



CURATED RESOURCES

I. FRAMING AND REFRAMING

***People, Systems, and the Game of Monopoly* by Allan G. Johnson**

“An extended clip from a presentation by Allan G Johnson on race given at the University of Wisconsin, including using the game of Monopoly to illustrate the relationship between individuals and social systems and a description of the system of white privilege.” For more information on Allan G. Johnson visit www.agjohnson.us.
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rxL3ik9sJA>

***Lies My Teacher Told Me* by James Loewen**

“Americans have lost touch with their history, and in *Lies My Teacher Told Me* Professor James Loewen shows why. After surveying eighteen leading high school American history texts, he has concluded that not one does a decent job of making history interesting or memorable. Marred by an embarrassing combination of blind patriotism, mindless optimism, sheer misinformation, and outright lies, these books omit almost all the ambiguity, passion, conflict, and drama from our past.”

***A People's History of the United States* by Howard Zinn**

“Since its original landmark publication in 1980, *A People's History of the United States* has been chronicling American history from the bottom up, throwing out the official version of history taught in schools—with its emphasis on great men in high places—to focus on the street, the home, and the workplace. Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research, *A People's History of the United States* is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of—and in the words of—America's women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, the working poor, and immigrant laborers. As historian Howard Zinn shows, many of our country's greatest battles—the fights for a fair wage, an eight-hour workday, child-labor laws, health and safety standards, universal suffrage, women's rights, racial equality—were carried out at the grassroots level, against bloody resistance. Covering Christopher Columbus's arrival through President Clinton's first term, *A People's History of the United States*, which was nominated for the American Book Award in 1981, features insightful analysis of the most important events in our history.”

II. SYSTEMS & SYSTEMIC RACISM

How Structural Racism Works

“This presentation shares ideas from Professor Rose's on-going research project, which aims to make accessible to the public what structural racism is and how it works in society. The project examines the connections between policies and practices in housing, education and other key spheres of society to reveal the intersectional and compounding effects of systemic discrimination as a significant force in American society today. In addition to sharing the outline of the project, Rose and Rosen will give examples of how it works in everyday life.” The presentation features: Tricia Rose '93 PhD, Director of CSREA and Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies Samuel Rosen '14, Senior Researcher, How Structural Racism Works Project
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bC3TWx9IOUE&ab_channel=BrownUniversity

Race the Power of an Illusion

“The division of the world's peoples into distinct groups - "red," "black," "white" or "yellow" peoples - has become so deeply imbedded in our psyches, so widely accepted, many would promptly dismiss as crazy any suggestion of its falsity. Yet, that's exactly what this provocative, new three-hour series by California Newsreel claims. *Race - The Power of an Illusion* questions the very idea of race as innate biology, suggesting that a belief in inborn racial difference is no more sound than believing that the sun revolves around the earth. Yet race still matters. Just because race doesn't exist in biology doesn't mean it isn't very real, helping shape life chances and opportunities.”

Documentary Link: <http://newsreel.org/video/race-the-power-of-an-illusion>

Resources Site Link: http://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm

Privilege, Power, and Difference 3rd Edition by Allan G. Johnson

“*Privilege, Power, and Difference* is a groundbreaking tool for students and non-students alike to examine systems of privilege and difference in our society. Written in an accessible, conversational style, the 3rd edition links theory with engaging examples in ways that enable readers to see the underlying nature and consequences of privilege and their connection to it. This extraordinary book has been used across the country, both inside and outside the classroom, to shed light on issues of power and privilege. The thoroughly updated 3rd edition includes a new epilogue about the conflicting worldviews that can make these issues so difficult.”

The Forgotten History of How the Government Segregated America: Part 1 & Part 2

In part one, author and scholar Richard Rothstein says explicit government policy, not personal choice or redlining was the main force that segregated America.

Link to Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcXaOdgwXBU>

Link to Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zPZPz7Xu8>

Courage is Contagious

When artist Damon Davis went to join the protests in Ferguson, Missouri, after police killed Michael Brown in 2014, he found not only anger but also a sense of love for self and community. His documentary "Whose Streets?" tells the story of the protests from the perspective of the activists who showed up to challenge those who use power to spread fear and hate. In this TEDTalk, Damon talks about the power of courage.

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbDraZi7F_4

III. CHRISTIANITY

Race in a Post-Obama America: The Church Responds, edited by David Maxwell

“*Race in a Post-Obama America* offers concerned Christians the chance to clarify terms and issues around racism and discern how to respond. The reader will learn the basic definitions and history around racism in the United States, be presented with current thoughts on institutional racism and what is to be done to end it, and learn about specific actions individuals and churches are taking. Designed for individual or group study, the book includes questions for reflection and discussion.”

Ferguson and Faith: Sparking Leadership and Awakening Community, by Leah Gunning Francis

“The shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, reignited a long-smoldering movement for justice, with many St. Louis-area clergy stepping up to support the emerging young leaders of today's Civil Rights Movement. Seminary professor Leah Gunning Francis was among the activists, and her interviews with more than two dozen faith leaders and with the new movement's organizers take us behind the scenes of the continuing protests. *Ferguson and Faith* demonstrates that being called to lead a faithful life can take us to places we never expected to go, with people who never expected us to join hands with them.”

Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism, by Drew G.I. Hart

“In this provocative book, theologian and blogger Drew G. I. Hart places police brutality, mass incarceration, anti-black stereotypes, poverty, and everyday acts of racism within the larger framework of white supremacy. Leading readers toward Jesus, Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice. What if all Christians listened to the stories of those on the racialized margins? How might the church be changed by the trouble we've seen?”

The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race Paperback by Willie James Jennings

This is a dense but worthwhile and beautifully written book. “Willie James Jennings delves deep into the late medieval soil in which the modern Christian imagination grew, to reveal how Christianity's highly refined process of socialization has inadvertently created and maintained segregated societies. A probing study of the cultural fragmentation—social, spatial, and racial—that took root in the Western mind, this book shows how Christianity has consistently forged Christian nations rather than encouraging genuine communion between disparate groups and individuals.”

The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity by Soong-Chan Rah

“In this book professor and pastor Soong-Chan Rah calls the North American church to escape its captivity to Western cultural trappings and to embrace a new evangelicalism that is diverse and multiethnic. Rah brings keen analysis to the limitations of American Christianity and shows how captivity to Western individualism and materialism has played itself out in megachurches and emergent churches alike.”

Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation by Jennifer Harvey

“Harvey presents an insightful historical analysis of the painful fissures that emerged among activist Christians toward the end of the Civil Rights movement, and she shows the necessity of bringing “white” racial identity into clear view in order to counter today’s oppressive social structures. A deeply constructive, hopeful work, *Dear White Christians* will help readers envision new racial possibilities, including concrete examples of contemporary reparations initiatives.”

Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being by M. Shawn Copeland

“With rare insight and conviction, Copeland demonstrates how black women’s experience and oppression cast a completely different light on our theological theorems and pious platitudes and reveal them as a kind of mental colonization that still operates powerfully in our economic and political configurations today. Further, Copeland argues, race and embodiment and relations of power not only reframe theological anthropology but also our notions of discipleship, church, and Christ as well. In fact, she argues, our postmodern situation - marked decidedly by the realities of race, conflict, the remains of colonizing myths, and the health of bodies - affords an opportunity to be human (and to be the body of Christ) with new clarity and effect.”

Womanist Ethics and the Cultural Production of Evil by Emilie M. Townes

“This groundbreaking book provides an analytical tool to understand how and why evil works in the world as it does. Deconstructing memory, history, and myth as received wisdom, the volume critically examines racism, sexism, poverty, and stereotypes.”

Rescuing the Gospel from the Cowboys by Richard Twiss

“The gospel of Jesus has not always been good news for Native Americans. The history of North America is marred by atrocities committed against Native peoples. Indigenous cultures were erased in the name of Christianity. As a result, to this day few Native Americans are followers of Jesus. However, despite the far-reaching effects of colonialism, some Natives have forged culturally authentic ways to follow the way of Jesus. In his final work, Richard Twiss provides a contextualized Indigenous expression of the Christian faith among the Native communities of North America. He surveys the painful, complicated history of Christian missions among Indigenous peoples and chronicles more hopeful visions of culturally contextual Native Christian faith. For Twiss, contextualization is not merely a formula or evangelistic strategy, but rather a relational process of theological and cultural reflection within a local community.”

White Awake: An Honest Look at What It Means to Be White by Daniel Hill

"In *White Awake*, Rev. Dr. Daniel Hill divulges his most intimate experiences of whiteness and how white privilege impacts our society. He thoughtfully uncovers cultural identity, social constructions of race, and colorblindness in a manner that is both provoking and enlightening on the pressing social reality for people of color. Hill offers seven stages to a ministry of reconciliation as he invites us to wander away from our comfort zones and challenge us to become informed new beings. *White Awake* is a crucial book for our time, as the social and political landscape progresses into torrential territories. This book is challenging, provocative, and significant, and I strongly recommend it." (Grace Ji-Sun Kim, associate professor of theology, Earlham School of Religion, author of several books, including *Embracing the Other* and *Mother Daughter Speak*)

The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church’s Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby

“Historically speaking,” Tisby writes, “when faced with the choice between racism and equality, the American church has tended to practice a complicit Christianity rather than a courageous Christianity. They chose comfort over constructive conflict and in so doing created and maintained a status quo of injustice.”

IV. IDENTITY: WHITE FOLKS

Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It by Shelly Tochluk

“Witnessing Whiteness invites readers to consider what it means to be white, describes and critiques strategies used to avoid race issues, and identifies the detrimental effect of avoiding race on cross-race collaborations. The author illustrates how racial discomfort leads white people toward poor relationships with people of color. Questioning the implications our history has for personal lives and social institutions, the book considers political, economic, socio-cultural, and legal histories that shaped the meanings associated with whiteness.”

