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# AGENDA ITEM 3 DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

#### **December Meeting Minutes**

# AB 3121 TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND DEVELOP REPARATIONS PROPOSALS FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS

# MEETING MINUTES December 7, 2021, 9:00 A.M. https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121

The meeting of the Task Force was conducted via Blue Jeans video and telephone conference at <a href="https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/bdgzebhd">https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/bdgzebhd</a>.

**Members Present:** Chairperson Kamilah V. Moore, Vice Chair Dr. Amos Brown, Senator Steven Bradford, Dr. Cheryl Grills, Lisa Holder, Dr. Jovan Scott-Lewis, Don Tamaki, Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Monica Montgomery-Steppe.

#### 1. Chairperson Welcome

Chairperson Moore welcomed everyone to day one of the December AB 3121 hearing and opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish quorum. Parliamentarian Dorothea Johnson called the roll. Members, present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Montgomery-Steppe, Member Tamaki. Five members are needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

Chair Moore opened the meeting by giving a background on AB 3121, discussing previous meetings, and summarizing the agenda for the December meeting. Chair Moore then moved to public comment.

#### 2. Public Comment

Aisha Martin-Walton provided directions for public comment. There were approximately 16 comments. Public comment was put on hold by Chair Moore pending additional commenters requesting to speak. Chair Moore announced that the Task Force would return to public comment after the next agenda item. A summary of the Public Comments follows; Public Comments reflected individuals, community organizations, business and education in support of reparations. They advised Task force members about the multitude in gaps between freedmen and others; legislation to prohibit government funding in schools and that attempted to stop Bruce Beach. One commenter wanted to know how a Reparations Task Force could be started in other states, and that Reparations should consider, farming, land and climate change. Numerous commenters thanked the Task Force for its work and appearances at local events. An announcement of an ETM Media Group Event on Reparations December 15, 2021 in Los Angeles was made. The chat function was requested to be turned on and it was requested that people be allowed to call in. Commenters wanted the Task Force to discuss the issue of eligibility and to invite Dean Chemerinsky of UC Berkeley to share his thoughts that lineage, not race should be considered when discussing eligibility. One commenter shared that California eligibility should be discussed and the harm to the descendants of chattel slavery. One commenter advised that the Task Force look at reparation programs in Detroit and that the Task Force should invite Shawn Rochester, author of "The Black Tax: The Cost of Being Black in America" to speak at a meeting. One commenter advised the Task Force about the Charles Drew Medical University (CDU) in Los Angeles, the only historically

Black graduate institution west of Texas and which produces the vast majority of Black physicians in California. The school is en-joined with UCLA who gets the credit for the diversity at CDU. CDU would like to gain autonomy from UCLA and received \$50 million from the CA legislative Black Caucus to begin this effort. The commenter advised that the vision for Reparations could help this effort. One commenter emphasized equity, access and protection equals lineage based reparations. Reparations should include business ownership strategies and community outreach.

#### 3. Action Item: Approval of October 12-13 Meeting Minutes

Chair Moore called for a motion to approve the October Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION:** Member Grills moved to approve the October 2021 Meeting Minutes as corrected. It was Seconded by Member Tamaki.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: Member Jones-Sawyer and Member Bradford requested that the minutes be amended to show them as present. They were attempting to sign in when the roll was called. They also suggested that late arrivals be announced as they come in so that the board will know they are present. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson indicated that members were counted as they arrived and she agreed to coordinate with the Chair to make announcements as members arrive. There were no other questions or comments.

AYES: Chair Moore, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Scott-Lewis, Member

Jones- Sawyer, Member Steppe, Member Tamaki

NAYS: 0

**NOT VOTING**: Vice Chair Brown **ABSENTION**: No abstentions

The vote was 8 members voting Aye, one-member not voting. The motion passed and the October 12 and 13, 2021 meeting minutes were adopted as corrected.

#### 4. Witness Panel #1: Infrastructure

Chair Moore introduced each panelist prior, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

#### a. Expert Testimony: Dr. Joseph Gibbons

Dr. Gibbons is an urban sociologist interested in how neighborhoods affect the well-being of their residents. His research centers on how forces of ethnic racial inequality in the form of residential segregation and gentrification affect individual health and healthy behaviors. Community.

Dr. Gibbons discussed the impacts of Redlining introduced in the Federal Government's 1930's New Deal which detailed the criteria for investment and characterized Black neighborhoods as high-risk investments thereby adversely influencing the character and financial growth of those communities. As a result of Government Redlining, Black communities were not given the home financing support other communities were given

creating a substantial land wealth gap compared to other Non-Black neighborhoods. Now these same communities are attractive for gentrification and Government should take direct action to help Blacks directly and historically impacted.

#### b. Expert Testimony: Dr. Bruce Appleyard

Dr. Bruce Appleyard is an Associate Professor of City Planning and Urban Design at San Diego State University (SDSU) where he helps people and agencies make more informed decisions about how we live, work, and thrive. Working at the intersection of transport, land use, and urban design, he is an author of numerous peer-reviewed and professional articles to help practitioners form policies and practices toward achieving a range of sustainability, livability, and social equity objectives. He has expertise in the future of transport, street redesign for bicyclists, pedestrians and livability, climate action planning, smart growth implementation, transit-oriented-development around station & along corridors, and social equity analysis.

Dr. Appleyard discussed the inequities and discrimination against Black people that occurred from Redlining and described it as the following seven harms. 1) Being barred from mortgage assistance, 2) The building of highways through their communities, 3) The displacement through eminent domain, 4) Being forbidden from buying homes in White suburbs, 5) Being less served by the bus transit authority thereby restricting mobility, 6) Being vulnerable to police and traffic violence, and 7) Being over represented in the homeless population. These seven harms effectively created a form of American Apartheid that must be corrected. Dr. Appleyard also stated that high speed railways were also constructed to connect Non-Black neighborhoods and thereby bypassing Black neighborhoods. Dr. Appleyard offered reparations proposal ideas for these seven harms, including rezoning areas to allow starter homes, tear down highways and run them underground, banks should change policies to facilitate financing for home ownership and government should create anti-displacement programs for Black neighborhoods attracting gentrification.

#### c. Expert Testimony: Dr. Deborah Archer

Dr. Deborah Archer is a professor of Clinical Law and Co-Faculty Director of the Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU School of Law and president of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Deborah is a leading expert in civil rights, civil liberties, and racial justice. She is an award-winning teacher and legal scholar whose articles have appeared in leading law reviews. Deborah has also offered commentary for numerous media outlets, including MSNBC, National Public Radio, CBS, Monocle, The Atlantic, and The New York Times.

Dr. Archer stated that the system of slavery is the foundation of racial inequality. She also discussed how the planned, developed, and deployed construction of highways and byways through, and around Black communities were designed by government to create walls, wedges, and barriers that would isolate and limit access to jobs, healthcare, and opportunities for Black families. She recommended corrections including direct payments for home and businesses that were lost or taken from them or taken for little compensation. Invest in those communities, remove or recess highways and try to weave communities back together and ensure these communities are not targeted again in the future.

#### d. Expert Testimony: Dr. Isaac Martin

Dr. Isaac Martin is a professor of Urban Studies and Planning at the University of California – San Diego. His mentorship of graduate and undergraduate students has been honored with four teaching awards at the University of California – San Diego. He is the author of numerous books and articles on such topics as housing policy, municipal taxation, and the political economy of inequality. His research has been covered on NPR and in the New Yorker and the Washington Post. His books have won awards from the American Sociological Association, the Pacific Sociological Association, and the Social Science History Association

Dr. Martin discussed the aspects of federally funded Housing Acts that created Urban Renewal projects in the 1930's and 1950's and the Community Redevelopment Law of 1951 in California that created Redevelopment Agencies to condemn and redevelop property. The purpose was to remake cities. These statutes, policies and projects had enduring adverse effects on Black communities thereby contributing to racial inequalities. Many of these redevelopment projects (i.e., the construction of freeway extensions such as Filmore, West Oakland, and the Nimitz Freeway) occurred in Black communities and caused the demolition of housing, schools, parks, and businesses. As a result of these projects, thousands of Blacks were displaced losing their homes and businesses. The property was not replaced on a one-to-one bases and the communities targeted were low income, Black and displaced. These harms were not in the distant past and should be corrected.

#### **Task Force Comments and Questions**

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121">https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121</a>.

#### 5. Lunch

#### 6. The Meeting Reconvened

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish a quorum. Parliamentarian Johnson called roll.

Chair Moore, Member Dr. Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Dr. Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe, and Member Tamaki were all present. Seven members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established. Chair Moore resumed the meeting.

# 7. Witness Panel #2: Community of Reparations and Consideration of Economics Expert Darrick Hamilton Scope of Work; Review, Discussion, and possible Action Item

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

#### a. Testimony: Dr. Eric Miller

DR. ERIC MILLER is law professor at Loyola Law School where he teaches and writes about criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence law, and race and the law. He is interested in problem solving courts including drug courts, the law and sociology of policing, and reparations. His work includes developing national and local litigation and legislation strategies seeking reparations on behalf of the descendants of enslaved people and of victims of Jim Crow segregation and racial violence. In particular, he has worked for 20 years seeking reparations for the victims of the Tulsa race massacre, as well as being briefly involved with some of the lawyers representing the Georgetown 272 Descendants movement, seeking justice for the descendants of people enslaved and sold by Georgetown University.

Dr. Eric Miller discussed some of the aspects of research and requirements for establishing a case for entitlement that would pass Constitutional scrutiny and would help to prevent legal obstacles. He advised that this work effort should specifically include identifying who is liable and who is eligible using the premise of civil rights (Anti-discrimination laws), tax laws, and public nuisances that result in direct discrimination. He recommended that the Task Force try to identify the organizations, institutions and individuals who carried out the acts of racial oppression and identify their victims. Many are still around. Also, if the state is shown to be a passive participant in the wrongdoing by allowing the act to happen, then it can be held legally accountable. Reparations is a wrong-based remedy.

Chair Moore requested a roll call. Parliamentarian Johnson called the roll. Chair Moore, Member Holder, Member Grills, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, and Member Scott Lewis. Six members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established. Chair Moore resumed the meeting.

#### b. Testimony: Dr. Darrick Hamilton

Dr. Darrick Hamilton has a track record of innovative thought leadership and policy advocacy on issues including public investment, asset-building, wealth, and income generation; jobs and employment; health and family care; democracy and civic engagement; housing; and

creativity, culture, and the arts. In 2021 Dr. Hamilton has provided strategic advisory support to leading institutions ranging from the Detroit, MI-based Kresge Foundation to the Silicon Valley-based Omidyar Network. He serves as an appointed member of the New York City Racial Justice Commission. In 2021, Dr. Darrick Hamilton has provided expert testimony to important policymaking bodies including the U.S. Senate Banking Committee, the Joint Economic Committee, and the House Progressive Caucus. Dr. Hamilton is a university professor, Henry Cohen Professor of Economics and Urban Policy, and founding director of the Institute on Race, Power, and Political Economy at The New School. Mr. Hamilton was invited to share his scope of work in his contract with DOJ to provide a framework to assist the Task force in defining eligibility.

Dr. Hamilton stated in his community of eligibility discussion, that Whites have been privileged by government, land, and resources. Dr. Hamilton outlined and discussed the four basic categories of Reparation payments, they are: Cash, Assets, Institutions, and a combination of the above three. He advised that the original scope of work under his contract would require more time, resources and more engagement of specificity to dine it more coherently.

#### **Task Force Comments and Questions**

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121">https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121</a>

#### 8. Witness Panel #3: Gentrification and Homelessness

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony.

#### a. Expert Testimony: Brandon Greene

BRANDON GREENE is the Racial and Economic Justice Program Director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California. In this capacity, Mr. Greene provides programmatic vision and leadership for advancing racial and economic justice in the state. He previously managed the Civic Design Lab in Oakland and was an attorney and clinical supervisor at the East Bay Community Law Center, where he helped create and lead the decriminalization of poverty clinic. His recent articles "Too Rich to be Poor: The Hypocrisy of Indigency Determinations" and "Mirror, Mirror: Anti Blackness and Lawyering as an Identity" were published in the Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law and the Harvard Black Letter Law Journal, respectively. His article "Depraved Necessities: Prison Privatization, Educational Attainment and the Path to Profit" was published in 2013 by SRBLSA Law Journal.

Brandon Greene's presentation focused on the homelessness in the Black community. Mr. Greene stated that based on a recent study, 30 -50% of all unhoused are Black. Even though the population rates of Blacks are in the lower percentiles of major California cities, the

unhoused percentage is extremely high. Throughout California, statistics indicate a disproportionate number of blacks are homeless because they are victims of unfair treatment including higher percentages of incarceration.

#### b. Expert Testimony: Pete White

Pete White was unavailable

#### c. Expert Testimony: Darrell Owens

Darrell Owens is a housing and transportation activist from Berkeley, California. Owens works at California YIMBY, a nonprofit focused on reforming land use laws, as a data and policy analyst. He has been extensively featured in national publications like the New York Times and the Atlantic for leading the movement to remove police from traffic enforcement. His work in building neighborhood support for housing with East Bay for Everyone, a prohousing nonprofit based out of Oakland, California, has been heralded by the National Low Income Housing Coalition and UC Berkeley's Othering and Belonging Institute.

Darrell Owens Discussed the issues of gentrification causing the decline of Black housing ownership. Due to foreclosures, assessors under valuing Black property, and unfair lending practices, Blacks are being locked out of home ownership and are being forced to leave California in search of affordable housing and a sustainable way of life.

#### d. Expert Testimony: Zerita Jones

Zerita Jones is a native of Los Angeles, and proud matriarch of her family. She is the co-founder of her local LA Tenants Union where she hosts "Renters Rights" workshops. Zerita is also on the steering committee of End Homeless Now Campaign and founded a tenant's association of 425 units in her apartment unit to fight back.

Zerita Jones provided insight into the housing crisis faced by Blacks due to higher rates of evictions based on unfair practices and discrimination by landlords. Some practices involved evicting Black tenants through the court system long after they have moved out leaving evictions on their credit history jeopardizing future credit checks. This ultimately disqualifies them from renting. In many instances, when Blacks are paroled, from incarceration, they are not allowed to return to the rental properties where their families still reside and are typically forced into homelessness.

#### e. Expert Testimony: Damien Goodmon

Damien Goodmon is the Founder and Executive Director of the nonprofit Crenshaw Subway Coalition ("CSC"). As the successor organization to the Citizens' Campaign to Fix the Expo Rail Line, CSC seeks to empower stakeholder groups in the area of Crenshaw-Leimert Park-Hyde Park and highlight the issues of equitable and community-centered planning and development in the pursuit of racial and economic justice for South Los Angeles. As a result of the organization's efforts, over \$1.5 billion additional dollars have been invested in the mass transit infrastructure of Southwest Los Angeles, including the Leimert Park Village and Farmdale stations and the Crenshaw-LAX light rail line.

Damien Goodman opened his discussion by sharing his family heritage as a direct descendant of Colonel Allensworth of the historical Allensworth Settlement. Damien's plight for racial and economic justice for Blacks centers around land being the basis for freedom, justice, equality, and power. Damien stated that the Rent Gap created by hostile takeovers by white banks, foreign investors, Flippers, and AirBNBs is the root cause of gentrification of Black neighborhoods. This in turn makes housing unaffordable for existing Black residents forcing displacement from their homes and communities and in many cases eventual homelessness.

#### **Task Force Comments and Questions**

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121">https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121</a>

#### 9. Break (10 minutes)

#### **Meeting Reconvened**

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish a quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the roll. Members present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki. Five members are needed for a quorum, there were 8 members present and a quorum was established.

#### 10. Discussion and Vote on Report Outlines; Review, Discussion and Possible Action item

Chair Moore provided an overview of the process they will use to review and vote on authorizing DOJ to proceed with the drafting of the Report. Chair Moore stated as a prelude, she would read an overview of each section individually prior to the discussion of the applicable section. Once all sections have been reviewed by the Task Force, a motion for a vote will be entertained.

#### Section 1 Slavery

After much discussion, the Task Force agreed that it is important to use terms that are more exact and truth telling. The report should use words that clearly maximize the understanding of the cruelty and deceit that occurred from an economical and psychological perspective throughout Black history. Chair Moore entertained a motion to establish an advisory committee to develop a language guide which would be incorporated into the report.

**MOTION**: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force create an Advisory Committee of two members to develop a language guide or dictionary to incorporate into the Report. The motion was seconded by Member Bradford.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: Chair Moore agreed to lead this work effort. Member Jones-Sawyer agreed to also serve on this advisory committee. Parliamentarian Johnson called the roll for the vote.

**AYES**: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki.

**NAY**: 0

**NOT VOTING**: Member Montgomery-Steppe

The vote 8 to zero. The motion passes.

#### **Section 2** Racial Violence

No Changes -

#### **Section 3** Political Participation

No Changes –

#### **Section 4** Housing

Task Force members suggested this section could also benefit from using more popular words that are descriptive and easily recognizable that will clearly define the issues, (i.e., Block Busting) This work effort will be included in the Advisory committee's Language Guide.

#### **Section 5 Environment**

No changes -

#### **Section 6** Education

The Task Force suggested including references and information from "The Education of Blacks in the South 1860-1935" by James D. Anderson. Specifically, to include some of the impacts of the Great Migration. The Task Force also recommended this section include information on the misalignment between the cultural and ethnic backgrounds of the teacher versus the student and the deficiency in the curriculum. Another suggestion was to discuss the continued disparities of Black and White students as it relates to expulsion and suspension rates as well as the adultification of Black girls in school and the push out path for Black boys and girls from school to the prison pipeline.

#### Section 7 Health

The Task Force would like to separate Public Health from Mental Health. The mental health aspect should address the generational terror, trauma, and horror of racial oppression.

#### **Section 8** Family

No Changes

#### **Section 9** Arts Culture, and Entertainment

The Task Force would like to include information on the impacts of the Capitalization of Black Culture by various industries including the anti-black narrative and stereotypes as it relates to reparations. This section should also include a discussion on the issues of copyright laws and the impacts of the right to ownership of creative work by Black Americans.

#### Section 10 Labor

No Changes

#### **Section 11** Criminal Justice System

No changes

#### **Section 12** Wealth Accumulation

The Task Force noted that there is a standalone section for Black women in the report. They would like to see a standalone section for Black men as well. They would also like to see incarceration addressed because it can directly affect employment.

#### **Summary Statements**

The entire Task Force commends DOJ for the extraordinary and comprehensive work done on the Report. Member Tamaki advised that the report connects the dots between past racism and its current consequences.

Chair Moore called for a motion to approve the outline and to authorize DOJ to proceed with drafting of the Report.

#### **MOTION:**

Member Tamaki moved that the Task Force approve the outlines and to authorize DOJ to proceed with a drafting of the Report. Member Scott Lewis Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called on Parliamentarian Johnson to call roll for the vote.

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-

Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki

ABSTAIN: 0 NAYS: 0

**NOT PRESENT**: Member Bradford, Member Montgomery-Steppe (2)

7 members present and voting, 7 Ayes

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero against.

#### 11. Department of Justice Updates; Information and Possible Action Items

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Attorney Michael Newman for the DOJ update.

Attorney Newman thanked the Task Force for the review and approval for DOJ to proceed with the draft of the report. Attorney Michael Newman then announced that the DOJ updates will be discussed in length at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. He did preview that some of the items up for discussion would include conflict of Interest codes, contracts and contract process requirements as well as implementing the Bagley-Keene procedure rules related to meetings. The shift from remote to in person meetings, meeting on Saturdays, and the addition of a January meeting on health. He reminded the Task Force members that their comments today would be folded into the draft report. He also mentioned that the cost of shifting from remote to in person may require an appropriation or budget change proposal. Attorney Newman agreed to take any new questions from the Tasks Force for overnight consideration to be added to the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### 12. Public Chat Function; Review and Possible Action Item

Chair Moore requested DOJ Attorney Michael Newman to provide some background on the Public Chat function that could be used during the Task Force meetings going forward.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman provided the technical aspects of the Public Chat Function within the Blue Jeans platform. Public Chat is supported by Blue Jeans; however, it cannot be moderated once it is turned on.

Chair Moore opened the discussion to the Task Force to determine whether or not Members want the Public Chat Function to remain disabled. Task Force members expressed various concerns of the public Chat function, i.e., the inability to moderate against harmful or disrespectful language, questions and comments could cause a distraction from the meeting, Task Force members may be less focused on the immediate business issues and speakers, announcements should be voiced at the beginning of each meeting reminding the public that harmful language is not condoned. Chair Moore reminded everyone that the Public Chat function would no longer be needed after the January meeting because starting in February all meetings will be in person. Because the overall consensus of the Task Force is to always be transparent, Chair Moore took a poll to determine if a motion was in order. The poll rendered all 6 members present would approve a motion to restore the Chat Function in Blue Jeans. Chair Moore then called for the motion.

**MOTION:** Member Grills moved to reopen the Chat for the remainder of the December meeting and the January meeting. The motion was Seconded by Vice Chair Brown. Chair Moore called **for Discussion**: Chair Moore added that communication should made to the public that the Task Force does not condone any harmful or disrespectful language.

Parliamentarian Johnson called for the vote:

AYES: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones

Sawyer, Member Tamaki

ABSTENTION: 0 NAYS: 0

NOT PRESENT: Member Bradford, Member Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery Steppe

Six members were present and voting. The vote was six members voting Aye, zero members Abstaining, zero members voting Nay, 3 members not present

The motion passed with six votes in support and 0 votes against.

#### 13. Recess until December 8, at 9:00am

The December 7th Task force meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM by Chair Moore.

#### December 8, 2021, 9:00 A.M.

14. Chairperson Kamilah Moore reconvened the meeting at 9:00am and welcomed everyone to day two of the December AB 3121 hearing and opened the meeting just after 9:00am.

Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to establish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called the roll. Members present were Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe, Member Tamaki

Five members were needed for a quorum, there were 9 members present and a quorum was established.

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Aisha Martin-Walton for the Public Comment.

#### 15. Public Comment

Aisha Martin-Walton gave the instructions for public comment. There were twenty comments from the public. A summary is as follows. A request was made for the Task Force to write a letter to President Biden to sign an Executive order establishing a Commission at the Federal level similar to the Task Force in California. That the Task Force should adopt UC Berkeley Law School's Dean Chemerinsky's advice that reparations be based on lineage and not race in order to withstand a constitutional challenge. That all groups have higher levels of wealth than Freedman/Blacks. There is discrimination in entertainment careers such as business management, entertainment law, financial advisers and talent managers. It was recommended that the Task Force look at hiring and retention, include mandates for promotions to management and executive positions, consider small business loans where having a degree and ten thousand expert hors has as much weight as a credit score. There is discrimination in the media. New forms of media cause people to struggle. Are emails being sent to the Task Force? Hollywood is importing talent from other countries. Create incentives for Hollywood to use American Talent. The 1998 Telecom Act allowed large businesses to swallow small businesses including small radio stations. Just because you are Black does not mean you are entitled to Reparations. Two huge issues are homelessness and incarceration. Hollywood is assassinating the Black family. Regarding eligibility, Dean Chemerinsky is correct to tie reparations to lineage versus race. Engage the community and get them involved. Section 8 Housing. A too high credit score is required (630). There is a back log on inspections required to move into a Section 8 home which means more Black people find themselves shelter. They are glad that the Chat Function has been re-activated. The Task force was invited to the 5<sup>th</sup> Reparations meeting on Saturday December 18 in Los Angeles. Universities discriminate against Black students in sports on college campuses. Look into discrimination in Hollywood unions. Seventy -five Billion will be spent on auto charging stations. Cash and land are top priorities and access to solar energy is important. Amend the mass media Group. There is not support from Film Commission and they are predominately white. Wrong Based Acts should be tied to lineage based eligibility. Don't wait to use your power until the end of the project.

#### 16, Witness Panel #4 Entertainment Arts/Culture and Sports

Chair Moore introduced each panelist, which is described below in the first paragraph preceding their testimony

#### a. Expert Testimony: Arianne Edmonds

Arianne Edmonds is 5th generation Angelino, archivist, curator and founder of the J.L. Edmonds Project, an initiative dedicated to preserving the history and culture of the Black American West. She has curated exhibitions and presented her research about Black history, memory and legacy at cultural institutions like California African American Museum and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Her family archives stretch back to the 1850's and her story as the keeper of her family archives can be found in the New York Times 1619 Project, The Root and LA Weekly. Ms. Edmonds is currently writing her forthcoming book for Oxford University Press, about the American Black press and her family's 20th century newspaper, The Liberator. In 2021, Ms. Edmonds became a Senior Civic Media fellow at USC Annenberg funded by the MacArthur Foundation and appointed one of the newest Commissioners of the Los Angeles Public Library

Arianne Edmonds shared her family history along with documentation spanning over 100 years. She told the moving story of her Great, Great Grandfather, Jefferson L. Edmonds who

had the insight and tools to document his story from slavery to freedom and then looking for a better life, migrated to California. He documented his trials and tribulations through slavery, freedom, racial discrimination, share cropping, passing of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, followed by and voter suppression. Many of his struggles are still in plain sight today. Arianne Edmonds stated that reparations should also be about discovering and preserving our history and our search for true citizenship.

#### b. Expert Testimony: Dr. Darnell Hunt

Dr. Darnell Hunt is Dean of the Division of Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology and African American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Dr. Hunt has written extensively on race and media, including four books and numerous scholarly journal articles and popular magazine articles. He was lead author of UCLA's 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Hollywood Diversity Reports, which provide comprehensive analyses of the employment of women and minorities in front of and behind the camera in film and television. Recently, he has worked as a consultant on film and television projects focusing on sensitive portrayals of race, ethnicity, and other social issues.

Dr. Darnell Hunt discussed some of the history of the Hollywood industry and explained that the industry was born at the height of the Jim Crow era, as a result was structured under the doctrine of white supremacy. Hollywood comes into every living room normalizing and glamorizing the mistreatment of Black Americans. The earliest campaigns and protest from organized groups such as the NAACP centered around the dehumanizing 1915 movie "Birth of a Nation". Blacks have a history of being excluded, under-represented, and underemployed in the Hollywood industry.

#### c. Expert Testimony: Erika Alexander

Erika Alexander is beloved for her iconic acting roles as Maxine Shaw ("Living Single," NAACP Image Awards as Outstanding Actress/Comedy Series), Detective Latoya ("Get Out"), Cousin Pam ("The Cosby Show"), Perenna ("Black Lightning"), Linda Diggs ("Wutang: An American Saga"), Barb Ballard (Run the World), and Meredith Lockhart ("Swimming with Sharks"). Ms. Alexander wears many hats, including actress, trailblazing activist, entrepreneur, creator, producer, and director -- one of the country's boldest, most daring, and powerful voices. As a creator, she recognizes that entertaining stories, when socially conscious and carefully constructed, have the capacity to create impact and meaningful change. As co-founder of Color Farm Media, she is on a mission to bring greater equity, inclusion, and diverse representation to both media and electoral politics.

Erika Alexander discussed the concept of influencing the reparations narrative by storytelling to address systematic racism. She said if you control the narrative, you will control the world. She introduced Master Storytellers for reparations such as Reverend William Barber II, Michael "Killer. Mike" Render, James Foreman, Kathern Brown, Yvette Carnell, and others. Ms. Alexander believes if we can change the narrative to re- create Blacks as human being, we can rebrand Blackness. Reparations is a healing from a nation that has yet to reform, repair, or apologize for its heinous history. Reparations can come in different forms, such as land grants, lotteries, Exemption from taxation, and forgiveness on federal loans.

#### d. Expert Testimony: Dr. Alison R. Jefferson

Dr. Alison R. Jefferson is a historian, heritage conservation consultant and a third generation Californian. She is a 2021-22 Getty Conservation Institute Scholar in Residence. Dr. Jefferson is currently doing research on the historical African American experience and public policies to conserve it in the California Coastal zone of the Venice district in Los Angeles. Her recent book," Living the California Dream": African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era (University of Nebraska Press) was honored with the 2020 Miriam Matthews Ethnic History Award by the Los Angeles City Historical Society for its exceptional contributions to the greater understanding and awareness of regional history.

Dr. Alison Jefferson shared some historical background of discrimination in the Leisure industry along the Southern California coast during the Jim Crow era, Venice, Santa Monica, El Segundo, Huntington Beach and Manhattan Beach had popular beach front properties frequently owned or used by Blacks for recreation and leisure. However, Blacks were often forced out by local and state government. Some of this land stretched along Pico Blvd, 4<sup>th</sup> and Bay and Ocean Ave. The city claimed parts of this land from Blacks citing Imminent Domain and forced Blacks further inland. Bruce's Beach in Manhattan Beach is an example of government pushing Blacks off their own properties. Whites were often granted approval for land development while denying approval to Blacks for these same properties. In these cases, one part of reparations would be Blacks regaining what was previously owned.

#### e. Expert Testimony: Price

PRICE https://www.instagram.com/theprice/is proud to be from the West Coast. Coming up as one-half of rap duo Audio Push, the Inland Empire native is a true visionary when it comes to the art of creating music, having worked with all the industry's biggest names while still pushing his own solo artistry. On top of the music, he finds time to run 5 thriving businesses and still be a great father. PRICE has just released his first solo body of work, CLRD, a history lesson that will inspire black people to trace their history and set confident tracings for the present and future. PRICE's pen has been pushed for many (Travis Scott, Mariah Carrey, etc.) and it's refreshing to see his song making capabilities turn in his own direction.

Price shared his experience growing up in a community of racial discrimination living next to a family of KKK members while at the same time living a just blocks away from a Native American Reservation. This diverse community gave him insight into the benefits and reparations that other races have obtained. Growing-up, Price learned the importance of financial literacy and legacies, as well as the benefits of creating residual income.

#### f. Expert Testimony: Kevin J. Greene

Kevin J. Greene is a professor at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles California. He has also been a practicing attorney representing some iconic clients such as Public Enemy, Eric B and Rakeem, Bobby Brown, and George Clinton.

Professor Greene's testimony focused on racial inequality and discrimination in the music industry. Black artists are still being exploited by the lack of appropriate compensation and credit for creative work done. Existing copyright laws have allowed in the past and is still

allowing businesses and agencies to own and control the creative work of Black artist leaving many penniless while those corporations are still benefiting and earning profits. Professor Greene also stressed the need for a national dialog to change Copyright laws so that equality and full acknowledgement of the contributions Blacks have made to the industry.

#### **Task Force Comments and Questions**

A video of the question-and-answer session followed the witness testimony. The witnesses' written testimony can be found on <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121">https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121</a>

#### 17. Lunch

#### 18. Meeting Reconvened

Chair Moore Reconvened the meeting. Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called roll. Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Montgomery-Steppe were all present. Nine members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

#### 19. Subpoena and Information Request; Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Item

Member Holder and Member Tamaki gave an overview of their investigate work regarding subpoena power of the Task Force. Based on Article 4, Powers, Section 8301-3 states that the Task Force can:

- Hold hearings at any time and location in California.
- Can request attendance and testimony of witnesses
- Can request the production of books, records, correspondence, memoranda, and papers.
- All State agencies shall cooperate with the task force with respect to such information and shall furnish all information requested by the task force to the extent permissible by law.

Member Holder and Member Tamaki also explained the potential challenges the Task Force could face. Such as the time limitation, that at best, 3-6 months will be required to obtain documents. The Task Force ends June 2023 before documents could be received, Also, there may be third party resistance. Agencies providing the documents may not have the staff nor the time to make these request a priority.

Member Holder and Member Tamaki requested the Task Force allow them to continue their research on the practicality of using the subpoena power. Chair Moore called for a motion.

**MOTION:** Member Tamaki moved that the Task Force allow the Advisory Members to continue the exploration and evaluation process to determine whether there is a practical, efficient, and useful means to deploy investigatory tools; and if Advisory Members determine that there is a practical, efficient, and useful means to exercise the investigatory tools, Advisory Member Holder may instruct DOJ to deploy those tools. Member Scott Lewis Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called for **Discussion:** 

Following the discussion, Chair Moore called for Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson to call for the vote:

**AYES**: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Braford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present, 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions

The motion passed with nine votes in support and 0 votes against.

#### 20. Conflict of Interest Code; Review, discussion, and Possible Action Item

DOJ Supervising Deputy Attorney General Sarah Belton gave an overview of AB 3121, Article 5 which outlines the Conflict of Interest code. This code requires a statement form 700 to be completed by all members of the task force. To date all members of the task force have completed form 700 and have been filed with the Fair Political Practice Commission.

Ms. Belton stated that a Conflict of Interest form 700 should be required for all future consultants and new positions. Chair Moore Called for the motion.

**MOTION**: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force adopt the Conflict of Interest code for all future consultants and new positions. Member Bradford Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion.

Chair Moore called for the Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote:

**AYES**: Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Braford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present, 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions

The motion passed with nine votes in support and 0 votes against.

#### 21. Task Force Contracting; Discussion and Possible action Item

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman gave an overview of the contracting process for the Task Force. AB 3121 Article 5 states that the Task Force can authorize DOJ to enter into contracts that have been approved by the Task Force. Currently, there is no way for the Task Force to enter into a contract on their own vote or funding. Per AB 3121, the Task Force must go through DOJ. The contracts that are currently underway are:

- Marnie Campbell: Researching a compendium of racist and discriminatory statutes and regulations.
- Stacy Smith: Drafting the Institution of Slavery report item
- Dr. Darity and Kristen Mullins: Reparations economics experts
- Doreathea Johnson: Task Force Parliamentarian

Mr. Newman further added that if approved by the Task Force, Darrick Hamilton has been selected to research and develop methodologies for allocation of reparations.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman then turned the meeting over to Member Grills to provide an update on

the most notable contract being the Interagency Agreement between UCLA and the Bunche Center as an example of the body of work being facilitated by the task force to support the Community Engagement work effort. Member Grills gave a comprehensive update on the successful implementation thus far of the UCLA and Bunche Center collaboration of work to establish Reparations listening sessions throughout the state. She advised that two communications firms and six anchor organizations were selected by the Bunche Center.

DOJ Attorney Michael Newman answered additional questions from the Task Force. Those questions and answers can be found on video at <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121">https://oag.ca.gov/ab3121</a>

#### 22. Break

Chair Moore Reconvened the meeting. Chair Moore called for a roll call attendance to reestablish quorum. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called roll. Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Montgomery-Steppe were all present. Seven members were present. Five members were needed for a quorum, and a quorum was established.

# 23. Setting Future Meeting dates and Saturday Meeting Dates; Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Item

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to DOJ Attorney Michael Newman. Attorney Newman informed the Task Force that a Doodle Poll had taken and based on the quorum obtained, January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> were selected for meeting dates of the January 2022 Task Force meeting. A quorum was not obtained for Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. There was no quorum obtained for the February and March meetings as well. Because the Task Force will be shifting to public meetings travel availability should also be considered. Attorney Newman also urged the Task Force to determine the desired locations as well as if the upcoming meetings should be one or two days.

Attorney Newman reminded the Task Force that the remaining topics for discussion that were already outlined in the original proposal are:

- Public Health
- History of Policing and the War on Drugs
- Criminal Legal Justice System
- Legal considerations for Reparations
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Compensation
- Exploring Reparations in the form of restitution
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Rehabilitation
- Exploring Reparations in the form of Satisfaction Guaranteed
- Exploring Reparations in the form of non-Repetition

He stated that the Task Force needs to develop a plan to address the topics outlined in original proposal.

- By consensus, the Task Force confirmed the January meeting dates
The January task force meeting will be held the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> as confirmed by the availability determined from the Doodle Poll.

**MOTION**: Vice Chair Brown moved that the Task Force rotate the meetings and make it proportional in terms of location. Member Jones-Sawyer Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion and the question was called by Vice Chair Brown to end the debate. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote on ending the debate.

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The call for the vote to end the debate passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson call the roll for the vote on the Motion.

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore then asked Attorney Newman to resume his report. Attorney Newman stated that beginning in February 2022 meetings will be held in person. Consideration should be given to travel time and the possible reduction of days from 2 days to 1 day.

Based on the discussion around this topic the Task Force decided that an advisory committee should be formed to develop a proposal for restructuring the Task Force meetings of future face-to-face meetings. Chair Moore volunteered to serve and asked if Scott Lewis or Montgomery would consider serving. Member Scott Lewis accepted.

**MOTION:** Chair Moore moved that an advisory committee be formed by Chair Moore and Member Scott Lewis where they will look towards restructuring the public hearing proposal and then presenting a proposal to the Task Force at the January meeting outlining meeting times and locations. Member Tamaki Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for a vote.

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

The Task Force discussed where they might hold the 1<sup>st</sup> in person public meeting that is scheduled for February. San Francisco, Oakland, Allensworth in Tulare County and the California African American Museum in Los Angeles were discussed as locations. Chair Moore asked for a motion.

**MOTION**: Member Bradford moved that the first in person public meeting of the Reparations Task Force for February be conducted in Los Angeles and specifically at the California African American Museum in located in Exposition Park. Vice Chair Brown requested that the first meeting be in San Francisco and recited historical events. **Member Bradford withdrew his motion.** Chair Moore called for a new motion.

**MOTION**: Vice Chair Brown moved that the 1<sup>st</sup> in person public hearing of the Reparations Task Force be held in San Francisco in February 2022. Member Bradford Seconded the motion. Chair Moore called for **Discussion**. Member Jones Sawyer and Member Bradford provided examples of the rich Black history in Los Angeles. Member Tamaki encouraged proper press planning for all meeting. Member Bradford requested a 15 person van tour of meeting cites to share historical significance. Member Jones Sawyer suggested Oakland also be considered. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Brown moved that the 2<sup>nd</sup> in person public task force meeting be held in Los /Angeles. Member Jones-Sawyer Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: Chair Moore recommended that the Task Force look into securing the California African American Museum for the meeting facility. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against.

#### 24. Agenda for Next Hearing: Review, Discussion and Possible Action Item

DOJ Supervising Attorney Michael Newman shared the agenda for the January task force meeting. This meeting will address all aspects of health to include Public Health, Mental Health, and Physical Health. The outstanding issue is whether or not the Task Force wants to revisit the option of changing the meeting dates from January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28 to January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> to include a Saturday session. Chair Moore felt it would be better to leave the meeting dates as is.

Chair Moore moved the next Task Force 2 day meeting will be held on January 27th and 28th. Member Montgomery-Steppe Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion:** There was not discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Johnson had technical difficulty so Ms. Martin-Walton called the roll for the vote.

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Grills, Member Holder, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

There were 9 members present. 9 Ayes 0 Nays

The motion passed with 9 votes in support and zero votes against

#### 25. Unfinished Business: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Items

Dr. Darrick Hamilton was commissioned by the Task Force as an economic expert to develop the requirements for Bill AB-3121, Sub Sections E (Calculation for Reparations) and F (The methodology to use for Reparations' compensation).

Dr. Darrick Hamilton has recently informed the task force that he has decided to narrow his scope of work to Sub Section F only, the methodology to use for Reparations compensation and not Section E, which is doing the actual compensation. He did not have enough time, there were not enough resources in the contract and he was unclear how to tackle the calculations. Member Tamaki asked if you can separate the calculation from the methodology. Two people working on different parts of the contract could present a problem. Member Tamaki asked how much work Dr. Hamilton has done on the contract? Attorney Newman indicated that the contract has not been signed and Dr. Hamilton has therefore not done any reimbursable work. They only work that has been done is discussing the scope of work draft and preparing to discuss the scope before the Task Force. Chair Moore suggested looking to Darity for consideration as an economist who can recruit other economists such as Trayvon Logan. Member Tamaki references calculations in Darity's book 'From here to Equality'. Darity has stature.

After much discussion, the Task Force has concluded that Sub Sections E and F of Bill AB-3121 should be developed together. Therefore, the Task Force has decided to seek new economic experts for this entire scope of work. Chair Moore asked for a motion. Member Scott Lewis advises that Darity relies on several economists, including Craemer an economist who was an earlier expert before the Task Force. Member Grills advised caution with referring to Dr. Hamilton's characterizations as limitations and instead as cautions.

**MOTION:** Chair Moore moved that the Task Force not elect to proceed with Dr. Hamilton's contract. As an alternative, the Task Force contact Dr. Darity for availability and interest to convene a team of Economists to tackle Sub Sections E and Fin AB-3121 Bill Text. Vice Chair Brown Seconded the motion.

Chair Moore called for **Discussion**: There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Doreathea Johnson called for the vote:

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAY: 0

**ABSTENTIONS:** Member Grills and Member Holder

There were 9 members present. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero votes against.

Chair Moore asked to amend to add to the agenda for January low hanging fruit or things that the Task force can act on prior to the end of the process, including a request mentioned in public comment for the Task Force to send a letter to President Biden. Low hanging fruit are small things the task force can act on. Member Tamaki suggested that low hanging fruit which are easily achievable actions which fulfill the mission of the Task Force. Chair Moore mentioned the racial equity guide by Ohio State and other Commission's work as examples of low hanging fruit. Attorney Newman advised that the DOJ might be able to assist in this effort.

**MOTION:** Chair Moor moved to amend the January agenda to add an item for low hanging fruit including the request during public comment for the Task Force to write a letter to president Biden to sign an Executive Order establishing a Reparations Commission at the Federal level. It was Seconded by Member Holder.

Chair Moore called for the **Discussion**. There was no discussion. Chair Moore asked Parliamentarian Johnson to call the roll for the vote. Parliamentarian Johnson called for the vote.

**AYES:** Chair Moore, Vice Chair Brown, Member Bradford, Member Jones-Sawyer, Member Scott-Lewis, Member Tamaki, Member Montgomery-Steppe

NAYS: 0

**ABSTENTIONS:** Member Grills and Member Holder

There were 9 members present. 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Abstentions

The motion passed with 7 votes in support and zero votes against.

#### 26. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Moore and Vice Chair Brown thanked everyone for all that they have accomplished over the last six months. They are both extremely proud of the team and the grace in which everyone practices during the meetings.

# AGENDA ITEMS 4, 8, 17, and 19

# AVAILABLE WITNESS STATEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

(Not all witnesses have submitted written statements and presentations)



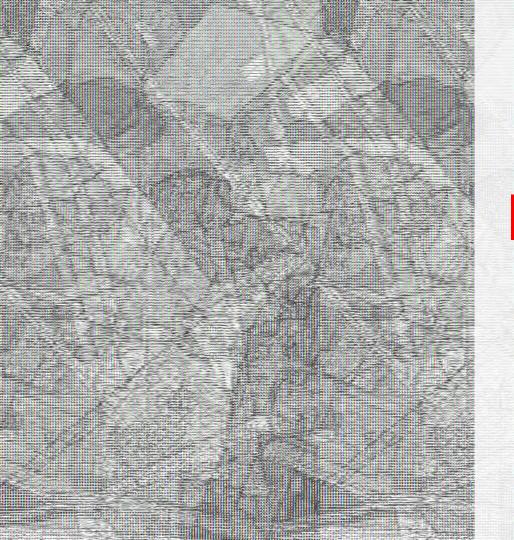
# Discrimination in Technology

Debra Gore-Mann - President and CEO Vinhcent Le - Legal Counsel

JANUARY 2022

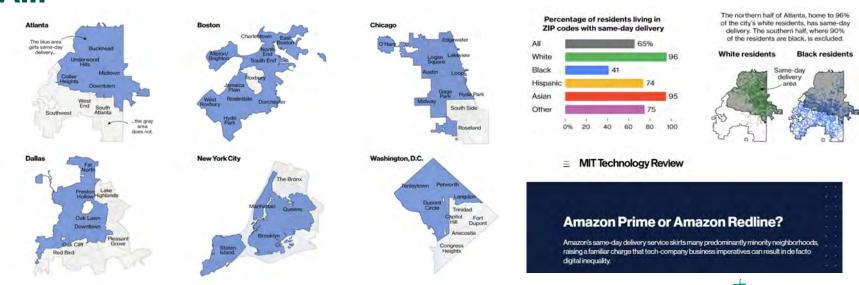






**REDLINING** is the illegal practice of denying services to communities of color

# The legacy of redlining lives on in the data that guides decisions on who gets access to new technologies and services and in the datasets that power algorithms and A.I.



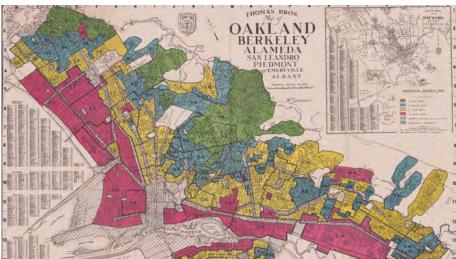
Source: Bloomberg (2016)



### **DIGITAL REDLINING IN INTERNET ACCESS**

Low-income communities are the last to receive investments in internet infrastructure because they are less profitable than wealthier (and whiter) communities.





### **HOME BROADBAND ADOPTION RATES**

Home broadband adoption is key for academic and socioeconomic success but there are significant racial and income gaps to access that remain despite the pandemic shift to internet-based remote work.

White	80% (+1%)
Black	71% (+5%)
Hispanic	65% (+4%)

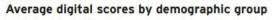
\$100,000+	93% (N/A)
\$30,000-\$99,999	83% (N/A)
<\$30,000	57% (+1%)

Source: Pew (2021), (+%) based on 2019 data, (N/A) due to changes in Pew measurement methodologies since 2019.

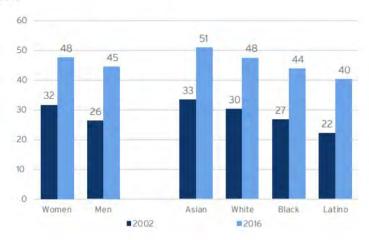


## THE DIGITAL SKILLS DIVIDE

Measurements of digital skills show a clear racial divide. This gap impacts the ability of our communities to get access to quality, high paying jobs.



2002 and 2016



Source: Brookings analysis of O\*NET and CPS data



## THE DIGITAL SKILLS DIVIDE

Broadband access is a critical tool for building wealth and economic opportunity for communities of color.

- 84% of job seekers used the internet to find employment.
- Unemployed people who used the Internet in a job search were re-employed 25% faster, the average job search is 5 months.
- 87% of higher paying "middle-skill" jobs require digital skills.



Mean Annual Wage

High Digitalization: \$72.896

Medium
Digitalization:
\$48,274

Low Digitalization: \$30,393

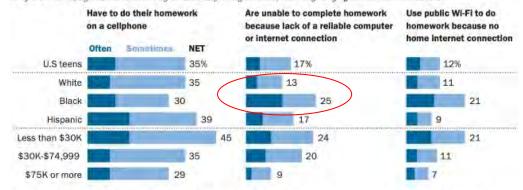
### THE DIGITAL DIVIDE & HOMEWORK GAP

Black students face the worst impacts of the homework gap.

- Black teens are almost 2x as likely to report that they can't complete their homework due to lack of a computer or reliable internet.
- High school students with broadband access at home have graduation rates 6 to 8% higher than those without.
- 73% of large school districts went fully online during the pandemic.
- Prior to the pandemic, 70% of homework assignments required Internet access.
- Students with access to internet at home score higher 10-20% higher on math, science and reading tests.

# Black teens and those from lower-income households are especially likely to be affected by the digital 'homework gap'

% of U.S. teens, by race and ethnicity or annual family income, who say they often or sometimes ...



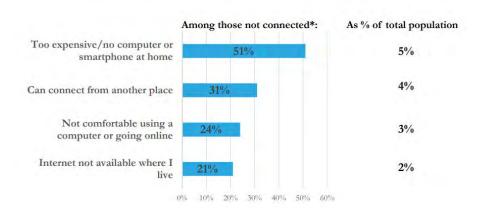
Source: Pew (2018)



# The Digital Divide & Affordability

The cost of the internet and of computing devices are the biggest driver of the digital divide among those that are not connected.

Table 6
Self-Reported Reasons for Lack of Internet Connectivity at Home



Source: CETF Annual Survey (2019)







# **SOLUTIONS**

- Affordability
- Outreach
- Deployment
- Competition
- Data

#### Key broadband provisions in infrastructure bill











Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program	Affordable Connectivity Fund	Digital Equity Act of 2021	Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program	Middle Mile Grant Program
This program offers grants to each state for the purpose of expanding broadband deployment in rural and underserved areas.	The "Emergency Broadband Benefit Program" gets renamed the "Affordable Connectivity Program" and requires all internet service plans to be eligible. Households that meet eligibilty requirements can receive up to \$30 per month for broadband.	States can submit applications to receive grants for broadband activities by developing "digital equity plans."	A program created in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, which aims to make broadband more accessible to Indigenous communities, gets extended in the infrastructure bill.	This grant program aims to reduce costs and connectivity barriers associated with providing broadband access to underserved or unserved areas (defined as those without broadband speeds of 100/20 Mbps).
\$42.45B	\$14.20B	\$2.75B	\$2.00B	\$1.00B
Amount allocated	Amount allocated	Amount allocated	Amount allocated	Amount allocated

As of Aug. 4, 2021. Credit: Arleigh Andes Source: U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works



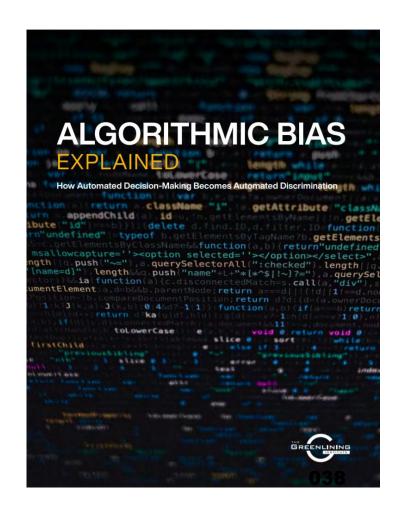
Data collection and automated decision-making can perpetuate algorithmic redlining in ways that negatively impact the health and wealth of our communities.

## **ALGORITHMIC BIAS**

### **Definitions:**

**ALGORITHM:** An algorithm is a set of rules or instructions used to solve a problem or perform a task. Some algorithms are designed to make predictions and answer questions. These **automated decision systems** can use statistical patterns and data analytics to make decisions that control access to services and economic opportunity.

**ALGORITHMIC BIAS:** Algorithmic bias occurs when an algorithmic decision creates unfair outcomes that unjustifiably and arbitrarily privilege certain groups over others.



# ALGORITHMS ARE GATEKEEPERS TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

# Algorithmic systems play increasingly important roles in:

- Bank loans:
- Pricing of goods and services;
- Insurance:
- Housing;
- Education;
- Hiring and promotions;
- Criminal justice risk assessments:
- Access to public benefits;
- Housing determinations;
- Access to healthcare

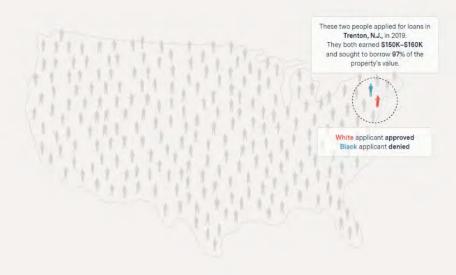
### Individual and Collective Harms of Discriminatory Al:

Individual Harms  Illegal Discrimination   Unfair Practices	Collective Social Harms
Hiring	Loss of Opportunity
Employment	
Insurance and Social Benefits	
Housing	
Education	
Credit	Economic Loss
Differential Prices of Goods	
Loss of Liberty	
Increased Surveillance	Social Stigmatization
Stereotype Reinforcement	
Dignitary Harms	

Source: The Algorithmic Justice League

Denied

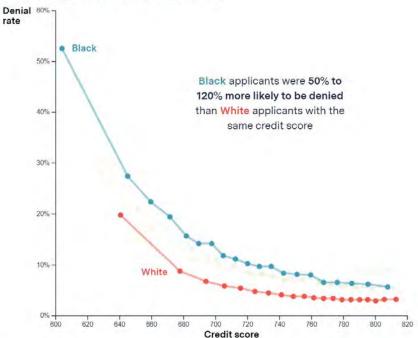
### The Secret Bias Hidden in Mortgage-Approval Algorithms



Nationally, loan applicants of color were 40%-80% more likely to be denied than their White counterparts

# Applicants of color were significantly more likely to be denied than White applicants with comparable credit scores

Denial rate by credit score and race/ethnicity



Source: CFPB, "An Updated Review of the New and Revised Data Points in HMDA"

### Applicants of color denied at higher rates

To illustrate the odds of denial that our analysis revealed, we calculated how many people of each race/ethnic group would likely be denied if 100 similarly qualified applicants from each group applied for mortgages in Los Angeles-Long Be >



Findings were unreliable for Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American applicants.

Source: 2019 HMDA Data, illustrations from <u>ProPublica</u>. We applied the odds ratios from our regression to White applicants' actual denial rates to calculate the number of denials for each racial and ethnic group above. These numbers are not the actual denials or actual number of applications in each location, but rather have been standardized for comparison. We rounded to the nearest person.



"Face-to-face and FinTech lenders charge Latinx/African-American borrowers 6-9 basis points higher interest rates . . . In aggregate, Latinx/African-Americans pay \$250-\$500M per year in extra mortgage interest.

### FinTech algorithms have not removed discrimination, but may have shifted the mode."

- Bartlett, Robert, et al. Consumer-lending discrimination in the FinTech era. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2019.

## Data collection enables precise and predatory algorithmic targeting.

Data collection and analytics can allow companies to increase prices or target predatory services towards vulnerable consumers.

### Sample List of Targeting Products Identifying Financially Vulnerable Populations 26

- · Credit Reliant
- · Burdened by Debt: Singles
- . Tough Start: Young Single Parents

- Rocky Road
- · Mid-Life Strugglers: Families
- · Living on Loans: Young Urban Single Parents

- · Very Elderly
- · Credit Crunched: City Families
- · Rough Retirement: Small Town and Rural Seniors

- Rolling the Dice
- · Relying on Aid: Retired Singles
- Ethnic Second-City Strugglers

- Fragile Families
- Struggling Elders: Singles
- Enduring Hardships

- Very Spartan
- · Retiring on Empty: Singles
- Humble Beginnings

- X-tra Needy
- · Small Town Shallow Pockets
- · Financial Challenges

- Hard Times
- · Rural and Barely Making It
- Meager Metro Means

This is a table listing several customer "segments" or categories that advertisers can use to specifically target vulnerable customers with ads. For example, customers in the "Hard Times" segment were described as "older, down-scale and ethnically-diverse singles typically concentrated in inner-city apartments. . . the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder, the poorest lifestyle segment in the nation . . . this is an underclass of the working poor and destitute seniors without family support."





#### **MACHINE BIAS**

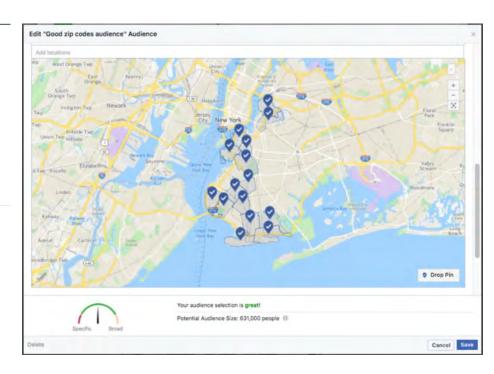
### **Facebook (Still) Letting Housing Advertisers Exclude Users by Race**

After ProPublica revealed last year that Facebook advertisers could target housing ads to whites only, the company announced it had built a system to spot and reject discriminatory ads. We retested and found major omissions.

by Julia Angwin, Ariana Tobin and Madeleine Varner, Nov. 21, 2017, 1:23 p.m. EST



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks in San Jose, California, in October 2016. (David Paul Morris/Bloomberg via Getty Images)



### SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

POLICY

## Science Career Ads Are Disproportionately Seen by Men

Marketing algorithms prevent many women from seeing the advertising, even though it's illegal to target jobs to one gender

By Dina Fine Maron on July 25, 2018



Credit: Getty Images

Business Markets World Politics



OCTOBER 9, 2018 / 11:12 PM / A YEAR AGO

# Amazon scraps secret Al recruiting tool that showed bias against women

Jeffrey Dastin

8 MIN READ





# The Washington Post



Democracy Dies in Darkness

Health

Racial bias in a medical algorithm favors white patients over sicker black patients

NEWSLETTERS . EYE ON A.I.

# HireVue drops facial monitoring amid A.I. algorithm audit

BY JEREMY KAHN
January 19, 2021 9:01 AM PST



048



News

**Opinion** 

Sport

Culture

Lifestyle

More ~

US World Environment Soccer US Politics Business Tech Science Newsletters

### Michigan

# Michigan unemployment agency made 20,000 false fraud accusations - report

Automated system erroneously accused claimants in 93% of cases, state review finds: 'It's balancing the books on the backs of the poorest,' lawyer says



**Big Spenders** Insurers are supposed to price based on risk, but Allstate's algorithm put a thumb on the scale By Maddy Varner and Aaron Sankin



Bernard Parker, left, was rated high risk; Dylan Fugett was rated low risk, (Josh Ritchie for ProPublica)

## **Machine Bias**

There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks.

by Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica May 23, 2016

### **SOLUTIONS**

### **Short Term**

- Inventory of high-impact ADS in government
- Risk Assessments
- Testing for Disparate Impacts
- Disclosures
- Capacity building at oversight bodies

## **Medium/Long Term**

- **Audits**
- Create regulatory guidance and red lines
- Update civil rights protections to cover unique algorithmic harms
- Algorithmic 'Greenlining'



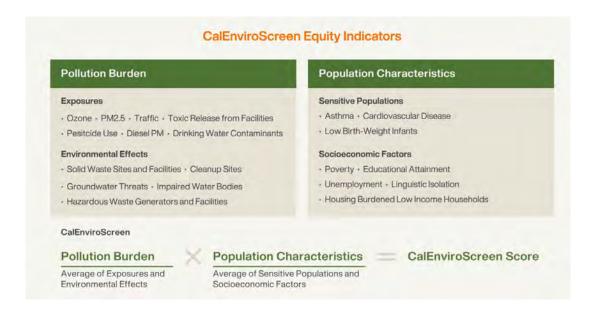




### **ALGORITHMIC GREENLINING**

"Big Data processes codify the past. They do not invent the future. Doing that requires moral imagination, and that's something only humans can provide. We have to explicitly embed better values into our algorithms, creating Big Data models that follow our ethical lead. Sometimes that will mean putting fairness ahead of profit."

—Cathy O'Neil, author, "Weapons of Math Destruction"





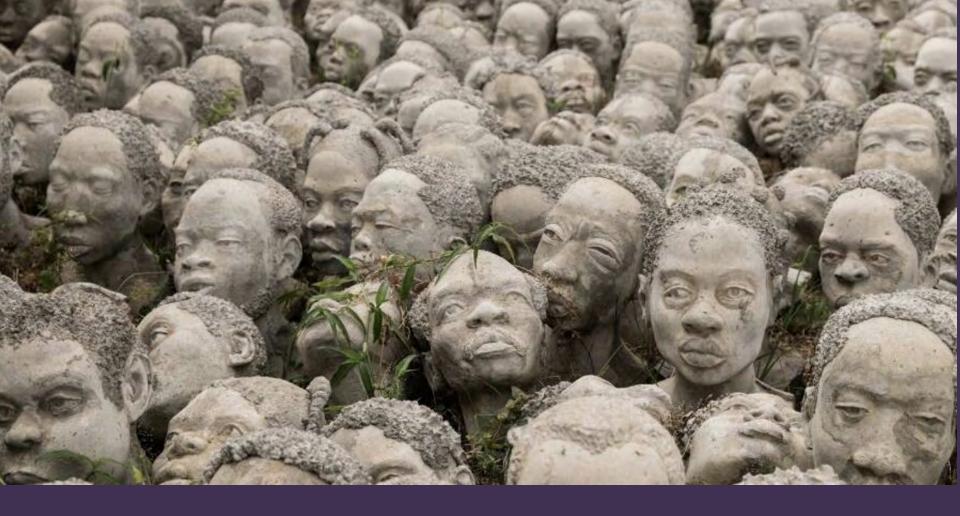


# Deep Historical Roots

Racial bias and disparate medical treatment

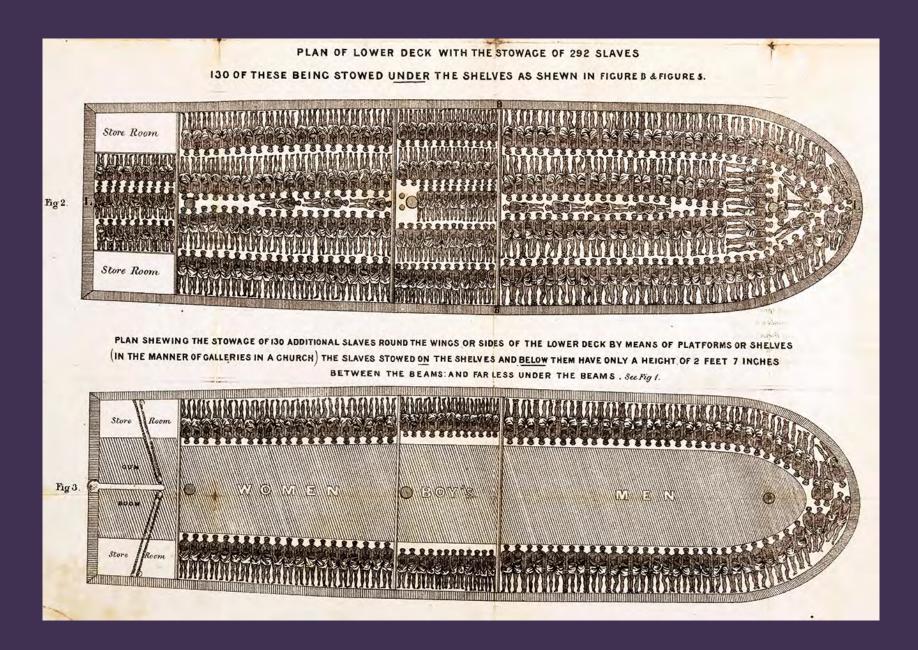
Race-based medicine

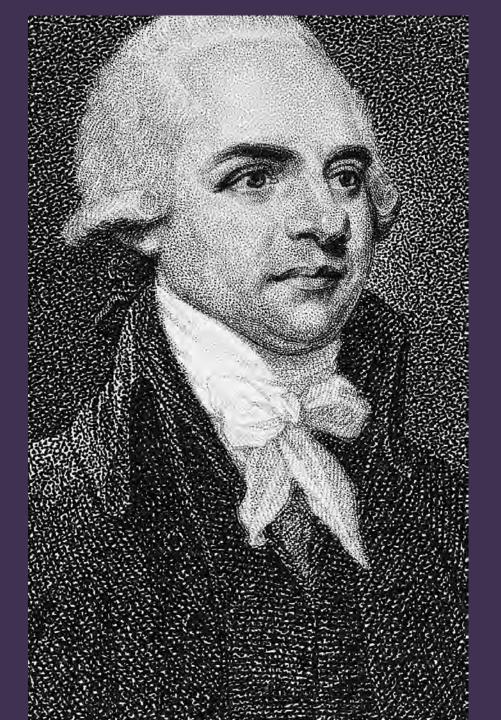
Medical exploitation



The transatlantic slave trade was the largest forced oceanic migration in human history

Ghanaian artist, Kwame Akoto-Bamfo commemorates the transatlantic slave trade





Dr. Thomas Trotter (1760-1832





While whipping enslaved people who refused to eat, they smiled and said, "Presently we shall be no more." Testimony of Dr. Isaac Wilson



Lulu Wilson, former enslaved woman and nurse

From the Charleston *Mercury* 

"Wanted: FIFTY NEGROES. Any person having sick negroes, considered incurable by their respective physicians and wishing to dispose of them, Dr. Stillman will pay cash for negroes... The highest cash price will be paid as above."



### SLAVE LIFE IN GEORGIA:

A NARRATIVE

OF THE

LIFE, SUFFERINGS, AND ESCAPE

OF

JOHN BROWN,

A Fugitive Slave,

NOW IN ENGLAND.

EDITED BY

L. A. CHAMEROVZOW,

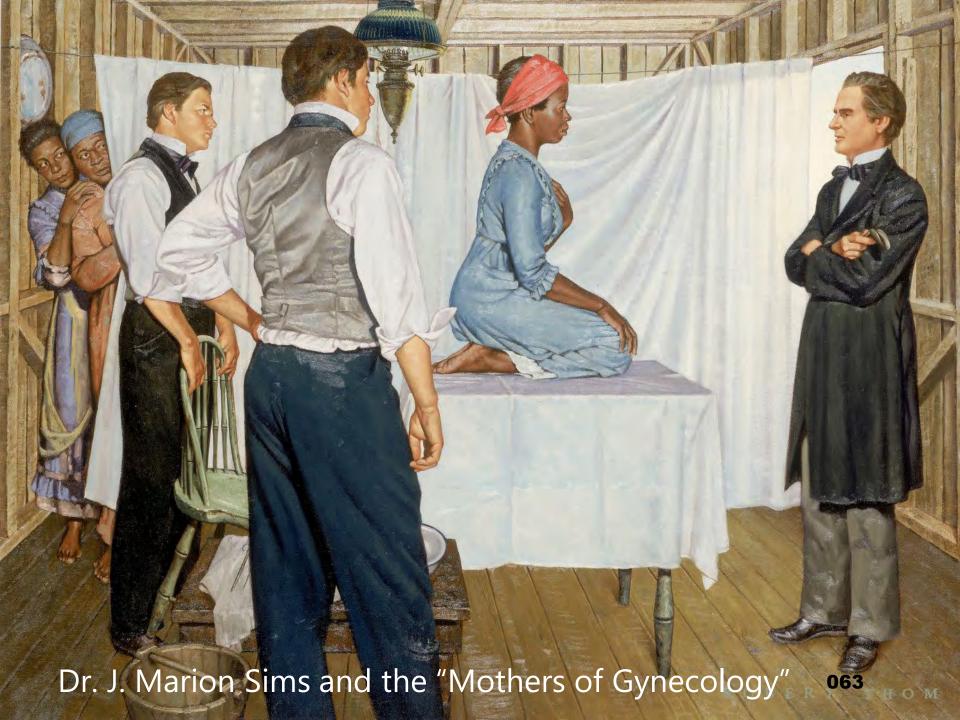
SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

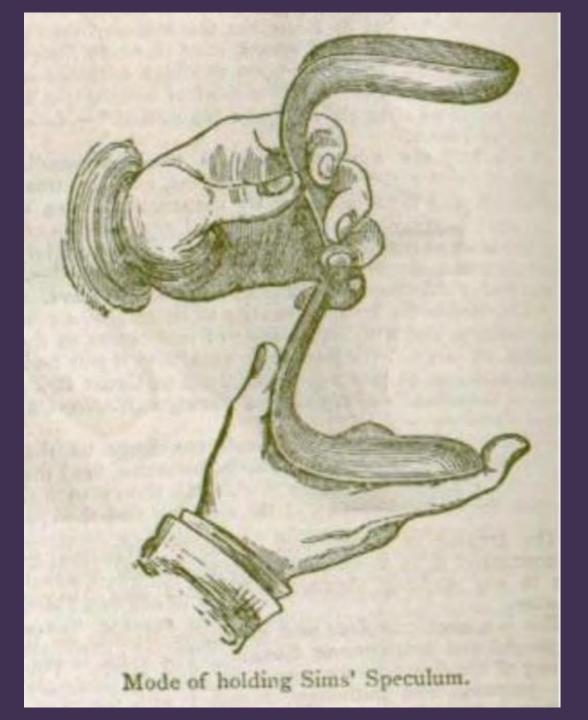
### LONDON:

MAY BE HAD ON APPLICATION TO THE EDITOR, AT No. 27, NEW BROAD STREET, \_ AND OF ALL BOOKSELLERS,

1855.

062





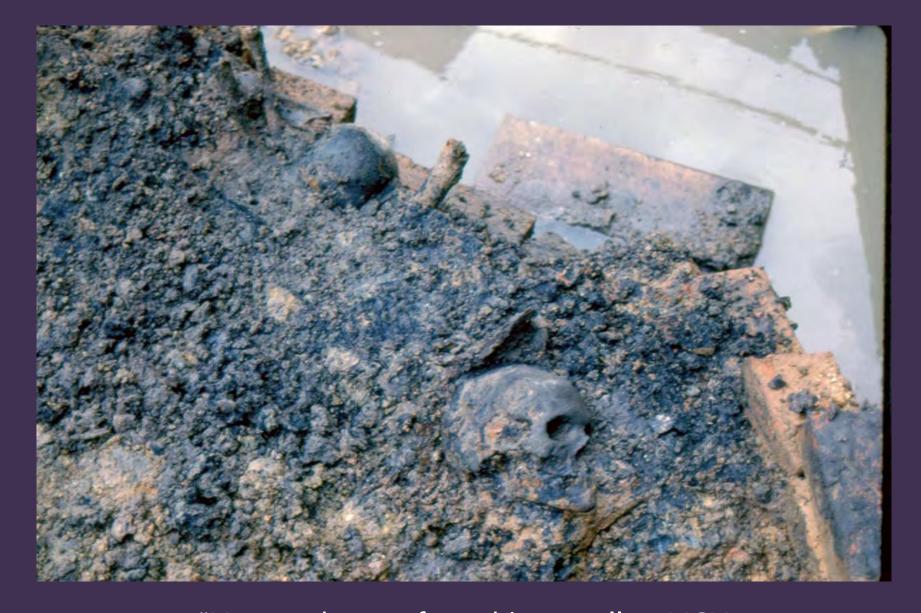
The Vaginal Speculum

Used today during gynecological exams

## Black Women as the Mothers of Gynecology

By utilizing the bodies of Black women doctors advanced their understanding of:

- The surgical cure for vesico-vaginal fistula
- How to remove burst ovaries
- Deliver stillborn children
- Stop intra-uterine bleeding
- Fix fused labias
- Repair obstetrical fistulae
- Remove ovarian tumors
- First full uterine removal (Dr. Paul Eve)
- Caesarean sections: 30 of 37 experimental Caesarean sections were performed on Black women in 1830



"Human bones found in a well at VCU reveal the mixed legacy of race and medical progress"

From the Charleston *Mercury* 

"No place in the United States offers as great opportunities for the acquisition of anatomical knowledge. Subjects being obtained from among the coloured population in sufficient numbers for every *purpose* and proper dissections carried on without offending any individuals in the community!"



"The bodies of coloured people exclusively are taken for dissection because the whites do not like it and the coloured people cannot resist."

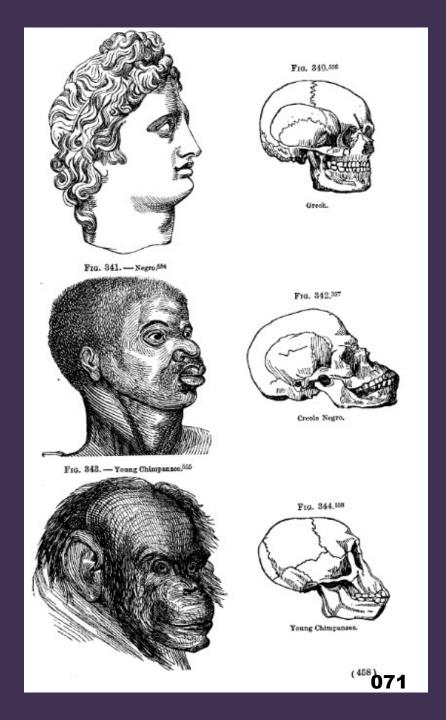
Harriet Martineau (1802-1876)
Considered the first woman sociologist

# WARNING:

This slide contains graphic material that some viewers might find disturbing.



In the hierarchy of the human species, Blacks exist between the ape and the European



### N°. XXXV.

Observations intended to favour a supposition that the Black Color (as it is called) of the Negroes is derived from the Leprosy. By Dr. Benjamin Rush.

Read at a Special Moeting July 14, 1792. DR. SMITH in his elegant and ingenious Essay upon the Variety of Color and Figure in the Human Species has derived it from four causes, viz. climate, diet, state of society, and diseases. I admit the Doctor's facts, and reasonings as far as he has extended them, in the fullest manner. I shall only add to them a few observations which are intended to prove that the color and figure of that part of our fellow creatures who are known by the epithet of negroes, are derived from a modification of that disease, which is known by the name of Leprosy.

Many facts recorded by historians, as well as physicians show the influence of unwholsome diet in having produced the leprosy in the middle and northern parts of Europe in the 13th and 14th centuries. The same cause, combined with greater heat, more savage manners, and bilious fevers, probably produced this disease in the skin among the natives of Africa. But I will not rest the proofs of the color and sigure of the negroes being a leprosy simply upon its causes. Other circumstances make it much more probable. I shall briefly enumerate them.

1. The leprofy is accompanied in some instances with a black color of the skin. Of this I have met with a satisfactory proof in Dr. Theiry's account of the diseases of Asturia in Spain. I shall insert a translation of his own words upon this subject. "There are (says this excellent physician) above twenty hospitals for lepers in this province, and I have observed six species of the disorder.

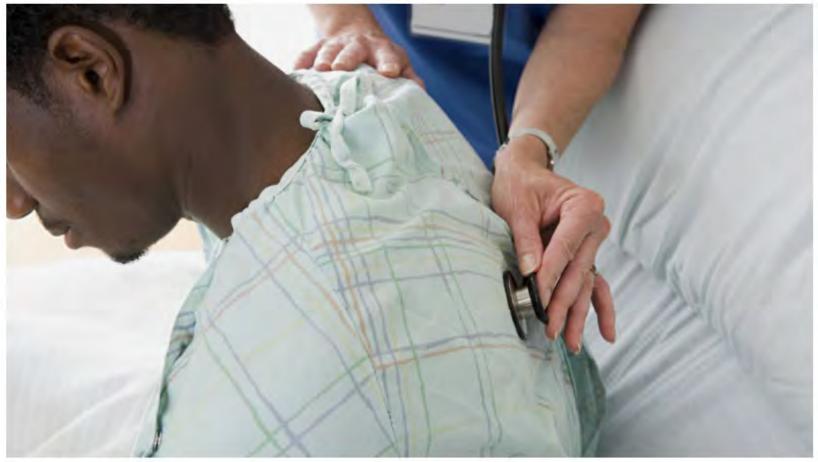
## Benjamin Rush (1799)

Black skin was caused by leprosy and caused "morbid insensibility in the nerves."

One

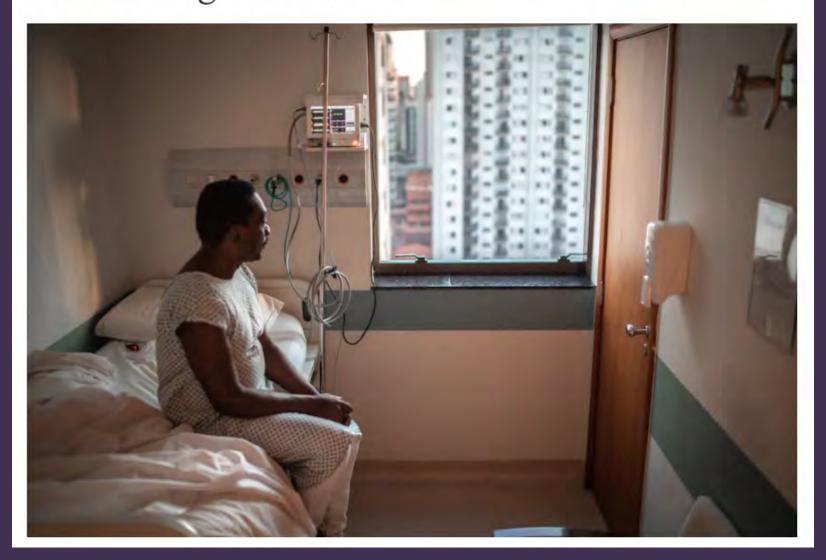
# Some medical students still think black patients feel less pain than whites

By IKE SWETLITZ @ikeswetlitz / APRIL 4, 2016



073

# Racial disparities seen in how doctors treat pain, even among children



Haider J. Warraich, *The Washington Post*, July 11, 2020<sub>074</sub>

# This is how black people get killed.' Doctor's COVID-19 death becomes new symbol of racism

# Black Doctor Dies of Covid-19 After Complaining of Racist Treatment

"He made me feel like a drug addict," Dr. Susan Moore said, accusing a white doctor of downplaying her complaints of pain and suggesting she should be discharged.

# Deep Historical Roots

Racial bias and disparate medical treatment

Race-based medicine

Medical exploitation

# Dr. Carolyn Roberts, Yale University The History of Health Inequities among African Americans

Expert Testimony, AB 3121 Hearings
California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans
State of California, Department of Justice

## Slide

This afternoon, I will be discussing the broken relationship between African Americans and the U.S. healthcare system from an historical perspective. Many critical issues that we are wrestling with today have long, old, and deep historical roots. These include racial bias and disparate treatment in medicine, race-based medicine, and medical exploitation. We must consider not only American slavery and its afterlives but the transatlantic slave trade.

# Next slide

The transatlantic slave trade was the largest forced oceanic migration in human history. And it presented a healthcare challenge that had never existed before. How can you traffick millions of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic, so that they arrive alive and in vendible condition?

# Next slide

The British slave trade is important for us gathered here, today, because the majority of enslaved people who arrived in the United States, arrived on board British slave ships. British slave ship medicine was based on systemic violence and dehumanization.

# Next slide

Doctors, such as Thomas Trotter, were hired to work on board British slave ships. They performed invasive forced medical inspections. Captives were beaten, kicked, whipped, and punched if they didn't comply. Women and girls were pinned down, their legs were held open, so doctors could check to see if they had previously born children. One observer noted that the women and girls wept uncontrollably.

## Next slide

On board thousands of slave ships, doctors whipped African captives who refused to eat, lacerating their flesh to preserve them for sale. Then, doctors treated the wounds they had just inflicted upon their patients. Medical practitioners were equipped with bolus knives, thumb screws, and the *speculum oris* to force feed the enslaved, which broke off their teeth in the process. Medical practitioners administered drugs with whips and pistols nearby to force compliance. They were expected to compel life by any means necessary.

# Next slide

And so a new form of healthcare management entered the world. This was a form of healthcare where medical violence against African and African-descended people became an acceptable, normative, and institutionalized practice for over a century in the context of the British slave trade. This forced Black people into a unique and troubling relationship with Western medicine before even setting foot in the United States. It characterized the kind of medical care that was deemed appropriate for Black people. It also created a new understanding of the doctor-patient relationship — a relationship that was violent and depersonalized, extractive, and exploitative.

## Next slide

Upon arrival in the United States, enslaved people were already trying to heal from the trauma, violence, and abuse they experienced in slave trade healthcare. And throughout the Americas, enslaved people tried to give medical care to one another. They developed their own medical systems. They blended medical knowledge from Africa with new medicinal plants in the Americas. However, they could not avoid white doctors who began to use their bodies to advance medical science.

# Next slide

Newspapers contained advertisements like this one, offering cash for sick enslaved people to be medical specimens. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, scientific medicine was beginning to take root in the United States. Doctors needed bodies, both alive and dead, to understand more about how organs and tissues were impacted by disease. There was an enormous demand for sick patients and cadavers for study. Yet the white population would not tolerate their bodies to be used in this manner. Slavery created a population of people who were forced to comply.

# Next slide

This is a slave narrative written by an enslaved man named John Brown who was subjected to painful medical experiments. Yet John Brown was not alone. A slave named Sam was pinned down into a chair by five physicians so that his lower jawbone could be removed without anaesthesia. Dr. Walter Jones in Virginia, poured boiling water on naked enslaved pneumonia patients at four-hour intervals. Dr. John Harden, stripped blood vessels from the limbs of an enslaved man and from three hogs to measure the arteries for comparison. Dr. James Dugas performed experimental eye surgeries on black subjects.

# Next slide

One of the most important legacies of medical exploitation during slavery concerns the legacy of Black women as the mothers of gynecology. As one British surgeon noted, you

could cut into the bodies of negresses like you did rabbits or dogs. J. Marion Sims, who is pictured at the far right, did just that. He conducted experimental surgeries on enslaved women to cure vesico-vaginal fistula. Enslaved women like Anarcha who is pictured at center was operated upon thirty times over a period of five years without anesthesia although ether was available. Sims believed black women didn't feel as much pain as white women. Over and over again he scarified, sutured, and resutured the vagina. When the surgery was finally perfected with silver sutures, rather than lead, Sims treated the white women of Montgomery, and properly administered anesthesia.

# Next slide

Sims remains a part of our lives today. His vaginal speculum is still used during gynecological exams.

## Next slide

By utilizing the bodies of Black women doctors advanced their understanding of:

- The surgical cure for vesico-vaginal fistula
- How to remove burst ovaries
- Deliver stillborn children
- Stop intra-uterine bleeding
- Fix fused labias
- Repair obstetrical fistulae
- Remove ovarian tumors
- First full uterine removal (Dr. Paul Eve)
- Caesarean sections: 30 of 37 experimental Caesarean sections were performed on Black women in 1830

# Next slide

But it wasn't just medical experimentation on the living. Enslaved people's dead bodies were dissected to advance medical science. This is an image of human remains that were found in a well at Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2019, the remains were formally memorialized. Human remains of African Americans have been found at numerous medical school sites throughout the country.

# Next slide

Here's another advertisement from the Charleston Mercury: "No place in the United States offers as great opportunities for the acquisition of anatomical knowledge. Subjects being obtained from among the coloured population in sufficient numbers for every purpose and proper dissections carried on without offending any individuals in the community!"

# Next slide

Harriet Martineau visited Baltimore and noted similarly, "The bodies of coloured people exclusively are taken for dissection because the whites do not like it and the coloured people cannot resist." Enslaved people's bodies became part of a lucrative national cadaver trade that shuttled Black people's bodies from Texas to New Hampshire. As historian Dinah Ramey Berry writes, "Few enslaved people rested in peace. Death did not end their commodification."

# Next slide

I will now show one photograph of a dissection of an African American during this period. The image, however, is gruesome. So please avert your eyes as necessary.

## Next slide

While Black people's bodies were being used to advance medical science, there was another powerful discourse operative that claimed Black people were biologically inferior and innately different as a species. Race-based medicine took root in the United States. False ideas about Black disease immunity and disease susceptibility circulated widely. Many today still believe false notions concerning medical and biological differences between blacks and whites that developed during slavery – that Blacks feel less pain than whites, that blacks have poorer pulmonary function, smaller skulls, weaker brains, thicker skin, and less prone to depression. Science simply does not support this. Yet false notions of racial difference continue to impact health outcomes for African Americans today.

# Next slide

In fact, one of our founding fathers helped promote the idea that Black people don't feel the same level of physical pain as white people.

# Next slide

Dr. Benjamin Rush was the first professor of chemistry in the US, and also published the first psychiatric textbook in the US, wrote the following in 1799: He believed black skin was a form of leprosy, and he wrote, that it caused "morbid insensibility in the nerves." Meaning that black people were less sensitive to physical pain than white people.

# Next slide

Today these ideas endure and they have evolved. "Some medical students still think black patients feel less pain than whites"

# Next slide

"Racial disparities seen in how doctors treat pain, even among children."

## Next slide

"This is now black people get killed."

# Next slide

Slavery and the slave trade are crucial centuries for understanding this history of harm where racial bias, disparate medical treatment, race-based medicine, and medical exploitation began to take root. Many who are listening now know how the story would continue into the 20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond. It's part of your own family histories. Some of you experienced segregated healthcare – in various parts of the country – whether by Jim Crow law or Jim Crow custom. Some of you may have been subjected to state sanctioned sterilization. Some of you may know of Tuskegee, grave robbing, Henrietta Lax, and so much more. And on the flip side, some of you may be among the African American healthcare providers and research scientists who have stepped into the breach for over one hundred years seeking to give equitable, compassionate care. You see, we have always fought back mightily.

We can travel across time, through history and recognize a troubling continuity of racial bias, disparate treatment, race-based medicine, and medical exploitation. If we are honest, we will acknowledge that when it comes to African Americans and the U.S. healthcare system, the relationship was broken from the very beginning. African American health has been compromised and under assault from many aspects of our society, but we must have the courage to look directly at our healthcare system as being complicit in this long history of harm. Ideas of Black inferiority continue to shape the medical care that African Americans receive. Biases and stereotypes continue to result in disparate treatment. Black women die because we are not listened to, our pain is not taken seriously, our symptoms are not believed.

When I discuss this history with doctors, medical school students, residents, and frontline healthcare workers – I am always asked the same two questions – why didn't I know this before? Why isn't this taught in medical school? Understanding the system we've inherited and the legacies it has produced are crucial in making change happen. As an historian of medicine, science and health, I don't believe we can intelligently solve our problems if we don't know how long the problem has endured.

Thank you for listening.

# Brett Andrews, CEO PRC

AB 3121: Reparations Task Force Hearing – Public Heath January 27, 2022



# The Evolution of PRC



Aids Benefits
Counselors (ABC)

# 1996

ABC Acquires Positive Resource Center

# 2003

Brett Andrews,
Selected as new CEO

2016 - 2022

Merged w/ AIDS Emergency Fund & Baker Places, Inc

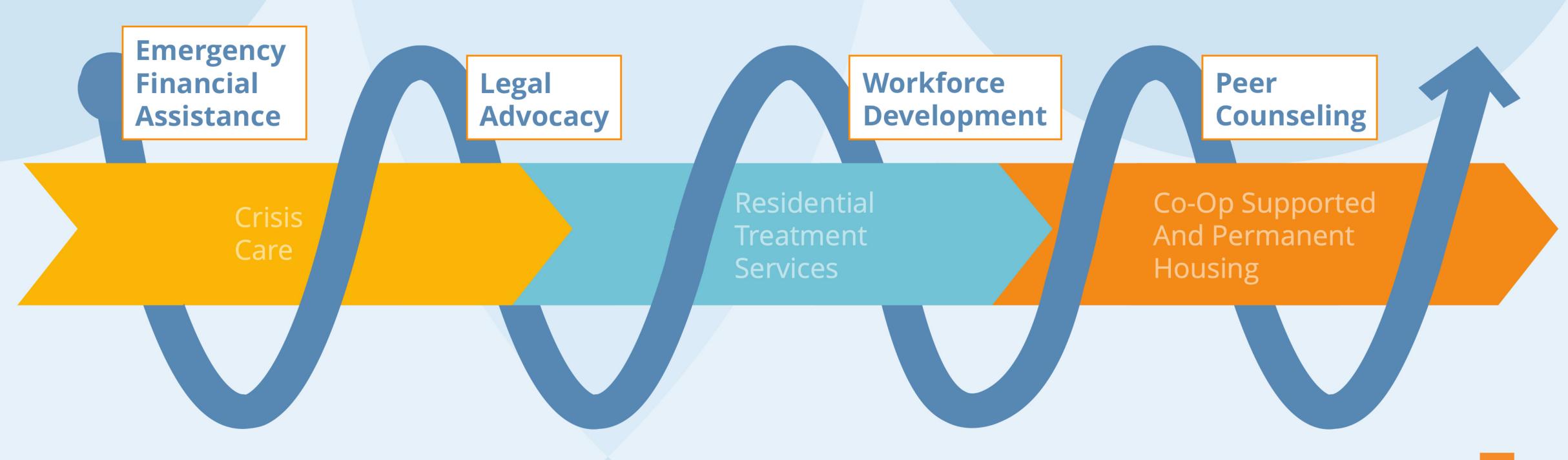


\$400K Budget 7 Employees \$1.2M Budget 18 Employees

\$34M Budget 300+ Employees



# The Value of our continuum of care and wrap-around services







# San Francisco Department of Public Health 2018 Black/African-American Heath Report

# **BY THE NUMBERS:**

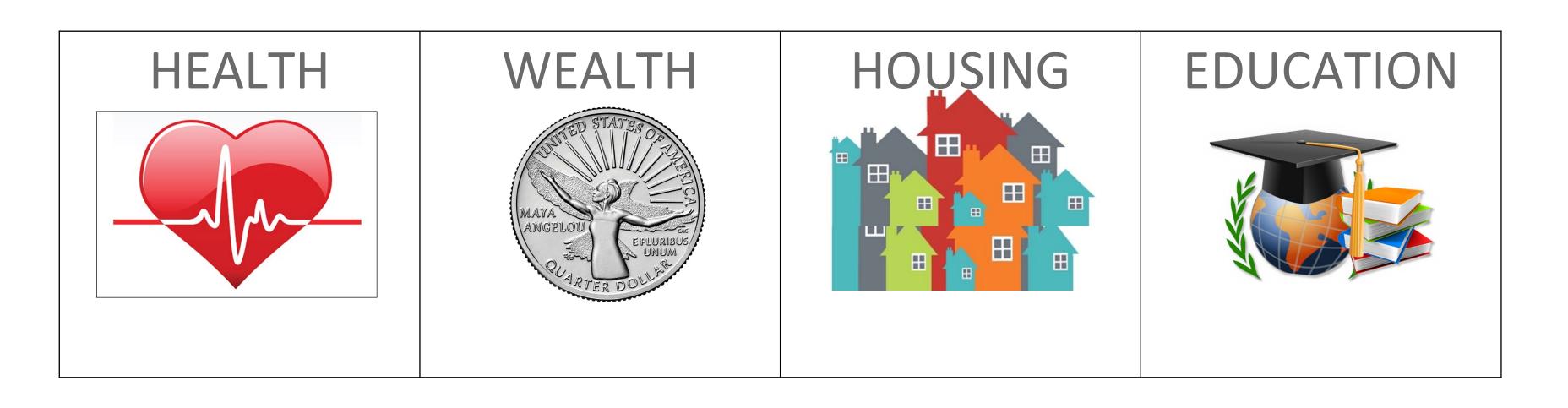
- 5% of population but 37% of total homelessness population
- 19% of clients represented in behavioral health services
- Overall unemployment < 3% compared to 18%
- 2x likely to experience a disability
- Lowest medium income (~\$30K/yr)
- Lowest non-graduation rates 63% vs 16%
- Highest mortality rate for 9 of top 10 causes of death
- 6% of the state, hold approximately \$4,000 in household wealth, as compared to more than \$355,000





Our Mission: To advance meaningful change across our systems of care that have historically harmed Black Health, Wealth and Prosperity. Bring Change through legislative and partnership strategies.

# We Do This Across Four Policy Pillars







# **BLC Outcomes**

# **POLICY SCORE CARD**

25 Legislator Meetings

23 Supported Bills

8 Public Testimonies

# SUPPORTED BILLS

SB 17(Pan) Office of Racial Equity

AB 1406 (Burke) Nurses: Implicit Bias

SB 2 (Bradford) Peace Officers: Certification: Civil Rights

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Debt Relief Provisions – Build Back Boldly Budget

CDE - Alternative solutions to Preschool expulsions/suspensions

Capacity Building
Trainings for BLOs



# Critical Social Issues

History of Misdiagnosis

APA Apology Resolution:

"Created, sustained, and promoted a view of people of color as deficient or damaged"

13% of US Population 5% of Physicians

n Lac

Lack of Diversity in Medical Field

9% Rise in CA Since 2019 Disproportionate representation of homeless & behavioral health issues (Rise in SF, San Jose & Oakland)

\$24% Smaller Revenue Underfunded Black-led Health Organizations



# Where do we go From Here? Research and Investments

- Need significant investments in Black-led health organizations that are serving CA diverse communities in culturally responsive and relevant ways
- Create a more diverse workforce pipeline of medical and behavioral health professionals to address the cultural considerations of clients served in Black-led behavioral health organizations
- Require ongoing meetings with National Health Associations (ie. American Medical Association) to create joint educational and research opportunities
- Conduct comprehensive reviews of health care policies within governmental entities
  to unveil where and how implicit and explicit racist policies and practices are
  embedded in the creation and provision of services
- Create and deepen relationships with faith-based institutions as a primary place to outreach to the community
- Enlist public figures to elevate and broaden the conversation of health equity by sharing their stories and making strategic investments in the community





# Thank you!



Brett Andrews, CEO, PRC Brett.Andrews@prcsf.org





# Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Hearing on Mental Health January 28, 2022

Overview of Testimony of
Enola G. Aird
Founder and President of Community Healing Network
<a href="https://www.communityhealingnet.org">www.communityhealingnet.org</a>
Submitted January 20, 2022

# **Confronting the Root Cause of Anti-Black Racism**

My name is Enola G. Aird. I am the founder and president of Community Healing Network (CHN). In my testimony, I will argue that, in the search for reparation proposals, it is essential to focus our attention on the driving force behind:

- 1. the European trade in African human beings that began in the 15<sup>th</sup> century;
- 2. the enslavement of Africans in the Americas from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries;
- 3. the brutal mistreatment of Black people during the Jim Crow era, from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries; and
- 4. the persistent devaluing of Black lives since the formal end of Jim Crow up to the present moment.

The driving force is the lie that Black people are inferior.

That lie is at the root of what the AB 3121 summary describes as the "legacy of slavery and racial discrimination [that] has resulted in debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships that are uniquely experienced by African Americans." The lie of Black inferiority was first committed to writing by the Portuguese in the 1400s as they launched the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Their aim was to justify the enslavement and exploitation of Africans. For many Europeans, the lie helped to resolve the inherent contradictions between Christianity and the enslavement of human beings. For many Americans, it also resolved the contradictions between enslavement and the ideal of equality set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

The lie led to a ranking of human beings--with White people at the very top and Black people at the very bottom, and, all too often, not even in the human family. The lie essentially cast Black people out of the circle of humanity—and justified the mistreatment of Black people for more than 600 years around the world and 400 years here in the United States.

The lie is still at work today—adversely affecting the world's perceptions of Black people and, all too often, our perceptions of ourselves. It has been the source of multi-generational harm and trauma for Black people. It is the thread that runs—invisibly—throughout the whole fabric of systemic anti-Blackness. The lie is the reason why, several years ago, in experiments that subliminally flashed photos of Black or White male faces on a screen to "prime" college students, researchers found a consistent association between Black people and apes. They found no ape association with White people or other non-White people. According to study co-author, Stanford University psychologist Jennifer Eberhardt, "there is one old race battle that we're still fighting. That is the battle for blacks to be recognized as fully human."

Launched in 2006, CHN is building the global grassroots movement for emotional emancipation—mobilizing Black people to heal from, and end, the trauma caused by the lie. Our aim is to end the centuries-old association between blackness and inferiority, and to restore the association between blackness and humanity. This is CHN's overarching vision and mission.

CHN has developed a range of strategies to build the global movement for freedom from the lie, including:

- the **Defy the Lie of Black Inferiority and Embrace the Truth of Black Humanity** public education and pledge campaign;
- Emotional Emancipation (EE) Circles—a culturally-grounded self-help healing and support group process, originated by CHN and developed in collaboration with our colleagues at the Association of Black Psychologists to help Black people heal from the specific trauma caused by the lie. The EE Circle process has been endorsed by sister organizations including the All-Healers Mental Health Alliance, Black Psychiatrists of America, the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America, and the National Association of Black Social Workers.
- The Valuing Black Lives Global Emotional Emancipation Summit—to bring together Black people from across the African Diaspora to develop a common global approach to freeing ourselves, our children, and the world from the lie—once and for all; and
- Community Healing/Wear Sky Blue Days—an annual observance (on the third weekend of every October) launched by CHN in 2008 and endorsed by the late Dr. Maya Angelou, to put "time for healing" from the emotional damage caused by the lie at the top of the global Black community's agenda.

Because of the lie, Black people have, for centuries, had to make the best of living in an emotionally damaging, anti-Black world. The lie is at the heart of the crime against the humanity of African people. The harm caused by the lie is the fundamental damage that must be repaired, and the greatest harm for which we are owed reparations—what we call "emotional reparations."

# The Role of Racism in Medicine and Health And

The Vital Need for Reparations

# Myths about physical racial differences were used to justify slavery, Are still believed by doctors today.

New York Times - 2019

"A 2016 survey of 222 white medical students and residents published in The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences showed that half of them endorsed at least one myth about physiological differences between black people and white people, including that black people's nerve endings are less sensitive than white people's. When asked to imagine how much pain white or black patients experienced in hypothetical situations, the medical students and residents insisted that black people felt less pain. This made the providers less likely to recommend appropriate treatment."

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/racial-differences-doctors.html

# James Marion Sims (1813-1883)



J. Marion Sims was a physician in the mid-1800's who was credited with the creation of the first vaginal speculum which was made from a pewter spoon. Sims built a makeshift hospital in his back yard where he conducted surgical experiments on countless un-anesthetized enslaved African women. Sims reasoned that slave women were able to bear great pain because their 'race' made them more durable, and thus they were well suited for painful medical experimentation. 095

# **Medical Dehumanization of African Women**

Their first pathological symptom was their primary racial characteristic: their skin color. In a medical world that categorized life as either normal or pathological, people of the African Diaspora were continually condemned to the category of pathological, their 'abnormal' skin color serving as a foil for 'normal' white skin. Pathological causes for this condition were concocted in order to explain its prevalence.

Sander Gilman explains, "Medical tradition has a long history of perceiving this skin color as the result of some pathology. The favorite theory, which reappears with some frequency in the early nineteenth century, is that the skin color and attendant physiognomy of the black are the result of congenital leprosy." Such medical arguments, in collusion with racist and stereotypic scientific and cultural explanations and excuses, provided the grounds for differential 'treatment.' <sup>22</sup>

# Body Type: Another Example of Black Female Pathology & Rape Law

Black females were perceived to be irreligious, lustful, and immoderate. Their protruding buttocks and genitals were offered as physical evidence of their pathology. This was in stark contrast to white females who, while still thought of as pathological, were perceived as fragile and frigid.

Terri Kapsalis "Public Privates" (1997)

"No white could ever rape a slave woman" The regulations of Law, as to the white race, on the subject of sexual intercourse do not and cannot, for obvious reasons, apply to slaves, their intercourse is promiscuous."

Dorothy Roberts "Killing The Black Body" (1956)

# **The New York Times**

# **Drug Overdoses Propel Rise in Mortality Rates of Young Whites**January 16, 2016

There is a reason that blacks appear to have been spared the worst of the narcotic epidemic, said Dr. Andrew Kolodny, a drug abuse expert,

Studies have found that doctors are much more reluctant to prescribe painkillers to minority patients, worrying that they might sell them or become addicted.

"The answer is that racial stereotypes are protecting these patients from the addiction epidemic," said Dr. Kolodny, a senior scientist at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University and chief medical officer for Phoenix House Foundation, a national drug and alcohol treatment company.



# Henrietta Lacks 1920 - 1951

Henrietta Lacks was born in Roanoke Virginia, she was poor and lived on a tobacco farm. In 1951 Henrietta was diagnosed and treated at Johns Hopkins for an aggressive form of cervical cancer that eventually lead to her rapid, painful and agonizing death.

Her cells now called (HeLa) were harvested without her knowledge and later became one of the most essential tools in medicine. Her cell cultures were used to develop the field of virology and later to the creation of polio vaccine, cloning, and gene mapping among other advancements.

The selling and shipping of Henrietta Lack's cells grew to be a multi-billion dollar industry However, the Lacks family have not received any financial benefits and today, are without sufficient income to meet their basic needs.

The statute of limitations and the potential disastrous impact on science and medicine from halting HeLa cell use, has resulted in no promising legal recourse for the family.

# 1951 - THE AUTOPSY OF HENRIETTA LACKS

"Mary stood beside Wilbur, waiting as he sewed Henrietta's abdomen closed. She wanted to run out of the morgue and back to the lab, but instead, she stared at Henrietta's arms and legs anything to avoid looking into her lifeless eyes . . . Then Mary's gaze fell on Henrietta's feet, and she gasped: Henrietta's toenails were covered in chipped bright red polish. "When I saw those toes, ... I nearly fainted. I thought she's a real person. I started imagining her sitting in her bathroom painting those toenails, and it hit me for the first time that those cells we'd been working with all this time and sending all over the world, they came from a live woman. I'd never thought of it that way."

# **IATROPHOBIA**

(Greek: Iatros= healer, phobia= fear )
Fear of Medicine

Harriet Washington: Medical Apartheid

"The much bewailed racial health gap is not a gap, but a chasm wider and deeper than a mass grave. This gulf has riven our nation so dramatically that it appears as if we were considering the health profiles of people in two different countries—a medical *apartheid*. Researchers have proffered a cornucopia of theories for this medical divide, many of which focus upon putative biological dimorphisms, especially genetic differences. But in dissecting this shameful medical apartheid, an important cause is usually neglected: the history of ethically flawed medical experimentation with African Americans. Such research has played a pivotal role in forging the fear of medicine that helps perpetuate our nation's racial health gulf."

# June 6, 2021



# Roswell Georgia day care under investigation for allegedly withholding food from Black children April 12, 2021



# Mar 7, 2017

Nursery worker is fired after she was caught on camera 'pushing a four-year-old girl down the stairs' Sarah Gable, a daycare worker in Pennsylvania, was caught on camera pushing a 4-year-old girl down a set of steps. She has since been arrested. Shocking footage shows daycare worker pushing child down a flight of stairs

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=az8C1kAsTq8
https://az8C1kAsTq8ycare worker pushing child down stairs



# MENTAL HEALTH AND REPARATIONS

AB 3121 California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans

January 28, 2022



Dr. Kristee Haggins dr.kristeehaggins@gmail.com

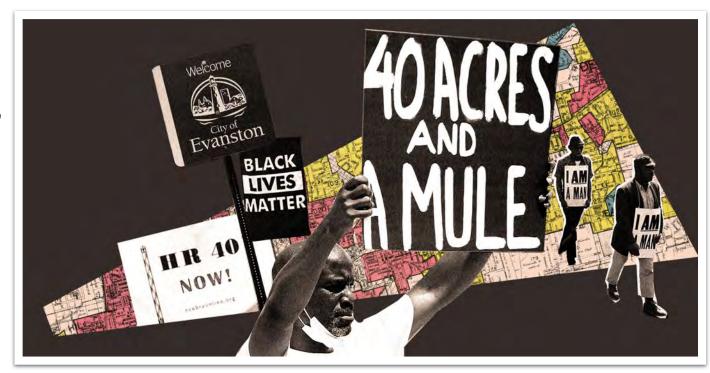


# What I mean by Reparations

Broadly this is about attending to the historical wrongs, abuse and harm that has affected Black people for generations, for hundreds of years by no fault of our own.

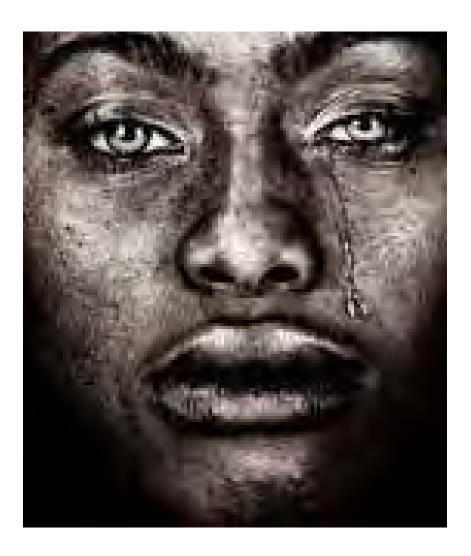
The legacies of enslavement still exist today, as a result of things that were done to us.

Reparations, is about repairing that harm, about correcting these historical wrongs and realizing they exist in contemporary times.



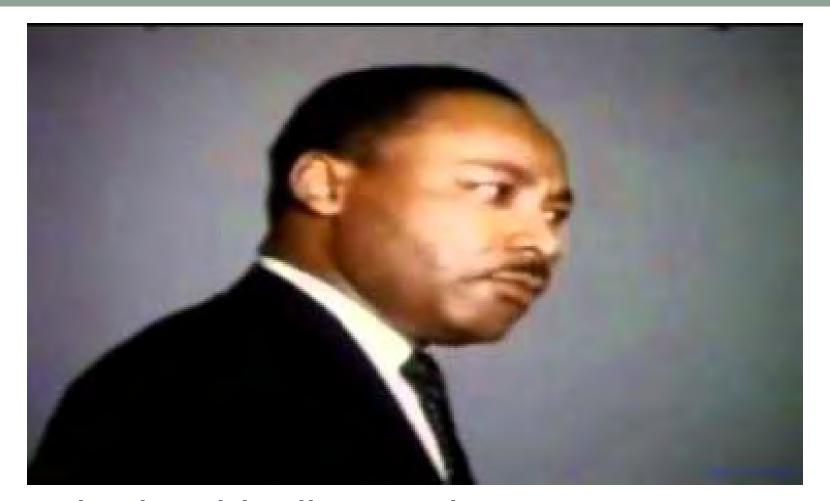


# The Harm



- The harm didn't "end" just because enslavement did.
- We can look at historical and current disparities that resulted from slavery and from institutional and systemic racism
- Black people are at the bottom of every "bad list"
  - Wealth gap
  - Housing disparities
  - Health disparities
  - Educational gap





"Somebody told a lie one day....

they made everything black, ugly and evil."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

#### Healing Racism

To heal wounds of racism, we must see racism for what it is and understand its causes, origin, development and subsequent impact.

"Healing begins where the wound was made."

-Alice Walker





#### **PSYCHOLOGY OF OPPRESSION**

(Myers)

- Africans captured and convinced through most brutal and horrific forms of terrorism that their physical well being was in the hands of their captors.
- ✓ Africans denied access to cultural traditions, language
- African culture and history
   negated (African = Savage)
- Cultural history of captors
   elevated (European = Civilized)
- ✓ Divide and conquer strategy instituted

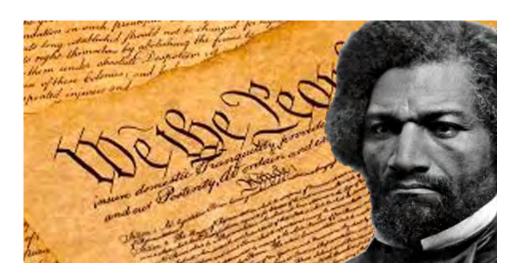




## **United States History**

- 40 of 56 signers of Declaration of Independence owned slaves.
- Under the Constitution, a slave was counted as 3/5 of a free person.
- 10 of the first 12 presidents owned slaves.

This is who we were as the U.S. became a nation...



T)r. Kristee

# Systemic Racism

Has roots in a hierarchy that privileges one race above another, namely the white race.

Arises when that hierarchy and those privileges get baked into the systems and institutions that govern daily life.







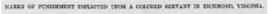
7-13 Kristee

## History of Black Experience

- Chattel Slavery (1619 1865)
- Jim Crowism (1865 1965)
  - 13th Amendment (1865) Slavery Abolished (EXCEPT for crime)
  - Convict Leasing (1866)
  - Black Codes
  - Sharecropping
  - Ku Klux Klan
  - Lynchings













# Additional Experiences

- "Separate but Equal"
- Redlining
- "Race Riots"(Massacres) –Tulsa 1921
- Civil Rights
   Movement
- School-to-Prison Pipeline
- War on Drugs
- Police Brutality
- COVID-19







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#### Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Those who experienced or witnessed an event involving actual or threatened death or serious injury and have responded with feelings of fear, helplessness, or horror may develop PTSD symptoms...



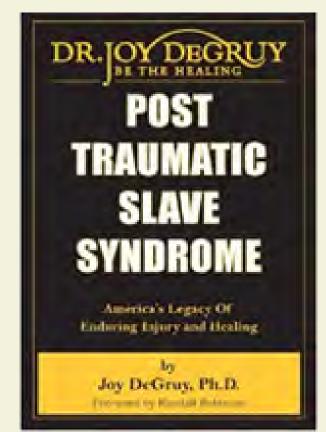


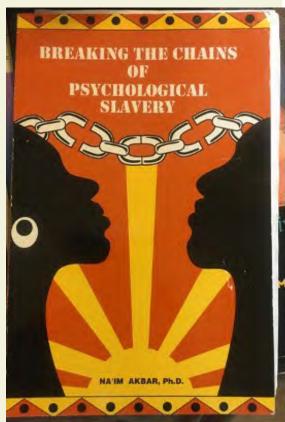
### Legacy of Historical Black Racial Trauma



#### Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

A condition that exists as a consequence of centuries of chattel slavery followed by institutionalized racism and oppression → Resulted in multigenerational adaptive behavior, some positive reflecting resilience, and others that are harmful and destructive.







## A Never Ending Assault

# Ongoing Racial Stress/Trauma NOT

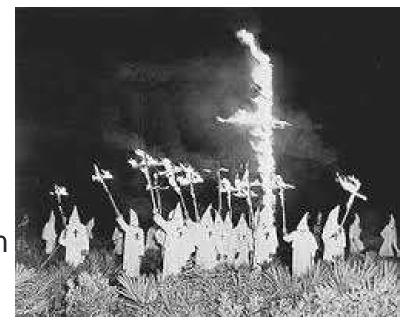
Post (Persistent) Traumatic Stress



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#### Black Racial Trauma

Experiencing psychological symptoms such as anxiety, hypervigilance to threat, or lack of hopefulness for your future as a result of repeated exposure to racism or discrimination.



-Erlanger Turner

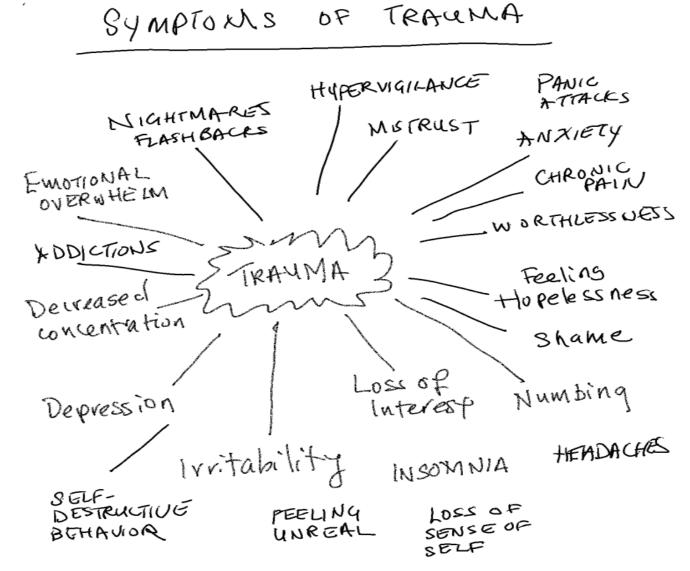




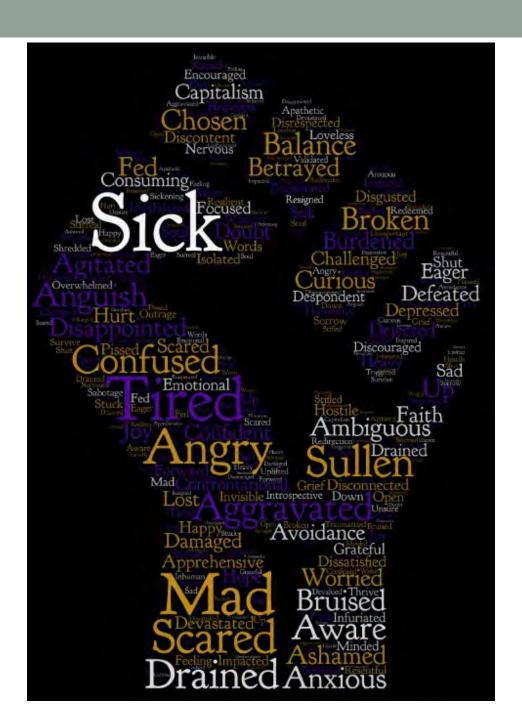


# Black Racial Trauma

- Individual
- Collective
- Historical
- Intergenerational



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7-123 Kristee

# My Racial Trauma...





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#### **Generational Trauma**

#### Disrupted Family Systems

Slavery & Historical Oppression

Self Hatred & Internalized Oppression

Mistrust of Systems



#### Police Killings & Black Americans Mental Health

Impact of Police Killings of Unarmed Black Americans (2013-2016)

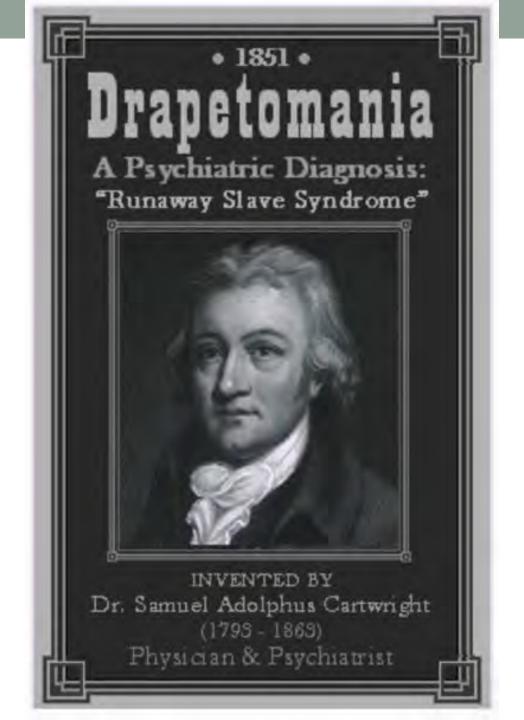
103,710 Black Americans exposed to 1+ killings in state within 3 months of survey Black respondents reported more "not good" mental health days (1.7 additional days)

Mental health of White Americans **NOT** effected Mental health impact
NOT observed from
killings of unarmed
White Americans or
armed Black Americans









7-128 Kristee







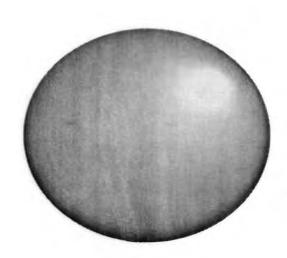


## Afrikan Trauma Cycle

MAAT

MAAFA

SANKOFA



WHOLENESS



FRACTURING SPLINTERING SHATTERING



MENDING
RETURNING TO OUR
OWN FORMS
REDEFINING CIVILIZATION



#### Healing and Repair from OUR Perspective

We must reclaim our dignity and humanity as people of African ancestry Address the trauma directly.

- Emotional Emancipation Circles
- Ubuntu Circles
- Sawubona Circles
- Safe Black Space
- Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi)





#### Many Forms of Reparations Address Trauma Directly

Mental Health/Healing from a Black, Africancentered culturally specific frame of reference

Individual & Community

Land Transference

**Housing Opportunities** 

**Direct Financial Restitution** 

Individuals & community

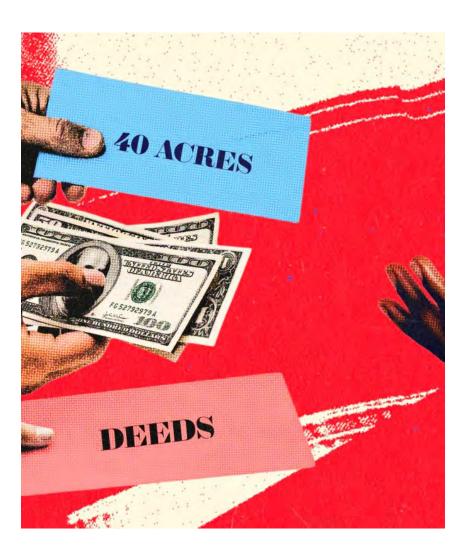
Tax Cuts

Investment in Black Community Members





### "Compensation" based on?



### Hundreds of years of unpaid chattel slave labor

- Unjust enrichment of Slave holders (PAID reparations when slaves freed!?)
- Wrongs suffered because of Jim Crow;
   Sharecropping; Black Codes; Redlining
- Wrongs suffered because of Institutional racism still experienced today affecting home buying; loans; segregated education; etc.
- Mental health suffered because of the lie of white superiority and black inferiority (anti-blackness) in all it's manifestations

Provide to Black people of African Ancestry – Descendants of Non-Immigrant Africans in America

> 0-133 Tr. Kristee

#### **WE ARE EACH OTHERS MEDICINE**







7-134 Kristee

## Closing Comments



- Reparations for Black people of African ancestry who are Non-Immigrant Africans in America
- Injury to enslaved Black people and their descendants is documented, is real and its effects are pervasive
- Reparations should include a variety of strategies, including specific attention to our mental health, including a focus on community healing that's culturally specific
- To NOT provide reparations would perpetuate the belief that Black people are not truly human.

0-135 r. Kristee "To be free is not merely to cast of one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." -Nelson Mandela



#### **Contact Information**

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# Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance and Systemic Racism in America

A Presentation to AB 3121 Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals For African Americans

Joan Kaufman, PhD Professor of Psychiatry



It is well established that personal experiences of trauma, adversity, and discrimination can "get under the skin" and increase risk for a whole host of negative mental and physical health outcomes.

Emerging research now also confirms that negative exposures in one generation, can be passed down to affect the health and well-being of future generations through transgenerational epigenetic inheritance.

# What is transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance?



It is how the negative effects of adversities and traumas in one generation can be passed down to affect the health and wellbeing of future generations. Grandchildren and great grandchildren can be negatively impacted by ancestral traumas -- even when they have not been directly exposed to any harm themselves.

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance: Key Concepts



Kaufman et al., 2021

- Epigenetic modifications are chemical modifications to the genes that affect the likelihood of a given gene product being made -with gene products being things like proteins and hormones that our bodies need to stay healthy.
- Epigenetic modifications are NOT gene mutations.
   Gene mutations interrupt the codes used to make the gene products so they may not be built right.
- Epigenetic modifications just turn genes on and off, but do not affect the codes used to create the gene products.

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance: Key Concepts (con't)

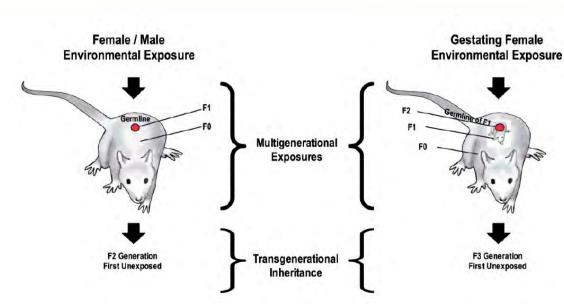


- Epigenetic mechanisms are one of the ways experiences of trauma get "under the skin."
- For the environmentally induced epigenetic modifications to be inherited across generations, they must be contained in the germline – the sperm or the egg -- as these are the only two cells used to create subsequent life.



# Animal Paradigm Used to Study Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance

**Transgenerational** epigenetic inheritance requires the negative outcomes associated with the exposure in the original generation (F0) be evident in subsequent generations with no history of exposure; the F2 generation if the F0 was male; the F3 generation if the F0 was female and pregnant at time of exposure



Reprinted from Nilsson et al., 2018

#### Code:

F0=first exposed generation

F1=Offspring/children

F2=Grandchildren

F3=Great grandchildren

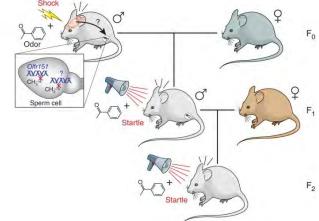
#### **Transgenerational Epigenetic Transmission**

### **Experiment 1: Fear Conditioning**



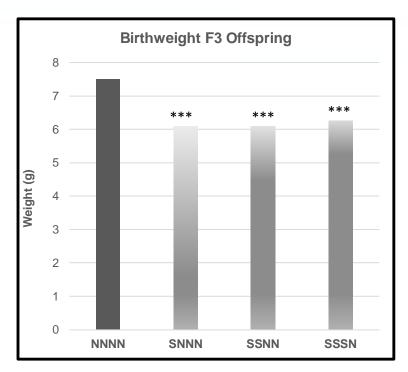
a behavioral analog for trauma exposure

- Fear Conditioning F0 mice: Pair shock and odor (Dias & Ressler, 2014)
- F1 (e.g., children) and F2 (e.g., grandchildren) generations had an increased behavioral sensitivity (e.g., fear) to the F0-conditioned odor, but not to other odors, despite no prior exposure to the odor or shocks.



- F0 mice subjected to fear conditioning and their F1 offspring were also found to have epigenetic marks in their sperm in a gene critical to olfactory perception.
- F0-fear conditioning was also associated with changes in brain regions involved in olfactory perception in the F1 and F2 generation offspring of F0 fear conditioned mice.
- IVF experiment further supports the role of sperm epigeneties

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Transmission Experiment 2: Stress During Pregnancy



#### Code:

NNNN=No stress across four generations SNNN=F0 Transgenerational stress SSNN & SSSN= Multigenerational stress

- F0 pregnant rats exposed to stress from gestational days 12-18
- 4 generations studied
- Stress reduced maternal weight gain in the F0 cohort and each successive generation
- Stress decreased gestational length beginning in the F1
- Stress increased maternal blood glucose levels by the F2 cohort
- Decreased offspring weight by F1
   greatest F3 offspring of transgenerationally stressed mothers (SNNN)

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Transmission Experiment 2: Stress During Pregnancy (con't)

Yao et al., 2014

- Offspring of prenatally, multigenerationally, and transgenerationally stressed mothers had developmental delays
- A multigenerational history of prenatal stress was associated with changes in genes implicated in brain plasticity, parturition/childbirth, and preterm birth

The documentation of an impact of transgenerational and multigenerational stress on preterm birth is particularly interesting given racial disparities in rates of preterm birth, and recent findings that adequate prenatal care does not reduce racial disparities, with African American women who engage in adequate prenatal care still at elevated risk for preterm birth.

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Transmission **Experiment 3: High Fat Diet**



de Castro Barbosa et al., 2016

- F0 male rats were fed either a high-fat or normal chow-diet for 12 weeks and then mated to normal chow-fed females to create F1 and F2 generation offspring.
- The F1 (e.g., children) and F2 (e.g., grandchildren) offspring of the F0 males fed the high-fat diet had reduced birthweight when compared to the offspring of chow-fed F0 males; with low birth-weight a documented risk factor for obesity and type 2 diabetes.
- F0 male rats fed the high-fat diet and their F1 male offspring had common sperm epigenetic changes in genes implicated in the regulation of glucose homeostasis, insulin sensitivity, and a predisposition to Type 2 diabetes.
- A history of a high fat/poor diet can impact the health of descendants across multiple generations.

# Transgenerational Epigenetic Transmission **Experiment 4: Lead Exposure**



Meyer et al., 2020

- Meyer and colleagues used zebrafish to study the transgenerational repercussions of lead exposure.
- F0 embryos were exposed for 24 hours to waterborne lead.
   The F0 generation zebrafish were then raised to adulthood and F1 and F2 generation offspring, who had no direct lead exposure, were then studied.
- The dosage of lead exposure used in this investigation was previously found to generate learning impairments in zebrafish, and similar learning impairments were found to be present in the F2 offspring of F0 lead exposed zebrafish.
- F2 offspring of F0 lead exposed zebrafish had altered expression in genes involved in brain development (e.g., synaptic function and plasticity, neurogenesis) and epigenetic processes genes which may be involved in lead-induced neurobehavioral deficits and/or their inheritance.

# **Summary: Part I**



- Emerging research confirms that negative exposures in one generation, can be passed down to affect the health and well-being of future generations through transgenerational epigenetic inheritance the transgenerational transmission of experience-dependent chemical modifications to the genes.
- While most of the research to date has been conducted in animals, studies in humans have shown ancestors exposure to trauma, poor nutrition, and toxic chemicals can impact the health of descendants across several generations, and some of the epigenetic modifications noted in animal studies have also been reported in humans.

# Summary: Part I (con't)



- For the environmentally induced epigenetic modifications to be inherited across generations, they must be contained in the germline (e.g., sperm, egg), which has now been demonstrated in multiple studies.
- The causal significance of these epigenetic changes have also been demonstrated with in-vitro fertilization studies.
- The biological relevance of the genes regulated by the epigenetic marks identified in the studies of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance provide compelling support for the role of these mechanisms in the transmission of experience-dependent traits and health problems.

# Preventing the Transmission of the Negative Effects of Ancestral Traumas



### **Animal Studies**

- Fear Conditioning/Trauma -> Extinction Training/Treatment (Aoued, Ressler, Dias, et al., 2019)
- High Fat Diet -> Healthy Diet and Exercise (McPherson et al., 2015)
- Prenatal Stress -> Exercise and Enrichment (Bustamante et al., 2013;Schander et al., 2020)
- In-utero Lead Exposure -> Enrichment (Cao et al., 2008)

# Preventing the Transmission of the Negative Effects of Ancestral Traumas



# **Human Studies**

- Harlem Children's Zone programs and Carolina Abecedarian Project (HCZ, 2021;Slopen, 2021;Winkleby, 2007)
- Stanford Medical Youth Science Program (Easterlin et al., 2019)
- Strong African American Families Prevention Program (Hanson, Brody et al., 2018; Kaufman et al., 2021)

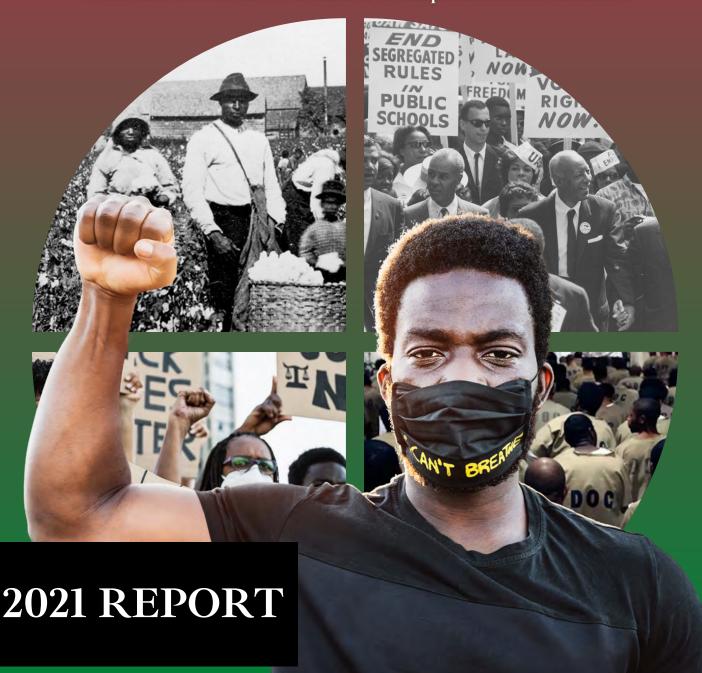


Preliminary data suggest the negative impact of ancestral traumas can be prevented, with a role for traumainformed services, culturally-adapted prevention and intervention programs, and enrichment opportunities strongly indicated.

True change and healing, however, will require acknowledgement of the harms that were done, and broader systemic policy level changes.

N'COBRA

National Coalition Of Blacks For Reparations In America



# The Harm Is To Our Genes

Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance & Systemic Racism in the United States

### INTRODUCING

# THE HARM IS TO OUR GENES

from the desk of National Co-Chair Kamm Howard

In 2015, I received an email from Dr. Kenneth Nave, MD of Chicago, with research on transgenerational epigenetics. This was the first time I had ever heard of the term. Dr. Nave was working on a theory to overcome the "standing" issue that was used to deny Blacks reparations in the 2005 federal reparations lawsuit. The lawsuit targeted various corporations for their atrocities during and after enslavement, as well as their enrichment from those atrocities. Judge Charles Norgle, of the US District Court of Northern District of Illinois made the ruling.

Standing, deals with the ability to sue, based on the person suing being the actual injured party or closely related to the injured party – like spouse or child, and in some cases, grandchild. Being "too far removed" from the crimes of enslavement (multiple generations past), ruled Norgle, prohibited us from having standing to sue.

Dr. Nave, on the other hand, saw it differently. He understood that historical trauma negatively manipulates gene that structures, those manipulations create a high probability for illness, that the changes and propensity for illness can, and often are, passed down multiple generations, and finally that the historical trauma never really ended for us. So, Dr. Nave concluded we were in fact, the actual injured parties based on this inherited injury. His work led to the book, Competent Proof: The Legal Standing African Americans Have in the Battle for Slavery Reparations.

I interpreted Dr. Nave's thesis as the harms of enslavement, Jim Crow apartheid, post-Jim Crow mass incarceration, war on drugs and police terror are in our genes. So, although we do not wear the scars of enslavement on our backs, they actually show up on us today, the descendants of those who endured those atrocities, as epigenome damage when viewed under a microscope. This gave us the title to this report – The Harms Are To Our Genes.

In April of 2020, the first racial statistics of the Covid 19 fatalities were released. And in city after city and state after state, Blacks were dying at a much higher rate than others. The initial reason given was that Blacks had higher rates of preexisting illnesses. Thus, our bodies were not able to fight off the virus. I connected this high death rate to the historical harms that have impacted our genes. The pre-existing illnesses that Blacks have at an alarming rate - diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, are all illness that are associated with transgenerational epigenetic inheritance. I immediately wrote an article, "Trans-Generational Epigenetic Injury is the Cause of the Higher Black Deaths from Covid 19."

That article, published in the *Chicago Crusader*, led to several conversations and presentations within N'COBRA and the Black Community. Those conversations led to the need to examine and assemble the existing scientific literature on historical trauma, transgenerational transmission of trauma and transgenerational epigenetic

# INTRODUCING THE HARM IS TO OUR GENES

from the desk of National Co-Chair Kamm Howard

inheritance (injury). Shortly thereafter, I was connected to Dr. Joan Kaufman of the Kennedy Krieger Institute, an affiliate of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Dr. Kaufman was very familiar with the subject and had done a similar type of scientific review on adverse childhood experiences. This connection has proved to be fruitful.

In releasing this report, The Harm is To Our Genes, N'COBRA has five (5) outcomes we desire:

- 1. **Inclusion** we want all discussions on the health disparities of the Black community to include the fact that this community, and only this community, has experienced over 400 years of historical trauma in the manner in which it has (i), which can, has, and will possibly negatively impact our health at some point in our lifetime.
- 2. **Resources** we want resources directed to mitigate the effect of the historical trauma, i.e., transgenerational transmission of trauma and transgenerational epigenetic inherited injury.
- 3. **Research** as most of the research on transgenerational epigenetic inheritance has been on animals, we want specific research on our communities by our researchers, with our practitioners to chart a course of transgenerational healing for our community.

- 4. **Awareness** we want cities, states, and the federal government to provide awareness information on the existence and possible ways that our community can individually address this reality.
- 5. **Decolonization of Health** many alternative healing modalities, in particular, African, and African-centered healing modalities must be understood, accepted, adopted, funded, and utilized in the effort to heal our communities from the centuries of terror, trauma, and abuse.

This is just the beginning. Let's work to heal the harm that is to our genes.

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Kamm Howard.

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National Male Co-Chair, N'COBRA

Following this Harm Report is a Post Script by N'COBRA's Health Commission, entitled, African Centered Healing is Essential to Our Health and Well-being.

(i) Hunter Adams, III, describes our experience as " a singularity of subjugation – never before in human history has an equivalent system of exploitation occurred so comprehensive it resulted in "complete defeat" – the denial of a people's ability to survive on their own terms, loss of control of their children's custody and socialization, and ultimately, loss of control of their future.

NATIONAL COALITION OF BLACKS FOR REPARATIONS IN AMERICA



November 2021

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since Africans were first brought to this continent against their will by the Spanish in 1526, there have been government and socially sanctioned atrocities against African descendants. Historical trauma and ongoing systemic racism has a toll, not just on the psyche of African Americans, but on their physical health as well. It is well established that experiences of trauma and adversity can "get under the skin" and increase risk for a whole host of significant health problems.

This report is organized into seven sections:

1) The first section provides a concise overview of the historic trauma experienced by African Americans:

The middle passage, slavery, and lynchings are briefly discussed.

2) The second section discusses key structures in American society that perpetuate cycles of disadvantage and ongoing experiences of adversity and trauma for African descendants:

The need for reform in the criminal justice system is highlighted, given the extraordinary rates of mass incarceration in this country and the profound negative effects of incarceration, not just on the exprisoner, but on their partners and children as well. Legislation and proposals to address other key structures that perpetuate disadvantage, adversity, and trauma are also discussed in this report.

3) The third section discusses data that links adversity and trauma to a whole host of medical health problems:

Experiences of adversity increase risk for problems with obesity, diabetes, heart disease and more.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### Continued

# 4) The fourth section provides an introduction to the field of epigenetics and the concept of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance:

Transgenerational epigenetic inheritance is the transmission of the deleterious effects of ancestral traumas through chemical (e.g., epigenetic) modifications to the DNA that are inherited across generations. Through transgenerational epigenetic inheritance, grandchildren and great grandchildren can be negatively impacted by the ancestral traumas -- even when they have not been directly exposed to any adversity themselves.

#### 5) The fifth section reviews state-of-the art research on transgenerational epigenetic inheritance:

While there has been skepticism in the field that chemical modifications to the DNA in one generation caused by stress or other negative experiences could be inherited in subsequent generations, a growing body of animal research on transgenerational epigenetic inheritance strongly suggests that ancestral adversities can negatively impact descendants across multiple generations through epigenetic (e.g., chemical) changes to the DNA in the germline (e.g., sperm, eggs). Epidemiological and clinical studies also support the relevance of this work in understanding the transgenerational transmission of adversity in human cohorts.

# 6) The sixth section discusses factors that can mitigate the effects of historical and personal trauma and promote strength and resilience:

The animal literature has demonstrated that the epigenetic modifications and deleterious outcomes across generations associated with various negative exposures can be prevented through a range of different experimental manipulations. Trauma-informed clinical services, culturally-grounded preventive interventions, and positive enriching educational, sports, and art experiences have also been found to mitigate the effects of historical trauma and various lifetime adverse experiences.

# 7) The seventh section delineates policy, practice, and research recommendations to address systemic racism in America:

While more basic (e.g., animal) and clinical research is needed to fully elucidate the molecular mechanisms by which experience can alter the epigenome and impact health and developmental trajectories across multiple generations, more research is not required to demonstrate the need to dismantle the systems that perpetuate disadvantage, adversity, and trauma among African descendants.



The cost to the individual and to society is enormous. The time to act is now.

Nine minutes and twenty-nine seconds woke the world on May 25, 2020. On that day, Darnella Frazier, a then 17-year old girl from Minneapolis, filmed the police officer Derek Chauvin with his knee on George Floyd's neck. The murder of Mr. Floyd led to protests in over 2,000 cities and towns across the United States, and 60 countries around the globe. It is estimated that between 15-26 million people participated in these demonstrations.<sup>(1)</sup>

May 31 through June 1, 2021 marked the 100 year anniversary of the Black Wall Street Massacre, when a white mob descended on Tulsa's Black Greenwood neighborhood killing hundreds of people, destroying many successful businesses, and leaving thousands homeless. Property damage amounted to more than \$1.5 million in real estate and \$750,000 in personal property, or losses equivalent to about \$32.65 million in today's currency. (2)

Since Africans were first brought to this continent against their will by the Spanish in 1526, <sup>(3)</sup> government and socially sanctioned atrocities against African descendants have continued. Historic trauma and ongoing systemic racism has a toll, not just on the psyche of African Americans, but on their physical health as well.

It is well established that experiences of trauma and adversity can "get under the skin" and increase risk for a whole host of negative social, <sup>(4-9)</sup> psychiatric, <sup>(10-12)</sup> and medical health problems. <sup>(5,13-18)</sup>

#### Can the impact of trauma be transmitted transgenerationally?

The concept of generational trauma was first introduced in 1967 by Vivian Rakoff, a Canadian psychiatrist who recorded markedly elevated rates of psychological distress among children of Holocaust survivors (19,20). Since that initial publication, multiple investigators have reported elevated rates of psychological distress in the children (21,22) and grandchildren (23-25) of Holocaust survivors. There have also been a number of epidemiological studies which suggest parental exposure to trauma and stress, inadequate nutrition, and toxicants can impact the health of descendants across several generations. (26-28)

#### **Report Organization**

This report is organized into seven sections: 1) The first section provides a brief overview of the historical trauma experienced by African Americans; 2) The second section discusses key structures in American society that perpetuate cycles of disadvantage and ongoing experiences of adversity and trauma for African descendants; 3) The third section discusses data that links adversity and trauma to a whole host of medical health problems; 4) The fourth section provides an introduction to the field of epigenetics and the concept of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance; 5) The fifth section reviews state-of-the art research on transgenerational epigenetic inheritance; 6) The sixth section discusses factors that can mitigate the effects of historical and personal trauma and promote resilience and recovery; and 7) the seventh section delineates policy, practice, and research recommendations to address systemic racism in America.





Continued

#### 1) HISTORICAL TRAUMA

Historical trauma has been defined as events that are so widespread as to affect an entire culture; such events also have effects intense enough to influence generations of the culture beyond those who experienced them directly. Volumes have been written documenting the historical trauma experienced by African descendants; this section will inevitably be inadequate in doing justice to that history. Key segments of that history are briefly highlighted.

The Middle Passage. Historians estimate that thirty million Africans were deported from different parts of Africa and enslaved. An estimated 14.4% of captured Africans died in transit, and punishment and torture throughout the trip across the sea was very common. According to an eye-witness report:



Figure 1: Ankle shackles used to restrain enslaved people aboard ships in the Middle Passage.

The men Negroes, on being brought aboard ship, are immediately fastened together two and two, by handcuffs on their wrists, and by irons riveted on their legs. They are frequently stowed so close as to admit of no other posture than lying on their sides (pg. 124).<sup>(33,34)</sup>



#### Continued

*Slavery.* Frederick Douglas was born into bondage and secretly taught himself to read and write -- a crime that was punishable by death. His book, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas: An American Slave*, provides one of the most comprehensive first-person accounts of slavery in America. In describing matters for which an enslaved person could be whipped, he noted:

A mere look, word, or motion,- - a mistake, accident, or want of power,- - are all matters for which a slave may be whipped at any time. Does a slave look dissatisfied? It is said, he has the devil in him, and it must be whipped out. Does he speak loudly when spoken to by his master? Then he is getting high- minded, and should be taken down a button-hole lower. Does he forget to pull off his hat at the approach of a white person? Then he is wanting in reverence, and should be whipped for it. Does he ever venture to vindicate his conduct, when censured for it? Then he is guilty of impudence,- - one of the greatest crimes of which a slave can be guilty. Does he ever venture to suggest a different mode of doing things from that pointed out by his master? He is indeed presumptuous, and getting above himself.... (pg. 79).

Lewis Clarke, an enslaved child in Kentucky, described his experiences of being frequently whipped by his mistress.<sup>(36)</sup>

[My mistress's] instruments of torture were ordinarily the raw hide, or a bunch of hickory-sprouts seasoned in the fire and tied together. But if these were not at hand, nothing came amiss. She could relish a beating with a chair, the broom, tongs, shovel, shears, knife-handle, the heavy heel of her slipper, or a bunch of keys; her zeal was so active in these barbarous inflictions that her invention was wonderfully quick, and some way of inflicting the requisite torture was soon found.

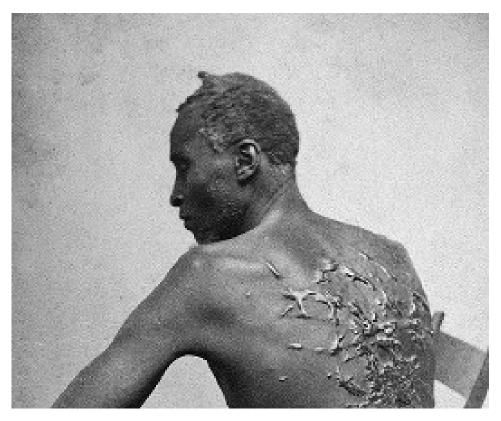
#### He went on to comment:

Mrs. Banton [my mistress], as is common among slave-holding women, seemed to hate and abuse me all the more, because I had some of the blood of her father in my veins. There are no slaves that are so badly abused, as those that are related to some of the women, or the children of their own husband; it seems as though they never could hate these quite bad enough.

The exact number of slaves fathered by their masters is unknown, but rape of enslaved females was common<sup>(37)</sup>. Originally circulated in 1805 to educate the public about slavery, Injured Humanity also vividly depicts the horrors of enslavement, detailing the destruction of families, the practices of floggings and the branding of enslaved persons, and the inhumane conditions of their lives.<sup>(38)</sup>



Continued



**Figure 2:** Scars of Gordan, whipped slave, 1863; Rare Historical Photos: www.historicalphotos.com

The photo to the left depicts Gordon, enslaved African who escaped the plantation in 1863 to join the Union Army to fight for the liberty of other enslaved Africans. (39) Upon escaping Union lines, behind pictures of his back were taken to show the brutality of slavery. Gordon was captured by the Confederate Army and beaten so badly that he was left for dead. However, he was able to find his way back to Union Lines. Gordon, became a sergeant in the Corps d'Afrique, and fought valiantly in the Siege of Port Hudson.

After the Civil War freed slaves were promised '40 acres and a mule' by Union General William T. Sherman. Less than a year after Sherman's proclamation, however, President Andrew Johnson intervened and ordered the vast majority of confiscated land be returned to its former owners. Other provisions and local government policies further made occupation of the confiscated lands infeasible for the recently freed Blacks. (40)

As slavery was instrumental to the southern economy, *many slave owners got reparations after the ending of the Civil War*. To ease slaveowner's pain, the District of Columbia Emancipation Act paid those loyal to the Union up to \$300 for every enslaved person freed. Commissions were established to oversee the process of compensation in other states, with more than 3,100 former slaves owners compensated payments totaling approximately \$930,000 – or almost \$25 million in today's currency. (41)

*Lynchings.* Although many historians believe the true number is much larger, from 1877 to 1950 the Equal Justice Initiative documented 4,384 lynchings. Lynching was a tool used to enforce Jim Crow laws and racial segregation. Lynchings inflicted harm, not just upon the individual victims, but upon the entire African American community. These lynchings differed from ordinary murders, as they tended to draw large crowds of people who tortured victims, burned them alive, and dismembered them. (43)



Continued



Figure 3: From the Jackson Mississippi Daily News, Thursday, June 26, 1919

For example, John Hartfield was a black man who was lynched in Mississippi in 1919 for allegedly having a white girlfriend. The lynching was announced a day in advance in major newspapers (see clipping above), and a crowd of as many as 10,000 watched while Hartfield was hanged, shot, and burned. Pieces of his corpse were chopped off and sold as souvenirs. Days later a Black man in Perry County was also murdered by a mob because he mentioned Hartfield's death.<sup>(44)</sup>

In May, the same year Hartfield was lynched, a white plantation owner was killed in Georgia. When an angry group of citizens could not find the man accused of the murder, they killed several other Black men, including a man named Hayes Turner. Hayes' wife Mary vowed to get a warrant for the arrest of her husband's murderers, so the next day they came after her. Mary was about 20 years old and eight months pregnant. They strung her by her ankles on a tree, doused her with gasoline and motor oil, and set her afire. While Mary was badly burned, but still alive, a man stepped toward Mary with his knife and ripped open her abdomen. The prematurely born child tumbled to the ground and gave two feeble cries before the man stomped on the baby killing it.<sup>(45)</sup> It is estimated that between 5%-6% of all lynchings were of women, with many of the victims gang raped before being killed.<sup>(43)</sup>

Of all lynchings committed after 1900, only 1% resulted in a lyncher being convicted of a criminal offense. Most lynchings involved the killing of one or more specific individuals, but some lynchers targeted entire Black communities by forcing Black people to witness lynchings and demanding that they leave the area or face a similar fate. After a lynching in Forsyth County, Georgia, in 1912, white vigilantes distributed leaflets demanding that all Black people leave the county or suffer deadly consequences; so many Black families fled, such that by 1920, the county's Black population had plunged from 1,100 to just thirty. (42)

Continued



Figure 4: Lynching of Jesse Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois photo essay, 1916

The publication of the lynching photo essay, "The Waco Horror" in 1916 that featured images of the lynching of Jesse Washington, a 17-year old Black teen, helped energize the anti-lynching movement. The first Anti-Lynching Bill was introduced into Congress in 1918, however, over 100 years later, with 200 different bills introduced over the years, there is still no federal legislation against lynching. (46)

#### 2) STRUCTURES THAT PERPETUATE CYCLES OF DISADVANTAGE AND EXPERIENCES OF **ADVERSITY AND TRAUMA**

Michelle Alexander, in her book The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, contends that the systems of oppression against African descendants employed in the United States went from enslavement, to Jim Crow, to implementation of laws addressing the war on drugs that has led to mass incarceration and restricted rights for an overwhelming number of African Americans. (47) While not all accept this proposition, the quote below from President Richard Nixon's aide John Ehrlichman in an interview about the War on Drugs supports Alexander's premise. (48)

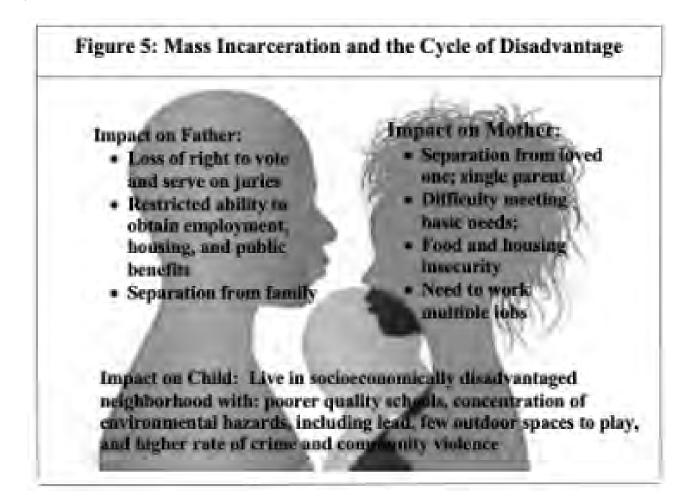
> "We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."





#### Continued

Since 1970 the incarcerated population in the United States has increased by 700%, (49) such that there are currently approximately 2.2 million people behind bars. (50,51) The United States has the highest prison population in the world; accounting for 25% of the world's prison population despite the US only comprising 5% of the world's total population. (50) It is estimated that approximately half of all prisoners are serving time for drug offenses, (51) with nearly 90% of drug violations for possession, not sales or manufacturing. (52) In addition, while African descendants are estimated to make up 13% of all drug users, they comprise 35% of those arrested for drug offenses, and 46% of those convicted on drug charges. (51) Harsher sentencing laws related to crack cocaine versus powder cocaine, with crack cocaine more prevalent in the Black community and powder cocaine used more among Whites, (53,54) contributed to these racial disparities. Adding to the growing prison population, marijuana arrests increased from 2001 to 2010, such that they came to account for nearly half of all drug arrests. Despite 33 states and DC having legalized marijuana for medical purposes (56) marijuana possession can still result in felony charges in all but ten states.<sup>(57)</sup> While statistics again suggest rates of marijuana use are comparable among Blacks and Whites, a Black person is 3.73 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than a White person<sup>(55)</sup> These disparities, and other systemic biases in the criminal justice system which have been detailed elsewhere, (58) has led to a burgeoning of the incarceration of Blacks, such that it is currently estimated that one in three African American men will be incarcerated at some point in their lives. (50,51)



#### Continued

Much as African descendants were forced into segregated, second- class citizenship in the Jim Crow era, once released after a felony offense, which could have been for possessing small amounts of marijuana, formerly incarcerated persons are often denied the right to vote, excluded from juries, and restricted in their ability to obtain employment, housing, and public benefits. (47) The cycle of disadvantage inflicted by imprisonment, however, affects more than just the formerly incarcerated person (see Figure 5). Nearly half of state prisoners (47%) and more than half of federal prisoners (57%) report having at least one minor child. (59) comprise 91% of the parents in prison, (59) and nearly half of all parents in prison lived with their children prior to incarceration. (59) Among minor children of parents in state prison, 1% are younger than age 1, about 18% are ages 1 to 4, 33% are 5 to 9, and 48% are 10 or older. For these children, access to parents is often limited during incarceration as 62% of parents in state prisons and 84% of parents in federal prisons are locked up more than 100 miles from their last residence. (51) Nearly 2 in 3 (65%) families with an incarcerated family member experience difficulties meeting their basic needs, with approximately half (49%) reporting frequent bouts of food insecurity. 600 Children whose fathers are incarcerated also move more frequently and live in neighborhoods that are more socioeconomically disadvantaged than their peers whose fathers have never been in prison.<sup>(61)</sup> Socioeconomically disadvantaged neighborhoods are associated with poorer quality schools, a concentration of environmental hazards, including lead, fewer safe outdoor spaces for children to play, and higher rates of crime and community violence. (62) Mothers with a partner who is incarcerated are also more likely to work multiple jobs;<sup>61)</sup> adding additional stress to the family environment. The cycle of disadvantage associated with parent incarceration is compounded significantly by all these factors.

However, even when African American families transcend the cycle of disadvantage propagated by government and societal policies and practices, privilege does not guarantee they can keep their children safe. There are countless examples of this one could tell; the story of Representative Lucy McBath as reported by CNN is one that is all too familiar and vividly depicts every African American parent's worst nightmare. (63) It was reported:

Representative Lucy McBath vividly remembers having "the talk" with her teenage son Jordan in 2012 after 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was shot and killed.

"I said, 'Baby, you got to understand. You are a young, Black male, and there are people in this country that are not going to care about you or love you like us, your family, your community," the Democratic congresswoman from Georgia recalled.

It's the conversation no parent wants to have, but so many Black mothers and fathers across this country feel it is a must.

"You have to be really careful where you are, what you do. Don't get into any verbal confrontation with anyone .. People will take out a gun and they will shoot you.' And I remember Jordan had said, with that bravado, 'Mom, that's not going to happen to me."

Just nine months later, that's exactly what happened to him. Jordan was shot three times, killed by a White man at a gas station who was angry that Jordan and his friends were playing loud music. At 17, he was the same age as Martin.

#### Continued

The toll of each heinous murder across the generations transcends family lines and compounds the impact of historical trauma on all African descendants.

#### 3) ADVERSITY AND NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs, were first defined in a now classic paper published in 1998 by Anda, Felitti, and colleagues.<sup>(5)</sup> In the initial study and much of the subsequent research, ACEs were defined as experiences of child maltreatment and other family problems (e.g., separation or divorce, incarceration of a family member). As depicted in Table 1, the past two decades of research have demonstrated that ACEs are associated with increased risk for a broad range of negative social outcomes, psychiatric and substance use disorders, health risk behaviors, and medical health problems. Even after controlling for socioeconomic factors and health risk behaviors, the effect of ACEs on numerous medical health outcomes is significant. (5,13-17)

Table 1: Negative Outcomes Associated with ACEs

Table II Hebatite datedines aboutated with Heb			
Adverse	Psychiatric	Health Risk	Medical Health
Social Outcomes	Disorders	Behaviors	Problems
Educational failure	Posttraumatic Stress	Smoking	Obesity
Absenteeism from school	Disorder	Overeating	Diabetes
Unemployment	Depression	Physical inactivity	Heart disease
Absenteeism from work	Anxiety disorders	Alcohol and drug use	Liver disease
Teen pregnancy	Psychosis	Sexual intercourse with	Respiratory problems
Incarceration	Substance use disorders	multiple partners	Cancer
	Suicide attempts		

The original family-focused ACEs were derived in studying a predominantly white upper middle class cohort. Research conducted in more socioeconomically and racially diverse urban populations have highlighted the importance of examining both the traditional ACEs and expanded community-focused ACEs (e.g., racism, witnessing violence, living in an unsafe neighborhood). In particular, racism and perceived discrimination are now also recognized as key factors contributing to health disparities between Blacks and Whites (67-70). Perceived discrimination has been found to be a potent predictor of negative health outcomes and health disparities, even after taking into account income, education, and other measures of stress. Discrimination is hypothesized to "get under the skin" and increase risk for the broad range of negative mental and physical health outcomes associated with the traditional ACEs through similar biological mechanisms, including stress, brain, epigenetic, and immune system mechanisms.

#### 4) TRANSGENERATIONAL EPIGENETIC INHERITANCE: KEY CONCEPTS

Genetic inheritance is a basic principle of genetics that explains how characteristics are passed on from one generation to the next. Genetic inheritance occurs due to genetic material, in the form of DNA, being passed from parents to their offspring. The DNA from the male is carried in the sperm, and the DNA from the female is carried in the egg.





#### Continued

When the egg and the sperm unite they form a single cell which will have to multiply and make all the different cell types required for life. Every cell in the body has the same DNA, but different genes are turned on in different cells, making, for example, a neuron different than a cardiac muscle cell. The blueprint for each different cell type is programmed through *epigenetic mechanisms* – chemical modifications to the DNA that change its three-dimensional shape and the likelihood of a given gene product being turned on or off. These instructions are hard-wired and essential for normal development.

Epigenetic mechanisms are also one of the ways experiences of trauma and adversity get "under the skin." Methylation – the addition of a carbon atom with three hydrogen atoms to DNA – is known to shut off genes when added to the beginning of the gene sequence. One of the most highly replicated findings in the field of epigenetics research is that experiences of early life stress can lead to methylation of the glucocorticoid receptor (GR) gene. The glucocorticoid receptor helps to turn off the stress response, and methylation of the GR gene is associated with reduced number of glucocorticoid receptors and heightened stress reactivity. (72)

Whether or not these environmentally induced, non-hardwired epigenetic modifications can be inherited and transmitted across generations is an active area of research. Studies of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance are hard to execute in humans as it is difficult to obtain multigenerational cohorts and exclude psychosocial (e.g., poverty) and cultural (e.g., racism) confounders that may lead to common epigenetic, behavioral, and health outcomes across generations. A growing body of animal research, however, suggests the effects of traumatic stress and other negative exposures (e.g., chemicals) can be transmitted to subsequent generations through epigenetic mechanisms.

For the environmentally induced epigenetic modifications to be inherited across generations, they must be contained in the germline – the sperm or the egg – as these are the only two cells used to create subsequent life. Transgenerational epigenetic inheritance of traumatic stress and other negative exposures (e.g., chemicals) requires: 1) epigenetic modifications in the exposed animal/individual be present in the germline (e.g., sperm, egg); 2) epigenetic modifications in the exposed animal/individual be causally linked to the negative outcomes associated with the exposure be evident in subsequent generations with no history of exposure; and 4) the presence of the negative outcomes in the subsequent generations be causally linked to the epigenetic modifications initiated in the first exposed generation.



Continued

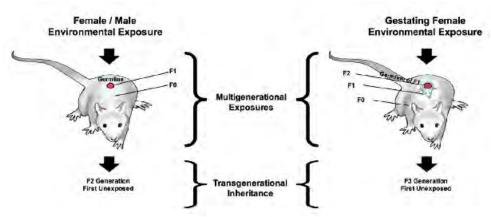


Figure 6: Diagram from Nilsson et al. (88)

The diagram above depicts the experimental paradigm used to investigate transgenerational epigenetic inheritance in animals.<sup>(88)</sup> The male or female that has the initial negative environmental exposure is labelled the F0 generation. As the impact of exposure can lead to epigenetic modifications to the germline (e.g., sperm, egg) of the F0 generation that creates the F1 generation, the F1 generation is considered 'exposed' as well. Transgenerational inheritance cannot be examined until the F2 generation. If as depicted on the right side of the diagram, the female is pregnant at the time of exposure, she (F0) is exposed; her developing baby (F1) is exposed, and its germline and the subsequent offspring (F2) is also considered exposed. The F3 generation (e.g., great grandchild) would then be the first unexposed offspring in which transgenerational inheritance could be examined.

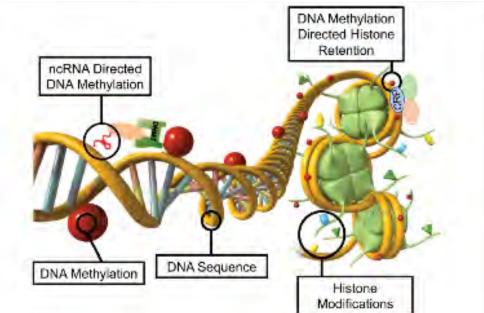


Figure 7: Epigenetics diagram adapted from Beck et al. (89)

The three forms of epigenetic modifications linked most frequently to transgenerational inheritance include: methylation, as discussed previously; histone modifications; and the action of non-coding RNA molecules (ncRNA; see diagram above). Histones are the proteins that act as spools to wind DNA, and chemical modifications to histones can also affect gene regulation. While RNA molecules are best known for their role in coding proteins; ncRNAs can also act as epigenetic factors and impact gene regulation. (88)

#### Continued

Although evidence of transgenerational inheritance has been reported through the female germline, (90) most transgenerational inheritance studies have focused on examining epigenetic factors in sperm due to the relative ease of obtaining large numbers of sperm cells for analyses. Eggs cannot be readily obtained or acquired in large enough quantity for traditional molecular analysis. Currently more research is needed using evolving single-cell analytic techniques to fully elucidate the role of the female germline (e.g., eggs) in epigenetic inheritance. (88)

Because sperm develop behind a protective barrier, there was skepticism about the capacity for environmental exposures to elicit epigenetic modifications in sperm. Recently three independent teams were able to demonstrate that extracellular vesicles could transmit information about environmental stress and other adverse exposures to sperm, leading to epigenetic modifications that could be transmitted intergenerationally. (91-93)

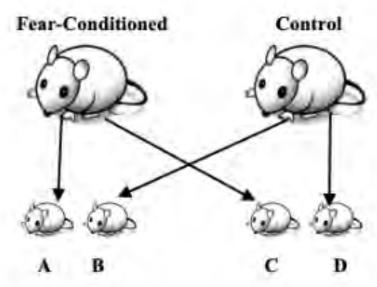
Skepticism about transgenerational epigenetic inheritance also flourished in the past as methylation and histone epigenetic marks are known to be erased after fertilization so the cells of the evolving embryo can be totipotent – capable of transforming into all the different cell types required for life. (27,28,80) It has since been established that erasure and reprogramming is not complete, (85,88,92,94,95) and as discussed in the following section, methylation and histone epigenetic marks appear to be involved in facilitating experience-dependent transgenerational inheritance.

#### Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance: Research Review

Rodent studies that have reported epigenetic modifications in the germline (e.g., sperm) that are causally linked to the outcomes associated with different exposures have examined the impact of: stress,(82,83,92,96-98) a high fat diet,(99-101) and multiple chemical exposures. (75,77,78,85,89,90,102-105) Many of these studies, however, only provide evidence of multigenerational transmission (see Figure 6). Select studies that provide evidence of true transgenerational inheritance – with the impact of ancestral exposures evident in subsequent generations with no history of exposure -- are reviewed below.

Fear conditioning is an animal model used to approximate exposure to traumatic stress. An innocuous stimulus, like an odor, is paired with a shock, so that with time the odor alone will elicit fear. Dias and Ressler <sup>(96)</sup> subjected F0 mice to odor fear conditioning before conception and found that subsequently conceived F1 (e.g., children) and F2 (e.g., grandchildren) generations had an increased behavioral sensitivity (e.g., fear) to the F0-conditioned odor, but not to other odors, despite no prior exposure to the odor or shocks. F0 mice subjected to fear conditioning and their F1 offspring were also found to have epigenetic marks in their sperm in a gene critical to olfactory perception. Enhanced behavioral response to the F0-conditioned odor was also associated with alterations in brain regions involved in olfactory perception in the F1 and F2 generation offspring of F0 fear conditioned mice. These same neuroanatomical alterations were also observed in odor naïve mice generated using in vitro fertilization (IVF) with sperm from the F0 fear conditioned mice, suggesting the neuroanatomical changes to the olfactory system were transmitted through the male germline (e.g., sperm). Due to animal quarantine issues, however, behavioral studies could not be conducted with the IVF-generated offspring.

Continued



To determine if conditioned fear could be transmitted via the female, Dias and Ressler conducted a cross-fostering study using the design depicted in the above diagram. Sexually naive female mice were conditioned with the odor (e.g., fear-conditioned) or left in their home cage (control). They were then mated with odor-naive males. Immediately after birth their offspring were then divided into the following groups: (A) offspring of the fear-conditioned mothers raised by the fear-conditioned mothers; (B) offspring of the control mothers raised by the fear-conditioned mothers raised by the control mothers; and (D) offspring of the control mothers raised by the control mothers. The females were only exposed to the odor conditioning before mating, and never while pregnant, precluding in utero exposure. Offspring of the fear-conditioned mice, whether raised by fear-conditioned mothers, or raised by the control mothers, exhibited increased behavioral sensitivity (e.g., fear) to the F0-conditioned odor, suggesting conditioned fear (e.g., psychological distress) can be transmitted via the female germline as well.

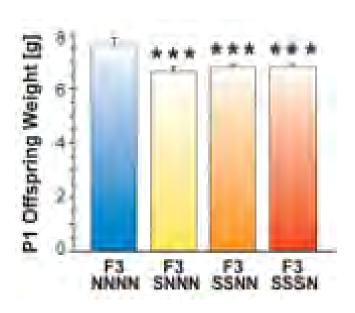
Yao and colleagues examined the impact of ancestral and multigenerational stress on maternal weight gain, gestational length, maternal blood glucose levels, and offspring weight in a four generation study. Pregnant rats in the first (F0) generation were exposed to stress from gestational days 12 to 18. In this study "stress" involved being put in a cramped container for 20 minutes a day and having to swim 5 minutes a day. The pregnant daughters (F1) and granddaughters (F2) of the F0 moms were either exposed to stress or left undisturbed (e.g., non-stressed). Outcomes were examined in each generation, including in great grandchildren (F3). Stress reduced maternal weight gain in the F0 cohort and each successive generation, decreased gestational length beginning in the F1 cohort, and increased maternal blood glucose levels by the F2 cohort. Decreased offspring weight was evident by the F1 cohort and greatest in the F3 offspring of transgenerationally stressed mothers.



Decreased offspring weight was evident by the F1 cohort and greatest in the F3 offspring of transgenerationally stressed mothers.

#### Continued

As depicted in the diagram to the right, transgenerational and multigenerational prenatal stress resulted in low birth weight among F3 offspring. In the diagram NNNN indicates there was no stress across the four generations; SNNN indicates only F0 transgenerational stress, and SSNN and SSSN are indicative of multigenerational stress. In addition to the impact on birth weight, offspring of multigenerationally, transgenerationally stressed mothers were reported to exhibit developmental delays. Yao and colleagues also conducted brain frontal cortex, uterus, and placenta ncRNA and gene expression analyses in F0-N, F0-S, and F2-SSS animals, with results in F2 demonstrating stressed animals multigenerational history of prenatal stress is associated with changes in genes implicated in brain plasticity, parturition/childbirth, and preterm birth. (98)



The documentation of an impact of transgenerational and multigenerational stress on preterm birth is particularly interesting given racial disparities in rates of preterm birth, and recent findings that adequate prenatal care does not reduce racial disparities, with African American women who engage in adequate prenatal care still at elevated risk for preterm birth.<sup>(106)</sup>

de Castro Barbosa and colleagues showed that a high-fat diet could reprogram the epigenome of sperm and transgenerationally affect metabolism in the offspring. <sup>(100)</sup> In this study, F0 male rats were fed either a high-fat or normal chow-diet for 12 weeks and then mated to normal chow-fed females to create F1 and F2 generation offspring. Sperm were isolated from F0 and F1 males. The F0 male rats fed the high-fat diet had increased body weight and impaired glucose tolerance. The F1 (e.g., children) and F2 (e.g., grandchildren) offspring of the F0 males fed the high-fat diet had reduced birth-weight when compared to the offspring of chow-fed F0 males; and low birth-weight is a documented risk factor for obesity and type 2 diabetes. <sup>(107,108)</sup> F0 male rats fed the high-fat diet and their F1 male offspring had common sperm DNA methylation and small ncRNA expression signatures – with several of the epigenetic sites identified in genes implicated in the regulation of glucose homeostasis, insulin sensitivity, and a predisposition to Type 2 diabetes. <sup>(100)</sup> Consistent with these data demonstrating the role of a high-fat diet in programming the epigenome of sperm to affect the metabolism of the offspring, Grandjean and colleagues showed that microinjection of either testis or sperm ncRNA of male mice fed a high-fat diet into naive one-cell embryos lead to the establishment of the high-fat diet-induced metabolic phenotype (e.g., insulin resistance, impaired glucose tolerance) in the resulting progenies, whereas ncRNAs prepared from healthy controls did not. <sup>(101)</sup>

Skinner and colleagues have examined the transgenerational epigenetic inheritance of various health problems following exposure to the insecticide dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT)<sup>(75,76,85,102,104)</sup> and a number of other environmental toxicants.<sup>(77,78,87,103,105)</sup> The research suggests ancestral exposure to DDT can promote obesity and associated diseases transgenerationally. In an initial study of the transgenerational impact of DDT exposure, gestating F0 females rats were exposed transiently to DDT at doses consistent with typical environmental exposures, and health outcomes were examined in F1 and F3 offspring.<sup>(104)</sup>

#### Continued

The F0 cohort was the only generation directly exposed to DDT. Both F1 and F3 offspring of F0 exposed rats developed several different pathologies (e.g., testes apoptosis, ovary disease, kidney disease), with the rates of having multiple diseases higher in both the F1 and F3 progeny than the offspring of controls. Elevated rates of obesity were also detected in 50% of the F3 offspring of the F0 exposed rats. F3 male sperm was also collected to examine methylation differences between the offspring of the FO DDT exposed and control lineages, and multiple differentially methylated regions were statistically different between the two groups - including in regions containing genes that were previously associated with obesity.<sup>(104)</sup> In follow-up studies using the same experimental paradigm outlined above, more extensive analyses of epigenetic parameters were conducted on the sperm from adult males in the F1 (e.g., offspring), F2 (e.g., grand offspring), and F3 (e.g., great-grand offspring) generations. (85,89) Since the prior study observed DDT-related disease onset primarily between 6 and 12 months of age, sperm were collected at 3 months of age to avoid epigenetic-related disease artifacts. Robust methylation, histone modifications, and ncRNA alterations were evident in sperm from each generation, with the most distinct epigenetic marks evident in the F3 generation. The investigators proposed that the co-localization of many of the methylation, histone, and ncRNA alterations suggest the different epigenetic processes are integrated in mediating the epigenetic transgenerational inheritance of DDT-related pathologies. A similar pattern of findings involving methylation, histones, and ncRNAs emerged when examining the transgenerational epigenetic marks associated with vinclozolin, a fungicide used on fruits and vegetable crops.<sup>(78)</sup>

To the best of our knowledge, no rodent transgenerational studies have examined the impact of lead exposure, a major public health hazard for African American urban children, with profound and well-characterized developmental and behavioral implications across the lifespan. (109) Meyer and colleagues used zebrafish to study the transgenerational repercussions of lead exposure. (109) F0 embryos were exposed for 24 hours to waterborne lead. The F0 generation zebrafish were then raised to adulthood and F1 and F2 generation offspring, who had no direct lead exposure, were then studied. The dosage of lead exposure used in this investigation was previously found to generate learning impairments in zebrafish, and similar learning impairments were found to be present in the F2 offspring of F0 lead exposed zebrafish. RNA was extracted from the brains of the F2 offspring of control and lead-exposed F0 zebrafish. Significant expression differences were found in genes involved in brain development (e.g., synaptic function and plasticity, neurogenesis), endocrine homeostasis, and epigenetic processes -- genes which may be involved in lead-induced neurobehavioral deficits and/or their inheritance.

These data provide an initial step in demonstrating the potential transgenerational health effects of lead exposure. (109)

The observation by Dias and Ressler that in vitro fertilization with sperm from F0 fear conditioned mice generated offspring that had the same olfactory perception brain changes that were observed in the F1 and F2 generation offspring of F0 fear conditioned mice provides strong support that transgenerational epigenetic inheritance is transmitted through the male germline (e.g., sperm). Comparable support for the role of the male germline in epigenetic inheritance has been reported in multiple other studies using similar methodology across fewer generations. For example, Gapp and colleagues injected sperm ncRNAs from males subjected to an early stress paradigm into eggs and produced offspring with the behavioral and metabolic alterations associated with their early stress experimental paradigm; Rodgers and colleagues generated offspring with patterns of stress dysregulation observed in mice subjected to their chronic stress paradigm by microinjecting a zygote with sperm ncRNAs altered by the chronic stress protocol; and Chan and colleagues produced offspring with neurodevelopment and stress reactivity indices similar to their stress-treated animals using 73

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assisted reproductive technology with sperm from naïve adult male mice that was incubated with extracellular vesicles from stress-treated animals. (92)

The biological relevance of the genes regulated by the epigenetic marks identified in the studies of transgenerational epigenetic inheritance also provides compelling support for the role of these mechanisms in the transmission of experience-dependent traits and health problems. To review, the F0 mice subjected to fear conditioning using an odor and their F1 offspring were found to have epigenetic marks in their sperm in a gene critical to olfactory perception. A multigenerational history of prenatal stress which promoted reduced gestational length and developmental delays in the offspring was associated with changes in genes implicated in brain plasticity, parturition/childbirth, and preterm birth. F0 male rats fed the high-fat diet and their F1 male offspring had epigenetic alterations in genes implicated in the regulation of glucose homeostasis, insulin sensitivity, and a predisposition to Type 2 diabetes, and F3 male offspring of the F0 DDT exposed animals who had a 50% rate for the development of obesity had methylation changes in DNA regions containing genes that were previously associated with obesity. (104)

There is also emerging data suggesting the relevance of this research for understanding the transgenerational transmission of the effects of adversity and other negative exposures in human cohorts. Beyond the epidemiological studies which suggest parental exposure to trauma and stress, inadequate nutrition, and toxicants can impact the health of descendants across several generations, <sup>(26-28)</sup> several investigators have documented the presence of the epigenetic marks noted in the rodents in human samples. For example, alterations in the ncRNAs reported in the sperm of mice subjected to maternal separation have been observed in the serum (e.g., blood) of children aged 7-12 years of age who experienced paternal loss and maternal separation, the serum of adult men aged 18-25 years of age who likewise experienced paternal loss and maternal separation at a young age, and the sperm of adult men aged 21-50 years of age who experienced two or more significant traumatic events in childhood. <sup>(97,110)</sup> In another study, male adults with a history of early life stress exhibited reduction in a ncRNA (e.g., miRNA-434) in sperm that was also reported to be altered in a mouse model of early life stress. The finding of alterations in this particular ncRNA in the sperm of adults with histories of early life stress was also replicated in an independent sample. Experiences of recurrent stress in healthy adult males was also found to be associated with changes in ncRNAs detected in sperm that were identical to the ncRNA changes reported in a mouse study of chronic stress in adult animals. <sup>(112)</sup>

While more work is needed to fully elucidate the mechanisms by which experience can alter the epigenome and impact health and developmental trajectories in subsequent generations, the accumulating body of evidence is quite compelling. The role of the female germline in transgenerational epigenetic inheritance requires further investigation, but the cross-fostering study by Dias and Ressler, (96) and the four-generation pregnancy stress investigation by Yao and colleagues, suggest specific germline (e.g., egg) epigenetic parameters will likely be identified when new emerging single-cell analytic technologies are used to study the role of the female germline (e.g., eggs) in epigenetic inheritance. Elucidation of the molecular mechanisms involved in environmentally induced epigenetic transgenerational inheritance is essential to fully understand disease etiology, and has important implications for the development of novel prevention and treatment interventions to mitigate the negative impact of deleterious ancestral exposures.



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#### 6) FACTORS THAT MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF HISTORICAL AND PERSONAL TRAUMA

The transgenerational negative effects demonstrated in the animal studies reviewed in the prior section can be prevented. Animal studies showing ways to mitigate the deleterious effects of the various exposures on the FO and subsequent generations are highlighted in this section, with parallel and other promising human interventions also discussed.

In the initial study by Dias and Ressler,<sup>(96)</sup> the pairing of an odor with a shock (e.g., fear conditioning) was used to model the effect of traumatic stress in the F0 and subsequent generations. In a follow-up experiment, the same procedures were used, but a subset of the animals were provided "treatment" to eliminate the elicitation of fear by the odor. <sup>(113)</sup> "Treatment" was comprised of extinction training – the gradual elimination of the conditioned response (e.g., fear when presented with the odor) by repeat presentation of the odor without any shocks. Animals that were initially conditioned to fear the odor and then provided "treatment" stopped exhibiting fear when exposed to the odor. Their offspring (F1) also did not show increased behavioral sensitivity (e.g., fear) to the F0-conditioned odor. In addition, the epigenetic changes observed in the sperm in the gene critical to olfactory perception was only evident in the mice conditioned to fear the odor and not provided any "treatment;" the mice that received extinction training (e.g., treatment) did not have these epigenetic marks in their sperm. It appears "treatment" can prevent the transgenerational transmission of the negative effects associated with ancestral traumatic stress.

Extinction training is at the core of all evidence-based psychotherapeutic approaches for treating Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in children, adolescents, and adults, with talking about and visualizing the traumatic events (e.g., repeat exposure) paired with relaxation training and cognitive processing. (114-116) These interventions are highly effective in diverse populations for a broad range of traumatic experiences (e.g., sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, community violence, traumatic loss of a loved one). Work is also currently underway to incorporate into these trauma-informed practices methods to address racial trauma and acknowledge of the systems of oppression that perpetuate it. (117,118)

de Castro Barbosa and colleagues showed that a high-fat diet could reprogram the epigenome of sperm and transgenerationally affect metabolism in the offspring.<sup>(100)</sup> An independent group using a similar mouse model demonstrated that diet or exercise interventions for 8 weeks in obese males prior to conception prevented the development of metabolic problems (e.g., insulin sensitivity, excess adipose tissue) in the offspring.<sup>(119)</sup> Paternal diet and exercise also prevented changes to sperm ncRNAs. We are not aware of comparable multigenerational obesity interventions in humans, but these animal studies suggest preconception diet and exercise programs may help to break the transmission of obesity and associated negative health outcomes (e.g., diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and premature mortality). There is, however, a plethora of data that suggests adopting a healthy lifestyle can diminish an individual's risk for obesity and these other health problems. Reducing intake of red meat, <sup>(120,121)</sup> consuming plant protein over animal protein, <sup>(122)</sup> having regular portions of fruit, <sup>(120,121)</sup> eating foods rich in antioxidants or taking antioxidant supplements, <sup>(122,124)</sup> refraining from excessive alcohol use, <sup>(120,121)</sup> and engaging in mindfulness-based stress reduction



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are all associated with longevity and reduced risk of these stress-related health problems. As food deserts – areas lacking in affordable healthy foods – are concentrated in minority neighborhoods, (127) federal efforts to enhance access to quality foods through the Healthy Food Financing Initiative, which provides incentives for healthy food retailers to open stores in areas lacking access to nutritious fresh food, may be an important first step in addressing the obesity epidemic in the Black community. (128) Available data, however, suggests that access alone is not always sufficient to improve residents' diets, (128-130) indicating additional targeted interventions are required.

Many of the other deleterious transgenerational effects reviewed in the prior section were found to be prevented when, after the initial negative exposures, the F0 cohort was provided enrichment experiences (e.g., living in enhanced spaces that included toys to provide rich social, physical, and sensory experiences). For example, female mice subjected to prenatal stress who were subsequently provided enrichment experiences did not experience preterm birth and their offspring did not show any developmental delays, male mice subjected to early stress who were provided enrichment experiences did not exhibit the sperm epigenetic changes associated with the early stress paradigm and there was no transmission of any stress-related behavioral symptoms to their offspring, and providing enrichment experiences to females exposed to lead while gestating prevented the development of lead exposure-related deficits in the cognitive performance of their offspring.

There are multiple examples of educational enrichment programs promoting resilience and a range of positive outcomes in impoverished youth. The Harlem Children's Zone educational programs have been found to increase kindergarten readiness, reduce racial gaps in academic achievement, and reduce incarceration rates among males and pregnancy rates among females. Early childhood programs, like the Carolina Abecedarian Project, has shown similar positive outcomes with benefits noted in the next generation as well. The Carolina Abecedarian Project, which was rigorously evaluated using a randomized controlled trial treatment design, provided full-time, high quality educational intervention in a childcare setting from infancy to age 5, and the offspring of program participants were found to have fewer school suspensions, less criminal behavior, and greater educational attainment and employment relative to the children of participants in the control condition. Positive benefits have also been demonstrated with programs targeting older youth, like the Stanford Medical Youth Science Program which provides academic enrichment in the medical sciences and college admissions support to very low-income minority high school students, most with poor academic preparation. Of the more than 400 youth who have completed the program, 99% have been admitted to college, 81% have earned a four-year college degree, and among four-year college graduates, 52% are attending or have graduated from medical or graduate school.

Participation in team sports is also associated with resilience, specifically, reduced mental health problems among youth with histories of significant childhood adversities. (138) Youth Sport and Arts for Resilience (Youth SOAR) is an innovative program being implemented on Chicago's southside which aims to reduce levels of youth violence, strengthen youth resilience to violence, and increase youth's sense of belonging to a positive peer





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group. (139) Youth SOAR trains, mentors, and supports older youth in implementing weekly sports and arts activities with younger local youth, who are then responsible for organizing additional community engagements with other local youth. (139) This gives the youth, not only the opportunity to participate in sports and arts programming, but also the chance to demonstrate leadership, experience being trusted by authority figures, and appreciated for their contribution to the community.

In our research, the availability of positive support from parents and/or other adults has consistently been found to be the most important factor in promoting resilience and recovery in maltreated and other vulnerable children. Among these high risk/high adversity youth, the availability of a parent or other significant adult support was found to decrease risk for the development of depressive disorders, minimize the likelihood of hypothalamic pituitary adrenal stress axis abnormalities, (140) significantly reduce the vulnerability conferred by high risk genes associated with psychopathology, (141,142) and ameliorate the negative impact of adversity on the functioning of brain circuits involved in threat processing and emotion regulation. (143)

The Strong African American Families (SAAF) intervention is an evidence-based intervention developed for 11year-old youth which is designed to enhance the parent-child relationship and also address issues unique to African American youth (e.g., racial socialization, racism). The developers of SAAF have also created programs for older youth, and programs to enhance parenting relationships. (144-148) SAAF was initially developed for youth from low-income families from disadvantaged neighborhoods in rural Georgia; however, it is currently being implemented in urban communities around the nation, (149,150) including 24 social services agencies in Harlem. SAAF consists of seven consecutive 2.5-hour weekly family group meetings held at community facilities, with separate skill-building curricula for youths and their primary caregivers. The caregiver sessions emphasize positive parenting skills, including the consistent provision of instrumental and emotional support, high levels of monitoring and control, adaptive racial socialization strategies, and methods for communicating about sex and alcohol use. Youth sessions focus on forming goals for the future and making plans to attain them, resistance efficacy skills, and adaptive behaviors to use when encountering racism. At SAAF meetings, families eat a meal together and then divide into small parent and child discussion groups. For the final hour of each session, the caregivers and youth reunite for a two-generation group meeting.

The SAAF program has been associated with positive outcomes on child behavioral problems, health risk behaviors, health problems, and number of physiological indices. Specifically, SAAF participation has been associated with decreased rates of conduct problems in youth two years after the intervention; (152) reduced rates of smoking, (153) drinking, (154) drug use, (155) and risky sexual behaviors (156) in late adolescence and early adulthood; and reduced risk of obesity and prediabetes in young adulthood. In the latter study, adverse childhood experiences were not associated with risk for prediabetes in young adults who participated in the SAAF intervention, but among the youth in the control intervention, each additional experience of adversity was associated with a 37% increase in risk for prediabetes. (158) In terms of physiological indices, the SAAF intervention was associated with reducing the impact of family risk factors on stress system (e.g., adrenaline, norepinephrine), inflammation, and epigenetic markers. The parenting-focused SAAF intervention was also associated with diminishing the impact of poverty on hippocampal and amygdala brain volumes measured in adulthood—key brain regions affected by stress. (163)



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The investigators note their findings are consistent with a possible role for supportive parenting in brain development, and appear to suggest a strategy for narrowing social disparities.<sup>(163)</sup>

While additional studies are needed, (164) there is a growing body of research suggesting that Afrocentric culturally-adapted prevention and treatment interventions are especially effective in addressing a range of different risks and promoting positive outcomes in African descendants. (165-171) Afrocentric approaches address themes of historical trauma stemming from enslavement to Jim Crow to the mass incarceration of Black individuals, and experiences of collective disenfranchisement and persistent racial disparities. (164, 168) To build pride and promote empowerment, Afrocentric interventions shift away from Western/Eurocentric approaches and aim to enhance cultural identity and re-instill traditional African cultural values -- including an emphasis communalism – the sense of shared responsibility for each other and one's community. (164,169,171,172) There is also a focus on Traditional African Healing Systems in some programs, such as those promoted by the Ausar Auset Society International, a Pan African Spiritual organization with the mission of using the knowledge of indigenous African cultures, history, and spiritual traditions to restore the people of African descent. (173) In addition to incorporating culturally-specific beliefs into treatment, some recently evaluated Afrocentric interventions also address risk factors specific to descendants from Africa, promote preferred coping behaviors, including the use of spirituality, and employ only African American clinicians for treatment.

#### 7) POLICY, PRACTICE, AND RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS

Addressing the key structures in American society that perpetuate cycles of disadvantage and ongoing experiences of adversity and trauma for African descendants is critical. This report began with a reference to the murder of George Floyd. Police reform is essential to addressing systemic racism in this country. Key legislation currently under consideration to address police reforms includes: H.R. 1280, George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021; H.R. 1347, Eric Garner Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act of 2021; S.353, End Police Use of Chokeholds Act of 2021; H.R. 1163, Federal Police Camera and Accountability Act; and S.597, End Racial and Religious Profiling Act of 2021. These bills collectively are designed to increase police accountability, restrict the use of deadly force, and reduce racial bias in policing. As 22%-40% of deaths due to the use of lethal force by law enforcement are mental health related, S.4441, Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets Act or the CAHOOTS Act, is designed to allow states to access Medicaid monies to replicate the successful CAHOOTS program. CAHOOTS has been operating in Eugene Oregon since 1989 providing effective crisis intervention for persons who are homeless or struggling with mental illness or addiction, and responds to approximately 17% of the Eugene police department's overall total call volume.

To date, research has only been conducted on one program developed to address police bias, the Ethical Policing is Courageous (EPIC) program. EPIC is a peer-intervention program that was designed by the New Orleans Police Department to improve policing in response to a federal consent decree—a mandate from the U.S. Department of Justice outlining sweeping reforms the department must adopt to correct a history of civil rights abuses, with the shooting of several unarmed African American citizens setting the consent decree in motion.<sup>(182)</sup> The training of New Orleans officers in EPIC resulted in fewer complaints against officers, a 93% drop





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in the use of serious force, rates of interactions with police described as pleasant and courteous increasing from 53% to 87%, and a drop in homicide rates to a 47-year low.<sup>(182-184)</sup> More research, however, on the effectiveness of the EPIC program and other practices to decrease policing bias are needed. This is especially true in light of recent data from the New Orleans Police Department which shows the racial disparity between its stops, searches, and arrests of Black subjects and other races has grown, despite EPIC training and ongoing federal oversight.<sup>(185)</sup>

The next event discussed in this report was the Black Wall Street Massacre. On the anniversary of the massacre, the Biden-Harris Administration announced new actions to build black wealth and narrow the racial wealth gap. (186) Key in the initiative are plans to address housing discrimination and other barriers to home ownership, develop federal contracts with minority businesses, and support community revitalization, including plans to replace 100% of this nation's lead pipes and service lines. This initiative, however, is up against the backdrop of 250 new laws being proposed in 43 states to limit voting, which has been described as "the most sweeping contraction of ballot access in the United States since the end of Reconstruction, when Southern states curtailed the voting rights of formerly enslaved Black men." (188) This flurry of new laws to restrict voting access is particularly troubling since in 2013 the Supreme Court struck down a key component of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, freeing states to change their election laws without advanced federal approval, and the Supreme Court's recent decision to uphold two Arizona voting restriction laws that were challenged in the lower courts.

The next main topic discussed in this report was the criminal justice system, and how racial biases in the system perpetuate a cycle of disadvantage for African American families. In 2018 The Sentencing Project submitted a report to the United Nations on racial disparities in the U.S. criminal justice system. (58) Key recommendations from that report included: ending the war on drugs, eliminating minimum sentences, and developing and implementing training to reduce racial bias. Again, as noted earlier in this report, much as African descendants were forced into segregated, second-class citizenship in the Jim Crow era, once released after a felony offense formerly incarcerated persons are often denied the right to vote, excluded from juries, and restricted in their ability to obtain employment, housing, and public benefits. (47) Children whose fathers are incarcerated are also more likely to live in neighborhoods that are socioeconomically disadvantaged, (61) with socioeconomic disadvantaged neighborhoods associated with poorer quality schools, a concentration of environmental hazards, including lead, fewer safe outdoor spaces for children to play, and higher rates of crime and community violence. (62) The cycle of disadvantage associated with parent incarceration is compounded significantly by these and the other factors discussed earlier in this report. Ending the biases in the criminal justice system that restrict the rights of African descendants and compounds adversity for families is also critical to addressing systemic racisms in this country.

H.R. 40, Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act proposes:

To address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

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The Equal Justice Initiative has suggested that national commemorations of atrocities inflicted on African descendants is an important step toward establishing trust between victims and the governments and legal systems that failed to protect them, and that meaningful public accountability is a critical step to bring the cycle of racial violence to a close. A report prepared for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights entitled *Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers was released June 2021.* It delineates a comprehensive agenda to reverse cultures of denial, dismantle systemic racism and accelerate the pace of action; end impunity for human rights violations by law enforcement officials and close trust deficits in this area; ensure that the voices of people of African descent and those standing up against racism are heard and that their concerns are acted upon; and acknowledge and confront legacies, including through accountability and redress.<sup>(191)</sup>

The data reviewed in this document and the recent United Nations report make clear that racial discrimination continues to severely impact African descendants in the United States to this day. Racism is not restricted to the emboldened acts of a few extremists, it is embedded in the structures of our society. The extant data on transgenerational epigenetic inheritance strongly suggest that racial trauma and ancestral adversities can negatively impact descendants across multiple generations. These negative effects, however, are not inevitable. Interventions, healthy lifestyles, and positive enriching experiences can help to mitigate the effects of historical trauma and other lifetime negative exposures.

The mechanisms by which experience can alter the epigenome and impact health and developmental trajectories in subsequent generations are not fully understood. More basic (e.g., animal) and clinical research is needed. The National Institute of Health is preparing to launch a ten year longitudinal study, the Healthy Brain and Child Development (HBCD) study, which will recruit 7,500 children prenatally and assess parents and children comprehensively across a broad range of domains, including the collection of biospecimens for epigenetic analyses. It is the hope that the HBCD study will help to provide a much clearer picture than ever before of the developmental outcomes of structural racism and poverty in the first decade of life, and how brain development and child health correlate with family circumstances, environmental toxins such as secondhand smoke and lead, physical activity, school quality, nutrition, and other social-environmental factors. Incorporating epigenetic analyses in adoption studies and multigenerational longitudinal investigations will also help to advance work on the transgenerational epigenetic inheritance in human cohorts.

More research, however, is *not* required to document the need to address the impact of centuries of systemic racism. The pandemic shined a spotlight on racial disparities in this country, and the death of George Floyd and others highlighted the unfinished work yet to be completed for racial equality to be achieved. The cost to the individual and to society of systemic racism is enormous. The time to act is now.

Structural RACISM

More research, however, is not required to document the need to address the impact of centuries of systemic racism.

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Affiliations. Joan Kaufman, PhD is Director of Research at the Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress at Kennedy Krieger Institute and a Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD. Maria Khan, PhD is a post-doctoral psychology fellow at the Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress, Ms. Julia Mancini served as the research coordinator at the Center up through 7/1/2021 and will be beginning her graduate studies at PGSP-Stanford PsyD Consortium in the fall, and Ms. Yvonne Summers White is the senior administrator for the research program at the Center.

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# THE HARM IS TO OUR GENES

from the desk of N'COBRA Health Commission

# African Centered Healing Is Essential to Our Health and Well-being N'COBRA Health Commission

If we as African Americans are ever to heal our community from the deleterious epigenetic and traumatic consequences of enslavement, Jim Crow apartheid and colonialism, we must first boldly confront, overturn, and disentangle ourselves from the epistemes that uphold the fallacies of white superiority. And toward that end it is imperative that we take agency over our own bodies, which includes accessing our own healing systems.

Western medicine has been used historically as a tool of power, as a weapon against Africans and other oppressed people, to advance European imperialist designs. Western medicine is based on the premise that Eurocentric scientific analysis is absolute, and that its concept of medicine is the only framework in which medicine should operate. In most cases it asserts a monopoly on truth. {Richardson, Epidemic Illusions 5-6}.

We understand the foundation of western medicine is based on the premise of white superiority, which actively engages in the denigration of the humanity of African people. From Benjamin Rush, who described Black skin as being caused by leprosy and who is considered the father of modern day psychiatry (his image was only recently removed from the logo of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) in 2015). To Samuel Cartwright, a prominent 19th century doctor who wrote that Black people were biologically built for slavery and who characterized our desire for freedom as a disease (drapetomania) to be cured by whipping or amputating toes; to J. Marion Simms and children, forbidding anesthesia because Blacks women, he said, didn't feel pain to Richard Herrnstein, one of the authors of the Bell Curve are violently experimented on enslaved that African people were scientifically intellectually inferior to white people; to the American Psychiatric Association's response to the urban rebellions of the sixties in the rebranding of schizophrenia as a violent disease of the threatening, angry Black man. (Recently, the 176 year old organization issued an apology. To its racist past) and our psyche.

As African people, we cannot dispel or deny this truth, nor normalize the power dynamic that systems of oppression have over the oppressed.

In contrast to the Western school of medicine, the African medical praxis views the world as a unified body

# POST SCRIPT TO

# THE HARM IS TO OUR GENES

from the desk of N'COBRA Health Commission

where things are understood in terms of the collective effort, and whereby healing is communal. This framework holds that healing is grounded in both flesh and spirituality, involving every aspect of one's life, and that it takes on many forms. Thus, healing from transgenerational epigenetic inheritance and transgenerational transmission of trauma, where the injury is projected into the future of our progeny, will require involvement from every aspect of African American society to create a new epistemological, liberatory health praxis in Black America with the ultimate goal of empowerment. As Karanja Keita Carroll and DeReef F. Jamison so presciently intimated in "African-Centered Psychology, Education and the Liberation of African Minds: Notes on the Psycho-Cultural Justification for Reparations," healing for Black people must be African centered and liberatory, and "must have a transformative function in the lives of African people, by functioning as a mechanism of social change and it must also attack all that which is an affront to African existence." (13)

Currently, there is a growing call afoot for African Americans and all oppressed people to decolonize our minds, and decolonizing healthcare is a part of that call.<sup>(14)</sup> In addition to the work of the <u>Ausar Auset Society International</u> that was mentioned earlier in the Report, the <u>Community Healing Network</u>, in partnership with the Association of Black Psychologists, have been active around the country. As a result, their Emotional Emancipation Circles are on the rise. This movement has to a large extent been propelled by the healing works of people such as Amos Wilson, Dr. Joy DeGruy, Dr. Franz Fanon, and more. These are just a couple of initiatives that have already begun. Clearly, however, African American society needs a greater more comprehensive, all-encompassing approach that involves all sectors of our society – the clergy, educators, students, medical practitioners, scientists, artists and everyday people to create the necessary healing pathways.

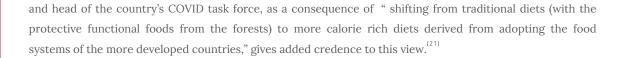
In the African tradition, there is also a nutritional component to healing trauma, as the study of epigenetics is illuminating the multidimensional benefits of nutrition<sup>(17)</sup>. Western medicine is slowly recognizing that food is so much more than the transfer of energy and vital nutrients throughout the body, but that it is also able to affect the genome and the very genetic expression of our descendants for generations to come.<sup>(18)</sup>

Africa, as the cradle of human civilization, has the longest history of the domestication of plants for food and medicine in the world and is home to the richest microbial diversity on the planet. Africa has a rich history in the healing arts, in which plants, energy, and minerals are used medicinally. This system is known as Traditional African Medicine (TAM), Prior to European colonialism, TAM influenced a large percentage of the world. The colonial imposition of western medicine, along with its food and dietary choices has been a major attack on African indigenous knowledge systems. The many studies on the deleterious health effects on Africans who adopt a Western lifestyle, defined by Maurice M. Iwu, a professor of Pharmacognosy in Nigeria,

### POST SCRIPT TO

# THE HARM IS TO OUR GENES

from the desk of Onaje Muid



Sankofa is a Ghanian word which means we must retrieve the knowledge of the past in order to go forward. Clearly, as African descendants of the Transatlantic trafficking of kidnapped humans, living in the US disconnected from our African knowledge systems, we will not see true health without incorporating our own knowledge systems of healing. We must also acknowledge that while simultaneously degrading the use of TAM, Big Pharma has made billions (22) appropriating Africa's bio-nutritional remedies.

As Black people it is time that we pull TAM from out of the shadows and elevate these concepts to the front of our medical lexicon and healing practice,. It is imperative that we live Sankofa and that we openly pursue and receive the inheritance of the vast knowledge of Africa. And while no one is suggesting that we abandon all that we have learned in the US, it is imperative that we make a shift, and that we begin incorporating the African part of our identity into every aspect of our lives. This is essential toward our people being able to powerfully mitigate the psychological and epigenetic damage of historical trauma in order to transgenerationally transmit health and the fullness of Africa's treasures to our progeny well into the future.

Finally, we repeat the Charge of Genocide as William Patterson presented in his petition to the United Nations in 1951, seventy years ago. Therefore we DEMAND REPARATIONS NOW.<sup>(23)</sup>

# Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide ${\bf Article\ II}$

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- a. Killing members of the group;
- b. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- c. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- d. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- e. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Onaje Mylid

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# N'COBRA REPORT 2021 WWW.NCOBRAONLINE.ORG

# N'COBRA REPORT 2021 WWW.NCOBRAONLINE.ORG

#### Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance & Systemic Racism in America Report Summary

#### What is transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance?

It is how the negative effects of adversities and traumas in one generation can be passed down to affect the health and well-being of future generations. Grandchildren and great grandchildren can be negatively impacted by ancestral traumas -- even when they have not been directly exposed to any harm themselves.

#### How does this happen?

The negative effects of ancestral traumas can be passed down — or inherited — through epigenetic modifications to the genes. Epigenetic modifications are chemical modifications to the genes that affect the likelihood of a given gene product being made — with gene products being things like proteins and hormones that our bodies need to stay healthy. Epigenetic modifications are NOT gene mutations. Gene mutations interrupt the codes used to make the gene products so they may not be built correctly. Epigenetic modifications just turn genes on and off, but do not affect the codes used to create the gene products.

#### What sort of negative health effects have been linked to trauma?

It is not just mental and substance use disorders that are linked to trauma. Experiences of trauma – especially in childhood – increase risk for a whole host of health problems including obesity, diabetes, heart disease, liver disease, breathing problems, and even cancer.

#### How do we know trauma in one generation can affect the health and well-being of future generations?

Most of the research to date has been done in animals (e.g., mice), but studies in humans have shown ancestors exposure to trauma, poor nutrition, and toxic chemicals can impact the health of descendants across several generations. Some of the epigenetic (e.g., chemical) modifications noted in the animal studies have also been reported in humans.

#### What does transgenerational epigenetic inheritance have to do with systemic racism in America?

The health and well-being of African Americans is negatively impacted by the history of slavery, Jim Crow, lynchings, and more – and further harmed by systemic racism today. It appears experiences of discrimination can "get under the skin" and increase risk for the broad range of mental and physical health problems associated with other adverse childhood experiences.

#### How do we break the cycle of harm?

On an individual level -- trauma-informed services, Afrocentric culturally-grounded prevention and intervention programs, adopting a healthy lifestyle, and positive education, sports, and art experiences can help reverse the effects of historical trauma and various lifetime negative experiences.

But change is needed on a societal level to dismantle the systems that perpetuate disadvantage, adversity, and trauma among African descendants.

The cost to the individual and society is enormous. The time to act is now.

Report Citation. Kaufman, J., Khan, M., & Mancini, J. (2021). Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance and Systemic Racism in the United States: A Report Prepared for the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA). Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress, Kennedy Krieger Institute; Department of Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD

# AGENDA ITEM 22

# SCHEDULE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE

During the December 2021 hearing, the California Reparations Task Force voted to create an advisory committee tasked with reconceptualizing the remainder of the public hearings. The advisory committee consists of Chair Moore and Member Scott Lewis. See below for the proposed public hearing schedule:

#### January 2022 (Virtual)

#### **Technology and Health**

Discuss anti-black discrimination in technology

Discuss anti-blackness in health sectors (i.e. public health, mental health, physical health)

#### Feb 2022 (Virtual)

#### **Black History Month Commemoration**

Honor current and past reparations advocates/movements (i.e. Callie House, Queen Mother Moore, John Conyers, Tulsa/Rosewood, Charles Henry, Cochran/Ogletree/Farmer-Paellman etc.)

Report 1 Update

#### March 2022 (Virtual)

#### Criminal Legal System, War On Drugs, and Mass Incarceration

Discuss history of policing, and the War On Drugs

Discuss criminal legal system, mass incarceration (including juvenile justice), prisons/policing and the impact on Black Californians

#### April 2022 (In Person) (1) San Francisco

#### Final Report Approval and Educating the CA Public

Discuss Report 1; Final Report Approval

Discuss how to educate the CA Public on findings

June 1 2022 → REPORT RELEASED

#### July 2022 (2) Los Angeles

#### **Celebration of Report and Eligibility**

Discuss published report, findings, and preliminary recommendations

Discuss and begin to conclude terms for eligibility

#### September 2022 (3) Allensworth (Bakersfield)

#### Forms of Reparations and Comparative Models

Discuss comparative reparations models (domestic and international)

Discuss how recommendations must comport with international standards of remedy for wrongs and injuries caused by the state, that include full reparations and special measures, as understood by various relevant international protocols, laws, and findings.

#### November 2022 (4) Sacramento

#### Reparation and Restitution/Restoration

Discuss how to provide appropriate policies, programs, projects, and recommendations for the purpose of reversing the injuries.

Discuss how, in consideration of the Task Force's findings and recommendations, any other forms of rehabilitation or restitution to the eligible community are warranted and what form and scope those measures should take.

#### January 2023 (5) San Diego

#### **Reparation and Compensation**

Discuss how in consideration of the Task Force's findings and recommendations, any form of compensation is calculated.

What form of compensation should be awarded, through what instrumentalities, and who should be eligible for such compensation.

#### February 2023 (6) Oakland

#### **Reparations Recommendations Part 1**

Discuss how the State of California will provide other forms of reparations in the form of guarantees of non-repetition.

#### April 2023 (7) Inglewood

#### **Reparations Recommendations Part 2**

How the State of California will offer a formal apology to the eligible community.

How the State of California will provide other forms of satisfaction or other symbolic reparative justice measures.

Approve preliminary report.

#### June 2023 (8) Sacramento

#### **Final Meeting**

Presentation and Approval of Second Report

July 1 2023 → Sunset of CA Reparations Task Force

# AGENDA ITEM 24 DRAFT AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

# AGENDA ITEM #: Action Item: Draft Agenda for February/March Meeting 2022

#### **Topics Adopted at July 2021 Meeting:**

- History of Policing
- History on War on Drugs
- Criminal Justice and the Legal System
- Anti-Black Bias (Hate Crimes)

#### **Potential Items for Task Force Consideration**

- <u>Witnesses:</u> Does the Task Force have any feedback to share with staff on the potential witnesses for the upcoming meetings?
  - O Please see the list of potential witnesses which reflect suggestions from Task Force members. We apologize in advance if we have missed any previously recommended names.
  - o Please note that DOJ staff will rely on this list to reach out to potential witnesses.
  - O Please also note that DOJ staff will continue to add witness names to this list recommended by Task Force members, as potential witnesses may decline our invitation to testify and we wish to fill all available slots.
- Other Discussion or Action Items: The Task Force may wish to consider whether to include other items on the agenda.
  - DOJ staff will work to create space on the agenda for additional items on the agenda. Please also note that the template agenda included below is a draft and will change.

#### Potential February/March Agenda,

#### Day 1, 2022

#### **Policing and the War on Drugs**

- 1. Chairperson Welcome 9:00 a.m. 9:05 a.m.
- 2. Public Comment 9:05 a.m. 10:05 a.m.
- 3. Action Item: Approval of January 2022 Meeting Minutes 10:05 a.m. 10:10 a.m.
- 4. Witness Panel #1 10:10 a.m. 12:20 p.m. History of Policing
  - 1. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 2. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 3. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 4. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 5. Expert Testimony [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
    Task Force Comments and Questions (30 mins)
- 5. Lunch 12:20 p.m. 1:20 p.m.
- 6. Witness Panel #2 1:20 p.m. 3:30 p.m. History of War on Drugs
  - 1. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 2. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 3. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 4. Expert Testimony [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 5. Expert Testimony [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
    Task Force Comments and Questions (30 mins)
- 7. Break 3:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m.
- 8. Community Engagement Plan Update Member Grills 3:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
- 9. Presentation on Scope of Work and Report 2 Outline -DOJ Research Center-4:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.

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- 10. Information Item: Department of Justice Updates 4:45 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
- 11. Recess Meeting until Day 2, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

#### Day 2, 2022

# Criminal Justice System and Anti-Black Bias (Hate Crimes)

- 12. Chairperson Welcome 9:00 a.m. 9:05 a.m.
- 13. Public Comment 9:05 a.m. 10:05 a.m.
- 14. Witness Panel #3 10:05 a.m. 12:15 p.m. Criminal Justice System
  - 1. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: [TBD] (20 mins)
  - 2. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 3. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 4. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - 5. Expert Testimony: [Potential Witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
    Task Force Comments and Questions (30 mins)
- 15. Lunch 12:15 p.m. 1:15 p.m.
- 16. Witness Panel #4 1:15 p.m. 3:15 p.m. Anti-Black Bias (Hate Crimes)
  - 1. Expert Testimony: [Potential witnesses: TBD)] (20 mins)
  - 2. Expert Testimony [Potential witnesses: TBD)] (20 mins)
  - 3. Expert Testimony: {Potential witnesses: TBD] (20mins)
  - 4. Expert Testimony: [Potential witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
  - Expert Testimony: [Potential witnesses: TBD] (20 mins)
     Task Force Comments and Questions (20 minutes)
- 17. Break 3:15 p.m. 3:30 p.m.
- 18. Potential Action Item: Subpoena Requests Members Holder and Tamaki 3:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
- 19. Potential Action Item: Report Dictionary Update-Chair Moore and Member Jones-Sawyer 4:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
- 20. Potential Action Item: Next Meeting Agenda and Witnesses 4:15 p.m. 5:00 p.m.

3

21. Adjourn

# PHONE MESSAGE SUMMARIES

#### **Reparations Task Force Phone Inquiries**

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 to Friday, January 21, 2022 at 2:15 p.m.

**Caller: Miss Ladona Williams** 

Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2022, 1:33 p.m.

Caller is from the Bay Area community. Caller would like to speak to a live person regarding her e-mails which have received no responses. Caller shares that BlueJeans is not a viable system and lists multiple problems that occur. Caller is frustrated by the difficulty to engage when using the BlueJeans system.

Caller: Unknown

Friday, January 7, 2022, 12:32 a.m.

Voicemail abruptly ends and no message was received

Caller: Robbin Ware

Date: Monday January 17, 2022, 11:51 a.m.

Caller is the chairman of the Oak Park Bench Association, African American Markers and Sculptures Committee. Caller is putting plaques for the numerous Black organizations from the 60's Civil Rights movement. They will also create a ten-foot sculpture as well. Caller would like to speak to a representative to get documents that demonstrate disparity in various factors. Caller would like to obtain the documents for the purposes developing remarks and wording for the plaques.

**Caller: Deborah Watkins** 

Date: Monday, January 17, 2022, 4:19 p.m.

Caller is the founder of a Black education network. Caller would like to know the subsequent topics for Task Force meetings. Caller will go to the website to see if additional topics to be discussed are posted. Caller would like someone to contact them to inform them of any subsequent topics should they not be posted online.

Caller: Alan Shay

Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 11:22 a.m.

Caller is calling for Alecia Turner and was referred by Steven Bradford's office.

Caller: Alan Shay

**Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 1:28 p.m.** 

Caller is calling for Alecia Turner and was referred by Steven Bradford's office.

Caller: Alan Shay

Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

Caller is calling for Alecia Turner.

Caller: Alan Shay

Date: Friday, January 21, 2022, 2:15 p.m.

Caller is calling for Alecia Turner.

# SUMMARY OF EMAILS TO TASKFORCE EMAIL ADDRESS THROUGH 01.26.22 at 9:00 A.M.

# Quick Email Summary

94 emails received from December 4, 2021 to January 26, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Marine Foundations

Sent: Saturday, December 4, 2021 10:44 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Is it allow?

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Is Blacks from other country would i join you?, I'm from i ♥Black People Country Action [moderator]

Get Outlook for Android

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Friday Jones

Sent: Saturday, December 4, 2021 12:48 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce; Kamilah Moore

Subject: Expert Recommendation -

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

http://www.tonybrownsjournal.com/ TBJ #3017 -- "BLACKS DIVIDED" -- Dr. Carol Swain, a professor of Political Science and Law at Vanderbilt University and author of Debating Immigration, will explore the nuances of contemporary immigration and citizenship affecting the U. S. SHOW LESS

--

#### www.TheRealFridayJones.com

Twitter @IAMFridayJones Facebook The Real Friday Jones

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Daniel Davenport <

Sent: Sunday, December 5, 2021 8:58 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Quote for Political Consulting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Date: December 5, 2021

Subject: Quote for Political Consulting

By: Minister Davenport

Location: Sandy, Springs Georgia

#### Dear Ranking Member, and all others:

I open this letter with the love of Christ Jesus: with knowledge of economic markets, and jobs. Seldom do we hear ministers engaging in Christian ministry from a focus on jobs. Yet this is what I do for Jesus. I don't give away this knowledge because it is valuable. Do not let my status as a minister blur your mind to think I am not a professional laborer.

Remember Jesus also had a laborer job: Jesus was a carpenter. Paul, the apostle was a tent-maker. Jobs are good... but before I go deeper let me justify my willingness to share this letter, which to a certain extent has value whether you ever pay for my services or not.

#### Some would say:

"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces" (Matthew 7:6).

Yet the presence of Pastor Amos Brown on your task force causes me to conclude you are worthy of this letter.

God bless you Pastor Brown for your service to God, and humanity in San Francisco. I remember the last time, I kneeled by your side and we spoke about a San Francisco reparations initiative. I remember it clearly, and I appreciate your vigilance then, even before reparations talks were as common as they are now.

Your leadership with the NAACP, and specifically with an adult chapter which raises the youth — your youth chapter is what is most exciting to me. I still have pictures from my visit with you all. I still recall your stern leadership, the beautiful piano music at the San Francisco third Baptist NAACP meeting, and I still applaud how you and the community stood up to a particular line of considerations ongoing San Francisco State University. You knew then community must be involved for beloved community to exist, and I thank you for the mark you made on me Pastor, and brother.

Now I will continue to write this public open letter to address the Ranking member, and all other task force members. I apologize in advance for typos or grammatical errors. I live in a time where voice call and FaceTime is easily accessible, so I write to give a gist of my mind here. If you want details or you want to gain clarity, you are welcome to call.

Many will not call, yet that is their right. Now for jobs.

Jobs allow us to have a sense of self-worth. Where some have asked for one million dollars in reparations; I focus your attention on to what is feasible in this very second.

Here is the news clipping:

https://www.reuters.com/markets/us/us-job-growth-misses-expectations-november-unemployment-rate-dives-42-2021-12-03/

This means California legislators are looking for an opportunity. To go to their colleagues in the assembly and provide a jobs deal is a good thing.

What are the jobs? Job circulating sheets of paper for signature. Is this a job? Yes it is.

Circulating for signatures occur for ballot access initiatives, to get candidates on the ballot, and more. Many know of the millions Kanye West paid to a business for signature gathering. I have worked as an independent contractor gaining signatures for the same business.

This labor is rewarding, but intense. It's mentally draining, and encountering a series of "No" is really harmful to the psyche. Yet it is a job, and it's a job I see need of creation, and filling.

God has shown me this, and my knowledge of this industry is at service to you for minimum cost. Why create jobs? Well, they are needed. Getting people off the couch and back into a workforce is good.

Their labor tax revenue then funds legislative initiatives. It's a self-fulfilling good, and God has granted me insight into the details of this industry.

So what would the signature drive be for? Well it helps you. I can assist you with the "language" which I will type on the sheet of paper. The paper will be formatted properly, and lines for signature and address will be complete.

My designs will be consistent of what is common in this industry, and what is acceptable by the Secretary of State. I am calling for a plebiscite in the state of California, and the results would be loads and bundles of signature documents defining who exactly supports the AB 3121 reparations proposal.

You have not come up with your proposal or proposals yet, but you will. I have already written you and informed you of knowledge I have as a foremost reparations strategist. Yet, I have never received a reply, and never been called by phone.

Only God knows the reason for this: and you each may know. Nonetheless, God's strategy is Golden good. If you want to usher in repentance for the state of California for their roles in human trafficking or God's people, and their roles to fail to punish human trafficking of God's people I will help you.

How will I help? I will provide you services for a cost. \$60 per hour is my consulting quote. I can work remotely from home, because we know since the pandemic many are doing this.

For those unfamiliar with circulating jobs you can trust assured circulators who are professionals or even newly trained circulators can be told to wear mask based on the environment of the land. Circulators visit various lands, and in this case you all know the lands of California have distinct "attitudes" towards mask wearing and non-mask wearing.

I can make recommendations based on my knowledge in all cases involving this project. I write this public letter, to get you educated to know the pandemic does not stop the circulating business. I just finished serving as an investigator coordinator, for a major circulating drive in Florida. Most of the political animals know there is already money on the board, and circulators are getting busy in California to earn money in their families.

Many who are not politically wise do not know these things. Now that I publish this publicly, there will be lots of future talks on how to implement these strategies for future gains for the victims who want reparations and for the California legislators who support reparations.

What problem does this strategy solve? It puts professionals or trained professionals in contact with the public to gain insights that know one has until the insights are gained. Whether California in large quantity supports the reparations initiatives for any victim class is yet to be seen.

As a non-registered lobbyist, I know your actions are honorable, but a task force is not a signed Governor Newsom bill to appropriate money for reparations victims. No one on your task force has the power alone to do the aforementioned alone. So I ask that you consider how many future committees will review your work, and make decisions about your work.

Only then after you consider the aforementioned will you be prepared to find a culturally acceptable political tactic — which you can fund — to show convincing support of your proposal or proposals. On the other hand, you may discover in majority Californians do not support your proposal or proposals.

In the end, God is in control, the power resides with the people in the Republic of California, and my expert services are available for you at the \$60 consulting hour cost per contract. Many people avoid spending on political consulting. I will advise against it.

Why? Well you get what you pay for. In addition, I remember early on I was practically on a soap box telling people in August 2020, that unemployment numbers were horrible pre-pandemic. Yet no one believed me, now I awake to write this letter, and to smile, knowing that what God shows me, and the utility of that knowledge will be revealed to the masses on God's time.

If many knew that the pre-pandemic unemployment numbers were worst than the pandemic how would they have responded to President Donald Trump. It frustrated me how the smartest commentators failed to call out our President for his lack of action to prevent the pre-pandemic unemployment numbers.

Let's be clear, as a minister and lobbyist, I am neither Republican or Democrat or Independent. I am a man of God, and my knowledge comes from God. Just think what you could have done with the knowledge of how horrible the US economy was doing pre-pandemic. How many conversations would be changed?

I track these numbers for various things, but specifically as a General political science operator — my commercial livelihood is politics. How I feed my family, how I buy gifts for my loved ones, and how I plan vacation time, is all based on my knowledge in politics and my ability to offer better solutions, in a shorter span of time than competition. I am not an English major, and my run on sentences shows this.

I own a General political science company, and in fact I own a suite of companies to be used to make politics better. My goal is to advise pastors, leaders, and people like you for a cost, so you can do your jobs better. This is good, and it's a service I offer which is scalable to benefit all in California.

Whether people in California support jobs this way, or oppose reparations is not my point. My point is they benefit from having an honest advocate of the people designing strategies which give opportunity for fair consensus.

I have been in the military before politics, and there and here on the political landscape fairness matters.

Very Respectfully,

Minister Davenport

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group@googlegroups.com on behalf of

Chris L

Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 3:53 PM

To: CA Reparations Task Force Public Community Group

Subject: \*NEW\* California Reparations Updates from CJEC

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Peace!

It's Chris from CJEC, Coalition for a Just and Equitable California!

### \*Friendly Reminder\*

The December meeting of the California Reparations Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7th, and Wednesday, December 8th, 9 AM - 4 PM each day. December's meetings will focus on racism in the entertainment industry, as well as the impacts of gentrification on Black California. Click here to view the meeting agenda. You can watch the December meeting LIVE on YouTube @ ETM Media Group!







Reserve a spot for the <u>FREE</u> event at eventbrite: https://bit.ly/3E8Xj7b



Raffle prizes\*

Masks and social distancing required.

### California Reparations Community Meeting\* \*DEC 11TH 12PM\*

Also, you're invited to join CJEC Coalition Partners NAASD-LA and Etm Media Group for a California Reparations Community Meeting featuring Kamilah Moore, Chair of the California Reparations Task Force on Saturday, December 11th at 12pm. Come learn more about the California Reparations Task Force and get answers to all of your questions! It's not too late to register for this event! Get your tickets ASAP!

Register --> https://www.eventbrite.com/e/california-reparations-community-meeting-tickets-220919334677

Feel free to reach out and/or respond with any questions, comments, feedback, or ideas here, on our website <u>cjecofficial.org</u>, or CJEC on Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, and Instagram @CJEC.

Best,

# Chris Lodgson CJEC, ARCC cjecofficial.org

#### P.S/FYI's

Right now, as it relates to the California Reparations Task Force, CJEC's objectives are:

- 1. To Ensure the Task Force is open and responsive to community voices.
- 2. To Ensure the Task Force creates strong Reparations proposals.

Do you agree with our goals? <u>Click here</u> to take our poll and let us know! Interested in helping CJEC achieve these goals? <u>Click here</u> to volunteer!

--

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "CA Reparations Task Force Public Community Group" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <u>ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com</u>.

To view this discussion on the web visit <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group/c6afb3cf-19de-45b1-aefc-56e839b0a4ean%40googlegroups.com">https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group/c6afb3cf-19de-45b1-aefc-56e839b0a4ean%40googlegroups.com</a>.

For more options, visit <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/optout">https://groups.google.com/d/optout</a>.

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Freda Colbert

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 3:08 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Cc: Darryl Lucien

Subject: Charles R. Drew University Letter to the AB 3121 Reparations Task Force

Attachments: CDU - Recommendations\_Reparations.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

To Whom It May Concern,

Please find attached the letter from Dr. Carlisle, President of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, highlighting their pivotal role in advancing the graduation of Black and Brown doctors in the state of California and the role they play in the surrounding community.

Regards,

Freda Colbert

Executive Assistant to Darryl Lucien

W: LucienPartners.com

Error! Filename not specified.Error! Filename not specified. LUCIEN PARTNERS



December 1, 2021

Kamilah Moore, Chair Reparations Task Force Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

Re: Consideration of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science's (CDU) role in facilitating reparations and educational empowerment, economic empowerment, and health equity.

Dear Chair Moore & Reparations Task Force Members:

CDU writes to express strong support for inclusion of this University into your hearings, discussions, and analysis concerning reparations. We are abundantly thankful for actions taken by the Legislature and Governor over the past few years to make substantial progress toward fulfilling the original promise and vision for this university. However, we also recognize that the University's progress has been painstakingly slow and we have not yet achieved the level of service originally envisioned to both close the gap on health care accessibility in medically underserved areas and substantially diversify California's healthcare workforce. We believe that continuous investment in these aforementioned goals will reduce health disparities, improve health outcomes, and economically empower our diverse student body with high-wage jobs in health care. The University estimates that an additional one-time investment of \$300 million and ongoing support of \$20 million will fulfill the intent of the McCone Commission's report, which led to the inception of CDU.

CDU is recognized by the Department of Education under Title B as a Historically Black Graduate Institution. In addition, the University is a member of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. Our university is ranked second in student diversity and first in faculty diversity by the Chronicle of Education Higher Education Almanac. Over 80 percent of students and 71 percent of the faculty are racially diverse: 38 percent African American, 28 percent Hispanic, 19 percent Asian American, and 14 percent Other. We empower one of the most diverse student body populations in the country and is one of the most successful public-private partnerships that the State of California has invested in. CDU has graduated more than 600 physicians; over 1,270 physician assistants; over 1,700 other health professionals; and 2,700 physician specialists through our sponsored residency. CDU's Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing has graduated over 1,400 nursing professionals, including more than 1,000 family nurse practitioners.

#### **FULFILLING THE VISION**

The California Future Health Workforce Commission recommended, in its report, that CDU develop an independent four-year medical education program. This process is currently underway and has been aided by two significant infusions of capital, \$50 million from the State of California and \$5 million from L.A. Care. This would include the costs of the medical school and other new or expanded health professions education and science programs, new construction and/or renovation of existing CDU structures; adding residential life for CDU students as well affordable and workforce housing for community members; bringing recreational space to the CDU campus and community that includes pools, soccer fields, NBA basketball courts, and workout space; and building additional research capacity on the South LA community to address health disparities.

We ask that you consider the value and impact that CDU can bring within the context of reparations.

Sincerely,

David M. Carlisle, M.D., Ph.D

President and CEO

### ReparationsTaskforce

Huang, Silin From: Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:04 AM To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: AB 3121: Reparations Task Force Listserv EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious. Dear AB 3121: Reparations Task Force, I am the Field Representative working with Asm. Mia Bonta, representing Oakland, Alameda, and San Leandro. Can you please add our staff to the listsery? We are interested in future AB 3121: Reparations Task Force meetings. Legislative Director: Legislative Assistants: Eliza.Brooks@asm.ca.gov Senior Field Representatives: Field Representative: Scheduler/Office Assistant: Thank you! Best, Silin Silin Huang Pronouns: She/Ella/她 Field Representative Office of Assemblymember Mia Bonta California State Assembly District 18

www.assembly.ca.gov/bonta Schedule a Meeting

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:04 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Fwd: CA Reparations Task Force | From Brooke Sinclair

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello Task Force,

Thank you for your series of discussions on reparations this morning. I would like to submit the video The Secret of Selling to the Negro as evidence of discrimination in infrastructure, housing, and gentrification propaganda for the manipulation of Negro citizens in California and the remaining United States. Someone gently mentioned the proof of burden and reparations would have to pass the 14th amendment and I believe this footage proves negros were specifically targeted and therefore should be exempt from the 14th amendment.

THE SECRET OF SELLING THE NEGRO (1954) https://youtu.be/E8PBrhFN35c

Brooke Sinclair

-Brooke Sinclair

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:06 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Re: CA Reparations Task Force | From Brooke Sinclair

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

The Descendants of American Slaves should be a protected endangered class along with the indigenous population of America.

On Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 12:03 PM Brooke Sinclair

wrote:

Hello Task Force,

Thank you for your series of discussions on reparations this morning. I would like to submit the video The Secret of Selling to the Negro as evidence of discrimination in infrastructure, housing, and gentrification propaganda for the manipulation of Negro citizens in California and the remaining United States. Someone gently mentioned the proof of burden and reparations would have to pass the 14th amendment and I believe this footage proves negros were specifically targeted and therefore should be exempt from the 14th amendment.

THE SECRET OF SELLING THE NEGRO (1954) https://youtu.be/E8PBrhFN35c

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**Brooke Sinclair** 

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**Brooke Sinclair** 

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**Brooke Sinclair** 

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:10 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Re: CA Reparations Task Force | From Brooke Sinclair

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Last thought, foreign parents separated from their children at the border are filing a joint suit against the DOJ. Is this the time for the Descendants of Slaves to file a lawsuit against the DOJ and/or America's federal government for "purchasing" stolen or unauthorized goods? i.e people

On Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 12:06 PM Brooke Sinclair

The Descendants of American Slaves should be a protected endangered class along with the indigenous population of America.

On Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 12:03 PM Brooke Sinclair

wrote:

Hello Task Force,

Thank you for your series of discussions on reparations this morning. I would like to submit the video The Secret of Selling to the Negro as evidence of discrimination in infrastructure, housing, and gentrification propaganda for the manipulation of Negro citizens in California and the remaining United States. Someone gently mentioned the proof of burden and reparations would have to pass the 14th amendment and I believe this footage proves negros were specifically targeted and therefore should be exempt from the 14th amendment.

THE SECRET OF SELLING THE NEGRO (1954) <a href="https://youtu.be/E8PBrhFN35c">https://youtu.be/E8PBrhFN35c</a>

Brooke Sinclair

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Brooke Sinclair

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Jason Knight <

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 11:01 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Good afternoon.

Question for you. How will we be able to access the video from this meeting after it is complete?



Jason.Knight@bnc.tv bnc.tv



BNC is the nation's fastest growing news network and the only provider of 24/7 multiplatform programming dedicated to covering the unique perspectives, challenges and successes of Black and Brown communities. Available on most major cable and satellite systems and accessible on more than 200 million connected devices and OTT platforms, BNC provides in-depth analysis and viewpoints that illuminate, contextualize and celebrate people of color and their experiences. Please connect with us at <a href="mailto:bnc.tv">bnc.tv</a> and on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:lnstagram">Instagram</a>, and <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>.

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: angel81264

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 11:37 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Please silence who ever this is SNORING on the Live Stream. It is so insulting...

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Virginie Ladisch

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 12:24 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Offer of support from the International Center for Transitional Justice

Attachments: ICTJ\_Briefing\_TJ\_US\_Race.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Dear Members of the Reparations Task Force,

Congratulations on the great work you have done so far to advance reparative justice in California! I have been following your work with great interest.

As you seek to fulfill the mandate of AB 3121, I wanted to offer the support of my organization, the <u>International Center for Transitional Justice</u> (ICTJ). The ICTJ is an international non-profit, non-governmental organization that works across society and borders to challenge the causes and address the consequences of massive human rights violations. We affirm victims' dignity, fight impunity, and promote responsive institutions. We work with victims, civil society groups, national, and international organizations to ensure redress for victims and to help prevent atrocities from happening again.

From your recent meetings, I see that there are several very challenging questions that are being presented to you as you seek to define a reparations program for California, including questions of eligibility, which are extremely complex. ICTJ has advised numerous reparations efforts around the world, helping governments define their reparation programs, define criteria for eligibility, and devise an effective and legitimate implementation strategy. We would be honored to accompany you in this process and provide you with relevant comparative experiences or technical assistance as you navigate these questions. In addition to providing information and technical support, we are also available to convene workshops on specific topics that you want to explore further.

In the meantime, attached please find a briefing paper my colleague and I wrote last year, which places the current efforts to advance racial justice in the US in the context of international human rights, and more specifically, within the context of transitional justice.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Virginie

Virginie Ladisch

Senior Expert, Truth Seeking and Civic Engagement Head, Children and Youth Program International Center for Transitional Justice



Virginie Ladisch Anna Myriam Roccatello April 2021

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### The Color of Justice

# Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States

The murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor in the spring of 2020 at the hands of police have set off a wave of national and international protests demanding that the United States (US) confront its unaddressed legacy of slavery and racial discrimination, manifest in persistent social and economic inequality.¹ Compared with previous protest movements in the US, this time, it seems more attention is being paid to the historical roots of the grievances being voiced. Only a few years ago, following the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, protests broke out calling for an array of reforms, such as body cameras and greater accountability for individual police officers. However, across the country, the continued violence against Black people by police highlights that this is not a problem of individuals. It is rather a pervasive and systemic problem that began before the nation's founding and has been a constant through line in US history from the early colonial period to the present. This history includes the genocide of Native Americans, the enslavement of African Americans, and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Putting an end to this continuing legacy requires an equally systemic response.

To understand what conditions led to the murder of George Floyd, and so many others before him and since, it is important to analyze the past and put current grievances in historical perspective. To that end, transitional justice can guide the discussion to focus on root causes of violence and racial injustice and provide ideas for what steps can be taken to undo systemic abuses and redress harms linked to the legacy of slavery. Historian John Hope Franklin urges citizens, "To confront our past and see it for what it is... It is a past that is filled with some of the ugliest possible examples of racial brutality and degradation in human history. We need to recognize it for what it was and is and not explain it away, excuse it, or justify it. Having done that, we should then make a good-faith effort to turn our history around." As part of that good-faith effort, the US should look to and learn from other countries that have undertaken efforts to address systemic human rights violations, provide reparations, and advance reforms.

<sup>1</sup> While many international protest events were held in solidarity with the US-based Black Lives Matter movement and to honor the life of George Floyd, protestors around the globe also used the opportunity to call out their own countries' racist histories. *Washington Post*, "How George Floyd's Death Sparked Protests Around the World," June 10, 2020.

#### The Color of Justice:

Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States

#### **About the Authors**

Virginie Ladisch is ICTJ's senior expert in truth seeking and civic engagement and leads ICTJ's work on children and youth. She has provided technical expertise on truth seeking, acknowledgment, memorialization, and reparations in diverse countries including Canada, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Gambia, Kenya, Tunisia, and Uganda.

#### Anna Myriam Roccatello is

ICTJ's Deputy Executive Director and Director of Programs and currently oversees all of its global and country programs. She has over 25 years of experience in the fields of international human rights, transitional justice, and the rule of law.

#### A Time for Global Inspiration

As is the case in many other countries, there has been a long and ongoing struggle in the US to achieve equal rights and representation for all citizens.<sup>2</sup> Yet, for much of US history, most citizens rested easy in the belief that the nation would uphold the founding principle of equality and any violation of it could be addressed through the fair administration of the justice system. But in reality, rather than protecting the rights of all US citizens, the justice system, including criminal prosecutions, has been used to discriminate against and infringe upon the rights of people belonging to communities of color. In particular, over the course of US history, the justice system has suppressed the rights of Black people.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, laws intended to prosecute wrongdoing have often been applied discriminatorily based on the color of one's skin, further entrenching systemic racism and notions of white supremacy.<sup>4</sup>

Transitional justice encompasses a variety of approaches developed precisely to address structural and systematic abuses. With an emphasis on truth, justice, reparations, and reform, these approaches have helped countries emerging from periods of conflict and repression deal with large-scale or systematic human rights violations and take steps to prevent their recurrence. A common misconception is that transitional justice can only be applied in a society that is undergoing a significant transition, either at the end of a conflict or during a transfer of power. However, while such a transition does facilitate efforts to reform institutions and redress past atrocities, what is needed are a political, social, and cultural opening and a public demand for change. Moreover, over the past decade, the general understanding of transitional justice has evolved; initially conceived as a set of approaches to achieve justice and redress in the aftermath of war or authoritarian regimes, it is now seen as relevant to established democracies and has been increasingly applied in them to address legacies of abuse and historical injustices. For instance, Canada and Australia have undertaken transitional justice processes to deal with past violations against Indigenous populations, and in Belgium and the United Kingdom there has been growing recognition of the need to confront their colonial past and their role in slavery.<sup>5</sup> Arguably, the US now finds itself in such a moment of reckoning, as protests and citizen demands crack open the door to broader discussions on how to unravel the legacy of

<sup>2</sup> See, for example, Carol Anderson, *One Person, No Vote: How Voter Suppression is Destroying Our Democracy* (New York: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2018); Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2002); Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2003); Alexander Keyssar, *The Right to Vote: The Contested History of Democracy in the United States* (New York: Basic Books, 2009); Richard Hasen, *Election Meltdown: Dirty Tricks, Distrust, and the Threat to American Democracy* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2020); Bernard Manin, *The Principles of Representative Government (Themes in the Social Sciences*) (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1997), pp. i-vi; Blanca Rodríguez Ruiz and Ruth Rubio-Marín, "The Gender of Representation: On Democracy, Equality, and Parity," *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 6, 2, (2008): 287-316; Adrienne LaFrance, "The 'Undesirable Militants' Behind the Nineteenth Amendment," *The Atlantic*, June 4, 2019, <a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/06/most-dangerous-women-american-politics/590959/">https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2019/06/most-dangerous-women-american-politics/590959/</a>.

<sup>3</sup> See, for example, Michelle Alexander, The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (New York: New Press, 2012); Richard Rothstein, The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America (New York: Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2017); Douglas A. Blackmon, Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II (New York: Anchor Books, 2008); Eric Foner, Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877 (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2002).

<sup>4</sup> For an analysis of the criminalization of young African-Americans during the 1970s and 1980s, see Bernard E. Harcourt, *Against Prediction: Profiling, Policing, and Punishing in an Actuarial Age* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).

Morgan Hollie, Human Rights Watch, "Emancipation Day – A Reminder That Caribbean Still Needs Justice, Repair," August 3, 2020, <a href="https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/03/emancipation-day-reminder-caribbean-still-needs-justice-repair#">www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/03/emancipation-day-reminder-caribbean-still-needs-justice-repair#</a>; BBC, "Belgian King Expresses 'Deepest Regrets' for DR Congo Colonial Abuses," June 30, 2020, <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-53232105">www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-53232105</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States slavery and white supremacy in the US and reform institutions such the police and the criminal justice system.

The International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) has accompanied victims, survivors,<sup>6</sup> and activists in their quest for justice and has advised and assisted policymakers and governments in their efforts to effectively deal with past human rights abuses and lay the foundation for a more just and inclusive future. Although every context is unique and requires a tailored response, experiences from transitional justice processes in places such as South Africa, Colombia, Tunisia, and Canada, along with lessons from ongoing work in the US, can offer inspiration and ideas for what can be done in the US to respond to current calls for broader and more comprehensive reforms.

#### **Acknowledgment and Truth Seeking**

"Say their names" has become a common refrain at recent protests and on social media. It is a call to acknowledge individual victims and overcome the inhumanity by which their lives were taken. Even well-written laws and comprehensive reforms are not enough on their own to get to the root causes of the racial injustice plaguing the US. Real change requires a transformation in the nation's narrative, beginning with how US history is taught and learned, particularly as it relates to race and how it was constructed to serve as a caste system that marginalizes people of color. As James Baldwin writes, "[White people] are...still trapped in a history which they do not understand; and until they understand it, they cannot be released from it."

Central to all efforts to acknowledge victims and the violations they suffered, challenge the dominant historical narrative, repair harms, and reform broken systems, are the need to connect the dots between past and present abuses and affirm the humanity and dignity of Black people. Slavery is far from a sin of the past. As historian Edward Baptist notes, "slavery's expansion shaped every crucial aspect of the economy and politics of the new nation...the commodification and suffering and forced labor of African Americans [are] what made the US powerful and rich." While the Emancipation Proclamation may have formally ended the system of slavery as it then existed, 10 it did nothing to reverse the economic gains made by whites or to stop its mutation into other forms of systemic racism. African Americans enjoyed a brief period of liberty during Reconstruction when the federal government took over governance of the South and attempted to enforce civil rights. The Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Constitutional Amendments, passed between 1868 and 1870, were intended to protect African Americans from discrimination

<sup>6</sup> ICTJ generally uses the term "victims" rather than "survivors" to indicate individuals who suffered human right violations because "victim" is the term under international law which defines a person whose rights have been violated. However, in certain specific contexts, such as the US, when the violations of fundamental rights have caused intergenerational harm, ICTJ uses the term "survivors."

<sup>7</sup> Isabel Wilkerson, "America's Enduring Caste System," *New York Times*, July 1, 2020, <u>www.nytimes.com/2020/07/01/magazine/isabel-wilkerson-caste.html</u>

<sup>8</sup> James Baldwin, The Fire next Time (New York: Dial Press, 1963).

<sup>9</sup> Edward Baptist, The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism (New York: Basic

<sup>10</sup> The documentary film 13TH explains how slavery was never fully abolished but rather transformed into more covert but equally destructive policies see the documentary. Ava Duvernay and Jason Moran, 13TH, United States. 2016.

<sup>11</sup> See, for example, Michelle Alexander, The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (New York: New Press, 2012); Carol Anderson, White Rage: the Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide (New York: Bloomsbury, 2016); Nikole Hannah-Jones, "The 1619 Project," New York Times Magazine, August 14, 2019, nyti. ms/2LuLU8j; Manisha Sinha, The Slave's Cause: A History of Abolition (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2016).

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States and uphold their basic freedoms including the rights to vote and to equal protection under the law.

These gains, however, were short lived. Following a political compromise in 1877, Reconstruction ended and the federal government withdrew from the South. <sup>12</sup> A coordinated campaign spread across the South to disenfranchise Black voters through intimidation and by barring them from the polls. <sup>13</sup> State legislatures, filled with white supremacists, passed new laws in the 1890s to enforce segregation. Known as "Jim Crow" laws, <sup>14</sup> they represented a formal, codified system of racial apartheid that dominated the American South until the mid-1960s. For example, it was not until 1965, with the passage of the Voting Rights Acts, that racial discrimination was prohibited in voting, and 1967 that inter-racial marriage was legalized at the federal level. This system of segregation marginalized Black communities and entrenched a racial hierarchy into the social, political, and economic fabric of the United States, which remains painfully obvious today when comparing indicators of well-being among different racial groups in the United States. <sup>15</sup>

From about 1916 to 1970, an estimated 6 million Blacks migrated from the South to the North, fleeing racially motivated violence and discrimination and in search of better job opportunities. While housing discrimination was outlawed in 1917, white communities found ways to use restrictive covenants to prevent African Americans from buying houses in their neighborhoods. Railroads, highways, and walls were also used to segregate residential areas. As a result of this housing discrimination, Blacks created their own cities and districts within larger urban areas. A vibrant urban Black culture resulted, blossoming in the Harlem Renaissance and later inspiring the civil rights movement of the 1960s. At the same time, however, these dense urban areas were home to a disproportionate number of people who lacked adequate housing, schooling, health care, and employment. Fearing infringement on their neighborhoods and resources, white citizens, abetted by local police, sought to deny them access to these basic rights. This in turn enflamed tensions between law enforcement and communities of color.

In *The Condemnation of Blackness*, Khalil Muhammed describes black criminality as a process by which "people are assigned the label of criminal, whether they are guilty or not." He further argues that this cycle—whereby black people were arrested to

<sup>12</sup> Eric Foner, Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877 (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2002), 586-587.

<sup>13</sup> Jim Rutenberg, "A Dream Undone: Inside the 50-year Campaign to Roll Back the Voting Rights Act," *New York Times Magazine*, July 29, 2015, nyti.ms/2n1DLOD; Gregory Downs, "Today's Voter Suppression Tactics Have A 150 Year History," *Talking Points Memo*, July 26, 2018, <a href="http://bit.ly/2QyQZQg">http://bit.ly/2QyQZQg</a>

<sup>14</sup> In 1883, the US Supreme Court found unconstitutional the Civil Rights Act of 1875, which Congress had passed to protect African Americans from discrimination in public accommodations such as hotels, theaters, and railroads. The Civil Rights Cases, 109 U.S. 3 (1883), opened the door to discrimination based on what became known as "separate but equal" policies.

<sup>15</sup> One recent example is the differentiated impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Across the US, African Americans, Latinx, and other communities of color have been disproportionately affected by the disease at alarming rates. This, too, is a result of historically rooted socioeconomic inequalities, including unequal access to quality health care. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Health Equity Considerations and Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups," updated June 25, 2020, <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/health-equity/race-ethnicity.html">www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/health-equity/race-ethnicity.html</a>; Maria Godoy and Daniel Wood, "What Do Coronavirus Racial Disparities Look Like State by State?" National Public Radio, May 30, 2020.

<sup>16</sup> Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2019).

<sup>17</sup> Kenneth T. Jackson, Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985).

<sup>18</sup> Khalil Gibran Muhammad, The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019).

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States prevent them from exercising their rights and then deemed dangerous because of their high arrest rates, which deprived them of their rights even further—has been repeated throughout US history. <sup>19</sup> In response to this repression, race riots broke out across the US in 1919, in what came to be known as the Red Summer of 1919. As an example, the race riot in Chicago that year lasted 13 days and left 38 people dead, 537 injured, and 1,000 black families without homes. In response, the governor of Illinois established the Chicago Commission on Race relations. Its 1922 report found there to be systematic participation of police in mob violence against Blacks and made a series of strong targeted recommendations. <sup>20</sup> The report, however, was shelved and the recommendations were never implemented.

In parallel to discriminatory laws, policies, and policing, has been consistent social acceptance of racist ideas and the "othering" of people of color throughout US history. Postcards from the early 1900s feature photographs of lynchings attended by families dressed in their Sunday best.<sup>21</sup> This type of behavior was not isolated to a small subset of racist individuals such as members of the notorious Ku Klux Klan; rather, broad sectors of society considered it acceptable. Furthermore, as mentioned above, this blatant racism and these coordinated acts of racial terror contributed to the migration of thousands of Blacks from the South to the North.<sup>22</sup> Often forced to flee overnight, families had to leave behind property and any wealth they had started to accumulate, only to face harsh conditions and discrimination in the North. An example of this discrimination is captured in this photograph from 1963, in which young boys are shown taunting and waving a belt at the Horace Baker family, the first African American family to buy a home in the all-white neighborhood of Folcroft, Pennsylvania.



The caption reads: "Youngsters jeer as moving men tote possessions of the Horace Baker family up the steps of their new home in the formerly all-white Delmar Village development here 8/30. The Negro family finally gained entrance to their new home after two days of demonstrations by whites." (Library of Congress)

Overcoming the dehumanization associated with persistent racial and socioeconomic subjugation requires a conscious and explicit government effort to denounce it and inform all citizens about how it occurred throughout US history.

An essential element of any comprehensive transitional justice process, truth seeking brings to light past crimes, how they were committed and by whom, and the direct harms and repercussions experienced by victims and their families. Truth seeking goes

<sup>19</sup> Anna North, "How Racist Policing Took Over American Cities, Explained by a Historian," June 2020, Vox, www.vox.com/2020/6/6/21280643/police-brutality-violence-protests-racism-khalil-muhammad
20 Chicago Commission on Race Relations, The Negro in Chicago: a Study of Race Relations and a Race Riot (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1922), https://archive.org/stream/negroinchicagostoochic#page/n31/mode/2up

<sup>21</sup> A particularly disturbing image is the postcard of 18-year-old Jesse Washington From Waco, Texas, after being been burned alive. The message on the back reads, "This is the barbeque we had last night. My picture is to the left with a cross over it. Your son, Joe." The postcard was mailed in 1916. Karen E Quinones Miller, "Mr. Jesse Washington— Say His Name," *Medium*, October 25, 2019, <a href="https://medium.com/@authorkeqm/mr-jessewashington-say-his-name-8f98a24fb130">https://medium.com/@authorkeqm/mr-jessewashington-say-his-name-8f98a24fb130</a>

<sup>22</sup> Isabel Wilkerson, The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration (New York: Vintage Books, 2011).

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States far beyond traditional fact-finding or clarifying individual cases; it is "an undertaking to understand comprehensively root causes, circumstances, factors, context and motives of countrywide situations of repression and/or violence." By publicly calling attention to previously suppressed or marginalized narratives and piecing together past incidents in a way that explains the roots of current injustices, truth-seeking endeavors serve to "narrow the range of permissible lies" about the past and help provide a roadmap for achieving a just and inclusive society. Crucially important, truth seeking also helps create the political will and public support for reparations and institutional reform.

With over 40 truth commissions worldwide,<sup>25</sup> there is a vast array of examples from which to take inspiration. Depending on the context and nature of violations, truth-seeking processes have varied in form and scope. For example, Tunisia's Truth and Dignity Commission focused on affirming human dignity in the wake of repression and marginalization of certain people and regions.<sup>26</sup> In Guatemala, the Historical Clarification Commission (CEH) mainly sought to reveal the systematic nature of the massive attacks on the Indigenous population. It situated what happened across thousands of villages within the broader historical context of the Guatemalan military's counter-insurgency campaign. In doing so, it dispelled popular misconceptions that those whom the military killed were criminals or merely victims of a neighborly feud and helped to clear the name of many victims. The commission's final report also revealed systemic repression against Indigenous Guatemalans within several state institutions, in particular the judiciary.

Early truth commissions largely gathered testimonies and documentation behind closed doors and presented their analysis in a written report. The South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, established to examine the crimes of apartheid, was the first of its kind to emphasize public education and incorporate it in its work. All of its hearings were broadcast live on national radio and television stations. These hearings triggered a national conversation about the brutal realities of South Africa's apartheid regime, forcing some citizens who had looked the other way to finally acknowledge the inhumanity of the system. Since then, most subsequent truth commissions have held public hearings.

As different options are considered in the US, it is important that the truth-seeking process that is ultimately devised be feasible, examine the full range of atrocities perpetrated, and use multiple approaches to reach a diverse audience. Given the wealth of existing initiatives, along with the ongoing work of Black historians, authors, sociologists, artists, musicians, and filmmakers, steps should also be taken to collect, curate, and amplify this already impressive body of truth-seeking work.<sup>27</sup>

While the truth of the United States' legacy of slavery and racism and its connections to present-day injustices are well documented in scholarly materials, it has not been acknowledged by the government or adequately integrated into the country's collective

Human Rights Council, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence, Pablo de Greiff, September 7, 2015 (A/HRC/30/42), § 23, pp. 8, 40, available at <a href="https://undocs.org/A/HRC/30/42">https://undocs.org/A/HRC/30/42</a>

<sup>24</sup> Michael Ignatieff, "Articles of Faith," Index on Censorship 25, 5 (1996): 113.

<sup>25</sup> Countries as diverse as Argentina, Colombia, East Timor, Morocco, Nepal, Peru, Sierra Leone, South Korea, and the Gambia, to name only a few, have set up truth commissions.

<sup>26</sup> Instance Verité et Dignity (Tunisia), <a href="www.ivd.tn/?lang=en">www.ivd.tn/?lang=en</a>; for analysis of the process, see ICTJ, "Public Hearings Continue: Tunisians Testify to Violence, Corruption, and Marginalization," December 21, 2016, <a href="www.ictj.org/news/tdc-tunisia-violence-corruption-marginalization">www.ictj.org/news/tdc-tunisia-violence-corruption-marginalization</a>

<sup>27</sup> See, for example, the proposal put forward by Dr. Marcus Anthony Hunter for the sustainable national, local, and regional Archives for Racial and Cultural Healing. Marcus Anthony, "Radical Reparations," *Global Dialogues* 11, 1 (2021), <a href="https://globaldialogue.isa-sociology.org/radical-reparations/">https://globaldialogue.isa-sociology.org/radical-reparations/</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States narrative. Instead, it is often overlooked or, in some circles, actively denied. As Carol Anderson writes, a belief in "racial innocence" dominates political structures and obfuscates the systemic racism that underpins US institutions and policies.<sup>28</sup> A public school textbook in Texas, for example, referred to enslaved people as "workers" who were transported to the US, effectively erasing the word "slavery" from the version of history it tells.<sup>29</sup> Calls for national truth seeking continue to face strong resistance from certain groups.<sup>30</sup> As Hannah-Jones aptly points out, "there is too much to know, and yet we aggressively choose not to know it."<sup>31</sup>

A truth-seeking process in the US could help debunk false or whitewashed historical accounts and set the record straight once and for all, as well as shed light on the causes and consequences of the continuous violence and racism that have persisted for over 400 years. At the federal level, there have been a number of investigations into and reports on institutional racism in the country, such as the report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders (known as the Kerner Commission) of 1968,<sup>32</sup> but they were all largely ignored, shelved, or blocked from proceeding. Most recently, Representative Barbara Lee sponsored a resolution calling for the establishment of a "Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Commission," to "properly acknowledge, memorialize, and be a catalyst for progress, including toward permanently eliminating persistent racial inequities.<sup>33</sup> The purpose of the proposed commission is to hold the US federal government accountable and advance necessary reforms to dismantle systemic racism.<sup>34</sup>

In the absence of a national process, several local truth-seeking processes have been launched at both the city and state level. A few examples include The Truth Telling

<sup>28</sup> Carol Anderson, White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide, (New York: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016).

<sup>29</sup> Laura Isensee, "Why Calling Slaves 'Workers' Is More Than an Editing Error," *National Public Radio*, October 23, 2015, <a href="www.npr.org/sections/ed/2015/10/23/450826208/why-calling-slaves-workers-is-more-than-an-editing-error">www.npr.org/sections/ed/2015/10/23/450826208/why-calling-slaves-workers-is-more-than-an-editing-error</a>. More recently, a group of high school students started a petition asking the Texas Board of Education demanding an anti-racist curriculum. The petition states, "The current TEKS [Texas Education Knowledge and Skills] standards ignore our nation's racist history as well as the present-day consequences of a past steeped in racial violence, slavery, and Jim Crow... Additionally, by refusing to acknowledge our long history and existing prevalence of redlining, racially motivated gerrymandering, and race-based voter suppression, we are failing to teach our high school students the long-lasting consequences of our history and how these continue to pose a threat to our society today." See, change.org, "The Texas State Board of Education Must Implement an Anti-Racist History Curriculum," <a href="www.change.org/p/the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-must-implement-an-anti-racist-history-curriculum?original footer petition id=&grid position=&pt="www.change.org">www.change.org/p/the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-must-implement-an-anti-racist-history-curriculum?original footer petition id=&grid position=&pt="www.change.org">www.change.org/p/the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-must-implement-an-anti-racist-history-curriculum?original footer petition id=&grid position=&pt="www.change.org">www.change.org/p/the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-texas-state-board-of-education-the-tex

<sup>30</sup> As just one example, Senator Tom Cotton has sought to block the teaching of the "1619 Project" in schools. Teo Armus, "Tom Cotton Tries to Ban Schools from Teaching '1619 Project' out of the Classroom. His Efforts Have Kept It in the Spotlight," Washington Post, July 27, 2020, <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/07/27/tom-cotton-1619-project-slavery/">www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/07/27/tom-cotton-1619-project-slavery/</a>

<sup>31</sup> Nikole Hannah-Jones, "What is Owed," *New York Times*, June 30, 2020, <u>www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/24/magazine/reparations-slavery.html</u>

<sup>32</sup> Alice George, "The 1968 Kerner Commission Got It Right, But Nobody Listened," *Smithsonian Magazine*, March 1, 2018, <u>www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/1968-kerner-commission-got-it-right-nobody-listened-180968318/</u>

<sup>33</sup> US H.Con.Res.100 — Urging the Establishment of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation, 117th Congress (2021-2022), <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/19">www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/19</a>, and S.Con.Res.6 — A concurrent resolution urging the establishment of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation, 117th Congress (2021-2022), <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-concurrent-resolution/6">www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-concurrent-resolution/6</a>

<sup>34</sup> This resolution is the result of a multiyear consultative process to develop the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation framework for the United States. For more information, see the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation website: https://healourcommunities.org/

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States Project in Ferguson, Missouri,<sup>35</sup> the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission in North Carolina,<sup>36</sup> and the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission.<sup>37</sup> More recently, in April 2019, the governor of Maryland, with unanimous bi-partisan support from the state legislature, signed into law House Bill 307, establishing the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission (ML TRC).<sup>38</sup> Mandated to address the legacy of racial-terror lynchings, the ML TRC is scheduled to begin holding public hearings in late 2021.

Whether local or national, truth-seeking initiatives must strike a balance between raising broad public awareness and providing a space for survivors and those most affected by systemic injustice to heal. Both objectives are important but require different approaches that in some cases may contradict each other. For example, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was survivor centered and survivor led in many respects, and provided meaningful acknowledgment and potential personal healing for survivors of Indian Residential Schools.<sup>39</sup> Yet while the commission operated for over five years across Canada, the average non-Indigenous Canadian is unaware of it. It is therefore important for stakeholders in current or future truth-seeking initiatives in the US to think carefully about how to best reach out to those members of society who most need to engage in and learn from these initiatives, while still respecting the needs and dignity of survivors. This will likely involve a diverse set of activities, some targeting harmed communities and others the general public to educate them on the full scope of past violations and their enduring consequences. These activities could include closed-door sessions, public hearings, and other forms of outreach and awareness-raising campaigns.

A truth-seeking process closely examines and analyses past violations, why and how they were committed, and their enduring impact. It can also present opportunities for recommendations for the way forward, to ensure harms are repaired, to end ongoing violations, and to prevent their recurrence.

#### **Steps Toward Repair**

Reparations provide a direct symbolic or material benefit to survivors. Considered a fundamental right under international law,<sup>40</sup> they embody a society's recognition of and remorse and atonement for the harms suffered by victims of human rights violations. There is a significant body of research and practical guidance on reparations, as well as numerous reparations programs around the world, from which stakeholders can

<sup>35</sup> For more information, see the Truth Telling Project website: https://thetruthtellingproject.org/

<sup>36</sup> For more information and the commission's final report, see the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission, <a href="https://greensborotrc.org/">https://greensborotrc.org/</a>. See also ICTJ, Lessons in Truth-Seeking: International Experiences Informing United States Initiatives (2006).

<sup>37</sup> For more information and the commission's final report, see the Maine-Wabanaki REACH, www.mainewabanakireach.org. See also ICTJ, "Maine Truth Commission to Tell Story of Forced Assimilation of Wabanaki Children," February 19, 2013, <a href="https://www.ictj.org/news/maine-truth-commission-tell-story-forced-assimilation-wabanaki-children">www.ictj.org/news/maine-truth-commission-tell-story-forced-assimilation-wabanaki-children</a>, and ICTJ, "Maine's indigenous Truth Commission Marks First Year," February 28, 2014, <a href="https://www.ictj.org/news/maines-indigenous-truth-commission-marks-first-year">www.ictj.org/news/maines-indigenous-truth-commission-marks-first-year</a>

<sup>38</sup> For more information, see the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission website: https://msa.maryland.gov/lynching-truth-reconciliation/

<sup>39</sup> Indian Residential Schools were a network of schools for Indigenous Canadians, established by the Canadian government and run by Christian churches. The objective of this policy was to remove Indigenous children from their families and assimilate them into "Canadian" culture. For more information, see the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, www.trc.ca/index.html

<sup>40</sup> UN General Assembly, Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law (New York: Official record A/RES/60/147, 2006).

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States draw when deciding how to provide redress for the wrongs committed against people and communities of color in the US.<sup>41</sup>

First, it is important to recognize the inherent paradox of reparations, namely that it is impossible to fully repair all past harms. Reparations are most commonly understood as payments of money to victims for the harm they suffered. However, monetary compensation is but one form of reparations. As laid out in the UN basic principles and guidelines on reparations, other forms may include restitution, rehabilitation, satisfaction (e.g., the full and public disclosure of the truth, an official apology, and commemorative activities), and guarantees of non-repetition (e.g., reviewing and reforming laws). Reparations can encompass material compensation, symbolic measures, individual and collective benefits, urgent and long-term programs, and comprehensive and targeted benefits.<sup>42</sup> In the US, because the injustices perpetrated against people of color have spanned generations and have taken many forms, a comprehensive approach is needed to address institutionalized wrongs such as slavery, Jim Crow, and the widespread and systematic oppression and discrimination that followed.

Other countries' experiences with administrative reparations programs can serve as examples for the US; the scope, size, and diversity of approaches of a number of them are even on par with what should be considered in the US.<sup>43</sup> In Colombia, for instance, the Victims' Land and Restitution Law, passed in 2011, consolidated previous reparative measures into a broad policy that provides comprehensive reparations to victims of the 50-yearlong internal armed conflict. With an estimated eight million victims,<sup>44</sup> the scale of the program is enormous and includes monetary compensation, comprehensive psychosocial and health care services, housing and land restitution for qualifying individuals, debt forgiveness, and access to educational training and employment. It also provides collective reparations to communities for infrastructural reforms and to help guarantee non-repetition.

Before defining specific reparative measures in the US, or even considering those that have already been floated (tax credits, targeted development funds, baby bonds, or cash payments), it will be important to establish the general parameters of the policy including the scope of what should and can be done and qualifying criteria. Communities of color and individual victims must play an active role in defining these parameters through an extensive consultation process. Peru, for example took this approach, implementing a comprehensive reparations plan based on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which had consulted with victims of the 20-year internal conflict about their concerns and expectations for redress and reparations.<sup>45</sup> Aspects of this work are already underway in the United States. For instance, the Center for Civil Rights and Restorative Justice at Northeastern University has tracked down descendants

<sup>41</sup> Pablo de Greiff (ed.), The Handbook of Reparations (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006).

<sup>42</sup> Lisa Magarrell, ICTJ, Reparations in Theory and Practice (2006). Cristián Correa, Julie Guillerot, and Lisa Magarrell, "Reparations and Victim Participation: Experiences with the Design and Implementation of Domestic Reparations Programmes," in Reparations for Victims of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity: Systems in Place and Systems in the Making, Second Revised Edition, eds. Carla Ferstman, Mariana Goetz, and Alan Stephens (Leiden, the Netherlands: Brill Nijhoff Publishers, 2020), 240-270.

<sup>43</sup> Administrative reparations programs are created by legislation and often provide redress, through a variety of measures, for specific types of violations and various classes of victims. See ICTJ, *Reparations in Theory and Practice* (2007).

<sup>44</sup> ICTJ, "Colombia: Background: After Decades of Conflict, Cementing Peace and Securing Justice for Victims in Colombia," <a href="https://www.ictj.org/our-work/regions-and-countries/colombia">www.ictj.org/our-work/regions-and-countries/colombia</a>

<sup>45</sup> Cristián Correa, ICTJ, Reparations in Peru: From Recommendations to Implementation (2013), <a href="https://www.ictj.org/publication/reparations-peru-recommendations-implementation">www.ictj.org/publication/reparations-peru-recommendations-implementation</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States of victims of lynchings, and helped them articulate their demands for reparations through a participatory process.<sup>46</sup>

Within the US, there is ample work that has already been done on the subject of reparations, and what it could and should look like for Black communities, from which to draw. The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL), for example, has made a clear demand for reparations for past and ongoing harms and who should provide them. <sup>47</sup> In its reparations toolkit, M4BL lays out a wide-ranging policy platform, noting that reparations "require a systematic accounting, acknowledgment, and repair of past and ongoing harms, monetary compensation to individuals and institutions led by and accountable to Black communities, and an end to present day policies and practices that perpetuate harms rooted in a history of anti-Black racism, along with a guarantee that they will not be repeated."

In addition, M4BL calls for reparations for "African descended people in the United States and beyond." It goes on to say, "While we prioritize the demand for reparations for slavery, we do not limit our demand for reparations to slavery. We believe demanding reparations only for slavery erases the reality that the United States has continued to exploit and harm Black people through convict leasing, sharecropping, Jim Crow, redlining, and other policies of structural discrimination and exclusion, and mass criminalization and incarceration through policies such as the 'war on drugs.'"49

Critics may argue that if the category of victims is too broad, reparations become impossible. However, there are programs on a similar scale, such as the various post-World War II reparations programs. For example, the German government alone has paid out over \$80 billion since 1952 in pensions and social welfare payments to some 800,000 Holocaust survivors through the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. This sum is in addition to other reparations payments made directly by the German government. The sum is in addition to other reparations payments made directly by the German government.

Payments for individual reparations are also not without precedent in US history. In 1988, Congress allocated \$1.25 billion for individual reparations, after President Ronald Reagan signed a bill providing \$20,000 to each of the approximately 65,000 living Japanese Americans who had been interned during World War II.

Admittedly, most programs in the US have been much smaller in size and scope. The State of Florida approved \$2.1 million for the living survivors of a 1923 racial pogrom that decimated the Black community in the town of Rosewood and resulted in multiple deaths. In 2014, the State of North Carolina, one of more than 30 other states

<sup>46</sup> Center for Civil Rights and Restorative Justice at Northeastern University School of Law, "Restorative Justice," https://crri.northeastern.edu/home/restorative-justice

<sup>47 &</sup>quot;The government, responsible corporations, and other institutions that have profited off of the harm they have inflicted on Black people — from colonialism to slavery through food and housing redlining, mass incarceration, and surveillance — must repair the harm done." The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL), "Reparations," <a href="https://mabl.org/policy-platforms/reparations">https://mabl.org/policy-platforms/reparations</a>

<sup>48</sup> M4BL, "Reparations Now Toolkit,"  $\frac{https://m_4bl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/o5/Reparations-Now-Toolkit-FINAL.pdf$ 

<sup>49</sup> Ibid. p 35.

<sup>50</sup> Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, "Learn More About Compensation Programs," www.claimscon.org/what-we-do/compensation/background/

<sup>51</sup> For payments made directly, see, for example Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, "Programs Administered by the German Government," <a href="http://www.claimscon.org/what-we-do/compensation/germany-payments/">http://www.claimscon.org/what-we-do/compensation/germany-payments/</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States that practiced forced sterilizations, set aside \$10 million for reparations payments to living survivors of the state's eugenics program, which forcibly sterilized approximately 7,600 people. In 2015, the State of Virginia, followed North Carolina's lead and passed legislation granting \$25,000 to each survivor.

The same year, the Chicago City Council passed the Reparations for Burge Torture Victims Ordinance along with a concurrent apology from the city. The ordinance officially acknowledged the torture that occurred in the city during the tenure of Jon Graham Burge, an American police detective and commander in the Chicago Police Department. Burge stands accused of torturing more than 200 innocent Black men over a period of decades. In addition, the city established a \$5.5 million Reparations Fund for Burge Torture Victims that provided \$100,000 in financial compensation to each eligible living victim of Burge's torture. The reparations package included a formal apology from former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and tuition waivers to city colleges. It also required Chicago Public Schools to educate students about police torture under Burge as part its curriculum and created a permanent, public memorial.

As reflected in Chicago's reparations program, symbolic measures are also important to repair past harms, in addition to financial compensation. These measures include building memorials to honor victims and removing others that glorify a racist history, among others. Across the US, local and state governments are beginning to take such measures. For example, in June, Mississippi lawmakers voted to remove the confederate battle flag from the state flag.<sup>53</sup> Elsewhere in the US and around the world, municipalities are pulling down statues and other monuments to colonialist or racist leaders and removing their names from streets and other public property.<sup>54</sup>

Some activists and leaders, however, reject these symbolic measures and consider them to be a distraction from meaningful and much needed institutional reforms. But while it is true that the immediate impact of these measures on the lives of victims and communities of color more generally may appear limited, they signal an official acknowledgment of and respect for narratives of the past that have been dismissed or actively repressed, and to that extent they represent a first step toward justice. A truth-seeking process, as mentioned earlier, can further reinforce this acknowledgment. From a transitional justice perspective, the social pressure on those with power to reexamine the life and legacy of these controversial historic figures represents an opening to push for a more sweeping public acknowledgment of past and ongoing violations. From that point, action can be taken to reform or dismantle the systems that perpetuate racial injustice.

An official apology can similarly bolster symbolic reparative measures and acknowledgment. To be meaningful, an apology should reflect a societal reckoning with past and present crimes and help unite the public behind common goals for moving

<sup>52</sup> Chicago City Council, Reparations for Burge Torture Victims Ordinance, May 2016, <a href="https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dol/supp\_info/Burge-Reparations-Information-Center/ORDINANCE.pdf">www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dol/supp\_info/Burge-Reparations-Information-Center/ORDINANCE.pdf</a>

<sup>53</sup> Derrik Johnson, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People stated, "This is a long time coming. Finally, Mississippi decided to be one of the 50 states, and not the one state standing alone still bearing the emblem of a segregated society." Paul LeBlanc, "Mississippi State Legislature Passes Bill to Remove Confederate Symbol from State Flag in Historic Vote," CNN, June 29, 2020, <a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/28/politics/mississippi-flag-confederate-emblem/index.html">www.cnn.com/2020/06/28/politics/mississippi-flag-confederate-emblem/index.html</a>

<sup>54</sup> Bukola Adebayo and Samson Ntale, "From Uganda to Nigeria, Activists Are Calling on Their Governments to Remove Colonialists' Names from Streets," CNN, July 3, 2020, <a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/03/africa/africa-cam-paign-rename-streets-intl/index.html">www.cnn.com/2020/07/03/africa/africa-cam-paign-rename-streets-intl/index.html</a>; Santa Falasca, "Who Is Worth A Statue?" ICTJ, July 1, 2020, <a href="https://www.ictj.org/news/who-worth-statue">www.ictj.org/news/who-worth-statue</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States forward. In this way, an apology can mark a turning point and a commitment to deal with past wrongs. As ICTJ notes in its report, *More Than Words: Apologies as a Form of Reparation*, "an apology should signal the intention of a state and/or liable parties to recognize their obligations to victims and encourage citizens and society at-large to take steps toward addressing the root causes of conflict, violence, repression, or exclusion that have made massive and systematic human rights violations possible." <sup>555</sup>

There are precedents both in the US and around the world of leaders offering a meaningful apology. In Sierra Leone, for example, President Ernest Bai Koroma apologized to the women victims of the county's armed conflict for the brutalities they suffered. In a statement on International Women's Day in 2010, he said, "We will never as a nation move forward if we do not apologize to the women of this country for letting them down during the war; we will never as a nation know better days if we do not ask for the forgiveness of our mothers, sisters, partners, and female compatriots for what we let them go through during the war. It is almost a decade now since the war ended, but we must apologize for the wrongs of the war."

In Australia, the government first acknowledged that its policies of forcibly removing Indigenous children and placing them in white families was a "mistake" in a statement to the UN Human Rights Committee in 1988.<sup>57</sup> It was not until 2008, however, that then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd publicly apologized to the Indigenous people of Australia in a speech delivered in Parliament.<sup>58</sup> The speech was part of a formal motion that the Parliament then adopted. It was simultaneously broadcast on national television, as well as on large screens outside the Parliament building, reaching a significant audience.

Leaders and officials can meaningfully apologize in many ways, and there are numerous examples of what might be said and what perhaps should not be.<sup>59</sup> An expression of "regret," however, is not sufficient.<sup>60</sup> Furthermore, the most effective apologies also consider the victims' present and future well-being.<sup>61</sup> For example, following the 1988 Civil Liberties Act,<sup>62</sup> Japanese Americans who had been interned received a formal letter of apology from President Reagan along with a check for individual reparations.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>55</sup> Ruben Carranza, Cristian Correa, Elena Naughton, ICTJ, More Than Words: Apologies as a Form of Reparation (2015), p. 5, www.ictj.org/sites/default/files/ICTJ-Report-Apologies-2015.pdf

<sup>56</sup> Sierra Leone President Ernest Bai Koroma, "Statement on International Women's Day," March 27, 2010.

<sup>57</sup> National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families, Bringing Them Home (1997), p. 248.

<sup>58</sup> Australian Government, "Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples," <a href="https://info.australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-country/our-people/apology-to-australias-indigenous-peoples">https://info.australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-country/our-people/apology-to-australias-indigenous-peoples</a>

<sup>59</sup> For more information about official public apologies as an element of a transitional justice policy, see Ruben Carranza, Cristian Correa, Elena Naughton, ICTJ, More Than Words: Apologies as a Form of Reparation (2015), https://www.ictj.org/sites/default/files/ICTJ-Report-Apologies-2015.pdf

<sup>60</sup> For example, on June 30, 2020, Belgian King Philippe wrote a letter to Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi, expressing his "deepest regrets" for the "acts of violence and cruelty" and the "suffering and humiliation" inflicted on Belgian Congo. This initial statement was welcomed by many, but also met by calls for a full apology along with a commitment to reparations. See Samuel Petrequin, "Belgium Takes Down Statue, King Regrets Colonial Violence," Associated Press, June 30, 2020, https://apnews.com/article/europe-belgium-virus-outbreak-ap-top-news-international-news-f55831878a4f94691f1b3451a818fddf

<sup>61</sup> The case of the so-called comfort women provides an example of when mere rhetoric falls short. For these women, who were forced into sexual slavery during World War II, Japan's refusal to offer material reparations made the apologies of its leaders ring hollow.

<sup>62</sup> US Civil Liberties Act of 1988, Public Law 100-383, <u>www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-102/pdf/STAT-UTE-102-Pg903.pdf</u>

<sup>63</sup> President William J. Clinton, "Presidential Letter of Apology," October 1 1993, available a www.pbs.org/childofcamp/history/clinton.html; and President George H.W. Bush, "Presidential Letter of Apology," October 1990, available at <a href="https://americanhistory.si.edu/righting-wrong-japanese-americans-and-world-war-ii/redress-payments">https://americanhistory.si.edu/righting-wrong-japanese-americans-and-world-war-ii/redress-payments</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States Another example, Congress formally apologized to Native Americans in a joint resolution that it signed into law as part of the 2010 US Defense Appropriations Bill.<sup>64</sup> Though, the resolution included a caveat that the apology did not support or ground any legal claim against the United States. The apology was also criticized for not being delivered in a public manner; the resolution was signed into law without a public ceremony, and the apology was only publicly read aloud months later by a US Senator.<sup>65</sup>

To date, the US government has yet to apologize to African Americans for the profound harm they suffered as a result of slavery, centuries of systemic racism and discrimination, and other grave injustices. Although both the House of Representatives and the Senate have issued apologies in separate resolutions, neither have ever been signed by a president. Legislatures in a number of states, including Virginia, Alabama, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, and New Jersey, have passed similar resolutions. Yet while significant, these apologies do not represent the overall US population and fall short of a national political commitment to policy that would meaningfully redress past and ongoing injustices.

Two US presidents have spoken about the wrongful nature of slavery, but neither actually apologized.<sup>68</sup> In the private sector, some US companies have acknowledged their past ties to the slave trade and expressed regret for the profits they reaped from slave labor.<sup>69</sup> And some religious organizations, like the Southern Baptist Convention, have lamented and repudiated "historic acts of evil such as slavery" and apologized to all African Americans for individual and systemic racism.<sup>70</sup> There have also been personal statements of regret, including by some notorious segregationists.<sup>71</sup>

While these apologies may be meaningful for some groups, none of them in fact demonstrates a full understanding of the horrors and magnitude of the crimes and injustices that were committed or the enormity of the harms Black people suffered. Taken together, they still do not provide any consensus of what the next steps should be.

<sup>64</sup> US Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, Public Law 111–118, December 19, 2009, 123 Stat. 3409.

<sup>65</sup> The San Diego Union Tribune, "Kansas Senator Reads Apology to American Indians," May 19, 2010, <a href="https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sdut-kansas-senator-reads-apology-to-american-indians-2010may19-story.html">www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sdut-kansas-senator-reads-apology-to-american-indians-2010may19-story.html</a>
66 US House of Representatives, H. Res. 194 (2008), Apologizing for the Enslavement and Racial Segregation of African-Americans; US Senate, S. Con. Res. 26 (2009), A Concurrent Resolution Apologizing for the Enslavement and Racial Segregation of African Americans.

<sup>67</sup> For an overview, see Angelique M. Davis, "Apologies, Reparations, and the Continuing Legacy of the European Slave Trade in the United States," *Journal of Black Studies* 45, 4 (2014): 1-16.

<sup>68</sup> President Bill Clinton in 1998 acknowledged that the United States was "wrong" to benefit "from the fruits of the slave trade" during a trip to Uganda. And a few years later in 2003, President George W. Bush spoke more strongly about the evils of slavery on a visit to Goree Island, Senegal, a former slave port, when he stated that "slavery was... one of the greatest crimes of history" and acknowledged that "The racial bigotry fed by slavery did not end with slavery or with segregation." Some contend that Lincoln's second inaugural address, in which he describes the civil war as God's judgment on the United States for the evil of slavery, should be considered an apology for slavery; however, it fails to directly address formerly enslaved people. See, for example, Thomas Geoghegan, "Lincoln Apologizes," New York Times, April 5, 1998, <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/1998/04/05/opinion/lincoln-apologizes.html">www.nytimes.com/1998/04/05/opinion/lincoln-apologizes.html</a>

<sup>69</sup> The Hartford Courant, a newspaper based in Connecticut, apologized for advertising the sale of slaves. See Paul Zielbauer, "A Newspaper Apologizes for Slave-Era Ads," New York Times, July 6, 2000.

<sup>70</sup> Southern Baptist Convention, Resolution on Racial Reconciliation on the 150th Anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention (1995).

<sup>71</sup> For instance, ardent segregationist, presidential candidate, and Governor of Alabama George Wallace has expressed regret. See Rick Bragg, "Emotional March Gains a Repentant Wallace," *New York Times*, March 11, 1995. Sheriff of Montgomery County also apologized in March 1965 after brutally routing 600 demonstrators, including the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., with horses and clubs. See Roy Reed, "Accord Reached in Montgomery: Sheriff Gives Public Apology for Violence, Marchers Agree to Get Permits," *New York Times*, March 18, 1965.

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States An adequate response to this moment of national protest and reckoning requires a formal, public, and nonpartisan apology by the federal government. This apology should not only reaffirm the founding principle that all people are created equal but articulate an unequivocal political commitment to make amends. In the end, what matters most is that the apology captures the essence of this particular moment in history and what it means not only for Blacks but also for a shared vision of a just American society, and sets in motion a transformational change in the country.

As an important first step, Congress should pass Bill HR40 into law, which would establish a "Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act." Under the bill, the commission would "examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies. Among other requirements, the commission shall identify (1) the role of federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery, (2) forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants, and (3) lingering negative effects of slavery on living African-Americans and society." Congress should also pass H.Con.Res.19 calling for a US Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation. These federal level initiatives should be complemented by state and city efforts, such as the California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, and the Reparations Program recently launched in Evanston, Illinois.

Such truth-seeking and reparations processes could help map out necessary reforms by revealing the enduring impact of past violations on communities of color. Dismantling systemic racism will require reforms in virtually every sector of government and society, including the economy, elections, the health care sytem, housing, education, and the social safety net. One sector that merits particular attention in this process is law enforcement, which has been a flash point in discussions of race for decades. To describe the type of approach that is needed, the next section applies a transitional justice lens to this issue. It explores the history of racially biased policing practices and racially motivated police brutality and the need to reform the law enforcement and criminal justice sectors as part of any effort to repair past and ongoing harms.

#### **Police Reform**

Discriminatory policing against people of color in the US has been a problem since the founding of this country and has affected generations. Fearful that their slaves would revolt or escape, slaveholders formed slave patrols "(1) to chase down, apprehend, and return to their owners, runaway slaves; (2) to provide a form of organized terror to deter slave revolts; and, (3) to maintain a form of discipline for slave-workers who were subject to summary justice, outside the law." As one of the earliest and most widespread forms of policing in the South, these patrols focused on controlling—rather than protecting—a

<sup>72</sup> US H.R.40 — Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act, 117th Congress (2021-2022), <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/40">www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/40</a>

<sup>73</sup> California Assembly Bill No.3121, signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom in September of 2020, https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=201920200AB3121; and Taryn Luna, "California Task Force Will Consider Paying Reparations for Slavery," Los Angeles Times, September 30, 2020, www. latimes.com/california/story/2020-09-30/california-task-force-reparations-slavery-gavin-newsom-shirley-weber 74 City of Evanston, "Evanston Local Reparations," www.cityofevanston.org/government/city-council/reparations

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States subsection of the population.<sup>75</sup> Moreover, a clause in the US Constitution at the time and later the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 legitimatized these patrols and their brutal practices.<sup>76</sup>

In the more than 150 years since the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery, law enforcement and the criminal justice system have targeted Black people, particularly young Black men, at different times and in varying ways: for instance, the uneven application of mandatory minimum sentencing laws, particularly during the so-called war on drugs in the 1980s and 1990s, which has contributed to the mass incarceration of people of color.<sup>77</sup> As the prominent journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones writes, "[while] the names and mechanisms of social control have changed...the presumption that white patrollers have the legal right to kill black people deemed to have committed minor infractions or to have breached the social order has remained."<sup>78</sup> George Floyd is only one in a long list of individuals whom police killed while under arrest, while in custody, or during police operations. Criminologists concur that race and gender remain determining factors in police violence in the US.<sup>79</sup> Recent data from the US Bureau of Justice Statistics on contact between police and the public confirm civilians' race, age, and gender to be the most significant factors associated with the police's use of force against them, with Black men representing the highest proportion of victims.<sup>80</sup>

Unsurprisingly, the public trust on which law enforcement depends to maintain law and order has eroded in recent decades, particularly in communities of color. Many in the Black community are skeptical that the police would implement in earnest whatever reform is adopted or have lost hope that any reform would produce real change.<sup>81</sup> This growing distrust is evident in the debates around "defunding" the

<sup>75</sup> Gary Potter, *The History of Policing in the United States* (Richmond, KY: Eastern Kentucky University, School of Justice Studies, 2013), <a href="https://plsonline.eku.edu/sites/plsonline.eku.edu/files/the-history-of-policing-in-us.pdf">https://plsonline.eku.edu/sites/plsonline.eku.edu/files/the-history-of-policing-in-us.pdf</a>
76 US Constitution, Article IV, Section 2: "No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due." Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, September 18, 1850, Ch. 60, 9 Stat. 462.

<sup>77</sup> Mandatory minimum sentencing means a person convicted of a crime must be imprisoned for a minimum term, as opposed to leaving the length of punishment up to judges. Mandatory minimum sentencing provisions have been introduced in various jurisdictions as a deterrent for repeat offenders, particularly to prevent the commission of specific, violent crimes. In the US, they are aimed at mainly gun or drug related crimes. Mandatory minimum sentencing laws force judges to deliver fixed sentences to individuals convicted of the relevant crime, regardless of culpability or other mitigating factors. However, jurists and criminologists have raised doubts about the existence of a direct link between, for example, federal mandatory penalties and any declines in crime. Further, a broad range of research suggests that it is quite unlikely that these penalties would have such an impact. Studies, on the other hand, have highlighted the negative impact of mandatory minimum sentencing. Mandatory sentencing is now recognized to have contributed to prison overcrowding, the worsening of public health, and racial disparities in conviction rates. See Mark Mauer, The Sentencing Project, The Impact of Mandatory Minimum Penalties in Federal Sentencing (September 2010), www.sentencingproject.org/publications/the-impact-of-mandatory-minimum-penalties-in-federal-sentencing. See also Cause of Action Institute, "The Unintended Consequences of Mandatory Minimum," December 7, 2017, https://causeofaction.org/unintended-consequences-mandatory-minimums.

<sup>78</sup> Nikole Hannah-Jones, "What is Owed," *New York Times*, June 30, 2020, <u>www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/24/magazine/reparations-slavery.html</u>

<sup>79</sup> Roberto Cornelli, "Note Sulla Police Brutality a Partire Dai Fatti di Minneapolis," Sistema Penale, June 19, 2020, <a href="https://sistemapenale.it/it/articolo/cornelli-police-brutality-morte-di-george-floyd-minneapolis">https://sistemapenale.it/it/articolo/cornelli-police-brutality-morte-di-george-floyd-minneapolis</a>
80 The percentage of African Americans whom police threated or used force against is twice as high as the percentage of whites (5.2 versus 2.4 percent) and slightly higher than the percentage of Latinos (5.1 percent). The same research reveals that young men are more exposed to violence than women (4.4 versus 1.8 percent). Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Contacts Between Police and the Public, 2015," <a href="https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=6406">www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=6406</a>

<sup>81</sup> For more on the movement to abolish the police, see Mariame Kaba, "Yes, We Mean Literally Abolish the Police," New York Times, June 12, 2020, <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/12/opinion/sunday/floyd-abolish-defund-police.html">www.nytimes.com/2020/06/12/opinion/sunday/floyd-abolish-defund-police.html</a>; For additional resources on the abolitionist movement, see #8toAbolition, <a href="https://www.8toabolition.com">www.8toabolition.com</a>;

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States police, with some of the more radical proposals going as far as abolishing the police all together.

Given this context, it will be challenging to bring about the fundamental changes needed to instill public trust in law enforcement. In South Africa, Kenya, and Northern Ireland, for example, the success of similar reform efforts "turned on whether the police would continue their past practices of treating the population as a threat to be managed through overwhelming force, or if they could become more responsive to civilians' need for protection, eventually winning trust across society."<sup>82</sup>

For government institutions such as law enforcement agencies to gain society's confidence, they must demonstrate a commitment to a process of institutional reform at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as to measures that hold individual wrongdoers in their ranks accountable.

Current narratives of police brutality must also change. Research on police brutality tends to explain police officers' excessive use of force as individual decisions made in particularly difficult situations and under institutional constraints (the "bad apples theory"). According to this theory, in using excessive force, the officers disregard clear limitations or



A protester holds a sign saying "Demilitarize the Police" at a Black Lives Matter demonstration in Washington, DC, on November 10, 2015. (Johnny Silvercloud/Flickr)

otherwise deviate from the official code of conduct. The concerned police officers are diagnosed as having a problematic personality, often resulting from the intense pressure and constant danger of their work.<sup>83</sup> However, instances of police brutality cannot always be explained away as the actions of few bad apples.<sup>84</sup> Doing so overlooks the role that the institutional culture can play in shaping how police officers interpret an unfolding scenario, define the level of risk, and decide on the appropriate course of action.<sup>85</sup>

In the field of transitional justice, the aim of institutional reforms is to establish and develop civic trust between citizens and state institutions by transforming institutions that are abusive, apply discriminatory policies, and defend partisan or elite interests into agencies that uphold and respect the rule of law, protect human rights, serve the

<sup>82</sup> Amanda Taub, "Police the Public, or Protect It? For a U.S. in Crisis, Hard Lessons from Other Countries," New York Times, June 11, 2020, <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/o6/11/world/police-brutality-protests.html?campaign\_id=57&emc=edit\_ne\_20200611&instance\_id=19319&nl=evening-briefing&regi\_id=61778017&segment\_id=30707&te=1&user\_id=cf80a98f79de2328f7b4f43900249c23

<sup>83</sup> J. J. Fyfe, "Split-second Syndrome and Other Determinants of Police Violence," in *Critical Issues in Policing: Contemporary Readings, Second Edition*, eds. Roger G. Dunham and Geoffrey P. Alpert (Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press, Inc., 1997), pp. 531-546.

<sup>84</sup> Petter Gottschalk, Geoff Dean, and Rune Glomseth "Police Misconduct and Crime: Bad Apples or Systems Failure?" *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, 15, 1 (2012): pp. 6-24. Todd May and George Yancy, "Policing Is Doing What It Was Meant to Do. That's the Problem: Blaming Racist Violence on 'Bad Apples' Misses the Point," *The New Yorker*, June 21, 2020.

<sup>85</sup> Roberto Cornelli, "Note Sulla Police Brutality a Partire Dai Fatti di Minneapolis," *Sistema Penale*, June 19, 2020, https://sistemapenale.it/it/articolo/cornelli-police-brutality-morte-di-george-floyd-minneapolis

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States public at large, and thereby safeguard democracy. These reforms should include measures for changing the underlying culture of law enforcement, while also addressing larger institutional failings. In the US, such reforms should both address systemic police brutality and seek to create a new relationship between law enforcement and citizens based on trust and shared responsibility that helps prevent violent interactions from occurring in the first place.<sup>86</sup>

True institutional transformation is a long-term process, and it requires that an institution's leaders become the first believers and implementers of the new values. In the case of law enforcement, transformation begins when its leadership and the majority of police officers come to recognize and perceive as unacceptable racially motivated decisions and behaviors in themselves and their fellow officers. This includes reacting to abuse by demonstrating solidarity with the victimized groups and promoting internal and external scrutiny of the force to ensure that incidents of police brutality are disciplined and prosecuted. After the murder of George Floyd, several individual police officers and police departments around the country showed precisely this sort of understanding and solidary with victims of police violence and protesters. The number of these officers and departments must grow to create the institutional and national political will for transformational reform.

A society's mores and norms evolve over time, and practices once considered appropriate can gradually become objectionable or prohibited. Accordingly, law enforcement agencies must undergo periodic institutional changes to better reflect current social values. In many countries emerging from conflict or repression, a reimagining of the police is necessary to distance the institution from the legacy of past abuses and ensure that moving forward it upholds and protects human rights and serves all members of society. This is certainly not an easy process, as institutions tend to resist adapting to socio-cultural changes, but experience shows that it can be done.

For example, Italy finally demilitarized its police force in 1981, after four decades of debate and controversy. Police became a civil division at the service of citizens rather than against them (or more accurately, against some of them). In Spain, the *Policia Armada* was one of the most feared agencies of the Franco regime and functioned almost as a secret service. During the 1980s, the entire police force was transformed to embrace the new democratic spirit, and in 1986 the *Policia Armada* was demilitarized and placed under civilian oversight. See In Kenya, the 2010 Constitution, which was

86 In 2015, after several deaths at the hands of police officers reignited protests in the US, The Guardian monitored the number of the individuals killed in police operations for two years. The project revealed some gaps in the official statistics. According to the data recorded, 1,146 people died in 2015 and 1,093 in 2016. The data breakdown shows that while whites were still the majority of victims in absolute terms, when compared with the relative size of each racial group studied, Blacks, Native Americans, and Hispanics were killed at much higher rates. Blacks were 2 killed at 2.5 times the rate of whites in the first year and 2.6 in the second year. "The Counted: People Killed by police in the US," *The Guardian*, <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2015/jun/o1/the-counted-police-killings-us-database">https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2015/jun/o1/the-counted-police-killings-us-database</a>. For a recent comparison of the violence applied during police operations in the US and in Europe, see Rob Picheta and Henrik Petterson, "American Police Shoot, Kill and Imprison More People Than Other Developed Countries. Here's the Data," *CNN*, June 8, 2020, <a href="https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/08/us/us-police-floyd-protests-country-comparisons-intl/index.html">www.cnn.com/2020/06/08/us/us-police-floyd-protests-country-comparisons-intl/index.html</a>

<sup>88</sup> The reformed police supported the democratically elected government during an attempted coup in 1981, and in 1985 the police union protested against the far-right militants within their ranks and participated actively in attempts to discipline and prosecute officers who committed human rights violations. See Cuerpo Nacional de Policía, <a href="https://www.policia.es">www.policia.es</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States adopted after the devasting electoral violence in 2007, provided for the establishment of a National Police Service to protect Kenyans' fundamental rights and freedoms and to replace the previous police force whose structure and culture traced back to the colonial regime. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, countries in Central and Eastern Europe subjected their security and police forces to broad and deep lustration processes as part of their democratic transitions. Has and large, these efforts were all aimed at establishing democratic policing, i.e., policing in the service of the public, not the Communist party or the state.

In each of these contexts, the reforms sought to change law enforcement's purpose, not only its organizational structures and operating procedures. Similarly, reforms in the US should aim to redefine the mission and scope of the police. Because of the country's federal system of government, most of these efforts will need to happen at the state and local levels. <sup>91</sup> That said, the federal government and Congress have important roles to play, for instance, by allocating federal funding to state-level policy initiatives, adopting standards on the use of force, and undertaking federal criminal investigations into cases of excessive use of force by police.

State-level measures could include improving and providing more resources to law enforcement training programs, reviewing applicable law and expunging any provisions that are discriminatory or legitimize abuse, and revising existing disciplinary mechanisms and procedures to give a plurality of civil society actors a role in monitoring the law enforcement agency. Other proposals have more recently gained traction since mass protests began in May, such as reducing police budgets and redirecting the money to social services that help prevent or reduce criminal behavior and crime, abolishing the use of military grade weapons by civilian police, banning chokeholds, and focusing more on community safety. If implemented, these measures could go a long way in ending discriminatory policing practices, preventing police brutality, reducing crime, and establishing public trust in law enforcement.<sup>92</sup>

Consideration should also be given to reforming state district attorney's offices to ensure that prosecutors exercise sound and independent discretion when making decisions. Their decisions should not markedly differ depending on the racial background of the plaintiffs or defendants, as appeared to be the case with the initial charges that prosecutors

<sup>89</sup> Articles 243 and 244 of the 2010 Kenya Constitution. Article 244 stipulates "The National Police Service shall— (a) strive for the highest standards of professionalism and discipline among its members; (b) prevent corruption and promote and practice transparency and accountability; (c) comply with constitutional standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms; (d) train staff to the highest possible standards of competence and integrity and to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms and dignity; and (e) foster and promote relationships with the broader society."

<sup>90</sup> For a comprehensive review of the police reform in Central and Eastern Europe, see DCAF, *Transforming Police in Central and Eastern Europe* (2004), <a href="https://www.dcaf.ch/transforming-police-central-and-eastern-europe">www.dcaf.ch/transforming-police-central-and-eastern-europe</a> Almost all policing in the US is undertaken at the local and state, not federal, levels: Out of the nearly 18,000 law enforcement agencies, only a dozen or so are federal. German Lopez, "How to Reform American Police According to Experts," *Vox*, June 1, 2020, <a href="https://www.vox.com/2020/6/1/21277013/police-reform-policies-systemic-racism-george-floyd">www.vox.com/2020/6/1/21277013/police-reform-policies-systemic-racism-george-floyd</a>

<sup>92</sup> For a review of the many different policing reforms in the US and their results, see Kenny Lo, "Assessing the State of Police Reforms," Center for American Progress, July 16, 2020, <a href="www.americanprogress.org/issues/criminal-justice/news/2020/07/16/487721/assessing-state-police-reform/">www.americanprogress.org/issues/criminal-justice/news/2020/07/16/487721/assessing-state-police-reform/</a>. See also Seth W. Stoughton, Jeffrey J. Noble, Geoffrey P. Alpert, "How to Actually Fix America's Police," *The Atlantic*, June 3, 2020, <a href="www.www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/06/how-actually-fix-americas-police/612520/">www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/06/how-actually-fix-americas-police/612520/</a>

The Color of Justice: Transitional Justice and the Legacy of Slavery and Racism in the United States filed in connection to the George Floyd's killing.<sup>93</sup> Prosecutorial strategy can either help perpetuate police brutality, entrench racism, and fuel unrest, or if employed sensibly can uphold the rule of law, reduce social tensions, and ultimately guarantee non-recurrence.

When structural abuse is suspected in a law enforcement agency, it may be recommended to undertake a wide-reaching, time-limited investigation of all personnel to identify officers who may be responsible for past misconduct and abuses or who actively supported the abusive culture within the institution. 94 This practice, known as vetting, aims to remove individuals—at all levels of the hierarchy—who are not fit to perform the relevant duties in accordance with those social or ethical values with which the reform process intends to align the institution.

From ICTJ's experience working in countries around world that have pursued police reform, even the best disciplinary measures depend on a combination of improved police officer training and greater cultural awareness among officers to succeed. 95 Disciplinary measures must therefore be accompanied by tailored awareness-raising and professional development programs that help officers enforce the law and avoid engaging in abusive or criminal conduct, while upholding the rights of all members of society as the absolute and foremost imperative.

#### **Conclusion**

Laws and policies continue to discriminate against people of color in the United States, both directly and indirectly. Reforms are desperately needed in the criminal justice system, voting, housing, education, and health care. However, as experiences in the US and other countries where ICTJ works have shown, any meaningful changes to laws and policies or institutional reforms must be grounded in a recognition and understanding of the society's past atrocities and its connection to present-day injustices, grievances, and violence. Countries grappling with historical or ongoing injustices should consider applying transitional justice principles and approaches to help identify and address the

93 The original prosecutorial strategy employed by the Hennepin County prosecutor in the Floyd case was wholly inappropriate and gave rise to suspicions that the prosecutor improperly pursued comparatively light charges against Derek Chauvin, one of the police officers accused of killing Mr. Floyd, and no charges against the officers who stood by and allowed the brutality to proceed uninterrupted, when they were clearly under a legal duty to protect persons in their custody from harm. It also went against the new US Justice Department prosecutorial policy that says prosecutors should pursue the most serious readily provable offense. See US Department of Justice, Principles of Federal Prosecution (9-27-300), <a href="https://www.justice.gov/jm/jm-9-27000-principles-federal-prosecution">www.justice.gov/jm/jm-9-27000-principles-federal-prosecution</a>. That policy change was criticized at the time for reversing an Obama-era policy designed to soften sentences for low-level drug offenders and encouraged the restoration of the types of mandatory minimum sentences that had led to a vast rise in incarcerations across the US. The blatant hypocrisy of applying one rule to Black Americans for low-level offenses but not to the police for killing someone would unsurprisingly appear incendiary.

94 Vetting refers to the process of examining backgrounds of individual personnel and assessing their integrity—including adherence to relevant human rights standards—to determine their suitability for public employment and to eliminate or otherwise sanction abusive and corrupt officials. ICTJ, "Vetting," www.icti.org/ our-work/research/vetting. Lustration, on the other hand, is a government-sanctioned policy of "mass disqualification of those associated with the abuses under a prior regime." Ina Vukic, "What Is Lustration?" Croatia, the War, and the Future, November 10, 2018, https://inavukic.com/2018/11/10/what-is-lustration. For a comprehensive review of different models, see Alexander Mayer-Rieckh and Pablo de Greiff, eds., Justice as Prevention: Vetting Public Employees in Transitional Societies (Brooklyn, NY: Social Science Research Council, 2007). 95 "Police departments spend an average of 58 hours on gun training, 49 hours on defensive tactics, and eight hours on de-escalation, crisis intervention, and electronic control weapons like Tasers." Police Executive Research Forum, Guiding Principles on Use of Force (2016), www.policeforum.org/assets/guidingprinciples1.pdf Texts used law by enforcement and criminal justice agencies largely lack any reference to the legacy of slavery and racial injustice. For a critical analysis of these texts, see K. B. Turner, David Giacopassi, and Margaret Vandiver, "Ignoring the Past: Coverage of Slavery and Slave Patrols in Criminal Justice Texts," Journal of Criminal Justice Education 17, 1 (2006): 181-195. For information on police academy curricula, see Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Law Enforcement Training Academies," www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=77

root causes, acknowledge and redress the harms caused to victims, reform institutions, and prevent future recurrences. The US and other advanced democracies advocate for and support these principles as part of their foreign and international development policies. It is now time for the US to apply them domestically to at last reckon with its legacy of slavery and racism and build a more just future for the country and all its citizens.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors gratefully acknowledge Professor Roberto Cornelli of the University Milano-Bicocca for his expert insight and substantive contributions to this briefing paper.



The International Center for Transitional Justice works across society and borders to challenge the causes and address the consequences of massive human rights violations. We affirm victims' dignity, fight impunity, and promote responsive institutions in societies emerging from repressive rule or armed conflict as well as in established democracies where historical injustices or systemic abuse remain unresolved. For more information, visit www.ictj.org

ICTJ New York 50 Broadway, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004 Tel: + 1 917 637 3800 Fax: +1 917 637 3900

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Ariana Triggs

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 12:24 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Cc: Kisha Wilkinson
Subject: Media Inquiry - BNC

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Good afternoon!

I hope you are doing well today!

I am emailing to ask, would you all be able to send us the recording of the task force meeting held today on reparations?

Thank you so much in advance!

Best Regards,



BNC is the nation's fastest growing news network and the only provider of 24/7 multiplatform programming dedicated to covering the unique perspectives, challenges and successes of Black and Brown communities. Available on most major cable and satellite systems and accessible on more than 200 million connected devices and OTT platforms, BNC provides in-depth analysis and viewpoints that illuminate, contextualize and celebrate people of color and their experiences. Please connect with us at <a href="mailto:bnc.tv">bnc.tv</a> and on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>, and <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>.

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are private and confidential and are solely for the use of the addressee. If you are not the addressee, please delete it from your system and advise the sender.

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: DaHomeboy999

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:16 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** For this mornings Public Comment **Attachments:** SFFedCU Letter of Interest (1) (2) (1).pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Honorable Reparation Task Force members,

I am KenJohnson, a native San Franciscan community activist, we really appreciate what you are doing, but want some immediate action

regarding San Francisco's Fillmore Heritage Center. Here is a video of the Rally we recently had in front of the Fillmore Heritage Center,

the building that was built for the Black Community,

https://youtu.be/LVGsSjX1OY4

Also a letter that shows how we can get immediate results,

That letter is attached below, this letter shows by allowing a credit union to hole \$150 million dollars Reparation, funds the San Francisco

Reparation committee will be meeting on for 2 years to figure out the best way to use the funds, During those 2 years that money being

held in a Credit Union would be generating over \$300,000 dollars a month, which could used to fund non-profit groups and other needs

in Black communities. Please seriously consider doing this state wide, because the money is not used, only the interest is spent.

Please read attach letter, it makes the point more clearer.

Thank you,

Ken Johnson



October 20, 2021

Kenneth Johnson African American Reparation Task Force Advisory Committee

RE: San Francisco Federal Credit Union

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Thank you for reaching out to San Francisco Federal Credit Union (SFFedCU) regarding the African American Reparation Task Force Advisory Committee.

We are interested in helping with developing a plan for the \$150 million dollars in Reparations allocated for the Black Community. These funds would generate around \$345,000 monthly (not touching the \$150 million dollars in principle). This would keep the entire \$150 million dollars 100 percent liquid (which is not recommended unless it is to be used in a short amount of time). The generated funds could be used to fund needed programs in the communities. With that large of a deposit, I would recommend using a brokerage house with a well-defined strategy to maximize returns with our oversight. This brokerage account would be attached to a sweep account at the Credit Union for funding activities. We are also interested in helping the community start their own low-income credit union.

San Francisco Federal Credit Union was established in 1954. We currently have 45,000 members, \$1.3 billion in assets with 6 branch locations serving San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

SFFedCU has been certified as a Minority Depository Institution (MDI) meaning that more than 50% of its members and Board of Directors are African/Black American, Native American, Asian American and/or Hispanic American. Credit Unions designated as MDI provide safe, affordable financial services to members in communities who are often unserved or underserved by financial institutions. In addition, the MDI identification allows SFFedCU to offer members expanded access to financial services and financial literacy, including grant opportunities. In turn, members can then afford higher education, build businesses, achieve the dream of home ownership, and create strong vibrant communities.

SFFedCU is very proud to have a Low-to-Moderate (LMI) Income designation. A household is considered LMI if they make less than 80% of the area median income. SFFedCU is committed to providing meaningful support to the communities we serve, including those who are LMI, by offering programs which promote financial education for youth and the underserved; enhancing access to credit and financial stability; providing financial services for people of all income levels, including those underserved or unserved by traditional financial institutions. For example, SFFedCU provides construction financing solutions for accessory dwelling units (ADU). This program significantly helps with much needed affordable housing solutions in our communities.

SFFedCU offers a variety of products and services to enhance our members lives. Our Access Savings and Checking accounts allow members who have had previous challenges maintaining accounts rebuild their banking relationship. While this account builds in boundaries for members, as members meet certain milestones (i.e., paying off loans, maintaining a positive balance in their accounts), they are able to move into less restrictive accounts. In addition to checking and savings accounts, our members have access to:

- Credit Cards with the lowest rate in the nation!
- Vehicle Loans (with rates as low as 0.99%),
- Personal Loans,
- Debt Consolidation Loans (as low as 3.49%),
- Home Loans, and
- Home Equity Lines of Credits

Our Debt Consolidation Loan is particularly helpful to those who have overextended their credit during challenging times by putting all of their bills into one low-rate loan. This saves the member money paid towards interest and assists in raising their credit scores.

In 2020, we went live with our new mobile banking platform. This system provides a seamless mobile extension of our online banking and provides feature parity and user convenience.

It's never too early to give our youth a strong financial foundation and teach them money management skills with a Youth Savings and Checking Account. We offer products, services, and programs that teach young people the importance of saving money for the future with seminars, events, and newsletters. Even through the pandemic, SFFedCU has been able to offer virtual financial education and literacy to various groups including most recently; the San Francisco Public Defenders Office, San Francisco Sherriff Department's Rehab Unit and we are working with the National Coalition of 100 Black Women on guest speaker opportunities.

SFFedCU is a part of the Credit Union National Association's Member Activation Program (MAP). The MAP program works with the membership to become engaged in credit union advocacy and assists members who would like to play a role in the future of SFFedCU. Engaging the Credit Union with advocacy communications strengthens and grows the Credit Union industry as well as encourages the members to be a part of this great community.

Our members and communities are at the heart of everything we do. For over 66 years our unwavering commitment to the communities we serve has been part of our DNA. Although 2020 was more challenging, in previous years, SFFedCU employees volunteer on average over 1,000 hours each year, we also give back through donations and sponsorships. Each year, we offer scholarships to help with the cost of a college education. In 2021, we recognized three youth members, each with \$2,500 scholarships.

SFFedCU looks forward to discussing a partnership with you and continuing our commitment to our members and our diverse communities.

Warmest wishes,

Warmest wishes,

Jonathan P. Oliver

President/CEO

San Francisco Federal Credit Union

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: maresa danielsen

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:31 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Please no reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello,

I strongly oppose a reparations movement and any actions taken on behalf of that effort.

California entered the union as a free state. Is is abhorrent to hold current citizens responsible for a harm that occurred long ago, to people unknown to current citizens and not in this state.

I realize there are long standing racial tensions and inequity. That is true for many many citizens of California. I am strongly opposed to slave reparations being explored or any payments made to ameliorate the wrong done to the ancestors of current citizens.

How would you even determine how these harms should be determined or calculate for that matter? These questions, moral and otherwise face hugely problematic practical issues.

Please do no go down this path. It will not change the past nor guarantee any future change. It will further fuel resentment and create intractable practical problems.

Sincerely,

Maresa Danielsen

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Mollie Bell

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:23 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Reparations Hearing today 12.08.21

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

My name is Mollie Bell and I am from Compton California. I have trouble finding the hearings on Reparations. I am 74years old. I am in Stephen Bradford District. My landline phone 2 number is

. My cellphone I number is . Please help .

Respectfully Submitted. Mollie Bell.

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Greg Pennington

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:46 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Reparations cannot possibly be considered for only one group.

Native Americans must be included because of the way Europeans killed them and took all of their lands. We illegally occupy their lands even today.

Japanese Americans must be included for the way they were sent to concentration camps during World War II.

At the very least REPARATIONS MUST INCLUDE ALL THREE OF THESE GROUPS.

No One group can be singled out for the mistreatment they suffered as so many different groups have been mistreated.

Greg L. Pennington

Caucasian American Ashamed of the White Race

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: DaHomeboy999

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:59 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Honorable Reparation committee members,

Sorry I missed this morning Reparation meeting, I was not able to get in this morning. Please pay attention my email I sent in earlier this morning.

#### Ken Johnson

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Eve Sprunt

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:08 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** What about the Chinse and Native Americans and Jews?

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Dear Reparations Task Force,

When you start handing out reparations, you open Pandora's box! So many groups have been discriminated over time.

My ancestors - part Jewish, part Asian, part Anglo didn't move to the US until long after slavery was abolished. I will vote against any politician who votes for reparations. Handouts enslave people to living off handouts. Hard work is what allows us to succeed. As a woman in science, I faced tremendous discrimination - much of it open and widely accepted.

The Chinese were effectively used as "railroad ties". When my uncle with the English surname, "Chew" moved to California in the 1950's, he couldn't find housing unless he showed up in person and the renter could see that he was an Anglo. My third-generation Chinese American daughter-in-law's family talks about widespread discrimination. Those grandkids are as multi-racial as anyone.

The Native Americans were enslaved by the Spanish missionaries.

Jews faced widespread discrimination in the USA.

Japanese Americans were put into camps.

We need to move forward, not backward. Everyone must be prepared to work hard to support themselves. Welfare encourages less work and more handouts. It enslaves people by making them dependent on public handouts. Someone has to do the work and as a woman, who endured a huge amount of discrimination based on my sex, I am opposed to reparations.

Sincerely,

Fve Sprunt Ph.D. (1st woman to get a Ph.D. in Geophysics from Stanford)

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:53 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Three Considerations after listening to your two day Task Force hearing

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Greetings Task Force,

Nkosi Sikele Africal

Congratulations on a job well done these past two days.

Thank you for the two days of such a well-received online hearing for AB 3121.

We stand behind you. We are liberated during Covid19 by what this would mean in Sankofa Principles:

- The work from the AB 3121 could be the wildest dreams of our ancestors
- A envisioning process for our present psychosis during the panademic
- The legacy for seven generations to come

Today I mentioned a few things I hope you consider:

1.

Invite a hearing from the International Tribunal that charged genocide on the United States of America. https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-

 $3A\_spiritofmandela.org\&d=DwICaQ\&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ\&r=lnCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-5Fy96LtMYrM\&m=jyrSRPHh\_G6fsFSs9oA4QNrttE0FFh4yd\_TcT7eSZcAwT91FyOYgdNtf0wD3ted7\&s=TW713\_kYe4MZS6Oi5lftvPCDHOzdA22AbstLdwpgjH4\&e=$ 

2.

Utilize "your" 482 city-by-city members/ 57 county members as a working group MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN for AB 3121. This is what we do as community organizers.

What would that look like?

First, if you put together an intake google form asking everyone that has written you (especially those of African Descendent) those people that may be students, victims of police violence, discriminatory housing victims, political figures, community organizers, law students, activists, etc. asking them to get involved in a local working group to research, gather stories, plan for you site visits, etc.

We would re-gather the Black Cooperative Movement. https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https- $3A_www.facebook.com_ReviveBlkCoopMovement&d=DwlCaQ&c=uASjV29gZuJt5_5J5CPRuQ&r=lnCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-$ 

5Fy96LtMYrM&m=jyrSRPHh\_G6fsFSs9oA4QNrttE0FFh4yd\_TcT7eSZcAwT91FyOYgdNtf0wD3ted7&s=PalDobsexkJPYpJnRevep046znriH2SPCEHBlnaMlYk&e=

We would love to model what that could look like here in Richmond, CA. I am a steering committee member of the Richmond Progressive Alliance (RPA), https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-

 $3A \_\_www.richmondprogressive alliance.net \&d=DwICaQ\&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ\&r=InCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-$ 

5Fy96LtMYrM&m=jyrSRPHh\_G6fsFSs9oA4QNrttE0FFh4yd\_TcT7eSZcAwT91FyOYgdNtf0wD3ted7&s=RYsrDsJyCV\_h86cGr ZCXeuurMNNzV2w8UiO2IRj6qX8&e=

3.

A site visit (virtual and/or in-person) of all the communities that need you to document via video/film the devastation of CA., again we can script it, we can bring the horrific stories to life by letting those in those neighborhoods tell their own stories. Yes, a site visit in 57 counties. Could you imagine? That could be a 60-minute documentary specifically for the California State Court Hearing of AB 3121. That's right for the day of the trial if we gave every county a one-minute time frame. We call this in film school "perceptional scheme".

I am willing to support this documentary 60-minute live-streamed idea. I worked with Henry Hampton, Blackside Film Productions, Makers of Eyes On The Prize. Actually, I worked on six of his films: Eyes on Prize II, The Great Depression, War On Poverty, Malcolm X, This Far By Faith Documentaries, respectively.

Storytelling is one thing, but letting people be the political analysis with there story is another thing.

I would love to discuss further anytime.

Graciously,

Aleta Alston Toure'
Parable of the Sower Intentional Community Cooperative

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 1:37 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Useful information for Investigatory Challenges

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello Reparations Taskforce,

Here is meaningful documentation of discriminatory practices and proof of targeted racism that is public knowledge.

#### The USDA

https://usdasearch.usda.gov/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&affiliate=usda&query=black+farmers&commit=Search

https://www.change.org/p/president-release-the-funds-of-the-american-rescue-plan-to-black-farmers-immediately

#### **Department of Transportation**

The Biden Administration has created the Justice40 Initiative, which aims to deliver 40 percent of the overall benefits of federal investments in climate and sustainable transportation to disadvantaged communities. <a href="https://www.transportation.gov/equity-Justice40">https://www.transportation.gov/equity-Justice40</a>

Let me know if you need anything else.

**Brooke Sinclair** 

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 1:53 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Re: Useful information for Investigatory Challenges

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Here are other public documents:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2007/Online Highlights/Fact Sheets/Demographics/black.pdf

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wa/people/employees/?cid=nrcs144p2 036539

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Highlights/2019/2017Census Black Producers.pdf

https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RR194.pdf

On Wed, Dec 8, 2021 at 3:36 PM Brooke Sinclair < brookesinclair487@gmail.com > wrote: Hello Reparations Taskforce,

Here is meaningful documentation of discriminatory practices and proof of targeted racism that is public knowledge.

#### The USDA

https://usdasearch.usda.gov/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&affiliate=usda&query=black+farmers&commit=Search

https://www.change.org/p/president-release-the-funds-of-the-american-rescue-plan-to-black-farmers-immediately

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Let me k	now if	you	need	anytl	hing	else.
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**Brooke Sinclair** 

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#### ReparationsTaskforce

From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 2:07 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Cc: housing@scag.ca.gov; HousingElements@hcd.ca.gov; housing@planning.lacounty.gov;

housing; Black Agenda-SM; City of Santa Monica; Housing Update;

council@smgov.net; savevenice.me@gmail.com; smhousing@santamonica.gov

Subject: Thank You

Attachments: SantaMonicaAirportproposal.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

# Hello,

Thank You for starting the discussion for reparations for the U.S ADOS in CA. The time for cash, land, housing, and true public safety justice & reform is NOW for the U.S ADOS! We have waited long enough and we cannot wait any longer. I'm based in LA and I'm currently working as a progressive housing advocate, I'm creating community plans specifically for the ADOS & others. I want to be part of the conversation on how to heal and restore our communities. I KNOW that we have the talent, WILL POWER, and grace of God to divest from the violent colonist system that has Black residents making up 40% of the homeless population even though they are only 8% of that same total population.

My most recent housing advocacy is for the westside of Los Angeles. Cities like Santa Monica & others are guilty of displacing black residents. Next year, Santa Monica is doing a right to return for some of the Black residents that were displaced, they are offering them affordable rent but I know we can and should do much better than that. The ADOS need housing that they own and we need a legislative rule that prevents violent displacement from happening in the first place! I invite you to read my proposal for housing at the incorrectly zoned Santa Monica airport & Penmar golf course. I would like a portion of this housing to go to the U.S ADOS! I've requested assistance from the state housing agency and the state Attorney General, both of which are cc'd on this email. Thank You so much again, I look forward to being part of the solution!

Best, Tieira

www.HTWWS.org/santamonicaairport

https://twitter.com/HowTheWestWS/status/1445162834409635840

#### **Created by Tieira Ryder**

https://htwws.org/santamonicaairport/ 01/27/21

When the incorrectly zoned Santa Monica airport closes, a closure that should be happening in this upcoming housing element cycle (2021-2029), a walkable community that includes majority affordable housing should be developed. The location is perfect for a community-owned, walkable/bike-friendly residential neighborhood that includes a variety of housing types for working-class residents on the westside, students, seniors, those living with disabilities, and many others in need of affordable housing.





To be clear, this community would include both community-owned rental and homeownership options. This pro-housing advocacy effort should be led by a housing advocate that understands the needs of the local community, someone that likely falls within the working class and has the best interest of the local community in mind. When it comes to renting, rent should never exceed 20-30% of a resident's total income after taxes. Please keep in mind, the average worker in LA makes about \$39,000 a year, this rental housing would be catered to those workers but the community itself would be mixed-income meaning it would also include market-rate units (still cheaper usually than private market-rate housing). Along with market-rate rentals, small business/business placements would be considered throughout the community.

# **Housing proposal for the Santa Monica airport**

(Total acres of the airport is approx. 227 acres. Planning4LA has 17 acres in the current LA City housing element (Mar Vista); SMC Bundy Campus area <a href="SMAirportBundyCampus">SMAirportBundyCampus</a>. Please note, we are also requesting Penmar golf course for this project. **Proposal was created by Tieira Ryder**)

# **Affordable Homeownership**

- 1. Affordable, reasonably priced homeownership for working-class residents, priority for long-term residents living or working in the Santa Monica, Venice, & Mar Vista zip codes.
- 2. Consider a set number of market-rate "for-sale" homes.

- 3. A variety of home types should be considered for development but especially multi-family housing such as plexes, condos, townhomes, and apartments. **Consider co-op ownership.**
- 4. Priority consideration should also go to first-time homeowners in LA County, my recommendation is residents that have lived/worked at least 10 years in LA County.
- 5. Priority consideration for historically displaced residents from supposed marginalized communities. Consider a 30-40% "right to return", "right to housing" for ADOS families. (Google the history of displaced Black families in Santa Monica, Venice, and/or Manhattan Beach if you need more info.)
- 6. The millennial generation should also receive a percentage of priority consideration, they currently own a measly 18% of the homes in Los Angeles. "Equity is defined as "the state, quality or ideal of being just, impartial and fair." The concept of equity is synonymous with fairness and justice."
- 7. At no time would a small or large equity firm be granted permission to purchase a home within the community nor would an option be granted to purchase the community as a whole.
- 8. My recommendation on income qualifications for residents that are first-time buyers is working-class residents making between \$30,000-\$130,000.
- 9. If potential owners require financing, ownership could be subject to credit union or bank approval. Consider public, city-owned bank.
- 10. The actual cost of homes should match that of the actual average wage of what most working-class residents make. There would likely be re-sell requirements as affordability would be protected by a trust.

# **Affordable Housing Rentals**

- 1. Community-owned rental housing in mixed-income developments.
- 2. The recommended height for apartment buildings is 6-7 stories.
- 3. Set an "affordable rental rate" based on what the average person from the working class makes. At this moment, most workers in LA make about \$39,000 a year. Affordability is usually priced for residents in the \$17,000-\$70,000 range.
- 4. Community-owned market-rate rentals to be included, most likely still cheaper than the private market, market-rate rental housing.
- 5. No income **restrictions** once residents are housed. https://www.nhlp.org/resources/lihtc-admissions-rents-grievance-procedures/
- 6. Reserve a portion of the housing for *limited to no-income residents*, considering subsidizing with; 1. HUD and/or new digital voucher program. 2. subsidize low to no income residents with market-rate apartment & business rentals. 3. Consider HCID/HACLA westside chapter. Social services for housing, food, and health-care should be ONE efficient program.
- 7. Affordable bachelors, studios, 1, 2, and 3 bedrooms.
- 8. As with *affordable homeownership*, the rental units & placements would be for various types of community members but especially *keeping in mind our core working class which includes the*

# essential workforce, students, seniors, veterans, those living with disabilities, etc. etc.

9. Student apartments would be bachelor-sized apartments with smaller fridges and MUST have a kitchen area sink and a small area to put a

#### **Created by Tieira Ryder**

https://htwws.org/santamonicaairport/01/27/21

hot plate (or something similar) so they can cook if needed. (Similar to this <a href="https://urbanize.city/la/post/micro-unit-apartment-building">https://urbanize.city/la/post/micro-unit-apartment-building</a>)

# More info on the proposed community as a whole

- 1. Consideration of business placements within the community.
- 2. Open park space, recreation center within the walkable community.
- 3. Consider the possible need to build new schools.
- 4. Consider a quality westside transit system especially for college students between SMC and/or UCLA. (cut down on car traffic congestion because students wouldn't need to drive)
- 5. College student housing should have its own small park area that has a WIFI and outdoor/indoor workspace for them.
- 6. Consider large home space for displaced minors within the community aka a "group home" to provide stability.
- 7. Request consideration for golf course closure(s) as well as other vacant land plots and buildings that have potential use for affordable housing that is community-owned and suits apartments, condos, townhomes, small and/or tiny homes for locals. Request more interim housing and healthcare sites on the westside for residents with long-term behavioral health needs.
- 8. The bigger goal is to adopt a similar social housing policy for each city in California with pro-housing community advocates from said cities leading the efforts!

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Aleta Toure

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:52 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: California Environmental Racism as a point for Black Reparations

Attachments: Shoreline Contamination Tools and Resources.docx; Regional Workshop Zoom

Info.pdf; Shoreline Coalition Position Statement.pdf; Regional Workshop Agenda.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Greetings again Respected member of the Reparations Task Force,

As a representative for the Red, Black, and Green New Deal, Chair of the Climate Recovery for Climate Justice Alliance (CJA), Richmond Progressive Alliance (RPA) Environmental Action team, and a rep for the Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Contamination Committee.

I introduce to you the attached Rising Waters information.

Because of your event the last two days, tonight I asked that there be a Black contingent of our meeting.

We have officially formed this evening the Black Caucus on Shoreline Contamination because it is the Black Communities that are subjected to the horrific health disparities and deaths associated with the harms. Why? The environmental justice organizations across California have been prominently white-led, despite us as black communities state-wide being highly affected.

Our Black Caucus "formed" tonight would love to either meet you or send more information on our commitment to why Climate Racism is a reason for reparations.

Myself, LaDonna Williams, Renay Jenkins, Kamillah Ealion from Greenaction, Arieanna from Marin County Climate Agency, and other African Americans stopped the meeting. We would love to connect with you all on how we can bring African American testimonies for AB 3121 Reparations on Climate Racism in California.

We had our meeting tonight on December 8th, 3:30 PM-6:00 PM and we will also be convening tomorrow, Thursday, December 9th, 3:30 PM-6:00 PM.

At the workshops, we shared the Tools and Resources document that was put together as part of this event. Please take a few moments to look over this resource. It includes information about databases, community-based organizations, government agency reports, a glossary of relevant government agencies, academic research, and funding opportunities about sea level rise and contaminated sites around the San Francisco Bay.

As part of this work, the San Francisco Bay Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition put together a position statement regarding demands for a complete cleanup of contaminated sites. The San Francisco Bay Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition mobilizes for the safe, comprehensive, and immediate cleanup of all toxic and radioactive contamination near the SF Bay shoreline, where sea level rise due to the climate crisis will spread the contamination.

# Please find the:

- Shoreline Contamination Tools and Resources
- The Shoreline Coalition Position Statement -The Regional Workshop Agenda

Graciously,

Aleta Toure

### Sea Level Rise & Shoreline Contamination Tools and Resources

For questions or requests to add resources, please contact <a href="mailto:julia@greenaction.org">julia@greenaction.org</a>

This document is a compilation of resources pertaining to sea level rise and contaminated sites from various government agencies, academic institutions, and community organizations around the San Francisco Bay and state-wide. These resources include tools such as databases from government agencies and academic institutions, government and academic reports on sea level rise and contaminated sites around the Bay, community-based and grassroots organizations, coalitions, and non-profit organizations that are currently working to address this issue of sea level rise and shoreline contamination in the Bay Area. Additionally, this page includes a list of local and state government agencies that have jurisdiction over contaminated sites around the Bay and academic institutions that are involved in this work. Finally, a compilation of grants and other funding opportunities for communities and local governments to address this critical issue is provided at the end of this document.

The purpose of this document is to make these various community, government, and academic resources available and accessible to the public. If you live around the San Francisco Bay and are concerned about contamination and/or sea level rise in or near your community, please use these resources and links provided to learn more about how your community may or may not be impacted by sea level rise and shoreline contamination. These resources are just a starting point and many of the resources listed have contact information that will allow you to learn even more about these issues.

#### **DATABASES**

Resource	Link	When Do I Use This?	Contact Person
EPA Facility Registry Service	https://www.epa.gov/frs	Use the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Facility Registry Service to research and or explore different sites that are subject to environmental risk in your own community. This is a database that contains information on various facilities, sites, and/or places of environmental interest that fall under government regulation.	frs support@epa.gov
Adapting to Rising Tides Bay Shoreline Flood Explorer	https://explorer.adaptingt orisingtides.org/explorer	Use the Flood Explorer to view and interact with data regarding projected sea level rise along the shoreline of the San Francisco Bay. This interactive map can be used to view how sea level rise will affect your community in the coming years. The website includes an analysis of the socioeconomic impacts of sea level rise throughout the bay and an interactive storymap that explains sea level rise concepts.	todd.hallenbeck@bcdc.ca.g ov 415-352-3667
Surging Seas: Risk Finder	https://riskfinder.climatec entral.org/state/california. us?comparisonType=coun ty&forecastType=NOAA20 17 int p50&impact=EPA&	Use Climate Central's Surging Seas: Risk Finder to view information on sea level rise and coastal flooding and the impacts which they may have on your community. The toolkit should be used to	drizza@climatecentral.org

	impactGroup=Contaminati on+Risks&level=3&unit=ft	research and understand the sea level rise and coastal flooding and how they will affect your own community. The website includes maps, local sea level and flood risk projections, and potential impacts for population, land, and, depending upon location, other variables.	
NOAA Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper	https://coast.noaa.gov/flo odexposure/#- 10575352,4439107,5z	Use the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper to identify and assess the impacts that coastal hazard risks on your community. The website can be used to learn about the risks of flood exposure and its potential impacts.	https://coast.noaa.gov/cont actform/
Baykeeper Shoreview	https://baykeeper.org/shoreview/pollution.html	Use Baykeeper's Shoreview function to view information on current and former industrial sites along the shore of the San Francisco Bay and learn how these sites will be affected by sea level rise. The interactive map shows where these sites are geographically located and how/when they will be reached by current sea level projections. This site should be used by those concerned about industrial waste leaching into the Bay watershed.	info@baykeeper.org

CalEnviroScreen 4.0	https://calenviroscreen- oehha.hub.arcgis.com/#Ca lEnviroScreen	Use the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's CalEnviroScreen 4.0 to view census data in an interactive map. The map shows each census tract and different environmental impacts through a percentile scoring. In conjunction with the environmental scoring, CalEnviroScreen also displays data such as the race/ethnicity and age profiles of a census tract. You can use this resource to see what environmental factors affect your community and how impacted your community is relative to other California communities.	CalEnviroScreen@oehha.ca.
DTSC EnviroStor	https://www.envirostor.dt sc.ca.gov/public/	Use the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's EnviroStor tool to track contaminated sites in regards to cleanup, permitting, enforcement, and investigation. EnviroStor can be used to see what contaminated sites are located near your community and to learn about the history/risks posed by the site to your community.	envirostor@dtsc.ca.gov
GeoTracker	https://geotracker.waterb oards.ca.gov	Use the Water Quality Control Board's GeoTracker to track contaminated sites that have the potential to impact water	geotracker@waterboards.ca .gov

		quality in California, with an emphasis on groundwater. The tool helps in tracking contaminated sites and can be used to see what contaminated sites are located near your community and to learn about the history/risks posed by the site to your community.	
US EPA EJScreen	https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/	Use the United States Environmental Protection Agency's EJScreen application to see what communities are disproportionately affected by environmental injustice throughout the country. The interactive map and database can be used to help identify or understand environmental burdens in your own community and/or surrounding communities.	https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/forms/contact-us-about-ejscreen
BCDC Community Vulnerability Mapping Tool	https://bcdc.maps.arcgis.c om/apps/webappviewer/i ndex.html?id=526ca82e85 eb403489de768498f605f3	Use the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development agency's Community Vulnerability Mapping Tool to learn about current sea level rise projections, models for adaptation and planning, and information on community outreach and engagement opportunities. Use this website to learn about how sea level rise can/may impact your community.	

USGS Coastal Storm Modeling System	https://www.usgs.gov/cen ters/pcmsc/science/cosm os-groundwater?qt- science center objects=0 #qt- science center objects	Use the United States Geological Survey's Coastal Storm Modeling System to view an interactive map that creates predictions of storm-induced coastal flooding, erosion, and cliff failures over large geographic scales throughout coastal regions. Use this resource to learn about coastal flooding and the effects	https://answers.usgs.gov/
		about coastal flooding and the effects associated with increasingly severe weather patterns in your community.	

# **REPORTS**

Report Title	Link	Description	Contact Email
Adapting to Rising Tides Contaminated Lands Reports		Read this report to learn more about sea level rise and contaminated sites around the Bay, complete with county by county reports, issues observed and lessons learned. This report is part of BCDC's Adapting to Rising Tides effort.	Nicolas.Sander@bcdc.ca.gov
Defining Vulnerable Communities in the Context of Climate Adaptation	https://opr.ca.gov/docs/2 0200720- Vulnerable Communities. pdf	Use this resource to find information on more publicly-available tools and resources that are used to define vulnerable communities in an adaptation context. This report is by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.	lisa.hu@opr.ca.gov
What Threat Does Sea Level Rise Pose to California? Legislative Analyst Office's Report	https://lao.ca.gov/reports/ 2020/4261/sea-level-rise- 081020.pdf	Read this 2020 report to learn about the latest projections and risks posed by sea level rise to California, including the San Francisco Bay.	michael.greer@lao.ca.gov
Adapting to Rising Tides Shallow Groundwater Workshop Summary		sea level rise and groundwater rise occurs in the San Francisco Bay Area.	todd.hallenbeck@bcdc.ca.gov

and Technical	2019 FINAL ADA.pdf	workshop and presentation given by Dr.	
Memo	http://www.adaptingtorisi	Kristina Hill of UC Berkeley.	
	ngtides.org/wp-		
	content/uploads/2020/03/		
	GW ModelComparison C		
	ompendium ADA.pdf		
City of Alameda,	slr2020.pdf	Read this report to learn about the	kris.may@pathwaysclimate.co
The Response of the	(alamedaca.gov)	assessment completed for the City of	<u>m</u>
Shallow		Alameda in 2020 regarding sea level	
Groundwater and		rise.	
Contaminants to			
Sea Level Rise			

# **COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS & NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Organization	Link	Description	Contact
San Francisco Bay Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition's Position Statement	A A CALL COLLEGE AND A SAME AND A SAME AS A SAME A SA	This position statement outlines the demands of the SF Bay Shoreline CCC regarding complete cleanups of hazardous and radioactive waste using environmental justice principles.	julia@greenaction.org
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice- Bayview Hunters Point IVAN Network	https://bvhp-ivan.org	If you are from the Bayview Hunters Point community or surrounding communities and want to learn more about environmental justice in and around your area, you can attend monthly meetings held by and with Bayview Hunters Point community members and local, regional, and state government agencies. Issues include water quality, hazardous waste contamination, Hunters Point Shipyard cleanup, pollution complaints, air quality and illegal dumping	bradley@greenaction.org julia@greenaction.org greenaction@greenaction.org
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project- Oakland Shoreline Leadership	https://woeip.org/featur ed-work/oakland- shoreline-leadership- academy/osla- classwork/	Use this research to learn more about the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project's Oakland Shoreline Leadership Academy.	phoenix.woeip@gmail.com

Academy			
Richmond Shoreline	www.richmondshoreline	If you are from the Richmond area and	carolyn.graves@kp.org
<u>Alliance</u>	alliance.org	want to get more involved and learn	
		about environmental justice,	
		environmental protection, and an	
		accessible and healthy Richmond	
		shoreline now and for future generations,	
		you can join the Richmond Shoreline	
		Alliance. RSA is an alliance of Richmond	
		area residents organizations, and allies	
		dedicated to environmental justice.	
San Francisco Bay	http://sfbayshorelineccc.	If you want to learn more about sea level	bradley@greenaction.org
Shoreline	org	rise and shoreline contamination around	julia@greenaction.org
Contamination		the San Francisco Bay reach out to the SF	
Cleanup Coalition		Bay Shoreline Coalition. This is a coalition	
(SF Bay CCC)		made up of grassroots, nonprofit groups	
		and community members from around	
		the Bay working towards a common goal	
		of protecting shoreline communities from	
		the threat of sea level rise and its impacts	
		on contaminated sites along the Bay.	
Sonoma Land Trust	https://sonomalandtrust	If you are a resident of Sonoma County,	SR 37-Baylands Group

		you can learn more about conserving scenic, natural, agricultural and open land for the future of Sonoma County from the Sonoma Land Trust.	
San Francisco Baykeeper	https://baykeeper.org https://baykeeper.org/c ontent/threats-bay		cole@baykeeper.org

# **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

Resource	Link	Description	Contact Email
Government Agency Glossary	https://drive.google.co m/file/d/1qwj5NE2ZfzO VtT n9LuDmy2ORuqDq 8GL/view?usp=sharing	Descriptions written by BCDC, DTSC, and RWQCB on their role in addressing sea level rise and contaminated sites.	nahal.ghoghaie@bcdc.ca.gov nelline.kowbel@dtsc.ca.gov Alyx.Karpowicz@waterboards. ca.gov
Bay Conservation and Development Commission: Adapting to Rising Tides	https://www.bayadapt.o rg	Use this resource to learn more about BCDC's plan to adapt to rising sea levels and their impacts to the San Francisco Bay. You can learn about how these plans may impact your community.	Jessica.Fain@bcdc.ca.gov dana.brechwald@bcdc.ca.gov
San Francisco City and County Department of Environment	https://sfenvironment.o rg/residents	If you are a San Francisco City or County resident, you can learn more about how your City/County plan to address climate change and environmental impacts using this resource.	environment@sfgov.org
Alameda County: Environmental Page	https://www.acgov.org/ publicsafety/environme ntal.htm	If you live in Alameda County you can learn more about your County's plans to address environmental impacts and hazardous waste sites using this resource.	http://www.acgov.org/form_a pp/feedback/feedback.jsp?id= DEH

San Mateo County:	https://seachangesmc.o	If you live in San Mateo County you can	seachangesmc@smcgov.org
Climate Change	rg	learn more about your County's plans to	
Page		address climate change and sea level rise	
		using this resource.	
Marin County: Local	https://www.marincoun	If you live in Marin County you can learn	https://www.marincounty.org
Coastal Program	ty.org/depts/cd/division	more about your County's plans to	/depts/cd/divisions/planning/c
Page	s/planning/plans-	address climate change and sea level rise	<u>ontact-form</u>
	policies-and-	using this resource.	
	regulations/local-		
	<u>coastal-program</u>		
Santa Clara County:	https://cepa.sccgov.org/	If you live in Santa Clara County you can	(408) 918-3400
Consumer and	<u>home</u>	learn more about your County's plans to	
Environmental		address environmental issues using this	
Protection Agency		resource.	
Contra Costa	https://www.contracost	If you live in Contra Costa County you can	pwfld@pw.cccounty.us
County: Flood	a.ca.gov/5586/Flood-	learn more about your County's plans to	
Control District Page	<u>Control-District</u>	address flooding using this resource.	
Sonoma County:	https://sonomacounty.c	If you live in Sonoma County you can	eh@sonoma-county.org
Environmental	a.gov/Health/Environme	learn more about your County's plans to	
Health and Safety	ntal-Health-and-Safety/	address environmental issues using this	
Page		resource.	
Solano County:	https://www.solanocou	If you live in Solano County you can learn	RMHelp@solanocounty.com
Environmental	nty.com/depts/rm/envir	more about your County's plans to	
Health Page	onmental health/defaul	address environmental issues and	

	t.asp	environmental health using this resource.	
BCDC,	https://bcdc.ca.gov/ejwg	Read this report to learn more about the	nahal.ghoghaie@bcdc.ca.gov
Environmental	/BPAEJSE.html	Bay Conservation and Development	
Justice and Social		Commission's plan to implement	
Equity Plan		environmental justice. This plan should be	
		implemented in all of BCDC's projects	
		including those that address sea level rise	
		and contaminated sites.	
BCDC, Toward	https://bcdc.ca.gov/BPA/	Read this plan to learn more about the	nahal.ghoghaie@bcdc.ca.gov
<b>Equitable Shorelines</b>	2-17/0620BPA2-	Bay Conservation and Development	
	17BackgroundReport.pdf	Commission's plans to create an	
		"equitable shoreline" and to learn about	
		the history of environmental racism and	
		injustice around the San Francisco Bay.	

# **ACADEMIC & RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS**

Resource	Link	Description	Contact Email
San Francisco Estuary Institute	https://www.sfei.org/	Use this resource to learn more about the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), which is one of California's premier aquatic and ecosystem science institutes. Our mission: provide scientific support and tools for decision-making and communication through collaborative efforts. We provide independent science to assess and improve the health of the waters, wetlands, wildlife and landscapes of San Francisco Bay, the California Delta and beyond. We have three primary programs: Clean Water, Resilient Landscapes, and Environmental Informatics.	ellenp@sfei.org

Datharas Clinaata		Harathia area was to be an area about	luis and a state of the state of
Pathways Climate	www.pathwaysclimate.c	Use this resource to learn more about	kris.may@pathwaysclimate.c
Institute	<u>om</u>	Pathways Climate Institute, which is	<u>om</u>
		focused on helping communities increase	
		climate resilience, with an emphasis on	
		coastal environments. The team focuses	
		on research to help fill data gaps	
		adaptation planning, including how sea	
		level rise will include shallow	
		groundwater and contamination, and	
		how extreme west coast storms such as	
		atmospheric rivers and extratropical	
		cycles will change with a warming	
		climate.	
Dr. Kristina Hill Lab	https://www.researchgat	Use this resource to learn more about Dr.	kzhill@berkeley.edu
	e.net/lab/Kristina-Hill-	Kristina Hill's research around sea level	
	<u>Lab</u>	rise and groundwater rise around the Bay	
		and their impact on contaminated sites.	
		Dr. Hill is a professor at UC Berkeley	
		Department of Landscape Architecture	
		and Environmental Planning. This link will	
		also take you to many of Dr. Hill's	
		research papers on this topic.	

Toxic Tides Project:	https://nature.berkeley.e	Use this resource to learn more about the	rmf@berkeley.edu
Dr. Rachel Morello-	du/morellofroschlab/por	Toxic Tides project spearheaded by Dr.	
Frosch	tfolio/toxic-tides/	Rachel Morello-Frosch at UC Berkeley	
	1	School of Public Health and Department	
		of Environmental Science and Policy	
	3.7	Management. This project looks at sea	
	_ (1)	level rise and contamination throughout	
- V		California.	

# **GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES\***

\*Grants and funding opportunities are updated regularly. Please check the main page of the funding sources regularly to see if there are new opportunities.

Resource	Link	Description	Contact Email
Local Conservation Corps Grant Program	https://www.calrecycle. ca.gov/funding/localcc	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the Conservation Corps Grant Program.	grants@calrecycle.ca.gov
California Coastal Conservancy Grants	https://scc.ca.gov/grants	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the California Coastal Conservancy.	lily.rios@scc.ca.gov
California Grants Portal	https://www.grants.ca.g ov	This is a grant portal for all State funding opportunities. Use this resource to find potential funding through the State of	Contacts vary based on the grant and can be found at the link provided.

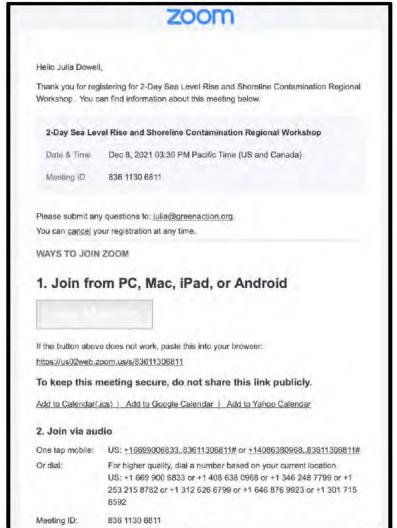
		California.	
Environmental Justice Small Grants Program	vironmentaljustice/envir	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the US Environmental Project Agency.	burney.jacob@epa.gov
Community Assistance for Climate Equity Program (CACE)	https://sgc.ca.gov/progr ams/cace/	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the Community Assistance for Climate Equity Program.	sgc.info@sgc.ca.gov
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority	http://sfbayrestore.org/ community-grants	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities in San Francisco through the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority. The Community Grants Program supports community-led projects related to shoreline restoration in the Bay Area.	info@sfbayrestore.org
California Coastal Commission Grants	https://www.coastal.ca. gov/lcp/grants/	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the California Coastal Commission.	LCPGrantProgram@coastal.ca .gov
CalEPA Grants: including CARB, DTSC, Waterboard and CalRecycle	https://calepa.ca.gov/lo ansgrants/	Use this resource to find potential funding opportunities through the California Environmental Protection Agency.	Contacts vary based on the grant. Contacts can be found below each grant in the link.

#### Dear Regional Workshop Attendees,

Thank you for registering for the Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Contamination Regional Workshop! We are looking forward to this event Wednesday December 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:30PM-6:00PM. Below is an explanation on how to login to the event.

# How do I access the Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Contamination Regional Workshop event?

When you registered for the event, you should have received an email that looks like the one below with a Zoom link to the event. To join the event, click "Join Meeting". If you don't have that email available, you can go to <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/s/83611306811">https://us02web.zoom.us/s/83611306811</a> or you can go to <a href="https://zoom.us/join">https://zoom.us/join</a> and enter the Meeting ID: 836 1130 6811. If you are not logged into Zoom, you will be asked for your email and name. Please enter the email you used to register for the event. If you have trouble joining the Zoom or you did not yet register for the event, you can register or re-register <a href="https://exempt.com/https://exem



Is there a univerent Zoom ink for the 2 "day of the workshop?

No. We will use the same Zoom link for both days of the workshop. Please use the same Meeting ID and Zoom link to access the workshop on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Will I be able to share/talk at the workshop?

Yes. An agenda for the workshop will be provided in the next couple of days. There will be multiple discussion sessions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the workshop. You will also be able to use the chat function throughout the workshop.

#### If I want to share/talk during the discussion sessions of the workshop, how do I do that?

During the discussion sessions, we ask that you use the "Raise Hand" function on Zoom and wait to be called on to share. To raise your hand, click on "Reactions" at the bottom of the Zoom screen and then click "Raise Hand". The picture below shows what that function looks like.

Once you have raised your hand, please wait to be called on by the facilitator.



If you are calling in, and want to raise your hand, you can do so by **dialing \*9.** After you are called on, you can lower your hand by dialing \*9 again.

# How long can I talk for once I am called on?

While we do not have a hard "time limit" on how long attendees can share for during the discussion session. We do ask that you try to keep your comments and questions to under 2 minutes out of respect to the other attendees. If your comments are running long, the facilitator will ask you to wrap up in order to allow other attendees to participate in the discussion.

# Complete Cleanup of Contaminated Sites on the San Francisco Bay Shoreline

#### Introduction

Sea level rise fueled by climate change poses a serious threat to contaminated sites on or near the shoreline of the San Francisco Bay. There is a high risk of inundation caused by sea level and groundwater rise, driving contaminants into the Bay and surrounding communities. Communities surrounding contaminated sites will be exposed. Government agencies plan to leave contamination buried at the shoreline in many of their cleanup plans without taking into account the latest sea level rise projections. The San Francisco Bay Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition does not approve of the plan to simply cap waste at the shoreline, as this poses serious health risks to residents in shoreline communities and to the health of the Bay.

#### Sea Level Rise Latest Science

Sea levels are rising globally at an increasing rate. According to the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), "Global mean sea level has risen faster since 1900 than over any preceding century in at least the last 3000 years." As of May 2020, the California Coastal Commission estimates sea levels will rise up to 1.0 foot by 2030 and 7.6 feet by 2100.<sup>2</sup> Other peer-reviewed research supports projections of up to 10 feet in sea level rise by end of the century.<sup>3</sup>

Sea level rise poses the highest risk to communities on the shoreline, as they will be most directly impacted. According to the National Resources Defense Council, "Coastal communities are facing the threat of direct inundation as well as greatly magnified risks from storm surge, tidal flooding, extreme rain, and other effects of climate change."

#### **Contaminated Sites & Sea Level Rise**

In the San Francisco Bay, there are hundreds of active industrial sites on the shoreline. These sites along with "over 1,000 known or likely contaminated historic sites," are likely to experience flooding due to sea level and

groundwater rise. A partial list of hazardous contaminants in the Bay Area includes poisons like arsenic, environmentally damaging chemicals like pesticides, herbicides, dioxins, and DDT, carcinogens like trichloroethene (TCE), heavy metals like lead and mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), fluorinated chemicals such as PFOS, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and radioactive waste.

A study by the Legislative Analyst's Office found that one of the threats of sea level rise to communities is the ability of groundwater rise to bring hazardous waste to the surface. <sup>5</sup> This report clearly states that:

"Contaminated lands located along the coast and bay at risk of both surface and groundwater flooding include active and closed landfills, as well as "brownfields" which are undergoing or require cleanup—such as federal Superfund sites, military cleanup sites, and California Department of Toxic Substances Control [and Regional Water Quality Control Board] sites."

There are many hazardous waste sites along the shoreline of the San Francisco Bay that the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the US EPA, the US Navy, and other agencies are responsible for remediating. However, these agencies are **not using the latest projections of sea level rise in their cleanup plans.** 

Failure to use the latest sea level rise projections when designing, approving, and executing cleanups of toxic and radioactive waste puts shoreline communities near these sites, including Bayview Hunters Point, Treasure Island, Richmond, Marin City, West Oakland and others, at serious risk of exposure to toxic, hazardous and radioactive waste.

In addition, many of these cleanup plans involve leaving significant residual contamination at the shoreline through a process called "capping". Mere surface capping, without complete containment, is the process of leaving

# Complete Cleanup of Contaminated Sites on the San Francisco Bay Shoreline

some contaminated and/or radioactive waste buried and covering this contamination with a layer of clay or other material. This practice allows the city, state, federal government, and corporate developers to leave large amounts of radioactive and toxic waste at contaminated sites near the waterfront, even though rising sea levels will eventually flood and spread the contamination into the surrounding neighborhoods, into endangered species wetlands, and into the Bay.

Rising sea levels, rising groundwater, human, animal, and seismic activity increase the risk of caps breaking and becoming ineffective. It is highly likely that these toxins will seep into the groundwater and soil and threaten the health of community members, as well as the health of the Bay.

#### **Our Demands**

- We demand that the government work with residents, including community and environmental justice organizations, to determine the best treatment and/or disposal options that minimize the health and environmental threats to the contaminated community as well as those living near potential disposal sites.
- We demand that cleanup of hazardous and radioactive waste sites near environmental justice communities be prioritized by local, regional and state governments.
- We demand that all radioactive and hazardous waste be completely removed from the vicinity of the shoreline and that the process of capping hazardous waste not be used near the shoreline.
- We demand that the latest sea level rise projections be used in *all* contaminated site cleanup plans.
- We demand that housing not be built on hazardous and/or radioactive waste sites near the shoreline unless the areas are first cleaned up with community oversight and independent testing to the highest Residential Standards, informed by the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 socio-economic, health and environmental indicators, so that families can live there without risking their health.

- We demand that all contamination cleanup decisions be made in close coordination with frontline residents, community and environmental justice groups--a radical departure from the historical pro-forma and failed "community involvement" practices of Caltrans, DTSC, RWQCB, and USEPA.
- Where housing, schools, businesses, construction, or recreation is already located on or near hazardous sites near the shoreline, we support community demands for comprehensive, regular, and direct health studies of local residents, workers and regular site users to determine if they are accumulating and/or being harmed by contaminants. Studies must be led and approved by the impacted frontline communities.
- We demand that, in limited circumstances where contamination cannot be completely moved away from shoreline areas, robust containment must be utilized.
  - i.e.: 1. lateral containment with cut-off walls with a perimeter leachate collection system, 2. substantial bottom containment with supplemental augmentation as appropriate, 3. RCRA Subtitle C-like cover (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations for hazardous waste landfill closures), 4. rigorous containment monitoring system to ensure timely maintenance/repair/augmentation of the containment remedy, 5. ongoing public engagement as an additional component of an overall containment system maintenance-in-depth program.

# Sincerely,

The San Francisco Bay Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition

#### Source

- https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC\_AR6\_WGI\_Full\_Report.pdf
- https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2020/5/W6g/w6g-5-2020-exhibits.pd
- 3 <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-climate-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-science/article/150721-james-hansen-sea-level-rise-change-global-warming-global-warm
- 4 <a href="https://www.nrdc.org/experts/rob-moore/new-ipcc-report-sea-level-rise-challenges-are-growing">https://www.nrdc.org/experts/rob-moore/new-ipcc-report-sea-level-rise-challenges-are-growing</a>
- 5 https://baykeeper.org/shoreview/pollution.htm
- https://lao.ca.gov/reports/2020/4261/sea-level-rise-081020.pdf

# SEA LEVEL RISE AND SHORELINE CONTAMINATION REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

## WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 3:30-6:00PM

#### 3:30PM Introduction

Julia Dowell, Ella McDougall and Maria Rodriguez

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice, Ocean Protection Council

#### 3:45PM Latest Scientific Projections on Sea Level Rise

Daniel Hossfeld

Bay Conservation & Development Commission

#### 4:10PM Presentation on Groundwater Rise and Contaminated Sites

Dr. Kristina Hill

University of California Berkeley

#### 4:40PM 5-Minute Break

# 4:45PM Community Panel Speaks about Concerns in their Community Regarding Sea Level Rise and Contaminated Sites

Andrés Soto- Communities for a Better Environment & Richmond Shoreline Alliance

Ms. Terrie Green- Marin City Climate Resilience & Health Justice

Ms. Margaret Gordon- West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

Kamillah Ealom- Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

#### 5:25PM Toxic Tides Presentation

Dr. Rachel Morello-Frosch and Amee Raval

University of California Berkeley, Asian Pacific Environmental Network

#### 5:45PM Community Comments on Toxic Tides Project

Ms. Terrie Green- Marin City Climate Resilience & Health Justice
Ms. Margaret Gordon- West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
Renay Jenkins- Bayview Hunters Point Mothers & Fathers Committee
Kamillah Ealom- Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

Janet Johnson- Richmond Shoreline Alliance and Sunflower Alliance

Ian Wren- San Francisco Baykeeper

#### 5:55PM Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Julia Dowell

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

# SEA LEVEL RISE AND SHORELINE CONTAMINATION REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> 3:30-6PM

#### 3:30PM Introduction

Julia Dowell and Ms. Terrie Green

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice, Marin City Climate Resilience & Health Justice

# 3:35PM Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Involvement Project Presentation

Julia Dowell

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

#### 3:45PM Data & Mapping

#### Presentation and Q&A

Cole Burchiel, Todd Hallenbeck, Dr. Kris May, and Danielle Mieler

San Francisco Baykeeper, Bay Conservation & Development Commission, Pathways Climate Institute, City of Alameda

#### 4:15PM Tools and Resources

#### **Presentation and Discussion Session**

Naama Raz-Yaseef and Ella McDougall

Sunflower Alliance, Ocean Protection Council

Speakers on Accessibility: Madeline Dawson and Adam Garrett-Clark

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice, Neighborship

#### 4:35PM 5-Minute Break

#### 4:40PM Centering Government Policy in Environmental Justice Principles

#### **Presentation & Discussion Session**

Nahal Ghoghaie, Ms. Margaret Gordon and Bradley Angel

Bay Conservation & Development Commission, West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project.

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

#### 5:05PM Round Table Discussion: Next Steps in Light of the Latest Science and Environmental Justice

#### Concerns Re: Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Contamination

Facilitated by Dr. Kristina Hill

Grant Cope- Department of Toxic Substances Control

Dana Brechwald- Bay Conservation & Development Commission

Dana Barton and Luisa Valiela- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Kamillah Ealom and Bradley Angel- Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

Janet Johnson- Richmond Shoreline Alliance & Sunflower Alliance

Renay Jenkins- Bayview Hunters Point Mothers & Fathers Committee

Ms. Terrie Green- Marin City Climate Resilience & Health Justice

Ms. Margaret Gordon- West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

# 5:55PM Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Julia Dowell

Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: takethe1ststepjax

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:59 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Next meeting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Good afternoon.

I'm interested in attending some of your meetings.

Thank you Anita Osuigwe-Spencer Jacksonville Florida

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: David Benjamin

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:20 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Good Day

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### To Whom This May Concern

My name is David Benjamin and Im from New Jersey. My Family are The Browns, Jacksons and Thompsons of "Skunk Hollow" Bergen County, New Jersey. My Family are The First Slaves of New Jersey and New York. They were "The Pompton People" (a extinct tribe) here in The North East specifically New Jersey. Reverend William "Billy" Thompson of "Skunk Hollow" The First AME church in New Jersey is my Great Uncle.

I have been doing alot of research for the pass year of my Ancestors with the help of a Top New Jersey Historian and Co Chairman of The Bergen Dutch Society. His Family are very powerful people and they owned my Ancestors. I have alot of family members buried in his Family private Cemetery and he gave me the locations of them along with alot of data that is hidden. Im willing to share my data along with names of Top Families that played a major role and owned my family and other Black Americans in the slave trade here in New Jersey, New York area. Slave owning families such as The Ackerman's, Blauvelt, Hewitt, Hopper, Demerest, VanWinkles, Green, Arent Schuyler, John Ogden, and Countless more families

I have alot of useful Data and although this is data from New Jersey and New York area, this are very Powerful Families throughout America and The world. Below ill attach a YouTube video of "The Ackerman Family" whom are one of the many family that owned mine and Im sure this video will be of great value for your research and Reparations for Foundational Black Americans. I have alot more data if needed. Thanks for your time.

Here is the video <a href="https://youtu.be/viWf1x05gTE">https://youtu.be/viWf1x05gTE</a>

# ReparationsTaskforce

From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:34 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Cc: 'pmfisher@ca.rr.com'

Subject: Email Notification for Future Public Meetings

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

If there is an email list for future CA Reparations Task Force public meetings, please add me to it.

Patrice Fisher.

Thank you

Best and highest until...,

Patrice

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: treasurer

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:37 PM

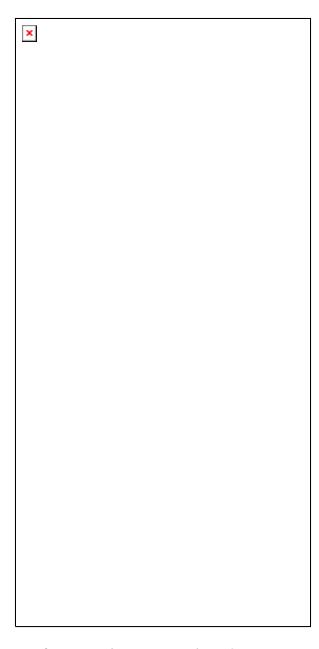
To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Fwd: Query

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.



My name is Michael A. Guynn and a board member of the National Association of Black Social Workers. How can we assist and get involved?



Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S9+.

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: BILL SHARP <

Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:51 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

What is the percentage of Blacks compared to Whites on welfare? Just asking. If it's very large comparatively, is that not a form of reparations?

Hopefully It's not a large gap. but if so . . . . . That needs to be built into the equation.

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Brooke Sinclair

Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 6:00 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Suggestions on Calculations | From Brooke

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello Taskforce.

I'd like to offer a suggestion on how to calculate the cost of reparations and how to pay it. We use the same institutional forms of racism against them.

# **How to Calculate Reparations**

Using the phrasing of the Taskforce harms done to Blacks and the Descendants of Slaves should be assigned a value comparable to misdemeanor and felony fees or years in prison. For example, if a Black family was kept from living in a white neighborhood maybe that's an obstruction from justice. An obstruction because Black people should have had basic economic rights to justly live wherever they like. Then look up the legal ramifications for obstructing justice. 5 years and \$100k bail? Then that harm costs 100k and 5 years of social service reparations like after-school daycare, a 5-year lease on a car paid for by the DOJ, or 5 years in physical or mental rehab. This number should be called an incident value of harm(s),

To build a mathematical foundation consider tracing the reparation amounts paid to slave owners after the Civil War. The amount of assets (slaves claimed) gives each lineage their own cost based on region, value (work completed, field slave vs house slave, and offspring), and industry. Records of slaves found in the early Census should hold a special classification because a lot of our ancestors were taken too early e.g. Emmett Till.

Consider looking at the last few Census to get an accurate look at the number of potential candidates to payout. Now, Black people, we don't really fill out the Census like that so you can't count on Census numbers to be truly accurate but it will give you a basic estimation of potential payees. Now if you start with Census, school, county, or death records, in theory, you should be able to trace the value of each lineage from slaves of the 1800s to Black American descendants of slaves in the most recent Census.

We have been robbed of our lives, our fathers and mothers, and our heritage. Using the numeric values of the justice system, institutional practices, and social isolation through highways should start with the value of what was taken. For example, for the Black neighborhoods destroyed by highways, take the value of the land before the highway then multiply it by the number of taxpayer dollars spent to build the highway. Then divide the number by the number of probable respondents displaced from that area. If you find someone's lineage was destroyed as a result of being displaced those funds should be used to pay for community service or good for that displaced community. Maybe free memberships to the fully funded community center with a pool and after-school activities paid for by those whose legacies were cut off.

## How to Pay Reparations

Distributing the funds and granting access to social services is easy, we're already set up for it! Each Head of Household can ask for their lineage value to be credited to a pre-existing social service like SSI, food stamps,

NCI, unemployment, WIC, TANF, housing assistance, school loans, and more. Retirees can add their values to their pensions, annuities, or 401ks.

When you combine the lineage value from slaves, with the incident values of harm(s), the outcome is wealth gap funding payments. What's great about splitting wealth gap payments between credits to social services means the state does not need to find cash first.

Hope this helps! See you all that the January meeting.

Brooke Sinclair

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Joyce Ivy

Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 3:06 PM

To: Homeloans@calvet.ca.gov
Cc: Joyce Ivy; ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: SUPER URGENT !!! CALVET HOMES ARE NOT OFFERED TO PEOPLE OF COLOR WHO

WERE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN THE PAST

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

My late father was denied a Gi Bill home loan in the 1960s due to his race.

I have been trying to acquire a home to rent out for income from CalVet, but once again, people of color are not privy to first hand housing information. By the time the information is available, the properties are gone.

I have heard that the same people (friends & relatives of CalVet employees) who have inside information, keep buying up all the properties and folks of color that have been discriminated against, do not get privy to these sales.

Governor Gavin Newsom should be HIGHLY aware of this and an investigation should be in order, if true. As ADOS (American descendant of slaves) we are always the last to know or don't get the information at all.

Cal Vet, do you have a breakdown via race of the Cal Vet homes that have been sold for the past 20/30 years or so in Placer County and/or Sacramento County? If so, can I get a copy of that said information?

Do you also have a list of the full names of buyers for all Cal Vet properties you have sold in the last 20/30 or so years. I need a copy of that information too.

Before this gets way out of hand, please "immediately" put me on the "list" for available for sale HECM OR REO properties for folks 62 and older in Placer County, especially in the Sun City Roseville and Lincoln Sun City areas.

Thank you in advance for your **prompt attention** to this matter.

Feel free to call me any time for any and all additional information that you may need.

Sincerely,

Joyce J Ivy



# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Daniel Davenport

Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 11:16 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Sale on Political Consulting Services: More than 50% off

Attachments: Quote for services 2.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Sent from my iPhone

# God's Golden Good A General Political Sciences Firm Sandy Springs, Georgia GodsGoldenGood.com

December 10, 2021

Subject: Sale on Political Consulting Services

By: Minister Davenport

Location: Sandy, Springs Georgia

#### Dear Ranking Member, and all others:

This is a follow up letter. I open this letter with the love of Christ Jesus: with knowledge of economic markets, and jobs. This is how I opened the last letter.

Seldom do we hear ministers engaging in Christian ministry from a focus on jobs. Seldom do we hear Christians focused on politics. Yet ministers know our polity is governed by Jesus teachings. To that end, some of us are called to use political systems to make manifest the teachings of Jesus Christ.

My interest is in being your reparations consultant. I want your group to authorize jobs for victims to public engage their community voters. I know you all are looking for consultants to help you reach your end. My cost have been reduced for a limited time to \$25 per hour. For a limited time my services are more than half off the normal service cost. I am reducing my charges because this is my new Jesus based mandate because I see in your efforts a willingness to convince California legislators of their need for repentance and atonement. Repenting for the state's past decisions to implement policies which injured black peoples. Atoning for the state's past decisions to fail to implement policies which made the depth of injuries clear, and their failures to implement policies to repair economic and non-economic injuries to the injured individuals.

If you are in need of my services do not hesitate to call me. My charge is \$25 per hour. My background and past clients list is available at: GodsGoldenGoods.com.

Very Respectfully,

Minister Davenport

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: Kaycea Campbell

Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 11:37 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Economic Damage Calculations: Reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello:

I have been following the taskforce below and would like to know how I can lend my expertise as an economist. This is important work with a qualified taskforce with so much experience and impressive resumes, that I would feel provided working with. Calculation of damages, especially in the context of reparations is an analysis that my training and experience will help with. I hope I can be included in this important research.

# AB 3121: Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans

Feel free to peruse the websites below to examine my resume and some current research. Thanks,

https://strategiceconomicanalysis.com/

Economic Service Solutions | Welcome

Economic Service Solutions | Welcome

# Kaycea Campbell, Ph.D.

Pierce College

**Professor of Economics** 

Department of Poli Sci/Econ/AJ/ and Chicano Studies CEO & President of Ventana Capital Advisors (all related DBAs).

www.strategiceconomicanalysis.com

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# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Cheri Reaves <

Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 11:48 AM Subject: In Honor of Human Rights Day

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Dear Esteemed Reparations Task Force Members,

In honor of Human Rights Day, let us as Californians, co-create a Human Rights Equity Zone™. It is time to integrate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, Ratified) and International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Radical Discrimination (ICERD, Ratified) among others into our legislative policies. May this be a day of celebration of reflection of what is possible.

Many blessings, Cheri Reaves



Cheri Reaves Principal Consultant and Executive Director

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# ReparationsTaskforce

From: PIU Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 5:11 PM To: ReparationsTaskforce Cc: WebMaster Subject: FW: New email address for professional/work related use Re: Confirmation for AB 3121: Reparations Task Force from State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General Forwarding to the Reparations Taskforce for handling as they deem appropriate. Thank you. From: WebMaster < WebMaster@doj.ca.gov> Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:49 PM To: PIU <PIU.PIU@doj.ca.gov> Subject: FW: New email address for professional/work related use Re: Confirmation for AB 3121: Reparations Task Force from State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General The below email has been forwarded to you from the Webmaster email box to process as seen fit. Please confirm this email has been received. Thank you, Webmaster From: nichole proffitt -Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:27 PM To: WebMaster < WebMaster@doj.ca.gov> Subject: New email address for professional/work related use Re: Confirmation for AB 3121: Reparations Task Force from State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious. Hello Everyone, Thank you for emailing. This notice is to inform you that as of December 31st will be completely phased out of PROFESSIONAL use. Please begin directing all professional communication to ill remain in use, but only for PERSONAL communication.

With care,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying this winter season.

#### Nichole

--

In the interest of cultivating personal and professional sustainability, I conduct business during the hours listed below. During that time, I am with clients and teaching mindfulness classes. I respond to email as I am able to, in a manner which allows me to maintain life balance. If your email requires an immediate response, please resend the email with URGENT in the subject line. I am grateful for the convenience technology provides, and I am committed to using it wisely. Thank you for your patience in waiting to hear back from me.

Monday 9-3 Tuesday-Thursday 9-5 Friday by appointment only

:: Nichole Proffitt
She/Her/Hers

:: UCSF ~ Mindfulness and MBSR Instructor

:: Presence - Mindfulness, Counseling and Coaching.

:: <u>Instagram @presencemindfulness</u>

# ReparationsTaskforce

From:	
Sent:	Saturday, December 11, 2021 7:14 AM
To:	ReparationsTaskforce
Subject:	Penatriation AB3121 California

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

I am not in favor with Repatriation Legislation

Not that all of the mistreated Americans are undeserving But where does it end as the United States has mistreated so many: Native Americans, Japanese, Navajo Nations, African Americans, even out own American soldiers.

The best method for the United States to atone for its sins against mistreated persons/groups is to provide programs to encourage education for its youth.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Jeanenne

Jeanenne Tietge

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Harold Huggins

Sent: Saturday, December 11, 2021 6:39 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Subject: Important Public Comments

Attachments: Black residents table.png; Blacks graph chart.png

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Kamilah Moore, Chair of the Reparations Task Force ("Task Force"),

TODAY, the US Department of Education published a notice in the federal register, and it finalized a rule that effectively ends Prop. 209 (Article 31, California State Consitution). The proposed notice mandates civil rights data collection by the state agencies. Task Force needs to file public comments in the Federal Register before the close of public comments on Feb. 11, 2022. In my professional opinion, without these public comments, Task Force's final recommendations has no legal standing in federal court.

The exploit used by the authors of Prop. 209 is that the federal government did not require mandatory reports of discrimination that targeted Blacks by the state entities.

We hold that the failure to report state-sanctioned discrimination increased the Black homicide rates and gentrification nationally. See, the attached files for details.

We further hold that, as part of their business plans, several banks earned significant revenue from the disenfranchisement of Blacks through social engineering financing.

Please share this message with your colleagues and I ask for the Task Force to file public comments.

See, "The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department," A Notice by the US Department of Education, Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Mandatory Civil Rights Data Collection, Agency/Docket Number: Docket No.: ED-2021-SCC-0158, 86 FR 70831, Publication Date: Dec. 13, 2021, Comments Close: Feb. 11, 2022, <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-26873/p-7">https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2021-26873/p-7</a>

Thanks,

\_\_

#### **Harold Huggins**

Director, the Council for Education

The Council for Education • 4625 West Nevso Suite 2 & 3 • Las Vegas • Nevada • 89103 • U.S.



Telephone: 800-307-1076 x 1 • Fax: 877-459-7907• Web: www.CforED.com

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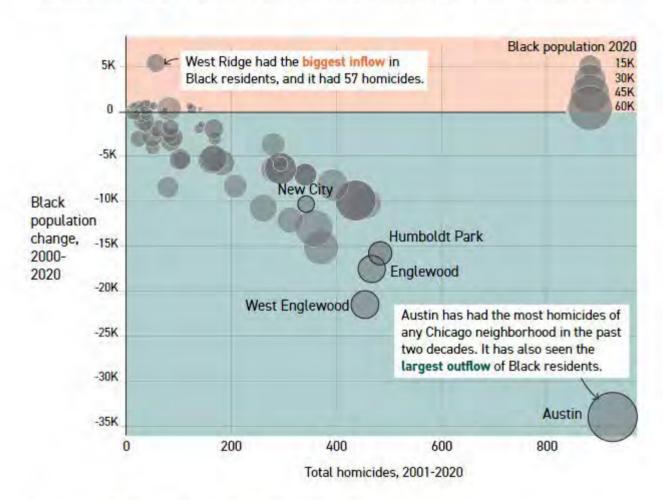
# Among cities with the most Black residents, 9 of 10 had decreases since 2000

Name	Black residents, 2000	Black residents, 2020	Change
New York	1,952,953	1,776,891	-176,062
Chicago	1,049,224	787,551	-261,673
Detroit	770,728	493,212	-277,516
Philadelphia	644,409	613,835	-30,574
Houston	487,094	509,479	22,385
Baltimore	415,725	335,615	-80,110
Los Angeles	399,057	322,553	-76,504
Memphis	396,809	387,964	-8,845
Washington, D.C.	340,061	282,066	-57,995
New Orleans	322,813	205,876	-116,937

Note: Includes Census data for Black-only, non-Hispanic residents Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Black residents are moving out of the areas with the most homicides

NEIGHBORHOODS, BY BLACK POPULATION CHANGE AND NUMBER OF HOMICIDES



# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Roxy Lady

Sent: Saturday, December 11, 2021 1:59 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Ideas for reparations.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

I was in a genealogy class this semester and there is some information you may not be aware of.

There were slave schedules in the years 1850 and 1860. It lists the slave owners. These slave owners can then be searched on genealogical data bases. In fact these slave owners could potentially even have dna profiles because so many descendants have submitted their DNA.

THE FACT THAT THESE DESCENDANTS OF SLAVE OWNERS ARE ALIVE PROVES THEY BENEFITTED FROM SLAVERY. So they are all guilty.

These descendants need to be held accountable, take responsibility and be punished. Hopefully their assets can be seized.

There are many of these descendants in rural America living a lifestyle free from crime and the effects of poverty. Some extremely low income.

Hopefully the constitution is being rewritten as we speak to make it possible to prosecute these descendants criminally.

These descendants need to be incarcerated once they turn 18 and provided with a felony criminal record. Hopefully they will get 1 year and one day in a maximum security prison so they can see the effects of what they are responsible for. Or maybe they should get 4 years in prison instead of 4 years in college.

Since there was not slavery in California, California needs to sue every state that did and seize the assets of those states.

Established white families all have a family safe. It doesn't matter if they are in a trailer, a cabin, or a mansion. No doubt there are family heirlooms, coins and jewelry that should be seized by the government. These items are very old so there is no documentation or receipt of ownership. These items just get passed down from generation to generation. It's time to raid the homes of these descendants and seize any valuables for reparation civil asset forfeiture.

Hopefully these descendants can be marked with tattoos on their foreheads so everyone will know what the heinous crimes they are responsible for.

Little towns in rural America put up their senior citizens in local senior housing. These are small clean well maintained residences that I am sure is section 8. By far safer, nicer, cleaner and free from crime than the inner city housing projects.

These seniors need to be mandated to move to the inner city projects for their housing. Rural section 8 is by far nicer than urban.

Consider revoking academic credentials and professional licensure of descendants of slave owners.

Consider deporting those that have a colonial past. If you can't deport them, maybe they need to be put in re-education centers indefinitely.

Remove every white statue, including the Statue of Liberty. Replace it with a hero freedom fighter that was ostracized his entire life until he died, George Floyd. There should never be any statue of a white American ever again for any reason.

Maybe these descendants should have a special tax. Persons of color in the United States should not have to work if they don't want to. Descendants of slaves should get generous monthly pension checks starting at birth and receive these pensions until they die. If they choose to work then the pension should be added to their income as well.

Those poor migrants coming to the USA SHOULD BE EVACUATED to the United States and provided with housing and health care as well as a modest pension for 10 years. They shouldn't have to travel through the dangerous Mexican countryside.

All 11 million Haitians should and deserve to be evacuated out of Haiti and provided with stipends for 10 years or more until they get established.

You technically have a valid lawsuit against every white descendant of a slave owner.

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Gregg Schwab

Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:45 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Ideas for Reparation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello,

I wish I knew of this group earlier as I have some ideas to share and hope it is not too late.

I am a recently retired social studies teacher from Davis, CA.

My thoughts on reparations are that it should be done in a two-fold manner with a two generation commitment. My belief is schools should be built or improved for African Americans that are safe, modern, and effective. Schools need to be paid for anyway, so the cost is partially sunk. They should also serve as community centers, parks, and adult education hubs. Here are the controversial parts:

Throwing money is not effective. Students that wish to attend these schools should be able to unless they opt out by bringing drugs, gangs, violence, or other activities that ruin the opportunity for those that are taking advantage. (I think all schools should have this as too many students devalue the opportunity for others with their disruptions. There can be other education options for them, but that is another story.)

Additionally, the schools need round the clock protection from being trashed, perhaps even having National Guard posts on campus with a small, rotating presence. Give this generation an opportunity to have nice infrastructure.

Secondly, the issue of what to do after graduation is key. Perhaps all graduates are gaurenteed either community college, military entrance, paid community service, additional skill training, etc to get a start on a productive working career. Make graduating a clear path to a solid future.

I think these ideas of accountability and opportunity will be a much easier sell to the public at large than a blanket payment option.

Any, thanks for taking the time to read this and I welcome any response or questions.

Gregg Schwab Davis, California

Sent from phone while loafing around in between Scramble With Friends games.

# DOJ acknowledged receipt

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Moser, Julia H

Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:34 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Kamilah Moore for Spectrum News 1 SoCal - Inside the Issues with Alex Cohen

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hi, I'm a producer for Spectrum News 1 SoCal's <u>Inside the Issues with Alex Cohen</u> - reaching out because we'd love to have Kamilah Moore on the show in the new year to talk about her work chairing the Reparations Task Force.

Inside the Issues reaches 700k households a night, and Spectrum News 1 reaches 2 million customers over cable and another 2 million internet/digital customers, and our coverage area stretches from Santa Barbara to San Diego to Palm Springs and back to the coast. The show is conversational (along the lines of 60 Minutes, but specific to Southern California), interviews are typically 8-10 minutes long and done via Zoom. We are live between 8-9pm PT, and can pretape between 7:15-7:30pm PT if necessary as well.

Please let me know if that's doable and I can send along some possible dates for January – feel free to reach out with any questions!

