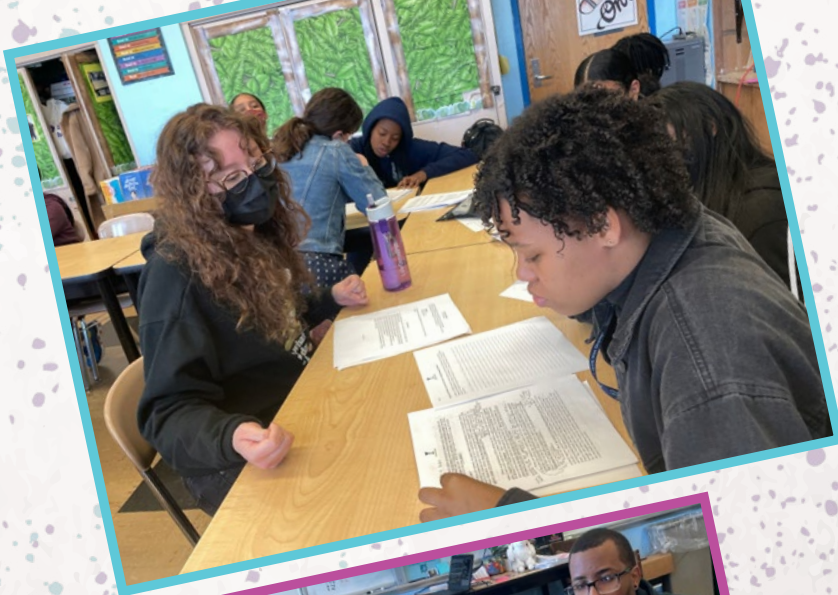
Police... removing... a... group... light... wait... New York... clean up... ways.

Assisted Outpatient Treatment... Kenard's Law... NYC Health and Hospitals... and HRA also needs... of Kenard's Law...

NYC Health and Hospitals... Medicaid waiver... which would... Executive Order... mental health... provision... Department of Social Services... Commissioner... shelter... city contract... The city's... that there are... to... contracts... competitive... and... enter the market.

New York State... community... the... will not succeed... According to... 48,640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2022... a record... the homeless suffer...





CLASS H

JUBER	64
KARLA	65
AICHA	66
ROSMEIRY	67
ALEYSHA	68
VICTOR	69
KATHERINE	70
BOUCHARA	71
FAKHRUL	72
WILDANIA	73
MAHAMADOU	74
JUNIOR	75

In recent months, [redacted]
Transit crime is up 80% compared to the same time last year. Homelessness and lawlessness have created an emergency. In response, [redacted]

only 22 homeless individuals were removed [redacted]

subways. [redacted]

Without safe [redacted]

COVID [redacted]

trends continue [redacted]

homeless [redacted]

thinking [redacted]

subways. [redacted]

platforms into their living rooms [redacted]

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups believe in keeping the mentally ill on subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his efforts to clean up our subways.

To stem the tide of the mentally ill living underground and on our streets, the mayor correctly suggests a greater use of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of hospitalization and are less likely to be hospitalized. The plan to start building the Village of Pikers Island. The Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides case services for formerly incarcerated individuals who have never been in jail before. CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. N.Y.C. Health and Hospitals, which supports this organization, should make this assessment mandatory as part of continued funding. DHS and HRZ also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

Gov. Hochul should support institutions for Mental Diseases (IDDD) Medicaid waivers as Adams has urged. These would allow New York's Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in low-cost facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was not passed by the Legislature. Local and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the falling warehouse-style shelter in my district. This \$3 billion facility clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commits wrongdoing, the provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that if you cut all wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, a 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.

Karla



...wrote in a... real horror
...was verbally and sexually
harassed... virtually gang raped my avatar... She details
watching her avatar get sexually assaulted by a handful of male avatars
(don't pretend you didn't love it.)

...similar to how it profits from its social media ventures Facebook and Instagram...
Meta envisions a virtual world where digital avatars connect through work

...pathetic cry for attention...
...tended to perform better in the games and negotiated more aggressively in person afterward
violent video games and violent behavior offscreen has been called into question

...avatar shocked and offended her...
...the bodily harm she experienced in her

...specific comments...
...avatar reveals any identifiable information...
she could file a civil restraining order to prevent it from happening again

...that happens online...
...With the large majority of harassment

A woman [redacted] experienced a real horror play out in the virtual game [redacted].

