In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist, we must be antiracist
Angela Davis

Protests have been raging across the world over the horrific murder of a black man, George Floyd, by white police officers in Minneapolis. We are confronted once again, in a searingly painful way, with images that capture the devastating impact of ongoing normalized racism. We are reminded of the violent “looting” of black lives that happens daily in the form of poverty, social conditions, and structural racism (housing, education, health care, policing and criminal justice, economic systems). Covid-19 is exposing these realities as we witness how it is disproportionately ravaging black communities.

What is happening in the US is pulling back the curtain on similar taken-for-granted systemic racism in Canada, and the deep pain and suffering it causes. For those of us who are white and benefit daily from the taken-for-granted privileges that come with being white, we HAVE to work harder to educate ourselves so that we can recognize, name, and act on systemic racism and implicit bias. This requires looking inward, actively seeking out people and resources that will help us reflect on our own attitudes and assumptions. It means finding the courage and humility to have difficult and messy conversations that challenge our “good intentions”. And it means acting.

We have put together a collection of resources that we hope will speak to this moment, the challenges ahead, and some ways forward. Rev William Barber, a wise, warm, and fierce activist recently said “America must listen to its wounds. They will tell us where to look for hope.”

Warmly,

Fiona, Becka, and Alison
ARTICLES

The Killing of Floyd George and Protests: Some context

- Of Course There Are Protests, the State is Failing Black People by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor for the New York Times, May 29, 2020

- The Death of George Floyd, In Context by Jelani Cobb of The New Yorker, May 28, 2020

- This is How Loved Ones Want Us to Remember George Floyd by Alisha Ebrahimji for CNN, June 3, 2020

- The 1619 Project The New York Times Magazine’s award-winning series reframes American history, placing African Americans at the center of the narrative. See essay by Nikole Hannah-Jones.

- You Shouldn't Need a Harvard Degree to Survive Birdwatching While Black by Samuel Getachew, a 17-year-old and the 2019 Oakland youth poet laureate, for the Washington Post, May 28, 2020

- Sterling K Brown's reflection on killing of Ahmaud Arbery on Facebook, May 8, 2020

- A Father-Daughter Story by Shola M Richards on Facebook, May 28, 2020

- Remembering Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Colour Killed by Canadian Police by Desmond Cole, in Pyriscence May 29, 2020

- Halifax Police Apologize to Black Community for Pain Caused by Street Checks from CTV News Nov 29, 2019


- Black Canadians are suffocating under racist policing system too By El Jones in The Washington Post, June 4, 2020 (El Jones is from Halifax)

- An essay on racism by Lawrence Hill after the killing of George Floyd on The National, CBC News June 5, 2020. (Lawrence Hill is from NS)

- Did you know? The first North American race riots took place in Shelburne NS in 1784 On Black Loyalist Heritage Center (Shelburne NS) Facebook June 5, 2020
Covid-19 and Race

- **The pathology of American racism is making the pathology of the coronavirus worse** by Stacy Patton in *The Washington Post* June 2020

- **The Racial Time Bomb in the Covid-19 Crisis** Pre-existing health conditions leave one group particularly vulnerable by Charles M. Blow in *The New York Times*, April 1, 2020

- **What the Racial Data Show: The pandemic seems to be hitting people of color the hardest** by Ibram X. Kendi in *The Atlantic*, April 6 2020

- **Coronavirus is Not the 'Great Equalizer' – Race Matters** by Roberta K. Timothy in *University of Toronto News*, April 8 2020

- **Black People Already Struggle to Breathe in Canada** by El Jones in *The Halifax Examiner* May 3, 2020

Racism, Anti-racism & Racial Justice

- **An Extraordinary Moment: Angela Davis Says Protests Recognize Long Overdue Anti-Racist Work** on *Here and Now, WBUR.org*. Tonya Mosley’s interview with Angela Davis, June 19 2020

- **Activist Rachel Cargle’s Words About the Need to be Anti Racist** by Jenny Proudfoot in *Marie Claire*, June 3, 2020.

- **The Origins of Privilege** by Joshua Rothman in *The New Yorker*, May 12, 2014

- **Dear White Friends: Here’s what i need and don’t need from you** by Kai Harris in *The Everygirl*, June 3, 2020

- **Contemporary White Antiracism - Cross-cultural solidarity**
  A list of anti-racism resources on *The Cross-Cultural Solidarity History Education Project website*: “History: in the Service of Solidarity. June 2020

- **Intersectionality, Explained**
  “Meet Kimberle Crenshaw, who coined the term “intersectionality” 30 years ago” by Jane Coaston in *Vox*, May 28, 2019

- **Rachel Ricketts’ Anti-Racism Resources**
  She says “This is my carefully curated list of anti-racism + racial justice minded resources. Reading is a helpful place to begin but the best way to address racial justice is by doing the inner work. Note: If you are new to anti-racism, I suggest starting with the starred (***) resources. But read them all!”
Here are some of her suggestions:

- **Welcome to the Anti-Racism Movement - Here’s What You’ve Missed** by Ijeoma Oluo
- **Anti-Racist Checklist for Whites** by Robin DiAngelo (from Dr. John Raible)
- **White Fragility and the Rules of Engagement** by Dr. Robin DiAngelo
- **White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack** by Peggy McIntosh
- **The Year I Gave Up White Comfort: An Ode to My White “Friends” on Being Better to Black Womxn** by Rachel Ricketts
- **What’s Wrong with Cultural Appropriation?** by Maisha Z. Johnson
- **Racism Defined, by Dismantling Racism Works**
- **Holy shit, being an ally isn’t about me!** by Real Talk: WOC & Allies
- **The Subtle Linguistics of Polite White Supremacy** by Yawo Brown
- **The Culture of Whiteness** by James Mulholland

**Exploring understandings of “defunding”, ‘dismantling”, “abolishing” the police.**

- **Defund Disband and Start Again - what exactly is Minneapolis planning to do with its police force - Novaramedia** by Alex S Vitale on *Novara Media* website, June 8, 2020
- **Halifax Regional Police - Stop the Halifax Police Buying an Armored Vehicle?** By Krista Welsh on *Change.org* – includes links to background information June 2020
- **Defund the Police: America Needs to Rethink its Priorities** by Annie Lowrey in *The Atlantic*, June 5 2020
- **Listen: Would Defunding the Police Make Us Safer?** *The Atlantic, June 2020* By Alex Vitale, James Hamblin, and Katherine Wells in The Atlantic June 6, 2020
  (The authors explain the research and nuance behind this idea.)
VIDEOS

- **Reflection on George Floyd, Amy Cooper, Racism, and the Dominos of Racial Justice and Police Brutality** by Trevor Noah on *The Daily Show*, June 1, 2020

- **Moving From Cultural Competence to Anti-racism** by Thema Bryant Davis for *NICABM*, June 2020

- **An Extraordinary Moment.** Angela Davis says protests recognize long overdue anti-racist work. On *Here and Now*, WBUR, June 19, 2020

- **How to be an Antiracist** An interview with Ibram K. Kendi at Aspen Festival, June 26, 2019

- **Unequal Opportunity Race** by Kimberle Crenshaw Nov 29, 2010

- **Speech About Black Lives Matter Protests** YouTube video from *Occupy Democrats* June 7, 2020

- **A Class Divided: A Lesson in Discrimination** by Jane Elliott - A *PBS* video from March 1985

- **Where Do We Go from Here?** Oprah Winfrey two-part series on race. OWN Spotlight June 9 and 10, 2020

- **Halifax Activists respond to US Anti-racism Protests** on *Global News*, May 2020

- **An Essay on Anti-Black Racism** by author Lawrence Hill after the death of George Floyd on *CBC News: The National*, June 5, 2020

- **Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man** by Emmanuel Acho on *Facebook*, June 1, 2020

- **Rapper Killer Mike's speech about George Floyd and protests** on *Now This news*, You Tube June 1, 2020

TED TALKS

- **"Talks to Help You Understand Racism in America": A TED Talks Playlist**
  Talks that explore racism and illuminate possible ways forward.

- **The Danger of the Single Story** by Chimamanda Adichie, *TED talk* July 2009
• **Interview with the founders of Black Lives Matter**  
on *TED Talks* October 16, 2016

• **The Urgency of Intersectionality**  
A *TED talk* by Kimberle Crenshaw, Dec 7, 2016

**FILMS/MOVIES/DOCUMENTARIES**

• **45 amazing films by black creators available for free in Canada**  
from *Cineplex* June 2020

• **Free collection of films by award winning black filmmakers**  
from *NFB*  
“Explore our free collection of films by award-winning Black filmmakers, creators, and allies of the Black community, detailing a rich history to better understand the present.”

• **The Skin We're In**  
A Documentary by Desmond Cole on *CBC Gem* exploring what it is to be Black in 21st century Canada. He asks, “Do Black Lives Matter Here?” Part of this doc takes place in NS.

• **Speak It!** (2017) 
*NFB* film. A group of black students in Halifax NS face daily reminders of racism and work to establish cultural awareness as they discover the richness of their heritage and ways to effect change.

• **Remember Africville** (1991)  
A short film from *NFB* that tells the story of Africville

• **Just Mercy** (2019), a film based on civil rights lawyer Bryan Stevenson’s work on death row in Alabama. Has recently been made available to stream for free.

• **13th** (2016) a Netflix documentary exposing racial inequality within the criminal justice system

• **Selma** (2014) a film that chronicles the marches of the Civil Rights Movement

• **Let It Fall** (2017) a documentary looking at racial tensions in Los Angeles and the riots over Rodney King’s death

• **When They See Us** (2019) a Netflix miniseries from Ava DuVernay about the Central Park Five
WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

• [Black Lives Matter](#) Black Lives Matter Toronto website

• [Courageous Conversations](#) This website explores multiple perspectives on race and systemic transformation

• [Shaun King Facebook page](#) Shaun King is a civil rights activist, using social media to promote social justice causes, including Black Lives Matter

PODCASTS

• [Unlocking Us](#) is Brene Brown’s podcast series. In this podcast, Brene Brown interviews Ibram Kendi about “How to be an Antiracist” (June 2020)

• [Still Processing](#), a New York Times culture podcast with Jenna Wortham and Wesley Morrison

• [The Tightrope Podcast](#) with Cornel West and Tricia Rose

• [Seeing White](#), by Scene on the Radio podcast

• [Doing Anti-Racism Work with Rachel Ricketts](#) on RECLAIM Podcast

• [Code Switch](#), an NPR podcast tackling race from all angles

• [1619](#) an award-winning podcast that examines the long shadow of slavery. Hosted by Nikole Hannah-Jones of The New York Times

MUSEUMS, HISTORICAL SIGHTS, BLACK CULTURE NS

• [Africville Museum](#)
  5795 Africville Rd, Halifax, NS
  The museum is a replica of the church destroyed in the 1960s, tells the story of Africville, from its settlement by early black immigrants until its destruction. It also tells how the community kept alive the spirit of Africville.

• [Birchtown's Historical Site - Black Loyalist Heritage Centre](#)
  119 Old Birchtown Road, Birchtown, NS
  A community museum that interprets, safeguards and promotes the history of Black Loyalists and their descendants.
• Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia
10 Cherry Brook Rd, Cherry Brook, NS
Established in 1983, to protect, preserve and promote the history and culture of African Nova Scotians. A museum and cultural gathering place, where the rich history of Nova Scotians of African Descent can be discovered and explored.

• Black Educators Association of Nova Scotia
Founded in 1969 to assist African Nova Scotian communities develop strategies toward an equitable education system.

• Black Lives Matter Solidarity Fund NS
Collects donations to assist Black Nova Scotians with the disproportionate impact that Covid-19 is having on their lives.

HEALING, HOPE, AND POSSIBILITY: ANTI RACISM AND RACIAL JUSTICE

• I Have a Dream - Martin Luther King’s Aug 29 1963 speech live on YouTube

• How to Make This Moment the Turning Point for Real Change by Barack Obama in Medium, June 2020. Includes advocacy and concrete action toolkits


• Ways of Engaging and Being an Ally with ANS Communities on NSCS Learnridge website.

“Until we see accountability from police, people will continue to feel forced to take the law into their own hands, Until we see reactions of non-violence from police towards Black people, we will continue to see violence erupt, mirroring systemic violence” (Sen Wanda Thomas Bernard)


• Campaign Zero: Promotes policy solutions informed by data, research, and human rights principles to change policing practices that lead to state violence in US.

• Surviving Oppression, Healing Oppression by Vanissar Tarakali, 2010
RESOURCES FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Films
- These 26 *New York Times* mini-films for students
  - *The Hate U Give*, a film based on a *YA novel* offering an intimate portrait of race in America
  - *Dear White People*, a Netflix series about being black at a predominantly white college
  - *Hidden Figures*, a film about the brilliant African American women of NASA

Books
- Books that teach white children and teens how to undo racism and white supremacy. On *Charis Books* website
- *Africville* by Shauntay Grant - CBC review
  A review by Ryan B Patrick, *CBC* website, Feb 2018
  Published by *House of Anansi Press*, 2018
- *Skin Again*, by bell hooks. *Little, Brown Books for Young Readers*, June 2017
  Celebrates all that makes us unique and different. Talks about race and identity.

Organizations
- *Hope Blooms*
  Hope Blooms is an organization for Halifax youth who become change agents in their community; improving food security, education, social inclusion, and disrupting poverty.
- *Black Youth Project* website
  “The Black Youth Project is a platform that highlights the voices and ideas of black millennials. Through knowledge, voice, and action we work to empower and uplift the lived experiences of young Black Americans today.”