


Dismantling Structural
Racism:
*Advocacy in the age of
COVID 19!*

July 9, 2020





*How we can continue to do the
Lord's ministry in this new
reality?*



Video:
*"What to the
Poor is the 4th
of July?"*

“Social Justice Advocacy has been defined as organized efforts aimed at influencing public attitudes, policies, and laws to create a more socially just society guided by the vision of human rights that may include awareness of socio-economic inequities, protection of social rights as well as racial identity, experiences of oppression, and spirituality”
(from Penn State Educational Equity)

What is Advocacy?



Advocacy is
"Speaking Up"
and
"Standing With"



Racism
Prejudice + Power = Racism



Individual Racism

Face-to-face or covert actions toward a person that intentionally express prejudice, hate or bias based on race.





Microaggressions

Regularly occurring racial slights that accumulate and make a person feel marginalized

White Privilege



White privilege is an invisible package of unearned assets which I can count on cashing in every day which advantages whites while disadvantaging people of color."

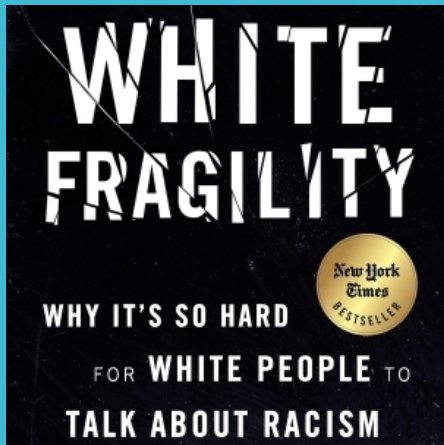
(Source: Peggy Macintosh, "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack.")

White privilege, or "historically accumulated white privilege," refers to whites' historical and contemporary advantages in access to quality education, decent jobs and livable wages, homeownership, retirement benefits, wealth and so on.

- White privilege is both a legacy and a cause of racism.
 - White privilege should be viewed as a built-in advantage, separate from one's level of income or effort.

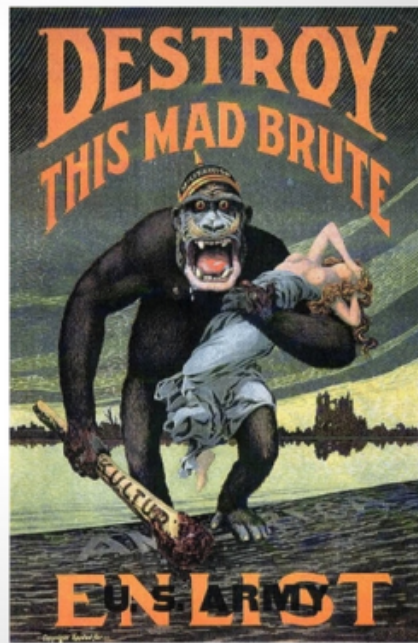
Teaching Tolerance

White Fragility



White Fragility - the negative emotional reaction some whites have when racism is called to their attention by people of color

Implicit Bias



Thoughts and feelings are “implicit” if we are unaware of them or mistaken about their nature. We have a bias when, rather than being neutral, we have a preference for (or aversion to) a person or group of people... attitudes towards people or associate stereotypes with them without our conscious knowledge. (Perception Institute)

Ultimately, we believe our decision are consistent with our conscious beliefs, when in fact, our unconscious is running the show!

Hidden biases operating largely under the scope of human consciousness influence the way that we see and treat others, even when we are determined to be fair and objective.

Bias plays a role in the day-to-day functioning of all human beings.

Kirwan Institute / www.KirwanInstitute.osu.edu



Rules,
Practices and
Customs *once*
rooted in law
with
discriminatory
impact



Dismantling systemic racism means looking at systems that reproduce racism, law enforcement, real estate, health, education, employment, etc.

