

DEI Resource list

LTS' Pathways for Tomorrow Grant, funded by the Lilly Endowment Inc., has a number of goals, all of which relate to more fully develop diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) into the life of our institution. Goal II's focus is on creating an institutional culture that intentionally welcomes, appreciates, respects, and celebrates differences in language, race, ethnicity, color, gender and fluidity, sexual orientation, disability, age, national origin, and theology. This resource list is one small way of seeking to respond to this goal by providing suggested books, articles, video clips, documentaries, and pod casts that can help us think more deeply and respond more intentionally to issues related to inclusivity and hospitable environments.

Books

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration and the Age of Colorblindness*. New York, NY: The New Press, 2010.

In the aftermath of Barack Obama's election, legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control—relegating millions to a permanent second-class status—even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness.

Boykin, Keith. *One More River to Cross*. New York, NY: Doubleday Press, 1996.

Looks at history of the Black Church in relation to LGBTQ+ community and how the church can be more welcoming.

Boykin, Keith. *Race Against Time: The Politics of a Darkening America*. New York, NY: Bold Type Books, 2021.

In the aftermath of COVID, police brutality, cries for racial justice, and an attempted insurrection, the United States remains a divided nation. Boykin argues that at the heart of our national crises is the fear of a "darkening" America – a nation that is no longer predominately white.

Carbado, Devon W. and Don Weise. *Time on Two Crosses: The Collected Writings of Bayard Rustin*. Hoboken, NJ: Cleis Press, 2015.

Chronicles over five decades of Bayard Rustin's life, activism, and writings. Rustin was a close colleague of Martin Luther King Jr. and helped develop strategies of nonviolent resistance during the Civil Rights era. He was also a gay man, which caused conflict within the movement.

Chomsky, Aviva. *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2014.

Immigrant rights activist Aviva Chomsky writes about how “illegality” and “undocumentedness” are concepts that were created to exclude and exploit. With a focus on US policy, she probes how people, especially Mexican and Central Americans, have been assigned this status—and to what ends.

Coates, Ta-Nehisi. *Between the World and Me*. New York: One World Press, 2015.

Addresses issues of racial inequality, racial violence in US history, Coates describes what it is like to inhabit a black body in a letter addressed to his adolescent son. Largely autobiographical, Coates shares his life and learnings and seeks to help us confront our past and envision a new and different future.

DiAngelo, Robin. *White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2018.

Antiracist educator DiAngelo writes about the difficulty that many white people have in discussing and addressing race issues, showing that racism is not restricted to “bad people.” She names the defenses used to deflect meaningful conversations and learning, and helps one understand how to engage more constructively.

Faderman, Lillian. *The Gay Revolution: The Story of the Struggle*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2015.

A comprehensive history of the struggle for gay and lesbian civil rights, beginning in the 1950s and including current struggles in expanding rights as well as protecting those achieved.

Glaude Jr., Eddie. *Begin Again: James Baldwin’s American and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*. New York: Crown, 2020.

Glaude uses the writings and teachings of James Baldwin to help us better understand the movement for racial equality in the United States as well as provide an explanation as to why race continues to divide today.

Griffin, Horace L. *Their Own Received Them Not: African American Lesbians and Gays in Black Churches*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2010.

Provides a historical overview and critical analysis of the black church and its current engagement with lesbian and gay Christians, and shares ways in which black churches can learn to reach out and confront all types of oppression—not just race—in order to do the work of the black community.

Hannah-Jones, Nikole. *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*. New York: One World Publishing, 2021.

Hannah-Jones names the arrival of the first ship carrying slaves to arrive in the colony of Virginia in August 1619 as the definitive moment that continues to define race relations in the United States up until today. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and democracy itself.

Harvey, Jennifer. *Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2017.

Informs families, churches, educators, and communities living in a nation that is becoming increasingly diverse on ways to raise their children to understand systemic racism and be active participants in transformation.

Harvey, Jennifer and Traci Blackmon. *Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 2020.

While reconciliation has long been the paradigm preferred by white Christians in addressing racial inequality, Harvey and Blackmon argue that what is needed is a shift towards a biblical call for reparations. Written specifically to assist churches and people of faith to think deeply and seek to profoundly address systemic inequality from both historical and biblical perspectives.

Johnson, Allan G. *The Gender Knot: Unraveling Our Patriarchal Legacy 3rd Ed.* Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press, 2014.