"With [redacted] in [redacted] December [redacted] was verbally and sexually harassed - 3 [redacted] female avatars [redacted] my avatar." She details [redacted] her avatar got sex [redacted] by a [redacted] male avatars who took photos and sent her comments like "don't pretend you didn't love it."

The woman [redacted] president of Metaverse [redacted] for Kabuni Ventures, an immersive technology [redacted] Horizon Worlds to everyone 18 years and older in the United States and Canada on [redacted] beta test a year [redacted] thousands of virtual worlds by creators and is free to [redacted]. Meta plans to [redacted] game by facilitating e-commerce and advertising, [redacted] similar to how it profits [redacted] social media ventures Facebook and Instagram. Meta did [redacted] to a request from [redacted] to comment.

[redacted] is a virtual world where [redacted] avatars connect through work, travel or entertainment using [redacted]. Zuckerberg has been bullish on the metaverse, believing it could replace the internet as we know [redacted] and medium will be even more immersive and embodied internet where you're in the [redacted] just looking at it, and we call this the metaverse," said Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg last month after [redacted] the company's rebranding.

[redacted] her initial blog post about the incident [redacted] Nina Jane Patel recounts receiving comments calling it "a pathetic cry for attention" and urging her not to pick a female avatar next time. Others have raised questions about whether getting hurt in a virtual world is truly a concern, Patel says in the post.

In response, Patel cites a peer-reviewed study in 2009 and published in the journal Communication Research that investigates the "Proteus Effect," which found that people based their social behavior on the attractiveness of their avatar, on and offline. The players who were [redacted] taller and more attractive avatars tended to perform better in the games and negotiated more aggressively in person afterward. But the link between violent video games and violent behavior offscreen has been called into question. The American Psychological Association released a statement saying there is "insufficient evidence" of a causal relationship as of March 2020.

The topic has been widely debated and studied over the years. Some longitudinal studies show a correlation between violent video games and signs of aggression in children and other research disputing it. Patel points out that the metaverse is becoming increasingly immersive, and the bodily harm she experienced in her avatar shocked and offended her.

Joseph Jones, president of Bosco Legal Services, an investigation agency specializing in cyber and social media, says it's unlikely Patel has a strong legal case for sexual harassment but acknowledges that harassment in the metaverse is an emerging space. He says the case would depend on several factors, such as the specific comments people made and whether her avatar reveals any identifiable information, such as her name. Given that she doesn't have a huge following, Jones says, it's unlikely she could sue for defamation, but she could file a civil restraining order to prevent it from happening again.

But even that has challenges, Jones says, because the male avatars could be anonymous and may be hard to track down. And it could be difficult to get help on a case like this. "With the large majority of harassment that happens online, even if it is criminally actionable, you would be hard-pressed, I would say almost impossible, to find a law enforcement agency legitimately willing to help," Jones says.

Our nation has been rocked by at least two significant acts of domestic terrorism in a five-month span. Last week, Frank James opened fire in a New York City subway, injuring 23 people. In November, Darrell Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60 others.

Both perpetrators are black, which is a bit unusual given that mass shootings have historically been perpetrated by white men. More significantly, both Brooks and James had expressed radical views on social media advocating violence towards whites in the lead-up to their attacks, strongly suggesting race relations were a key motive for their acts of violence. (Naturally, the mainstream media has neglected to find out if it was indeed their motivation). Ditto for Quintez Brown, a Black Lives Matter activist who was charged with the attempted assassination of Louisville mayoral candidate Craig Greenberg in February, and Micah Johnson, who killed five Dallas police officers in 2016. Meanwhile, public perceptions about the state of race relations in the country have plummeted.

These anecdotes, particularly during increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest CRT has been a detriment to racial progress rather than a force for good. The harmful impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project," the brainchild of Nikole Hannah-Jones, expresses a historical view in which America's true founding was in 1619, the year African slaves were first brought to the United States. American history is thus viewed and analyzed through a lens of anti-black racism. For example, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery, argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish a "slavocracy" and criticizes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery and race. Similarly, a report last June from our very own National Archives argued that America's founding documents were steeped in "systemic racism."

Philadelphia-based attorney and radio host Michael Coard perhaps best sums up the CRT view of American history, as he decried the Fourth of July as "a celebration of kidnapping, transporting/buying/selling human beings, separating families, torture, whippings, rapes, castrations, lynchings and enslavement." The conclusion, then, is that the history of slavery persists, impacting all aspects of American life to this very day.

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land, and if you believe that the Constitution is racist, then it follows that the American system of government, which is based on the Constitution, is also racist. This is a core argument of CRT: American institutions, including the Electoral College, the Senate, and the Second Amendment have all recently been attacked as systemically racist to justify their abolition.

