

Anti-Racism Knowledge Guides

Committing to the work of anti-racism in your own life is the start of a lifelong fight against oppression and journey towards justice. This is hard work; the abundant fruits of which you may not see in your lifetime. But you **will** see progress. These guides are intended to help guide you towards deeper study and change in your own life and micro environment (self, family, friends) and prepare you for direct action in the macro environment (systems, institutions, society at large).

BETTER INFORMATION. BETTER OUTCOMES.

HOW TO USE THESE GUIDES:

These guides are for people committed to an anti-racist lifestyle. Anyone can use these guides, but they are made specifically for people who may have little knowledge around issues of race, racism and its intersections, and race-based oppression in the United States. People with a deep interest in doing the personal work of unlearning, examining, and interrogating personal beliefs, ideas, and actions will find these guides most effective.

Start at the beginning. This series of guides should be used in order. You wouldn't watch a movie starting 37 minutes in, so please don't jump in to these in the middle. Even if you sign up for the list during the third month, go back and start with Volume I. These guides are intentionally curated following a linear path of learning that builds on itself each month.

You know you, so use your best judgment. That said, these guides are intended for independent study, so use your own best judgment on how you interact with them. They are not a syllabus or exhaustive resource, but simply a starting point to give you a generalist knowledge base and provide a foundation for digging deeper and building on that knowledge.

THESE GUIDES ARE PREPARED FROM THE BELIEFS THAT:

(1) In order to do better, you must have better information from which to develop your own opinions, judgments, and action plans;

(2) Change at the individual (micro) level is critical to enacting change at the institutional (mezzo) and systemic (macro) levels. Collective action first requires individual introspection and commitment to personal change; and

(3) Individual change should be informed by historical context, lived experience, and a greater understanding of theoretical and conceptual frameworks upon which interventions, advocacy campaigns, and other methods of change are based.

Each guide includes carefully curated resources based on a specific topic.



WATCH



LISTEN



SHORT
READ



LONG
READ



TAKE
ACTION

On the Origins of Race & Whiteness Part II

Part II continues our look at the origins of whiteness as an idea and begins to look at how it has been weaponized throughout history. It is nearly impossible to get through the depths of these ideas in a month; people spend entire academic careers studying these things. Consider this a primer from which you can diver deeper if you are interested in learning more. This month's Action includes a book that might help you begin the process of examining your own interactions with whiteness, white supremacist ideas, and the benefits of white privilege.



SCENE ON RADIO PODCAST:

Seeing White, Season 2 Ep. 3
"Made in America"
Season 2 Episode 3

Listen to part two of a two-episode series on whiteness and the origins of race as an idea.

[Listen to Scene on Radio Episode 3](#)



EMORY LECTURE NELL IRVIN PAINTER

You were introduced to Nell Irvin Painter's ideas in Part I. This lecture entitled, "What Can 'The History of White People' Teach Us About Race in America?" Introduces you to the historical work of her book and how it can give us greater understanding about how we approach the construction of race in the United States. The talk is about 35 minutes, but stick around for the Question/Answer segment. 1 hour 16 minutes

[Watch on YouTube](#)



NYT OPINION: Nell Irvin Painter

Painter revisits the ideas in her book, *The History of White People* (originally published in 2010), in the context of the current presidential administration.

[Read on NYT](#)
[Download PDF copy](#)



I'M STILL HERE: BLACK DIGNITY IN A WORLD MADE FOR WHITENESS, Austin Channing Brown

Austin Channing Brown offers a lived experience perspective on her lived experience with whiteness. Her book is a quick, one day read and will allow you to see how some of the concepts you've been learning about have manifested in her personal experience.

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THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF WHITENESS, Teresa J. Guess

This writing does a good job of breaking down the idea of race as a social construct through the exploration of the white/black binary paradigm through which the U.S. American view of race is produced.

[Download PDF copy](#)



TAKE ACTION

Examine your own relationship with whiteness, white supremacist ideas, and benefits of white privilege. A good way to do this is to use the framework designed by Layla Saad in her book [Me & White Supremacy](#). Get a copy from your library or order your own that you can highlight, write in, and journal through.

WHAT A DEEP DIVE? : If you want to dive DEEP into the ideas around the construction of whiteness, read [The History of White People by Nell Irvin Painter](#). Her research tracks back to the period before the Middle Ages (antiquity) and is a fascinating historical review of a constantly evolving concept.