

# Anti-racism resources

This document is intended to serve as a resource to white people and parents to deepen our anti-racism work. If you haven't engaged in anti-racism work in the past, start now. Feel free to circulate this document on social media and with your friends, family, and colleagues.

Here is a shorter link: [bit.ly/ANTIRACISMRESOURCES](https://bit.ly/ANTIRACISMRESOURCES)

To take immediate action to fight for Breonna Taylor, please visit [FightForBreonna.org](https://FightForBreonna.org).

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## Resources for white parents to raise anti-racist children:

- Books:
  - [Coretta Scott King Book Award Winners: books for children and young adults](#)
  - [31 Children's books to support conversations on race, racism and resistance](#)
- Podcasts:
  - [Parenting Forward podcast episode 'Five Pandemic Parenting Lessons with Cindy Wang Brandt'](#)
  - [Fare of the Free Child podcast](#)
  - [Integrated Schools podcast episode "Raising White Kids with Jennifer Harvey"](#)
- Articles:
  - [How White Parents Can Talk To Their Kids About Race | NPR](#)
  - [Teaching Your Child About Black History Month | PBS](#)
  - [Your Kids Aren't Too Young to Talk About Race: Resource Roundup from Pretty Good](#)
- The Conscious Kid: follow them on [Instagram](#) and consider signing up for their [Patreon](#)

## Articles to read:

- ["America's Racial Contract Is Killing Us"](#) by Adam Serwer | Atlantic (May 8, 2020)
- [Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement \(Mentoring a New Generation of Activists\)](#)
- ["My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant"](#) by Jose Antonio Vargas | NYT Mag (June 22, 2011)
- [The 1619 Project \(all the articles\)](#) | The New York Times Magazine
- [The Combahee River Collective Statement](#)
- ["The Intersectionality Wars"](#) by Jane Coaston | Vox (May 28, 2019)
- [Tips for Creating Effective White Caucus Groups](#) developed by Craig Elliott PhD

- [“Where do I donate? Why is the uprising violent? Should I go protest?”](#) by Courtney Martin (June 1, 2020)
- [“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”](#) by Knapsack Peggy McIntosh
- [“Who Gets to Be Afraid in America?”](#) by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi | Atlantic (May 12, 2020)

### Videos to watch:

- [Black Feminism & the Movement for Black Lives: Barbara Smith, Reina Gossett, Charlene Carruthers \(50:48\)](#)
- [Dr. Robin DiAngelo discusses 'White Fragility' \(1:23:30\)](#)
- ["How Studying Privilege Systems Can Strengthen Compassion" | Peggy McIntosh at TEDxTimberlaneSchools \(18:26\)](#)

### Podcasts to subscribe to:

- [1619 \(New York Times\)](#)
- [About Race](#)
- [Code Switch \(NPR\)](#)
- [Intersectionality Matters! hosted by Kimberlé Crenshaw](#)
- [Momentum: A Race Forward Podcast](#)
- [Nice White Parents \(Serial and The New York Times\)](#)
- [Pod For The Cause \(from The Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights\)](#)
- [Pod Save the People \(Crooked Media\)](#)
- [Seeing White](#)

### Books to read:

- [Black Feminist Thought](#) by Patricia Hill Collins
- [Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower](#) by Dr. Brittney Cooper
- [Heavy: An American Memoir](#) by Kiese Laymon
- [How To Be An Antiracist](#) by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi
- [I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#) by Maya Angelou
- [Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color](#) by Andrea J. Ritchie
- [Just Mercy](#) by Bryan Stevenson
- [Me and White Supremacy](#) by Layla F. Saad
- [Raising Our Hands](#) by Jenna Arnold
- [Redefining Realness](#) by Janet Mock
- [Sister Outsider](#) by Audre Lorde
- [So You Want to Talk About Race](#) by Ijeoma Oluo

- [The Bluest Eye](#) by Toni Morrison
- [The Fire Next Time](#) by James Baldwin
- [The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness](#) by Michelle Alexander
- [The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century](#) by Grace Lee Boggs
- [The Warmth of Other Suns](#) by Isabel Wilkerson
- [Their Eyes Were Watching God](#) by Zora Neale Hurston
- [This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color](#) by Cherríe Moraga
- [When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America](#) by Ira Katznelson

