remdesivir and not enough opportunity to use ivermectin or hydroxychloroquine to treat this horrific disease. This is unprecedented that people would step in.

As I understand it, hospitals are billing out over $3,000 a day for remdesivir, but they may be getting under $50 or $60 a day for ivermectin or hydroxychloroquine.

The combination of doctors being prevented from doing what they want and the fact that some people are making a lot more money on one drug than the other is something the press should be looking into, and it is something I think our Oversight and Reform Committee should be looking into.

I hope if anybody is paying attention, you pick up on this story and see what the real background is. I am not an expert on the topic, but experts on the topic do believe that people are dying unnecessarily.

AMERICA MUST STAND WITH KOSOVO

(Mr. TORRES of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I proudly stand before you to celebrate the 14th independence of Kosovo, one of the world's youngest nations.

Rising from the ruins of ethnic cleansing at the murderous hands of one of the worst dictators in the 20th century, Kosovo has built a burgeoning democracy in whose heart the United States holds a special place.

Indeed, the U.S. has no greater friend in southeast Europe than Kosovo, and Kosovo should have no greater friend in the world than the U.S. We owe it to that friendship, as well as to the greater cause of democracy, to stand firmly with Kosovo as it seeks universal recognition from the international community and membership in both the EU and NATO.

The time has come for Kosovo to be given the full respect and recognition that an independent country deserves.

The United States must stand with those that not only stand with America but also stand for America. Kosovo stands for the American vision of a more democratic world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAVEN J. BARLOW

(Mr. MOORE of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Haven J. Barlow. Utah lost a community giant who lived to be 100 years old. It is hard to believe, but Haven's life was nearly cut short when at just 9 months old, a train struck the Model T Ford he was riding in, killing his mother and three other passengers.

Fortunately, he survived, and he lived a life full of service to others. Haven served our country as a Navy ensign in World War II and was the longest-serving State legislator in Utah history, first elected in 1953 and served until 1995.

Haven's service to Utah and Davis County is immeasurable, where he spent much of his time focused on matters pertaining to education. He led the fight to establish and fund the first State vocational institution in Davis County, now Davis Technical College, the establishment of Weber State/Davis campus, and Utah's creation of the weighted pupil index (WPU), ensuring a child can get the same level of education regardless of where they lived.

In addition, Haven helped establish the Hill Aerospace Museum, the Freeport Center, the restoration of Utah's Governor's mansion, and was behind the original Utah Symphony Endowment Fund.

Haven was married to Bonnie Rae Ellison for 58 years before her passing, and raised six children. He is a Utah legend, and we honor him in his passing.

HUMAN DIGNITY IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of the Global Respect Act. I thank Congressman CICILLINE for sponsoring this legislation and also Chairman MEEKS and the Speaker for bringing it to the floor.

Human dignity is a basic human right, yet LGBTQ individuals are often targets for harassment, violence, and even death, simply based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

As chair of the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I am committed to protecting and promoting the human rights and dignity of all people, especially those who are marginalized and most vulnerable, such as LGBTQ individuals.

I am so proud that in the House FY22 SFOPS bill we provided $15 million for the Global Equality Fund at the State Department and $10 million for the protection of LGBTQ persons at USAID.

The Global Respect Act will ensure that the administration has the tools it needs to advance the rights of all human beings, regardless of who they are or who they love. This bill upholds our core values of tolerance and compassion for our fellow human beings. I want to congratulate this body for voting for this bill today.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in strong support of H.R. 3485, the Global Respect Act of 2021, which mandates a listing of and visa restrictions on foreign persons responsible for or complicit in human rights violations against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) persons.

It is very difficult for these individuals to suffer what they suffer. This community, of course, faces discrimination, violence, and bigotry all over the world. Sixty-eight countries criminalize same-sex sexual relations, which means that more than one-third of the United Nations' member states criminalize consenting adult and same-sex sexual relations. It includes nation-states in Africa. In up to nine countries, same-sex sexual relations may be punishable by death, and so-called anti-LGBTQ-plus propaganda laws inhibit LGBTQ-plus advocacy in at least three countries.

Let me thank Mr. CICILLINE and the leadership for putting this bill forward. This is a bipartisan bill with a list of foreign individuals found responsible for human rights violations against this community.

I am supporting this bill because it has teeth because it requires denial of and limitations on visas. Let me ask the Senate to pass Global Respect Act, H.R. 3485.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN.)

JANUARY 6 WOUNDS MUST HEAL

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished majority whip for yielding me the time and for his commitment to justice and all necessary to make this country a better place for everybody.

Mr. Speaker, some say that time heals all wounds. In the hours right after the January 6 attack, I was hopeful that with time America might begin to heal, too; that in the wake of such a dastardly attack on our democracy, Republicans would recoil in disgust at what they had created; that after the President of the United States whipped a violent mob into a frenzy and sent them here to attack Congress, they might finally say enough is enough.

That didn't happen, and it is not going to. The Republican National Committee just called January 6 ''legitimate political discourse.'' Legitimate political discourse? They had lead pipes and guns. They destroyed property and beat cops. Give me a break.

Sadly, this is just their latest attempt to rewrite history. Last year they called January 6, ''a normal tourist visit.'' They continue obstructing the January 6th Select Committee.

They continue spreading the big lie that the election was stolen despite overwhelming, incontrovertible evidence that it wasn't.

