

The UNtraining

SOME RECOMMENDED READING

There are many good writings on race and racism, and more and more on the subject of white privilege and white identity. Here are some that are used in the UNtraining work.

Beyond the Whiteness of Whiteness by Jane Lazarre

Written by a white Jewish American woman whose husband is African American. As she raises her two sons, she begins to realize the progressive/liberal attitudes she's grown up with are not sufficient for dealing with the fact that her children are regarded as black by society and she is losing her ability to communicate with them. A moving account of her struggle to untrain her white conditioning so she can be there for her sons.

“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Backpack” article by Peggy McIntosh, associate director of the Wellesley Collage Center for Research on Women.

A classic. Lists lots of privileges and gets white people thinking about the privilege they have. Available many places online.

Learning to Be White: Money, Race and God in America by Thandeka

In order to have sustained exertion toward antiracism, you have to have a sense of the cost of racism to you as a white person. The first part of this book is similar material to “The Cost of Whiteness,” an article by Thandeka published in *Tikkun*, May/June 1999 , <http://www.tikkun.org/magazine> (Tikkun archives is available with \$10 subscription).

“Why are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?” and Other Conversations about Race by Beverly Daniel Tatum

A Psychologist Explains the Development of Racial Identity. A very good book that provides basic language to talk about race.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America by Ronald Takaki

Understanding history is critical to understanding issues of race today. This book offers a very different perspective from the American history you probably learned in school.

Lies My Teacher Told Me by James W. Lowen

A fascinating look at how U.S. history textbooks perpetuate myths about the story of America and its heroes.

White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son, by Tim Wise

Powerful, personal stories and straight talk about white privilege, the depth of cultural conditioning, and the costs of “whiteness” to white people.