



Selected Anti-Racist Resources

At the Portland Library

2022

Eberhardt, Jennifer

303.385 EBE

Biased: Uncovering the Prejudice that shapes what We See, Think & Do

How do we talk about bias? With a perspective that is at once scientific, investigative, and informed by personal experience, the author offers us the language and courage we need to face one of the biggest and most troubling issues of our time. She exposes racial bias at all levels of society. Racial bias is a problem that we all have a role to play in solving.

Diangelo, Robin

305.8 DIA

Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm

DiAngelo explains how spiritual white progressives seeking community by co-opting Indigenous and other groups' rituals create separation, not connection. She challenges the ideology of individualism and explains why it is OK to generalize about white people, and demonstrates how white people who experience other oppressions still benefit from systemic racism. Writing candidly about her own missteps and struggles, she models a path forward, encouraging white readers to continually face their complicity and embrace courage, lifelong commitment, and accountability.

Brown, Dorothy

343.7304

The Whiteness of Wealth: how the Tax System Impoverishes Black Americans – and how we can fix it

Brown draws on decades of cross-disciplinary research to show that tax law isn't as color-blind as she'd once believed. She takes us into her adopted city of Atlanta, introducing us to families across the economic spectrum whose stories demonstrate how American tax law rewards the preferences and practices of white people while pushing black people further behind. From attending college to getting married to buying a home, black Americans find themselves at a financial disadvantage compared to their white peers. The results are an ever-increasing wealth gap and more black families shut out of the American dream.

Mishra, Pankaj

909.8 MIS

Age of Anger: a History of the Present

How can we explain the origins of the great wave of paranoid hatreds that seem inescapable in our close-knit world—from American shooters and ISIS to Donald Trump, from a rise in vengeful nationalism across the world to racism and misogyny on social media?

Meacham, Jon

973 MEA

The Soul of America: the Battle for our Better Angels

Meacham writes about the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the birth of the Lost Cause; the backlash against immigrants in the First World War and the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s; the fight for women's rights; the demagoguery of Huey Long and Father Coughlin and the isolationist work of America First in the years before World War II; the anti-Communist witch-hunts led by Senator Joseph McCarthy; and Lyndon Johnson's crusade against Jim Crow. The struggle continues even now.

Gates, Henry

973.0496 GAT

Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy & the Rise of Jim Crow

Gates reveals the many faces of Jim Crow and how, together, they reinforced a stark color line between white and black Americans. Bringing a lifetime of wisdom to bear as a scholar, filmmaker, and public intellectual, Gates uncovers the roots of structural racism in our own time, while showing how African Americans after slavery combatted it by articulating a vision of a "New Negro" to force the nation to recognize their humanity and unique contributions to America as it hurtled toward the modern age.

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Glaude, Eddie

305.8 GLA

Democracy in Black: how Race Still Enslaves the American Soul

From the murders of black youth by the police, to the dismantling of the Voting Rights Act, to the disaster visited upon poor and middle-class black families by the Great Recession, it is clear that black America faces an emergency—at the very moment the election of the first black president had prompted many to believe we've solved America's race problem.

Hinton, Elizabeth

305.8 HIN

America on Fire: the Untold History of Police Violence and

Black Rebellion since the 1960s The central lesson from these eruptions—that police violence invariably leads to community violence—continues to escape policymakers, who respond by further criminalizing entire groups instead of addressing underlying socioeconomic causes. The results are the hugely expanded policing and prison regimes that shape the lives of so many Americans today. This book is also a warning: rebellions will surely continue unless police are no longer called on to manage the consequences of dismal conditions beyond their control, and until an oppressive system is finally remade on the principles of justice and equality.

Kendi, Ibram

305.8 KEN

How to be an Antiracist Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science, bringing it all together with an engaging personal narrative of his own awakening to antiracism. This is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.

305.8 KEN

Stamped from the Beginning: the Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America In this deeply researched and fast-moving narrative, Kendi chronicles the entire story of anti-black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history. As Kendi shows, racist ideas did not arise from ignorance or hatred, but were created to justify and rationalize deeply entrenched discriminatory policies and the nation's racial inequities.

McGhee, Heather

305.8 MCG

The Sum of Us: what Racism Costs Everyone & how we Prosper Together From the financial crisis to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, McGhee found a common root problem: racism. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has

costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out?

Oluo, Ijeoma

305.8 OLU

So You want to Talk about Race

Widespread reporting on aspects of white supremacy--from police brutality to the mass incarceration of Black Americans--has put a media spotlight on racism in our society. Oluo guides readers of all races through an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life.

Zamalin, Alex

305.8 ZAM

Against Civility: the Hidden Racism in our Obsession with

Civility The idea and practice of civility has always been wielded to silence dissent, repress political participation, and justify violence upon people of color. Although many progressives today are told that we need to be more polite and thoughtful, less rancorous and angry, when we talk about race in America, civility maintains rather than disrupts racial injustice.

Alexander, Elizabeth

305.896 ALE

The Trayvon Generation

In the midst of civil unrest in the summer of 2020 and following the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, Elizabeth Alexander turned a mother's eye to her sons' and students' generation and wrote a celebrated and moving reflection on the challenges facing young Black America. Originally published in the New Yorker, the essay incisively and lovingly observed the experiences, attitudes, and cultural expressions of what she referred to as the Trayvon Generation, who even as children could not be shielded from the brutality that has affected the lives of so many Black people.

Dyson, Michael

305.896 ASI

We can't Breathe: on Black Lives, White Lies

and the Art of Survival Dyson explores such topics as the importance of black fathers and community; the significance of black writers and stories; what emerges is a rich portrait of a community and culture that has resisted, survived, and flourished despite centuries of racism, violence, and trauma. These thought-provoking essays present a different side of American history, one that doesn't depend on a narrative steeped in oppression but rather reveals black voices telling their own stories.

Hoopla e-books & e-audio books

e-book

Alexander, Michelle *The New Jim Crow*

Loewen, James *Lies My Teacher Told: everything your American History textbook got wrong*

e-audio

Takaki, Ronald

A Different Mirror: a history of multicultural America

Abrams, Stacey *Voter Suppression in U.S. Elections*

e-book & e-audio

Hill, Daniel

White Awake: an Honest Look about what it means to be White

Podcasts

White Lies, NPR

Whistling Vivaldi, NPR

A Decade on Watching Black People Die, Code Switch

Brené with Ibram X. Kendi on How to Be an Antiracist,
Unlocking US

Side Effects of White Women, Small Does with
Amanda Seales

Well Meaning White People, Smartest Person in the
Room podcast

Overdrive e-books & e-audio books

e-book

Angelou, Maya *The Heart of a Woman*

Hinton, Anthony *How I found Life and Freedom on Death Row*

Coates, Ta-Nehisi *Between the World and Me*

Coates, Ta-Nehisi *We were Eight Years in Power: an American Tragedy*

Vitale, Alex *The End of Policing*

DiAngelo, Robin *White Fragility: Why It's so hard for White People to talk about Racism*

Kendi, Ibram X. *How to be an Antiracist*

Saad, Layla *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World & become a Good Ancestor*

Griffin, John Howard *Black like Me*

Noah, Trevor *Born a Crime*

Acho, Emmanuel *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*