

SEIZING THE MOMENT: TEACHING RACE & RACISM TODAY

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BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS: SEEKING JUSTICE



BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS: CLAIMING THE PRESENT



BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS: RE-CLAIMING THE PAST



BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS: LARGEST IN US HISTORY

(NYT, JULY 3, 2020)

Poll	Pct. who protested	Implied population	Polling period
<u>Kaiser Family Foundation</u> (n=1296)	10%	26 million	June 8-14
<u>Civis Analytics</u> (4446)	9%	23 million	June 12-22
<u>N.O.R.C.</u> (1310)	7%	18 million	June 11-15
<u>Pew</u> (9654)	6%	15 million	June 4-10

RACE ISN'T REAL!

- Biologically meaningless
- Socially meaningful
- Culturally relevant
- Avoid the colorblind trap

BUT RACISM IS REAL!

- Personal: Prejudicial beliefs and behaviors
- Structural: Prejudice embedded in systems and structures

AMERICA'S DNA

- Racism

Colonialism + Slavery + Jim Crow = 350 years

Criminal Justice (War on Drugs + Mass Incarceration)= 50 years

RACE & RACISM AS “HARD HISTORY”

- Hard to think about
- Hard to talk about
- Hard to teach about
- Hard to learn about

USUAL RESPONSE TO HARD HISTORY

- Historical Amnesia
- Rationalize Evil
- Create False Narratives

WHAT TO DO?

- Teach history
- Teach truth
- Teach resistance
- Teach today

HOW TO DO IT? 7 “B’s” TO TEACHING RACE AND RACISM

- Be Clear – Language counts
- Be Positive – Combat stereotypes
- Be Open – Start where students are
- Be Personal – Share YOUR story
- Be Explicit – Personal vs structural
- Be Intentional - Scaffolding
- Be Proactive – Community Engagement

THANK YOU!

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