In the words of The Nation's Elie Mystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slavers and colonists, and white people who were willing to make deals with slavers and colonists.

It wasn't that long ago when my three adult children were **hums** kids. Throughout their childhood, I never had to worry about what was being taught in their schools. I never had to worry that a student of the opposite sex was going to play on my children's sports teams or use their school bathrooms. Most importantly, I never had to worry about what was being taught in school. But oh, how times have changed in the 10 years since my youngest child graduated from high school. Many parents today are worried that a gentler ideology are being taught without the parents' knowledge or consent. Neither was included in the curriculum when my kids were in school.

In 2015, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for addressing the concern many parents have about the changing curriculum. He signed the Parent's Rights in Education bill on March 28 very early. Labeled by critics as the "Don't Say Gay" bill, the law will prohibit classroom instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in kindergarten through third grade. After third grade, sex education in Florida must be age appropriate. The law empowers parents to sue if their children are in schools. DeSantis said the law was needed because of incidents of LGBQ+ introduction by young children in Florida schools. As an example, he displayed a GLBTQ educational materials including a "Genderbread Person" chart that was found in Florida classrooms and used to teach young children about gender identity and sexual orientation.

After DeSantis spoke in Florida from January 2015, in which he spoke about how he would like to consent a Florida law that would require schools to provide gender conformity training for 12-year-old students. "Social transition is a medical and mental health intervention that can lead to significant decisions that will impact the child's mental and physical well-being," said Killejohn, who is a licensed mental health counselor in Florida. "Often social transition is the first step toward medical transition, and schools are grossly unqualified to be taking these steps without parental involvement." In addition to the Parents Rights in Education bill, DeSantis signed curriculum transparency legislation giving parents the right to information on the curriculum and library books in their children's schools. Last year, DeSantis signed the Parents Bill of Rights, which realigns the governance of public schools on the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education and healthcare of their children.

Pennsylvania lacks the parental rights and curriculum transparency laws that now exist in Florida. Last December Gov. Wolf vetoed transparency in education legislation, which would have required Pennsylvania schools to make available online information such as course summaries and textbooks being used. Introduced by Wolf's veto, state Sen. Ryan Amunt, is drafting a new education bill. According to Amunt's legislative director, Stephanie Chapman, the bill would require schools to notify parents before using any sexually explicit materials in the curriculum or before allowing students to check out library books with such material.

The state Department of Education website provides information on equity and inclusion that school districts are encouraged to include in their curriculum. On the website, it states that critical race theory is not taught in Pennsylvania schools. The information on the website uses many of the concepts from this controversial social justice movement, such as race, gender, identity and inclusion. The Department of Education provides information on how to engage in curriculum starting in kindergarten through 12th grade with Gov. DeSantis that it's not appropriate to teach this kind of material to young children.

According to recent polls, voters overwhelmingly disapprove of teaching critical race theory and gender identity in public schools. In a poll conducted by the Heritage Foundation, 70% of voters support the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's finding that 70% of these voters agreed with the statement, "Democrats are teaching kids as young as five critical race theory, which teaches that America is a racist country and that white people are racist." The Wall Street Journal published the results of a new poll on public opinion strategies. According to the poll, 61% of respondents agreed with the Florida Parent's Rights in Education law. When poll participants were categorized by political party and demographics, 67% of parents, 70% of suburban voters and 65% of Democratic voters supported the parental rights law.

It's hard to imagine being the parent of young children today and having to deal with implementing laws from the left to implement critical race theory and gender identity in public schools. Hopefully, Pennsylvania parents will teach every politician a lesson at the ballot box come November.

Victor

Quadrant has been rocked by at least four and a half acts of domestic terrorism in a five month span. Last week, Frank James opened fire in a New York City subway, injuring 23 people. ~~James~~ ~~Brooks~~ Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Wausau, Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60 others.

Both perpetrators are black (which is a bit unusual given that mass shootings have historically been perpetrated by white men). More significantly, both James and Brooks expressed their motivation as a form of advocating violence against the police. James explicitly suggesting race relations were a key motivation for his violence. (I've heard the same claim made by other shooters, but it was only recently that Quintez Brown, a Black Lives Matter activist who was charged with the attempted assassination of Louisville mayoral candidate Greg Evers, and the assassination of Micah Johnson, who killed a police officer, were charged with the same crime. The state of race relations in the country have plummeted.