Structural Racism

**Structural
Racism
is a Public
Health Crisis**

A system in which public policies, institutional practices and cultural representations perpetuate racial inequity with privileges associated with “whiteness” and disadvantages associated with “color” which have endured and adapted over time. It places worth values on people based on skin color.

Aspen Institute

<https://www.aspeninstitute.org/blog-posts/structural-racism-definition/>

Institutional Racism: The policies and practices within and across institutions that, intentionally or not, produce outcomes that favor whites. Racism within social and governmental institutions that block people of color from the distribution of resources in a systematic way and benefits whites

BLACKS ARE SHOWN
**18% FEWER
HOMES &
4% FEWER
RENTAL UNITS** THAN WHITES.

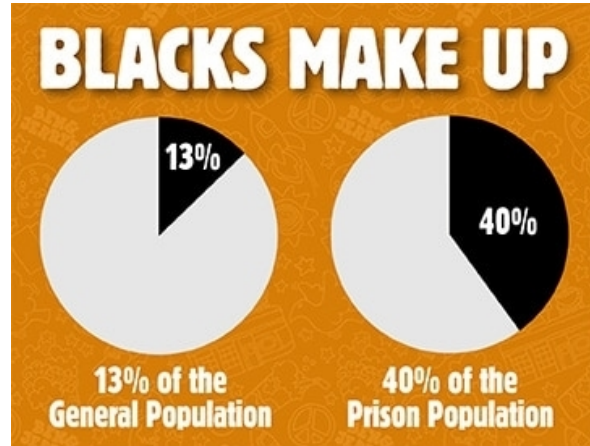


ONE STUDY FOUND THAT
67%
OF DOCTORS
HAVE A BIAS AGAINST
AFRICAN-AMERICAN PATIENTS.

BLACK DRIVERS ARE
30%
MORE LIKELY
TO BE PULLED OVER.

BLACK STUDENTS ARE
3X
MORE LIKELY THAN WHITE STUDENTS
TO BE SUSPENDED
FOR THE SAME INFRACTIONS.

AFRICAN-AMERICANS ARE
2X
AS LIKELY TO BE
UNEMPLOYED.



Environmental | Racism

Environmental Racism Is Nothing New

Race is the most significant predictor of a person living near contaminated air, water, or soil.

56%

of the population near toxic waste sites are people of color.



THE
Nation
150
INVESTIGATING PROGRESS SINCE 1865

People of color:

Have seen

95%

of their claims against polluters denied by the EPA.

Have

38%

higher nitrogen-dioxide exposure.

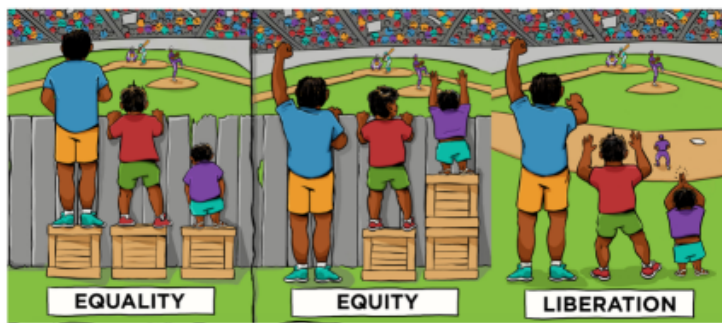
Are

2x

more likely to live without potable water and modern sanitation.



Racial Equity



Racial Equity refers to what a genuinely *non-racist society* would look like. In a racially equitable society, the distribution of society's benefits and burdens would not be skewed by race.

Racial equity holds society to a higher standard and demands that we focus not just on individual-level discrimination, but overall social outcomes.

Aspen Institute

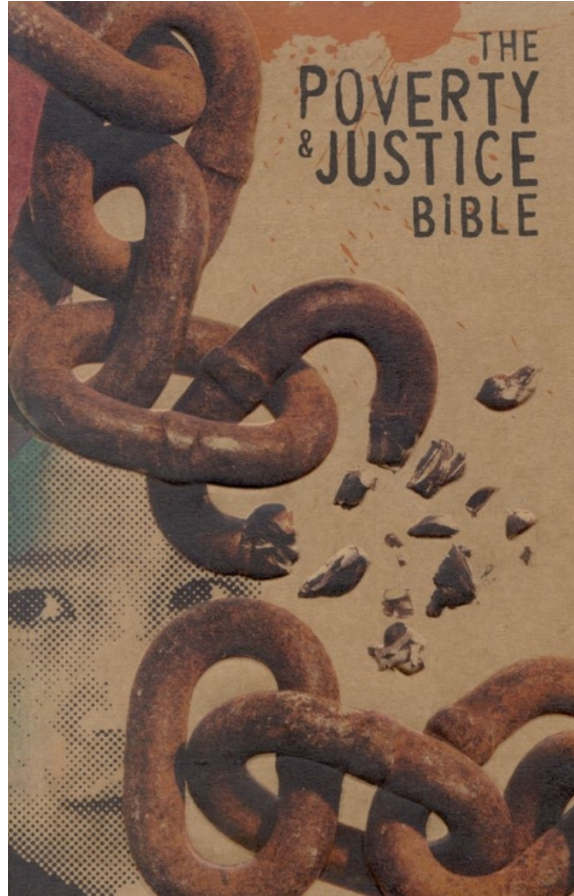
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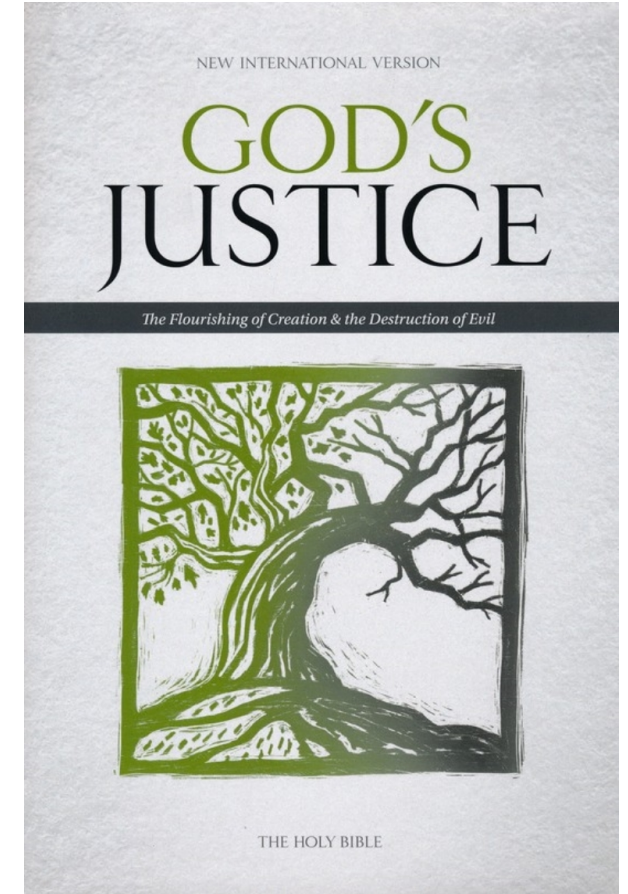
Resources

Jesus and Justice Advocacy

Contemporary English Version
2009



Zondervan Publishing
2016





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Da
20



A large audience is seated in a conference room, facing a stage. The room is dimly lit, with the primary light source coming from the stage area. The audience members are mostly seen from the back, and they are seated in rows of chairs. The stage features several large projection screens displaying a presentation. The overall atmosphere is professional and focused.

