

# SPEAKING OF RACE

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WHY EVERYBODY NEEDS  
TO TALK ABOUT RACISM—  
AND HOW TO DO IT

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CELESTE  
HEADLEE



HARPER WAVE

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# READING LIST

If you truly want to have insightful and productive conversations about race, you'll probably have to do a little homework. It's not fair to ask others to educate you about the history of race, so I recommend you dig into the research on your own. Plus, there are dozens of engaging and fascinating books on the subject of race, each one unique in perspective and tone. This is by no means a comprehensive list, simply a starting point that will hopefully lead you to yet more books, more resources, more insight.

## HOW TO GROW YOUR SKILLS

*The Black Friend*, Frederick Joseph

*The Person You Mean to Be*, Dolly Chugh

*Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence*, Derald Wing Sue

## WHAT WE SAY ABOUT RACE

### Conversations About Our Original Sin

*Race*, Studs Terkel

*Two-Faced Racism*, Leslie Houts Picca and Joe R. Feagin

## LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD

### The History of Race and Racism

*Stamped from the Beginning*, Ibram X. Kendi

*Race, Reform, and Rebellion*, Manning Marable

*Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson

*The New Jim Crow*, Michelle Alexander

*White Rage*, Carol Anderson

*The Condemnation of Blackness*, Khalil Gibran Muhammad

## **CURRENT EVENTS**

### **Examining Racism in the Modern World**

*We Too Sing America*, Deepa Iyer

*Racism Without Racists*, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva

*Dying of Whiteness*, Jonathan M. Metzl

*The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace*, Jeff Hobbs

## **WHY ARE WE LIKE THIS?**

### **Understanding Our Biases**

*Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People*, Mahzarin R. Banaji and  
Anthony G. Greenwald

*Everyday Bias*, Howard J. Ross

*Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See,  
Think, and Do*, Jennifer L. Eberhardt, PhD

## **THE MUST-READS**

### **The Books That Have Endured for Good Reason**

*The Souls of Black Folk*, W. E. B. Du Bois

*The Fire Next Time*, James Baldwin

*Letter to My Daughter*, Maya Angelou

*Native Son*, Richard Wright

*Black Skin, White Masks*, Frantz Fanon

*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*,  
Beverly Daniel Tatum, PhD

*Crusade for Justice*, Ida B. Wells

*Montage of a Dream Deferred*, Langston Hughes

## POWERFUL WRITING

### Memoir and Essay and Novel

*The Fire This Time*, Jesmyn Ward

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

*Killing Rage: Ending Racism*, bell hooks

*Minor Feelings*, Cathy Park Hong

*The Good Immigrant: 26 Writers Reflect on America*, edited by

Nikesh Shukla and Chimene Suleyman

*Sister Outsider*, Audre Lorde

*Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi

*Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Zora Neale Hurston

There is a wealth of material available for those who want to learn more about race and bias. Here are a few other options you can consult if you're looking for something other than a book:

## PODCASTS

*Code Switch* from NPR: <https://www.npr.org/2020/06/09/873054935/want-to-have-better-conversations-about-racism-with-your-parents-heres-how>

*Seeing White* from Duke's Center for Documentary Studies:  
<https://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

*Intersectionality Matters!* from the African American Policy Forum:  
<https://www.aapf.org/intersectionality-matters>

*1619* from the *New York Times*: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>

## FILMS

*Eyes on the Prize*, a series from PBS

*Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise*, a four-part series  
from PBS

*I Am Not Your Negro*, a documentary about writer James Baldwin  
*Quest: A Portrait of an American Family*  
*The Central Park Five*, from Ken Burns  
*The Talk: Race in America*, from the *New York Times*

## ACTIVITIES

*Me and White Supremacy* workbook: <http://www.co.umatilla.or.us/bcc/agendas/SaadWorkbook.pdf>

Take the Implicit Association Test: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Take the Hidden Tribes Quiz: <https://hiddentribes.us/quiz/>

Take the Perception Gap Quiz: <https://perceptiongap.us/>