### Films and TV series to watch:

- 13th (Ava DuVernay) — Netflix
- American Son (Kenny Leon) — Netflix
- Black Power Mixtape: 1967-1975 — Available to rent
- Blindspotting (Carlos López Estrada) — Hulu with Cinemax or available to rent
- Clemency (Chinonye Chukwu) — Available to rent
- Dear White People (Justin Simien) — Netflix
- Fruitvale Station (Ryan Coogler) — Available to rent
- I Am Not Your Negro (James Baldwin doc) — Available to rent or on Kanopy
- If Beale Street Could Talk (Barry Jenkins) — Hulu
- Just Mercy (Destin Daniel Cretton) — Available to rent for free in June in the U.S.
- King In The Wilderness — HBO
- See You Yesterday (Stefon Bristol) — Netflix
- Selma (Ava DuVernay) — Available to rent for free in June in the U.S.
- The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution — Available to rent
- The Hate U Give (George Tillman Jr.) — Available to rent for free
- When They See Us (Ava DuVernay) — Netflix

### Organizations to follow on social media:

- Antiracism Center: [Twitter](#)
- Audre Lorde Project: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Black Women's Blueprint: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Color Of Change: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Colorlines: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

- The Conscious Kid: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Equal Justice Initiative (EJI): [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Families Belong Together: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Justice League NYC: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) + Gathering For Justice: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)
- The Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- The Movement For Black Lives (M4BL): [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- MPowerChange: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Muslim Girl: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- NAACP: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- National Domestic Workers Alliance: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- RAICES: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ): [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- SisterSong: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)
- United We Dream: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

### **More anti-racism resources to check out:**

- [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice](#)
- [Anti-Racism Project](#)
- [Jenna Arnold's resources \(books and people to follow\)](#)
- [Rachel Ricketts' anti-racism resources](#)
- [Resources for White People to Learn and Talk About Race and Racism](#)
- [Save the Tears: White Woman's Guide by Tatiana Mac](#)
- [Showing Up For Racial Justice's educational toolkits](#)
- [The \[White\] Shift on Instagram](#)
- ["Why is this happening?" — an introduction to police brutality from 100 Year Hoodie](#)
- [Zinn Education Project's teaching materials](#)

*Document compiled by Sarah Sophie Flicker, Alyssa Klein in May 2020.*

# Journey to Racial Justice Learning Resources

Expand your knowledge about issues of racial justice through this resource list compiled by the Journey to Racial Justice steering committee. Check back periodically for new additions.

Categories:

- Book 
- Article 
- Podcast 
- Movie/TV show 
- Foundry's 2019 Reading list on racial justice \*

## Church, Religion, Spirituality and Race

[\*Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor\*](#) - Layla F Saad 

When Layla F. Saad ran a free month-long Instagram challenge during the summer of 2018, she had no idea it would become an international cultural movement.

Thousands of people from around the world were galvanized by the #meandwhitesupremacy challenge, examining and owning responsibility for the ways in which they uphold white supremacy.

Over 80,000 people downloaded her guide to the movement, Me and White Supremacy Workbook in the space of just six months. And now, that guide is a NYT, USA Today, WSJ and Amazon bestseller. <https://www.meandwhitesupremacybook.com/>

[\*Jesus and the Disinherited\*](#) - Howard Thurman 

In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower—it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God's justice prevail.

[\*\\*Just Mercy, A Story of Justice and Redemption\*](#) - Bryan Stevenson 

An unforgettable true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to end mass incarceration in America — from one of the most inspiring lawyers of our time.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a nonprofit law office in Montgomery, Alabama, dedicated to defending the poor, the incarcerated, and the wrongly condemned.