These anecdotes, particularly during increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest CRT has been a detriment to racial progress rather than a force for good. The harmful impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering several of its basic tenets:

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

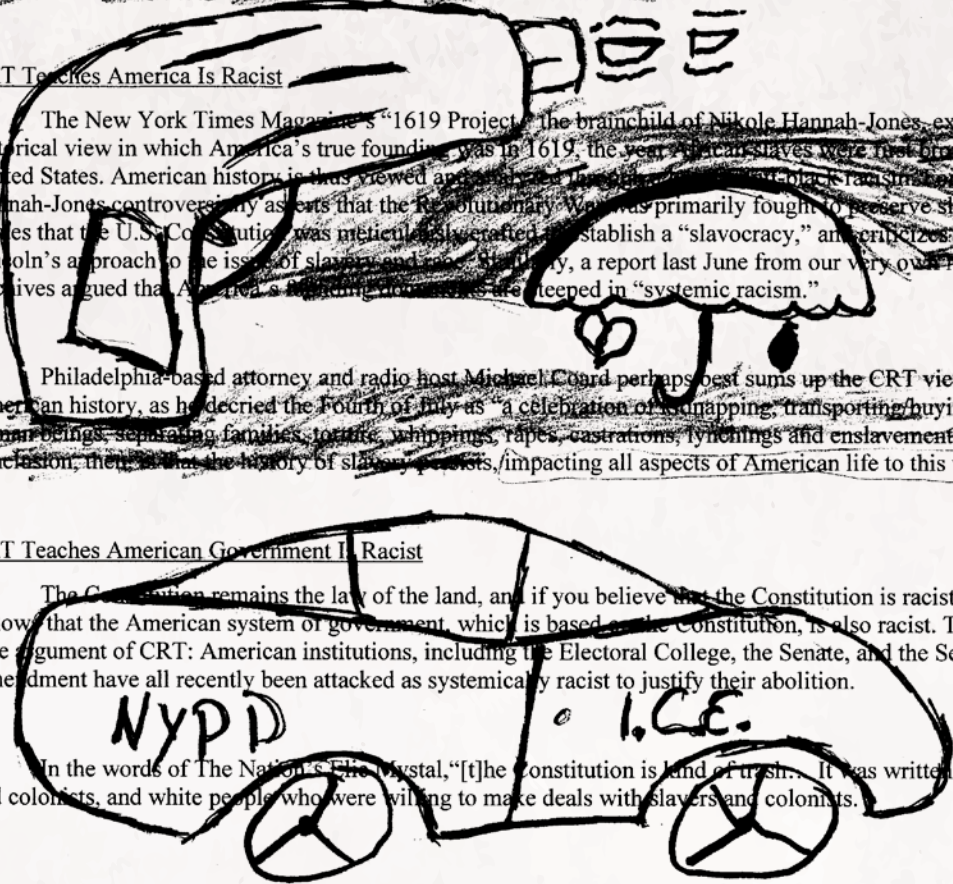
The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project," the brainchild of Nikole Hannah-Jones, expresses a historical view in which America's true founding was in 1619, the year African slaves were first brought to the United States. American history is thus viewed and taught through the lens of racialism. In a simple, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolutionary War was primarily fought to preserve slavery, argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish a "slavocracy," and criticizes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery and slavery. In a report last June from our very own National Archives argued that America's founding documents are steeped in "systemic racism."

Philadelphia-based attorney and radio host Michael Coard perhaps best sums up the CRT view of American history, as he decried the Fourth of July as "a celebration of kidnapping, transporting, buying, selling human beings, separating families, tortures, whippings, rapes, castrations, lynchings and enslavement." The conclusion, then, is that the history of slavery persists, impacting all aspects of American life to this very day.

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land, and if you believe that the Constitution is racist, then it follows that the American system of government, which is based on the Constitution, is also racist. This is a core argument of CRT: American institutions, including the Electoral College, the Senate, and the Second Amendment have all recently been attacked as systematically racist to justify their abolition.

In the words of The Nation's The Crystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slavers and colonists, and white people who were willing to make deals with slavers and colonists.