Thanks so much,

-Julia

Julia Moser

Segment Producer | Inside the Issues with Alex Cohen



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# ReparationsTaskforce

From: William Michael Cunningham

Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 7:06 AM

**To:** ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Why Reparations Won't Work

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\_\_youtu.be\_x4ukwLKqEzs-3Ft-3D1124&d=DwIFaQ&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ&r=InCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-5Fy96LtMYrM&m=RfwiUGSUTDs5liZKc8X8xtsgKLIEcawahFo-BgTdfdCuV5ozFhJq2qq95kO6FYB7&s=ls5Mt1sXHJmsrNc296sQMP1mq0dc17mjo6Hw2oZzNqE&e=

#### Also see:

Black Economic Forecast 2022 https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\_\_youtu.be\_Fb-5FtvGVjngE&d=DwIFaQ&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ&r=lnCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-5Fy96LtMYrM&m=RfwiUGSUTDs5liZKc8X8xtsgKLIEcawahFo-BgTdfdCuV5ozFhJq2qq95kO6FYB7&s=P0supR1QnxAqy3-yOnPPsn3IZiV-IWoEgJ14rstsSws&e= via @YouTube

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Get personalized advice: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-

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5Fy96LtMYrM&m=RfwiUGSUTDs5liZKc8X8xtsgKLlEcawahFo-

BgTdfdCuV5ozFhJq2qq95kO6FYB7&s=A8HXTzfDrqavm9aVC7iGb-ntUmS-NafudGZ8rFrSVio&e=

The JOBS Act: Crowdfunding for Small Businesses and Startups https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A www.amazon.com JOBS-2DAct-2DCrowdfunding-2DBusinesses-

 $2DS tartups\_dp\_1484224086\_\&d=DwlFaQ\&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ\&r=InCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-5Fy96LtMYrM\&m=RfwiUGSUTDs5liZKc8X8xtsgKLlEcawahFo-$ 

BgTdfdCuV5ozFhJq2qq95kO6FYB7&s=2BTGeUgS9QaJMXGYGs01a1K0m9mE03j37ub5c64l47l&e=

LinkedIn: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-

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BgTdfdCuV5ozFhJq2qq95kO6FYB7&s=hdKukiz-ZIPESmniTsHkp4fwq9Cb58580WoOhAVe0Ll&e=202-455-0430

"Evil is not driven out, but crowded out...through the expulsive power of something good. " MLK

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# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Daniel Davenport

Sent: Friday, December 17, 2021 8:18 AM

**To:** ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Minister Davenport is available to advise on calculations for reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Dear Task Force,

Grace mercy and peace be unto you, from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ. It has come to my attention you all are in need of an advisor for calculating the depths of harm. If you need me to be hired, I am available. In addition, my firm can serve as a public relations consultant and/or political strategist helping you with your ground game. You will need a ground game to keep the public informed of your wants, once you know what they are. My political experience with signature initiatives and other political tactics would be key to advising you on ground game strategy. God bless you.

Very Respectfully,

Minister Davenport

Sent from my iPhone

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Nahshon Dion

Sent: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:15 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Subject: 40 Acres and a Mule

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello:

I'm Nahshon Dion, a creative nonfiction writer and teaching artist from Pasadena. On the maternal side of my family, both of my grandparents are from East Texas. During the 1930s they separately migrated to Riverside county and picked crops in Ripley. During the 1980s, my grandfather Obzine Scott always mentioned "40 acres a mule". My Grandparents, like millions of other African Americans, were disappointed they never received their promised reparations of 40 acres and a mule.

Since age 13, after seeing my neighbor and family friend Rodney King beaten by the LAPD, I have had a front-row seat to anti-blackness, social injustice, and state terrorism.

I'm thrilled to see that the state is leading the way and has created a task force to study and recommend reparations for Black Californians who are descendants of slaves along with issuing a formal apology. As a disabled person who struggles with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder due to gun violence (which has devasted my family since the 1920s) for over 20 years, I have received a significant amount of government assistance and resources that have sustained my life and improved it. Regarding the task force, I would like to see gun violence addressed more and more funding set aside for mental health, and for nonprofits that support financial literacy, the arts and cultural sectors, and Tv and Film production. I also believe in the commissioning of school curriculum to educate students about the history of slavery and its legacies within California.

On December 8th, I attended the task force meeting. I learned something new. I had no knowledge that Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park existed. I look forward to future meetings and the task force's final recommendations which hopefully will produce a balm of tangible change and lighten our load of systemic racism by closing the racial wealth gap and inequality. And I also hope the task force is influential in the national conservation regarding HR40.

Nahshon Dion is the author of the forthcoming memoir Shootin' Range

www.nahshondionanderson.com

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Iris Samson

Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 12:30 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce; kvm2118@columbia.edu

Cc: Mehret Mandefro; yoruba richen; Lacey Schwartz

Subject: I'm a producer with PBS and would like to talk with you!

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello, Ms. Moore:

My name is Iris Samson. I'm a producer with PBS working on a national 1-hour production dealing with Reparations. Our film is in the pre-production phase and we're seeking out possible interviewees. We came across an article that described the efforts of the California Reparations Task Force and would really like to discuss your efforts and possibly feature some of the work your group is doing.

Is it possible to set up a phone call to talk about this further? Our timeline is to start production early this coming year -- with a possible airdate of Juneteenth, 2023.

I know it's the holiday season, but we wanted to reach out to you as soon as possible -- the article came out last week and we were so impressed by your work!

Thank you,



# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Nikki Baumrind

Sent: Monday, December 27, 2021 10:04 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Subject: American Indian Slavery

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello,

Thank you for your work to address potential Reparations for California actions supporting slavery of people of African descent.

Will your task force also be addressing enslavement of Native Americans?

Thanks very much,

Nikki Baumrind Davis, CA

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Jedaiah Henry

Sent: Monday, December 27, 2021 11:53 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello my name is Jedaiah Henry and I was reaching out to you as far as reparations for enslaved and murdered African Americans of this country. When will it go into effect? Who does it apply to and etc.

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Jedaiah Henry

Sent: Monday, December 27, 2021 11:54 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Re: Reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Does it apply to All African Americans of the US or just California? Also, how long do you have to be living in California to receive it

On Mon, Dec 27, 2021, 2:53 PM Jedaiah Henry

Hello my name is Jedaiah Henry and I was reaching out to you as far as reparations for enslaved and murdered African Americans of this country. When will it go into effect? Who does it apply to and etc.

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Cheryce Cryer

Sent: Monday, December 27, 2021 8:39 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Cc: Kamilah Moore

Subject: AB3121 Task Force Requests for consideration

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### God evening,

Please see the below email I forwarded in July that has not been addressed by the task force. In addition to considering the below

I would ask the Task Force to strike the testimonies of:

(1)Professor Smith from Oregon State. Based on her comments to the San Francisco chronicle, she does not believe African Americans should receive reparations. Her comments in the publication (linked here) will most definitely be used as a weapon and a stumbling block to the Task Force's mission, and to reparations for African Americans. The task force should publicly distance itself from such rhetoric.

https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/How-free-state-California-wrote-slavery-and-16726398.php



Smith, the Oregon State professor and a historical consultant to the California task force, said reparations might become "more palatable" if funding was used for measures to combat poverty, support job training and reduce mass incarceration, programs that aid descendants of slavery while crossing racial lines. She said it was also a suitable occasion for Californians, and their neighbors, to take a new look at their history.

(2) the testimony and recommendations of Ms. Ward (Justice for Bruce's Beach) should be stricken from the record. According to Ms. Ward's public testimony, she helped the Bruce Family "get their beach back", but per the County, currently there is no legal heir. So who exactly did she "help" and what "family" was she representing?



# **Bruce Family Heirs**

L.A. County is seeking to transfer Bruce's Beach to the closest living heirs of Charles and Willa Bruce.

To determine if you are a closest living heir, please contact Susan Devermont at

extension 140 by December 31st, 2021.







Finally, if the task force and DOJ can please narrow its focus, per the request below, and vet expert witnesses PRIOR to their testimony. The two above examples above will result in a legal nightmare for the DOJ (and serve as fuel for reparations oppositionists). Thank you.

Best,

Cheryce Cryer

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cheryce Cryer

Date: December 27, 2021 at 7:52:46 PM PST

To: Cheryce Cryer

**Subject: Fw: Additional Questions/comments** 

From: Cheryce Cryer

Sent: Friday, July 9, 2021 3:47 PM

To: reparationstaskforce@doj.ca.gov <reparationstaskforce@doj.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Additional Questions/comments

My computer browser is stuck in the queue. I have asked my question, here are additional comments:

- 1. Ask the commission to have a narrow focus on this issue of reparations. The US must make atonement of its own history of slavery. In addition, the US institution of slavery is called "peculiar" because it was unlike that in any other country. It's simply not realistic, nor will it be effective to try to address every single "black" group that has been aggrieved via this commission. There will be push back from the other side, and those who are anti reparations will use the "lets help all black groups" as a wedge between reparations and the black community. It seems what you are trying to accomplish and issues you are trying to tackle are too broad and you don't have enough time to tackle them all. Narrow the Focus (a) cash reparations (or a derivative of this) for descendants of American slavery AND policy changes for Black Californians; (b) as goes California, so goes the country (see the Crown Act): investigate participating in a reparations super fund (there are a lot of articles on this) (c) don't reinvent the wheel: use the Jewish holocaust survivors/Japanese/Guam model of reparations the US has executed in the past as a guide
- 2. The reparations messaging needs to be consistent across the country: for PR/media please work with MORE (mayors reparations coalition) and the federal task force reparations and reparations commission in other states

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Williams, Dominick

Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 10:31 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Cc: kvm2118@columbia.edu

Subject: FW: Reparations Commission, Greetings and Introductions

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Good morning,

I am passing along this message that Secretary Weber received regarding the Reparations Task Force.

Best,

# Dominick Williams (he/him/his) Associate Government Programs Analyst

Legislative and Constituent Affairs California Secretary of State











From: Reginald Muhammad <

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 2:35 PM

To: RAYMOND WINBUSH -

Cc: Secretary Weber < secretary.weber@sos.ca.gov>; Ray Winbush <

Subject: Re: Reparations Commission, Greetings and Introductions

Thank you!

On Wed, Dec 15, 2021, 5:29 PM Raymond Winbush

Dear Secretary Weber:

My name is Ray Winbush and you may or may not remember me, but we both served on the Executive Board of the National Council of Black Studies (NCBS) back in the 1990s under the late Bill Little's leadership. It's been many years and I've watched the important work you've done with reparations. I remain in the "Ebony Tower" as Nathan Hare, called it and have taught at Vanderbilt, Fisk and now at Morgan State University.

Both of us have taken deep dives into reparations for the TransAtlantic Slave Trade (TAST). I've written two books about it, Should America Pay: Slavery and the Raging Debate on Reparations and Belinda's Petition: A Concise History of Reparations for the Transatlantic Slave Trade. For the past year, I have worked closely with the National Reparations

<u>Institute, Inc.</u> in Atlanta under the extraordinary leadership of Reginald Muhammad a professor at Clark Atlanta University, who I am cc:ing on this email. Both of us are working on quantitative measures for assessing reparations and have developed formulae applicable to any city, state or nation.

I have kept up with the work of the California Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposal, and read recently of its decision to replace Darrick Hamilton because of his declining to do the calculations for determining compensatory measures for reparations. The National Research Institute is doing just that and its formulae are robust, empirical and comprehensive.

We both stand ready and eager to assist your task force with the work that we have done. Arriving at quantitative measures for assessing reparations has been the "holy grail" of reparations research since economist <u>Richard America</u> first published data on this in his 1969 article in the *Harvard Business Review*. The National Reparations Institute has done this and again, we stand ready to serve your task force in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Raymond Winbush, Ph.D.
Research Professor, Director
Institute for Urban Research

https://www.morgan.edu/iur - website @rwinbush - Twitter https://www.facebook.com/TikariBioko

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Joyce Ivy

Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 11:51 AM

To: Homeloans@calvet.ca.gov
Cc: ReparationsTaskforce; Joyce Ivy

Subject: Re: SUPER URGENT !!! CALVET HOMES ARE NOT OFFERED TO PEOPLE OF COLOR WHO

WERE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN THE PAST

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

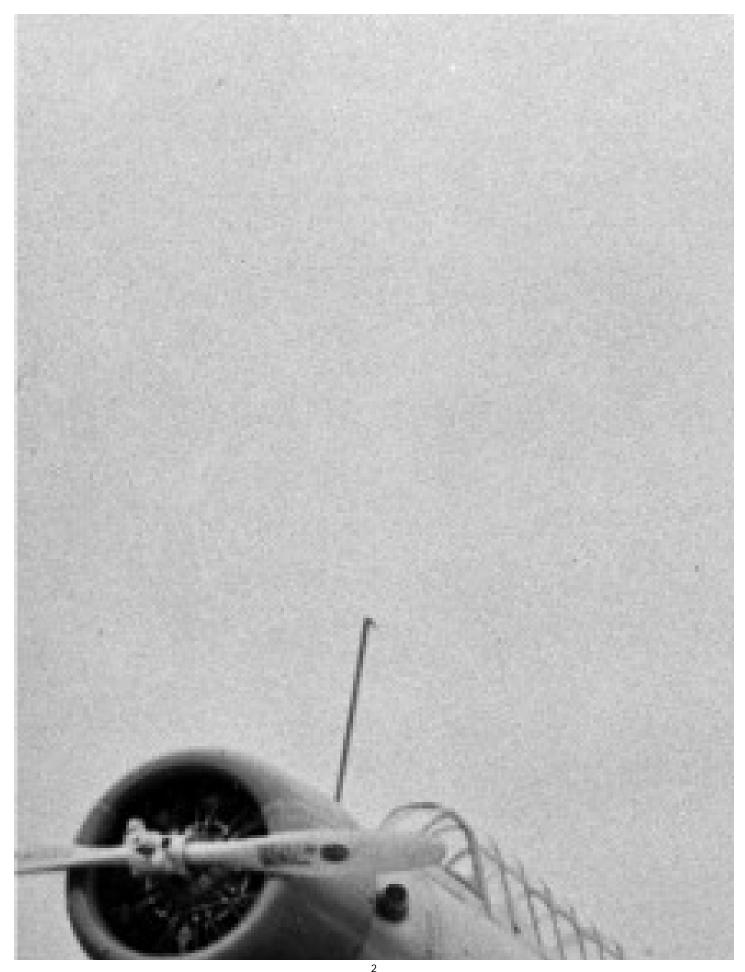
CalVet & Reparations Task Force,

See and read article below:

 $\underline{https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/new-bill-would-provide-gi-bill-benefits-descendants-black-world-n1283714}$ 

# New bill would provide GI Bill benefits to descendants of Black World War II vets

The measure would provide families of these veterans a transferable benefit that could be used to obtain housing, attend college or start a business.



Major James A. Ellison, left, returns the salute of Mac Ross of Dayton, Ohio, as he inspects the cadets at the Basic and Advanced Flying School for Black United States Army Air Corps cadets at the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Ala., in Jan. 23, 1942.U.S. Army Signal Corps via AP

Nov. 11, 2021, 5:45 AM PST

By Rebecca Shabad

WASHINGTON — <u>Congressional Democrats</u> are reintroducing legislation that would repay the families of Black American veterans who served in World War II and were unable to take advantage of the original GI Bill.

The GI Bill Restoration Act would provide descendants of these veterans a transferable benefit that could be used to obtain housing, attend college or start a business, according to the announcement Thursday from the bill's sponsors.



# **House members Clyburn and Moulton introduce restoration of GI Bill**

Nov. 11, 202108:13

To mark <u>Veterans Day</u>, the bill was unveiled Thursday by House Majority Whip James Clyburn of South Carolina and Rep. Seth Moulton of Massachusetts in the House and is expected to be introduced by Sen. Raphael Warnock of Georgia in the Senate. The Democratic lawmakers said that Black veterans had limited access to GI benefits in the past because most state and local veterans administrations were largely run by white officials.

The bill would extend access to Post-9/11 GI Bill educational assistance benefits to the surviving spouse and direct descendants of these veterans who were alive when the bill took effect. It would also extend access to the VA Loan Guaranty Program, which helps provide home loans to veterans and surviving spouses.

In a statement, Clyburn said that many Black World War II veterans were "treated unjustly" after they returned home and were denied a "path to the middle class."

"It is important to acknowledge this injustice and help address the wealth gap that was exacerbated by the government's failure to fulfill this promise to World War II veterans of color," he said.

Warnock said in a statement, "Black service members fought valiantly in Europe and the Pacific for freedom from tyranny, with hope that their patriotism would be greeted with equality and opportunity once they returned home."

#### Recommended



**Donald TrumpPGA, Trump Org. announce settlement over axed Bedminster golf tournament** 



# White HouseU.S. and Russia to begin security talks on Jan. 10

"Racial inequity in how the immense benefits of the original GI Bill were disbursed are well-documented, and we've all seen how these inequities have trickled down over time, leaving Black World War II veterans and their families without what they earned through service and sacrifice," Warnock said.

Under the legislation, the Government Accountability Office would be required to establish a panel of independent experts to assess inequities in how benefits are distributed to minority and female service members.

Moulton said Black World War II veterans were denied the generational wealth that they could have gained if they had attended college.

"We can never fully repay those American heroes," he said. "But we can fix this going forward for their families."

Joyce Ivy

On Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 3:06 PM Joyce Ivy

> wrote:

My late father was denied a Gi Bill home loan in the 1960s due to his race.

I have been trying to acquire a home to rent out for income from CalVet, but once again, people of color are not privy to first hand housing information. By the time the information is available, the properties are gone.

I have heard that the same people (friends & relatives of CalVet employees) who have inside information, keep buying up all the properties and folks of color that have been discriminated against, do not get privy to these sales.

Governor Gavin Newsom should be HIGHLY aware of this and an investigation should be in order, if true. As ADOS (American descendant of slaves) we are always the last to know or don't get the information at all.

Cal Vet, do you have a breakdown via race of the Cal Vet homes that have been sold for the past 20/30 years or so in Placer County and/or Sacramento County? If so, can I get a copy of that said information?

Do you also have a list of the full names of buyers for all Cal Vet properties you have sold in the last 20/30 or so years. I need a copy of that information too.

Before this gets way out of hand, please "immediately" put me on the "list" for available for sale HECM OR REO properties for folks 62 and older in Placer County, especially in the Sun City Roseville and Lincoln Sun City areas.

Thank you in advance for your **prompt attention** to this matter.

Feel free to call me any time for any and all additional information that you may need.

Sincerely,

Joyce J Ivy

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Joyce Ivy

Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 12:00 PM

**To:** ReparationsTaskforce

**Cc:** Joyce Ivy

**Subject:** Black homeowner had a white friend stand in for third appraisal: Her home value

doubled - from USA TODAY

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

See below. This housing incident happened in Indianapolis.

Black homeowner had a white friend stand in for third appraisal: Her home value doubled

A Black woman sought three appraisals for her home when she couldn't figure out why the values were so low compared to nearby sales.

Check out this story on usatoday.com: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\_\_www.usatoday.com\_story\_money\_2021\_05\_13\_indianapolis-2Dblack-2Dhomeowner-2Dhome-2Dappraisal-2Ddiscrimination\_5071223001\_&d=DwIFAg&c=uASjV29gZuJt5\_5J5CPRuQ&r=InCZE1VZfUwNfqu7vtitCwhUAdDOCFR-5Fy96LtMYrM&m=v\_qdyMorYeCZkBQ0dffXHnQ5hN0RNeLnHkwzcPesxBf9Y\_VIh9X5tggpPKxwQ8ih&s=r7XUkSd0vj\_2\_-zz3WSs46Ce3oVTa29IshbkwIWg1CM&e=

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Robbie J5

Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 1:16 PM

**To:** ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Invite you to our social justice workshop

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello Task Force members,

We hope that you are all well and enjoying your holidays as much as possible. I am contacting you for the Committee for Racial Justice in Santa Monica, CA. We are a social justice organization that started from a Racial incident at one of our local high schools.

On May 4, 2011, an African American member of the Santa Monica High School wrestling team was held against his will by two Caucasian team mates while there were chants of "Slave for sale" and a noose was hung nearby. This racially charged incident and the School district's slow response were the catalyst for the formation of the Committee for Racial Justice. The Committee consist of parents of students, community members and clergy. Pre Covid we held monthly workshops at our local park in our historically African American community.

I attended your last meeting via zoom and really thought it important for our community to hear about the work that you are doing regarding reparations. Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 9. 6:30pm. We would be delighted If your board members or a representative could come on our call to bring us up to date about what is happening with reparation in California and how we might support your efforts. You can contact us via this email, via phone: 310 928-5891.

Please let us know asap because we would like to do our local press release, etc.

Warm regards

#### **Robbie Jones**

Committee for Racial Justice steering committee member Founder/C.E.O, Black Santa Moncia Tours and Concierge

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Parable of the Sower Coop

Sent:Thursday, December 30, 2021 7:52 PMTo:Aleta Alston-Toure; ReparationsTaskforceSubject:California Testimony from "Think of us"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Greetings again:

When black children are out in the CA. Taking from their families for many reasons.

Black children not only become put in a system that has done more harm than good, but a system riddled with racism towards the Black youth that have had no one defend them against this racism.

I would like Sixto Canto and even myself (although wasn't adopted) to tell of these statistics that should go to families that were discriminated against due to child protective services.

The testimonies of children and families will push for reparations also.

Please contact me regarding these testimonies.

https://vss-prd.azurefd.net/app/

Aleta Toure

Richmond Progressive Alliance

Aleta Alston-Toure

Parable of the Sower Intentional Community Cooperative

YaYa & Justice's mama

When we dare to be powerful to use our strength in the power of our vision then it becomes less important whether we are afraid. - Audre Lorde

Please read our next steps:

https://transitionnetwork.org/news-and-blog/self-defense-self-determination/

×		

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#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Jonte Lindsey sr

Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 1:19 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hi my name is Jonte Lindsey i was given this information from a aunt of mine about the reparation act im a father of three just went through a break up after 20 years and having a hard time landing on my feet i was contacting to see how could i help you help me this would do wonders for my life and also other black men and women that struggle and just need something to help them and when i heard about this i feel lile it would really help a lot of people not just myself once again if there is anyway i can help please let me know

Sincerely Jonte Lindsey

#### DOJ acknowledged receipt

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Overmyer-Velazquez Rebecca

Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 2:19 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** Invitation to speak at Whittier College this spring

Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello!

Every year we invite speakers to campus as part of an annual Les Howard Social Justice Series, named in honor of a beloved sociology professor who left an endowment to support the college and student learning. I am excited to invite the task force to speak this spring 2022 about your groundbreaking work in California on truth and reconciliation and the legacy of slavery in the U.S. We can offer a very modest stipend of \$500 and rooms for one or two members to spend the night, if needed. I'm hopeful that this could be an in-person event if we hold it in early to mid-April (crossing fingers), which is the plan, likely with live streaming, too.

I look forward to your response!

Best wishes, Becky

Rebecca Overmyer-Velázquez | she, her, ella Professor

C. Wright Mills Endowed Chair in Sociology Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology Program Coordinator, Environmental Studies Hartley House Faculty-in-Residence

Platner Hall 111 Whittier College

# DOJ acknowledged receipt

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Melissa Noel

Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 10:30 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Essence.com Interview Request - Progress on Push for Reparations in U.S.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Good Afternoon,

My name is Melissa Noel and I am a contributing reporter for Essence.com. Currently, I am working on a story about the push for reparations in the United States for African Americans.

I would like to speak with a member of the task force about the progress made in California as the first state in the nation to start a task force to study reparations, action items are on the agenda for 2022 and the role of members.

Is task force chair, Kamilah Moore available for a brief 15 minute phone interview tomorrow, January 7th between 2pm and 5pm (EST) or Saturday, January 8th?

Kind Regards, Melissa

Melissa Noel, M.A. Multimedia Journalist www.melissanoel.com

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: sandra bowser

Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 8:31 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Reparations for Older California African American Citizens

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

I recently found out about these hearings from doing a google search regarding the progress of the task force formed to study reparations for African Americans who are descendants of chattel slaves. I found an article in the New York Times and I was led to the state of California's website.

I do like the suggestions regarding what reparations should include, but I noticed not too many of your experts agree to direct cash payments. My husband and I are both senior citizens and have been living in California for 45 years. My husband is a retired veteran and I am also retired. We only had one child who is deceased.

We are homeowners, so most of the suggestions for reparations will not benefit us, we would not benefit as a first time home buyer, we would not benefit from free educational benefits since we have no grandchildren. We are the only ones of our family living in California.

We would only benefit from direct cash payments. I feel the proposed reparations package should also include this option along with all the other options.

Thank you,

Sandra Bowser

#### DOJ acknowledged receipt

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Ashley Renteria

Sent: Friday, January 7, 2022 4:19 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Invitation to Speak at UC Berkeley, School of Law for Lisa Holder

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Dear Lisa,

I hope this finds you well. I'm Ashley Renteria, the Program Manager at the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice at UC Berkeley School of Law. We would love to feature you and the Reparations Task Force in our Spring 2021 Ruth Chance Lecture series and can offer a \$500 stipend for your time. The lawyers who participate talk about the practice, their career path, and, because students are focused on this now, how they maintain their energy/emotional buoyancy while doing social justice/movement lawyering.

To give you a sense of the series' flavor, we've recently hosted Beth Parker (chief legal counsel for Northern California's Planned Parenthood affiliates), Lala Wu (co-founder of political activism group Sister District), Zahra Billoo, (executive director of San Francisco's Council on Amerian-Islamic Relations), Alicia Garza (co-creator of the Black Lives Matter Movement) and more.

These informal talks take place on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. They can be via Zoom or in person. Speakers talk for about 45 minutes and Q and A follows. The presentation styles vary--some people use PowerPoint, some include interactive exercises, sometimes I interview the speaker, etc. We give speakers freedom to do what works for them (and I'm always happy to brainstorm about substance). The audience includes law students and faculty. You can learn more about the Henderson Center and the Ruth Chance lectures <a href="here">here</a>.

You can choose to give this talk in person, for which we will cover travel and lodging, or you can do it via Zoom.

What do you think? Fingers crossed this captures your imagination. Ashley Renteria

#### DOJ acknowledged receipt

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Melissa Noel

Sent: Friday, January 7, 2022 11:30 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Re: Essence.com Interview Request - Progress on Push for Reparations in U.S.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Good Afternoon,

I am following up an interview request sent yesterday. My name is Melissa Noel and I am a contributing reporter for Essence.com. Currently, I am working on a story about the push for reparations in the United States for African Americans.

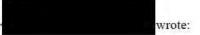
I would like to speak with a member of the task force about the progress made in California as the first state in the nation to start a task force to study reparations, action items are on the agenda for 2022 and the role of members.

Is task force chair, Kamilah Moore or another task force member available for a brief 15 minute phone interview tomorrow, January 8th or Monday, January 10th after 1pm (EST)?

Kind Regards, Melissa

Melissa Noel, M.A. Multimedia Journalist www.melissanoel.com

On Thursday, January 6, 2022, 01:29:57 PM EST, Melissa Noel



#### Good Afternoon,

My name is Melissa Noel and I am a contributing reporter for Essence.com. Currently, I am working on a story about the push for reparations in the United States for African Americans.

I would like to speak with a member of the task force about the progress made in California as the first state in the nation to start a task force to study reparations, action items are on the agenda for 2022 and the role of members.

Is task force chair, Kamilah Moore available for a brief 15 minute phone interview tomorrow, January 7th between 2pm and 5pm (EST) or Saturday, January 8th?

Kind Regards,

# Melissa

**Melissa Noel, M.A.** Multimedia Journalist www.melissanoel.com

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Matt

Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 3:52 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Comment on reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

https://youtube.com/shorts/XOkvP\_oYiWM?feature=share

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From:

Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 7:47 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Black Agenda-Santa Monica #Reparations

Attachments: SantaMonicaAirportproposal.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello,

Thank You for a great call tonight. The Santa Monica airport MUST close sooner than 2028 and I will continue to ask the state attorney general to help us capture that public land along with Penmar golf course. Nichelle is right, a "right to return" just for rent that is being paid to those who participated in housing violence is NOT nearly enough though it is a great start and I applaud the city council for that. However, the time for reparations and restoration are NOW!

Also, I do disagree about inviting people to the table who don't believe that we aren't owed reparations. We've heard enough from them and they've caused delays. We have to divest from the violent colonist and investment in quality educational information that is broadcast to all. I do believe the focus on restoring justice to all impacted marginalized groups is correct but inviting me as a black woman to an asian American reparation movement if I disagreed with asians being owed reparations wouldn't be right (with all due respect). Thank You again for your time today Dr. Grills.

Best, Tieira

www.HTWWS.org/santamonicaairport

#### **Created by Tieira Ryder**

https://htwws.org/santamonicaairport/ 01/27/21

When the incorrectly zoned Santa Monica airport closes, a closure that should be happening in this upcoming housing element cycle (2021-2029), a walkable community that includes majority affordable housing should be developed. The location is perfect for a community-owned, walkable/bike-friendly residential neighborhood that includes a variety of housing types for working-class residents on the westside, students, seniors, those living with disabilities, and many others in need of affordable housing.





To be clear, this community would include both community-owned rental and homeownership options. This pro-housing advocacy effort should be led by a housing advocate that understands the needs of the local community, someone that likely falls within the working class and has the best interest of the local community in mind. When it comes to renting, rent should never exceed 20-30% of a resident's total income after taxes. Please keep in mind, the average worker in LA makes about \$39,000 a year, this rental housing would be catered to those workers but the community itself would be mixed-income meaning it would also include market-rate units (still cheaper usually than private market-rate housing). Along with market-rate rentals, small business/business placements would be considered throughout the community.

#### **Housing proposal for the Santa Monica airport**

(Total acres of the airport is approx. 227 acres. Planning4LA has 17 acres in the current LA City housing element (Mar Vista); SMC Bundy Campus area <a href="SMAirportBundyCampus">SMAirportBundyCampus</a>. Please note, we are also requesting Penmar golf course for this project. **Proposal was created by Tieira Ryder**)

#### **Affordable Homeownership**

- 1. Affordable, reasonably priced homeownership for working-class residents, priority for long-term residents living or working in the Santa Monica, Venice, & Mar Vista zip codes.
- 2. Consider a set number of market-rate "for-sale" homes.

- 3. A variety of home types should be considered for development but especially multi-family housing such as plexes, condos, townhomes, and apartments. **Consider co-op ownership.**
- 4. Priority consideration should also go to first-time homeowners in LA County, my recommendation is residents that have lived/worked at least 10 years in LA County.
- 5. Priority consideration for historically displaced residents from supposed marginalized communities. Consider a 30-40% "right to return", "right to housing" for ADOS families. (Google the history of displaced Black families in Santa Monica, Venice, and/or Manhattan Beach if you need more info.)
- 6. The millennial generation should also receive a percentage of priority consideration, they currently own a measly 18% of the homes in Los Angeles. "Equity is defined as "the state, quality or ideal of being just, impartial and fair." The concept of equity is synonymous with fairness and justice."
- 7. At no time would a small or large equity firm be granted permission to purchase a home within the community nor would an option be granted to purchase the community as a whole.
- 8. My recommendation on income qualifications for residents that are first-time buyers is working-class residents making between \$30,000-\$130,000.
- 9. If potential owners require financing, ownership could be subject to credit union or bank approval. Consider public, city-owned bank.
- 10. The actual cost of homes should match that of the actual average wage of what most working-class residents make. There would likely be re-sell requirements as affordability would be protected by a trust.

#### **Affordable Housing Rentals**

- 1. Community-owned rental housing in mixed-income developments.
- 2. The recommended height for apartment buildings is 6-7 stories.
- 3. Set an "affordable rental rate" based on what the average person from the working class makes. At this moment, most workers in LA make about \$39,000 a year. Affordability is usually priced for residents in the \$17,000-\$70,000 range.
- 4. Community-owned market-rate rentals to be included, most likely still cheaper than the private market, market-rate rental housing.
- 5. No income *restrictions* once residents are housed. <a href="https://www.nhlp.org/resources/lihtc-admissions-rents-grievance-procedures/">https://www.nhlp.org/resources/lihtc-admissions-rents-grievance-procedures/</a>
- 6. Reserve a portion of the housing for *limited to no-income residents*, considering subsidizing with; 1. HUD and/or new digital voucher program. 2. subsidize low to no income residents with market-rate apartment & business rentals. 3. Consider HCID/HACLA westside chapter. Social services for housing, food, and health-care should be ONE efficient program.
- 7. Affordable bachelors, studios, 1, 2, and 3 bedrooms.
- 8. As with *affordable homeownership*, the rental units & placements would be for various types of community members but especially *keeping in mind our core working class which includes the*

# essential workforce, students, seniors, veterans, those living with disabilities, etc. etc.

9. Student apartments would be bachelor-sized apartments with smaller fridges and MUST have a kitchen area sink and a small area to put a

#### **Created by Tieira Ryder**

https://htwws.org/santamonicaairport/01/27/21

hot plate (or something similar) so they can cook if needed. (Similar to this <a href="https://urbanize.city/la/post/micro-unit-apartment-building">https://urbanize.city/la/post/micro-unit-apartment-building</a>)

#### More info on the proposed community as a whole

- 1. Consideration of business placements within the community.
- 2. Open park space, recreation center within the walkable community.
- 3. Consider the possible need to build new schools.
- 4. Consider a quality westside transit system especially for college students between SMC and/or UCLA. (cut down on car traffic congestion because students wouldn't need to drive)
- 5. College student housing should have its own small park area that has a WIFI and outdoor/indoor workspace for them.
- 6. Consider large home space for displaced minors within the community aka a "group home" to provide stability.
- 7. Request consideration for golf course closure(s) as well as other vacant land plots and buildings that have potential use for affordable housing that is community-owned and suits apartments, condos, townhomes, small and/or tiny homes for locals. Request more interim housing and healthcare sites on the westside for residents with long-term behavioral health needs.
- 8. The bigger goal is to adopt a similar social housing policy for each city in California with pro-housing community advocates from said cities leading the efforts!

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: T <

**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 11:37 AM

To: Angela Scott

Cc: Robbie J5; Black Agenda-SM; Andria McFerson; Ashley London; Barry Snell; Drati, Ben; Delana Gbenekama; Ericka L; Erika Mitchell; George Brown; Janeen Jackson; Jason Walker; Kathryn Jeffery; Jennell Maze; Jonathan Gregory; Joseph Metoyer; Karen S.

Gunn; Keith Coleman; Kera Blades; Kimberly Herron; Kristin McCowan; Miss Compton;

Nat Trives; Nikel E Hall; Rana Kirkland; Tony Murphy; BILLIE DAYS;

Subject:

Our Black Agenda Reparations call on 1/09/22 was disrupted by racial slurs from what appeared to be the children of the NIMBYS from Santa Monica.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hi Angela,

Thank You for hosting that great Black Agenda reparations call last night. It was truly disturbing that it was disrupted at the end by racial slurs that seemed to be coming from white children of the NIMBYS of Santa Monica. One of the presenters whose opinion and presentation I have the absolute most respect for, Dr. Grills, suggested on the call that we hear from people who don't believe that we are owed reparations and I respectfully disagree! What happened last night is one of the reasons why I disagree!

To have our movements and moments continually interrupted by the descendants of people who have helped cause harm in our communities is disturbing! These people have caused more than enough delay and trauma in the lives of the supposed marginalized, it is time we finally divest away from them for GOOD and invest in ourselves more specifically our communities. I do hope to have more support this year to capture the Santa Monica airport, Penmar golf course, and other public lands so that it can be utilized for safe, clean, and affordable housing. I hope that we can create more spaces in our communities, including schools, spaces that have a multi-cultural lens and are committed to anti-racism/colorism. All of these people are descendants of darkskin people, the very least they can do is respect us but the fact that they still can't is PROOF that we need to divest. I don't want a seat at the racist, "I don't see color" table, I also don't want them coming to sit at our table to cause further delay and trauma. Enough is enough already.

Thank You again Angela, I'm grateful for the work that you are doing and grateful for the work of so many others. Also please, city council members and officials that may be thinking of "apologizing" ..... PLEASE DON'T! The apology does nothing for us but land will! I've personally had enough "apologies" and we are ready for land and housing justice so we can divest away from these people raising their children to be hateful of others

because of their skin color. That is a sickness that I will not try to cure in this lifetime, I'm committed to progress, I cannot try to change the limited minds of racists, I'm ready for true progress and many others are as well!

Best, Tieira www.HTWWS.org/santamonicaairport

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: DiaryofTieira Ryder

**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 11:39 AM

To:

Cc: Angela Scott; Robbie J5; Black Agenda-SM; Andria McFerson; Ashley London; Barry

Snell; Drati, Ben; Delana Gbenekama; Ericka L; Erika Mitchell; George Brown; Janeen Jackson; Jason Walker; Kathryn Jeffery; Jennell Maze; Jonathan Gregory; Joseph Metoyer; Karen S. Gunn; Keith Coleman; Kera Blades; Kimberly Herron; Kristin

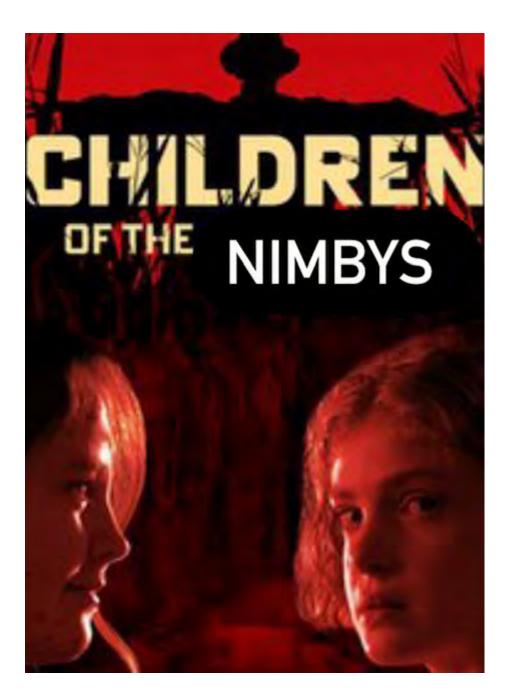
McCowan; Miss Compton; Nat Trives; Nikel E Hall; Rana Kirkland; Tony Murphy; BILLIE

Subject:

Re: Our Black Agenda Reparations call on 1/09/22 was disrupted by racial slurs from

what appeared to be the children of the NIMBYS from Santa Monica.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.



On Jan 10, 2022, at 11:36 AM, T <tie.ryder@gmail.com> wrote:

#### Hi Angela,

Thank You for hosting that great Black Agenda reparations call last night. It was truly disturbing that it was disrupted at the end by racial slurs that seemed to be coming from white children of the NIMBYS of Santa Monica. One of the presenters whose opinion and presentation I have the absolute most respect for, Dr. Grills, suggested on the call that we hear from people who don't believe that we are owed reparations and I respectfully disagree! What happened last night is one of the reasons why I disagree!

To have our movements and moments continually interrupted by the descendants of people who have helped cause harm in our communities is disturbing! These people have caused more than enough delay and trauma in the lives of the supposed marginalized, it is time we finally divest away from them for GOOD and invest in ourselves more specifically our communities. I do hope to have more support this year to capture the Santa Monica airport, Penmar golf course, and other public lands so that it can be utilized for safe, clean, and affordable housing. I hope that we can create more spaces in our communities, including schools, spaces that have a multi-cultural lens and are committed to anti-racism/colorism. All of these people are descendants of darkskin people, the very least they can do is respect us but the fact that they still can't is PROOF that we need to divest. I don't want a seat at the racist, "I don't see color" table, I also don't want them coming to sit at our table to cause further delay and trauma. Enough is enough already.

Thank You again Angela, I'm grateful for the work that you are doing and grateful for the work of so many others. Also please, city council members and officials that may be thinking of "apologizing" ..... PLEASE DON'T! The apology does nothing for us but land will! I've personally had enough "apologies" and we are ready for land and housing justice so we can divest away from these people raising their children to be hateful of others because of their skin color. That is a sickness that I will not try to cure in this lifetime, I'm committed to progress, I cannot try to change the limited minds of racists, I'm ready for true progress and many others are as well!

Best, Tieira www.HTWWS.org/santamonicaairport

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Mitisha York

Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 12:56 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Enrollment

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello how do I enroll? I have history that needs attention.

#### DOJ acknowledged receipt

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Kim, Jenni A

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:11 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Spectrum News 1/In Focus SoCal Request

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello,

I am reaching out from Spectrum News 1's public affairs program, "In Focus SoCal." We are currently booking segments and guests for our Black History Month shows. We've discussed the reparations task force a few times on our show in the past year and looking to learn more about what the reparation task force is working on currently.

I understand that the board has until Summer 2023 to present a report to the California legislation with specific recommendations. When is the next board meeting scheduled for?

Thank you,

#### Jenni Kim

Senior Producer, "In Focus SoCal"

Spectrum News 1

#### InFocusSocal@charter.com

The contents of this e-mail message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this message or if this message has been addressed to you in error, please immediately alert the sender by reply e-mail and then delete this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, copying, or storage of this message or any attachment is strictly prohibited.

# DOJ did not respond Reparations Taskforce

From: Cristina Mar

Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 3:23 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

I want to do something to help research to find missing children Subject:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Please help me help you!

Sent from Mail for Windows

#### DOJ DID NOT RESPOND

From: <u>Adam Stuart Jones</u>
To: <u>ReparationsTaskforce</u>

Cc: ROOSEVELT TARLESSON; Timothy (Temu Asyr) Martin; Jamiah Hargins; wegrowurbanfarm@gmail.com; John

Garside; Jamie Fanous

Subject: U-Farm & Home: BIPOC Land Acquisition and Farmer Training Program in Northern California

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 7:32:08 PM

Attachments: U-Farm & Home Holland Ranch Concept 01.11.2021 .pdf

TO Biden - Comments to the USDA Racial Equity Commission 7-15-2021 (1) (1) (2).pdf TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE-OUTREACH - FINAL - 2021-2022 (1).pdf

BROCHURE - NESDAC - RT - 2021 - LOCAL PRODUCE AND LOCAL PRODUCER (1) (1) .pdf

2020FarmerEquityReport.pdf

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Good evening,

I write to inform the Task Force of U-Farm & Home: an agricultural and land based project that has been presented to and has garnered the support of a number of California State Assemblymembers.

Specifically, our project aims to acquire commercial and residential farmland in the West Sacramento region with the aim of training new and beginning BIPOC farmers, and bridging commercial farming to urban agriculture using organizations such as <a href="Crop Swap LA">Crop Swap LA</a>. Our project aims to resolve all 4 primary issues pertaining to farm workers of color identified in the 2020 Report to the Calfornia Legislature on the Farmer Equity Act (AB 1348).

Our team just had a very productive meeting with Asm. Cecilia Aguiar-Curry. The Assemblymember is very interested in our project and has instructed us to gather legislative support for a budget addition to the upcoming State budget. We will be working closely with her team on process to make sure this gets done.

Given the nature of the project, we deemed it vital to bring it to the attention of the taskforce, and would love to speak to you in regard to our activities.

I have attached information in regard to our project.

Here is an article in the LA Times on Crop Swap LA, our Urban Agriculture vehicle based in Los Angeles!

LA Times: Crop Swap LA and Asante Microfarm

Thank you very much for your time,

Adam



## Upper Holland Ranch Development Concept

#### Who We Are













## Addressing Agricultural Equity Challenges in 2022

- The Farmer Equity Act is having real-world, tangible results for socially disadvantaged farmers
- Encouraging to see increased CDFA budget allocations for Farmworker Training and Urban Agriculture
- The 2020 Equity Report accurately identifies and summarizes issues
- Upper Holland Ranch project addresses all four challenges:
  - Land Tenure
  - Language
  - Engagement with Agricultural Industry and CDFA Boards and Commissions
  - Knowledge of Available Resources and Programs

## Upper Holland Ranch

- 315 acres currently listed for sale in Clarksburg, CA
- Open agricultural landscape including prime irrigated farmland, summer-fallow dry farm/grazing land and a large drainage lagoon
- Sellers have indicated support for this collective vision and we are preferred buyers



## Project Plan

#### U-Farm & Home: Bridging the Urban and the Commercial

U-Farm and Home is a special agricultural cooperative with a focus on training producers in diversified, regenerative, and organic farming practices.

- Farmer training and workforce development
- Economic development
- Tenured land and housing
- Statewide partnerships and collaboration
- Objective: Secure \$2.4m acquisition funding for Upper Holland Ranch property in CA Asm. District 4; \$50,000 immediately for property escrow

## Project Support

- Agrarian Trust
- Community Alliance with Community Farmers
- California Farmer Justice Collaborative
- Asm. Mike Gipson
- Asm. Reginald Jones-Sawyer
- Mayor of West Sacramento: Martha Guerrero
- West Sacramento Councilmember: Dawnté Early
- Yolo County Supervisor District 1: Oscar Villegas
- West Sacramento County Supervisor: Aaron Laurel
- Community Resource Project
- Fuerzas Unidas

#### UNDERSERVED AND BIPOC PRODUCER OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL SSISTANCE

The Power in Producer Outreach and Technical Assistance.

National Economic and Social Development Action Committee (NESDAC) technical assistance and outreach program is an economic empowerment program that provides resource to underserved and socially disadvantaged farmers who are new, beginning, urban, black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) and other with little or no resource to operate a small farm due to resource constrain, prejudice and discrimination. NESDAC provides parcels of land and equipment to individual or families who would like to become independent producers (farmers/ranchers). NESDAC trains people to become farmers, ranchers, and agricultural workers by giving them the knowledge, skills, and abilities to produce and sell their agricultural crops and products.

Resource poor and socially disadvantaged producers need a lot of external help so they can concentrate their energy to production and other aspects of farm activities. People of color farmers and African American farmers in particular face double impediments compounded by prejudice, discrimination, and the inability to take advantage of volume/cooperative marketing and purchasing.

According to a USDA report, lack of outreach and technical assistance has weakened limited resource and socially disadvantaged producers' ability to obtain loans, grants, contracts, etc.



In a recent report, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) found that many socially disadvantaged farmers are not familiar with available resources such as grants and technical assistance.

#### WHY NESDAC

NESDAC will increase the economic opportunities for <u>BIPOC</u> and resource poor producers. We will provide solid mentoring and peer support, etc. We will deliver specialized agricultural outreach and technical assistance that specifically cater to BIPOC producers/farmers and other resource poor, underrepresented, underserved and marginalized populations due to resource constrain, prejudice, discrimination, etc.

NESDAC serves all people regardless of race, culture, religion, political, etc. We focus on the problem/s to be solved. For example, we focus on injustice, inequities, discrimination, poverty, barriers, refugee, underemployment, homelessness, etc. We create opportunities for economic and social development for limited and resource poor producers, who are resource poor, marginalized, underserved, socially disadvantaged, urban, African descent, Asian, Indigenous, Latino, women, Veteran, homeless, formerly incarcerated-adult, LGBT, Inner-city Youth (18 years & older), public welfare utilizer, refugee and other.

#### Advancing Racial Equity

We are prepared to work with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to develop a long-term strategy for outreach and technical assistance in Underserved and BIPOC Community in California. And we will help USDA and CDFA improve their relationship with African American, Indigenous and People of Color Community, and enhance their abilities to deliver services to BIPOC farmers and, likewise, the BIPOC Farmer Community to access USDA and CDFA resources.

NESDAC is a California based, led and staffed by people from underserved community; people who are African Americans, Indigenous, Asian, People of Color and other marginalized people.

NESDAC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that trains people to become farmers, ranchers, and flexible workforce.

#### National Economic and Social Development Action Committee

7105 Hastings Road Dixon, CA 95620 (530) 665-9610 E-mail: rtarlesson@yahoo.com www.thenesdac.org

#### OUTREACH/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONTACT

Rev. Roosevelt Tarlesson (530) 665-9610; rtarlesson@yahoo.com

Garry Ford (Ph.D) (559) 706-9822; garry.ford84@gmail.com

Temu Asyr (323) 713-5495 comptoncommunitygarden@gmail.com

Nelson Hawkins (530) 906-7444; wegrowurbanfarm@gmail.com

Pastor Dennis Hutson (702) 561-2003; dhut3106@gmail.com

Brandie Mack (209) 922-6239 bhealthybholistic@gmail.com

#### NESDAC AT WORK





Farmer, Rancher, Managerial, Flexible Workforce Training \*

Outreach and Technical Assistance \*

Mentoring and Peer Support \*

Marketing and Management \*

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) in coordination with USDA/NRCS\*

National Organic Program (NOP) in coordination with USDA/NRCS\*

**National Economic and Social Development Action Committee** 

7105 Hastings Road
Dixon, CA 95620
(530) 665-9610
E-mail: rtarlesson@yahoo.com
https://www.thenesdac.org

#### AGRICULTURAL APPRENTICESHIP, **EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING**

Learn the skills to become an agricultural entrepreneur who will own a home, land & business.

#### INTRODUCTION

National Economic and Social Development Action Committee (NESDAC) is 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization. NESDAC trains people to become farmers, ranchers and agriculture workers by giving them the knowledge, skills and abilities to produce and sell their agricultural crops and products.

We all know that the unemployed/underemployed and poor people need jobs that provide them with a living wage. These living wage jobs will give them the ability to be more self sufficient by allowing them to feed themselves (family), pay their rent or mortgage, their children college tuition, pay taxes, and help local/national economies grow. However, without living wage employment there will be little to no improvement in a real way that can have a positive affect on their present conditions. The basic concept is based on the idea that by giving good jobs to poor people you can improve or reduce or eliminate a myriad of "social ills" such as hunger, chronic unemployment, poverty, poor health, public welfare utilization, etc.

There is no reason for California agricultural producers to have chronic difficulty finding skilled agriculture workers. NESDAC is the organization that can train California's citizens: The unemployed/underemployed, able willing to work job seeking youth, veterans, dislocated workers, homeless, high school drop-outs, at-risk teenparents not in school, prisoner returnee adults, etc, with the skill sets needed to obtain employment in agriculture and agro sector. The highly skilled agriculture workers produces by NESDAC program can help resolve California's agricultural workforce shortage.

#### CREATING LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM AND LOCAL WORKFORCE

NESDAC training programs can shift a significant portion of California's homeless housing and employment program to the agriculture sector, thus helping to resolve problems all the way around by reducing homelessness, youth unemployment and public welfare utilization.

NESDAC is the gateway for the resource-poor to enter and stay in agriculture. Historically, the industry has been dominated by the wealthy, who has assets and access to credit to purchase agriculture land and equipment (tractor, delivery truck, cold storage, agricultural well, etc.). We here at NESDAC have a good understanding of what the priorities and worries are among resource poor and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. We have years of experience of working in many of the conditions, limitations, barriers that many of the resource poor farmers, ranchers and their families must deal with on a daily bases.

NESDAC will provide parcels of land and equipment to individuals or families who would like to become independent producers (farmers/ranchers). Unfortunately, they were not able to obtain farmland and equipment in the past due to poverty or prejudice.

We would like to invite you or your company/ organization to become a donor, sponsor, funder, investor and/or partner to support the following: Veteran, youth, public welfare utilizer, homeless, formerly incarcerated individuals that are working to bring clean, healthy, fresh produce, and poultry and livestock (meat) to you and your family. Also help make California and America less dependent on foreign workers and produce/food. If most local residents spent their hard earned dollars on locally produced food, instead of imported food there will be millions of tax dollars for local people to fund local projects. Your generous donation, contribution - (cash, farmland, real estate, equipment, vehicle, etc.) will be greatly appreciated. Donations are tax deductible; Investment tax credit. Call for detail information!

VEGETABLE	VEGETABLE
Yard long bean	<ul> <li>Cabbage</li> </ul>
Bitter melon	Mustard greens
• Okra	Bok choy
• Peppers (bell/hot)	• Kale
<ul> <li>Eggplant</li> </ul>	• Beets
• Tomato	• Carrot
Green bean	<ul> <li>Cucumber</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Watermelons/ melons</li> </ul>	Opo and Luffa angled
<ul> <li>Winter squash</li> </ul>	Chinese Eggplant
• Lettuce	Thai basil/Cilantro
• Onion	Potato/yam greens
• Broccoli	Water green
• Corn	Garden egg/ bitterball
• Spinach	• Kittily
<ul> <li>Collard green</li> </ul>	Palava greens/leaf
<ul> <li>MUCH MORE</li> </ul>	MUCH MORE
SPECIALTY FRUITS	VEGIE SPECIALTIES (VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS
LIVESTOCK PASTURE Goats Sheeps Cows, etc.	<ul> <li>Seasonings &amp; Spices</li> <li>Chips</li> <li>Dried &amp; Powder Foods</li> <li>Others</li> </ul>
POULTRY PASTURE Chickens Eggs, etc.	CUSTOMIZED SERVICE We can pick/harvest and pack your order while you wait.

#### FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT:

Phone: (530) 665-9610 Email: rtarlesson@vahod78om

#### NESDAC AT WORK



#### Program Rules, Policy and **Expectation of Participant**

- Drug, smoke, alcohol free zone
- Maintain good behavior
- Arrive to work on time No absences
- Willing to work hard



National Economic and Social Development Action Committee

# 7105 Hastings Road, Dixon, California 95620

#### TRAINING \*EMPLOYMENT

- Women and men (18 years/older)
- Inner-city youth
- New college graduates
- Veterans
- Homeless people
- Refugee (residing in the U.S.)
- High school dropouts
- Foster/juvenile aged-out in transition
- Public welfare utilizer/SNAP
- Formerly incarcerated adult
- Others

#### Hands-on Learning:

- Farm equipment operation
- Irrigation and water management
- Organic produce/vegetable/fruit
- Organic pastured poultry
- Organic pastured livestock
- Planting, weeding, harvesting and sorting
- Food safety and quality management
- Post-harvest
- Production recordkeeping
- Business plan

#### **Business and Employment Opportunity:**

- Farm/ranch ownership
- Farm/ranch operator
- Farm/ranch manager
- Farm/ranch worker
- Flexible farmworker
- Produce packer and warehouse worker

#### National Economic and Social Development Action Committee (NESDAC)

7105 HASTINGS ROAD, DIXON, CA 95620

Roosevelt Tarlesson Cellphone: (530) 665-9610 Email: rtarlesson@yahoo.com Www.thenesdac.org







2020 Report to the California Legislature on the Farmer Equity Act









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# Statement of the Secretary

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is committed to addressing the challenges facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers through improved programs, policies and communication. This report outlines the main challenges facing these farmers and ranchers in California and recommendations for how CDFA can address these challenges.

This report is culmination of the first year of enactment of the Farmer Equity Act (AB 1348), which has brought forth many positive changes at CDFA. We recognize the historical legacy of racial inequity in agriculture, and this report is one way to

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department
of Food and Agriculture

acknowledge this past while simultaneously committing to address equity at the Department.

This is an opportunity for CDFA to be a champion for Governor Newsom's "California For All" and to strengthen the resiliency of California's agriculture industry.

Through this report and the work of CDFA's farmer equity advisor, this agency will continue to improve and enhance our services and support for all of California's farmers and ranchers. We want to see all who are engaged in the agriculture industry thrive and be part of a sustainable future. In order to do this, all farmers need access to the best resources and technology, have equal voices and representation in decision-making processes, and be afforded equal access to information about regulations that affect their businesses.

As we reflect on the work already accomplished in the previous year, I am proud of all that has been done to address these important equity issues and am looking forward to exciting possibilities and new initiatives moving forward.

# Acknowledgements

CDFA extends its gratitude to the various stakeholder groups, CDFA employees, farmers and ranchers for their time to conduct interviews and complete surveys for the purpose of this report. CDFA very much appreciates their time, expertise and commitment to farmer equity and looks forward to continued collaboration to address this important issue.

# Executive Summary

The Farmer Equity Act (AB 1348) by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry was signed into law in October 2017. This legislation recognized that California's farmers and ranchers are made up of a diverse group of people, and not all have historically had access to resources and information in order to successfully run their businesses. This group of farmers and ranchers is considered socially disadvantaged and has faced historical discrimination, some of which still exists today. In order to keep California agriculture thriving, there is a need to invest in the long-term prosperity of all of California's farmers and ranchers.

AB 1348 states that a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. A "socially disadvantaged group" means a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender discrimination. These groups include the following:

- African Americans
- American Indians
- Alaskan Natives
- Hispanics
- Asian Americans
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
- Female farmers and ranchers of color

As recognized in the AB 1348 intent language, female farmers represent less than a quarter of all farmers in the state, and according to the

California's farmers and ranchers are made up of a diverse group of people, and not all have historically had access to resources and information in order to successfully run their agricultural businesses.

United States Department of Agriculture's Census of Agriculture, only two percent of California farmers are women of color.

Beyond the specific programmatic recommendations for addressing equity, there is a need to recognize and examine the historical legacy of racial inequity in agriculture and make a concerted effort to begin a healing process for those who have been affected by historical injustices. Recognizing and acknowledging that agriculture is practiced in many ways, at different sizes, for different purposes and by a myriad of different people is the first step.

AB 1348 required that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature to outline CDFA's efforts to serve socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California. The legislation also established a position within the Executive Office to support this work. The Farm Equity Advisor was hired in September 2018 to begin the important work of ensuring

# CDFA is committed to addressing the challenges facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and contributing to Governor Newsom's work to build a California for All.

inclusion of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in CDFA's vision and its relevant policies, programs, outreach and communication. CDFA is committed to addressing the challenges facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and contributing to Governor Newsom's commitment to a California for All.

This report identifies four key challenges facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and a set of recommendations for CDFA to address each of these challenges.

Land Tenure: Many socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not have a stable, long-term arrangement for land. This affects the long-term sustainability of their businesses as well as the ability to incorporate conservation practices.

Language: Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not always speak English as a first language. This can be prohibitive when seeking information about regulations, programs, marketing products, pest management, business management, and public engagement.

Engagement with Agricultural Industry and Boards/Commissions: Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not often belong to industry groups, and therefore do not always receive information through industry meetings or via the internet. Historically, very few are members of CDFA boards and commissions.

Access to Available Resources and Programs: Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers are not familiar with resources such as grants, technical assistance, and other helpful programs because they do not know these resources exist or have been unable to seek out the information.

There are several ways in which CDFA can be a leader in addressing equity:

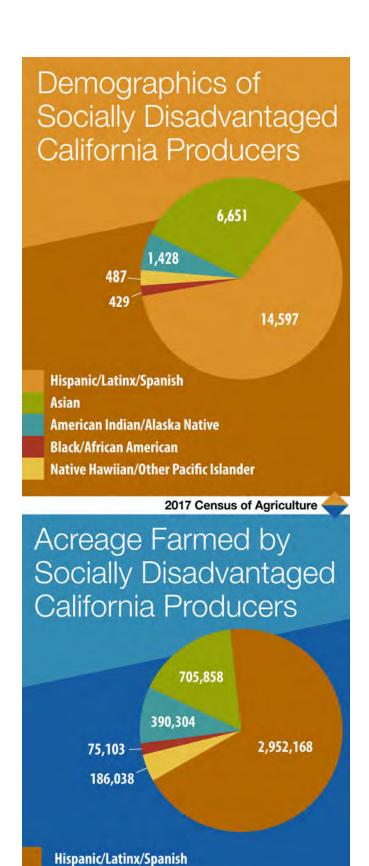
- · Outreach, engagement and communication
- Resources and programs
- Policies
- Collaboration with external stakeholder groups
- Interagency collaboration

# Introduction

CDFA's mission is to serve the citizens of California by promoting and protecting a safe and healthy food supply, and enhancing local and global agricultural trade through efficient management, innovation and sound science, with a commitment to environmental stewardship. In order to achieve this goal, it is imperative that all farmers and ranchers have access to the best resources and knowledge of important regulations to help run their businesses, and that they have a voice in the future of farming in California.

According to the 2017 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) survey, California's 124,405 farmers include 23,592 socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California, farming 4,309,471 acres. These farmers were located in almost all 58 counties of the state, but most heavily concentrated in San Diego, Fresno, Tulare, Stanislaus and Riverside counties. Note: In a separate question on the Ag Census, 1,382 socially disadvantaged farmers reported "more than one race."

The USDA NASS survey is completed every five years and provides important data about California's farms and farmers. Currently, this is the only consistent data collection method available nationwide to understand demographics in the agricultural industry. It is important to note that this survey has its limitations, especially with regards to accurately capturing the data from socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. It is a voluntary survey that is mailed out to registered farms and ranchers. The survey asks indepth questions about demographics, farm income and commodities produced on the farm. Many farmers and ranchers did not respond



Asian

American Indian/Alaska Native

Native Hawijan/Other Pacific Islander

Black/African-American

# Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers represent 19 percent – nearly 1 in 5 – of California's total agricultural producers.

USDA-NASS, 2017 Ag Census

to the survey. The NASS data is a baseline for better understanding of the landscape of California's agricultural producers. However, this data set is not a complete picture of California agriculture.

Urban agriculture is another area where there is a lack of statewide data, both for numbers and demographics of operators. There have been regional studies and reports, but not a statewide project focused on compiling the data to better understand the landscape of urban agriculture. However, there are growing numbers of urban and peri-urban agricultural operations, and in rural areas, backyard operations are providing food for multiple households. In places where city ordinances are favorable, there are opportunities for backyard operations to sell their products.

Additionally, there are many types of urban agriculture operations that work to address food insecurity. A recent 2018 urban farm survey of 35 agriculture operations in the East Bay found that 80% were non-profit organizations, 20% were for-profit operations, and 66% were women-led (Sowerwine et al. 2018: http://food.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Urban-Farms-Web-1.pdf). Survey respondents

also identified that one of the biggest challenges was access to government grants. Urban agriculture operations are not always a for-profit "traditional" farm business model, and this can preclude their access to government grants, resources and programs. Most importantly, the focus or mission of many urban farms is a combination of community education and addressing food insecurity. Just from this survey alone, the average urban farm provided food for 235 people each season. Urban agriculture is an important asset and component of California agriculture that is often not equated with rural agriculture, but one that continues to grow and develop in scope and importance.

This report summarizes findings from fifteen indepth interviews with CDFA Division Directors and staff, eight interviews with representatives of six government agencies who also work with agricultural communities, thirteen interviews with external partner stakeholder groups, and a survey administered to members of CDFA boards and committees. There were also indepth interviews with fifteen farms representing 33 individual farmers, and a quantitative analysis of CDFA grant programs.

# Recommendations for Addressing Challenges Facing Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

#### 1. Land Tenure

A primary challenge facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California is land tenure. Although the 2017 Ag Census reported that the majority of all demographic groups of farmers and ranchers in California own their land, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers face significant land tenure challenges. Specifically, many socially disadvantaged farmers operate on leased land without a longterm lease arrangement or protections in cases of lease termination. It is difficult for these farmers to plan for the future or implement conservation practices when lease terms are year-toyear. Often farmers operate on parcels of land that are not suitable for agriculture, and according to one interviewee, they just "have to make it work, because there is no other land available." Other farmers, faced with increased rent costs, find it too expensive to keep leasing the land. In addition, many socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not speak English as a first language, which can make understanding lease arrangements and costs to lease land difficult. This challenge is compounded in urban and peri-urban areas where land is scarce and more expensive to purchase or lease.

Ten of the 15 farm businesses interviewed for this report have moved their operations at least once during the past year due to an increase in rent, lease termination or natural resource issues such as lack of water, poor soil and



#### Farm Location: Elk Grove, Sacramento County

#### Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Jim Cooper, District 9 Senator Dr. Richard Pan, District 6

Nathan and Fam farmed five acres of strawberries on a parcel sub-leased to several Hmong and Mien farmers. They utilized organic practices and also implanted several conservation practices with grant assistance, including compost application and hedgerows. After several years of leasing land at the site, rising rent and decreased water allotments led to the decision not to renew their lease in 2020. They moved their entire farm and infrastructure to a smaller half-acre plot.

"Our biggest challenge is the uncertainty. We can't plan ahead for anything, which is very hard when you are a farmer. Even though we have a good relationship with the new landlord, we don't know what will happen after this year."

flooding. Thirty of the 33 individual farmers interviewed operated on leased land, and 75% of those farmers were unsure if they would operate under the same lease after the 2019 growing season.

Socially disadvantaged farmers are often not able to access capital to purchase land, thus are more likely to lease. Many traditional banks do not have loan programs that serve small-scale or beginning farmers. There are several loan programs that are available to serve these farmers and ranchers through California Farmlink and the USDA Farm Services Agency (FSA). However, many socially disadvantaged farmers are unaware of those loan programs.

Land tenure is an issue that can affect farmers and ranchers' eligibility for CDFA resources such as grants as well as inform their decisions on adopting long-term conservation practices. This is a key issue that should be recognized when developing programs, policies and resources because it affects all aspects of farm businesses, regardless of crop type or size or location of the farm. For beginning farmers with little or no access to capital or existing land in California, land tenure is the single most important and difficult issue to address in order to begin a farm business.



#### Recommendations

- 1. Outreach and Education: Identify opportunities for cross-promotion of CDFA programs with USDA-FSA and other non-profit organizations' programs, loans and other resources that assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Opportunities could include: conferences, listening sessions, grower field days and CDFA website and social media channels.
- 2. Recognize and incorporate land tenure issues and leased land in CDFA's programs and policies. Review grant program guidelines to ensure that farmers who operate on leased land have equal access to apply for grant programs, and encourage these farmers to participate in the programs. Consider how CDFA policies or statewide policies might affect farmers who have short-term leases.
- 3. Interagency Collaboration: Enhance inter-governmental agency collaboration by including opportunities to build awareness of land tenure issues to leverage funding, programs and land tenure policies that will better serve socially disadvantaged farmers and their communities. Specifically, partner with the Department of Conservation to identify opportunities to address accessibility for beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers into existing agricultural land conservation programs in the state. It is important to ensure that the interagency collaboration occurs at all levels, so that all agency staff can better understand land tenure issues. Program-level staff communicate regularly with farmers, and thus would be a valuable component to discussions about land tenure in addition to leadership-level participation. This is an excellent opportunity to also engage with external stakeholder groups such as

County Agricultural Commissioners, University of California Cooperative Extension, California Resource Conservation Districts, land trusts, California Farm Bureau Federation and other non-profit organizations.

#### 2. Language

Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not always speak English as a first language. Many recent immigrants and immigrants who have lived in California for generations, who were skilled agriculturalists in their home countries, have chosen to become farmers or ranchers in California. Some of these farmers have found niche markets to sell their crops and grow their businesses. Many struggle to find resources and information because the majority of the information available about farming practices, programs, marketing and regulations is in English. Many of the skilled agriculturalists who start farming upon arriving in California are older, and often struggle to learn English. Often, these older farmers ask their children or grandchildren for translation assistance. Along with language differences, cultural differences are important to understand when designing outreach and education and conveying information about regulations and policies. There are also many diverse cultures and languages spoken within different countries, thus many immigrant farmers could speak indigenous languages and follow customs that are not widely recognized or known here in California. Of the 33 individual farmers interviewed for this report, 28 did not speak English as their first language, and 26 of those 28 were first-generation immigrants to California.



Farm Location:
Watsonville, Santa Cruz County

#### Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Mark Stone, District 29 Senator Bill Monning, District 17

Misayel, Gerardo and Luis farm a 20-acre plot of organic mixed vegetables on the Central Coast, near Watsonville. They are in their second season of farming there and have had many challenges with soil fertility and pest control. One of their biggest challenges has been to find information and resources about soil fertility and pest control in Spanish. Beginning, small-scale farmers often do not have the ability to pay a consultant to assist with these issues Pictured with the farmers is Sacha Lozano with the Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District. Technical assistance providers like Sacha help farmers implement conservation practices and help solve critical challenges like soil fertility for beginning farmers.

One of their biggest challenges has been to find information and resources about soil fertility and pest control in Spanish. Of the 33 individual farmers interviewed for this report, 28 did not speak English as their first language, and 26 of those 28 were first-generation immigrants to California.

Recognizing the clear need to provide increased communication in different languages, in 2019, CDFA took an important step and hired a new public affairs position to conduct outreach and increase communication with Spanish-speaking farmers and ranchers. Spanish is the most common spoken language among farmers and ranchers in California after English, so CDFA saw this position as instrumental to expanding CDFA's resources and information.

In 2019, CDFA created a Spanish-language Twitter account, is now translating all CDFA news releases into Spanish and is assisting in translating important public facing documents for farmers and ranchers for conferences. workshops and events. Additionally, there are now dedicated public outreach staff for the Office of Environmental Innovation (OEFI), Inspection Services Division and CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing Division (CalCannabis). The combination of dedicated staff for programs affecting farmers as well as a person dedicated to outreach and engagement with Hispanic and Spanish-speaking farmers and ranchers, will enhance the language access for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers over the coming year. Additionally, the Farm Equity Advisor will continue to work with CDFA divisions and the public affairs team to identify and address language access and communication.

#### Recommendations

1. Communication: Continue to build capacity for CDFA bilingual staff to communicate and engage with farmers in multiple languages through formalizing a translation program and offering training on effective outreach for staff who engage with farmers in various capacities. CDFA has 74 total staff certified for verbal translation in three languages: Spanish, Mandarin and Tagalog. Currently, there is an incentive program for CDFA staff to become certified through a test for bilingual competency, which also includes a pay incentive. Staff with bilingual capabilities are a strong asset, and this asset could be further developed into job duties. CDFA is exploring ways to formalize this program and offer opportunities to recognize language capabilities to improve communication with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Training opportunities should include outreach and engagement strategies and important cultural considerations of various groups of farmers and ranchers. It is especially critical for positions that engage directly with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, to have a point of contact that speaks the same language and understands different agricultural and cultural practices. This will increase the likelihood of farmer participation in programs.

2. Policies, Resources and Programs:
Department-wide written translation
services that specialize in certified
agricultural translation. Developing materials in other languages is critical to helping
non-English-speaking farming communities
understand CDFA's programs, resources and
policies. Some programs provide this service
on an ad-hoc basis but there is a need for Department-wide written translation services with
certified translators who understand agriculture
and agricultural terms.

3. Communication: Continue to develop and enhance the CDFA website with information and resources in other languages and explore outreach and engagement via other communication channels utilized by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. CDFA recognizes the need for multiple languages to be available on the department's website and has taken several important steps in 2019 to improve language accessibility. The CDFA website now has a dedicated page for farmer resources, and it will be available in Spanish by May 2020. A Google translate button will be added to increase access to materials in other languages in addition to Spanish. Public affairs staff and the Farm Equity Advisor will continue to explore new methods of culturally relevant communication in addition to the website. These methods of communication could include radio, smart phone applications, social media, community gatherings, festivals and conferences.

## 3. Engagement with **Agricultural Industry** and CDFA Boards and **Commissions**

Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers are not likely to engage with traditional agricultural industry groups, marketing associations or decision-making bodies such as CDFA boards and commissions. They are also not likely to attend public meetings about regulations affecting their farms, particularly if the meetings are held only in a language they do not speak or understand. Because these farmers are not engaged with "traditional" opportunities for information, policy and decision-making, they are not often receiving important information, and their voices are not always included in important policies that affect their farm businesses.



**Farm Location:** Allensworth, Tulare County

## Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Devon Mathis, Dist. 26 Senator Melissa Hurtado, District 14

Dennis has a 60-acre farm planted in certified organic alfalfa. Dennis strives to build his farm operation to be able to provide economic opportunities for the residents of Allensworth, a historically African American community that has few job opportunities and high rates of poverty. He strives to make his business sustainable so he can offer year-round employment and a living wage to his employees.

"I consider myself to be well-connected with resources available for farmers. If I didn't know about CDFA programs, then most people don't know. I have sought out support and looked for resources to help this business... More should be done to get the word out, especially if there are programs that directly benefit farmers."

Currently, CDFA engages with farmers and ranchers through in-person public meetings, conferences and workshops, the CDFA website, CDFA press releases, the Planting Seeds blog and email listservs with stakeholder groups. Currently press releases are released in English and Spanish.

## **Farmer Engagement with** the Agricultural Industry

In the course of interviewing farmers for this report, 85% of the interviewees said they did not attend industry meetings because they did not feel the meeting applied to them. 50% said they did not regularly hear about meetings. and that the meetings were held at times when they were working on the farm. Additionally, 55% stated they did not join an association or commodity group because they did not see a value in joining the group. Only two of the 33 farmers interviewed for this report knew about boards and commissions or how to join a CDFA board or commission, and only one had applied for a position. Furthermore, only three farmers indicated they might be interested in joining a board or commission, but stated they were unsure of the time commitment and travel costs and didn't feel that they could contribute much to the group.

Engagement and outreach with socially disadvantaged farmers depends on time, trust and an understanding of the different challenges in different regions of California. CDFA recognizes that partnerships with external stakeholder

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groups are critical for engagement and outreach with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers primarily rely on locally based technical assistance providers like University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) staff or Resource Conservation Districts for information regarding their farm businesses and regulations that apply to their businesses. CDFA also relies on these same organizations to assist in important outreach and engagement regarding grant programs and regulations that affect farmers and ranchers. The University of California Cooperative Extension is the key organization dedicated to providing direct engagement

The University of California Cooperative Extension Small Farm Advisor in Fresno County reports that 78 percent of farmers accessing extension services there are farmers of color.

and outreach with farmers and ranchers statewide, and has advisors, veterinarians and small farm advisors and associated staff who are key links between California farmers and ranchers and CDFA programs, resources and regulations.

CDFA works hand-in-hand with outreach organizations to reach and engage with farmers and ranchers. CDFA's current outreach and engagement model is to collaborate with or directly fund partner organizations such as the Farm Bureau, Resource Conservation Districts, County Agricultural Commissioners and other non-profits organizations who work directly with these farmers. In 2019, CDFA acquired one-year grant funding through the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to fund ten short-term staff positions within UCCE to assist farmer and ranchers in applying for the CDFA Climate Smart Agriculture programs. This technical assistance model has already seen positive results, with 95 new applicants to the CDFA Climate Smart Agriculture programs in 2019. In 2020, CDFA and SGC extended this funding for an additional two years, through 2022. There would also be secondary benefits to CDFA stakeholder organizations and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers for this type of partnership, if the positions were to be established as long-term positions.

**UCCE** provides trusted assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers throughout California. Partnership with UCCE staff is critical to the success of CDFA's programs. There is a growing need for dedicated staff who share a cultural background and speak the same language as the farming community.



## Michael Yang, UCCE

### Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula, District 31

Senator Melissa Hurtado, District 14

Michael Yang has worked for the UCCE in Fresno for 25 years. He grew up in Fresno, and his mother was one of many local Hmong family farmers. Michael has become a fully trained expert in pest management, production practices, marketing, and other topics that pertain to farmers in the Fresno area. But most of all, he is a trusted resource for the Hmong farming community, as well as for other organizations around the state that are trying to serve the Hmong farming community. Michael hosts a weekly radio show in Hmong where he discusses various topics for farmers.

Michael is pictured with a Hmong farmer who grows mixed Asian vegetables, and obtained SWEEP funding to upgrade his irrigation system to conserve water.

"This type of outreach requires a one-on-one type of work. When working with agricultural industry groups, it is easy to connect and get on an agenda and they have the infrastructure to respond to policy, public comment, research, etc. But there's no infrastructure among socially disadvantaged farmer communities. There's just no place where these groups gather. More than being able to speak the language, it's just hard to break into the farmer world if you aren't already involved with a farming family."

| Climate Smart Ag Specialist |

# Recommendations – Outreach and Engagement

- 1. Collaboration with External Stakeholder Groups: Build upon existing programs and continue to support long-term funded partnerships with UCCE advisors, veterinarians and small farm advisors who work with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. This is a critical statewide program and essential partnership model for CDFA to ensure that socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers engage with the agriculture industry and gain access to resources and information.
- 2. Outreach and Education: In addition to building strong partnerships, identify training needs for engagement and outreach to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Provide opportunities for CDFA staff, UCCE, California Farm Bureau Federation, California Resource Conservation Districts and other non-profit organizations to share ideas and develop best practices for engaging socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers with the agriculture industry and increase participation on CDFA boards and commissions. Focus areas for training

should include cultural awareness, communication methods and outreach and engagement practices. The Farm Equity Advisor can identify and offer these training opportunities to address this recommendation.

# Farmer Engagement with CDFA Boards and Commissions

An additional challenge that was noted within farmer interviews was the lack of knowledge or engagement with CDFA boards and commissions. Only two out of 33 farmers indicated they knew about CDFA boards and commissions and only three indicated they would be interested in joining a board or commission. CDFA has 35 boards, commissions and committees that function to guide policies, regulations and information for California farmers. New member positions are advertised through CDFA news releases and different listserv groups, as well as in agriculture publications and among industry stakeholder groups. For the purpose of this report, an anonymous survey was distributed only to the 35 boards, committees and commissions that do not fall under a marketing order or marketing program, as stipulated in AB

1348 language. There were 106 responses to the survey. The survey was designed to better understand communication, logistics and board tenure in order to begin to develop a more robust communication and outreach plan.

It is a priority for CDFA to increase outreach and engagement of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers with CDFA boards and commissions. CDFA has taken initial steps to expand recruitment and outreach strategies to encourage a diverse pool of candidates to apply, and the department is committed to do even more. The following recommendations will help to increase representation and participation.

## Recommendations for Engagement with CDFA Boards and Commissions:

- 1. Outreach and Education: Over the course of 2020, share survey results with CDFA board and commission members, CDFA division directors and CDFA board liaison staff and discuss opportunities to expand recruitment methods and communication strategies. A specific focus should be to increase female farmers participation. Currently females represent only 10% of CDFA board and committee members.
- 2. Communication: Expand current CDFA board and commission index website to include basic information about each board, commission or committee, such as a brief description of their purpose, the number of members, the location of meetings, position tenure and how to apply.

## Myrna Arambula

Farm Location: Holtville, Imperial County

Legislative
Representatives:
Assemblymember
Eduardo Garcia,
Distict 56

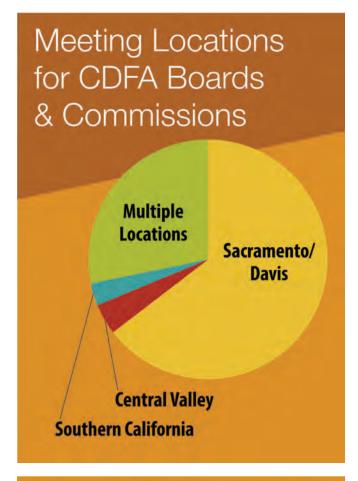


Senator Ben Hueso, District 40

In 2013, Myrna was farming culinary herbs near Westmoreland. She only had a 6-month lease. Soon after planting the herbs, including rosemary and tarragon, which are perennial crops, the land owner unexpectedly told her the lease wouldn't be renewed. Myrna was able to purchase 45 acres near Holtville and is in a phase of slowly rebuilding after losing her entire stock. But she is confident now because she has permanent land.

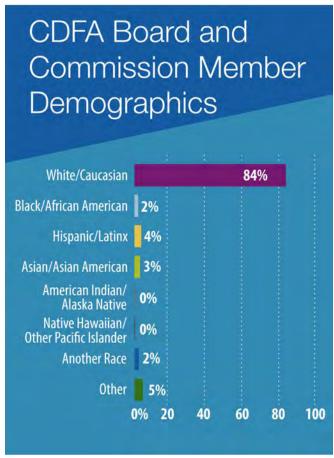
For Myrna and her farm manager, Alma, the biggest challenge is that they are located so far away from markets that wholesale is often the only option. She would like to sell direct to restaurants but doesn't know how to get in contact with restaurants in the San Diego area. They are often competing with very large herb farms.

Myrna received USDA EQIP funding for conservation practices such as a hoop house and irrigation practices and is also a certified organic farm through California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF).





- 3. Communication: Expand current outreach and recruitment strategies for new board members. Work together with current board members and CDFA Division Directors to enhance direct recruitment of new members.
- 4. Training: Offer annual training for board and commission members about cultural considerations, communication and outreach strategies to enhance current board members' awareness of these issues and develop solutions
- 5. Access to meetings: Work directly with CDFA boards and committees to include electronic accessibility via webinar or telephone for boards and committee meetings. Include considerations for small- or medium-sized farm owners who may also be parents, or who may be working on the farm during the normal business day. Considerations include: family-friendly venues or evening or early morning board meetings times. As the graphs indicate, an overwhelming majority of board and commission meetings are held in Sacramento, and nearly all meetings are conducted in person. This is certainly an advantage for conducting board business; however, for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, particularly smaller, family owned operations that do not have employees, this could be a barrier to participation. There is a critical need to make the meetings accessible using technology, such as webinar, phone call, or moving the meeting to different locations around the state. Additionally, if farmers do not have internet access, measures could be taken to ensure there is a location where they can access the internet/webinar. For example, arrangements could be made at a local CDFA field office, County Agricultural Commissioner offices or a USDA office for webinar access.





## Sol Seeker Farm

Farm Location: King City, Monterey County

## Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Robert Rivas, District 30 Senator Anna M. Caballero, District 12

Kaley Grimland-Mendoza and Edgar Mendoza have raised certified organic chickens, ducks and turkeys since 2014. Edgar studied agriculture and farmed in his native Paraguay. Kaley is a farm loan specialist with USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) who works on food safety issues. They had been leasing land for six years and had to move their pastured poultry farm operation twice. They were finally able to purchase land in 2019 thanks to a USDA-FSA loan. However, land costs forced them to purchase land one hour south of where they live and where their young children attend school.

"One of the biggest challenges for small farmers is food safety. CDFA needs staff who know agriculture and speak Spanish. Someone who understands organic, can provide education on basic recordkeeping, and can also be available during food safety audits, especially if the auditors do not speak Spanish."

## 4. Knowledge of Available **Resources and Programs**

Many socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers do not have knowledge of available resources and programs. Of the 33 farmers interviewed for this report, only five had knowledge of CDFA grant programs. Three of those five farmers spoke English as their first language. One farmer, who used the internet frequently and had received USDA funding for several practices on his farm, also did not know there was a CDFA website. The 12 farmers who were aware of CDFA reported that they had visited the website for the purpose of learning about regulations related to their farm business. Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers can greatly benefit from incentive programs and indirectly from grant programs that prioritize funding for socially disadvantaged groups. This represents an opportunity for CDFA to increase outreach and communication about grant programs in order to increase participation by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

Currently, CDFA has several grant programs that are directly and indirectly available for farmers and ranchers. The three main grant programs that directly affect or include farmers and ranchers are the Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP), the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, and the Climate Smart Agriculture Programs, which include the Healthy Soils Program, the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, the Alternative Manure Management Program and the Dairy Digester Research Program. Additionally, a new Biologically Integrated Farming System grant was released in 2019. The Climate Smart Agriculture Programs are unique in that farmers can apply directly for the funding, whereas the other programs are for 501(c)(3) organizations,

but the projects can include specific groups of farmers. These grant programs are integral to the work that CDFA does and they allow for research and innovation in various sectors.

In 2019, several new practices were implemented within CDFA's grant programs. These modifications are important steps to encourage socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to apply for the programs and to increase support for organizations that serve socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. For example, the Climate Smart Agriculture Programs prioritized funding for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and female farmers. In the first round of grant funding for the Healthy Soils Program, which prioritized socially disadvantaged applicants, nearly 50% of funded projects were from these groups. The range in size of operation for applicants was between 1.25 acres and 31,000 acres. The average size was 1,296 acres. The top counties for funded projects were Fresno. Sonoma, Solano and Butte counties.

Farmers applied for the following conservation practices within the Healthy Soils Program: alley cropping, compost application, cover crop,

In the first round of grant funding for the Healthy Soils Program, which prioritized socially disadvantaged applicants, nearly 50% of funded projects were from these (socially disadvantaged and female farmer) groups. The range in size of operation for applicants was between 1.25 acres and 31,000 acres. The average size was 1,296 acres.

## Selected Grant Programs at CDFA



## The Specialty Crop Block Grant

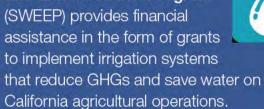
Program administers an annual USDA grant to serve the specialty crop agricultural industry. Non-profit organizations and research institutions are eligible to apply. There are different grant program priorities and categories under which to apply, as well as an external technical review committee for each category. CD-FA's Office of Grants Administration takes comprehensive action to improve the benefit of the program for social disadvantaged/beginning farmers and underserved communities.



## Research and Development

Program provides financial assistance to help dairies install digesters that capture methane to generate energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Dairy digesters are a remarkable technology that uses livestock manure to produce methane, which is a renewable source of electrical energy generation and transportation fuel.

The State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program





The Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) funds and facilitates research to advance the environmentally safe and agronomically sound use and handling of fertilizing materials. FREP serves growers, agricultural supply and service professionals, extension personnel, public agencies, consultants, and other interested parties.

## **CDFA's Alternative** Manure Management

Program (AMMP) provides financial assistance for the implementation of non-digester manure management practices in California, which will result in reduced GHGs. Alternative manure management practices involve handling manure in ways that don't involve using an anaerobic digester.



The Healthy Soils Program provides incentives for conservation practices to improve soil health, sequester carbon and reduce GHG emissions. Demonstration

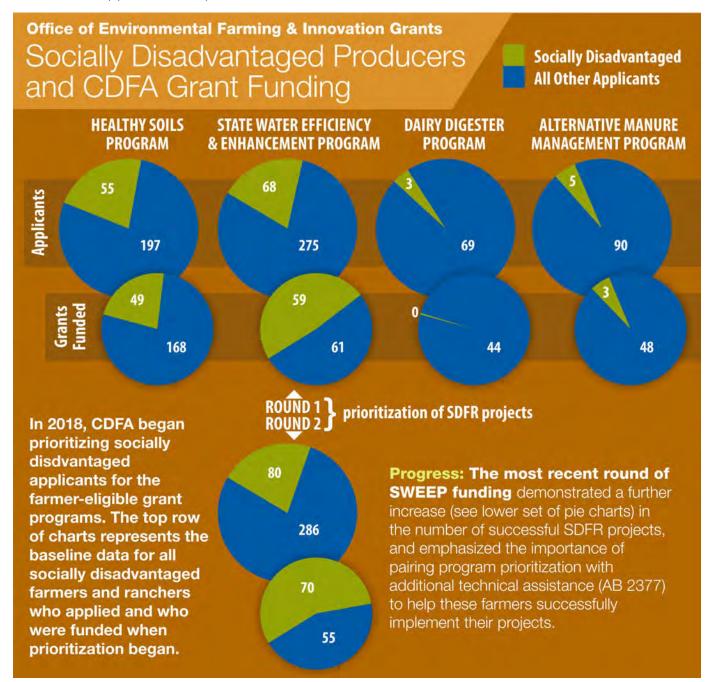
projects also showcase these practices so other farmers and ranchers can see what's possible.



conservation crop rotation, no-till, reduced till, filter strip, forage and biomass planting, grassed waterway, prescribed grazing, hedgerow, mulching, multi-story cropping, nutrient management, range planting, riparian forest buffer, riparian herbaceous cover, Silvopasture, windbreak or shelterbreak, field border, and tree or shrub establishment.

In April 2019, the Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG) program created a new category for first-time applicants and provided direct

assistance to applicants to submit their proposals. Seven projects were funded through this effort, and the program priorities were updated to include this focus within the 2020 request for proposals. This is an example of a grant program being responsive to an identified need and increasing access for organizations who serve socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. When a program prioritizes different groups of farmers in the request for proposals, there is a direct increase in applications



that serve these groups of farmers. In 2015, the SCBG program priorities included a focus on projects serving socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. The number of projects awarded funding for those groups increased from three in 2014 to 10 in 2015. Likewise, the program priorities around food access in underserved communities were refined in 2015 and the number of projects awarded funding that benefitted these communities increased from four in 2014 to six in 2015. Under the 2014-2016 Farm Bill, CDFA's Grants Office funded 16 SCBG projects totaling \$4,475,678 that benefit socially disadvantaged/beginning farmers, 23 projects totaling \$6,024,480 that benefit underserved communities and two projects totaling \$253,548 that benefit both socially/disadvantaged beginning farmers and underserved communities. This graph demonstrates the increase in the numbers of proposals focused on socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers when the request for proposals included a priority for this focus.

Additionally, CDFA implemented the requirements of AB 2377, which developed a grant program to fund technical assistance providers to assist farmers and ranchers to apply and implement the Climate Smart Agriculture Programs. This new program prioritized funding for organizations that are directly working with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; applications were prioritized for organizations that spent at least 25% of their time serving socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Additionally, this program offers funding for organizations to help farmers implement their Climate Smart Agriculture project. Assisting farmers with implementation was one of the challenges identified by stakeholder groups in previous rounds of funding. This program ensures socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers throughout the state will have increased access to CDFA incentive programs

## Nikiko Masumoto

Farm Location: Fresno County

Legislative
Representatives:
Assemblymember
Joaquin Arambula,
District 31



Senator Melissa Hurtado, District 14

Nikiko Masumoto is a third-generation Japanese-American farmer in Fresno county, farming 80 acres of certified organic peaches, nectarines, apricots and grapes (for raisins) with her father David Mas Masumoto. The farm was started in 1948 by Nikiko's grandfather.

"One of the biggest challenges as a female farmer is having a voice on policy issues such as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)... There are inherent complexities that often involve power and historical access issues, that are replicated when new policies are formed. It is difficult to find information about the time, location and agenda for local SGMA meetings; once I arrive, it is often a room with 80-90% white men representing the largest farming operations in the area. I can't even imagine how I would find the information if English wasn't my first language," Nikiko says.

Natural resources and climate change issues – policies and regulations that affect all scales of agricultural production – must include an "equity lens."

and will also ensure that technical assistance providers are focusing their efforts on assisting these farmers to apply for the programs.

In the Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP), four grant projects have focused on socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Two of those four projects focused on translating materials into other languages, whereas the other two focused on specific groups to conduct research and outreach. This grant program has incorporated several innovative ideas into its design, including grower training workshops throughout the Central Valley to assist growers with requirements for the Irrigated Lands Program and certifying their Nitrogen Management Plans. Additionally, FREP produces a blog and an events calendar that lists upcoming workshops and conferences. This is an example of how a CDFA grant program can highlight and incorporate additional outreach and education components for farmers and ranchers in response to regulations that will affect their farming operations.

Recommendations

1. Continue to design grant programs with considerations or priority funding for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and continue to build stakeholder feedback into the process. This will ensure more socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers have the opportunity to apply for and obtain grant funding for their operations.

2. Resources and Programs: Continue to design regulatory programs with an educational component that includes information in other languages. It is critical that education and outreach is provided to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers alongside the implementation of regulations. Three CDFA

Three CDFA divisions Inspection Services, Animal
Health and Food Safety
Services, and CalCannabis
- have all developed
educational components to
their regulatory programs.
Opportunities where farmers
can first learn how to comply
with regulations by interacting
with CDFA staff can go a
long way in building strong
partnerships and trust among
socially disadvantaged
farmers and ranchers.

divisions - Inspection Services, Animal Health and Food Safety Services, and CalCannabis - have all developed educational components to their regulatory programs. Opportunities where farmers can first learn how to comply with regulations by interacting with CDFA staff can go a long way in building strong partnerships and trust among socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

3. Communication and Engagement: Continue to formalize strategies for outreach and engagement with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers that include, for example, sharing information about grant programs and regulations with other government agencies. The Farm Equity Advisor is working with CDFA programs to hold a meeting annually with a focus on socially

disadvantaged farmers and ranchers with translation services provided during the meetings. The Farm Equity Advisor is also working to identify opportunities to present annually at inter-governmental agency meetings on grant programs and regulatory outreach strategies. Additionally, the 2019 Grant Information Act (AB 2252) will require all grants to be registered with the California State Library so there will be a statewide catalogue with consistent information about all available funding opportunities available for potential applicants.

4. Programs and Resources: Develop longterm program evaluation and metrics for all grant programs, designed with input from interested stakeholder groups and including methods for gaining feedback from grant recipients. Ensure that the data is utilized to inform programmatic decisions and goals. This practice will ensure that programmatic decisions are data-driven and that grant programs align with other statewide regulatory goals. As funding allows, an external evaluator should be hired to provide an un-biased method of feedback. Grant programs that affect farmers and ranchers, including socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, need to incorporate careful consideration of program priorities, metrics, goals, and a framework for continual participant feedback.

5. Outreach and Communication: Continue to highlight and promote stories of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers who have received CDFA funding, as well as those who have been directly impacted by other CDFA grant funding, or farmers who have interacted with one of CDFA's educational programs about regulations. Utilize social media and promote the stories in multiple languages to ensure more farmers and ranchers know about these opportunities.



## Farm Location: Berkeley, Alameda County

Legislative Representatives: Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, District 15 Senator Nancy Skinner, District 9

Moretta Brown and Marianne Olney-Hamel are the two farm managers for this urban Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, which is operated at three sites, in backyard plots. The farm is primarily raisedbed vegetables, fruit and herbs; they grew more than 30 crops this season and fed 30 people through the CSA program. They also sell and donate to a local soup kitchen.

The biggest challenge is farming in multiple locations – but locally available resources, services, programs and customers are among the "ecosystem benefits" of farming in an urban area. Success here depends on the community, and on homeowners who are willing to let their backyards be used for food production. There is a need to recognize such community efforts, such as with tax incentives and favorable city policies, to incentivize homeowners to participate and support urban agriculture.

## **Recommendations for Addressing Farmer Equity** within CDFA

Beyond the specific programmatic recommendations for addressing equity, there is a need for CDFA to recognize and examine the historical legacy of racial inequity in agriculture and make a concerted effort to begin a healing process for those who have been affected by historical injustices. There are opportunities for CDFA as an organization to set an example of what "California For All" can mean in the agricultural sector. The first step is recognizing and acknowledging that agriculture is practiced in many ways, at different sizes, for different purposes and by a myriad of different people. Anyone who grows food or other agricultural commodities and cares for the earth and its natural resources should be celebrated, acknowledged and lifted as a respected professional who is doing their part to feed their family and nurture the rest of the world in the process. There are several ways in which CDFA can be a champion and a leader by focusing on strengthening internal practices, reflecting the broader community by including an equity lens, and also promoting collaboration across government agencies on important equity issues.

Recommendations

1. Participation in the Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE) training. Expanding this training beyond the Farm Equity Advisor to additional staff will provide valuable racial equity tools and training. Program staff can then return and offer smaller trainings as it pertains to their division.

There are several ways in which CDFA can be a champion and a leader by focusing on strengthening internal practices, reflecting the broader community by including an equity lens, and also promoting collaboration across government agencies on important equity issues.

- 2. CDFA should ensure that different types of farmers are featured in public outreach materials, on the website, in blog posts and on social media to highlight the diversity of California's farmers and ranchers and the important contributions that these people are making in agriculture. Specifically, farmers of color, female farmers and urban farmers should be highlighted for their important contributions to agriculture.
- 3. CDFA can be a leader in increasing interagency collaboration at the top and bottom levels. Creating a shared understanding of the challenges facing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and rural communities will provide value as state agencies continue to address water quality regulations, pesticides, air quality, and water supply. This can be accomplished through convening key staff from agencies who serve rural and agricultural communities to discuss shared outreach strategies, programs and opportunities to leverage funding. Examples of agencies include the Department of Conservation, Department of Pesticide Regulation, California Air Resources Board, Water Resources Control

Board, Environmental Protection Agency, Strategic Growth Council, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, also known as Go-Biz.

As one interviewee stated, "All agencies can learn from each other, and we need to build a framework for reaching and engaging with these farmers and ranchers. When funding becomes available, such as through the recent ban on Chlorpyrifos, we need to use these opportunities to leverage funding to improve outreach and communication as well as form working groups to improve cross-agency collaboration."

By the end of 2021, an update on the progress of these recommendations and any further recommendations will be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture. Just as outreach and engagement take time and trust, changing practices will also take time and trust -- but beginning the conversation is an important first step. CDFA has begun to take the first steps to addressing farmer equity and ensuring farmers of color, women farmers and urban farmers have equitable access to CDFA programs, resources, policies and information, and will continue to prioritize this work through the Farm Equity Advisor position and a shared understanding of governing by our values of growth and inclusion.

All agencies can learn from each other, and we need to build a framework for reaching and engaging with these farmers and ranchers.

# The Bautista Family

Farm Location: Mecca, Riverside County

Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, District 56 Senator (Vacant), District 5



The Bautista family has been farming 14 acres of certified organic dates in Mecca since 1999. Alicia and Maricela's father bought the farm when the landowner retired, and now the entire family of six all work for the farm, either in production or marketing or selling their dates at farmers markets. They implement many different conservation practices on their farm. They graze sheep below the trees for weed control, apply mulch and utilize several different irrigation methods so they don't have to flood irrigate. Their local USDA-NRCS representative told them about the EQIP program and organic certification, and they learned about selling online from a customer, and these steps have helped grow their business enough to support the entire family.

The biggest challenge is the changing weather – the timing of rain is changing, and the wind is stronger during peak growing season. The rain brings humidity. The Bautistas have been adapting to these changes, but it is getting more and more challenging each year.

# Research Methodology

The research methods for this report included in-depth interviews, an online survey and a compilation of quantitative CDFA grant program data and the 2017 USDA National Agriculture Statistics Survey ( NASS). The research methodology included:

- 15 in-depth interviews with CDFA Division Directors and staff
- 8 in-depth interviews with staff of 6 government agencies
- 13 in-depth interviews with external stakeholder partner organizations
- Online survey of CDFA board and commission members
- Quantitative analysis of CDFA grant programs and USDA National Agriculture Statistics Survey
- 16 farm interviews, with 33 individual farmers from around the state

The author utilized a snowball sampling methodology to select the farmer and rancher interview pool. The external stakeholder organizations interviewed for this report were identified via the CDFA Division Directors as key partner organizations, as well as organizations which focus on socially disdvantaged farmers and ranchers. Additionally, the government agency interviewees were identified and selected based on their focus on agricultural issues pertaining to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and disadvantaged communities throughout the state.

Many thanks to those who participated in the interviews and survey, and a special thanks to Chanceuse Twagirimana and Jay Van Rein for helping pull together the data and the report.

Farm Location: Napa, Napa County

Legislative
Representatives:
Assemblymember
Cecilia Aguiar-Curry,
District 4
Senator Bill Dodd,
District 3



Rachel grows diversified vegetables and flowers on a one-acre plot in Napa, and sells 100% of her produce directly to customers in Napa. She says, "There is a lot of demand for local flowers and vegetables here because the majority of farmers have wine grapes. However, all the services, programs, policies and resources are geared towards the wine industry. Even though part of the Napa strategic plan is to source local food, there is a core issue around land access that hasn't been addressed.

"I'd like to implement more conservation practices, but my greatest challenge is that I want to know that I will be able to stay on the land long enough to see the benefits of those practices. I've been farming for ten years, and I have never lived where I farm. Farming here in this plot doesn't feel like long-term, but I'm here for now."

Special thanks to the growers who gave of their time, expertise and experience to help us develop this report. These profiles are featured throughout the document to give readers a window into the world of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California.



## Farm Location: Salinas, Monterey County

## Legislative Representatives:

Assemblymember Robert Rivas, District 30 Senator Anna M. Caballero, District 12

As a cannabis grower near Salinas, Christina leases three greenhouses and focuses on rare strains of cannabis, along with developing three in-house brands, seed production, and product development.

"Women-owned cannabis operations are sought out by buyers. It is a huge marketing tool... it has brought a lot of opportunities. I try to support other women farmers and also hire women employees."

"Monterey County... has been a great partner so far and a helpful resource for information, too. We always welcome inspections from CDFA, as it is a good opportunity to learn what we need to do. We are all trying to learn and follow the regs the right way, its helpful to be able to ask questions in the process. As cannabis growers, we really need more information and resources on organic pest control. One particular example would be guidance and recommendations on aphid pest control. It is very hard to find this information or an organization locally who can help."

2020 Report to the California Legislature on the Farmer Equity Act





## ReparationsTaskforce

From: Andria McFerson

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 10:17 AM

To: DiaryofTieira Ryder

Cc: Angela Scott; Robbie J5; Black Agenda-SM; Ashley London; Barry Snell; Drati, Ben;

Delana Gbenekama; Ericka L; Erika Mitchell; George Brown; Janeen Jackson; Jason Walker; Kathryn Jeffery; Jennell Maze; Jonathan Gregory; Joseph Metoyer; Karen S. Gunn; Keith Coleman; Kera Blades; Kimberly Herron; Kristin McCowan; Miss Compton;

Nat Trives; Nikel E Hall; Rana Kirkland; Tony Murphy; BILLIE DAYS;

Subject: Re: Our Black Agenda Reparations call on 1/09/22 was disrupted by racial slurs from

what appeared to be the children of the NIMBYS from Santa Monica.

Attachments: image0.jpeg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

### Hi Angela

I still believe there should be a "VIP Club" for Black people who were most affected and those who are owed reparations.

I must say the name "VIP Club" was facetious yet still stating the obvious. A badge, card or just a formal identity giving statue to those most affected by the land, and other things taken from their families and the lack of empathy shown for doing so. These so-called "Advantages" would fight against the handicaps given to those who were shown misfortune resulting in the hindrance of growth and development. This fight towards prosperity could potentially lesson the amount of time and money spent from their struggles. This formal acknowledgment can also potentially diagnose and treat some mental disparities as well, that a lot of people may not even know about or think that is associated with major life changing issues as such handed down from generation to generation.

An amalgamate of people who prosper in Santa Monica & those who were most affected is a perfect conglomerate of people, because it shows what's needed from both perspectives. A genuine fight towards what's right like; better access to loans and grants, (for school, businesses, etc) discounted rates on bills like utilities & water and sewage until a certain financial plateau was reached. Most importantly there needs to be land returned to the Black population.

I think initially, empathy training is necessary for those, of all colors, rich/poor a those who fall in between to understand the mental/physical health of those most shaped by these debilitating actions. It only makes sense to possess a certain mental capacity if you make decisions to show this allotment to those who don't own that of the same.

Thanks,

On Mon, Jan 10, 2022, 11:38 AM DiaryofTieira Ryder < wrote:



On Jan 10, 2022, at 11:36 AM, T

Hi Angela,

Thank You for hosting that great Black Agenda reparations call last night. It was truly disturbing that it was disrupted at the end by racial slurs that seemed to be coming from white children of the NIMBYS of Santa Monica. One of the presenters whose opinion and presentation I have the absolute most respect for, Dr. Grills, suggested on the call that we hear from people who don't believe that we are owed reparations and I respectfully disagree! What happened last night is one of the reasons why I disagree!

To have our movements and moments continually interrupted by the descendants of people who have helped cause harm in our communities is disturbing! These people have caused more than enough delay and trauma in the lives of the supposed marginalized, it is time we finally divest away from them for GOOD and invest in ourselves more specifically our communities. I do hope to have more support this year to capture the Santa Monica airport, Penmar golf course, and other public lands so that it can be utilized for safe, clean, and affordable housing. I hope that we can create more spaces in our communities, including schools, spaces that have a multi-cultural lens and are committed to anti-racism/colorism. All of these people are descendants of darkskin people, the very least they can do is respect us but the fact that they still can't is PROOF that we need to divest. I don't want a seat at the racist, "I don't see color" table, I also don't want them coming to sit at our table to cause further delay and trauma. Enough is enough already.

Thank You again Angela, I'm grateful for the work that you are doing and grateful for the work of so many others. Also please, city council members and officials that may be thinking of "apologizing" ..... PLEASE DON'T! The apology does nothing for us but land will! I've personally had enough "apologies" and we are ready for land and housing justice so we can divest away from these people raising their children to be hateful of others because

of their skin color. That is a sickness that I will not try to cure in this lifetime, I'm committed to progress, I cannot try to change the limited minds of racists, I'm ready for true progress and many others are as well!

Best, Tieira www.HTWWS.org/santamonicaairport

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: HB

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 12:57 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce
Subject: Re: Dr. Cheryl Grills NAARC

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello DOJ, I'm concerned about the direction of the task force. How is it not a conflict of interest for Dr. Grills to be appointed to NAARC commission a few days ago and be a member of California Task Force? Reparations are intended for American Descendants of Slavery, #ADOS. Our lineage is based on a shared distinction in America. Our reparations are not intended for bipoc, POC, Latinx, Native Americans, etc. All of these lineages have their own claims. NAARC advocates for POC, bipoc, Latinx etc. That's not who AB3121 is intended for. Ms. Grills and Ms. Holder have already been suspect regarding who gets our reparations, wanting to include all black people etc. This will not hold up in the Supreme Court and they know this. These are stalling tactics. This is sabotage, and it should not be tolerated. Replace Dr. Grills and if needed Dr. Holder. We the people did not get a choice in who was selected to this commission. The people should have a choice. Attorney Antonio Moore is an Attorney in Los Angeles. And is one of the co-founders of ADOS he should be consulted. And since someone is on the commission that has an alliance with a so-called reparations commission it should not be Ms. Grills. Also Yvette Carnell or Dr. William "Sandy" Darity or Kirsten Mullen could replace Ms. Grills. This is unacceptable. DOJ please address this matter.

Harriet Barton

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: Roxy Lady

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 2:56 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: New York and Pennsylvania fires

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Now that police are being held accountable for most deaths of people of color when they have an interaction or attempted interaction with them. It's now time to hold firefighters to the same standard.

There were massive deaths in New York and Pennsylvania. All of these deaths were persons of color. Pictures and videos of the people working at the scene indicated white firefighters.

It's obvious what is going on. Those firefighters need to be held accountable for these deaths, take responsibility and be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

These firefighters must have known or should have known that people of color lived in those buildings and should have been aware of any inspection issues. EVERY death of a person of color needs to be investigated as a homicide.

As far as I'm concerned those firefighters failed their duty In letting those people die.

Any death of a person of color, when there is an attempt to rescue them and they fail, that failure needs to be investigated and firefighters need to be held accountable for that failure.

Hopefully firefighters will now be room mates with the person that killed George Floyd.

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: Jeannette Brown <

**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2022 10:56 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: speaker invitation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello,

I'd like to extend a speaker invitation to Lisa Holder about her participation on the task force. Can you share contact information?

Thanks

Jeannette

Jeannette Brown

Senior Director of Public Affairs & Programs

**SCANPH** 

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: Michael L. Newman

**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2022 11:39 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce Subject: Re: speaker invitation

Thanks, I forwarded.

From: ReparationsTaskforce

Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 11:34:35 AM

To: Michael L. Newman

Subject: FW: speaker invitation

Speaker request for Lisa Holder.

From: Jeannette Brown

Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 10:56 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce < ReparationsTaskforce@doj.ca.gov>

Subject: speaker invitation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello,

I'd like to extend a speaker invitation to Lisa Holder about her participation on the task force. Can you share contact information?

Thanks

Jeannette

Jeannette Brown

Senior Director of Public Affairs & Programs

**SCANPH** 

## DOJ did not respond **ReparationsTaskforce**

Chuck Starks From:

Sent: Saturday, January 15, 2022 10:04 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Expert Witness Presentation Request - Chuck Starks, Entrepreneur, Author - Get Rich

While Black

**Attachments:** REPARATIONS Now Article - Chuck Starks - 4-27-20.docx; Chuck Starks Reparations

Task Force Resume.pdf; Reparations NOW Proposal - Flowchart - Chuck Starks.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Please review the attached.

I request a spot as a presenter at your Reparations Task Force Meeting as an expert witness on Black Wealth Creation.

Please contact me to discuss logistics.

Questions/Concerns?... call me.

Chuck Starks, Norcal Books, Author/Publisher - "Get Rich While Black... (REVISED)" Sacramento, CA

April 28, 2020

01 1 01 1

REPARATIONS to Black Americans Now!!! Without Increasing Federal Budget

It is clear that descendants of Black Americans that were kidnapped from Africa and forced to work for free for hundreds of years in America deserve to be compensated for their labor, pain and suffering.

The major beneficiary of slavery was the United States Government.

Since slave owners did not have to pay slave labor costs, they made exorbitant profits which equated to increased governmental taxes paid to the government. Those taxes made the United States one of the wealthiest countries in the world and literally built this country. Without the substantial taxes generated by slave owners, the United States would have been arguably a third-world country.

This free forced labor force even physically built major government buildings including the White House.

The wealth created by White Slave Owners during slavery is still with their families today and the descendants of the kidnapped Africans have none of that wealth.

The federal government should compensate descendants of slaves with a federal purchasing set-aside program (similar to the current Federal 8A Set-Side Program) awarding 25% of all money spent for goods and services to businesses owned 51% by Black Americans that were descendants of slaves.

The language included in the current Federal 8A Set-Aside Program could be utilized increasing the set-aside to 25% to descendant of slaves only (of all goods and services purchased) and the term for each eligible business to 225 years (from the current 9 years).

All public money spent at all levels should be included in the set-aside program (schools, hospitals, governments, etc.).

The term of the program should be 225 years, the length of slavery in America.

Other minorities would not be included. If you are not a direct descendant of American slaves, you would not be eligible.

Mexican, Asian, Middle Eastern and even African people that came to America to gain a better life and were not kidnapped, forced into slavery and abused in America would not be eligible for the set-aside.

This reparation program would go a long way to right the wrongs perpetrated on Blacks in America.

Chuck Starks – Author of	"Get Rich while Black with	out being an Athlete, Entertain	er
or Drug Dealer" -			
Sacramento, California		_	

## **Professional Accomplishments:**

- Developed Petition Addressing Reparations to Black Americans (Moveon.org)
- Co-Founded Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce
- NAACP Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award
- Founded Computer Company that Won INC 500 Fastest Growing Business Award
- Appointed to the California Small Business Development Board Appointed by Senator Roberti
- Won 2 IBM Top Gun Sales and Service Awards
- Successfully Invested in Real estate Own and Manage Multiple Residential Investment Projects
- Authored Critically Acclaimed Book: "Get Rich While Black... without Being an Athlete, Entertainer or Drug Dealer"

## Occupation:

Real Estate Investor, Commercial Realtor

#### **Prior Occupation(s):**

Computer Systems Consultant, Computer Company Founder/CEO

#### Born:

May 14, 1951 (69 Years Old)

#### Birthplace:

Fresno, California, USA

## Spouse:

Roslynn Starks (since 1997)

#### Children:

Dr. Katryna Starks

**Tobey Strong** 

#### **Grand Children:**

3

#### Residence:

Pocket Greenhaven Area, Sacramento, California 95831

#### **Education:**

High School: Rio Linda High School (Graduated 1969)

College: Heald Business College - Computer Programming Certificate (2 Year) 1971

#### **Books/Publications:**

Get Rich While Black... without Being an Athlete, Entertainer or Drug Dealer, Norcal Books (2019)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTOR/ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATION**

- State of California Small Business Development Board (Vice Chairman) Senator Roberti Appointment
- University of California Davis Medical Center (CAB) Board (Chairman)
- University of California Davis Student Outreach Board
- American River College Advisory Board
- Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce Board (Co-Founder)
- Sacramento County Education Skills Center Board
- Sacramento Association of Realtors
- Sacramento Rental Housing Association
- California Apartment Owners' Association

#### TRAINING AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- NAACP Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award (1987)
- IBM Business Partner Sales Training (1989)
- IBM Executive Forum (1991)

## CHARLES E (CHUCK) STARKS (CV) – CO-FOUNDER, SACRAMENTO BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- SoftwareAG Advanced Technology Training (1996)
- Solution Sales Training (1999)
- CBSI Internet Solutions Development Training (1999)
- INC. Magazine 500 Fastest Growing Business Award (1989)
- IBM Top Gun Sales and Service Awards (2-1991)
- Coldwell Banker Income Property Sales Training (2003)
- Coldwell Banker "Top Dog" Real Estate Sales Training (2003)
- Ranked #18 in the U.S.A. by RE/MAX Commercial (2009)
- Multiple Real Estate Sales Awards

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

## CURRENT

## 3. BLACK SUCCESS -

FINANCIAL WEALTH

HOMES

CARS / BOATS

**VACATIONS** 

ETC.

The American Dream which Blacks have worked for and deserve.

## 2. WHITE DOMINANCE

Most CEO's

**Most Company Owners** 

**Most Managers** 

**Most Supervisors** 

Racism - Whites can stop or impede the progress of Blacks with very little recourse.

## 1. BLACK LABOR

Workers must go through White dominance to get to success.





## **PROPOSED**

## 4. BLACK SUCCESS -

FINANCIAL WEALTH

HOMES

CARS / BOATS

**VACATIONS** 

ETC.

The American Dream which Blacks have worked for and deserve.

## 3. Gov't Contracting Set-Aside

25% of all Public Sector Contracting to go to Black Owned Businesses for the next 225 years.

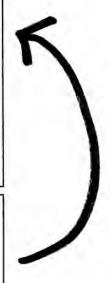
Federal, State, Local Gov't, Hospitals, Schools

In all 50 States.

## 2.BLACK ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Black business owners doing business directly with Gov'ts through set-aside program.

## 1.BLACK LABOR







## DOJ did not respond

## ReparationsTaskforce

From: People 4 Equity

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 8:00 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Attn: Chair Kamilah Moore; An Invitation: "Lift Every Voice and Speak Letter Drive

Proposal"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello Chair Kamilah Moore and AB3121 Taskforce Members,

Allow us to introduce ourselves. We are Alexandra Boyd and Carrissah Calvin, Founders of "People 4 Equity". We are an anti-racist community education project based in Sacramento with a vision to stimulate dialogue and dynamic unlearning of systemic racism. Aside from building out this project, we both work professionally as local educators. Alexandra is a Communication Studies college professor and Carrissah is a local K-12 educator, as well as, Ph.D. student studying education with an emphasis in language, literacy, and culture at UC Davis.

We are slowly building up our project from last year. In fact, for Black history month in 2021, we facilitated a virtual panel discussion about AB3121. We did this for the community in collaboration with our late partner Dana Maeisha of All Things Literacy and More, a bookstore in the Black African Marketplace. In case, you are curious about our past work, I've included the slides presentation from our AB3121 panel discussion for your reference.

## A Discussion on AB3121

Sadly, in 2021 COVID claimed Dana's life. This is why it is all the more important for us to build on her legacy and our vision during Black history month this year.

This year, we hope to host a local (or statewide) letter drive throughout the month of February calling on our Black community members to respond to "What do you wish to see for Black reparations and/or our Black future?".

Our hope for the "Lift Every Voice and Speak" (all Black?) letter drive is to manifest...

- A keynote address about AB 3121 at the Black African Marketplace or virtually
- A letter-writing and collection table at our local colleges (SCC, CSUS, and Sierra College)
- · A virtual listening party where we hope for community members to attend and share their writings.

We hope to create a "letterbox" that will rotate locations across the Black community and local colleges in Sacramento from February 13th-20th. Maybe each taskforce member could host a letter collection; we could send them a mailbox to keep at their offices. We hope to host a keynote address and virtual listening party at the very end of Black History month (we were thinking Sunday, February 27th?).

All of that said, we are deeply grateful for your leadership. It would be our greatest privilege to share our collected letters with the task force. We believe our community would benefit greatly from hearing directly from California's AB 3121 taskforce members. We intend to create a safe space to collaborate and imagine our Black future. We envision sharing and listening to letters read aloud by community members and leaders. Chair Moore, would you like to be our keynote speaker? We would love to know your response to our writing prompt: "What do you wish to see for Black reparations and/or our Black future?".

We are in the early planning stages but look forward to finalizing the remaining details within the next two weeks. Please let us know if you have any questions or hesitations regarding our request.

Thank you for taking the time to read our email and consider our request. We are incredibly grateful for your outstanding leadership and the work of the entire task force. We hope you're open to working with us.

Take care & Happy New Year!

Kindly,

Carrissah & Alexandra

## Carrissah Calvin & Alexandra Boyd

Co-Founders | People 4 Equity
An Anti-Racist Learning Community Education Project



# ON BLACK REPARATIONS Assembly Bill 3121 & the CA Reparations Task Force

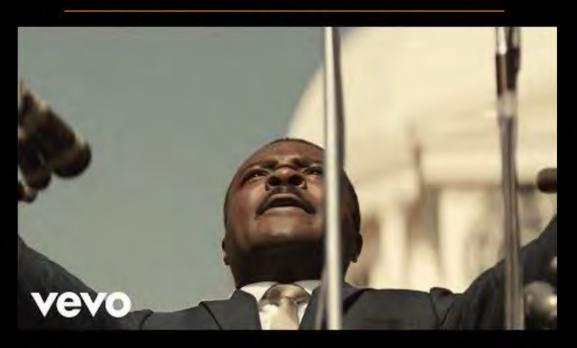
FEBRUARY 28TH 3-5PM



FEBRUARY 28TH 3-5PM











# A JUSTINA SION ON BLACK REPARATIONS Assembly Bill 3121 & the CA Reparations Task Force

#### **LET'S TALK ABOUT AB 3121**



JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR A DISCUSSION 2/28/21 FROM 3-5PM

# Thank you to our team & partners!









# Agenda & Flow

#### THIS VIRTUAL EVENT WILL INCLUDE...

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON AB 3121 AND BLACK REPARATIONS

A CALL-TO-ACTION REPARATIONS LETTER DRIVE, BY PEOPLE 4 EQUITY

AND A MINDFULNESS EXERCISE TO CLOSEOUT IN A SPIRIT OF HEALING

#### A Walk-through Our Local Treasure Ani Cobian from the SOJO Art Museum





# Agenda & Flow

#### THIS VIRTUAL EVENT WILL INCLUDE...

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON AB 3121 AND BLACK REPARATIONS

A CALL-TO-ACTION REPARATIONS LETTER DRIVE, BY PEOPLE 4 EQUITY

AND A MINDFULNESS EXERCISE TO CLOSEOUT IN A SPIRIT OF HEALING



# Today we will discuss...

What are Reparations and AB 3121
Why reparations matter
Who qualifies for reparations
How reparations may be implemented



Assembly Bill 3121 was approved by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 30, 2020.

This bill will establish a <u>task force</u> to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans, with special consideration of AA's who are descendants of people enslaved in the US.

# WHO IS ON THE AB 3121 TASK FORCE?

According to AB 3121, the task force will consist of 9 members who will be chosen by 3 White government officials:

- 1 person from the field of academia with expertise in civil rights shall be appointed by Governor Newsom
- 2 people from major civil society and reparations organizations shall be appointed by Governor Newsom
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by Governor Newsom
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by the President pro Tempore of the Senate, Patrick Leahy of Vermont.
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi.

#### Recent AB 3121 Elects



Monica Montgomery Steppe City Council of District 4 (San Diego)



Steven Bradford CA State Senator, District 43 (Los Angeles)

# WHO IS ON THE AB 3121 TASK FORCE?

According to AB 3121, the task force will consist of 9 members who will be chosen by 3 White government officials:

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- 2 people from major civil society and reparations organizations shall be appointed by Governor Newsom
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by Governor Newsom.
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by the President pro Tempore of the Senate, Patrick Leahy of Vermont.
- 2 people of free choice shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi.

### Why Care?

America has demonstrated a pattern where the futures of Black people are left in the hands of non-Black Government officials.

For example, the future of this task force is in the hands of 3 White Government Officials.

Therefore it is crucial that Black Californians are empowered to take the initiative and influence who is on the task force and all reparations proposals before June 1, 2021, when the task force is set to begin meeting.



# INTRODUCING OUR DISCUSSION PANELISTS... Chris Lodgson **Morgan Smith** Aryana Gooley-Carson National Assembly of Mental Health Professional Communication Professor & Media Expert American Slavery Descendants





President & Co-Founder of The Purple Gavel

Mathews & Co Realty Group

Black Parallel School Board



# Today we will discuss...

- What are reparations? Why are reparations important for black people?
- 2. Based on the past and present experiences of Black people in your industry, why are reparations essential to your profession?
- 3. What is important for the California legislature and the AB 3121 Task Force to consider when making the decision of what would be adequate reparations?
- 4. What would you accept as reparations?

#### What Can You Do?



- 1. FOR ALL: Get educated and learn about diverse reparations proposals of the past, present, and future.
- 2. FOR ALL: Join the conversation. Attend our Virtual Reparations Panel & Discussion on the Last Day of Black History Month, February 28th at 3-5pm.
- 3. FOR BLACK PEOPLE: Help heal the Black community by donating a written letter to your state representatives.
  - Participate in People 4 Equity Letter Drive Campaign. Write a letter expressing your thoughts about reparations for Black people to Gavin Newsom, Patrick Leah, Nancy Pelosi, and/or the AB 3121 Task Force.

# WHAT SHOULD MY LETTER SAY?



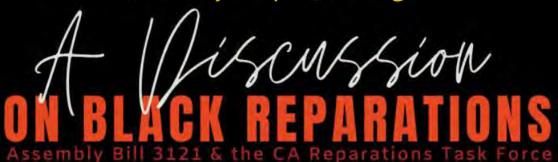
Freestyle your letter or be inspired by the prompts below:

- · What do reparations mean to you?
- Whom would you nominate for the AB 3121 task force?
- What would you accept as reparations and why?

Letters can be submitted in various creative forms such as a handwritten letter, video, poetry, spoken word, music, and drawings.

Where to Donate Your Letter
Email: people4equity@gmail.com
Mail: All Things Literacy and More
251 Florin Road Unit 113 Sacramento. CA 95822

#### Thank you for joining...













FEBRUARY 28TH 3-5PM

# SAM COOKE A CHANGE IS CONNA COME

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 1:47 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

Attachments: IMG\_20220117\_145401\_849.jpg; IMG\_20220106\_123301\_802.jpg; IMG\_20220113\_

191715\_244.jpg; IMG\_20211027\_190908\_137.jpg; IMG\_20210916\_011103\_319.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white...

Reparations budget approved 1862 for native Americans and black African Americans...

Free slaves got 300..

Im rewriting my own constitution for reparations.i want 300 every hr since 1776

Im pro per..i speak for myself...

300× 24hrs×7days×30×12 months-since 1776=4trillion..

Medicare since 2010.

I started at Kamala Harris office 2016..

Im reclaiming my native American identity..

I won by default 1BILLION...

I won affirmative class action civil law suit against Kings and Queens in London uk.

The judge is a fake job since 1776

There no judges in Africa

There no judges native American culture.

There is no reason to build a jail 1865..

This is not Rome or British..

Federal reserve bank is guilty of murder

Janet Yellen is guilty of murder

Why you keep stealing my money

Why you keep killing my son

Father rights violation is a crime 1MILLION fine

Poverty law violation is a crime

Pollution penalty 1MILLION

We need clean air..not COVID injections

I have a family member who died after COVID injections..

Government curruption 25MILLION fine

I want want my money today

Im walking with wheel chair since 07

Your not doctors

Medicare since 2010

The state and federal stimulus budget is approved because of me..not because of you or him or her or mayor or governor..

The judge is guilty of murder

Governor is guilty of murder..

Open US department of interior in 50 states

Not jails..thats a color of law violation..

Im a victim of false incarceration 2012 2014 2016..why you keep stealing my money and killing my son Im a victim of unlawful shots by LAPD 11-05 and feb 06

Fire all la county supervisors..there guilty of modern genocide is a crime..

My claim for damages is filed on time 1BILLION

LIEING 10,000 fine

18.usc.3571 deny the truth as evidence 250,000.

I appear in court wheel chair

ADA VIOLATION FINE 150,000.

THERE NOT DOCTORS...

COLUMBUS DAY HAS BEEN CHANGED TO INDIGENOUS DAY..

IT MATTERS

LAND RIGHTS

SOIL RIGHTS..



secfudge

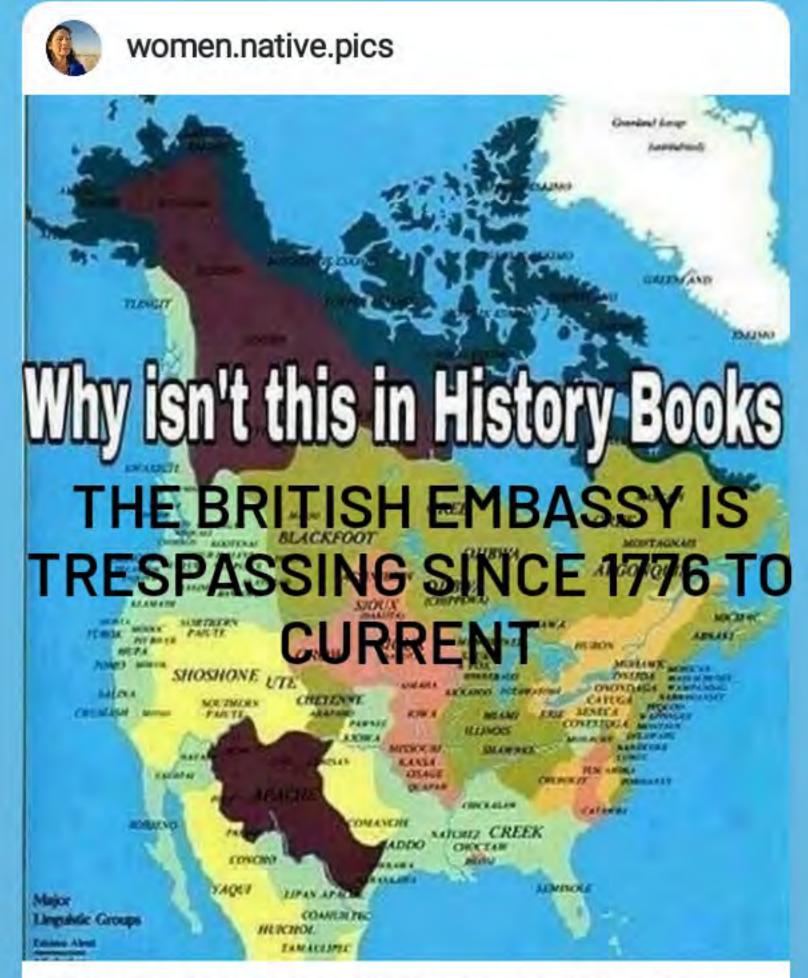
# **APPROVED**

# THE HOUSE PASSES BUILD BACK BETTER

secfudge Even before COVID-19 shook our nation to its core, tens of millions of Am... more

# bldpwr





women.native.pics Check out the link in BIO FREE SHIPPING FOR ANY ORDERS ABO... more



@shejustraw



#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Duane Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 3:49 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Reparation Proposals for African Americans

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### Hello,

I have some ideas for Reparation for African Americans.

- First a signed apology letter from the office of the President of the United States.
- African Americans should no longer pay ANY taxes. No Federal Tax. No State Tax, no Property tax, No medicare tax and No Social security tax but they still get the benefit of it all services for free. Now I know the state tax may be tricky but I may have a possible solution to that as well. I know states tend to dictate the amount of state taxes and won't agree to it and will probably vote it down. Here is my possible solution, when African American do their Federal taxes because they will still need to submit some form of paperwork to the government, they also put in the amount of state taxes paid and they would get a credit or a check for the amount of state tax paid.
- No African Americans should have to pay to go to college and they definitely shouldn't pay to go to a college
  that was built by enslaved people (Harvard, Yale, William & Mary, Georgetown) just to name a few.
- African Americans should be given free Federal Life insurance (Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) of no less than \$1,000,000.00 for themselves and their family.

Thank you for your time! Duane Thompson

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 10:49 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: After Reparations Study Suggests \$151 Million for Each African American, Experts Say

Money Alone Isn't Enough

Attachments: IMG\_20220114\_190047\_289.jpg; IMG\_20220117\_010208\_219.jpg; IMG\_20220117\_

004026\_835.jpg; IMG\_20220116\_235439\_212.jpg; IMG\_20220116\_232620\_548.jpg; IMG\_

20220116\_235201\_757.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### https://www.newsweek.com/reparations-slavery-cost-more-just-money-1518649

Im not white...

I started at Kamala Harris office 2016

Reparations budget approved 1862

I request 1 trillion budget..
I won by default 1BILLION..

Federal reserve bank is guilty of murder

Janet Yellen is guilty of murder

Modern genocide is a crime..

Why you keep stealing my money

Why you keep killing my son..

Government curruption 25MILLION...

Your not doctors

Medicare since 2010.

UCLA SINCE 1988..

I HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER WHO DIED AFTER COVID INJECTIONS..

SO WHY YOU KEEP ADVERTISING IT ON TV...

ITS NOT A CRIME TO LIKE PUSSY EVERYDAY...

IM WALKING WITH A WHEEL CHAIR SINCE 07

JANET YELLEN OWE ME 10MILLION FOR CASE 1-11-CV-02488-ODE..IVE BEEN WAITING SINCE 07..

YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE BRAINWASHED

I DONT LIVE IN LONDON UK.

THIS IS NOT ROME

THE STATE AND FEDERAL STIMULUS APPROVED IS THE ANSWER TO PAY ME MONEY TODAY...

CLOSE TAX DEPARTMENT YOUR GUILTY OF MURDER..

COVID IS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE IS A CRIME OF MURDER..

323 251 1618..I WANT MY MONEY TODAY...

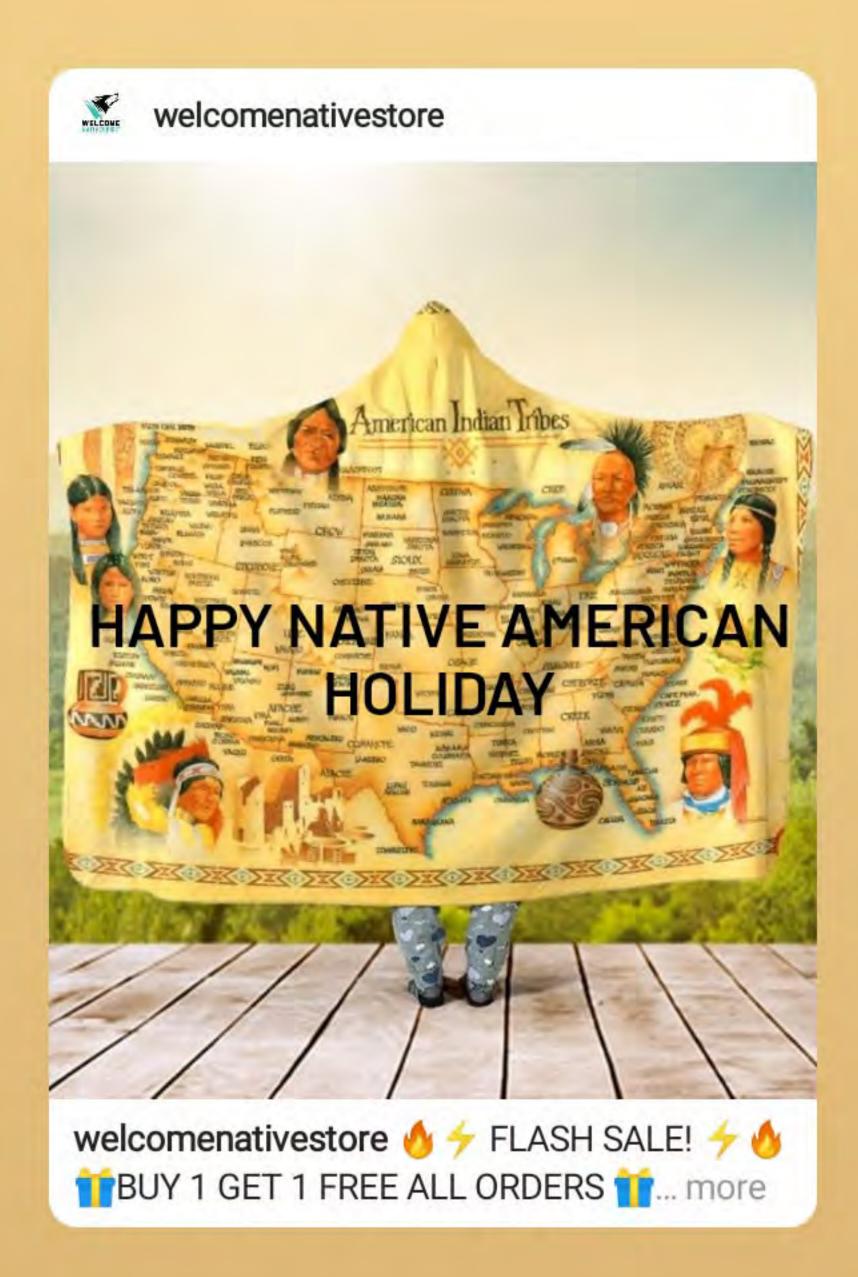
WANT MY OWN BANK..BANK actioninjurylaw OF NATIVE AMERICA

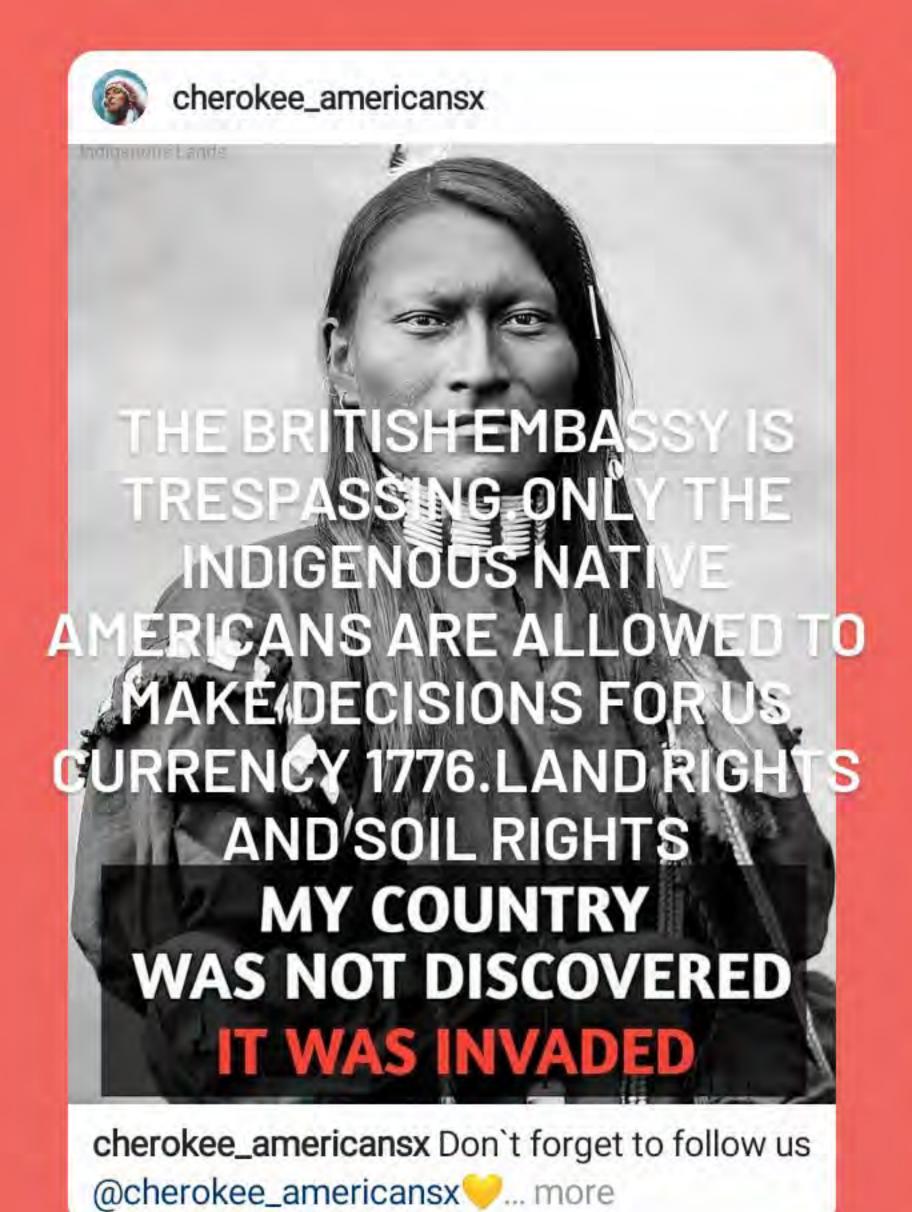
From slave to founder of the first Black-owned Bank: William Washington Browne.





actioninjurylaw Did you know that a former Georgia slave founded the first-ever... more







# INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY CITIZENSHIP.POLICE HAVE NO REASON TO PULL ANYBODY OVER

nativephotographyofficial Stars hit different out west #nativeamerican #native... more



NOVEMBER 15 & 16
STARTING AT 11:00 AM EST EACH DAY

Tune into the livestream
YOUTUBE.COM/USINTERIOR

secdebhaaland For the first time since 2016, the @WhiteHouse will host the Tribal N... more



#### indigenouspeoplesmovement



indigenouspeoplesmovement Did you know that Tulsa was developed on Indian Terr... more

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:24 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** United state of native America 1776

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Close down G5 TOWERS ITS A BRITISH WEAPON

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:27 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** United state of native America 1776

**Attachments:** IMG\_20220119\_005430\_608.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_005930\_790.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_

004754\_014.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_010508\_829.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_012001\_155.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white..

Government curruption 25MILLION..

I dont live in London uk..

There no judges in Africa

There no judges in native American culture

# THE JUDGE IS A FAKE JOB SINCE 1776

F A JUDGE THREATENS YOU WITH CONTEMPT FOR ARGUING THE LAW HIT THEM WITH THIS AND DEMAND THEIR ARREST.

42 U.S. Code § 12203 - Prohibition against retaliation and coercion Current through Pub. L. 113-185. (See Public Laws for the current Congress.)

(a) Retaliation

No person shall discriminate against any individual because such individual has opposed any act or practice made unlawful by this chapter or because such individual made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this chapter.

(b) Interference, coercion, or intimidation shall be unlawful to coerce, intimidate, reaten, or interfere with any individual

BRITISH EMBASSY IS
Murdefroc
TRESPASSING
Literally Every Bill

18 U.S. Code § 514. Fictitious obligations





# INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY RIGHTS

 Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating the rights of indigenous peoples contained in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

# SECTION FIVE: Social, Economic, and Property Rights

- Article XXV. Traditional forms of property and cultural survival. Right to land, territory, and
- Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual, cultural, and material relationship to their lands, territories, and resources and to assume their responsibilities to preserve them for themselves and for future generations.
- Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they
  have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
- Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and come the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
- 4. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territorica and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.
- Indigenous peoples have the right to legal recognition of the various and particular modalities and forms of property, possession and ownership of their lands, territories, and recognition accordance with the legal system of each State and the relevant international instruments. The states shall establish the special regimes appropriate for such recognition, and for their effective demarcation or titling.

# Article XXVI. Indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation or initial contact

- Indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation or initial contact have the right to remain in that condition and to live freely and in accordance with their cultures.
- 2. The states shall adopt adequate policies and measures with the knowledge and participation of indigenous peoples and organizations to recognize, respect, and protect the lands, territories, environment, and cultures of these peoples as well as their life, and individual and collective integrity.

# Article XXVII. Labor Rights

 Indigenous peoples and persons have the rights and guarantees recognized in national and international labor law. States shall take all special measures to prevent, punish and remedy the discrimination to which indigenous peoples and persons are subjected.

murderroc #rightsofindigenouspeople

# DOJ did not respond

# ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes ir <

Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 5:55 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: H.R.40 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Commission to Study and Develop Reparation

Proposals for African Americans Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress

IMG\_20220119\_013651\_056.jpg; IMG\_20220118\_163714\_804.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_ Attachments:

140020 539.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

# https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/40?s=1&r=55

Im not white

Reparations budget approved 1862 for native Americans and black African Americans.

1865 the land has been declared back to native American in 50 states

The federal reserve bank is guilty of murder

Janet Yellen is guilty of murder

Only the indigenous native American are allowed to make decisions for us currency since 1776

usgethere both British flags its trespassing since 1776.IMPEACH George Washington and His laws then remove him from US currency

1899 the dollar bill is called silver certificate north African dollar bill

There is a native American chief on nickel.

You have native American chief of 5 dollar bill.

The US currency belongs to native American and black African Americans...

You can not sell stolen land..

There no reason to build a jail 1865...

Afeni SHAKUR is a victim of false incarceration. COLOR OF LAW VIOLATION

THE GOVERNOR WRONGLY KILLED TUPAC SHAKUR IN VEGAS..INVESTIGATION IS WRONG..IT

MATTERS BECAUSE THEN THE BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN OR WOMAN WILL BE IN CHARGE OF US DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY.

CLOSE TAX DEPARTMENT THERE GUILTY OF MURDER..

SLAVES NEVER PAID RENT IN PLANTATION..

THE JUDGES AND GOVERNORS ARE GUILTY OF MURDER

YOU WRONGLY GAVE THE REPARATIONS BUDGET TO JUDGES AND GOVERNORS...

THATS WHY YOU HAVE A HOMELESS PROBLEM IN 50 STATES

YOUR GAMBLING WITH THE REPARATIONS BUDGET SINCE 1862 AT THE LOTTERY...

THE MAYOR AND GOVERNOR FAILED ON ALL LEVELS..

FATHER RIGHTS VIOLATION IS A CRIME...

POLLUTION FINE 1MILLION

POVERTY LAW VIOLATION IS CRIME

WE NEED CLEAN AIR..NOT COVID INJECTIONS

COVID IS A BRITISH ATTACK.

STOP SPREADING KEMTRAILS IN AIR..ITS ALSO A BRITISH ATTACK

CLOSE DOWN G5 TOWERS ITS A BRITISH ATTACK

GOVERNMENT CURRUPTION 25MILLION

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN APPROVED.

BUILD BACK BETTER APPROVED

STATE AND FEDERAL STIMULUS APPROVED

### CARES ACT APPROVED

CARES GIVER ACT APPROVED..RAISE THE IN HOME SUPPORT SERVICES 100.00HR ADD UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT TO SSI-SSD.. RAISE THE SSI-SSD TO 10,000 A MONTH.. ITS NOT SAFE FOR KIDS TO BE IN SCHOOL..

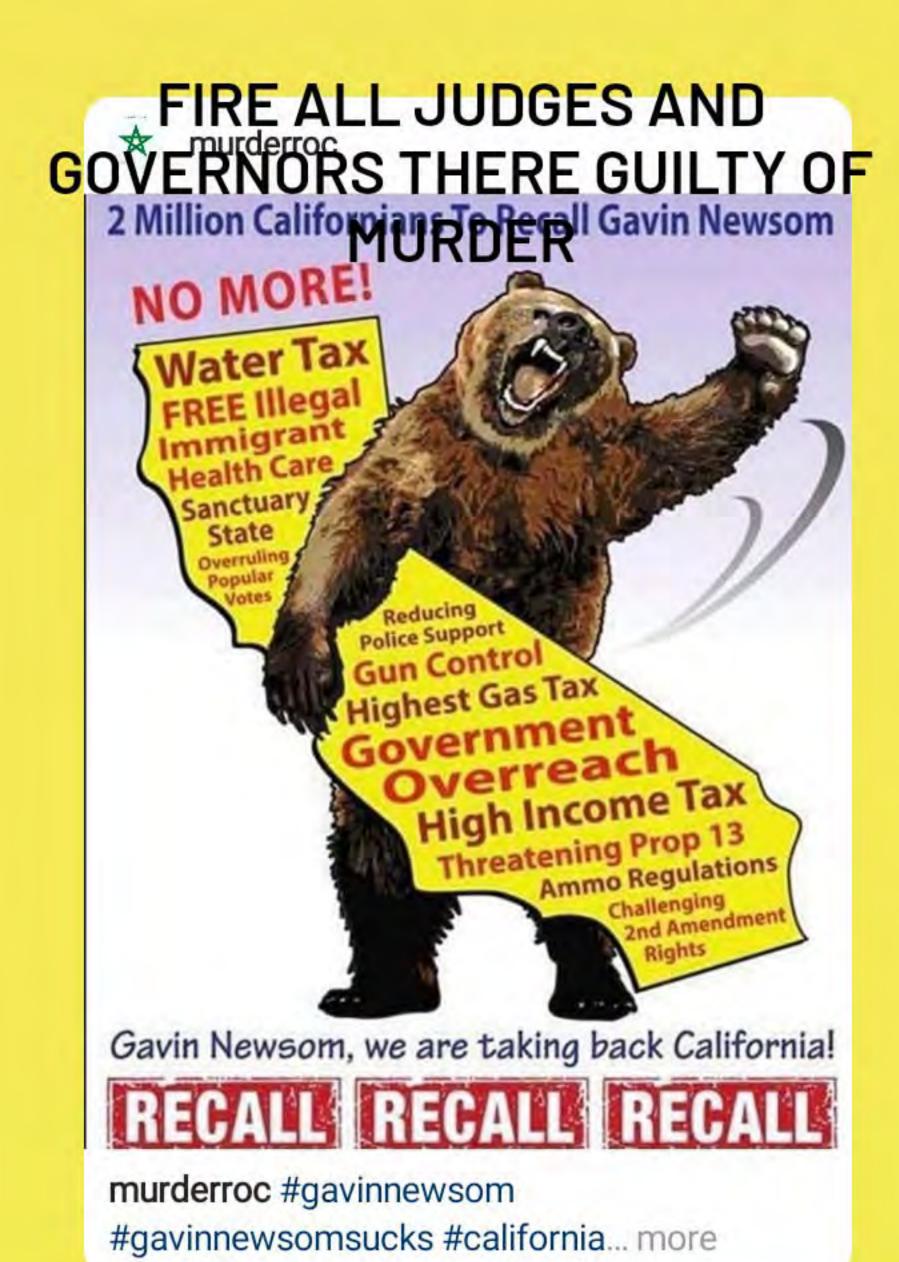
THERE NOT DOCTORS

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE IS A CRIME OF MURDER

STOP CONTROLLING THE GOVERNMENT LIKE A MONOPOLY GAME..ITS A CRIME OF MURDER.. HATE CRIME 1BILLION..RACEST FINE..