The former President again promised to pardon those who engaged in violence if he assumes office again. This week we learned that he considered using the military to seize ballot boxes. Now, there is a sentence that sends a chill down my spine.

I credit Leader MCCONNELL, who rebuked his party this week. He said January 6 was ''a violent insurrection for the purpose of trying to prevent the peaceful transfer of power.'' But he is the exception.

For a majority of Republicans, things have not changed. They have stayed the same, stuck in a QAnon fever dream, waiting at the beck and call of a twice-impeached ex-President who has spent his retirement shredding evidence at Mar-a-Lago. Time has not stiffened their spines. It hasn't jolted them into reality or brought us together like we were in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

January 6 hasn't become a turning point. Instead, it has become a talking point. This is the new Republican reality. To gain support from the ex-President, you have to repeat a lie that the election was stolen, and to maintain the support of the Republican Party, you have to repeat another lie, that January 6 wasn't a violent uprising against America.

There is a word for that, Mr. Speaker. It is called fascism, and it is a jarring word, one I don't use lightly. So let me be clear exactly how I mean it. Fascism isn't about a particular set of beliefs or political ideology. It is about power and the lengths to which some people will go to acquire and retain it.

For decades, America fought against fascism, but today a growing movement here at home seeks to upend norms, settle disagreement with violence, and silence the truth.

''Free societies,'' American philosopher Jason Stanley says, ''require truth, and so to smash freedom, you must smash truth.''

So let me say this plainly: The election was not stolen. Trump-appointed judges say it was not stolen. Republican-led investigations say it was not stolen. Republican officials responsible for counting votes say it wasn't stolen.

If you are an elected official and you continue smashing the truth, even after all that we have learned about what happened on January 6, you are supporting fascism.

What is happening is not new. Even the earliest philosopher saw that democracies are particularly susceptible to tyranny. There is no reason to believe it can't happen here.

What is special about America isn't the strength of our institutions alone, it is the strength and courage of the people willing to stand up and fight for them. And that is why I am glad the January 6th Select Committee is doing its work. I am grateful President Biden isn't falling for false claims of executive privilege by the ex-President designed to cover up what went on. And I am proud of the people who keep showing up day in and day out despite going through hell that day, from congressional staff to the administrative staff, to cafeteria workers, to the cleaning crews, to the Capitol Police. Each of you is playing a vital role in defending our democracy.

□ 1230

But make no mistake, we are standing on the precipice.

When we spend hours and hours debating whether State legislatures should be allowed to nullify ballots; when politicians call an attempt to violently overthrow the United States Government ''legitimate political discourse,'' we are in a dangerous spot.

The insurrection, conspiracy theories, the big lie, voter suppression, they are all branches on the same tree.

And at the root of all of it is power.

Now, I don't have a magic wand to make it better, I have a warning: Time won't heal our wounds or reign in fascism in America. That is why we must demand the truth.

If we don't, the people who are trying to normalize what happened on January 6 won't be dismissed. They will be empowered.

God help us all, and God help the United States of America if that happens.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to discuss some other theories and to honor this month, Black History Month, with first an announcement.

Last year, the Governor of Kentucky wrote President Biden asking him to promote Colonel Charles Young to brigadier general.

Charles Young is not a name that most people in the country probably recognize. Charles was a ''buffalo soldier.'' He was the third African American to graduate from West Point. And stories are legendary as to what Charles went through.

Charles was born a son of slaves back in 1864 in Kentucky, but he rose and went into the military at the urging of his father and performed heroically. However, for obvious reasons, he was stuck at lieutenant colonel and never got the promotion which he deserved.

So, posthumously, last week, the Defense Department, upon the request of the Governor of Kentucky—and I was pleased to write a letter to the President in support of that request—Charles was promoted to general. I thank the Defense Department for repairing that fault.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Black History Month started out back in 1926. It was started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History.

Now, Dr. Woodson is known by most of us as the father of Black history. Dr. Woodson had some strong feelings about the contributions that African Americans were making to this great country that were going untold and intentionally ignored. So Dr. Woodson and the association lobbied for a week to focus the country's attention on the contributions of Black Americans. He was successful, and as I said, in 1926, the week was established.

Now, back in the sixties, many college campuses had a lot of activity going on on those campuses, and I am very familiar with some of them, but one of the things that came up was this focus on the contributions of African Americans. And so a movement started on these campuses. They decided—in fact, quite frankly, I believe Kent University was the first university that decided—that it would just celebrate and focus on African-American history for the entire month of February, that a week was not enough.

Now, we hear a lot of stories about February being the shortest month of the year and why that was set aside for the study of Black history. Well, the fact of the matter is, the number of days in the month had nothing to do with it. It was all about 2 days in the month of February.

When the agreement was made to celebrate Black History Month, Carter G. Woodson and the association picked February because February 12 was the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, and February 14 was the birthday of Frederick Douglass. So to embrace both of those birthdays, they picked a week in February that encompassed the two days. That is how it got to be February.

And then, of course, with the agitation on the college campuses, they started a tradition of celebrating the whole month. And, of course, in 1969 the activity took place up at Kent, and in 1976 President Gerald Ford decided to officially recognize the month of February as Black History Month. That is how we got to this point. And every President since has followed suit.