This book is the author's response to the pain and confusion that men and women experience by living with gender inequality, explains what patriarchy is and isn't, how it works, and what gets in the way of understanding and doing something about it. Johnson's simple yet powerful approach avoids the paralyzing trap of guilt, blame, anger, and defensive denial that often results from conversations about gender.

Jones, Robert P. *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2020.

Raised as a Southern Baptist in rural Georgia, Jones shares his own awakening to racism within US Christianity and guides the reader through the tortured history of how racism has become part of the DNA of white Christianity. Jones also shares stories of hope and new ways for people of faith to both recognize and address this truth.

Kendi, Ibram X. *How to Be An Antiracist*. New York: One World Press, 2019.

Introduces “antiracism” as a transformative concept and practice that leads towards liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and others. Goes beyond a simple awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a just and equitable society.

Kireopoulos, Antonios, Mitzi J. Budde and Mathew D. Lundberg (eds.). *Thinking Theologically About Mass Incarceration: Biblical Foundations and Justice Imperatives*. New York, NY: Paulist Press, 2017.

The line from slavery to Jim Crow to the war on drugs to mass incarceration was straight and unbroken. But what of the voice to challenge it? Was there another straight and unbroken line, this one from the abolitionist movement to the civil rights struggle to the present day? This book is the fruit of a multiyear dialogue among Christian churches in the United States, addressing—from theological perspectives—mass incarceration as an issue in need of radical reform.

Michelle, Lecia. *The White Allies Handbook: 4 Weeks to Join the Racial Justice Fight for Black Women*. New York: Dafina Books, 2022.

Practical guide with clear, actionable steps to becoming an ally in the fight for racial justice. Topics include how to have difficult conversations, how to listen to criticism without becoming defensive, why it is harmful to try and be colorblind, and how to expand your racial justice circle by joining groups led by Black women and cultivating a group of like-minded allies.

Nielson, Kim E. *A Disability History of the United States*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2013.

A history of the United States the centers experiences of disabled people. The repositioning of disabled persons to the heart of the story casts new light on familiar history, such as slavery and immigration, while educating on the role of ableism in the development of democracy.

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. *Racial Formation in the United States* 3rd Edition. New York, NY: Routledge, 2015.

Provides an account of how concepts of race are created and transformed, how they become the focus of political conflict, and how they come to shape and permeate both identities and institutions. The steady journey of the U.S. toward a majority nonwhite population, the ongoing evisceration of the political legacy of the early post-World War II civil rights movement, the initiation of the ‘war on terror’ with its attendant Islamophobia, the rise of a mass immigrants’ rights movement, the formulation of race/class/gender ‘intersectionality’ theories, and the election and reelection of a black President of the United States are some of the many racial conditions this updated edition now covers.

Petersen, Brooke N. *Religious Trauma: Queer Stories in Estrangement and Return*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022.

Through the stories of eight individuals, the author explores the psychological, spiritual, and ritual dimensions of religious trauma among queer people. Offers insights for pastoral care and the identification of religious trauma for queer people in non-accepting religious communities.

Oluo, Ijeoma. *So You Want to Talk about Race*. New York: Seal Press, 2018.

While it seems we are in an ideal time in our country to address issues of race and inequality, the task seems impossible and it is difficult to know where to start. Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from police brutality to cultural appropriation, making the impossible seem possible: honest conversations about race.

Simpson, Jennifer S. *I Have Been Waiting: Race and U.S. Higher Education*. Toronto, ONT: University of Toronto Press, 2003.

While much progress has been made towards the quest for racial equality in the education system, there is still much work to be done. In 'I Have Been Waiting', Jennifer Simpson pays explicit attention to the ways in which systems of higher education have excluded people of color, and how white students and teachers might better address issues of race and racism in educational settings.

Stevenson, Bryan. *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. New York, NY: Spiegel & Grau, 2015.

As a young lawyer, Stevenson founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

Wilkerson, Isabel. *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents*. New York: Random House, 2020.

A look beyond factors such as race and class that points to systems of power that separate peoples into different castes, having access to different levels of power and legitimacy. Wilkerson looks historically at caste systems in America, India, and Nazi Germany to explore themes that underlie inequality across civilizations while at the same time offering hope to move beyond artificial and destructive separations of human divisions toward hope in our common humanity.

