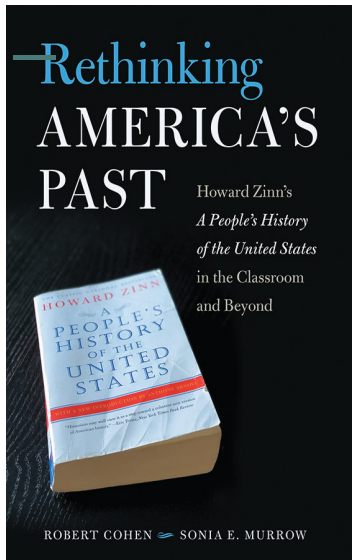


ZOOM Event: Monday, March 14th, 5:05 to 6:30

Find link for meeting registration in email invitation.



Rethinking America's Past:

How Debate and Controversy Make History Education Stronger

ROBERT COHEN AND SONIA MURROW



Sonia E. Murrow is an associate professor of the social foundations of education and adolescence education in the School of Education at Brooklyn College.

Robert Cohen is a professor of history and social studies at New York University and is the author of *Howard Zinn's Southern Diary: Sit-ins, Civil Rights, and Black Women's Student Activism*. He lives in New York City.

No introductory work of American history has had more influence over the past forty years than Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*, which since its publication in 1980 has sold more than three million copies. *Rethinking America's Past* is the first work to use archival and classroom evidence to assess the impact that Zinn's classic work has had on historical teaching and learning and on American culture. This evidence refutes attacks, most recently wielded by those aiming to censor history curriculum in K-12 schools, that exposing students to critical historical narrative indoctrinates them. Rather than indoctrinating students, Zinn's book has been used by teachers to have students debate and rethink conventional versions of American history.

In this 90 minute session, Sonia Murrow and Robert Cohen will engage participants in exploring how providing competing historical narratives supports in students the development of content knowledge and skills necessary for historical thinking and intelligent and civil debate. The session will include a short film depicting high school students sharing letters they wrote to Zinn after reading chapters from *A People's History* alongside a standard textbook. The session will close with a discussion of how debate and controversy make history education stronger, and in the case of teaching with Zinn, didn't make students hate America—and nor does Critical Race Theory or the 1619 Project.

We extend a special welcome to HIST 3470 and SEED 3402 students.