

# Resources for Learning about Race, Racism and Whiteness

## Three Categories with Three Suggestions and Bonus Items!

*Compiled by a white-bodied late learner\* who needed help from others to learn what to read, watch and listen to in order to grow and now paying it forward.*

*This list came about as a result of a question a friend asked who knew I was doing a lot of study in the area of race, racism and whiteness. "Could you give me a list, maybe 3 books, so I could get started learning about race?" It was a question that made my heart sing! YES! But where to start? What book to mention and what book to leave out. What about videos or podcasts? There's just so much good stuff! So that's how the "3 of 3" took shape. Some would argue I've left out an essential read, video or podcast and they may be right. Just get started on something to learn and re-form your knowledge and understanding of the reality of race, racism and whiteness in our country then keep on reading, watching, listening.*

### 3 VIDEO RESOURCES:

<https://www.nytimes.com/video/us/100000004818668/check-our-bias-to-wreck-our-bias.html?playlistId=video/who-me-biased> (3 min)

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/projects/your-stories/conversations-on-race> (short film interviews)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/15/learning/lesson-plans/25-mini-films-for-exploring-race-bias-and-identity-with-students.html> (26 mini-films from 1 to 7 minutes in length, some duplicates from second link)

**Bonus Video** if you can take a "no punches pulled", confrontive style, this Tim Wise video clip on White Privilege teaches. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3Xe1kX7Wsc> (just under 10 minutes)

### 3 BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:

Tears We Cannot Stop, A Sermon to White America, Michael Eric Dyson - very reachable and fast read. <https://www.amazon.com/Tears-We-Cannot-Stop-America/dp/1250135990>

Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race, Debby Irving - reachable and reveals our white-centered worlds like we've not seen before. [https://www.amazon.com/Waking-Up-White-Finding-Myself-ebook/dp/B00HZZ1JD0/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=waking+up+white&qid=1588802155&s=books&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Waking-Up-White-Finding-Myself-ebook/dp/B00HZZ1JD0/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=waking+up+white&qid=1588802155&s=books&sr=1-1)

Stamped: Racism, Anti-Racism and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-Winning "Stamped from the Beginning", Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi - The original book is 600+ pages and this remix is 300+ pages. If you desire more research go for the 600+ page version. If that level of detail would make your eyes quickly close, go for the 300+ page version. [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0316453692/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_search\\_asin\\_image?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0316453692/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_image?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

**Bonus read**, if you want a theological and academic treatment read Dear White Christians, Dr. Jennifer Harvey. Dr. Harvey makes a solid case for why reconciliation is not the step of repair that's needed but rather reparations and it's not as scary as it's made out to be by many. [https://www.amazon.com/Dear-White-Christians-Reconciliation-Christianity-ebook/dp/B00QQK05KY/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=2XXP27VDR8KWK&dchild=1&keywords=dear+white+christians&qid=1588802784&s=books&sprefix=dear+whi%2Cstripbooks%2C174&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/Dear-White-Christians-Reconciliation-Christianity-ebook/dp/B00QQK05KY/ref=sr_1_2?crid=2XXP27VDR8KWK&dchild=1&keywords=dear+white+christians&qid=1588802784&s=books&sprefix=dear+whi%2Cstripbooks%2C174&sr=1-2)

**Bonus read #2**, White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo thoroughly explores the defensiveness of white people in conversations about race and how our defensiveness actually perpetuates racism. Eye opening and offers ways to engage in the discomfort constructively. <https://www.amazon.com/White-Fragility-People-About-Racism/dp/0807047414>

**Bonus read #3**, My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies by Resmaa Menakem examines how racism has damaged us all through trauma to our bodies through our blood and nervous systems based on neuroscience. <https://www.amazon.com/My-Grandmothers-Hands-Racialized-Pathway/dp/1942094477>

### 3 PODCASTS:

Scene On Radio, Season Two, Seeing White - Duke University, Center for Documentary Studies / <http://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

“The renewed embrace of raw, undisguised white-identity politics. Unending racial inequity in schools, housing, criminal justice, and hiring. Some of this feels new, but in truth it's an old story. Why? Where did the notion of “whiteness” come from? What does it mean? What is whiteness for?”

Scene on Radio, Season Four, The Land That Never Has Been Yet / <http://www.sceneonradio.org/the-land-that-never-has-been-yet/>

“Our twelve-part Season 4 series on democracy will touch on those concerns but will go much deeper, effectively retelling the story of the United States from its beginnings up to the present as we complicate, maybe upend, our listeners' understanding of American history. Our series title, *The Land That Never Has Been Yet*, is borrowed from the Langston Hughes poem, “Let America Be America Again.”

Scene of Radio, Season Three, MEN / <https://www.sceneonradio.org/men/>

“What's up with this male-dominated world? How did we get sexism, patriarchy, misogyny in the first place? How can we get better at seeing it, and what can we do about it?”

**Bonus Podcast:** Teaching While White - great to get into the classroom of learning on race and racism. <https://www.teachingwhilewhite.org/podcast>

**Bonus Podcast**, Racial Heresy – banter between two Episcopal priests, one white (Father Cayce) and one black (Father Jabriel), who met in seminary. <https://racialheresy.com/>

### 3 COURSES OF STUDY:

**My Work To Do**, <https://www.myworktodo.com/> This is a learning circle format for 90 minutes a week for 5 weeks. Developed by Suzanne Edwards-Acton of the Los Angeles Episcopal Diocese, this program brings together, online, a wide range of people from across all locations and backgrounds who each week view content together, reflect and share. It's a brave space to learn.

**Sacred Ground**, <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/> This is a study program of The Episcopal Church using film and readings with small group discussions. Over a 10-part series, groups learn about America's racism focusing on Indigenous, Black, Latino and Asian/Pacific histories as they intersect with European American histories.

**White Awake**, <https://whiteawake.org/about/> conducts courses online during the year focusing on white supremacy particularly how to change the legacy of this supremacy that we've inherited. Through readings and video, leaders guide participants to connect with their own stories and affirm different stories seeking social change for the benefit of all.

### Other Bonus materials:

**Blog** Note to My White Self - <https://notetomywhiteself.wordpress.com/about-me/> - Jim Mulholland's writing is extremely formative and makes clear the necessity of white people talking to white people. For a quick dive, here are links to Jim's "My Best Blogs of 2019", <https://notetomywhiteself.wordpress.com/2020/01/05/my-best-blogs-of-2019/> and "My Best Blog Posts of 2020", <https://notetomywhiteself.wordpress.com/?s=2020>.

**Video** Jane Elliott, "Brown Eyes/Blue Eyes" experiment – provocative and impactful <https://youtu.be/w7SCgNjPMq4> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSUKmyZkTSg&feature=youtu.be>

**Video** Seattle Times, Under Our Skin - <https://projects.seattletimes.com/2016/under-our-skin/#>

**PBS Documentary** on Reconstruction hosted by Henry Louis Gates Jr - <https://www.pbs.org/weta/reconstruction/>

**Video** Black Parents Explain How to Deal with the Police: <https://youtu.be/coryt8IZ-DE>

**Movie** 13th by Ava DuVernay - the story of mass incarceration and the 13th amendment.