**\* *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* - James Cone** 

The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk

<https://www.elca.org/JLE/Articles/137>

***The Fire Next Time* - James Baldwin** 

A national bestseller when it first appeared in 1963, *The Fire Next Time* galvanized the nation and gave passionate voice to the emerging civil rights movement. At once a powerful evocation of James Baldwin's early life in Harlem and a disturbing examination of the consequences of racial injustice, the book is an intensely personal and provocative document. It consists of two "letters," written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, that exhort Americans, both black and white, to attack the terrible legacy of racism. Described by *The New York Times Book Review* as "sermon, ultimatum, confession, deposition, testament, and chronicle...all presented in searing, brilliant prose,"

**Codeswitch** (PodCast) [Sanctuary Churches: Who Controls The Story?](#) 

**On Being with Krista Tippett** (Podcast) [The Spiritual Work of Black Lives Matter with Patrisse Cullors and Dr. Robert Ross](#) 

**\**Tears We Cannot Stop* - Michael Eric Dyson** 

*Tears We Cannot Stop* is the book that all Americans who care about the current and long-burning crisis in race relations will want to read. As the country grapples with racist division at a level not seen since the 1960s, one man's voice soars above the rest with conviction and compassion. In his 2016 *New York Times* op-ed piece "Death in Black and White," Michael Eric Dyson moved a nation. Now he continues to speak out in *Tears We Cannot Stop*—a provocative and deeply personal call for change. Dyson argues that if we are to make real racial progress we must face difficult truths, including being honest about how black grievance has been ignored, dismissed, or discounted.

## United Methodist Specific

- [Racial Justice](#) Baltimore Washington Conference Resources
- [Resources from UMC's General Commission on Religion and Race](#)
- [The Council of Bishops' Episcopal Initiative on Children and Poverty](#)
  - [Related Call to Action and continuation of the Bishops initiative](#)

## Children, Youth and Families

**March** (Books 1-3) John Lewis, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell   
A [graphic novel](#) on the Civil Rights Movement.

**Antiracist Baby** - Ibram X. Kendi 

From the National Book Award-winning author of *Stamped from the Beginning* and *How to Be an Antiracist* comes a new 9×9 picture book that empowers parents and children to uproot racism in our society and in ourselves, now with added discussion prompts to help readers recognize and reflect on bias in their daily lives.

**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix** - Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds   
Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi team up to investigate the history of racist ideas through a narrative that's aimed at young adult readers.

**The Hate U Give** - Angie Thomas 

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what *really* went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

[Also a 2018 film.](#)

**Not My Idea: A Book about Whiteness (Ordinary Terrible Things)** - Anastasia Higginbotham



*"Helping young white people dismantle white supremacy is urgently needed; this book is a primer on how to begin."* Loretta Ross, author of *Radical Reproductive Justice*

**[A is for Activist \(Board book\)](#)** - Innosanto Nagara 

*A is for Activist* is an ABC board book written and illustrated for the next generation of progressives: families who want their kids to grow up in a space that is unapologetic about activism, environmental justice, civil rights, LGBTQ rights, and everything else that activists believe in and fight for.

[\*\*The Skin I'm in: A First Look at Racism\*\*](#) (First Look At...Series) - Pat Thomas, Lesley Harker



Racial discrimination is cruel — and especially so to younger children. This title encourages kids to accept and be comfortable with differences of skin color and other racial characteristics among their friends and in themselves.

[\*\*Let's Talk About Race\*\*](#) - Julius Lester, Karen Barbour



*"This wonderful book should be a first choice for all collections and is strongly recommended as a springboard for discussions about differences."* —*School Library Journal* (starred review)

[\*\*The Colors of Us\*\*](#) (Paperback)By Karen Katz, Karen Katz (Illustrator)



Seven-year-old Lena discovers that the color brown is not just one shade and that people come in many different colors. As her mother takes her for a walk through their neighborhood, Lena sees how each person is a wonderful shade and different from all others.

[\*\*Brick by Brick\*\*](#) (Board book) - Giuliano Ferri, Giuliano Ferri (Illustrator)



In this story without words, a band of anthropomorphic critters finds a better use for a brick wall than the usual one.

[\*\*All the Colors We Are/Todos Los Colores de Nuestra Piel: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color/La Historia de Por Qué Tenemos Diferentes Colores de P\*\*](#) - Katie Kissinger



This book that deals with skin color in a straightforward, scientifically accurate, child-friendly manner. Young children are curious about why people have different skin colors, and too often teachers are tempted to brush this curiosity aside in the name of a glib "We're all the same." The book is the product of Kissinger's years-long work with children, and features valuable teaching suggestions to get children thinking imaginatively and unself-consciously about skin color.