2020

**Ecumenical Advocacy
Days (EAD)**

April 24 - 27, 2020

**THE
HILL**

Roll Call

Daily

COVID AT THE MARGINS
A Discussion Series by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**BLACK COMMUNITIES' EXPERIENCE
WITH COVID-19**

Monday, May 11 | 12:30 pm ET

Watch at facebook.com/PCUSAWashington



**MASS POOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY &
MORAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON
IS GOING DIGITAL!**

JUNE 20, 2020

www.June2020.org



**FIGHT
POVERTY
NOT
POOR**

**REPAIRERS
OF THE BREACH**

Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

KAIROS
THE CENTER FOR
MULTIPLIPLYING
MORAL, SPIRITUAL,
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Webinars





Presbyterian Church (USA)



from

Lament to Hope

Lamentations 5:20-21

Highlights of actions of the 224th General Assembly (2020)

Elona Street-Stewart and the Rev. Gregory Bentley were elected Saturday to be co-moderators of the 224th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Presbyterians Today



Presbyterians
Today



Presbyterian News Service

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<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/newsletter-subscribe/>

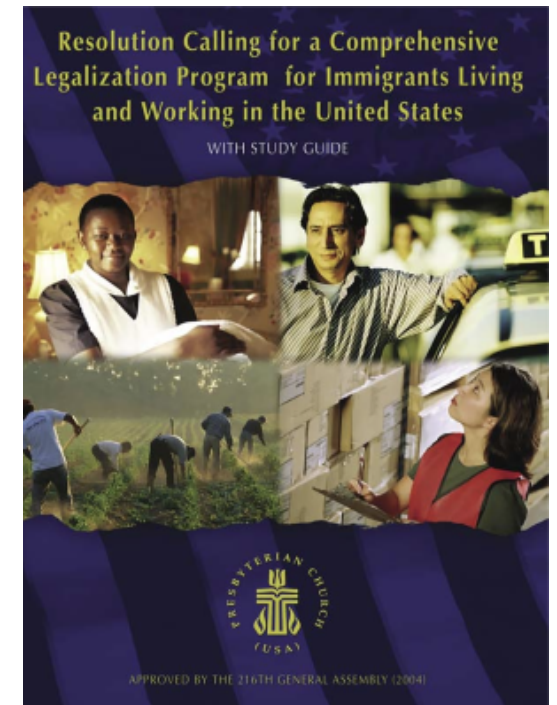
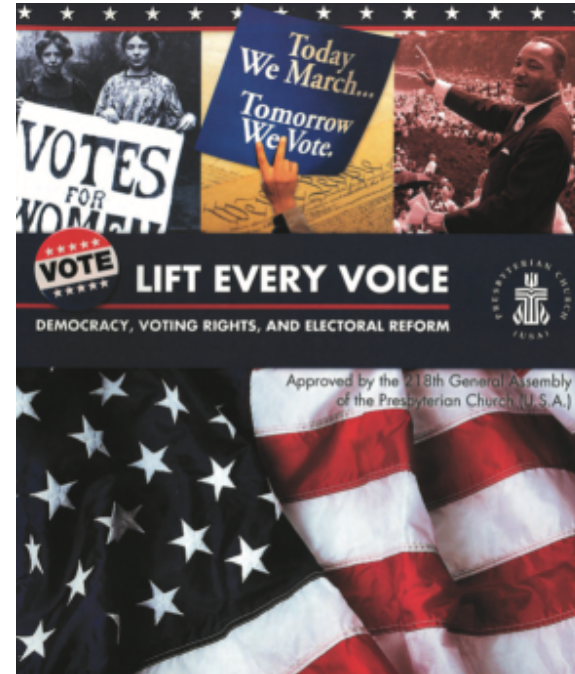
Presbyterian Social Witness Policy Statements

<https://www.Presbyterianmission.Org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/acswp/topics/>

For a comprehensive thumb drive of social policies since 1983, please write ACSWP@PCUSA.org.

Thumb drive compilations are sold at cost (\$5).