What Does It Mean to Be White?: Developing White Racial Literacy by Robin DiAngelo

“What does it mean to be white in a society that proclaims race meaningless, yet is deeply divided by race? In the face of pervasive racial inequality and segregation, most white people cannot answer that question. In the second

edition of this seminal text, Robin DiAngelo reveals the factors that make this question so difficult: mis-education about what racism is; ideologies such as individualism and colorblindness; segregation; and the belief that to be complicit in racism is to be an immoral person. These factors contribute to what she terms white racial illiteracy. Speaking as a white person to other white people, DiAngelo clearly and compellingly takes readers through an analysis of white socialization.”

New Perspectives on Racial Identity Development by Charmaine L. Wijeyesinghe & Bailey W. Jackson, eds.

Particularly Important for People of Color; “*New Perspectives on Racial Identity Development* brings together leaders in the field to deepen, broaden, and reassess our understandings of racial identity development. Contributors include the authors of some of the earliest theories in the field, such as William Cross, Bailey W. Jackson, Jean Kim, Rita Hardiman, and Charmaine L. Wijeyesinghe, who offer new analysis of the impact of emerging frameworks on how racial identity is viewed and understood. Other contributors present new paradigms and identify critical issues that must be considered as the field continues to evolve.”

“White Supremacy Cannot Have Our People: for a working class orientation at the heart of white anti-racist organizing” by Chris Crass

Excerpt: “For anti-racist work this translates into a vision of organizing white communities in ways that addresses the real ways they are screwed over in this system and unites the demands and efforts for justice to an understanding of how white supremacy helps maintain a lack of economic security in white working class communities, and how racial justice is central not only to economic justice for all, but freeing the humanity of white people from the death culture of white supremacy.”

Link: <https://medium.com/@chriscrass/white-supremacy-cannot-have-our-people-21e87d2b268a>

“Adventures in 'White Fragility'” by Vangie Castro

Excerpt: “I'm not going to tell you how to show up. I'm not going to give five easy steps on showing up. Because finding the courage to overcome years and years of social programming is complex. It requires a commitment to do the work, to overcome your own personal limiting beliefs and fears. It requires white people to share their privilege equitably. It's not about losing or giving away your power, but to find a way to share and work together in order to create a pluralistic society, to begin dismantling a system that has privileged and empowered a certain group of people based on race for hundreds of years, and thousands of years for patriarchy.”

Link: <https://www.diversitycouncil.org/single-post/2017/02/14/Adventures-in-White-Fragility>

The Whitest Thing, a poem by Adam Falkner

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4h6mZKfcGdc>

Scene on Radio: Seeing White Series

From the series description: “Just what is going on with white people? Police shootings of unarmed African Americans. Acts of domestic terrorism by white supremacists. 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 host and producer John Biewen took a deep dive into these questions, along with an array of leading scholars and regular guest Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika, in this fourteen-part documentary series, released between February and August 2017. The series editor is Loretta Williams.”

Link: <http://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

V. IDENTITY: PEOPLE OF COLOR

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“18 Years of Wishing I Was White: Internalized Racism Within the Asian-American Community” by Jillian Peihua

Excerpt: “‘Internalized racism’ refers to the phenomenon I experienced growing up, and continue to experience today. I believed in the racist stereotypes and beliefs about my own race, and perpetuated them. Internalizing such heavy, hurtful ideas about Asians took a toll on my self-esteem – everyday I catch myself thinking racist thoughts about myself and other Asians.”

Link: <http://www.temple-asa.org/temple-asa-blog/18-years-of-wishing-i-was-white-internalized-racism-within-the-asian-american-community>

“The Journey From ‘Colored’ To ‘Minorities’ To ‘People Of Color’” by Kee Malesky

Excerpt: “In U.S. history, “person of color” has often been used to refer only to people of African heritage. Today, it usually covers all/any peoples of African, Latino/Hispanic, Native American, Asian or Pacific Island descent, and its intent is to be inclusive.”

Link: <http://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2014/03/30/295931070/the-journey-from-colored-to-minorities-to-people-of-color>

“3 Ways to Speak English” by Jamila Lyiscott

“Jamila Lyiscott is a ‘tri-tongued orator;’ in her powerful spoken-word essay ‘Broken English,’ she explores the complicated history and present-day identity that each language represents, she unpacks what it means to be ‘articulate.’”

Link: https://www.ted.com/talks/jamila_lyiscott_3_ways_to_speak_english

“To be a Latina Woman on a College Campus” by Janel Pineda

A poem about identity.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=385EzrLq6pE>

“Afro-Latina” by Elizabeth Acevedo

A poem about identity.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPx8cSGW4k8>

The Muslim on the airplane by Amal Kassir

A powerful reflection about identity. An excerpt from the TED site: “Watching the news, it seems like ethnic divides are ever-deepening. But how can we solve these complicated problems when each side lives in fear of the other? The answer is simple, argues Syrian-American poet Amal Kassir - it starts with, “What’s your name?” Amal, a young Muslim-American and native Coloradan, found a platform for her voice growing up working in her family's restaurant. She has been writing poetry since she was a child and has performed in eight countries, sharing her verse everywhere from youth prisons to orphanages to refugee camps.”

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIAm1g_Vgn0