Now, today, the teaching of Black history has taken on a new meaning in this polarized country that we are currently experiencing. The publication, Education Week, reports that since January 2021—so 13 months—14 States led by Republican Governors, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Utah, Oklahoma, Texas, Iowa, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho have all imposed restrictions or bans on teaching about racial issues. And legislation is currently pending in another 23 States.

Black History Month, as I just indicated, was established officially by a Republican President, Gerald Ford, but we have become so polarized and this has become so politicized that in the last 13 months, 14 States led by Republican Governors have imposed restrictions or bans on teaching about racial issues.

These States claim to be protecting the K–12 students from being taught critical race theory, or as we have seen

in some publications, things that make White children uncomfortable.

I would like to remind all of us, especially my friends on the other side of the aisle, that theory is part of the higher education experience and is not part of any curriculum in K–12. Instead, these students are being taught facts, what I call critical race facts.

Now, all of us are aware of the contributions of people like Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman, and none of us seem to be uncomfortable with knowing about these people. But, Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of other people of color who have made significant contributions to the growth and development of this great country that have been intentionally left out of our history books. And for some strange reason, people seem to feel that students will be uncomfortable learning about those contributions. It is important to the full development of all children to be taught exactly what this country is all about.

Let me offer a few examples of what I am talking about here. In fact, I opened up Black History Month this year speaking to students over at Gonzaga High School. And in that speech, as I have done on this floor, I looked up at the lights, and I talked to those students a little bit about the person that history records as responsible for the light bulb: Thomas Edison. Nobody argues with that. We are very comfortable with knowing that, reading about that in the history books, and studying about Thomas Edison that many of us call ''the greatest inventor of all times.''

But the fact of the matter is that Thomas Edison did invent the light bulb, but a very critical, unknown fact to most people is that he could not get the light bulb to work. He could get it to come on, but he couldn't get it to stay on. And it was not until someone told Thomas Edison about an African American, a young man, the son of former slaves—his parents had escaped from slavery, and they were living up in Massachusetts—this young man was totally different from Thomas Edison; his name was Lewis Latimer.

Thomas Edison was informed that this light bulb that he couldn't get to stay on, this guy up in Massachusetts might be able to solve his problem, if he could just step outside of his comfort zone. Oh, it may be uncomfortable, but if you can step outside of your comfort zone and sit down with Lewis Latimer, this man has invented a filament that might make your light bulb work.

Thomas Edison decided to do that. He wanted to light the world. He was having problems. For some reason he could not get it done.

□ 1245

So he went up to Massachusetts and he sat down with Lewis Latimer. And sure enough, Lewis Latimer's filament, when put inside of Thomas Edison's light bulb, it worked. And together, they lit the world.

It should not be uncomfortable for people to know about Lewis Latimer. That is not critical race theory. That is a critical racial fact that ought to be known by all children and adults. And what is wrong with teaching that in the classrooms? For some strange reason, a lot of people feel that would be uncomfortable for children to learn.

There are plenty other examples like that. I think today of another one, the steam engine. Nobody will argue about how important the steam engine was and still is to the industrial revolution. And if you ask people, most people from the books they have learned, who invented the steam engine, they will tell you Thomas Savery. And they would be correct.

But when Thomas Savery invented the steam engine, it would overheat and they would have to cut the engine off. And sometimes in order to keep from cutting it off, they would employ a person they called an oiler. And that person's job was to pour oil on this engine so it would keep running. They would not have to shut it down. And it was a very dangerous job; some lost their limbs carrying out their duties.

But there was a guy working in a similar situation who came up with an automatic oil pan. He designed a way for the engine to self-lubricate so he would not have to turn it off and lose production, so he would not have to employ a person who could lose a limb.

That man's name was Elijah McCoy, who also—according to my research—was the son of slaves. He was a prolific inventor. This was just one of the things that he invented. In fact, Elijah McCoy's genius was so well-thought of and highly respected, and he had invented so many things to make life better, to make production more profitable, to make this country a better place. And out of respect for his genius, the stories are told that whenever anybody came up with some gadget or something to make life easier, the question was asked often, ''Is this a real McCoy?'' It is very comfortable for people, even today, to use that phrase, ask that question:

Is that the real McCoy? Are you the real McCoy?

Why would it be so uncomfortable for children in the classroom to know that that iconic phrase came about as a result of the significant contribution to the human spirt, to the greatness of America by an African American named Elijah McCoy. Why is that to be uncomfortable? There is nothing that should be uncomfortable about that.

I also think today about another African American, Garrett A. Morgan. Now, all of us marvel at the gas mask. I remember as a child, the first time I saw one and experimented with how it worked, I had no idea of the origin of it at the time. In fact, if I were to read the books that were published, I still would not have known the real origin, because in the books, they would tell you that John Haldane, a Scottish inventor who came to this country, and supposedly during World War I, invented the first gas mask.

But the critical fact is World War I started in 1914; ended in 1918. But in 1911 or thereabouts, a man named Garrett Morgan, also from Kentucky, he was born to a mother who was Native American and a father who was African American, who was also a former slave.

Morgan, in 1914, at the beginning of World War I, invented the gas mask. And that gas mask was used in 1916 in New York City to save the lives of over 500 people caught in some kind of an accident. Now, if you look at the calendar, this was done before John Haldane, whatever contraption he may have developed.

Now the story of Garrett Morgan is kind of interesting and a little bit—maybe to some, I know to me—uncomfortable to think about. Because Garrett Morgan experienced a lot of difficulty trying to sell his gas mask. And people wanted to use it for a big event in Cleveland, Ohio, people wanted the gas mask, but they wouldn't buy it from him because of his color.

