

# Whites & Race Unity: A New Normal

## Some Quotations, Questions, Readings & Resources on Race

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### From the Bahá'í Faith

(1) “World order can be founded only on an unshakeable consciousness of the oneness of mankind, a spiritual truth which all the human sciences confirm.”  
(*The Universal House of Justice, Promise World Peace, 1985*)

(2) “...the rational soul has no gender, race, ethnicity or class, a fact that renders intolerable all forms of prejudice...” (*The Universal House of Justice, letter to the Bahá'í community in Iran, 2 March 2013*)

(3) “As to racial prejudice, the corrosion of which, for well-nigh a century, has bitten into the fiber, and attacked the whole social structure of American society, it should be regarded as constituting the most vital and challenging issue confronting the Baha'i community at the present stage of its evolution.” (*Shoghi Effendi: Advent of Divine Justice, 1938, p. 33-4*)

(4) “A tremendous effort is required by both races... Let the white make a supreme effort... to abandon once for all their usually inherent and at times subconscious sense of superiority, to correct their tendency towards revealing a patronizing attitude towards the members of the other race, to persuade them through their intimate, spontaneous and informal association with them of the genuineness of their friendship and the sincerity of their intentions, and to master their impatience of any lack of responsiveness on the part of a people who have received, for so long a period, such grievous and slow-healing wounds.” (*Shoghi Effendi: ADJ: p. 39-41*)



### What Can White People Do?

1. Educate yourself
2. See whiteness through the eyes of people of color
3. Speak the truth
4. Examine your everyday language
5. Build meaningful relationships
6. Interrupt oppression
7. Educate your own children
8. Engage in community building and service activities with people of different backgrounds
9. Make an action plan
10. Be open to feedback
11. Get comfortable with being uncomfortable
12. Persevere

#### Implicit Attitude Test

Test yourself for hidden bias

<https://implicit.harvard.edu>

#### Black-Owned Businesses

To find a business in your area:

[www.supportblackowned.com](http://www.supportblackowned.com)

## Books

- ❖ [\*A People's History of the United States\*](#), Howard Zinn
- ❖ [\*Between the World and Me\*](#), Ta-Nehisi Coates
- ❖ [\*How to Be an Anti-Racist\*](#), Ibram X. Kendi
- ❖ [\*Lies My Teacher Told Me\*](#), James Lowen
- ❖ [\*Racist America: Roots, Realities and Reparations\*](#), Joe Feagin
- ❖ [\*Seeing Heaven in the Face of Black Men\*](#), Tod Ewing
- ❖ [\*The New Jim Crow\*](#), Michelle Alexander
- ❖ [\*Two Nations: Black and White\*](#), Andrew Hacker
- ❖ [\*Waking Up White\*](#), Debby Irving
- ❖ [\*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?\*](#) Beverly Daniel Tatum

## Articles

- ❖ [\*21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge\*](#), Debby Irving
- ❖ [\*Constructive Conversations on Race: Activity Guide\*](#), Randie Gottlieb
- ❖ [\*Forging a Path to Racial Justice\*](#), Bahá'ís of the United States
- ❖ [\*Guidelines for Being Strong White Allies\*](#), Paul Kivel
- ❖ [\*Moving Beyond Diversity Toward Racial Equity\*](#), Ben Hecht
- ❖ [\*Race Relations\*](#): library of articles, from enslavement to Black Lives Matter
- ❖ [\*When black people are in pain, white people just join book clubs\*](#), Tre Johnson
- ❖ [\*White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack\*](#), Peggy McIntosh
- ❖ [\*You Asked, I Answered: 7 Difficult Questions About Racism\*](#), Shola Richards

## Videos

- ❖ [\*A Class Divided: Brown Eyes, Blue Eyes\*](#), Jane Elliott
- ❖ [\*Freeing Ourselves of the Stain of Racism\*](#), Masud Olufani
- ❖ [\*NY Times Op-Docs series\*](#), enter “conversations on race” in the search box
- ❖ [\*Race: The Power of an Illusion\*](#), three-part film series by California Newsreel

## Teaching Children about Race

- ❖ [\*Awesome Library\*](#), multicultural resources for parents and teachers
- ❖ [\*Teaching Tolerance\*](#), classroom resources to support anti-bias activism
- ❖ [\*Teaching Unity Toolkit\*](#), & colorful [\*PowerPoints\*](#) for kids, Randie Gottlieb
- ❖ [\*The Colors We Are/Todos los colores de nuestra piel\*](#), Katie Kissinger
- ❖ [\*The Sneetches\*](#), Dr. Seuss (Note: there has been some controversy over the author's personal views on race, but his book remains a useful tool.)