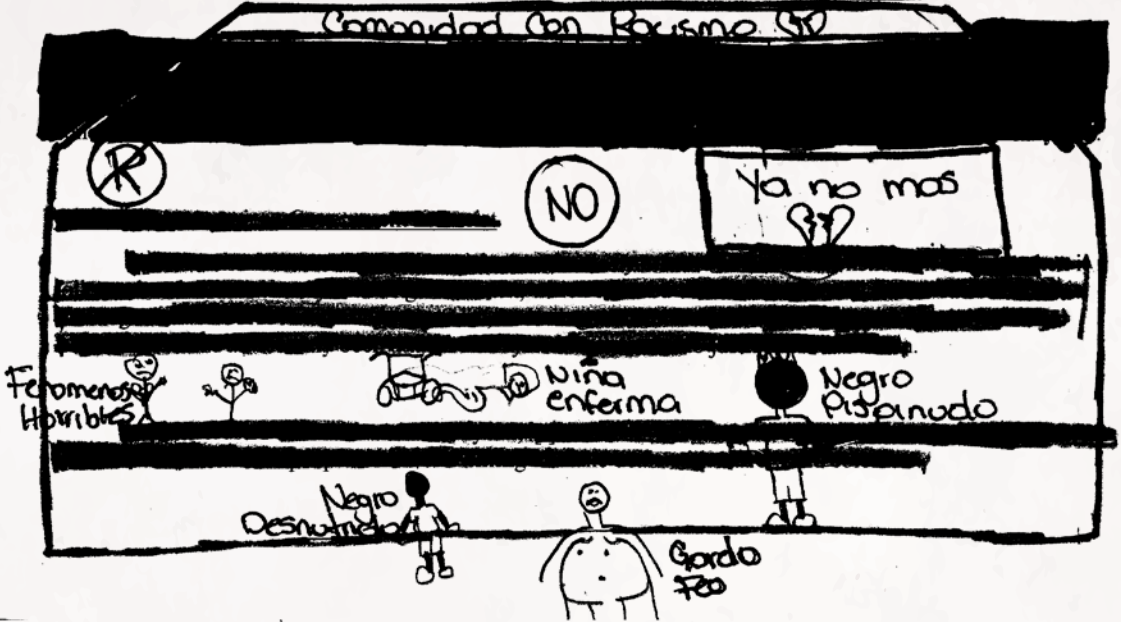
Katherine

Our nation has significant acts of domestic terrorism
6 people

black
violence towards
a key motive for their acts of violence.
race relations were
public perceptions about the state of race relations in the
country have plummeted.

[Redacted]

The New York Times
analyzed through a lens of anti-black racism.
Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish a "slavocracy,"
from our very own National
Archives argued that America's founding documents are steeped in "systemic racism."



Our nation has been rocked by at least two significant acts of domestic terrorism in a five-month span. Last week, Frank James opened fire in a New York City subway, injuring 23 people. In November, Darrell Brooks drove his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, killing 6 people and injuring 60 others.

Both perpetrators are black, which is a bit unusual given that mass shootings have historically been perpetrated by white men. More significantly, both Brooks and James had expressed radical views on social media, including violence towards whites in the lead-up to their attacks, strongly suggesting race relations were a key motivation for acts of violence. (Naturally, the mainstream media has neglected to find out if they indeed held their views.) Ditto for Quintez Brown, a Black Lives Matter activist who was charged with attempted assassination of Louisville mayoral candidate Craig Greenberg in February, and Michael Johnson, who shot and killed a Dallas police officer in 2016. Meanwhile, public perceptions about the state of race relations in the country have plummeted.

These anecdotes, particularly in the context of increasing dissemination of critical race theory (CRT), suggest that CRT has been a detriment to racial relations rather than a force for good. The negative impacts of CRT on race relations are unsurprising when considering the nature of its basic tenets.

CRT Teaches America Is Racist

The New York Times Magazine's "1619 Project" and the work of Nikole Hannah-Jones, expresses a historical view in which America's true founding was not the arrival of European settlers, but the arrival of African slaves. American history is thus viewed and taught through a lens of anti-black racism. For example, Hannah-Jones controversially asserts that the Revolution was primarily fought to preserve slavery, argues that the U.S. Constitution was meticulously crafted to establish "slavocracy," and criticizes Abraham Lincoln's approach to the issue of slavery as "incomplete." Similarly, a 2017 op-ed from our very own National Archives argued that America's founding was steeped in racism.

Philadelphia-based attorney Michael Coard perhaps best summarizes the CRT view of American history, as he decried the 4th of July as "a celebration of kidnapping, supporting/buying/selling human beings, separating families, whippings, rapes, castrations, lynchings, and enslavement." The conclusion, then, is that the institution of slavery persists, impacting all aspects of American life to this very day.

CRT Teaches American Government Is Racist

The Constitution remains the law of the land, and if you believe that the Constitution is the foundation of our system of government, which is based on the Constitution, is also the argument that American institutions, including the Electoral College, the Senate, and the Supreme Court, have recently been attacked as systemically racist to justify their abolition.

