

# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE NETWORK

## Racial Justice Resource Guide

October 12, 2017

Over the past two years, NJJN staff have been meeting regularly to review and discuss racial justice materials. Below is a brief list of some of the materials we have reviewed. We will continue to add to it and be sure to let us know if you have any recommendations.

### Articles

- [“The Case for Reparations,”](#) by Ta-Nehisi Coates, *The Atlantic*, June 2014. A long, powerful piece laying out the ways in which American society has continued to oppress people of color even as its official rhetoric has become more inclusive, and the moral imperative to stop ignoring the sins of the past -- and present.
- [“Structural Racism and Community Building”](#) – document by The Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change. Discusses structural racism – historic and contemporary, and what this means for community building and related social justice work.
- [“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”](#) – author Peggy McIntosh enumerates and then analyzes some of the many daily effects of white privilege in her life.
- [“Why It’s Important to Recognize That ‘Moonlight’ was Robbed of Its Moment”](#) – author Brittney Cooper makes the case that the incident at the Oscars was an apt metaphor for thinking about the politics of race and diversity in America.

### Blog Posts

- [“Ethos of the Ally: Deference, Dialogue, and Distance,”](#) blog post, Toby D. Rollo, July 7, 2013. Illuminating meditations to assist allies in anti-oppression work in thinking through their roles and responsibilities.
- [“So you want to work in solidarity with black and Indigenous peoples,”](#) blog post, Toby D. Rollo, April 26, 2016. A brief, useful piece pointing out common misunderstandings white people have about being a useful white ally.

- [“Ten Lessons for Talking About Race, Racism and Racial Justice”](#) – Advice on finding entry points for these discussions.
- [“Tired of All the Talk About Ferguson?”](#) blog post, Susan Nalmark, Nov. 11, 2014. White author provides brief lessons for white people seeking a starting point to addressing issues of race.

### Books

- “Anti-Racist Organizational Development,” from [Dismantling Racism Resource Book](#) (Portland, OR: Western States Center, 2003). Offers a useful rubric to help organizations move from an “all white club” to an anti-racist organization.
- “The Characteristics and Dynamics of Race Talk,” chapter 2 from [Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence: Understanding and Facilitating Difficult Dialogues on Race](#), by Derald Wing Sue (New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, 2015). Why race can be so difficult to talk about -- the various social norms it challenges, as well as why it’s uncomfortable for people of color and for white people.
- [Waking Up White](#) by Debby Irving. The author unpacks her own experience of waking up to her whiteness with short prompts and exercises at the end of each chapter to help white readers explore the themes in depth in relation to their own experience.

### Interviews/Speeches

- [“Diversity isn’t just about justice. It’s about helping us make better collective decisions.”](#) Interview with Scott Page, author of *The Diversity Bonus*. Mr. Page discusses the “meritocratic fallacy” – the idea that we can apply a test to people, rank them, and that the best team always consists of the best test scorers.
- [“Ijeoma Oluo: ‘I Am Drowning in Whiteness’”](#) Seattle writer Ijeoma Oluo discusses how everything we do in this country I steeped in whiteness. Urges white people to see their whiteness as a system of oppression.
- [“Interview with John A. Powell”](#) – edited transcript of an interview with Dr. Powell, a nationally recognized scholar on race, poverty, and regional equity. Fascinating discussion from 2003 that covers a range of topics from how race is socially constructed to the stories about race we tell now.

### Tests

- [The Implicit Association Test \(IAT\)](#) – measures attitudes and beliefs that people may be unwilling or unable to report. There are tests covering a number of different topics including race and skin-tone.

### Videos/Podcasts

- [“Can We Talk About Whiteness?”](#) – the first Code Switch podcast. Discusses how we talk (and don’t talk) about whiteness and why it’s so hard to do.
- [“Did Slavery End in 1865?”](#) (3:40 minute video) Bryan Stevenson makes the case that slavery -- particularly in the form of terrorist violence against black people -- did not end in 1865; he discusses his new museum memorializing thousands of victims of lynching, and his plan to pressure states into acknowledging that history.
- [“Slavery in Effect: A History Design Studio Briefing”](#) (8:22 minute video) - A kaleidoscopic look at the historical relationship between slavery and mass incarceration of people of color, from the perspective of multiple historians.