Responding to the Opposition & Aligning Our Voices

They Say: "CRT is unpatriotic, un-American, Cultural Marxism, communist, and a 'rejection of the underpinnings of Western Civilization,' etc."

We Say: CRT is faithful to the values of what America can be and should be, but has not yet become. We cannot achieve racial justice, however, if we can't name racial injustice. Legalized enforcement of a national myth about our history is the very definition of authoritarianism. It's a denial of freedom of thought. That is a strike against democracy itself. Laws that require teachers to ignore basic truths like slavery was neither neutral nor patriotic. We must acknowledge our history, the good parts and the bad parts, if we are to be the country we aspire to be.

They Say: "Our country is being stolen."

We Say: This country is being shared for the first time.

They Say: "White Americans are being discriminated against."

We Say: Racial backlash to modest reforms is as old as this country. During the fight for school integration post-Brown, some people then claimed that white rights were being trampled upon in favor of those of Black people.

They Say: "CRT sows division between Black and white people, teaches Black people to resent white people, and teaches that all white people are always privileged, and all Black people are always disadvantaged."

We Say: Critical Race Theory is teaching the honest and inclusive history of America and how injustices from the past create inequality for some people today. This history should threaten no one except those committed to preserving inequality.

They Say: "CRT is indoctrination."

We Say: CRT is not indoctrination, but white supremacy is. Prohibiting people from learning and having honest conversations about race in America is an old and familiar form of white supremacist indoctrination. In fact, one of the oldest strategies to justify white supremacy is to



miseducate, undereducate, and criminalize dissenting voices. Unfortunately, the attackers of CRT find it easier to stoke paranoia among white voters than to address the roots of inequity. Misinformation is the true indoctrination, by spreading falsehoods as truth, and impairing the ability of people to think critically for themselves.