



Do No Harm

March 17, 2023

Michael Richards, M.D.
President, Board of Regents
State of Iowa

Dear President Richards,

Thank you for launching a comprehensive review of so-called “diversity, equity, and inclusion” at Iowa’s public universities. The Board of Regents’ investigation is urgently needed, given the spread of divisive and discriminatory woke ideology across higher education. On behalf of physicians, nurses, and patients across Iowa, many of whom are members of my organization, I ask that you pay special attention to medical schools. Such ideology is especially dangerous when Iowans’ health is on the line.

My organization has spent the past year investigating the extent to which education has been replaced by indoctrination at medical schools, including in Iowa. We have found that essentially every medical school has, to varying degrees, elevated radical politics at the expense of education, excellence, and ethics.

Consider what we discovered at the University of Iowa’s medical school. It offers a so-called “anti-racism resource guide,” which is divisive and has nothing to do with medicine. Anti-racism is grounded in the idea that racial discrimination is required to right past wrongs – a profoundly dangerous view. Additionally, the Department of Pediatrics is being trained on the divisive concept of “implicit bias” when hiring and promoting faculty. This is part and parcel of the ideological push to focus on race at the expense of expertise – a direct threat to the quality of education this Iowa medical school provides.

These examples are likely the tip of the iceberg. Nationwide, we have found that medical schools are systematically undermining their mission to train the best possible medical professionals:

- **Political Litmus Tests:** This includes requirements that applicants, students, and faculty alike subscribe to “diversity, equity, and inclusion.”
- **Discriminatory Admissions:** This includes affirmative-action policies and scholarships that are only available to specific races and ethnicities.
- **Divisive and Discriminatory Care:** This includes teaching students to treat patients differently based on their race, as well as plans to create preferential treatment options based on race.

Iowans deserve to know exactly how far the state’s medical schools have gone down this radical road. And this issue goes well beyond education. Ultimately, it affects the health and well-being of everyone who will one day be treated by the physicians these institutions teach. By specifically investigating medical schools, the Board of Regents can help protect Iowans and ensure that everyone in the state has access to the world-class health care they deserve.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Stanley Goldfarb, M.D.
Chairman, Do No Harm
Former Associate Dean, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine