

# Ty Ankrom's Here's What I Think ...

Charlottesville, Virginia, founded in 1762, is a city of 50,000 that is home to Charlottesville City Schools, Albemarle County Schools, a career and technical center and the University of Virginia, among others.



But for the near future, unfortunately, it will be known as the site of violence when chosen as the location for a rally by right-wing groups that resulted in the death of one and 19 injured.

Educators often weave current events into their lessons, from government to science to literature. What teachable moment can we draw from Aug. 12?

Several groups have provided resources to help talk with students about racism and hatred. Valeria Strauss, an education reporter for *The Washington Post*, addressed the issue in her blog, *The Answer Sheet*, the day after the violence in Charlottesville.

"The white supremacists, neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan staged their largest rally in decades to 'take America back,' displaying Confederate and Nazi flags as they targeted every minority in the United States. Given that the population of students in America's schools is now majority-minority, that's a lot of young people ([www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/13/the-first-thing-teachers-should-do-when-school-starts-is-talk-about-hatred-in-america-heres-help/?utm\\_term=.4169175daod5](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/13/the-first-thing-teachers-should-do-when-school-starts-is-talk-about-hatred-in-america-heres-help/?utm_term=.4169175daod5)).

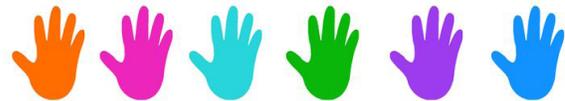
Strauss writes that teachers should expect students to want to discuss what happened and provides lesson plan ideas in her post.

The ASCD, an international nonprofit education association, has created a page of resources (<http://inservice.ascd.org/resources-for-addressing-racism-and-hatred-in-the-classroom>) featuring links to articles, Webinars, podcasts and books.

John H. Jackson, president and chief executive of the Schott Foundation for Public Education,

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HELEN KELLER

posted a blog condemning the violence.

"White supremacists, Neo-Nazis, and Klansmen have yet to learn that they are standing on the wrong side of history. We applaud efforts by people of all races, religious backgrounds, political affiliations and sexual orientations to make this point even more apparent."

Read his complete article at <http://schottfoundation.org/blog/2017/08/15/after-charlottesville-what-now>.

At [ShareMyLesson.com](http://ShareMyLesson.com), visitors can type in topics to find related lessons plans.

At [www.colorincolorado.org/article/8-tips-protect-ells-bullying-your-classroom-and-school](http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/8-tips-protect-ells-bullying-your-classroom-and-school), visitors can access materials to help prevent bullying in classrooms and schools.

For more lesson plans to use in talking with students about the events in Charlottesville, go to [www.adl.org/blog/lessons-to-teach-and-learn-from-unite-the-right](http://www.adl.org/blog/lessons-to-teach-and-learn-from-unite-the-right).

And for additional resources, type #CharlottesvilleCurriculum into a browser. The hashtag was started by journalist Melinda D. Anderson for educators to have a venue for resources.

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