Resources for White Allies

National: SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice)

Communities across the nation are rising up to defend Black life and demand a new world. Welcome to SURJ - will you join with us in giving to grow the work and build organizing in these critical weeks and months ahead? Our country invests billions each year in corrupt systems of policing. Police departments are the largest expense for nearly every local municipality. This arrangement requires a racist lie sold to white people: that we are safer when corrupt and abusive policing and incarceration systems decimate Black communities and communities of color.

At SURJ, we refuse to believe this lie. We know that all of our communities are safer when we move our resources away from the police and invest in healthcare, housing, and schools.

In organizing around the demand to invest in Black and communities of color, and defund policing, we join alongside local leaders on the ground in Minneapolis and the Movement for Black Lives who are fighting for a better world for all of us.

This week, we asked you to join us in taking action. Tens of thousands of you have answered the call. This week alone, over 7,000 people from all 50 states and 20 countries committed to public #endwhitesilence actions, and over 2,000 people are signed up this Thursday to phone bank calling white voters in Georgia to flip the state and help unseat our white supremacist president.

Can you make a split gift today to SURJ and the Movement for Black Lives?

Trump, the GOP and the corporate elites are working overtime to ensure that white people’s solidarity stays in staunch support of the police and whiteness, not with Black people and in defense of Black life. They are on the news, on social media shaping how white people interpret what’s happening. It is our work to fight like hell to make sure they are not successful and that we bring more people who are waking up right now into the fight for racial justice.

Will you join us in taking action this week? Read and share 5 Ways White People Can Take Action in Response to White and State Sanctioned Violence. Check out the demands from the Movement for Black Lives. Share both and encourage a friend, family member or organization to take action with you.

We are bringing white people into organizing for racial justice in majority-white communities to shift the balance of power toward justice in this country. With support from the community of SURJ donors, SURJ is training people in organizing skills so that mass mobilizations grow into in-depth organizing to fundamentally change the inequality and injustice of our systems of economics and governance. This requires more people engaged, thousands of people phone banking and recruiting their networks, and deep long term organizing strategy.

Will you make a split gift today to SURJ and the Movement for Black Lives to help us bring more people into our movement?

Let’s keep doing everything we can to defend Black lives, defund the police and transform this broken world.

In solidarity,

Erin Heaney, SURJ National Director

SURJ is a 501c4 organization, doing political, advocacy and lobbying work, therefore your gifts are not tax deductible. If you prefer to give to a 501c3 nonprofit organization, please visit our sister organization, SURJ Education Fund.
Local: AWARE LA

- For personal self-reflection that leads to a nuanced understanding of one’s relationship to race, check out the book, *Witnessing Whiteness*, and even better, join this discussion series to more fully engage with the issues addressed in the book.

**Witnessing Whiteness Online Discussion Series**

Trusted, skilled white anti-racist colleagues will be co-facilitating a 10-week dialogue series based on the reading of *Witnessing Whiteness, 2nd Edition*. A “train-the-trainers” component will also be available for those who wish to experience the series and then implement it in their home community.

**Dates:** Sundays, June 14th – August 16th

**Times:** 10-Noon PST --- Noon-2 CST --- 1-3PM EST

**Cost:** $150 (full rate) with sliding scale available based on need

Interested? [Fill out this survey](#) (to ask questions and/or receive registration link)

- For ongoing support and learning, join monthly dialogues with other anti-racist white people who are striving to keep learning, taking responsibility, and turning their good intentions into action.
  - Local to LA – [Join AWARE-LA Saturday Dialogues](#) (currently online)
  - Nationwide – [Join AWARE-LA Online Sunday Dialogues](#)

- For a monthly set of informational resources, sign up for this monthly newsletter. Check out the current [June 2020 issue](#) and subscribe if you want to receive resources like this each month.

- For practical help talking to other white people, check out the [White Ally Toolkit](#).

Many of you are receiving an update about AWARE-LA Saturday Dialogues for the first time. We're so glad to have you here!

Saturday Dialogues are hosted by a group of white anti-racist organizers who volunteer to hold space for white folks grappling with our complicity in racism and our white supremacist conditioning.

One of these anti-racism dialogues is hosted most Saturdays. Feel free to join whichever Saturday session fits your schedule. Each week’s dialogue is led by residents of a different Los Angeles County neighborhood, but we’ll continue to host dialogues on Zoom as long as we are sheltering in place and limiting our exposure to crowds.

A dialogue on the 3rd Sunday of every month is also available, and it will continue to be hosted on Zoom when the four Saturday Dialogue groups return to meeting in person. (Please note that Online Sunday Dialogues have a different registration process. Continue to check your emails from us for more details.)

You are welcome to attend any of the five monthly dialogues that suit your schedule. You must register for each individual dialogue you want to attend. We will send you reminder emails with registration links to the dialogue spaces you selected each month. You can register now for Saturday Dialogues by clicking the links below. Space is limited, so not everyone who registers will be able to attend. If your registration is approved, we will email you with a link to the dialogue via Zoom Video Conferencing.

We look forward to seeing you online soon!

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AWARE-LA

Upcoming Saturday Dialogues...
Westside Saturday Dialogue - AT CAPACITY

Date & Time: Saturday, June 6, 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Details: Registration for Westside Saturday Dialogue is closed. Please check out one of our other spaces in the coming weeks, or join us next month.

Encino Saturday Dialogue

Date & Time: Saturday, June 13, 10:30am - 1:00pm (**New folks, please arrive at 10am for orientation**)

Location: Online via Zoom Video Conferencing (REGISTER HERE)

Details: In light of recent events - it’s important to process systemic racism, the unique role we play in this fight for justice AND check our own white fragility and the white fragility of friends and family.

What is “white fragility”?

Using Robin DiAngelo’s 2018 book as a launching board, we’ll discuss what white fragility is, and how it manifests around us and in our personal lives. We’ll also discuss how to respond to it, and how we ourselves can learn to become more durable (if you will) as white people who are dedicated to combat racism.

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Alliance of White Anti-Racists Everywhere - Los Angeles (AWARE-LA)
PRINT AND MEDIA RESOURCES

Books recommended by Carrie Saettermoe

Jacqueline Battalora, Birth of a White Nation: The invention of white people and its relevance today
Robin DiAngelo, What does it Mean to be white? Developing white literacy
Robin DiAngelo, White Fragility
Joe R. Feagin, The White Racial Frame: Centuries of racial framing and counter-framing
White Rage, Catherine
Ibram X. Kendi, Stamped from the Beginning: The definitive history of racist ideas in America
Ijeoma Oluo, So you want to talk about race

On the lighter side

Justin Simien, Dear white People: A guide to inter-racial harmony in “post-racial” America
Anastasia Higginbotham, Not my idea: A book about whiteness (for children)

Critical Education books

Ana M. Martinez-Aleman, Brian Pusser, & Estela Mara Bensimon, Critical approaches to the Study of Higher Education: A practical introduction
Estela Mara Bensimon & Lindsey Malcolm, Confronting Equity Issues on Campus

Short film about “What is systemic racism?”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrHIQIO_bdQ&feature=youtu.be

Resources recommended by Lissa Stapleton in Deaf Studies

Educational Documentaries and Videos
• “13” directed by Ava DuVernay on Netflix
• “When They See Us” also directed by Ava DuVernay on Netflix

Recommended Reading List
• “From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation” by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor
• “The New Jim Crow” by Michelle Alexander
• “Unapologetic: A Black, Queer, and Feminist mandate for Radical Movements” by Charlene A. Carruthers
• “How We Get Free: Black Feminism and the Combahee River Collective” by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor

https://www.elle.com/culture/books/g32687973/black-history-books-reading-list/
The last few weeks, and really, the last few centuries, have been exhausting for Black Americans. The violent cycle goes: trauma —> invisibilization —> normalization —> repeat.

https://www.elle.com

28 Essential Books About Race and Racism
From Audre Lorde’s groundbreaking essays to Ibram X. Kendi’s guide to being antiracist, these books are a great resource for understanding why people are protesting right now.

https://www.buzzfeednews.com

Racism Scale - Home
This racism scale was created in July 2017 by C Demnowicz after repeated conversations on social media showed a need for a visual method of explaining the many levels of racism in the US. It was created from the perspective of one white woman to another white woman, to help her recognize patterns of thought, speech and behavior that created a ...

https://racismscale.weebly.com

Anti-racism resources from Will Garrow

Teaching Tolerance and Developing your Identify as an Ally

For Parents: NY Times article and list of books to talk about race and racism with children

https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/ariannarebolini/george-floyd-amy-cooper-antiracist-books-reading-resources?fbclid=IwAR1NbeJznJ58t0aTjYi8aFxIOWEeCi7NCG9g7hDD7v4SsSxu-Ddhurmm

https://28essentialbooksaboutraceandracism

Racism Scale - Home
https://racismscale.weebly.com

Anti-racism resources from Will Garrow
https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1BRlF2_zhNe865GgHa6-VIBO-QgIrITwCTugSfKie5Fs/mobilebasic

Teaching Tolerance and Developing your Identify as an Ally
https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/summer-2016/toolkit-for-anatomy-of-an-ally

For Parents: NY Times article and list of books to talk about race and racism with children