From: Aldona Tanner Redacted

**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 3:10 PM

To: Jack Stark

**Subject:** Critical Race Theory

Attachments: CRT Nebraska Regents.docx

## Non-NU Email

Please see the attached.

Thank you!

Aldona Tanner



Aldona

July 19, 2021

Dear Mr. Stark,

You may have heard that the Learning Community voted to give tax dollars to the Buffett Early Childhood Institute to facilitate teaching metro area teachers on Critical Race Theory (CRT) which then will be taught to OPS children ages 3-8!

Dr. Sky at UNO is supporting this concept and even states that white children are racists. The institute tried to say that this training is not CRT, but it is even if they call it something else. I was told that in Bellevue and Westside they call it "Inclusive Communities". Their next focus will be the other school districts. Please do not accept their reasoning that it is not CRT.

We should acknowledge and teach about our country's past unfair treatment of Black people and to oppose any sort of discrimination. However, CRT teaches that all White people are inherently racist and all Black people are victims. Even Black parents disagree with this concept! Martin Luther King Jr. stated "I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will be not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." CRT teaches to judge based on the color of someone's skin instead of by their character.

Recently, a Chinese woman, who fled Communist China under Chairman Mao Tse-Tung's brutal regime, has issued a chilling warning to a Virginia school board about the threat that CRT poses. The cultural Marxism survivor strongly denounced the Loudoun County's School board for its championing this ideology.

"This is, indeed, the American version of the Chinese Cultural Revolution."

"The Communist regime used the same critical theory to divide people; the only difference is **they used class instead of race**."

"During the Cultural Revolution, I witnessed students and teachers turn against each other," she recalled.

"We were taught to denounce our heritage. "The Red Guards destroyed anything that is not Communist: old statues, books, and anything else."

She pointed out that in China during the Cultural Revolution, students were also encouraged to report on each other: "We were also encouraged to report on each other, just like the Student Equity Ambassador program and the Bias Reporting System."

Ramona Bessinger, a Rhode Island middle school teacher who teaches mainly nonwhite students, stated that CRT created racial tensions among students and staff where none existed before.

She described CRT as "... racially divisive, hateful, and in a large part, historically inaccurate..."

Recently, Governor Reynolds of Iowa signed their new law banning CRT from being taught or promoted in government-funded agencies, schools, or universities. She warned that Marxist ideology has no place in the education system.

My parents immigrated to the U.S. after WW II since they could not return to Lithuania because the Russian Marxists took over their country. Stalin slaughtered millions during his reign of terror.

When one of my grandson's was studying WW II, he wanted to find a book about Hitler and his crimes. I asked him if he was taught about Stalin and his crimes. I was shocked when he said he was not.

We need to teach our children about the dangers of Marxism and communism in the past and that still exists in places like North Korea, China, Cuba, and Venezuela. We need to warn them so we never see this horror in our country.

Please vote **YES** on the proposal to ban any Critical Race Theory programs from all Nebraska University campuses.

Thank you!

Aldona Tanner

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