- [Advisory committee on social witness policy agenda summary \(2014 to 2016\)](#)
- [Social creed for the 21st century: connecting to the creed \(2008\)](#)
- [Why and how the church makes social policy witness \(1993\)](#)
- [Gun violence, gospel values: mobilizing in response to god's call \(2010\)](#)
- [Resolution against torture: human rights in a time of terrorism \(2006\)](#)
- [Resolution calling for the abolition of for-profit private prisons \(2003\)](#)
- [Resolution on restorative justice \(2002\)](#)
- [Resolution on international criminal court \(1999\)](#)
- [Moratorium on capital punishment \(2000\)](#)





PC(USA) Resources

Racial Justice Resources

<https://www.pcusa.org/racial-justice-resources/>

All resources are from PC(USA) agencies unless otherwise noted.

Statements from the PC(USA)

Worship Resources

Policy Statements

Recommended Books

Study, Training and Discussion Materials

Articles



An initiative to highlight and strengthen local and national efforts by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to facilitate change and communicate God's love.

The project builds upon the grassroots, community work congregations, mid councils, and the national office are already doing; and dovetails with the biennial General Assembly gathering.

Building congregational vitality

by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.

Dismantling structural racism

by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.

Eradicating systemic poverty

by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.



MATTHEW 25

"FREEDOM RISING"



"TAKING SPECIFIC ACTION TO ADDRESS THE WORSENING PLIGHT OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE"

222nd General Assembly (2016) - Portland Oregon

THIS INITIATIVE WILL PILOT IN FIVE CITIES:

NEW YORK, PITTSBURGH, CLEVELAND, CHARLOTTE, AND BALTIMORE.

THE RESPONSE, WORKING WITH PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES IN EACH CITY, WILL OFFER SUPPORT, DEVELOPMENT, AND HEALING IN EACH CITY.

THE ACTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SET A GOAL OF \$5 MILLION TO FUND THE PILOT INITIATIVES



*BLACK WOMAN /
GIRL'S INITIATIVE*

**223rd General Assembly
(2018)**

St. Louis, Missouri



ELIMINATE CASH BAIL “THE BAIL PROJECT”



States

Alaska / Arizona / California / Maryland / New Jersey / New York

Cities

Washington DC / Durham NC / Jackson, MI / New Orleans, LA / Philadelphia, PA

The Supreme Court ruled in *Bearden v. Georgia* in 1983 that the Constitution prohibits “punishing a person for his poverty”

Senators Kamala Harris (D-CA) and Rand Paul (R-KY) introduced the “*Pretrial Integrity and Safety Act*” to overhaul bail across the nation (2017)

July 2018 Sen. Bernie Sanders introduced the “*No Money Bail Act*”



Social Media

What is Digital Advocacy?

Digital advocacy describes efforts to mobilize constituents to participate in political advocacy through the use of technology



Online meetings, conferences, calls



Congress Plus Advocacy (subscription)

<https://thesoftedge.com>

Congress Plus Advocacy is a cloud-based solution which helps small to large political organizations connect with lawmakers in congress, track state/federal legislation, enable advocacy, and run multiple campaigns. It allows users to send targeted..

Key Features

- Advocate Management
- Legislation Tracking
- Petition Management
- Political Advocacy
- Rewards Program





ACLU App to Record Police Conduct

Crowdvoice

- The application collects crucial on-the-ground evidence on various social justice issues worldwide news on human rights violations rarely covered by mainstream media

Message

Advocates can send an email, fax or letter to their legislators.

