- Racism is any policy, belief, attitude, action or inaction, with subordinates individuals or groups based on their race.
  (https://www.pcc.edu/illumination/wp-content/uploads/sites/54/2018/05/race-and-racism-curriculum.pdf)
- **Anti-racism** is the practice of opposing racism. It is a commitment to fight racism everywhere it manifests, even within yourself.
- White privilege, simply, refers to the privileges that come from being white. It does not mean that your life isn't hard, it just means that your skin color isn't what's making your life harder. If you are black, your skin color does make your life harder.

Black people, and other people of color, are still not afforded the same privileges as white people. Black Americans, in particular, have faced specific threats and violence because of the color of their skin. We have seen these recent examples, just to name a few. Breonna Taylor could not sit in her home peacefully; Ahmaud Arbery could not go on a run; Trayvon Martin could not return from the convenience store with candy; and George Floyd, like Eric Garner, could not breathe. George Floyd's murder by a white officer may seem shocking to those whose privilege protects them from police violence, but such heinous racist acts have been happening for decades. We are just capturing it on film more frequently.

If seeing this footage makes you upset but unsure of what to do, you can start by educating yourself on the history of racism in America and how to be anti-racist. By reading, listening, and watching, you begin tearing down ignorance and apathy, and only then can we begin to breakdown systemic racism. Educating ourselves calls for humility and active listening.

#### Articles to read:

- "America's Racial Contract Is Killing Us" by Adam Serwer | Atlantic (May 8, 2020)
- Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement by Barbara Ransby
- "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 (2019)
- The Combahee River Collective Statement
- "The Intersectionality Wars" by Jane Coaston | Vox (May 28, 2019)
- <u>Tips for Creating Effective White Caucus Groups</u> developed by Craig Elliott PhD
- "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)
- <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/05/fashion/mens-style/my-first-police-stop.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/05/fashion/mens-style/my-first-police-stop.html</a> | My First Police Stop by Hanif Willis-Abdurraqib

#### Videos to watch:

Black Feminism & the Movement for Black Lives: Barbara Smith, Reina Gossett,
 Charlene Carruthers (50:48)

- "How Studying Privilege Systems Can Strengthen Compassion" | Peggy McIntosh at TEDxTimberlaneSchools (18:26)
- https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda\_ngozi\_adichie\_the\_danger\_of\_a\_single\_story?r eferrer=playlist-talks\_to\_help\_you\_understand\_r | The Danger of a Single Story by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle\_crenshaw\_the\_urgency\_of\_intersectionality?referrer">https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle\_crenshaw\_the\_urgency\_of\_intersectionality?referrer</a> =playlist-talks to help you understand r#t-9634 | The Urgency of Intersectionality.

#### Podcasts to subscribe to:

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

#### **Nonfiction Books to Read:**

- <u>Black Feminist Thought</u> by Patricia Hill Collins, 2000.
- 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
- Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
- Me and White Supremacy by Layla F. Saad
- Raising Our Hands by Jenna Arnold
- Redefining Realness by Janet Mock
- So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo, 2018
- The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander, 2012
- The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century by Grace Lee Boggs, 2012.
- The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson, 2011
- This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color by Cherrie Moraga, 1981
- White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo, PhD, 2018
- Between the World and Me, by Ta-Nehisi Coates, 2015

### **Novels to Read:**

- Kindred by Octavia Butler
- The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison, 1970.
- Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston, 1937
- Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison, 1952
- The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas, 2017.
- If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin, 1974
- The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead, 2019

## **History Books to Read:**

 When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in <u>Twentieth-Century America</u> by Ira Katznelson, 2005

## **Essays to Read:**

- Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde
- The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks about Race, by Jesmyn Ward
- The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin, 1963.

## **Contemporary Poems to Read:**

- The Crown Ain't Worth Much by Hanif Abdurragib, 2016.
- Poems by Nikki Giovanni
- Citizen: An American Lyric by Claudia-Rankine, 2014

### Non Contemporary Poems to Read:

- Yet Dol Marvel by Countee Cullen
- The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar by Paul Laurence Dunbar,
- Let America Be America Again by Langston Hughes
- A Street Bronzeville by Gwendolyn-Brooks, 1945
- The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde by Audre-Lorde, 2000
- Yellow House on the Corner by Rita-Dove, 1980
- Blessing Boats, by Lucille Clifton, 1936-2010

### Films and TV series to watch:

- 13th (Ava DuVernay) Netflix
- American Son (Kenny Leon) Netflix
- Black Power Mixtape: 1967-1975 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
- King In The Wilderness HBO
- See You Yesterday (Stefon Bristol) Netflix
- Selma (Ava DuVernay) Available to rent
- The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution Available to rent
- The Hate U Give (George Tillman Jr.) Hulu with Cinemax
- When They See Us (Ava DuVernay) Netflix

## Organizations to follow on social media:

- Antiracism Center: <u>Twitter</u>
- Audre Lorde Project: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- Black Women's Blueprint: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- Color Of Change: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- Colorlines: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- The Conscious Kid: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- Equal Justice Initiative (EJI): <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- Families Belong Together: Twitter | Instagram | Facebook
- The Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- MPowerChange: Twitter | Instagram | Facebook
- Muslim Girl: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- NAACP: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- National Domestic Workers Alliance: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- RAICES: Twitter | Instagram | Facebook
- Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ): Twitter | Instagram | Facebook
- SisterSong: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>
- United We Dream: <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Facebook</u>

### 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
- "Why is this happening?" an introduction to police brutality from 100 Year Hoodie
- Zinn Education Project's teaching materials

If you would like to donate to organizations helping various causes specific to POC (People of Color) please click the link below:

## Click Me!

I challenge you to question the single narrative we have been taught about race. I challenge you to read, listen to, or consider perspectives different from your own. Let's educate ourselves and take the first step on a path of empathy and action. Change can happen, but it begins with each and every one of us taking steps to make that change happen.