

ETHNIC STUDIES: BANNED IN ARIZONA?

Norma & José González



Wed., Feb. 23, 3:30-5:00 pm
EMU Student Center Auditorium

A few days after signing Arizona's anti-immigrant SB 1070, Governor Jan Brewer signed HB 2281, a bill aimed at shutting down ethnic studies programs due to their educational content. Authors of the legislation claim such courses "promote resentment toward a race or class of people," and that they promote "ethnic chauvinism" and "the overthrow of the U.S. government." Supporters of ethnic studies argue that the curriculum teaches young people about their diverse histories in America and has yielded increased high school graduation and college matriculation rates in the district. Yet, state legislators designed HB 2281 to strip elected local school boards of their governing and decision-making powers with regards to curriculum.

Norma & José González, wife and husband, are two of eleven teachers from the Tucson Unified School District who are filing a lawsuit to halt HB2281, the ban on ethnic studies that went into effect on January 3, 2011. They are active in Save Ethnic Studies, a group fighting back against designs to silence voices, knowledge, and academic freedom: www.saveethnicstudies.org.

Event Sponsors: EMU Dept. of Teacher Education



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