So Garrett Morgan hired a White actor to pose as the inventor. And he went along with the inventor and he put the gas mask, the hood, on to demonstrate it and, of course, to hide who he really was. That is how he was able to sell his gas mask. As effective as it was, as good of an invention that it was, they would not buy it from him simply because of his skin color.

Now, that might have disappointed him, and it certainly should have, but he didn't let that deter him. He went on with other inventions. And some know that it is Garrett A. Morgan that is credited with being the inventor of the traffic light. So these inventions that made life easier for people, made industrial plants more productive, made our streets safer, made our existence much more pleasant and much more conducive to reading, to getting around, all by African Americans.

What is uncomfortable about teaching this in our classrooms? What is so bad about children knowing this? Why shouldn't the descendants of all three of these people, why shouldn't their descendants be made to feel proud of the contributions of their great, great, great—maybe more greats—grandfather or great uncle or aunt. Why would anybody be uncomfortable with that?

Mr. Speaker, that is not the only field this is in. I often talk about Charles Drew. When I was growing up, polio visited my neighborhood twice, leaving one of my playmates dead and another one crippled for life. And along came Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, two men who happen to have been born white, two men who had a certain genius, who did significant research. Because of their genius and because of their great research, they were able to unlock some secrets. And together, they virtually eliminated polio from the face of the Earth.

There is nothing uncomfortable about talking about that and people

learning about that. So why would it be uncomfortable for the guy who was able to unlock some secrets of the blood cells, Charles Drew, an African American, born right here in Washington, D.C., who because of his research, he was able to figure out how to store blood, save it until it was needed.

Blood spoils once it leaves the human body, but Charles Drew opened up the secrets and figured out how to store blood and save it until it was needed. Now, he has a pretty interesting history, also.

□ 1300

Charles Drew headed up the blood bank. He went off to Europe to head up the blood bank, and his genius was recognized.

It is kind of interesting because he resigned from the job. Why? Because they insisted that the blood coming from Black people had to be stored separately from the blood coming from White people. It sounds a little bit silly today, but that is what they did.

Soldiers were dying on the battlefield because of the loss of blood. You have to take the time to figure out: Wait a minute. This is a Black soldier, so we have to find some blood from a Black person.

Scientifically, it has been proven forever that there ain't no difference in the blood.

Today, we don't separate the blood anymore because we learned better. We have a little saying in the neighborhood I grew up in: When a person learns better, a person will do better.

Well, I am hoping that we will take a little time to learn better about the history of African Americans. Maybe if we did, we will do better.

Now, I don't want to leave here without bringing up another incident because this is one that bugs me a little bit. I keep some busts around my home, and of course, I have one of Charles Drew and Matthew Henson, but I also have one of Daniel Hale Williams, who few people know. Daniel Hale Williams was an African American.

If you look in the books and they ask the question: Who is the father of open-heart surgery? You will get the name of Dr. C. Walton Lillehei, who was White. He is credited in all the books with performing the first open-heart surgery. He just passed away in 1999. His surgery was performed in 1952. But that is not the real history.

Why would it be uncomfortable for you to know that Daniel Hale Williams, who was a doctor and who founded the Provident Hospital up in Chicago, one day, back in 1893, had someone come to that hospital with a stab wound in the chest? The guy happened to have been White, but Daniel Hale Williams, the Black guy, performed open-heart surgery and saved the man's life, and he lived 20 years afterward.

The textbooks don't record that. They decided to wait almost 100 years to give somebody else credit. That is what happened, and that is why we look at this week.

Now, I think that Carter Woodson was very concerned about what seemed to be going on today, people leaving out facts, ignoring facts, lowering their level of respect for people. I can't tell you how many times I have been engaged in conversation with people who, out of their ignorance, say things that they really believe that indicate there can be found no significant contributions to this great country from people of color. I have had it said to me.

It is not their fault. They believe that because that is what they have seen in the books or have not seen.

If we teach these facts, then I think Black history will take on a new meaning, and Black History Month would not be so uncomfortable for anybody to celebrate.

Next month, we will celebrate Women's History Month simply because so many of the contributions of women have been left out and ignored. So, we take the month of March to focus on those things, and that is why it is so important for us.

Mr. Speaker, I did not look at the clock. How much time do I have left?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from South Carolina has 23 minutes remaining.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I have a lot of time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), who wanted to participate in this hour. I assure you, Mr. Speaker, 23 minutes may not be enough for Ms. JACKSON LEE, but that is all we have left.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me acknowledge just a stunning and very pivotal and important Black history message that our whip has given. He really is our historian, and I certainly want to pay tribute and give credence to the great work that he has established here for us.

Mr. Speaker, it was so powerful to be able to reorder critical race theory to critical race fact. I just want to reinforce that everyone knows, and it has been for decades, that critical race theory is an aspect of graduate teaching, master's, Ph.D.s, and in law schools. The basis of it is the seeming infusion of racism in society by way of laws and other actions.

Black history has always been, and the founder of Black history always wanted it to be, an opportunity for healing and bringing us together by understanding. I think the whip has laid out a stupendous story, a better understanding of Charles Drew and a better understanding of the light bulb.

Why wouldn't boys and girls from all walks of life want to understand how we are better together than we are separate?

