

# ***Critical Race Theory: A Brief History***

How a complicated and expansive academic theory developed during the 1980s has become a hot-button political issue 40 years later.



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Thousands gathered in Washington on Aug. 28, 2020, to commemorate the historic March on Washington and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech on that date in 1963. Jason Andrew for The New York Times