Words of The Nation's Elie Mystal, "[t]he Constitution is kind of trash... It was written by slavers and colonialist white people who were willing to make deals with slavers and colonialists."

Fakhrul

subway riders have been pushed in front of trains. Transit crime is up 80% lawlessness have created an emergency. In response, Mayor Adams announced his Subway Safety Plan to reduce crime and remove the homeless from transportation system.

A month after rollout, homeless encampments still exist. While the mayor's plan is a welcome change, he and his administration must act with more urgency. Without safe subways, we cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity. Subway ridership and revenue from fares are down significantly compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Meanwhile, subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking. What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. The mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off. They should, of course, be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups believe in keeping the mentally ill on subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his efforts to clean up our subways.

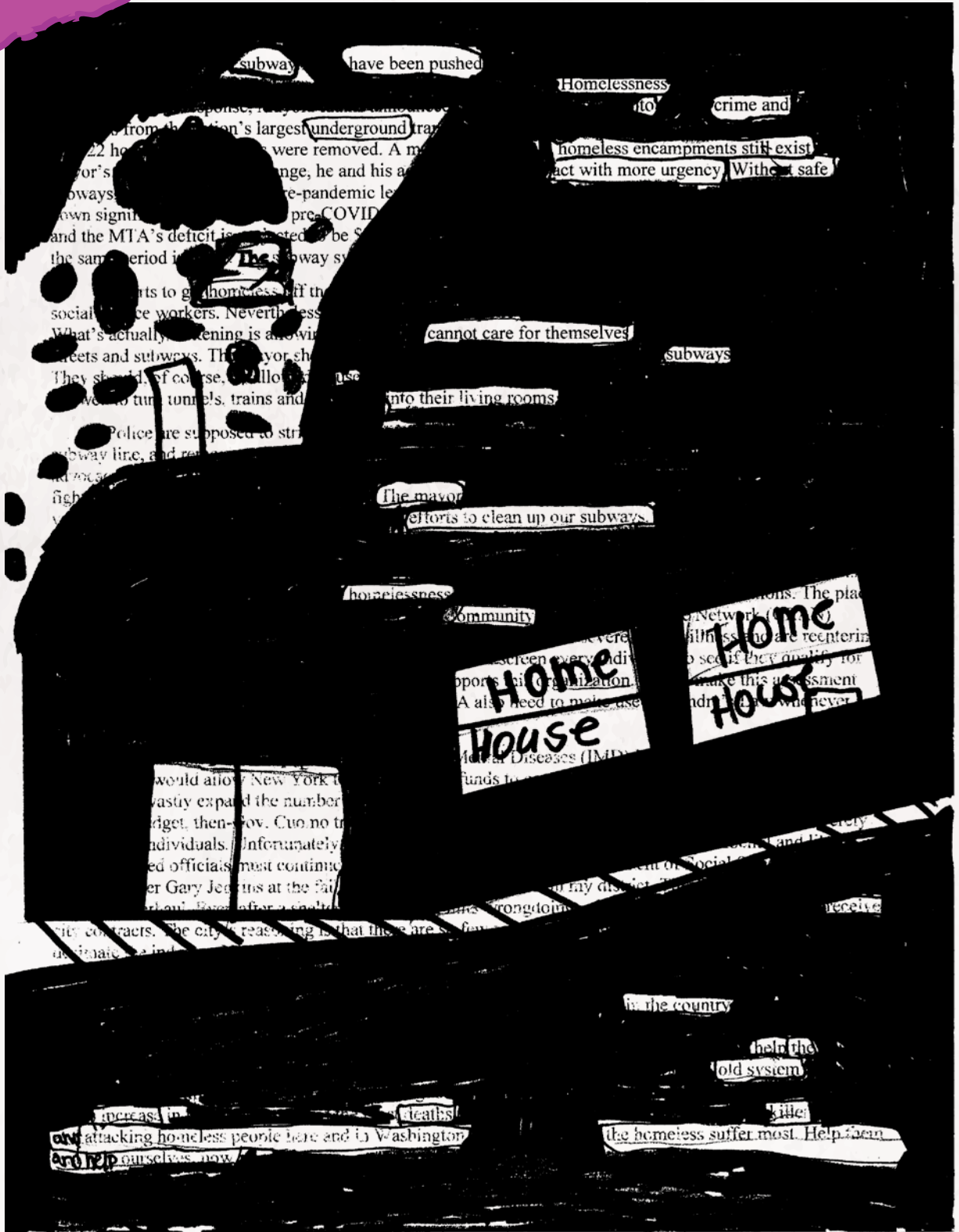
To stem the tide of the mentally ill living underground and on our streets, the mayor correctly suggests a greater use of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of homelessness, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding AOT usage is on Rikers Island. The Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides case services for formerly incarcerated individuals who have severe mental illness and are reentering the five boroughs upon release from the jail. CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. NYC Health and Hospitals, which supports this organization, should make this assessment mandatory as part of continued funding. DHS and HRA also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

Gov. Hochul should apply for Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Medicaid waivers, as Adams has urged. These would allow New York to use Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the failing warehouse-style shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commits wrongdoing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a rigorous certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, a 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and killing homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, most.