I just want to take a moment to take up a different theme that speaks to the issue of Black history. I want to talk about the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. As well, I want to make sure that we highlight some aspects of Black history.

Mr. Speaker, let me, first of all, indicate that Black history is an important element of who we are. I am just going to call off the kinds of names that I hope will be welcomed in any classroom: President Barack Obama, 44th President of the United States, the first African-American President; Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall; U.S. Senator Blanche Kelso Bruce; U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan; U.S. Congressman Mickey Leland; Dr. Guion Stewart Bluford; Mae C. Jemison—people that I knew because, living in Houston, they were astronauts that went out of Johnson Space Center—Dr. McNair, whose life was lost in the service of this Nation as an astronaut.

Why wouldn't we want to talk about such beloved personalities who overcame obstacles to do great things? Activists and intellectual authors and artists like Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, these were individuals in the era of post-slavery and post-Reconstruction, in many instances, who still laid the groundwork for us.

James Baldwin, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Gwendolyn Brooks, just to name a few of the countless number of well-known and unsung heroes.

James Baldwin, of course, an author; Toni Morrison, an author; and Gwendolyn Brooks. Obviously, Toni being maligned because of not being understood. Harriet Tubman, an unbelievable story with the Underground Railroad. Rosa Parks, who sat down along with others. Maya Angelou, poet laureate.

I also want to put into the RECORD names of historical figures, some of whom have passed, from my own community: Reverend F.N. Williams, Sr.; Dr. S.J. Gilbert, Sr.; Reverend Crawford W. Kimble; Reverend E. Stanley Branch; Reverend William A. Lawson, emeritus; Reverend Johnnie Jeffery ''J.J.'' Roberson; Mr. John Bland; Ms. Ruby Moseley; Ms. Dorothy Hubbard; Ms. Doris Hubbard—all of them infused liberty and liberation into our community—Acres Homes; Third Ward; Fifth Ward; South Park; Sunnyside; Willie Bell Boone; Ms. Holly Hogrobrooks, one of the first student protesters at Weingarten's; Mr. Deloyd Parker, who founded SHAPE, a pivotal agency in our community; Ms. Lenora ''Doll'' Carter; and Mr. Gerald Womack. At 16 years old, Gerald Womack opened his own real estate company, and he is one of the most generous humanitarians and businessmen living in our community today.

I only call these names out to align myself with the issue of facts. Why wouldn't we want to know the facts of each of our communities? Why wouldn't we want to know those who descended from those who came on Pilgrims' pride? Why wouldn't we want to

know those who are the legacies of the indigenous people, Native Americans, and many different Tribes, many of whom, of course, married African Americans as slaves or in the post-slave era?

Why wouldn't we want to know that history? I am stunned that we would not want to do so.

I believe it is important to not only know history that is pleasant but that we can call off wonderful people in our community who, in spite of the challenges and tribulations, became great leaders. But I also want to bring to the attention—because I have such an affection and love for this book taught to me by not only the whip, who appreciates this book called the Constitution, but Barbara Jordan reminded me to always carry it, for ladies, in their purses.

George Washington called the Constitution ''the guide, which I will never abandon.'' He is absolutely right.

''The Declaration of Independence was the promise; the Constitution was the fulfillment.'' A Republican judge, Warren Burger, said that. It couldn't be more true.

□ 1315

That seems to be taken sideways today because you can wrap the Constitution in the history of Black America, Mr. Speaker. So I rise for us to discuss today both the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. As I cherish the Constitution, I can assure you that I cherish those amendments.

I think we should remind America that we are the only population—we don't do it angrily—that were held in bondage for a period of time, longer than two centuries, 246 years longer than the Nation is old—we will meet that timeframe probably this July—but for a long time, longer than the Nation was old.

We know that President Lincoln had many reasons. He frankly thought he could bring the Union together if he could crush the rebellion in the South by freeing the slaves. In 1862, President Lincoln came to believe—and by the way, I and my friends, all of us call ourselves Lincolnesque. We look to the other party as the party of Lincoln, those wonderful stories that we learned in school, and we just knew this tall man called Abe Lincoln.

He was humble, not rich, but rich in spirit and courage. He believed firmly that emancipating the enslaved people in the South would help the Union crush the Confederate rebellion in the Civil War and win the Civil War.

Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation which took effect in 1863 announced that all persons held as slaves within any State shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.

Wouldn't that be a good lesson to understand, whether you are in first grade or whether you are in fourth grade or whether you are in middle school?

The largesse and the values embedded in the Constitution to create a more perfect Union, here we are in the 1800s trying to proclaim that value. That is a value. That is a fact. But as we know, the Emancipation Proclamation itself did not end slavery in the United States, as it only applied to the 11 Confederate States then at war against the Union and only to the portion of those States not already under Union control.

To make it permanent, it would have to be a constitutional amendment. So in 1864, the U.S. Senate passed a proposed amendment banning slavery with the necessary two-thirds majority, but it faltered in the House of Representatives. So when Congress reconvened in 1864, the emboldened Republicans put the proposed amendment up for a vote again, and Lincoln threw himself into the legislative process, inviting individual Representatives to his office to discuss the amendment and putting it forward.

Isn't that like sweet music?

The Republicans, the Lincoln Republicans, got going. Lincoln was committed to the passage of the 13th Amendment, telling his allies to see what is before you to focus on the most important thing, that this amendment protects the slaves now born and in the United States but settles the question for all time for the millions yet to be born.

