



In 2020, the American Sociological Association spoke out, in partnership with many scholarly societies, against the Trump Administration’s Executive Order on “Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping.” The Biden Administration subsequently rescinded the Executive Order and expressed support for anti-racist education and the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Nevertheless, some state legislators have continued their attacks on educators who address the histories and current manifestations of inequality and oppression in their courses. These legislators mention specific words, concepts, and types of courses that they believe should be banned. Many of these concepts and courses are central to the social sciences and humanities curricula. We are committed to academic freedom and the free and full exchange of ideas and perspectives that is central to the educational enterprise. We are also committed to encouraging students—and all people—to think critically about topics and issues, and to confront the ugly legacy and persistence of white supremacy and racism, sexism, and other anti-democratic and violent forces in our society. We reject attempts by state legislators, including Oklahoma’s HB/SB 1775, to undermine open inquiry on college campuses and beyond.

May 2021