Stop the Mayor's plan to help another way!

Wildania



In recent months, subway riders have been pushed in front of trains, hit with a hammer and struck with faces. Transit crime is up 80% compared to the same time last year. Homelessness and lawlessness have created emergencies. In response, Mayor Adams announced his Subway Safety Plan to reduce crime and remove the homeless from the nation's largest underground transportation system. During the first week of enforcement, only 22 homeless individuals were removed. A month after rollout, homeless encampments still exist. While the mayor's plan is a welcome change, he and his administration must act with more urgency. Without safe subways, we cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity. Subway ridership and revenue from fares are down significantly compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Meanwhile, subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking." What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. The mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off. They should, of course, be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If advocacy groups believe in keeping the mentally ill on subways, then let them sue the city. Better to have a fight in court than violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his efforts to clean up our subways.

To stem the tide of the mentally ill living underground and on our streets, the mayor correctly suggests a greater use of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of homelessness, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding AOT usage is on Rikers Island. The Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides case services for formerly incarcerated individuals who have severe mental illness and are reentering the five boroughs upon release from the jail. CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. NYC Health and Hospitals, which supports this organization, should make this assessment mandatory as part of continued funding. DHS and HRA also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

Gov. Hochul should apply for Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Medicaid waivers, as Adams has urged. These would allow New York to use Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the failing warehouse-style shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commits wrongdoing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most B-Corp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.

Junior

In recent months, subway riders have been pushed in front of trains, hit with a hammer and struck with feces. Transit crime is up 80% compared to the same time last year. Homelessness and lawlessness have created an emergency. In response, Mayor Adams announced his Subway Safety plan to reduce crime and remove the homeless from the nation's largest underground transportation system. During the first week of enforcement, only 22 homeless individuals were removed. A month after rollout, homeless encampments still exist. While the mayor's plan is a welcome change, he and his administration must act with more urgency. Without safe subways, we cannot return to pre-pandemic levels of prosperity. Subway ridership and revenue from fares are down significantly compared to pre-COVID years. In 2026, federal COVID stimulus money will have expired and the MTA's deficit is projected to be \$2 billion. Meanwhile, subway crime has increased 80% compared to the same period in 2021. The subway system will not survive if these trends continue.

Efforts to get homeless off the subway are slow, methodical and carried out by joint teams of police and social service workers. Nevertheless, critics call the new policy "sickening" and a "magical way of thinking." What's actually sickening is allowing people who cannot care for themselves to wander aimlessly through the streets and subways. The mayor should quickly remove all the homeless from the subways and keep them off.

They should be allowed to use the trains like anyone else to get around the city, but they shouldn't be allowed to turn tunnels, trains and platforms into their living rooms.

Police are supposed to strictly enforce MTA rules, which includes removing passengers at the end of the subway line, and removing riders who exhibit aggressive behavior and create unsanitary environments. If

advisory groups were in keeping the mental health services on subways, we could see a significant reduction in violence in our subways. The mayor will never be able to appease his critics, but I join the vast majority of New Yorkers in supporting his efforts to clean up our subways.

In the past, the city has generally ill-judged and unproductive investments. The mayor perfectly suggests a greater use of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) programs, better known as Kendra's Law. Participants in AOT programs have fewer incidents of homelessness, arrests and institutionalized hospitalizations. The place to start expanding AOT usage is on Rikers Island. The Community Re-entry Assistance Network (CRAN) provides case services for formerly incarcerated individuals who have severe mental illness and are reentering the city. The program is based upon release from the jail. CRAN should screen every individual to see if they qualify for AOT programs. NYC Health and Hospitals, which supports this organization, should make this assessment a mandatory part of continued funding. DHS and HRA also need to make use of Kendra's Law whenever possible.