[\*\*The Skin You Live In\*\*](#) - Michael Tyler, David Lee Csicsko



This debut publication of the Chicago Children's Museum presents a jaunty rhyme that playfully explores the concept of skin to encourage self-esteem and to celebrate the ways in which children are both unique and similar.

[\*\*Amazing Grace\*\*](#) - Mary Hoffman, Caroline Binch - Youth



Grace loves stories, whether they're from books, movies, or the kind her grandmother tells. When her school decides to perform Peter Pan, Grace longs to play the lead, but her classmates point out that Peter was a boy. Besides, he wasn't black. With the support of her family, Grace learns that she can be anything she wants to be, and the results are amazing!

[\*\*Remember: The Journey to School Integration\*\*](#) - Toni Morrison, Youth



Part history, part current events, and part imagination, Toni Morrison's look at school desegregation in the 1950s and the civil rights movement that followed is all about people: those who put themselves on the line to correct unfairness, to challenge accepted values, and to change the way things were, as well as all of us who benefit from those changes today.

[\*\*Layla's Head Scarf \(We Love First Grade!\)\*\*](#) - Miriam Cohen 

Layla is a shy new girl in first grade and her classmates wonder why she wears a head scarf. As the school day progresses, the first graders learn about Layla's culture and help make her feel more at ease in her new school. Part of the We Love First Grade!™ series.

[\*\*Hands Up!\*\*](#) - Breanna J. McDaniel 

This triumphant picture book recasts a charged phrase as part of a black girl's everyday life—hands up for a hug, hands up in class, hands up for a high five—before culminating in a moment of resistance at a protest march.

[\*\*Tell Me Who You Are: Sharing Our Stories of Race, Culture, & Identity\*\*](#) - Winona Guo, Priya Vulchi - Youth 

In this deeply inspiring book, Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi recount their experiences talking to people from all walks of life about race and identity on a cross-country tour of America. Spurred by the realization that they had nearly completed high school without hearing any substantive discussion about racism in school, the two young women deferred college admission for a year to collect first-person accounts of how racism plays out in this country every day—and often in unexpected ways.

[\*\*Can I Touch Your Hair?: Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship\*\*](#) - Irene Latham, Charles Waters 

In an unusual, long-distance collaboration, poets Latham and Waters have crafted a collection of poems that explore the intersection between race and childhood friendships. Each poet reveals his or her individual perspective on shared experiences by imagining their childhood selves existing in the current day of complex racial realities. Their interactions, expressed through poetic verse, navigate the ambiguous and often challenging feelings that children encounter as they grapple with identity and race—a process forced on them when they are paired for a classroom poetry project.

[\*\*Malcolm Little: The Boy Who Grew Up to Become Malcolm X\*\*](#) - Ilyasah Shabazz 

Malcolm X grew to be one of America's most influential figures. But first, he was a boy named Malcolm Little. Written by his daughter, this inspiring picture book biography celebrates a vision of freedom and justice.

[\*\*Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History\*\*](#) - Vashti Harrison 

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History is the debut book from Vashti Harrison. Based on her popular Instagram posts from Black History Month 2017 it features 40 biographies of African American women that helped shape history. It is a 96-page paper over board book published by Little Brown Books for Young Readers.

**[This Book Is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action, and Do the Work](#)** - Tiffany Jewell - Youth 

The clear title and bold, colorful illustrations will immediately draw attention to this book, designed to guide each reader on a personal journey to work to dismantle racism.

***Let's Talk About Race***, <https://youtu.be/1vHymutysWU> 

***Systemic Racism Explained***, [https://youtu.be/YrHIQIO\\_bdQ](https://youtu.be/YrHIQIO_bdQ) 

***A Kids Book About Racism***, <https://youtu.be/LnaltG5N8nE> 

***Students Learn a Powerful Lesson About Privilege***, <https://youtu.be/2KImvmuxzYE> 

## **Interpersonal and Internalized Racism**

**[How To Be an Antiracist](#)** - Ibram X. Kendi 

Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America--but even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. Instead of working with the policies and system we have in place, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it.

