

Scholars Circle Resource Guide

Double-sided

How Politicized K-12 Education is Radicalizing American Youth



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About Brandy Shufutinsky
Brandy Shufutinsky is a social worker, writer, and researcher working to counter the illiberal takeover of our education system. Dr. Shufutinsky has been published in Newsweek, Jewish Journal, the Jerusalem Post, Sapir, White Rose Magazine, and JNS. She has worked towards advancing the rights of victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault within the military community through practice, education, and research. Dr. Shufutinsky was a 2021 Scholar-in-Residence at the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism & Policy Oxford Summer Institute, where she worked to develop curriculum in Critical Antisemitism Studies. She is the Director of Education and Community Engagement with North American Values Institute.



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Common Q&A's

What is wrong with teaching kids about racial justice and equity, shouldn't we want children to be aware of injustice?

There isn't anything wrong with children learning about the good, the bad, and the ugly of American (and world) history. However, how it is taught is important. It is not a teacher's responsibility to teach from the position of their opinions or from their ideological perspective.

But education is inherently political. Why do people think that education is not a political act?

There are some people who believe this, and there are those who disagree. My position is not conclusive on this subject - instead, I believe that education is about learning and that scholarship should be the ultimate goal.

Teachers are underpaid and under-resourced. What do you say to those who feel that educators are under attack because of these divisive conversations?

I agree that many teachers are underpaid and under-resourced....and they are under-prepared. Which should all be reasons why we should be more supportive of teachers teaching, not teachers being immersed in cultural and social engineering. Public funds should go towards teacher training that helps educators teach students how to read, compose an essay, and do mathematics.

Key Takeaways

- ☑ Dogmatic ideology has replaced scholarship, resulting in lower academic outcomes and increasing numbers of "scholar-activists".
- ☑ There are numerous vehicles used by activists (individuals and organizations) to infiltrate the US education system.
- ☑ Centering academic excellence and equal opportunities for all students can right this ship.

The views expressed by the speaker don't necessarily reflect Chai Mitzvah's official position.

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