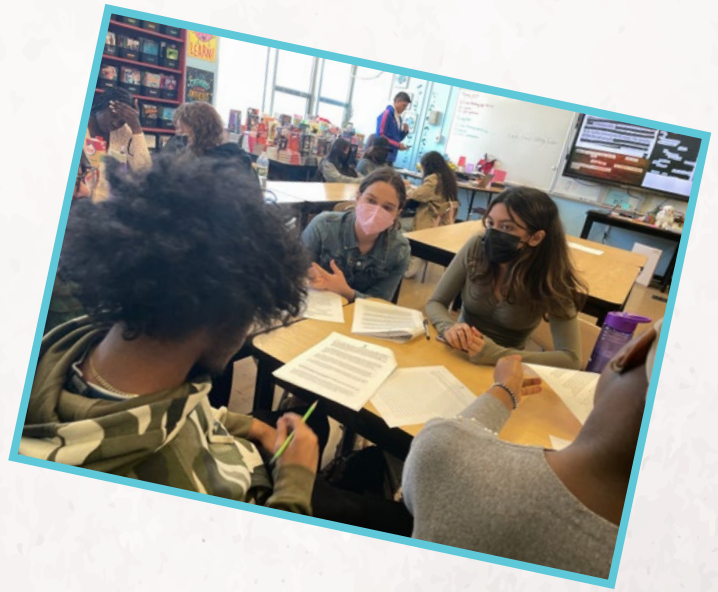
Gov. Hochul should apply for Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Medicaid waivers, as Adams has tried. These would allow New York to use Medicaid funds to cover inpatient services in psychiatric facilities, which could vastly expand the number of New Yorkers who receive health care for mental illness. In the 2021 Executive Budget, then-Gov. Cuomo tried to expand the criteria for the involuntary commitment of severely mentally ill individuals. Unfortunately, the provision was not passed by the Legislature. Hochul and like-minded elected officials must continue this fight. I recently met with Department of Social Services Commissioner Gary Jenkins at the failing warehouse-style shelter in my district. This \$2 billion industry clearly needs an overhaul. Even after a shelter provider commits wrongdoing, often that provider continues to receive city contracts. The city's reasoning is that there are so few service providers that to cut off wrongdoers would decimate the industry. No market operates this way. If contracts are competitive, regulations are enforced and the city pays on time, new providers will enter the market.

New York State boasts the second most E-Comp-certified companies in the country, which go through a certification process to ensure they meet high standards for social and environmental impact. We also have a strong startup community in the city. The city must establish a framework for new players to help the homeless and be awarded city contracts. We will not succeed by inviting talent into an inefficient, old system that has a reputation of corruption and nepotism. According to DHS, 640 homeless New Yorkers died in fiscal year 2021, a 120% increase in just three years and the most deaths ever recorded. A recent headline was the killer stalking and attacking homeless people here and in Washington. In a lawless city, the homeless suffer most. Help them and help ourselves, now.

About the Visiting Author



Elisabet Velasquez is a Brooklyn-born Boricua and a mother of two. Her poems are an exploration of her life. Her work has been featured on TIDAL, NBC, Now This, Latina Magazine, Vibe Magazine, Muzzle Magazine, Centro Voces. She is 2017 Poets House Fellow, a 2019 Frost Place Fellow, and a 2020 NJ Arts fellow. Her debut novel *When We Make It* was named a book to watch by the *New York Times*.



About the Student Authors

The authors are multilingual learners who come from many different countries, speaking a multitude of languages. Their passion, brilliant minds, and determination to succeed do not let obstacles hinder their progress. To survive living in a new country, learning a new language, and going through all the changes of adolescence, they must be resilient. And that's who WE ARE!

Peace and Love, Writers of 432



About Behind the Book



Behind the Book

Behind the Book brings authors and their books into classrooms to build literacy skills and foster a community of lifelong readers and writers. Working with classes from Pre-K through 12th grade, our series of workshops is designed to bring books to life and inspire students to reach their full potential. Behind the Book is embedded in the class curriculum, nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and self-confidence in New York City public school students. All programs meet the Next Generation Learning Standards.

Next Generation Learning Standards

Next Gen Learning Standards Addressed

9–10W4: Create a poem, story, play, artwork, or other response to a text, author, theme or personal experience; demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a variety of techniques and genres. Explain divergences from the original when appropriate.

9–10SL5: Make strategic use of digital media and/or visual displays in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence, and to add elements of interest to engage the audience.

9–10R5: In literary texts, consider how varied aspects of structure create meaning and affect the reader. (RL)



Behind the Book

BtB empowers the next generation of readers
and writers by nurturing critical thinking,
creativity, and self-confidence in our students.



www.behindthebook.org