In his memoir, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science--including the story of his own awakening to antiracism--bringing it all together in a cogent, accessible form.

**[White Rage](#)** - Carol Anderson 

As Ferguson, Missouri, erupted in August 2014, and media commentators across the ideological spectrum referred to the angry response of African Americans as "black rage," historian Carol Anderson wrote a remarkable op-ed in the *Washington Post* showing that this was, instead, "white rage at work. With so much attention on the flames," she writes, "everyone had ignored the kindling."

[\*\*\\* \*White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism\* - Robin DiAngelo\*\*](#) 📖

The *New York Times* best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality.

In this “vital, necessary, and beautiful book” (Michael Eric Dyson), antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and “allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to ‘bad people’ (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.

[\*\*\*Discomfort Food: Using dinners to talk about race, violence and America\* by Maura Judkis\*\*](#) (Washington Post) 📰

[\*\*\\* \*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: And Other Conversations About Race\* - Beverly Daniel Tatum\*\*](#) 📖

Walk into any racially mixed high school and you will see Black, White, and Latino youth clustered in their own groups. Is this self-segregation a problem to address or a coping strategy? Beverly Daniel Tatum, a renowned authority on the psychology of racism, argues that straight talk about our racial identities is essential if we are serious about enabling communication across racial and ethnic divides. These topics have only become more urgent as the national conversation about race is increasingly acrimonious. This fully revised edition is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the dynamics of race in America.

## **Systemic Racism (Police, Policy and political systems)**

[\*\*\*Caste: The Origins of our Discontent\* - Isabel Wilkerson\*\*](#) 📖

A book steeped in empathy and insight, *Caste* explores, through layered analysis and stories of real people, the structure of an unspoken system of human ranking and reveals how our lives are still restricted by what divided us centuries ago.

[\*\*\\*\*The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration\* - Isabel Wilkerson\*\*](#) 📖

From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson compares this epic migration to the migrations of other peoples in history. She interviewed more than a thousand people, and gained access to new data and official records, to write this definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our

country, and ourselves.

With stunning historical detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals: Ida Mae Gladney, who in 1937 left sharecropping and prejudice in Mississippi for Chicago, where she achieved quiet blue-collar success and, in old age, voted for Barack Obama when he ran for an Illinois Senate seat; sharp and quick-tempered George Starling, who in 1945 fled Florida for Harlem, where he endangered his job fighting for civil rights, saw his family fall, and finally found peace in God; and Robert Foster, who left Louisiana in 1953 to pursue a medical career, the personal physician to Ray Charles as part of a glitteringly successful medical career, which allowed him to purchase a grand home where he often threw exuberant parties.

Through the breadth of its narrative, the beauty of the writing, the depth of its research, and the fullness of the people and lives portrayed herein, this book is destined to become a classic.

**[\\* So You Want to Talk About Race](#)** - Ijeoma Oluo 

In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Editor at Large of The Establishment Ijeoma Oluo offers a contemporary, accessible take on the racial landscape in America, addressing head-on such issues as privilege, police brutality, intersectionality, micro-aggressions, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the "N" word. Perfectly positioned to bridge the gap between people of color and white Americans struggling with race complexities, Oluo answers the questions readers don't dare ask, and explains the concepts that continue to elude everyday Americans.

Oluo is an exceptional writer with a rare ability to be straightforward, funny, and effective in her coverage of sensitive, hyper-charged issues in America. Her messages are passionate but finely tuned and crystalize ideas that would otherwise be vague by empowering them with aha-moment clarity. Her writing brings to mind voices like Ta-Nehisi Coates, Roxane Gay, Jessica Valenti in *Full Frontal Feminism*, and a young Gloria Naylor, particularly in Naylor's seminal essay "The Meaning of a Word."

**[\\* Evicted](#)** - Matthew Desmond 

In *Evicted*, Princeton sociologist and MacArthur "Genius" Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Hailed as "wrenching and revelatory" (*The Nation*), "vivid and unsettling" (*New York Review of Books*), *Evicted* transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving one of 21st-century America's most devastating problems. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible.

