

**“There are those who are engaged in a campaign of ignorance to deny, distort, and dismiss the Holocaust. They are counting on our students’ innocence and gullibility. If we do not teach our students about that time in history, we leave them not only uninformed but unarmed to recognize and counter those same hateful messages when they appear today.”**



**From left: Assemblywoman Nily Rozic; Sen. Todd Kaminsky; Sen. Jim Gaughran; Andrea Bolender, Chair, Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County; Sen. Anna Kaplan; Jack Britvan, President, Voices for Truth and Humanity; Michael Cohen, Eastern Director, Simon Wiesenthal Center; Arnie Herz, Pres., American Jewish Committee LI; Angel Cepeda, Secretary, Voices for Truth and Humanity; Eric Post, Director, American Jewish Committee LI.**

*The bill was introduced in the NYS Senate by Senator Anna Kaplan (D- North Hills). The current co-sponsors in the Senate are: Joseph Addabbo, James Gaughran, Brad Hoylman, Todd Kaminsky, Sean Ryan, and Kevin Thomas.*

*The bill was introduced in the NYS Assembly by Assembly Member Nily Rozic (D- Fresh Meadows). The current co-sponsors in the Assembly are Charles Lavine, Judy Griffin, Steven Cymbrowitz, Simcha Eichenstein, Robert Carroll, Fred Thiele, Catalina Cruz, William Colton, Edward Braunstein, Michael Cusick, Jeffrion Aubry, Harvey Epstein, Jo Anne Simon, Angelo Morinello, Al Taylor, Stacey Pheffer Amato, David McDonough, Rebecca Seawright, Brian Miller, Joe DeStefano, Michael Norris, Robert Smullen, Phil Ramos, Linda Rosenthal, Peter Abbate, Alicia Hyndmann, Vivian Cook, David Weprin, Jeffrey Dinowitz, Al Stirpe, Carmen De La Rosa, Yuh-Line Niou, Ed Ra, Doug Smith, Kevin Byrne, John Mikulin, Brian Barnwell, Gina Sillitti, Steven Englebri-ght, Amy Paulin, Michael Durso, Steve Stern, Karen McMahon, Sandy Galef. Assemblymember Chris Tague is a Multi-sponsor.*

# Why? Why is it so Difficult to do the Right Thing?

*Commentary by Jack Britvan  
President*

*Voices for Truth & Humanity*

The Bill that is seeking approval, (S.121/A.472) is so very important because there are just too many approvals needed to do the right thing - and we need to start somewhere!

Once the Bill is passed by the needed majority, it will then take time to implement.

How much time will pass until it is approved?

How much time will pass until the results are in?

Will a curriculum to educate to stop hate be implemented or will such needed education be left largely to individual school districts?

We know that New Jersey already has a complete K-12 curriculum about the Holocaust and other genocides. But today, if your child is a freshman in a New York State high school, chances are he or she will go through the rest of high school, and not learn about Hate!

What will likely be established is that only the higher rated public schools will teach Holocaust and other genocide education. Do you see a correlation? So then what?

A curriculum would need to be established to review with the non-rated school districts in New York State. Those that are already providing education about the Holocaust and other genocides including slavery to our children will be backers, and others likely will not. Nothing meaningful will happen unless school boards back this education platform.

At this point, the Teachers Union will cry “Foul!” and possibly act to delay your children’s education of history for years.



**Jack Britvan, President, Voices for Truth and Humanity: “Now is the time to turn thoughts into action, to get involved and feel that you are in control of your family’s wellbeing.”**

Hatred and Racism will continue to hurt and kill without the needed education. The same defense lasted for years until Smoking Bans were in place.

Do you remember people smoking on air

planes and in movie theatres and restaurants?

Public figures will be in a quandary. They’ll ask: should we back those that want to protect their families to educate so that

history doesn’t repeat itself - or should we act only to avoid potential union pushback, and protect our jobs?

There is however a stronger force. No, not Star Wars. Taxpayers and parents of students.

It is time for everyone, the general public who cares about our kids and our future to stand up and say “I’m not going to take it anymore!”

Yes, that line came from a movie. But it’s important to say it here and now, over and over, precisely because the things we see happening on our screens today are NOT part of a movie - they are all too real.

We need many voices to speak out and convince those in power that the danger is real, and the solution is real, too. Will your voice be one of the voices that speak out against Hate?

Do you ever stop and think about your children and grandchildren? Now is the time to turn those thoughts into action, get involved, and feel that you are in control of your family’s wellbeing.

Here’s what you can do:

1. Please go to Voices For Truth and Humanities website and see a list of those New York State politicians that have sponsored or co-sponsored Bill # S.121/A.472.

2. Also see a list of those New York State politicians that have yet to commit.

3. Call and email those New York State politicians that haven’t decided that your children and grandchildren and their education are important.

Take a stand. Take back the control that we never really had. With numbers, they must listen. Educate to Stop the Hate!

Get involved - or don’t complain when you or a family member is a victim or a statistic!