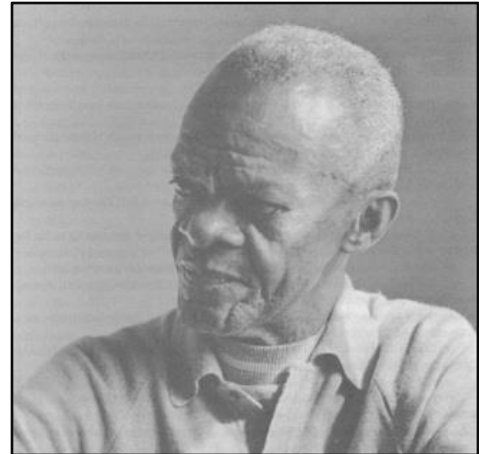


Dunbar Barrington wrote the following in 1968:

Friends who have experienced love in the fellowship of the "gathered community" can demonstrate to the wider community what love can do in the following ways:

1. We need to nurture the Inner Light-the source of the phenomenal power of eighteenth-century Quakers. "Quaker Power" can be as effective as "Black Power" in speeding up revolutionary changes.
2. We need to listen in love to the black people of America and to submit ourselves to the violence of their words and actions if we are to identify truly with their anguish and despair.
3. We need to understand, to encourage, and to support the thrust of black people to achieve self-identity and power by sharing in the control of institutions in the community that affect their welfare and destiny.
4. We must invest our resources-money and skill-to provide incentives for black people to develop and control economic, political, and social structures in the community.
5. We must support the passage of antipoverty legislation leading to programs that will remedy the deplorable economic and social conditions existing in urban ghettos.
6. We must oppose racial injustice wherever it is practiced: In the neighborhood where we live, in our places of business, and in our contacts with the wider community.
("Friends Journal," Sept 15, 1968, p. 460; also quoted in McDaniel & Julye, "Fit For Freedom Not For Friendship: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice")



Dunbar Barrington (1901-1978)



Vanessa Julye
[Quaker Speak video 2014](#)

Vanessa Julye wrote: I would add [to Dunbar Barrington's list] that we must oppose racial injustice in the Religious Society of Friends as well.

Stop taking whiteness for granted. Make whiteness visible. Think about what it means to be European American. Acknowledge that whiteness does not symbolize normality and that it is associated with unearned privilege. Begin to think of whiteness in racial and cultural terms. ...

Acknowledge and dispel stereotypes about African Americans. Examine information that exists in order to discern these stereotypes.

Dredge up the embedded, irrational fears and emotions attached to these images. Let go of those fears and negative feelings, and replace stereotypes with realistic information.

Develop or increase your knowledge of the African American experience in the United States of America by reading our history, watching programs or movies dealing with racial issues, and perhaps taking courses in the subject. Participate in workshops, discussions, conferences, and other activities that promote racial justice.

Widen your circle of Friends. Get to know people of African descent. If there are none in your workplace, in your school, or in your meeting, join a group such as the local chapter of the NAACP. Begin attending the meetings of groups that deal with African American issues. Establish a trusting, confiding relationship where you interact with each other outside these settings.

Talk about racism, but know that addressing the issue is highly emotional and difficult. Listen to each other. Be committed to hearing each other accurately. Repeat what you heard being said to be sure you have heard it accurately. Be sure to stay with a dispute when it arises until clearness is reached.

Promote racially inclusive collaboration within your community and your meeting. Raise your racial consciousness by educating yourself, your family, your classmates, and your meeting on racial issues. Encourage introspection. Actively work within your community to expand opportunity and access for individuals of African descent. Take action in addressing racial reconciliation at all levels of society and government. Continually adjust your goals and practices to keep pace with changing local needs and racial demographics.

Let us begin to identify and separate the aspects of Quakerism that are not related to the core of our beliefs, the nonessential Eurocentric practices that have become attached to the way we practice our faith. Once they are removed we, people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds working together, can rebuild Quakerism and the world into an equal and peaceful home.

Racial awareness is not static. It is a process. We all are someplace in this process, and everyone benefits when we grow. So, get involved (McDaniel, Donna and Julye, Vanessa; Quaker Press of Friends General Conference, Philadelphia, 2009, pp.395-397).