**[\\*The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness](#)** - Michelle Alexander



Once in a great while a book comes along that changes the way we see the world and helps to fuel a nationwide social movement. *The New Jim Crow* is such a book. Praised by Harvard Law professor Lani Guinier as "brave and bold," this book directly challenges the notion that the election of Barack Obama signals a new era of colorblindness. With dazzling candor, legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S.

criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control—relegating millions to a permanent second-class status—even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness. In the words of Benjamin Todd Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, this book is a "call to action."

\* [\*Stamped from the Beginning\*](#) - Ibram X. Kendi 📖

Some Americans insist that we're living in a post-racial society. But racist thought is not just alive and well in America--it is more sophisticated and more insidious than ever. And as award-winning historian Ibram X. Kendi argues, racist ideas have a long and lingering history, one in which nearly every great American thinker is complicit.

In this deeply researched and fast-moving narrative, Kendi chronicles the entire story of anti-black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history. *He* uses the life stories of five major American intellectuals to drive this history: Puritan minister Cotton Mather, Thomas Jefferson, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, W.E.B. Du Bois, and legendary activist Angela Davis.

As Kendi shows, racist ideas did not arise from ignorance or hatred. They were created to justify and rationalize deeply entrenched discriminatory policies and the nation's racial inequities.

In shedding light on this history, *Stamped from the Beginning* offers us the tools we need to expose racist thinking. In the process, he gives us reason to hope.

[13th: A conversation with Oprah Winfrey and Ava DuVernay](#) 📺

[\*The 1619 Project\*](#) by Nikole Hannah-Jones of the New York Times 📰 🎧

The Pulitzer-prize-winning 1619 Project is an ongoing initiative from The New York Times Magazine that began in August 2019, the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. It aims to reframe the country's history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of our national narrative.

## **DC, Maryland, Virginia**

[\*The American Dream Shatters in Prince George's County\*](#) by Michael Fletcher 📰

***Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital*** - Chris Myers Asch and George Derek Musgrove 📖

Monumental in scope and vividly detailed, *Chocolate City* tells the tumultuous, four-century story of race and democracy in our nation's capital. Emblematic of the ongoing tensions between America's expansive democratic promises and its enduring racial realities, Washington often has served as a national battleground for contentious issues, including

slavery, segregation, civil rights, the drug war, and gentrification. But D.C. is more than just a seat of government, and authors Chris Myers Asch and George Derek Musgrove also highlight the city's rich history of local activism as Washingtonians of all races have struggled to make their voices heard in an undemocratic city where residents lack full political rights.

Tracing D.C.'s massive transformations--from a sparsely inhabited plantation society into a diverse metropolis, from a center of the slave trade to the nation's first black-majority city, from Chocolate City to Latte City--Asch and Musgrove offer an engaging narrative peppered with unforgettable characters, a history of deep racial division but also one of hope, resilience, and interracial cooperation.

## **Biographies (Personal Stories/Documentaries)**

**[\\*The Blood of Emmett Till](#)** - Timothy Tyson 📖

This extraordinary *New York Times* bestseller reexamines a pivotal event of the civil rights movement—the 1955 lynching of Emmett Till—“and demands that we do the one vital thing we aren’t often enough asked to do with history: learn from it” (*The Atlantic*).

**[\\*Between the World and Me](#)** - Ta-Nehesi Coates 📖

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehesi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

**[\\*I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness](#)** - Austin Channing Brown 📖

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialized America came at age 7, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools, organizations, and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker and expert who helps organizations practice genuine inclusion.

In a time when nearly all institutions (schools, churches, universities, businesses) claim to value "diversity" in their mission statements, *I'm Still Here* is a powerful account of how and why our actions so often fall short of our words. Austin writes in breathtaking detail about her journey to self-worth and the pitfalls that kill our attempts at racial justice, in stories that bear witness to the complexity of America's social fabric--from Black Cleveland neighborhoods to private schools in the middle-class suburbs, from prison walls to the boardrooms at majority-white organizations.