What an emotional and moving set of words. How emotional for the world to see how small it was at that time of this new experiment that left the shores of Europe.

What is this thing called the United States of America?

Can they actually govern? Can they lead?

Can they live? Is democracy real?

It is a democratic republic wrapped up in the history of slaves, Black history, the history of African Americans.

The allies got busy and got working, and he reportedly told them: I leave it to you to determine how it shall be done but remember that I am President of the United States, clothed with immense power, and I expect you to procure these votes.

That gives a sense of democracy that he didn't go in and drag people out. He actually told his allies: Let's try to get it done. I have got the power, but let's try to get votes.

We have seen that happen with some sadness to lack of success, but we stand on this floor in tribute to a man who wanted to see voting rights continue and continue and continue.

So on January 31st, 1865, the House of Representatives passed the proposed amendment with a vote of 119–56, just over the required two-thirds, and the following day Lincoln approved a joint resolution of Congress submitting it to the States for ratification.

That is a beautiful story. That is a fact. That is Black history. This is American history. I think that is the point that I want to make, that Black history is American history. It is no less and no more.

There should be no doubt in trying to teach American history that has the wonderful tinge of Black history.

Yesterday, February 8, 2022, honored the 15th Amendment—which I will speak somewhat about—to the United States Constitution which outlaws discrimination in voting on the basis of race, color, and previous conditions of servitude, therefore, advancing suffrage for African Americans.

This was the last and most difficult and hard-fought of all the Reconstruction congressional constitutional amendments to confer citizenship upon the formerly enslaved. The intention of this amendment was to codify permanently the right to vote for all freed men. Immediately the impact of this amendment proved transformative as freed men—women still were not allowed to vote—exercised the right to vote and in coalition elected several hundred African Americans to office.

How powerful this history is. How factual this history is. How coming together this history was, that you had, by birthright citizenship, the right to vote no matter whether or not you were previously enslaved or the color of your skin or previous condition. That is history.

So why do we talk about history today?

I said it was in the name of our dear, late friend and the many people who Whip CLYBURN spoke to, but we do it because—although the 13th and 14th Amendments, the 14th giving due process rights—1921, this is a picture that we saw: captured Negroes on the way to the convention hall during the Tulsa race riot.

The freed slaves actually did everything that America said they shall do. They built this community on land given to them. They had hotels and hospitals. They had schools, and they had marching bands. Yet, unfortunately, it triggered a dislike.

Maybe this should be a continuation of an understanding and grades that would appreciate the fact that there were those who stood, had economic development and did all that citizens were expected to do, integrated into society but happened to be some freed slaves and some the descendants of enslaved Africans.

The Tulsa race riots were 1921. So the question of race continues. It started in the origins of slavery and slaves coming to the United States, but it continued.

But true history, Mr. Speaker, is a recognition that the facts won't hurt you, that they give you strength and allow you to continue to grow. But I think that is what I think this little book represents.

Quickly, I want to show a more potent picture, for that is what happened in America for 246 years.

Again, the anguish and anger are not the approach that we want to leave with our fellow Americans. It is the appreciation of the significance of Black history and the significance of a presence of a people in this country. And

the fact that this Constitution wanted to get rid of that, that is a good thing. That is the goodness of America. That story should be told.

So when we talk about the many Members of Congress who have come to accept the healing powers of a bill that studies slavery and establishes a commission to deal with its repair and restoration and results like H.R. 40, 33 years filed in this Congress, what happens is that we have the facts, we have the approach, and the approach is healing.

So as I close my remarks, let me say that we are a continuing work in progress. I am so grateful to the whip for allowing me this moment to remind us that our special history is this book.

So when we hear a Brian Flores lawsuit about our friends in the NFL and the numbers that are so awkward—I won't pursue that now.

But what I will say is: Can we work together? Because issues still exist. Can we teach our children the goodness of the history of a people? And then, can we take the next step to work with institutions who have not yet fulfilled the beginning of this book that says we organize to create a more perfect Union, and the 13th and 14th Amendment which rids of us of all discrimination?

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can do that for this month, and I hope we can do that forever.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of this body and the Committee on the Judiciary, I am pleased to join my colleagues in this Special Order marking the anniversary of the passage on December 6, 1865 of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution and celebrating the passage of the 14th and 15th Amendments, known as the Civil Rights Amendments.

I thank my colleague, Congressman BUTTERFIELD, for anchoring this important Special Order and am remembering our late colleague, John Lewis, a great and beloved man, who risked and gave his life to make real the promise of those amendments.

The 13th Amendment, the first of the three great Civil War Amendments, was passed in 1865 and abolished slavery.

The 14th Amendment conferred citizenship on the newly emancipated slaves, and the 15th Amendment prohibited abridging the right to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Taken together, these amendments were intended and have the effect of making former slaves, and their descendants, full and equal members of the political community known as the United States of America.

By 1861, when the Civil War broke out, more than 4 million people (nearly all of them of African descent) were enslaved in 15 southern and border states.

By 1862, President Abraham Lincoln came to believe firmly that emancipating enslaved people in the South would help the Union crush the Confederate rebellion and win the Civil War.

Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect in 1863, announced that all enslaved people held in the states "then in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

But the Emancipation Proclamation in itself did not end slavery in the United States, as it only applied to the 11 Confederate states then at war against the Union, and only to the portion of those states not already under Union control.

