Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Philosophy in Education with an emphasis in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

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M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision, August 1999, Tennessee State University
B.A. in Sociology, May 1996, Fisk University

The Permanence of Racism in Tennessee Public Schools

Date: November 15, 2023
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: Remote

Abstract
The qualitative case study exposed the permanence of racism beginning in the antebellum public schools of Tennessee and continues in the current actions in the Tennessee legislature with the expulsion of two Black male legislators. Critical race theory is used as the main descriptor for the actions of White politicians and legislators in Tennessee who continue the oppressive treatment of Black people in the state of Tennessee.

White members of the Tennessee legislature have attempted to strategically continue white supremacy in their decision to display a depiction of one of the most deplorable, racists in the history of the state of Tennessee, Nathan Bedford Forrest. They also splintered the voting power of people of color by changing the voting districts in Nashville and Memphis in an attempt to eliminate adequate representation in the legislature.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Chairperson, Ph.D. Dr. Thomasina Hassler
Committee Faculty Member, Ph.D. Dr. Robert Good
Committee Faculty Member, Ph.D. Dr. Kenton Mershon
Committee Faculty Member, Ph.D. Dr. Shenita Mayes