

Write In

Liz Terwilliger for Congress

A Representative Not A Politician

PA 12th District US House of Representatives



Sept 27th, 2020



**Change my Mind Forum,
Lewisburg, PA 9/26/20**

**In The Coming Weeks
Liz will be at the following
events.**

Wed. Sept. 30th

Farmer & Vendor Market
Alparon Park, Troy, PA
10am-2pm

Fri. Oct. 2nd

Wyalusing Farmers Market
Farm & Home Plaza
Wyalusing, PA
9am-1pm

Sat. Oct. 3rd

Walk for Our Buddies
Larnard-Hornbrook Park
Towanda, PA
9am-12pm

Tues. Oct. 6th

Susquehanna Valley
Libertarian Party Meeting
Selinsgrove, PA
7pm

Thurs. Oct 8th

Jersey Shore Farm Market
1308 S. Rt 44
Jersey Shore, PA
9am-3pm

Racism is a word.

Racism is a word, a charged word with specific connotations. It can stop a conversation and send people to their corners ready to fight.

Racism is a hard conversation that we need to have. It's an awkward conversation full of self-doubt, recrimination and judgement. We judge ourselves and we fear the judgement of others. Like most things in life, everyone brings their unique perspective to conversations on racism. We should own our perspectives, examine them and understand them.

Life experiences shape our beliefs, our actions and reactions in ways of which we are often unaware. Our perspectives are shaped by race, but also by geography, family and economic status. They are shaped by education, travel and a myriad of other work and life experiences. Some of these things are beyond our control. We can't control our skin color, where we're born and raised or the stability or economic status of the family we're born to. We cannot control our parents' education, mental health or attitudes towards others. We do not need to feel shame over things that are beyond our control. We need to recognize them and recognize that our privileges are not privileges everyone shares.

To illustrate this point, I use myself as an example, and Matthew Nolder of Milton, PA was kind enough to provide his perspective.

I was born white.

I was born black and white

I was born female.

I was born male.

I was born to a loving stable family.

I was born to a loving unstable and divided family

I was raised by my mom and dad.

I was raised by my mom, my grandma, my aunt but mostly myself

I was raised on a farm.

I was raised in a variety of small towns.

I was moved, with my family, in adolescence to another country and then to a different part of this country because of my dad's job.

I was moved, with my family, 14 times as a child because of my dad's drug usage.

I was raised by educated working class parents who, through their education and years of hard work, moved into the upper middle class.

I was raised by a disabled mom and a step dad with a drug addiction who worked when they could, not parented well and through their choices we struggled low class.

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There are choices that we make in life that are available, or not, because of privileges we were born with, or not. Again, to illustrate this point, I use myself as an example, and Matthew Nolder of Milton, PA was kind enough to provide his perspective.

I chose to go to college.

College wasn't an option. I fought to go to college.

As a white woman, I was given warnings for things a person of color may have been ticketed or worse for.

As a black man, I was destined to go to jail at some point and I did twice for things most whites would have gotten fines or nothing at all.

I chose to move to other states for college.

The option of moving out of state for school was not possible as I didn't have the monetary supports.

I was born white. In broader society, being born white is a privilege. I have been in situations in my life where I have been discriminated against for being white. I always knew, however, that I had the option to leave those situations for the broader white world. That is the white privilege that I was born with. The term "white privilege" has become imbued with negative emotions, including shame and judgement. If we, those born with white privilege, look at our lives alongside those of people of color, all else being equal, it is clear that white privilege is interwoven through our society. We are born with it, for that there is no shame, but we need to recognize it, so that we can work towards a more equal society.

We need to reflect upon our lives to better understand the privileges and challenges that shape us. They shape the biases that we bring to conversations about race. If we can understand and acknowledge the ways in which our lives have shaped our thoughts and actions, then we can have a real conversation about racial injustice and other injustices in our society. Turning away from, or denying, the privileges that we have had in our lives and the acknowledgement that they are not shared by everyone is how we stay where we are.

We need to give each other enough respect and enough space in conversation to be human, which is to make mistakes, so that we can have the courage to engage in difficult conversations and move through the awkwardness and self-doubt. We can face the word racism and have a real conversation. We can create real change.

- Liz Terwilliger

**How to "Write-In"
on Touch Screen Voting Machine**

- 1. Select "Write-In" under the Office.**
US House of Representatives
- 2. Type in the first and last name.**
Liz Terwilliger
- 3. Select "ENTER" to save.**
- 4. Liz Terwilliger will appear on the ballot exactly how you entered it.**

Pennsylvania Election Information

General Election - **November 3, 2020**
Last day to register to vote - October 19th
Register to Vote
www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx

Last day to request a mail-in ballot - October 27th
Last day to mail your ballot – November 3rd
...but don't wait until the last day!

Request a Mail-In/Absentee Ballot
www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin