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Quick News & Links:

[Anti-Racism Resources available from CityMatCH.](#)

[Free online training on systemic racism and health equity.](#)

[Resources from the Anti-Racism Project.](#)

[97 things white people can do for racial justice.](#)

[Having an event? Send us the details to post on the MCC Calendar of Events page!](#)

[MCC Calendar of Events](#)

Racism and Health

American Public Health Association

"Racism is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources."

- APHA Past-President Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD

"We need to change things so that we value all people equally." (APHA's Georges Benjamin on PBS News Hour)

Racism structures opportunity and assigns value based on how a person looks. The result: conditions that unfairly advantage some and unfairly disadvantage others. Racism hurts the health of our nation by preventing some people the opportunity to attain their highest level of health.

Racism may be intentional or unintentional. It operates at various levels in society. Racism is a driving force of the social determinants of health (like housing, education and employment) and is a barrier to [health equity](#).

To achieve health equity and create the [Healthiest Nation in One Generation](#), we must address injustices caused by racism. We must support actions at all levels to ensure equal opportunity for all.

How do we do that? Through racial healing (to find more on social media search for #RxRacialHealing). That means using a healing and heart-centered approach to get rid of the false belief that any people are superior to others based on their skin color.

[Racism is an ongoing public health crisis that needs our attention now](#)

[APHA calls out police violence as a public health crisis](#)



The Impact of Racism on the Health and Well-being of the Nation

American Public Health Association

Stigma, inequalities, and civil rights injustices remain in our society today. Unfortunately, skin color plays a large part in how people are viewed, valued, and treated. We know that racism, both intentional and unintentional, affects the health and well-being of individuals and communities and stifles the opportunity of many to contribute fully to the future and growth of this nation. Join the leadership of the American Public Health Association in a webinar series about racism's impact on health and disparities.

[The Impact of Racism on the Health and Well-Being of the Nation: A Webinar Guide](#) (PDF) provides a summary of each webinar in the series, speaker presentations and resources mentioned. These webinars provide a foundation on racism as a public health issue. We encourage review of the series before viewing the [Advancing Racial Equity webinar series](#).

Racial Equity Tools Glossary

Words and their multiple uses reflect the tremendous diversity that characterizes our society. Indeed, universally agreed upon language on issues relating to racism is nonexistent. Even the most frequently used words in any discussion on race can easily cause confusion, which leads to controversy and hostility. It is essential to achieve some degree of shared understanding, particularly when using the most common terms. In this way, the quality of dialogue and discourse on race can be enhanced. Language can be used deliberately to engage and support community anti-racism coalitions and initiatives, or to inflame and divide them.

Discussing definitions can engage and support coalitions. However, it is important for groups to decide the extent to which they must have consensus and where it is okay for people to disagree. It is also helpful to keep in mind that the words people use to discuss power, privilege, racism, and oppression hold different meanings for different people. For instance, people at different stages of developing an analysis tend to attach different meanings to words like discrimination, privilege, and institutional racism. Furthermore, when people are talking about privilege or racism, the words they use often come with emotions and assumptions that are not spoken.

Many of the terms in the [Racial Equity Glossary](#) have evolved over time. For example, given the changing demographic trends in the United States, the word “minority” no longer accurately reflects the four primary racial/ethnic groups. The terms “emerging majority” and “people of color” have become popular substitutes. Also, the terms used to refer to members of each community of color have changed over time. Whether to use the terms African American or Black, Hispanic American, Latinx or Latino, Native American or American Indian, and Pacific Islander or Asian American depends on a variety of conditions, including your intended audiences’ geographic location, age, generation, and, sometimes, political orientation.

You can download a pdf version of the glossary here:

https://www.racialequitytools.org/resourcefiles/RET_Glossary_Updated_October_2019_.pdf.



True Justice Available to Watch Online

Equal Justice Initiative

True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality follows 30 years of Equal Justice Initiative's (EJI) work on behalf of the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. The film won the [National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications's 26th annual Vision Award](#) and has been [nominated for a Peabody Award](#).

Told primarily in his own words, *True Justice* shares Bryan Stevenson's experience with a criminal justice system that "treats you better if you're rich and guilty than if you're poor and innocent." The burden of facing this system is explored in candid interviews with associates, close family members, and clients.

This feature documentary focuses on Bryan Stevenson's indictment of the U.S. criminal justice system for its role in codifying modern systemic racism—and tracks the intertwined histories of slavery, lynching, segregation, and mass incarceration. Highlighting watershed moments involving cases and clients, *True Justice* offers a rare glimpse into the human struggle that is required when the poor and people of color are wrongly condemned or unfairly sentenced and explores the personal toll it takes.

The film chronicles EJI's work in Alabama as well as the early influences that drove Bryan Stevenson to become an advocate for the poor and the incarcerated. As a young lawyer in the 1980s, he witnessed firsthand how courts unfairly applied the death penalty based on race and how the Supreme Court ultimately declared that racial bias in the administration of the death penalty was "inevitable."

Tracing the trajectory of the Court since the 1857 *Dred Scott* decision, which ruled that African Americans are not citizens, *True Justice* shows how the Court has long sanctioned inequality, oppression, and violence. Illuminating the power of memory in cultural change, the film instills hope for a brighter American future.

The film also documents the monumental opening of EJI's Legacy Museum and its National Memorial for Peace and Justice, which is dedicated to the more than 4,400 African American victims of lynching. These sites are part of EJI's effort to engage the nation in a new era of truth and justice. As part of the campaign, EJI is working with communities to recognize lynching victims by collecting soil from lynching sites and erecting historical markers.

To watch the film visit the [Equal Justice Initiative website](#).

2020 MCC Meetings

2020 Board Meetings:
Wednesday, September 23

2020 Annual Meeting:
Thursday, October 29 – **Virtual Meeting!**