

Background/History supporting NPYM

Minute to Uproot Systemic Racism

We encourage all to approach this work with open hearts that support individual and corporate spiritual and community growth, while we also learn to better love our neighbors and ourselves. We believe that understanding the history of oppression, exploitation, and abuse that has privileged some while challenging others is required to identify, remove, or overcome obstacles to our goal of creating a beloved community that celebrates us each and every one.

Brief Background/History (a path to privilege or despair)

Year	Action
1452	Pope Nicholas V issues the bull Romanus Pontifex (Doctrine of Discovery) , declaring war against all non-Christians throughout the world, and sanctioning and promoting the conquest, colonization, and exploitation of non-Christian nations and their territories . “Under various theological and legal doctrines ... non-Christians were considered enemies of the Catholic faith and ... less than human. Pope Nicholas directed King Alfonso to ‘capture, vanquish, and subdue the Saracens, pagans, and other enemies of Christ,’ to ‘put them into perpetual slavery,’ and ‘to take all their possessions and property’.”
1526	Spanish brought what might have been the first enslaved Africans to what became the United States, establishing a settlement in the area now known as South Carolina. “Those Africans launched a rebellion in November of [1526] and effectively destroyed the Spanish settlers’ ability to sustain the settlement, which they abandoned a year later” (Smithsonian).
16 th C – 19 th C	Native American land stolen by European immigrants. Native Americans forced to move west. 95-98 percent of all Native Americans are killed through warfare, starvation, and disease . The 2 percent -5 percent of Native Americans still alive were forced to live on “reservations.”
1823	Supreme Court rules Indians can occupy land in United States but not hold title to those lands.
1830	Andrew Jackson proposes, and Congress passes, Indian Removal Act .
1619-1880	Slavery lays foundation for US economic development , benefitting both north and south. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Capital and infrastructure extracted from the souls, sweat, and blood of enslaved African Americans” → US economy that supersedes Great Britain’s in 1880. • 59% of US exports = cotton produced by slaves • Market value of enslaved population in 1860 = seven times the value of all currency circulating in US → owners can borrow against the people they enslave to raise capital, similar to how homeowners mortgage their homes to buy those homes, invest in education, etc.. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Businesses established and goods made using people in bondage as collateral.” ▪ Banks and Ivy league universities use human collateral to create new money with loans • Slavery-produced cotton provided the export surplus the young nation desperately needed to gain its financial “sea legs.” brought commercial ascendancy to New York City, was the driving force for territorial expansion in the Old Southwest, and fostered trade between Europe and the United States.
1860	BIA establishes first Indian boarding school on Yakima Indian Reservation . Goal of schools is assimilation into European descendants’ society by “ Killing the Indian to Save the Man. ” Tens of thousands of Indians are forced to leave home and family to attend boarding schools.
1861-1865- today	Civil War frees enslaved African-Americans who are then indentured under Jim Crow laws backed up by an exemption to emancipation which allows incarcerated individuals to be enslaved. KKK and public lynching is used to block efforts by African Americans to organize.