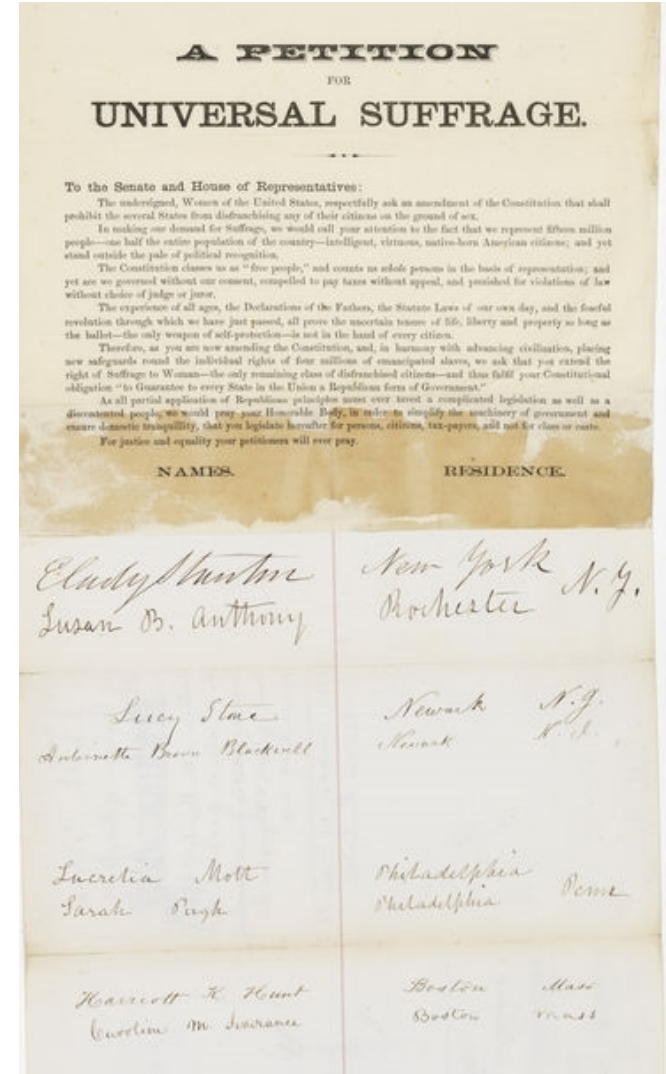


Petition Software:

1. iPetitions
2. The Petition Site
3. Go Petition
4. Act.ly (Twitter-based petition site)
5. Online Petition
6. Google Docs
7. Petition Online

Sign a Petition

Mobilize your advocates to sign a petition.





Tweet
lawmakers
directly

Organize a
Tweetstorm

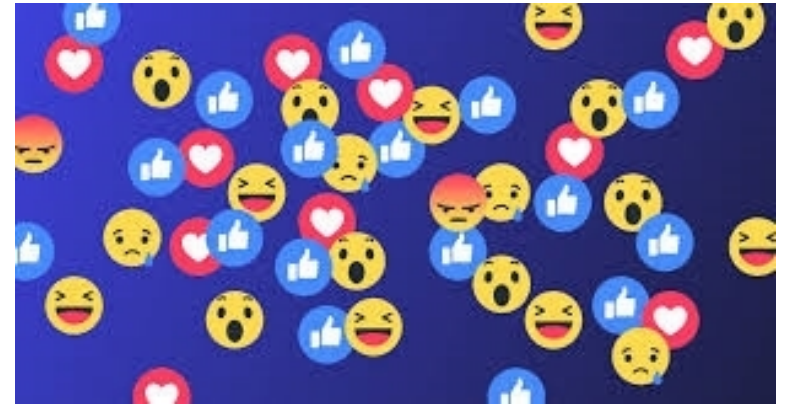


Learn how to set up a Facebook page for a cause. “FB Social Good”

Sign-up to use Facebook charitable giving tools.

Nonprofits using Facebook’s payment platform to process donations pay no fee — 100% of the donations go to the charity.

Facilitate posting a comment to a legislator’s wall. Advocates can share with friends at the same time.



Letter to the Editor

Advocates can send a pre-crafted message to local media based on their zip code.

VOTE 2020
2020 VOTE



“Johnson Amendment”

**Voter Education
Precinct Worker
Fight Voter Suppression
PC(USA) “Lift Every Voice”**

Utilize Apps
which do
online
advocacy