

# CIVICS IN THE NEWS

In 2020 we saw record voter turnout, including [by young Texans](#). In response [multiple state legislatures](#) are working to suppress the vote. Georgia Gov. Kemp just signed into law a [massive voter suppression bill](#) that add new restrictions to voting, while GA Rep. Park Cannon was [arrested](#) for simply knocking on his door. In Texas we are seeing many similar pushes to suppress the vote, including [HB6](#) and [SB7](#). Texas already has the [most restrictive voting laws](#) in the country, and these bills have been described as the worst voting rights legislation since [Jim Crow](#).

Since the pandemic began, Asian Americans have been the victims of [3,795 reported hate crimes](#). The actual number is likely even higher. This [wave of anti-Asian hate](#) fomented by hateful rhetoric against China and Asian Americans culminated in the deadly Atlanta shootings last month. The shooting sparked discussions over the Asian [wealth divide](#), the violence experienced by [AAPI women](#), and the myth of the "[model minority](#)".

[Read](#) how the Asian American community is organizing around this moment.

[Transgender youth](#) are under attack in [multiple state legislatures](#). In [Alabama](#) a bill that would prohibit gender affirming care for trans youth passed in the Senate. A similar bill is being proposed in the Texas legislature. Click [here](#) to visit the Equality Texas legislative tracker.

[Read](#) our intern Kyrios' most recent blog post on what it is like to be trans in Texas and what you can do to help support trans Texans.



## TX CIVIC EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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From voter suppression to discrimination against transgender youth, multiple legislatures are pursuing harmful agendas in attempts to maintain power. Last month's deadly attack against the Asian community after a year of escalating hate requires immediate anti-racist action. This month and every month we stand for voting rights, transgender equity, and with our Asian community members.

### BILLS TO WATCH

[HB 2202](#) : Relating to high school deputy voter registrars.



*Want to help these bills become law? Reach out to Maggie Stern to find out how to get involved.*

1. [Join us](#) for our Healthcare Access and Affordability panel on Tuesday April 6th from 5-6pm CST.
2. HB6 and SB7 are threats to our democracy in Texas. MOVE Texas has created a simple form that will allow you to email committee members in opposition to these bills. Click [here](#) to let them know that this attack is not going unnoticed.
3. Have you never testified at the State Capitol but would like to? [Here](#) Equality Texas tells you what you need to know from parking to processes.

Click [here](#) to add someone to or unsubscribe from our mailing list. Want to see your announcement in next month's newsletter? Contact **Maggie Stern** at [mstern@childrensdefense.org](mailto:mstern@childrensdefense.org).



# TEACHING THROUGH A CRISIS

As teachers welcome students back to the classroom, they face the responsibility of teaching through the ongoing democratic crisis and supporting their students to become lifelong civic participants. We welcome you to use these free resources to help guide classroom conversation.

## PBS Newshour

Read this crash course in Asian American history that quickly dispels the myths around the racism that Asians face in this country. It is full of links that help educate on the harmful policies and practices that have affected the Asian community.

## Washington Post

Michael Eric Dyson, author of "'Long Time Coming: Reckoning with Race in America'", talks about the importance of centering Asian American history as part of a comprehensive and culturally relevant curriculum.

## Learning For Justice

A list of resources curated by Learning for Justice on the history of voter suppression. These lessons are designed for grades 9-12 and discuss how voting rights history has led to the electoral realities of today. Topics explored include gerrymandering and voter ID laws.

## New York University

This guide lists inclusive classroom policies and procedures that create an inclusive environment for students. Additional resources are provided at the end.

## Trans History

Watch this Ted Talk by trans activist Samy Nour Younes on the legacy of trans people around the world.

\*These resources are still being updated and not every link in each guide has been vetted by CDF-Texas. Please exercise discretion in identifying relevant & culturally responsive resources. Read more about intentional and equity-focused teaching in this moment here.