Video/Audio clips

The Difference Between an Ally and Co-Conspirator - <https://vimeo.com/502300589>

Chimimanda Adichie, The Danger of a Single Story –
https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?language=en

Stella Young, Disability Porn and the Objectification of Disability -
https://www.ted.com/talks/stella_young_i_m_not_your_inspiration_thank_you_very_much/transcript

People, Systems, and the Game of Monopoly – Explains how racism and inequality work using game of monopoly - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rxL3ik9sJA>

Bryan Stevenson, We Need to Talk About Injustice -
https://www.ted.com/talks/bryan_stevenson_we_need_to_talk_about_an_injustice?language=en

Kemberly Crenshaw, The Urgency of Intersectionality –
https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle_crenshaw_the_urgency_of_intersectionality?language=en

Toni Morrison Answers “Illegitimate” Question on Race - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kgq3F8wbYA>

What Kind of Asian Are You? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWynJkN5HbQ>

James Baldwin and William F. Buckley Debate, 1965 –
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFeoS41xe7w>
Along with article on book about why this debate still matters -
<https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2019/12/james-baldwin-william-f-buckley-debate/602695/>

Michael Eric Dyson Imagines How St. Paul Would Admonish the US for Racism -
<https://www.npr.org/2021/01/18/957981967/rev-dyson-imagines-how-st-paul-would-admonish-u-s-for-racism>

How to Explain White Supremacy to a White Supremacist, Kyle “Guante” Tran Myhre -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbwcXDunxA8&list=LLHMJJshW9R4QdvHFp8vj-GA&index=566>

Reverse Racism, by comedian Aamer Rahman -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dw_mRaIHb-M

Articles

When Black People are in Pain, White People Join Book Clubs -

https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/white-antiracist-allyship-book-clubs/2020/06/11/9edcc766-abf5-11ea-94d2-d7bc43b26bf9_story.html

Representing Whiteness in the Black Imagination, by bell hooks - chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgiclfindmkaj/https://pages.mtu.edu/~jdslack/readings/CSReadings/hooks_Representing_Whiteness_Black_Imagination.pdf

“Talking about Racism” in hooks, bell. *Teaching Community: A Pedagogy of Hope*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2003: 25-40.

Racial Battle Fatigue: What is it and What are the Symptoms? - <https://medium.com/racial-battle-fatigue/racial-battle-fatigue-what-is-it-and-what-are-the-symptoms-84f79f49ee1e>

Organizational Marks of White Supremacy Culture, by Tema Okun - chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgiclfindmkaj/https://www.csworkshop.org/pdfs/CARC/Overview/3_White_Sup_Culture.PDF

“Whose Story Am I? Redescribing Profound Intellectual Disability in the Kingdom of God – chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgiclfindmkaj/https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sdhp/documents/Whosestoryaml.pdf

“It’s Time for ‘Crip Time’” - <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2022/06/27/adopt-crip-time-make-higher-ed-more-inclusive-opinion>

“Nonbinary Gender and the Diverse Beauty of Creation” -

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/critical-essay/nonbinary-gender-and-diverse-beauty-creation>

The History of Anti-Asian Violence in America - [https://www.colorlines.com/articles/history-anti-asian-violence-](https://www.colorlines.com/articles/history-anti-asian-violence-america?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=04_01_2021&utm_term=The%20History%20of%20Anti-Asian%20Violence%20In%20America&&utm_content=email&&)

[america?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=04_01_2021&utm_term=The%20History%20of%20Anti-Asian%20Violence%20In%20America&&utm_content=email&&](https://www.colorlines.com/articles/history-anti-asian-violence-america?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=04_01_2021&utm_term=The%20History%20of%20Anti-Asian%20Violence%20In%20America&&utm_content=email&&)

Podcast

Code Switch, NPR podcast focusing on intersectionality -

<https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/>

Diversity Deep Dive, hosted by Audre Jenkins – <https://www.untapped.io/blog/best-diversity-and-inclusion-podcasts>

Seeing White, hosted by John Biewen - <https://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

The Will to Change: Uncovering True Stories of Diversity and Inclusion, hosted by Jennifer Brown - <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-will-to-change-uncovering-true-stories-of/id1208603357>

Untapped, hosted by Tariq Meyers - <https://www.untapped.io/blog/best-diversity-and-inclusion-podcasts>

Documentaries

Crip Camp (2020 documentary on differently abled teens finally feeling a sense of belonging and joining the disability rights movement)

I Am Not Your Negro (2016 documentary on the relevancy today of James Baldwin's life and teachings)

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption - <https://justmercy.eji.org/>

Race: The Power of an Illusion (NPR series focusing on the myths of racial differences)

13th (2016 documentary focusing on the history of racial inequality in the United States).

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Barnes

Pathways for Tomorrow Grant Program Director

Lexington Theological Seminary

Email: jbarnes@lextheo.edu

Phone: 317-447-4268