To make emancipation permanent would take a constitutional amendment abolishing the institution of slavery itself.

In April 1864, the U.S. Senate passed a proposed amendment banning slavery with the necessary two-thirds majority but it faltered in the House of Representatives, as more and more Democrats refused to support it.

When Congress reconvened in December 1864, the emboldened Republicans put the proposed amendment up for vote again and Lincoln threw himself in the legislative process, inviting individual representatives to his office to discuss the amendment and putting pressure on border-state Unionists (who had previously opposed it) to change their position.

Lincoln was committed to the passage of the 13th Amendment, telling his allies to "see what is before you, to focus on the most important thing; that this Amendment protects the slaves now born and in the United States, but settles the question for all time for the millions yet to be born."

He authorized his allies to entice House members with plum positions and other inducements, reportedly telling them: "I leave it to you to determine how it shall be done; but remember that I am President of the United States, clothed with immense power, and I expect you to procure those votes."

On January 31, 1865, the House of Representatives passed the proposed amendment with a vote of 119–56, just over the required two-thirds majority, and the following day, Lincoln approved a joint resolution of Congress submitting it to the state legislatures for ratification.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is the world's only superpower and boasts the largest economy in the history of the world and for many years was the world's indispensable nation and the example that all aspiring democracies wished to emulate.

But at the same time, this nation has also been home to many searing instances of social unrest resulting from racial injustices, as we witnessed this year on the streets of big cities and small towns in urban and rural communities.

We saw Americans, by the millions across the country, coming from all races and ages, engaging in what the late John Lewis called "good trouble" by protesting and demanding an end to the systemic racial inequality in our criminal justice system that too often victimizes and disproportionately treats black Americans worse, *ceteris paribus*, when it comes to suspicion, apprehension, arrest, detention, trial, sentencing, and incarceration.

While the brutal deaths of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville shocked the conscience of the nation, most black Americans will tell you what they experienced is not new, but has been occurring for generations, if not centuries.

What is critically important to understand is that the instances of brutal and unfair treatment the nation has witnessed this year cannot be attributed to the proverbial few "bad apples in the bushel" but is instead the foreseeable consequence of systemic racism and racial inequality in the system.

Not just the criminal justice system, but the health care system, the economic system, and the educational system to name the most glaring examples.

To find our way out of this dark time, we need to understand how it came to be.

That is why in January 2019, I introduced H.R. 40, which establishes a commission to examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.

Among other requirements, the commission shall identify the role of federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery; forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants; and lingering negative effects of slavery on living African-Americans and society.

Official slavery ended with the Civil War and ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment.

But unofficial slavery was continued with the new institution of sharecrop farming, a criminal justice system that would press convicts into work once done by slaves, and labor policies that dictated income for work done based upon skin color.

And, of course, all of this was reinforced by the systematic disenfranchisement of black Americans, the "discrete and insular minority" excluded from "those political processes ordinarily to be relied upon to protect" them, to quote Chief Justice Hughes' famous Carolene Products Footnote 4.

For these reasons, the history of the United States is intertwined with the history of enslaved Africans in the Americas.

There is blood and there are tears, but there is also redemption and reconciliation.

But to get there, we must have the complete truth and lay our history bare.

It is the light that sheds the way to the more perfect union all Americans want.

The Commission created and empowered by H.R. 40 is a necessary first step in that effort to get to truth and reconciliation about the Original Sin of American Slavery that is necessary to light the way to the beloved community we all seek.

Finally, I join all my colleagues in pointing out that the most fitting and proper means of paying tribute to the beloved John Lewis's extraordinary life is for the Senate to immediately take up and pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, landmark legislation to protect the precious right to vote for all persons and to ensure that our democracy has the tools needed to remain strong.

Mr. Speaker, this February we recognize and celebrate the 40th commemoration of Black History Month.

This month we celebrate the contributions of African Americans to the history of our great nation, and pay tribute to trailblazers, pioneers, heroes, and leaders like the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama; Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall; U.S. Senator Blanche Kelso Bruce; U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan; U.S. Congressman Mickey Leland; Astronauts Dr. Guion Stewart Bluford, Jr., and Mae C. Jemison; activists, intellectuals, authors, and artists like Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, James Baldwin, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Gwendolyn Brooks just to name a few of the countless number of well-

known and unsung heroes whose contributions have helped our nation become a more perfect union.

The history of the United States has been marked by the great contributions of African American activists, leaders, writers, and artists.

As a member of Congress, I know that I stand on the shoulders of giants whose struggles and triumphs made it possible for me to stand here today and continue the fight for equality, justice, and progress for all, regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

The greatest of these giants to me are Mrs. Ivalita ''Ivy'' Jackson, a vocational nurse, and Mr. Ezra A. Jackson, one of the first African-Americans to succeed in the comic book publishing business.

They were my beloved parents and they taught me the value of education, hard work, discipline, perseverance, and caring for others.

And I am continually inspired by Dr. Elwyn Lee, my husband and the first tenured African American law professor at the University of Houston.

Mr. Speaker, I particularly wish to acknowledge the contributions of African American veterans in defending from foreign aggressors and who by their courageous examples helped transform our nation from a segregated society to a nation committed to the never ending challenge of perfecting our union.