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1933	Homeowners Loan Act creates Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) to prevent defaults, foreclosures, and increase construction of new homes. By 1934 one in five mortgages is owned by the HOLC. HOLC creates “residential security maps” to assess property values and redlines communities in which “negroes” own homes and then denies loans to those families because of reduced or unstable property values created by the maps and the negroes’ presence.
1935	Title VI of the Social Security Act— Aid to Dependent Children (later renamed Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC)—is passed.
1944	GI Bill creates loan programs and subsidies for education to help returning vets accumulate wealth through home ownership and enhanced job skills. Redlining and school segregation prevents African-Americans from benefitting from these publically funded programs.
1945-1960	Federal government terminates more than 100 Native American Tribes and small bands through policy created to eliminate reservations and force Native Americans to assimilate.
1954	Brown v Board of Education requires public schools be integrated
1955	Montgomery Bus Boycott
1963	Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. leads first March on Washington , organized by Quaker Bayard Rustin.
1964	Economic Opportunity Act passed
1965	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting Rights Act passed • Medicare and Medicaid created
1968	Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King assassinated . Poor People’s Campaign organized to support “ a radical redistribution of economic and political power, ” Fair Housing Act passed.
1978	Supreme Court Ruling –Bakke— limits use of affirmative action, focuses on diversity.
1980-2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State incarceration rates for drug crimes increase tenfold, federal drug prison population increases by a factor of 20. • “1 in 10 black men in their thirties are in prison or jail on any given day. American Indian youth are three times as likely as white youth to be held in a juvenile detention center.” • “While people of color make up 30 percent of the US population they make up 60 percent of those in prison.”
1996	Welfare Reform repeals AFDC to create Temporary Aid to Needy Families program, and reduces assistance to the poor so that today (2018) only 23 percent of poor receive assistance, compared with 75 percent of the poor under previous programs.
2010	Corporate influence in elections is increased when the Supreme Court repeals 2002 campaign finance reform though its Citizens United ruling. Independent spending increases 2,500 percent.
2013	Supreme Court Ruling repeals major sections of the Voting Rights Act
2017	Tax Reform bill passes that is predicted to “deepen racism and inequality.” Top 10 percent get 52 percent of the cuts created; Bottom 90 percent get only 49 percent.
2018	A new Poor People’s Campaign is initiated, including a March on Washington

Ta-Nehisi Coates asserts categories of black and white are structured by dysfunctional dreams and escapes created by racecraft. Coates writes, “We name the hated strangers and are thus confirmed in [our] tribe,” and he challenges us to “break all dreams,” by getting to know people we perceive as different, or “outside our tribe,” in order to identify the porous nature of the boundaries that divide us. Coates envisions “a declaration of equality rooted not in better angels or intangible spirit but in the sanctity of the black body” and invites us to join him (“Between The World And Me”, 2015).

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Today	Continued structural impacts of systemic racism on people today		
	RISKY INFANCY Infant deaths/1,000 live births	CHALLENGING CHILDHOOD Share or % of children under 18 living in poverty, 2018	GRADUATION GAP Graduation rate-%-for public high school students 2014-15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----4 White-----5 Hispanic-----5 Black-----11 Native American----8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----12 White-----12 Hispanic-----32 Black-----36 Native American ---35 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----90 White-----88 Hispanic-----76 Black-----75 Native American---65
	DEGREES FOR SOME Rate-%-of 18-24 year olds enrolled in college, 2015	EARNINGS GAP Median hourly wage in dollars, workers with a higher education, 2015	UNEVEN EMPLOYMENT Unemployment rate, annual average-%-, 2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----63 White-----42 Hispanic-----37 Black-----35 Native American---23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----31 White-----28 Hispanic-----24 Black-----24 Native American----- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----4 White-----4 Hispanic-----6 Black-----8 Native American---12
	LIVING WITHOUT INSURANCE Uninsured Rate-%-, 2016	HEALTH STRUGGLES Prevalence of diagnosed diabetes in adults, 2013-2015	RENTING vs OWNING Homeownership Rate-%-, 2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----8 White-----6 Hispanic-----16 Black-----11 Native American---16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----8 White-----7 Hispanic-----11 Black-----13 Native American---16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----55 White-----72 Hispanic-----46 Black-----42 Native American---53
	UNEQUAL RETIREMENT Share with private-employer sponsored coverage-%-, 2014	DISPARATE LIFE SPANS Life expectancy at birth in years, 2015	DISPARATE INCARCERATON % US General Population vs % US Prison Population, 2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----48 White-----57 Hispanic-----34 Black-----50 Native American----- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----87 White-----79 Hispanic-----82 Black-----75 Native American ---77 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian 5% v -1% White 64% v 39% Hispanic 9% v 18% Black 12% v 40% Native Amer. 1% v -2%
	DISPARATE INCARCERATON People, by race, incarcerated /100,000 in US, 2016		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asian-----55 White-----274 Hispanic-----857 Black-----1,609 Native American - 537 		In 2013, if you were black, you were 3.6 x (3.6 times) more likely than white people to be in prison
All data is from " National Geographic ;" April, 2018, unless otherwise linked.			