Maya Angelou Netflix documentary [“And Still I Rise”](#) 📺

Nina Simone Netflix documentary [“What Happened, Miss Simone?”](#) 📺

James Baldwin documentary [“I Am Not Your Negro”](#) 📺

Howard Thurman documentary [“Bucks Against the Wall”](#) 📺

[John Lewis: Good Trouble](#) documentary 📺

## Fiction

\*[The Underground Railroad](#) by Colson Whitehead 📖

Cora is a young slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. An outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is on the cusp of womanhood—where greater pain awaits. And so when Caesar, a slave who has recently arrived from Virginia, urges her to join him on the Underground Railroad, she seizes the opportunity and escapes with him. In Colson Whitehead's ingenious conception, the Underground Railroad is no mere metaphor: engineers and conductors operate a secret network of actual tracks and tunnels beneath the Southern soil. *The Underground Railroad* is both the gripping tale of one woman's will to escape the horrors of bondage—and a powerful meditation on the history we all share.

\* [If Beale Street Could Talk](#) - James Baldwin 📖

The author is best known for arguing that emotional connection could help heal America's racial divides. But his 1974 [novel](#), and later a [film](#) by Barry Jenkins, focuses instead on the bonds that held black people together. *Book and film*

\* [Small Great Things](#) - Jodi Picoult 📖

Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital complies with their request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders or does she intervene?

With incredible empathy, intelligence, and candor, Jodi Picoult tackles race, privilege,

## General

TV and Podcast series

CNN's [United Shades of America](#) 📺

The New York Times, [1619](#) 📰 🎧

ABC's [Black-ish](#) 📺

*Dear White People*: [Movie](#) and [Netflix series](#)

[NPR's Code Switch](#) 🎧

[New York Times's Still Processing](#) 🎧

[The Nod](#) 🎧

[Ask A Slave](#) 📺

*Ask A Slave* is a comedy web series hosted by the plucky Lizzie Mae, housemaid to George and Martha Washington. Ask A Slave is based on actress Azie Dungey's time working as a living history character at the popular historic site, George Washington's Mount Vernon.

## **Suggestions from the Foundry librarian**

Baltimore-Washington Conference Racial Justice page

<https://www.bwcumc.org/ministries/advocacy-action/racial-justice/>

### **Reading list**

<https://www.bwcumc.org/article/racial-justice-reading-lists/>

### **Curated booklists**

- [\*\*Social Justice Reading List\*\*](#) referenced in the **BWC's Sacred Witness Training Webinar presented by Rev. Dr. C. Anthony Hunt**
- [\*\*Anti-racism Resource Guide from Discipleship Ministries\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Racial Justice Book List – from BWC's Advocacy and Action\*\*](#)
- [\*\*The New York Time's Anti-Racism Reading List for Kids\*\*](#)
- [\*\*From NPR - This list of books, films, and podcasts about racism is a start, not a panacea\*\*](#)
- [\*\*The Schomburg Center Black Liberation Reading List\*\*](#)
- [\*\*From Cokesbury: Resources on Race\*\*](#)
- [\*\*From the National Council of Churches: Anti-Racism Resources\*\*](#)

**Glaude, Eddie S., Jr. *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*. Crown, 2020**

**“How to raise anti-racist babies according to psychology”** NBC News 6/20/20

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/how-raise-anti-racist-babies-according-psychology-ncna-1232031>

**“On stories of Black struggle, an iconic LA bookstore surges”** *Christian Science Monitor* 6/12/20

<https://www.csmonitor.com/Books/2020/0612/On-stories-of-Black-struggle-an-iconic-L.A.-bookstore-surges>

(includes “anti-racism reading list: 10 books to get started”)

### **Listening/Watching**

*What Is Systemic Racism?* Series of 8 videos, each about 1 minute, by Race Forward  
<https://www.raceforward.org/videos/systemic-racism>

### **For Younger Readers**

**Asim, Jabari. *A Child's Introduction to African American History: The Experiences, People and Events That Shaped our Country*. Black Dog and Leventhal Publishers, 2018**  
***Teaching Children's Literature: Critical Inquiry to Foster Equity QRG (Quick Reference Guide)* National Council of Teachers of English**  
<https://store.ncte.org/qrg/teaching-childrens-literature-critical-inquiry-foster-equity-qrg#>

Magoon, Kekla. *How It Went Down*. Square Fish, 2015 (copy in Foundry's library)

### **Web sites**

<https://www.raceforward.org/>