A few years ago about this time, I was honored to join my colleagues, the late Congressman John Lewis and former Congressman Charles Rangel, a Korean War veteran, in paying tribute to surviving members of the Tuskegee Airmen and the 555th Parachute Infantry, the famed ''Triple Nickels'' at a moving ceremony sponsored by the U.S. Army commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The success of the Tuskegee Airmen in escorting bombers during World War II—achieving one of the lowest loss records of all the escort fighter groups, and being in constant demand for their services by the allied bomber units—is a record unmatched by any other fighter group.

So impressive and astounding were the feats of the Tuskegee Airmen that in 1948, it helped persuade President Harry Truman to issue his famous Executive Order No. 9981, which directed equality of treatment and opportunity in all of the United States Armed Forces and led to the end of racial segregation in the U.S. military forces.

It is a source of enormous and enduring pride that my father-in-law, Phillip Ferguson Lee, was one of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Clearly, what began as an experiment to determine whether ''colored'' soldiers' were capable of operating expensive and complex combat aircraft ended as an unqualified success based on the experience of the Tuskegee Airmen, whose record included 261 aircraft destroyed, 148 aircraft damaged, 15,553 combat sorties and 1,578 missions over Italy and North Africa.

They also destroyed or damaged over 950 units of ground transportation and escorted more than 200 bombing missions. They proved that ''the antidote to racism is excellence in performance,'' as retired Lt. Col. Herbert Carter once remarked.

Mr. Speaker, Black History Month is also a time to remember many pioneering women like U.S. Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm; activists Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks; astronaut Mae C. Jemison; mathematicians like Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson; authors Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Gwendolyn Brooks; all of whom have each in their own way, whether through courageous activism, cultural or intellectual contributions, or artistic creativity, forged social and political change, and forever changed our great Nation for the better.

It is also fitting, Mr. Speaker, that in addition to those national leaders whose contributions have made our nation better, we honor also those who have and are making a difference in their local communities.

In my home city of Houston, there are numerous great men and women. They are great because they have heeded the counsel of Dr. King who said: ''Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.''

By that measure, I wish to pay tribute to some of the great men and women of Houston some of whom who have passed:

Rev. F.N. Williams, Sr.
Rev. Dr. S.J. Gilbert, Sr.
Rev. Crawford W. Kimble
Rev. Eldridge Stanley Branch
Rev. William A. Lawson
Rev. Johnnie Jeffery ''J.J.'' Robeson
Mr. John Bland
Ms. Ruby Moseley
Ms. Dorothy Hubbard
Ms. Doris Hubbard
Ms. Willie Bell Boone
Ms. Holly HogoBrooks
Mr. Deloyd Parker
Ms. Lenora ''Doll'' Carter
Mr. Gerald Womack

As we celebrate Black History Month, let us pay tribute to those who have come before us, and pay forward to future generations by addressing what is the number one issue for African American families, and all American families today: preserving the American promise of economic opportunity for all.

Our immediate focus must be job creation, and enacting legislation that will foster and lay the foundation for today's and tomorrow's generation of groundbreaking activists, leaders, scientists, writers and artists to continue contributing to the greatness of America.

We must continue to preserve the American Dream for all.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here in celebration of the heroic and historic acts of African Americans and their indispensable contributions to this great Nation.

It is through our work in creating possibilities for today and future generations that we best honor the accomplishments and legacy of our predecessors.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. OWENS. Before I get started, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), who serves on the Education and Labor Committee.

FREE SPEECH AT GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding to me today.

Mr. Speaker, I was encouraged to see George Washington University, GW, reverse its decision to censor posters highlighting the human rights abuses of the Chinese Communist Party, CCP.

The Olympic-themed posters bring attention to the CCP for its oppression of Tibetans and Uyghurs. They also denounce China for undermining democracy in Hong Kong, implementing an authoritarian surveillance system over its own people, and for its dishonesty in the handling of COVID–19.

Calling these posters racist is absurd and a dishonest attempt to pander to an authoritarian regime housing ethnic minorities in modern-day concentration camps. They aren't promoting racism but decrying it.

Allowing students to stand up for human rights and democratic values on college campuses should not be a point of controversy.

Condemning ethnic cleansing and genocide is not controversial. Condemning the erosion of privacy is not controversial. Condemning the destruction of democratic values is not controversial. In fact, condemning these crimes should be something that unites all Americans.

The individuals who hung these posters are braver than many pundits and politicians who are turning a blind eye to the CCP's atrocities. We should celebrate their courage, not punish it.

Too many universities tout free speech policies but punish those with different viewpoints for simply speaking their mind. We must allow our colleges and university campuses to be places that welcome free speech and an open exchange of ideas.

Speech meant to incite violence is never acceptable, and I condemn racism in all its forms. Yet, we must ensure that we aren't letting politically motivated groups cry wolf whenever someone says something they may not want to hear or speaks up for the millions who cannot do so themselves.

If cries of racism can be weaponized to silence political opponents, then our country will be ruled by the diktats of political correctness and a fear of censorship instead of rational free thought. If we want to stay a self-governed and free country, then we must protect our most fundamental rights, and this includes the freedom of speech.

Colleges and universities must protect the free and open exchange of ideas. Silencing students or professors for challenging the status quo makes university officials no better than the Chinese Communist Party.

In the end, GW made the right decision and should be commended for it. I hope other schools will learn from this and support free speech from the start.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. FOXX again for her great leadership.