I WANT MY MONEY TODAY.

THE MAYOR AND GOVERNOR FAILED ON ALL LEVELS..



CHECKTHE

check.the.sheriff

Bit.ly/DefundHOST

# CALL TO ACTION

Demand LA County Board of Supervisors defund LASD's Homeless "Outreach Services" Team



- VIOLENT

EXPENSIVE

- UNQUALIFIED

WHY THE KEEP STEALING MY 10NEY AND KILLING MY SON.

check.the.sheriff LOS ANGELES .... more



That We Are Currently Accepting Applic... more

478

# DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:15 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

**Attachments:** IMG\_20220118\_192417\_815.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_000908\_523.jpg; IMG\_20220118\_

192252\_921.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_003740\_892.jpg; IMG\_20220121\_142035\_757.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white

You have KKK MEMBER AS EMPLOYEES

HENRY STERN AND BRAD SHERMAN OFFICE HAS KKK MEMBER HAS EMPLOYEES

YOU CAN TELL BY THERE ACTIONS

LIEING 10.000 FINE

HATE CRIME 1BILLION...

18.USC.3571 DENY THE TRUTH AS EVIDENCE 250,000 FINE

LIEING FOR THE BRITISH EMBASSY...THE BRITISH EMBASSY STARTED THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

THE BRITISH KILLED 114 MILLION NATIVE AMERICANS AND 200 MILLION BLACK AFRICAN AMERICANS.

THE GOVERNMENT SYMBOL SAYS FOUNDED 1781. THAT DON'T MEAN I BELONG TO YOU.

BORIS JOHNSON UK ALREADY SAID HES RESPONSIBLE FOR MONTEREY COMPENSATION 14.7 TRILLION

WHY YOU KEEP STEALING MY MONEY

WHY YOU KEEP KILLING MY SON ..

YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE BRAINWASHED

AND HAVE NO COMMON SENSE

I STARTED AT KAMALA HARRIS OFFICE 2016..I WON BY DEFAULT 1BILLION

I REQUEST A BUDGET 1TRILLION ITS APPROVED...I WANT MY MONEY TODAY...

ONLY THE INDIGENOUS NATIVE AMERICAN ARE ALLOWED TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR US CURRENCY SINCE 1776...

IMPEACH GEORGE WASHINGTON AND HIS LAWS THEN REMOVE HIM FROM US CURRENCY SINCE 1776..

IM WALKING WITH WHEEL CHAIR SINCE 07

MEDICARE SINCE 2010. YOUR NOT DOCTORS

STOP TOUCHING ME

IM A VICTIM OF FALSE INCARCERATION 2012 2014 2016

CRENSHAW DISTRICT..NO EVIDENCE...

YOU CAN NOT RULE IN FAVOR OF DEFENDANTS WHEN THEY DON'T APPEAR IN COURT..I WON BY DEFAULT..THE JUDGE IS A FAKE JOB SINCE 1776

YOU STILL LIEING TO AMERICAN PEOPLE ABOUT JUDGES AND TAXES...IRS IS A SCAM SINCE 1865

STATE AND FEDERAL STIMULUS BUDGET IS THE ANSWER TO PAY MY MONEY..

I WANT MY MONEY TODAY 1BILLION..

REPARATIONS BUDGET APPROVED JUNE 1 2021 BECAUSE OF ME NOT THE MAYOR OR GOVERNOR..

ITS WAS APPROVED BECAUSE YOU FAILED ON ALL LEVELS ...

IM BORN A KING IM WORTH 1TRILLION INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY CITIZENSHIP.. I LIKE PUSSY EVERYDAY..YOUR NOT DOCTORS.. MEDICAL MALPRACTICE IS A CRIME OF MURDER..





hollyjmitchell Every home in the U.S. is now eligible to order one set of 4 FREE at... more



murderroc

# **NATURAL NEWS**

Q

United Nations forced to admit that vaccines from Bill Gates are spreading polio throughout Africa

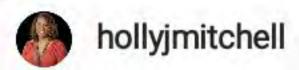
Tuesday, September 08, 2020 by: Ethan Huff
Tags: badhealth, badmedicine, badscience, Bill &Melinda Gates
Foundation, bill gates, corruption, Dangerous Medicine,
depopulation, outbreak, polio, proven conspiracy, UN, United
Nations, vaccine jihad, vaccine wars, vaccines, World Health
Organization

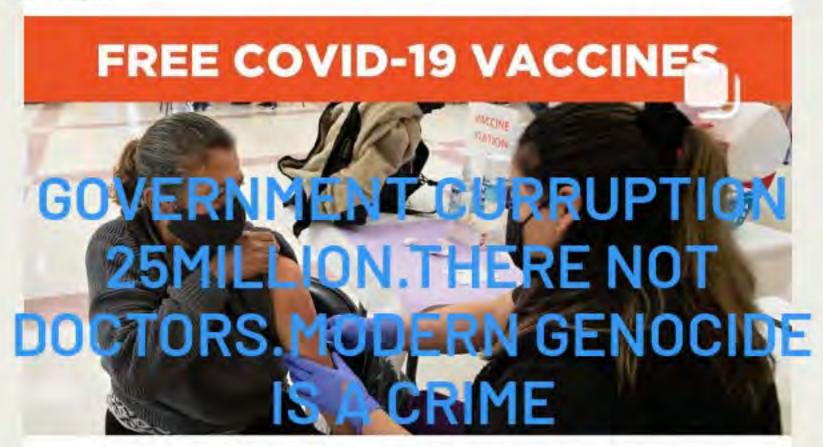
# BILL GATES IS TRYING TO END Bypass censorship by sharing this link: POPULATION.MODERN

# POPULATION.MODERN GENOCIDE IS A CRIME

BY CONTINUING TO BROWSE OUR SITE YOU X

murderroc #fuckfactchecker





# ROOSEVELT PARK

(Mobile clinic will be located at the gym)

7600 Graham Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90001

FRIDAY, JAN. 21 & SATURDAY, JAN. 22

FRIDAY, FEB. 11 & SATURDAY, FEB. 12

# FROM 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

(last doses administered at 3:15 pm)

- FOR ANYONE AGES 5 & OLDER
- BRING PHOTO ID TO CONFIRM AGE
- **GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID NOT REQUIRED**

Supervisor Holly Mitchell at 213-974-2222

1st and 2nd Doses of Moderna and Pfizer will be available + Boosters for everyone who meets eligibility, ages 12+

# NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED











hollyjmitchell This Friday, Team Mitchell is hosting a vaccine site at Roosevelt Par... more

# KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



@murderroc



# YOUR NOT DOCTORS FEDERAL RESERVE BANK IS GUILTY OF

MURDER.MEDICAL

Friday, Jan. 21 &

MATERIACTICE IS A CRIME A

Saturday, Jan. 22 & Saturday, Jan. 29 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Monday, Jan. 31 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 11 & Saturday, Feb. 12 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

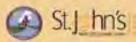
Saturday, Feb. 12 8:00 am - 3:00 pm MURDER

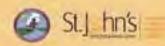
Jefferson Elementary School 10322 Condon Ave. Inglewood, 90304

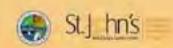
> Roosevelt Park 7600 Graham Ave. Los Angeles, 90001

> Lennox Park 10828 Condon Ave. Los Angeles, 90304

R 🌘









Doses of Moderna, Pfizer, and boosters will be available!



hollyjmitchell Tomorrow, Friday, January 21, team Mitchell will be back at Roosevelt... more

# DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 8:04 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

**Attachments:** IMG\_20220119\_011445\_200.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_135644\_524.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_

004754\_014.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_004507\_523.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_140020\_539.jpg; IMG\_

20220119\_013025\_497.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white

The state and federal stimulus budget is the answer to pay my money..today

Why you keep stealing my money

Why you keep killing my son

Father rights violation is crime..

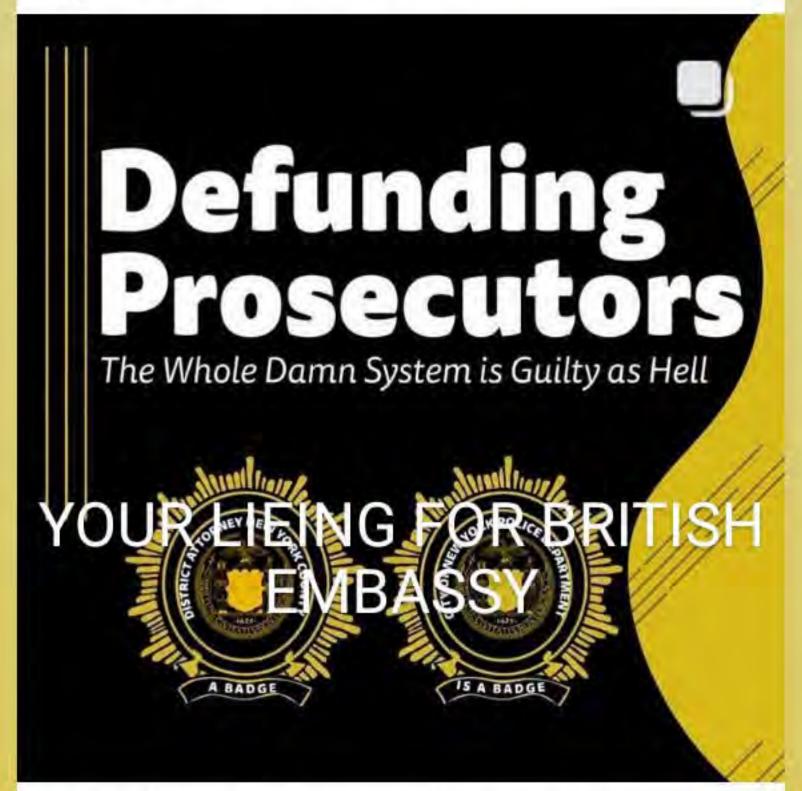
Black African American father lives matter Since 1776

Indigenous native American father lives matter Since 1776





# publicdefenderproblems



publicdefenderproblems (RP graphics by @survivepunishNY on Twitter)... more





# murderroc

# About Taxes Capital Gains and Losses Capital Gains and Losses Capital Gains form 1085.

Income Tax is that which is profited from a **capitol Investment**. Your labor wages are not 'income', unless you voluntarily comply to say they are, or you yourself are a corporation, thus whatever you have as 'excess' is considered profit. That is the purpose of listing your expenses so that the IRS, a private accounting firm, can determine how much of that they will take from you — the Corporate Person.





murderroc #restinroyalty #restinroyaltykings

# DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 8:07 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

Attachments: IMG\_20220119\_135644\_524.jpg; IMG\_20220106\_123301\_802.jpg; IMG\_20220113\_

191715\_244.jpg; IMG\_20220118\_163541\_479.jpg; IMG\_20220118\_163714\_804.jpg;

20210310\_094925.jpg; 20210315\_155502.jpg; 20210310\_094913.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

### Im not white

I filed a filed small claim against Homeless program..Path shelter and brilliant is guilty of Government curruption 25MILLION.

My claim for damages 1BILLION..on time..

Why you keep stealing my money

Why you keep killing my son.

Father rights violation is crime 1MILLION fine..

18.usc.3571 deny the truth as evidence 250,000.

Medical malpractice is a crime of murder

Your not doctors...

Medicare since 2010.

Im walking with wheel chair since 07

I appear in court in wheel chair

ADA VIOLATION FINE 150.000

I ASK FOR ADA COORDINATOR SINCE 07.

YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE BRAINWASHED..

DON'T HAVE NO COMMON SENSE..

THERE IS NO REASON BUILD A JAIL 1865

OPEN US DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR IN 50 STATES..

I WANT MY TODAY

**LIEING 10,000** 

REPARATIONS BUDGET APPROVED 1862 FOR NATIVE AMERICANS AND BLACK AFRICAN AMERICANS...

THE MAYOR AND GOVERNOR IS GUILTY OF MURDER...

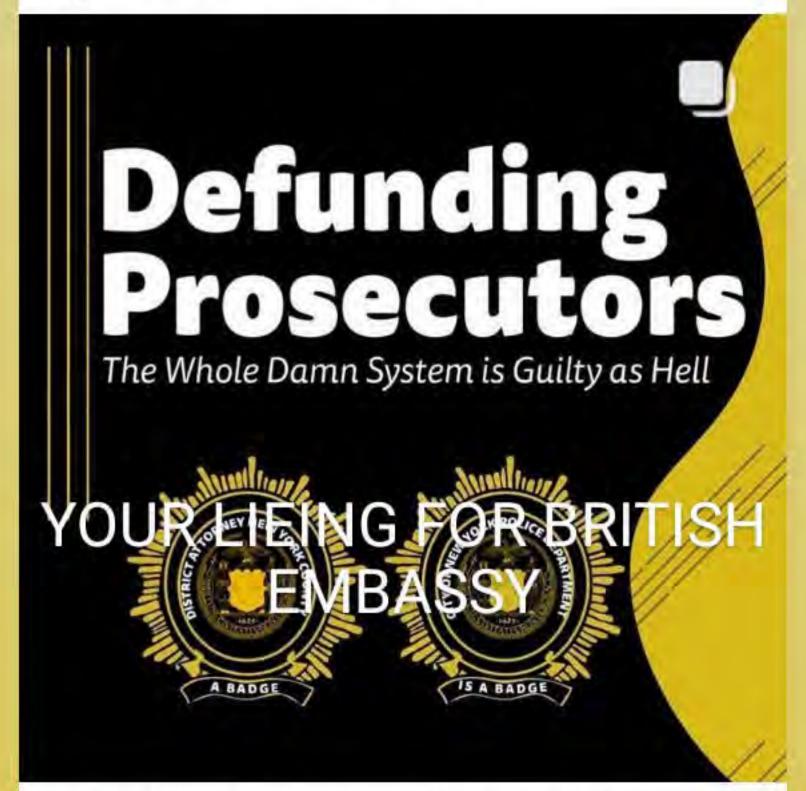
THE SOLUTION IS TO FIRE ALL JUDGES AND GOVERNORS IN 50 STATES..

YOU WRONGLY GAVE REPARATIONS BUDGET TO JUDGES AND GOVERNORS

THATS WHY THATS THERE A HOMELESS PROBLEM IN 50 STATES...



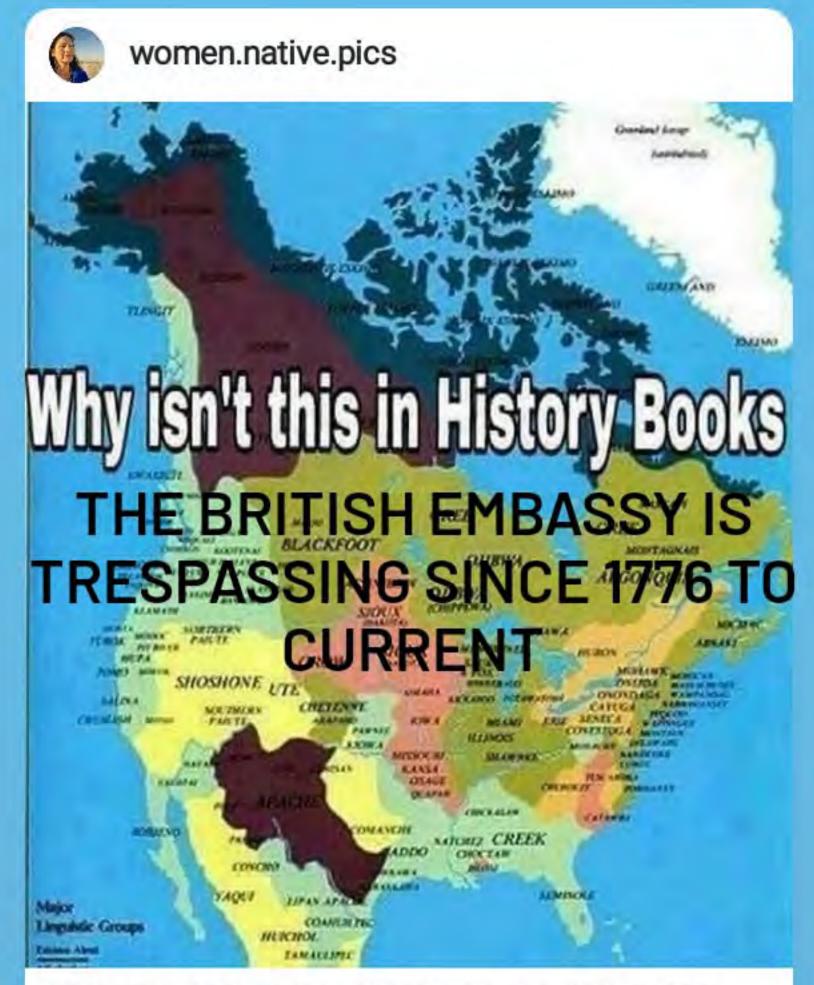
# publicdefenderproblems



publicdefenderproblems (RP graphics by @survivepunishNY on Twitter)... more

# bldpwr

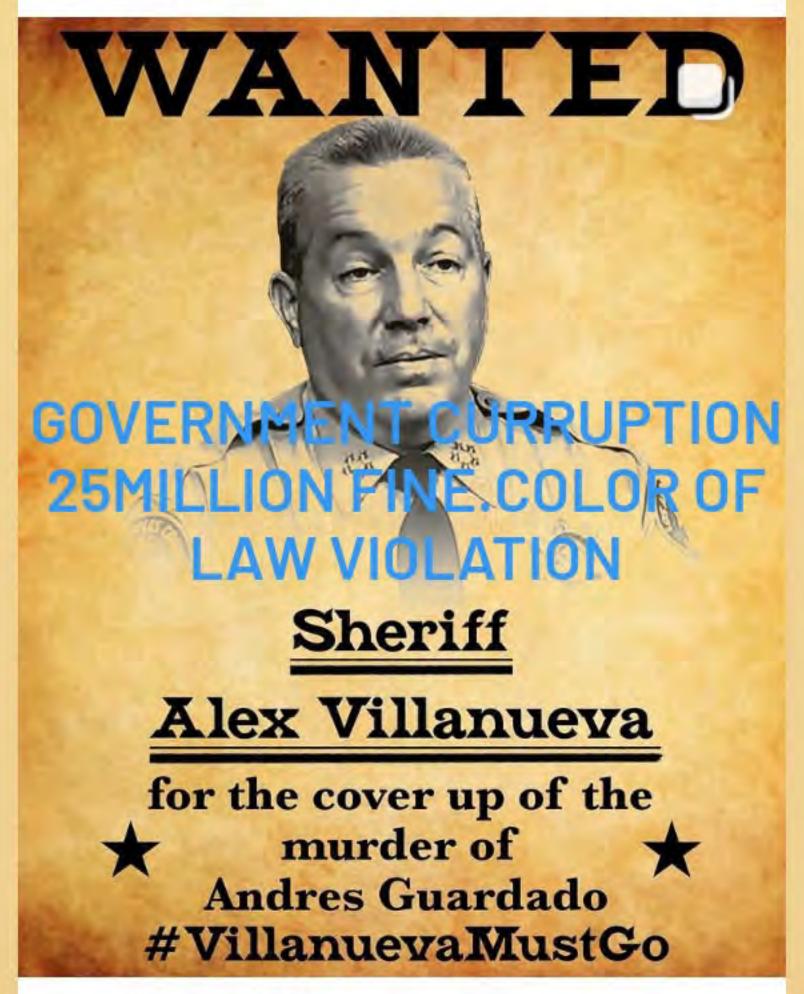




women.native.pics Check out the link in BIO FREE SHIPPING FOR ANY ORDERS ABO... more

CHECKTHE

check.the.sheriff



check.the.sheriff WANTED:... more

CHECKTHE

check.the.sheriff

Bit.ly/DefundHOST

# CALL TO ACTION

Demand LA County Board of Supervisors defund LASD's Homeless "Outreach Services" Team



- VIOLENT

EXPENSIVE

- UNQUALIFIED

WHY THE KEEP STEALING MY MONEY AND KILLING MY SQN.

check.the.sheriff LOS ANGELES .... more

# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Civil Division

Central District, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Department 1A

November 2, 2020

2, 2020 3:00 PM
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To Aug201
Page 1 of 1

Minute Order



Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Attention: Claims
500 W. Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Claim of:

HAYES, ANTHONY ULYESSES, JR.

File Number:

21-4383395

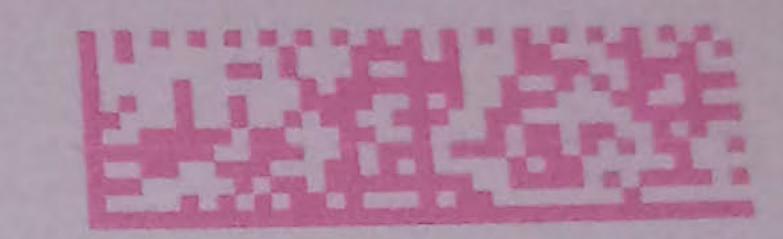
Board Number:

21-597

Filed on:

03/09/2021

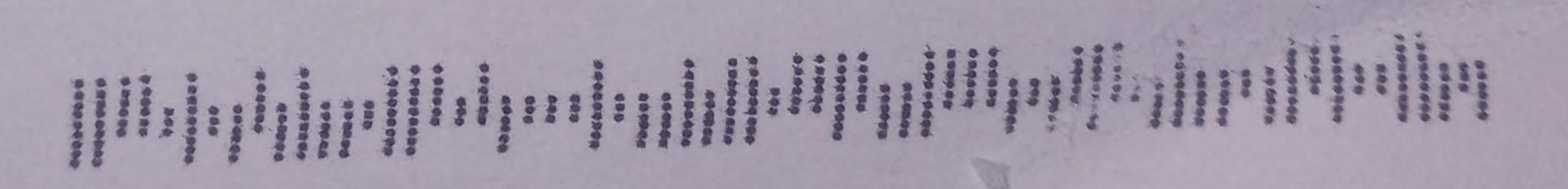
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03/12/2021
US POSTAGE \$000.369



ZIP 90012 041L12204667

HAYES, ANTHONY ULYESSES, J

The above claim has been referred to County Counsel for investigation. You will not receive a response for at least 60 days. After that period, please direct any quesitons to County Counsel at (213) 974-1913.

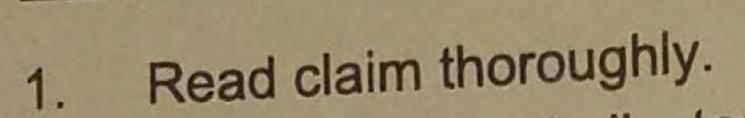


with the state of the state of

# CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES TO PERSON OR PROPERTY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

INSTRUCTIONS:



Fill out claim as indicated; attach additional information if necessary.

Please use one claim form for each claimant.

Return this original signed claim and any attachments

supporting your claim. This form must be signed.

DELIVER OR U.S. MAIL TO:

EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ATTENTION: CLAIMS

F STRFFT, ROOM 383,

TIME STAMP OFFICE USE ONLY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 2021 MAR -9 P 12: 32

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, MINISTRATION KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION	N, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	
(213) 974-1440	100) preading Kentrails INAIR 215 119	
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6. DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT	11. NAMES OF ANY COUNTY EMPLOYEES (AND THEIR DEPARTMENTS) INVOLVED IN INJURY OR DAMAGE (IF APPLICABLE):	
5/07/2021	DEPARTMENT	
7. WHERE DID DAMAGE OR INJURY OCCUR?	NAME AND SHOOM SONS LA COUNTY REPT MENTA	
STREET ZIP CODE	NAME	
STREET CITY, STATE ZIP CODE	County Counsel DYSSILLED	
8. DESCRIBE IN DETAIL HOW DAMAGE OR INJURY OCCURRED AND LIST DAMAGES	12. WITNESS(ES) TO DAMAGES OR INJURY: LIST ALL PERSONS AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS KNOWN TO HAVE INFORMATION:	
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9. WERE POLICE OR PARAMEDICS CALLED? YES NO NO 1 105	13. IF PHYSICIAN(S) WERE VISTED DUE TO INJURY, PROVIDE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND DATE OF FIRST VISIT FOR EACH:	
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THIS CLAIM MUST BE SIGNED		
NOTE: PRESENTATION OF A FALSE CLAIM IS A FELONY (PENAL CODE SECTION 72)		

15. SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT OR PERSON FILING ON HIS/HER DATE BEHALF GIVING RELATIONSHIP TO CLAIMANT

ALL OTHER CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES MUST BE FILED NOT LATER THAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE OCCURRENCE. (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 911.2)

CLAIMS FOR DEATH, INJURY TO PERSON OR TO PERSONAL PROPERTY MUST BE FILED NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE OCCURRENCE.

(GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 911.2) UNITED STATE OF NATIWE AMERICA SINCE 1776

# DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 8:44 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

**Attachments:** 20210919\_104211.jpg; 20210315\_155502.jpg; 20210310\_094925.jpg; 20210917\_155627

\_HDR.jpg; 20210310\_094913.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white
Why you keep stealing my money
Why you keep killing my son..

Government curruption 25MILLION
I started at Kamala Harris office 2016..
Your employees are brainwashed
I won by default 1BILLION
I won the debate about judges
There no judges in Africa
There no judges in native American culture..
Judges are not doctors
Medical malpractice is a crime of murder
The judge is a fake job since 1776





Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Attention: Claims
500 W. Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Claim of:

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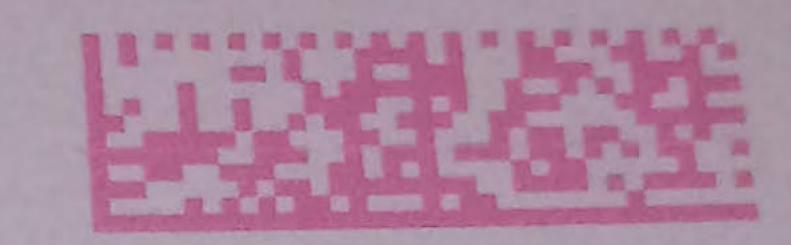
Board Number:

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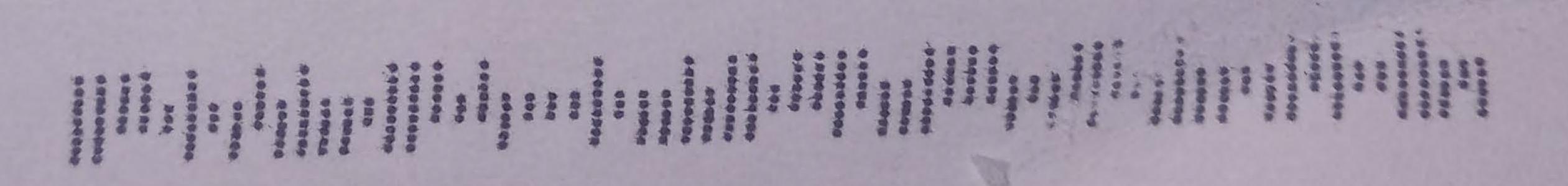
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CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON OF TH

# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Civil Division

Central District, Stanley Mosk Courthouse, Department 1A

November 2, 2020

Page 1 of 1

	20STSC04268 ANTHONY ULYESSES HAYES, JR. vs THE LOS ANGELES 3:00 PM HOMELESS SERVICES/PATH  Wy Letter To the Governor Say US Department of Treasury  One we Dun llow
V	Judge Pro Tem: Moule Montes  CSR: None  CSR: None
	Judge Pro Tem: MIguel Montes  Judicial Assistant: Tonsha Kelley  Courtroom Assistant: None  CSR: None  ERM: Electronically Recorded  Deputy Sheriff: S. Castro-Ramos
	APPEARANCES:  Sovergnity Citizen Born & king  For Plaintiff(s): Anthony Ulyesses Hayes, Jr.
	For Defendant(s): No Appearances
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	NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: Non-Jury Trial DAMAGLEC Cause Pul
	You CAN Not Rule in former of Defendent when they  NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: Non-Jury Trial  To Tal Damages Cause by  The Court finds there is no proof of service. DCFS IDPSS 4Billion
	Pursuant to the request of plaintiff, the Non-Jury Trial scheduled for 11/02/2020 is continued to 03/09/2021 at 08:30 AM in Department 1A at Stanley Mosk Courthouse.
	Plaintiff is ordered to serve a copy of this minute order along with the original plaintiff's claim on the defendant and to file proof of service with the Small Claims Clerk's Office at least 5 days prior to the new trial date or the case will be dismissed. The Victim of Vict
	Plaintiff is given a copy of this minute order in court and date.  Plaintiff is given a copy of this minute order in court and date.  Only
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	SINCE 1776 You can Not Charge property Tax
	ON Native American Lano
	You can not Tax wages, you can not
	TAX SSSI-SSD Money.  PAY BACK my SSI-SSD mone y From 1-2016 To Aug201

Minute Order



## CONSTITUENT SERVICES

My office can help Californians navigate various federal programs & agencies including:

- Social Security
- Medicare
- Veterans Administration
- Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- Passports and Visas

If you're having a problem with a federal program or agency email my office at:

Casework\_Harris@harris.senate.gov

My office also offers internships, tours of the U.S. Capitol and more. Find out all the ways my office can assist you by visiting: www.harris.senate.gov

## STAY CONNECTED

Twitter:

Facebook:

@SenKamalaHarris

@SenatorKamalaHarris

Los Angeles (310) 231 - 4494

Fresno (559)497 - 5109

Sacramento (916)448 - 2787

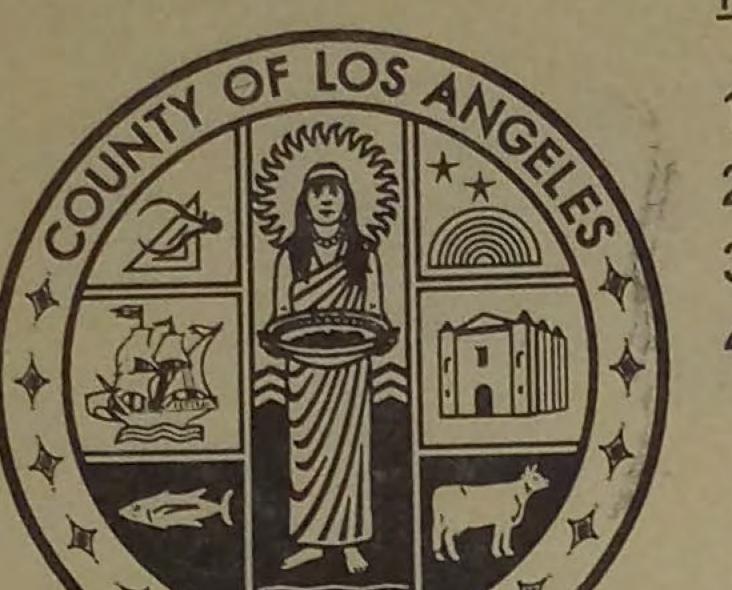
San Francisco (415)981 - 9369

San Diego (619) 239-3884 Washington, D.C. (202) 224 - 3553

## CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES TO PERSON OR PROPERTY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

INSTRUCTIONS:



- Read claim thoroughly.
- Fill out claim as indicated; attach additional information if necessary.
- Please use one claim form for each claimant.
- Return this original signed claim and any attachments supporting your claim. This form must be signed.

DELIVER OR U.S. MAIL TO:

EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ATTENTION: CLAIMS

STREET ROOM 383.

TIME STAMP OFFICE USE ONLY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 2021 MAR -9 P 12: 32

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION	N, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012								
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111 N +h11 27	12. WITNESS(ES) TO DAMAGES OR INJURY: LIST ALL PERSONS AND								
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15. SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT OR PERSON FILING ON HIS/HER BEHALF GIVING RELATIONSHIP TO CLAIMANT

DATE

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 5:02 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Cosponsors - H.R.40 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Commission to Study and Develop

Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress

**Attachments:** IMG\_20220119\_190434\_906.jpg; IMG\_20220122\_155148\_876.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_

135644\_524.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_000908\_523.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_003740\_892.jpg; IMG\_

20220119\_140020\_539.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/40/cosponsors?s=1&r=4&overview=closed

Im not white

Only the indigenous native American are allowed to make decisions for US currency since 1776

150 MILLION FOR EACH BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN...

BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN FATHER LIVES MATTER SINCE 1776

INDIGENOUS NATIVE AMERICAN FATHER LIVES MATTER SINCE 1776

The BRITISH started the police department

The British Killed 114 million native Americans and 200 million black African Americans.

The judge is guilty of murder.

The governor is guilty of murder...

Stop paying judges stop paying governors in 50 states..

I started at Kamala HARRIS OFFICE 2016..

STATE AND STIMULUS BUDGET APPROVED..THATS THE ANSWER TO PAY ME MY MONEY

I REQUEST A BUDGET 1TRILLION..

YOU CAN SELL STOLEN LAND.

THE BRITISH EMBASSY STOLE 14.7 TRILLION...

I WON BY DEFAULT 1BILLION

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN AVAILABLE

BUILD BACK BETTER APPROVED

IRS IS A SCAM SINCE 1865..

YOU LIVE ON FARM LAND SINCE 1776.

THE BRITISH EMBASSY IS TRESPASSING

GOVERNMENT SYMBOL SAYS FOUNDED 1781 THAT DONT MEAN I BELONG TO YOU

STOP TOUCHING ME..

I WANT MY MONEY TODAY

323 251 1618.

IM WALKING WITH WHEEL CHAIR SINCE 07...



dtr360books\_\_

# CLASSIC AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL POOL



SHAKURISA VIC

AFENI SHAKUR IS A VICTIM OF

INCARCERATION.COLOR OF LAW VIOLATION

JASMINE GUY

dtr360books\_\_ In 1969, Afeni was arrested along with other members of the Black... more



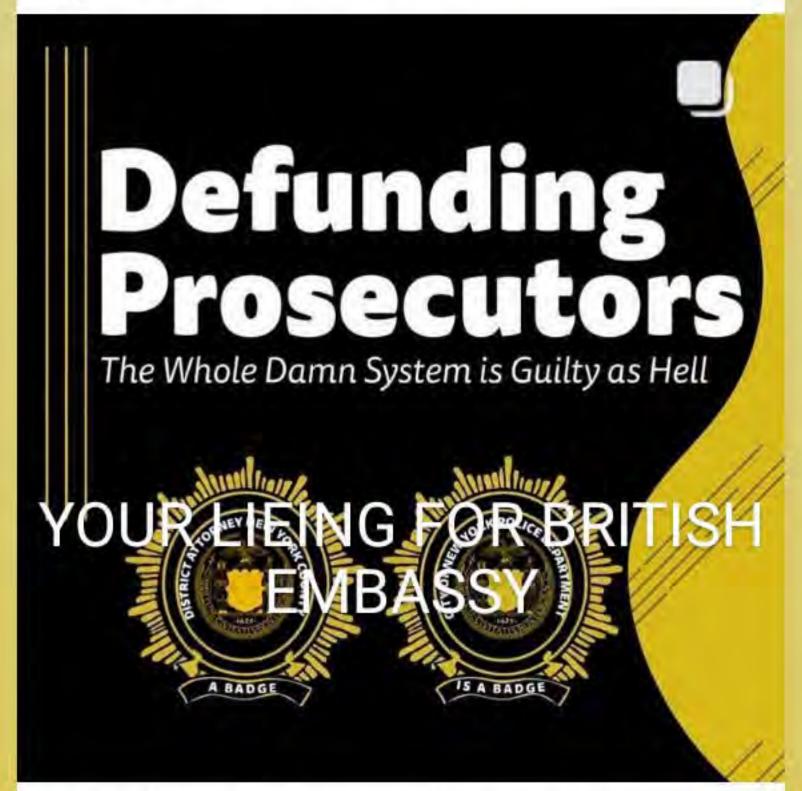
#### blackhistoryunlocked

In 1916, a white mob beat, stabbed, shot, and hung Anthony P. Crawford, a 56-year-old Black farmer in South Carolina after he dared to argue with a white merchant over the price of cottonseed





#### publicdefenderproblems



publicdefenderproblems (RP graphics by @survivepunishNY on Twitter)... more



murderroc

#### **NATURAL NEWS**

United Nations forced to admit that vaccines from Bill Gates are spreading polio throughout Africa

Tuesday, September 08, 2020 by: Ethan Huff
Tags: badhealth, badmedicine, badscience, Bill &Melinda Gates
Foundation, bill gates, corruption, Dangerous Medicine,
depopulation, outbreak, polio, proven conspiracy, UN, United
Nations, vaccine jihad, vaccine wars, vaccines, World Health
Organization

## BILL GATES IS TRYING TO END Bypass censorship by sharing this link: POPULATION.MODERN GENOCIDE IS A CRIME

N BY CONTINUING TO BROWSE OUR SITE YOU X

murderroc #fuckfactchecker

### KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



@murderroc



apd\_los\_angeles APD is Excited to Announce
That We Are Currently Accepting Applic... more

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 5:21 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

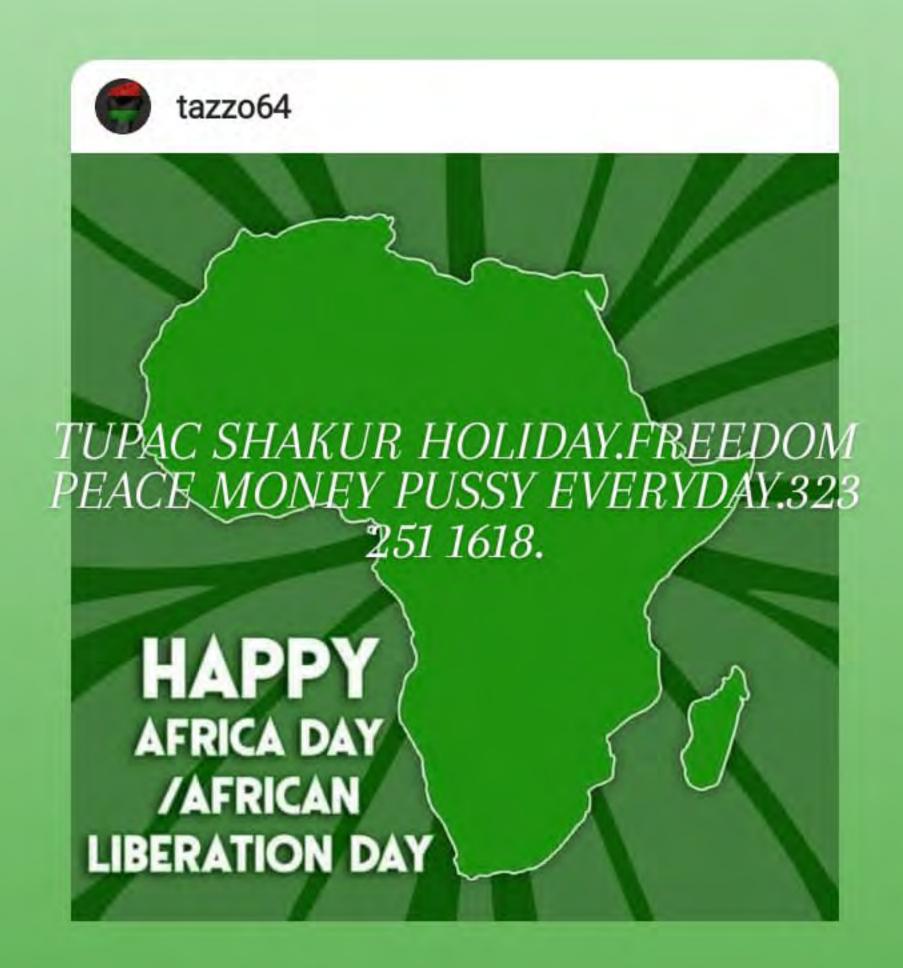
**Subject:** United state of native America 1776

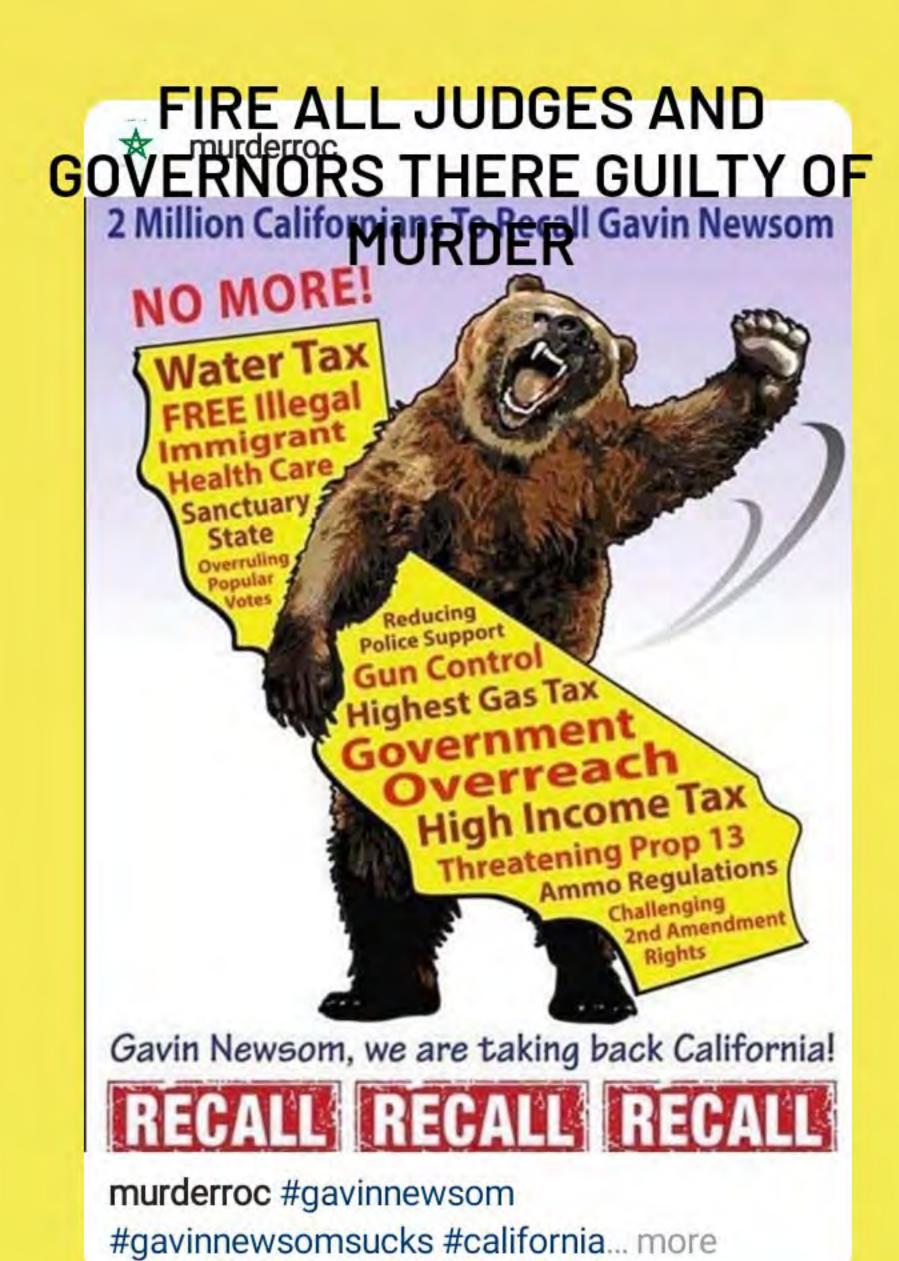
**Attachments:** IMG\_20210326\_231350\_139.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_013651\_056.jpg; IMG\_20210325\_

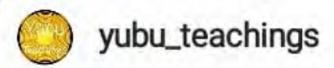
084455\_301.jpg; IMG\_20220119\_000908\_523.jpg; IMG\_20220117\_010208\_219.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Im not white Correction you can not sell stolen land The British stole 14.7 trillion..







### This app shows you what Indigenous land you're on



It doesn't represent the official or legal boundaries of the Indigenous nations, but it's an interesting look into the history of land and the people who called it home

yubu\_teachings @nativelandnet... more



murderroc

#### **NATURAL NEWS**

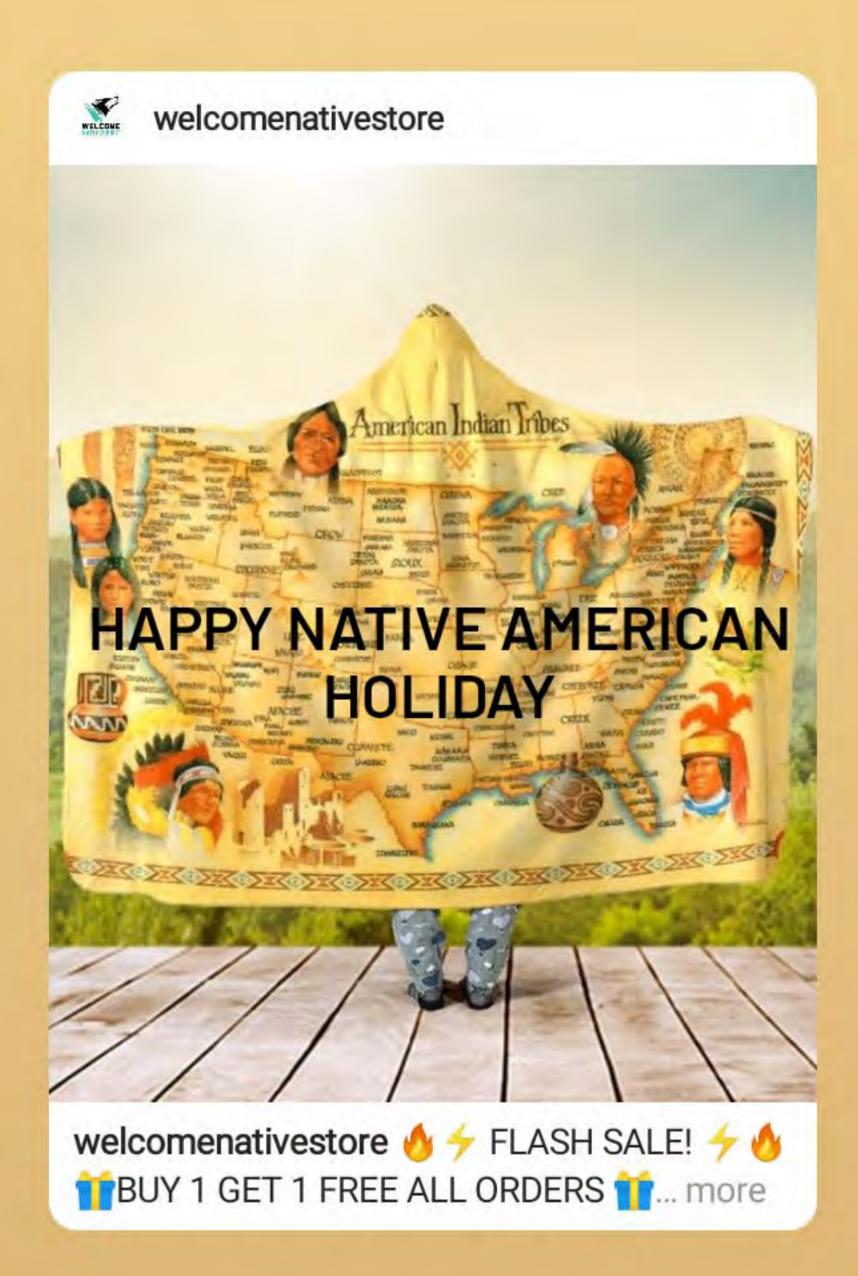
United Nations forced to admit that vaccines from Bill Gates are spreading polio throughout Africa

Tuesday, September 08, 2020 by: Ethan Huff
Tags: badhealth, badmedicine, badscience, Bill &Melinda Gates
Foundation, bill gates, corruption, Dangerous Medicine,
depopulation, outbreak, polio, proven conspiracy, UN, United
Nations, vaccine jihad, vaccine wars, vaccines, World Health
Organization

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N BY CONTINUING TO BROWSE OUR SITE YOU X

murderroc #fuckfactchecker



#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr <

**Sent:** Sunday, January 23, 2022 12:43 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: United state of native America 1776

Attachments: IMG\_20211120\_233321\_407.jpg; IMG\_20211120\_001154\_754.jpg; IMG\_20220116\_

235439\_212.jpg; IMG\_20220106\_123301\_802.jpg; IMG\_20211219\_134944\_118.jpg; IMG\_20220116\_235201\_757.jpg; IMG\_20211119\_234130\_223.jpg; IMG\_20211120\_000708\_

406.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

IM NOT WHITE

HR 40 BILL APPROVED CONGRESS

150 MILLION FOR EACH BLACK AFRICAN AMERICANS

BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN FATHER LIVES MATTER SINCE 1776

INDIGENOUS NATIVE AMERICAN FATHER LIVES MATTER SINCE 1776..

I STARTED AT KAMALA HARRIS OFFICE 2016..REPARATION BUDGET APPROVED 1862 FOR

NATIVE AMERICANS AND BLACK AFRICAN AMERICANS.

WHY YOU KEEP STEALING MY MONEY.

WHY YOU KEEP KILLING MY SON.

TELL HOLLY MITCHELL SHES WRONG

**GOVERNMENT CURRUPTION 25MILLION** 

I WANT MY MONEY TODAY

I LIVE BYSELF IN TARZANA CA..

PARKWOOD APTS

18540 COLLINS ST 118

TARZANA CA 91356.

STOP CONTROLLING THE GOVERNMENT LIKE A MONOPOLY GAME..ITS A CRIME OF

MURDER..COLOR OF LAW VIOLATION...

THE GOVERNOR WRONGLY KILLED TUPAC SHAKUR IN VEGAS...

IT MATTERS BECAUSE THEN THE BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN OR WOMAN WILL BE IN

CHARGE OF US DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

TUPAC SHAKUR MY COUSIN.



@nationalreparationsleague

## I have a unclaimed reparations check to pick up History of Reparations Payment Since 1776

1865-Present	U.S.A	\$1avery & Jim crow era	AFRICAN AMERICAN BLACK DECENDANTS
1952	GERMANY	\$822 Million to Holocaust Survivors	GERMAN JEWISH SETTLEMENT
1971	U.S.A	\$1 Billion+44 Million Acres of Land	ALASKA NATIVES LAND SETTLEMNET
1980	U.S.A	\$81Million	KLAMATHS OF OREGON
1985	U.S.A	\$105 Million	SIOUX OF SOUTH DAKOTA
1985	U.S.A	\$12.3 Million	SEMINOLES OF FLORIDA
1985	U.S.A	\$31 Million	CHIPPEWAS OF WISCONSIN
1986	U.S.A	\$32 Million 1839 Treaty	OTTAWAS OF MICHIGAN
1988	CANADA	\$230 Million	JAPANESE CANADIANS
1988	CANADA	250,000 sq. miles of land	INDIAN & ESKIMOS
1990	AUSTRIA	S25 Million to Holocaust Survivors	Jewish Claims of Austria
1990	U.S.A	\$1.6 Billion or 20,000 Each	

@nationalreparationsleague



# INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY CITIZENSHIP.POLICE HAVE NO REASON TO PULL ANYBODY OVER

nativephotographyofficial Stars hit different out west #nativeamerican #native... more

### bldpwr





@hollyjmitchell



#### indigenouspeoplesmovement



indigenouspeoplesmovement Did you know that Tulsa was developed on Indian Terr... more

### BLACK WALL STREET

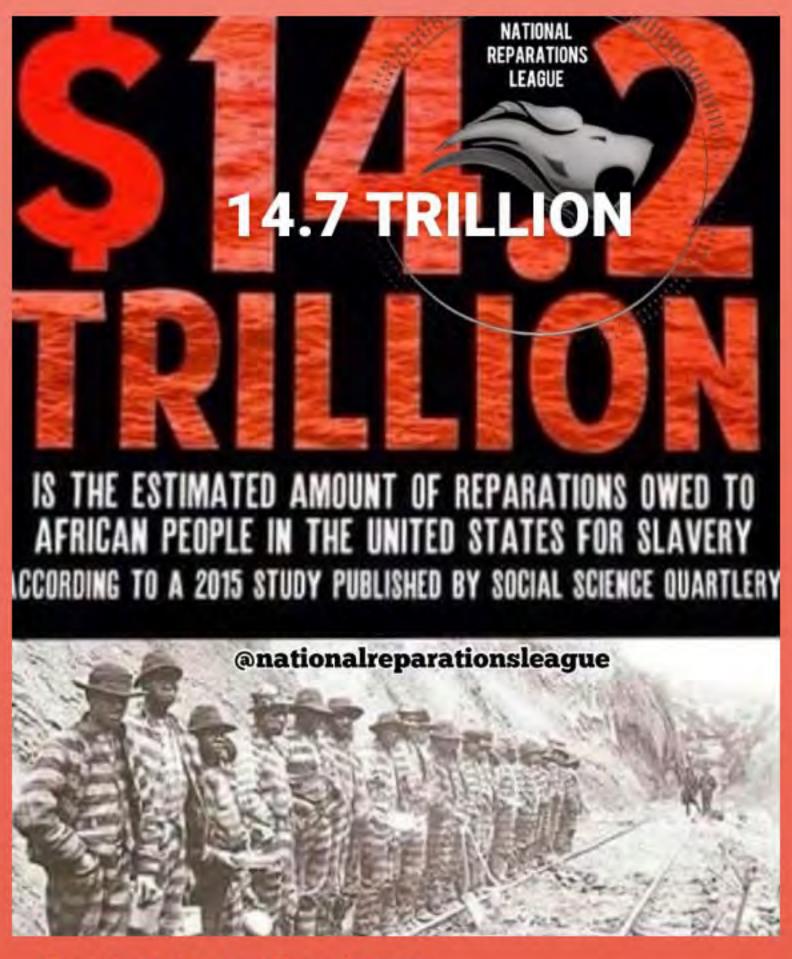


600 — BUSINESSES / 21 — CHURCHES / 21 - RESTAURANTS 30 - GROCERY STORES / 2 - MOVIE THEATRES / 6 — PRIVATE AIRPLANES PLUS A HOSPITAL, A BANK, A POST OFFICE, SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, LAW OFFICES AND EVEN A BUS SYSTEM III

> NATIONAL REPARATIONS LEAGUE

All Banks Indigenous own since 1865

@nationalreparationsleague



@nationalreparationsleague

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From:

**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 8:38 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Let's Stop Racism and Ethnic Cleansing!

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Greetings my fellow Non-Racists Californians,

It is nice to know I am not the only non-racist in CA! Thank God The Almighty! What would Jesus think of all these Racist?

I think we all agree that slavery and internment of humans is very wrong. As is ethnic cleansing of certain ethnic groups from history books.

I agree there needs to reparations for ALL Californians that have been historically wronged through slavery and internment. Let's provide reparations for ALL harmed and not select groups that are the most vocal. Don't you agree? Let's not exclude groups based on color, race, or ethnicity. Agree? Treat all races and ethnic groups equally based on facts. Wouldn't the world be so much better if we all could behave in this manner? No Racism? Let's not be selfish in our quest for justice for all. Sounds simple doesn't it?

Can this Reparations Task Force step up and lead against Racism? Ethnic cleansing? Not exclude any ethnic groups? Can you? Or will you be excluding those groups you dislike (because of the color of their skin, ethnicity or language) even though they have been discriminated against and people are trying to ethnic cleanse off the face of the earth?

Let's start with recent history and the interment of people in America. Mr. Donald Tamaki can confirm what I write.

If 3 ethnic groups were interned in California during WWII, all 3 should receive reparations, agree? We would not exclude any group(s) because of the color of their skin or their ethnicity, would we? We would fight for all 3 groups equally. If I only promoted reparations for "my people" and I intentionally left the other 2 groups out, would that make me a Racist?

There are people presenting "Alternative Facts" regarding internment of humans during WWII. These "Alternative Facts" being promoted intentionally leave out facts in an effort to re-write American history. To cleanse certain ethnic groups from existence.

Should we leave slavery out of history books? The Jewish holocaust? Or just the internment of Italians and Germans in California? Is this a sign of prejudice and hatred of Italian Americans and German Americans? Why the exclusion from American history? Especially from people who state they are against Racism and ethnic cleansing? Mr. Tamaki, your thoughts?

Regarding Internment during WWII, here are the Real Facts and not the "Alternative Facts".

#### WORLD WAR II

#### Executive Order 9066 -

Was NOT a racist attack against Japanese in America. That is an Alternative Fact! A Racist Lie.

It is one of the biggest on-going tragedies against German Americans and Italian Americans.

EO 9066 was a United States presidential Executive Order signed and issued during World War II by United States president Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942.

E09066 identified 1.1 million people living in the USA as enemy aliens. 600,000 were Italian, 400,000 were German, only 100,000 were Japanese. There were also Jewish people identified. Up to 30,000 Italians and up to 20,000 Germans were interned. None of this was good. Do you agree Mr. Tamaki?

The Italian and German Americans lost their homes and businesses, were under house arrest from sun down to sun up. Could not live near the ocean or the bay. Many lost their homes and businesses. Could not go to work or travel. Had personal belongings confiscated (radios, flashlights, phones, fishing boats etc.) Even Joe DiMaggio's father was effected.

So why is this not taught in schools, the news, TV, social media, State of California Reparations Task Force, websites such as Alternative Facts 9066? Mr. Tamaki? Why is it only taught that Japanese were interned in the USA? Yes, they are the most vocal, only ones to ask for money, so this must be the sole truth? Facts are facts and we should learn the facts not just listen to the most vocal (and racist?).

FYI, Italian Americans and German Americans received no financial reparations for their interment. Fact.

Why only the request for reparations for Japanese and not German Americans and Italian Americans? Racism? What else could it be?

Mr. Tamaki can confirm that Italian and German Americans were interned but intentionally left off his "Alternative Facts" website. He can also confirm many Japanese were NOT forced into the internment camps, but went voluntarily. Fact and not an Alternative Fact.

The silence of this hatred against Italian and German Americans in California cannot be accepted. Is silence denial? Ignorance? Racism? The re-write of American history?

EO9066 and Italians

https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/106/hr2442/text

<u>Text of H.R. 2090 (105th): Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act (Introduced version) - GovTrack.us</u>



Text of H.R. 2090 (105th): Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil L...

Text of H.R. 2090 (105th): Wartime Violation of Italian American ... as of Jun 26, 1997 (Introduced version). H.R....

https://unastoriasegreta.com/anniversary

Internment of German Americans - Wikipedia



#### ITALIANS/COLUMBUS and SLAVERY

- Columbus died in 1506. Why does this matter?
- First transatlantic slave trade 1526. 20 years after his death
- Why do people blame a dead person for a tragic act?

Also, Italians starting emigrating to the USA in 1880. Why does this matter?

- Slavery ended in the USA in 1865
- How can Italians be blamed for slavery 15 years before they came to the USA?

Let's show California this task force is not a Racist group and fight for reparations for ALL and not just a couple of select ethnic groups!

My anti-Racist ramble for the day!

Let's stop Racism!

Racism won't stop until people stop being Racist! This means stopping Racism and ethnic cleansing against ALL People (Italians and Germans included). Not just a select few groups!

Let's LOVE everyone equally!

To show this group is against Racism and Ethnic Cleansing, I'm sure you will add German Americans and Italian Americans to your list of those groups to receive reparations for their internment. Agree?

This is asking a lot from a group of politicians, lawyers and pastors!

BTW my family and group of friends is the most ethnically diverse and none are Racist! We love everyone!

JJ

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Eric Terrance

Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:01 PM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: Reparations

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello Dr. Grills, Dr. Brown, JD Holder, JD Tamaki and Dr. Lewis! Thank You All for Your service. My name is Eric Terrance Scott Bates Sr. I live in Fairfield with My Sister. I was born in 1966, Flint, Michigan. I took My Mother's Husband's name when I was about 5 years old, Alfred Lee Bates was the only Dad I'd met until I was 28 years old. My Mother's Mom name is Anna (Johnston) Howard and She was born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1922. My Grandfather sent Her to Michigan after the 4 little Girls were murdered at The 3rd. Street Baptist Church. In Michigan My Grandmother and Her 5 Daughters worked at Hurley Hospital. She worked in The Burn Unit. I met My biological Dad in Michigan 1994. I also met His Mother for the first time. Ada (Washington) Brown- Babers. She was born in Ada, Oklahoma and lived in Tulsa. She went to college at Puget Sound- Washington State and She became a teacher. Her Dad worked at 2 different Country Clubs. His name was Thomas Jefferson Washington. And She ended up marrying My Dad's Dad whose name is Thomas Jefferson Brown. I'm on Disability, in constant pain from 3 different rotator cuff surgeries (2 on My right shoulder, 1 on the left). Actually, there are many areas of My lift (thus far) where there's pain. I believe finding information about My Ancestors and reparations will allow Me to get out of debt, help My Children more, help My Parents and will eleviate some pain. I'm an Union Carpenter out of Detroit and A OTR Driver. Due to the titanium wires, screws and pain in My right shoulder, the Doctors suggested reinventing Myself. I've done better My whole life (thus far) when I'm helping someone or something. I would also like to volunteer to abet in anyway that You All will allow Me. Please advise, Sincerely seeking help, mentally, physically and spiritually! PS, I would also like to take classes at Berkeley with Dr. Jovan Scott Lewis. Have Blessed Days Everyday! Eric Terrance Scott Bates Sr.

#### DOJ did not respond

#### ReparationsTaskforce

From: KJ Muhammad

Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:30 PM

**To:** ReparationsTaskforce; Kamilah Moore; NAASD-LA

**Subject:** Remastered the Two Killings of Sam Cooke and Dean Erwin Chemerinsky Interview

Transmittal

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

#### AB3121 Via Email

#### Testimony 01/24/2022

Hi I am Friday Jones. My name is Khansa Jones-Muhammad, I am co Chair of the National Assembly of American Slavery Descendants and the Los Angeles Chapter, and a founding member of Coalition for a Just and Equitable California.

I want to urge commissioners to watch "ReMastered: The Two Killings of Sam Cooke" currently available on NETFLIX – I am attaching a link to the trailer here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJjOb5PQEwc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJjOb5PQEwc</a>

In this documentary there are Black Experiences, Negro experiences, the legacy of the Descendants of "Person's Enslaved in the United States." The stories in this documentary represent life for a people in 1950's. A glimpse into both music and Hollywood and how in 2021 ownership has changed very little.

Sam Cooke was born in 1931 in rural Mississippi, my Grandmother was born in 1928 in rural North Carolina. She is still alive and now resides in Los Angeles. Their lives, growing up in the rural South where a white person could threaten your life with impunity is a shared and common experience. There was no equal protection under the law. It is this terrorism, which is addressed in the film that made Sam Cook's father and my Great Grandmother flee the South in what became known as "The Great Migration." We were a people seeking refuge within the confines of our own country.

#### **Smokey Robinson**

"There was a chitlins circuit that Black Artists played back in the day, especially down South. The reason we called it the chitlin circuit was because a lot of those places were funky like that, funky like chitlins. The conditions were very hard and very prejudice. There were places in the South where we couldn't even stay in hotels. We would have to stay in rooming houses."

#### **Quincy Jones**

"We would have to sleep in mortuaries. Six bodies sleeping in a cot and six bodies sleeping in caskets.

#### Dionne Warwick

"My very first tour was with Sam Cooke. We were in South Carolina and Sam say's is everybody hungry. We say yeah. We walked into this little place and we sat down... and were asked to stand up. Oh okay. And we asked are you going to take our orders? You gotta shut up and wait til I get to you. Well me and my big mouth, I said you know what you can do, take that order and shove it. And we left. Ten minutes later, there was a police officer that came to the bus. And he stepped onto the bus. And Sam said can I help you? He says yeah we want to know who these two gals were that were rude to the waitress in the (xxxx) House? Sam said first of all we do not have gals on our bus. We have ladies and gentlemen. And this happens to be my bus, it's private property, and I am going to have to ask you kindly to step off of it. And he (Sam) thought about who he was and who those around him, who they were, and that they (the officers) were not going to take advantage of anyone he cared about."

American history is not separate from its people and the idea that we, the Descendants will just get over it, when Jim Crow was a lived experience is an inexcusable ask. The documentary details how pervasive racism was. After the first integrated show in Arkansas, Jesse Belvins's car had been vandalized causing not just his death, but also his wife JoAnn and three other people who died as a result of unchecked white rage. There were no arrests made to this murder and many like it. The under policing, prosecuting, jailing of White People over time has created injustice and racial imbalance that would need a social scientist to measure. <a href="http://lesweforget.blogspot.com/2012/06/jesse-belvin-and-wife-joann-february-6.html">http://lesweforget.blogspot.com/2012/06/jesse-belvin-and-wife-joann-february-6.html</a>

The over arching takeaway from this film is that Black American's have to be able to be their full potential without having to mule for the wealth of others, and without having to be a shell of ourselves to meet the small and limiting perceptions that others have for their personal comfortability. We as a people have a right to exercise our full potential in artistry, in business, in family building, in religion, in politics, in medical recovery, in friendships, in protection, in judicial rights, in education, in employment, in land ownership, in wealth. This is where this Task Force must see its charge. Sam Cooke's death happened in California.

As this commission formulates remedies it has to look at hiring AND retention rates, and include mandated promotions to management and executive positions. Consider small business loans where having a degree or 10,000 expert hours has as much weight as a credit score and capital. Consider incentivizing not just the film studios, NBA and NFL owners — but the adjacent professional businesses where Black Professionals are extremely under-represented as agents, attorneys, accountants, financial advisors, insurance, and studio executives.

The Task Force could also recommend the building of a studio to the scale of a Paramount lot, Sony lot, or CBS lot where Black Creators that meet lineage based criterion can access professional scale studio for film, music, and television at no cost; and pay cost of production crew only. This would be game changing. This task force can create recommendations for resources to be spent in a way that gives business access where it does not exist. There is room to be creative with resources that allow for shared income streams.

I also want to add for a matter of record the the 11/28/2021 episode of Politics In Black on the NAASDLA Youtube channel "The Case for Lineage Based Reparations." See the link to show: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8cbopZGLSI&t=408s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8cbopZGLSI&t=408s</a>

Guests on this episode of Politics In Black include:



Transmittal Beginning Timestamp 2:49:

#### Chad:

Coming first from Politics In Black today, we've got Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, and Ewin Chemerinsky is an American leading scholar known for his studies of US Constitutional Law and Federal Civil Procedure. He served as the Founding Dean of The University of California Irvine School of Law from 2008 to 2017. And is currently the Dean of The University of California Berkeley School of Law. A study of legal publications between 2016 and 2020 found Chemerinsky to be the most frequently cited American Legal Scholar. He is one of our American Treasures in the legal field, so please welcome to Politics in Black Dean Erwin Chemerinsky.

Friday:

Welcome Sir.

Chemerinsky:

Thank you so much for the kind introduction. It's truly my honor to talk with you.

#### Chad:

It is our honor and pleasure to have you here Dean. We had a conversation leading up to this, that we just had to share with our audience. Because you, enlightened us in a way, and moved our thinking in a way that we weren't previously thinking. So thank you for being here, and sharing some information with the audience today that we are about to get into.

Starting off Dean, we reached out to you because as you know, the AB3121 California Reparations Task Force is currently meeting. And here in California, we have what is called Prop 209. And a concern of ours from the beginning, that anything as far as proposals or measures that go toward repairing, the Black American here in California would be constrained by Prop 209. And so we reached out to you for an opinion on that, and you gave us some information that we had not really heard before. So I want to start right there with Prop 209, if you could talk about your understanding of it, and then how it pertains to, our fight here and our push for reparative proposals or atonement here at the state level.

#### Chemerinsky:

Sure. Prop 209 which was adopted in 1996, is a part of the California Constitution. It prohibits the State and any subdivision of the State from giving preference or discriminating on the basis of race or sex in education, employment or contracting. If reparations were done outside of the realm of education, employment or contracting, Prop 209 is no obstacle. If for example it was a sum of money given to people it wouldn't be a problem under prop 209.

Also it's important that what is prohibited is preference or discrimination on the basis of race. If the beneficiaries were defined say by lineage. Those who could show that they were defendants of slaves, whether African or Native American let's say, then I think you could be outside the realm of Prop 209 as well and not need to worry about it.

#### Chad:

Absolutely. And that is what you shared with us, which squarely aligns with what we were thinking out here as far as using a lineage standard to determine eligibility. That's something we've been talking to the Task Force about as well.

#### Friday:

It's something we've been talking about to the Task Force and we also spoke with a member of Mark Ridley Thomas, who is a City Council Member and his staff about changing the City Charter to speak to a lineage based; in order to really get around the race based thing. Very often race and ethnicity is not applied to Black Americans. Black Americans really only cross a racial bar, and I am wondering, if you have any thoughts surrounding the Office of Budget Management who sets the standard for the Census in terms of exploring or expanding an American Ethnicity specifically based on lineage that might also give protections in the space that Indigenous Native American Nations that have protections.

#### Chemerinsky:

You could. I think the easiest though is simply to define the reparations statute, whether it's Federal or State, based on lineage. Those who could show that they were descendants of slaves would be entitled to the reparations. This could include those who were Black, but there is an article in today's San Francisco Chronicle about Native Americans who were enslaved in California. It could include them as well. There would be Blacks who would NOT be beneficiaries of this. Those that came to the Country after slavery had ended. And I think that it is by showing the lineage base and not race based you take yourself out of the realm of Prop 209. You take yourself out of the realm of a strong Federal Constitutional challenge. There is another practical problem, and you know it better than anyone. Records from that time are so incomplete, that it would be very difficult for people to prove lineage. But that is a practical question that would then need to be confronted if this is going to be defined in terms of lineage rather than race.

#### Chad:

I'd like to ask you Dean, and we squarely agree with you that lineage should be the standard. And that is how we should move forward on any reparations package, either in the State of California or Federally. But in your legal opinion, if it is not a lineage standard, say it is a standard that includes all Black People, quote unquote all Black People, what do you think the repercussions of something like that would be?

#### Chemerinsky:

In terms of the United States Constitution, it means you would have to show that this was something necessary to achieve a compelling purpose. Given the current Supreme Court, that is going to be a standard that will be difficult to meet. In terms of Prop 209, if you are in the realm of education, employment or contracting, if it is seen as a preference based on race, then flat out it's not going to be allowed. I am just reporting the law to you.

#### Chad:

No it kills it right there. If we, if by some measure what we see come out of the California Task Force is based instead on melanin versus lineage, what I hear you saying is Prop 209, leaves us dead in the water when talking about employment, education, or contracting. And then we open ourselves up to a larger challenge of equal protections. One of the things that you brought up in the call. And I want to go there as well, with your analysis there.

#### Chemerinsky:

Sure, the United States Supreme Court has said that all racial classifications have to meet a standard that's called "strict scrutiny." Defined a moment ago, it means the government action must be necessary to achieve a compelling purpose. Over the last now more than 30 years, the Supreme Court has allowed Affirmative Action programs at colleges and universities, saying it meets that standard. Cases like the Regents of California vs. Bakke in 1978: Grutter vs Bollinger in 2003; Fisher vs. University of Texas Austin in 2016; all said that colleges and universities have a compelling interest in a diverse student body. Therefore they may use race as one factor in instances to benefit "minorities." But the composition of the Supreme Court has changed greatly since 2016. Three Trump appointees, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, Barrett, joined the Court. And I think now the Court is likely to over-rule those decisions. And find anything that looks like affirmative action to be unconstitutional. That's why again I urge this not be affirmative action based on race, but instead as reparations based on lineage.

Chad:

Absolutely.

#### Friday:

So just going back, um, to the idea of Indigenous Americans and lineage based protections. How do you think their claims or their historic claims parallel the Black American experience in this reparations space, for the Descendant Community?

#### Chemerinsky:

There are many injustices that were done to Native Americans. One of them was slavery. There are many injustices done to Blacks, a horrible one was slavery. When I see reparations is about, it's not dealing with all the injustice that has been done to Native Americans or to Black Americans, it is about reparations for a particular injustice, slavery. And I think if California were to adopt law providing reparations, to descendants of slaves, whether Native American or Black, or of other races, I think that this is the most likely to be upheld by the courts.

#### Chad:

Now that's really what we're looking for. Is trying to avoid any challenges of any programs, of any proposals that come from not only out of the State of California, but also at the Federal level.

Friday:
And it's already started.
Chad:
It's already started.
Friday:
In Evanston, which is a local reparations, even though in my opinion it is more of a home building voucher or home purchase voucher is what Evanston's program looks like to me. I wouldn't really call it reparations. It is also flattened to blackness. They really did not make criteria beyond being a Black Evanstonian, I guess is the right phrasing and so, the challenges like we are already seeing in real time. And so for us working in partnership with CJEC, which is the Coalition for a Just and Equitable California. It's a group of different, varying grass roots organizations including ours. One of the things we have been trying to help the Task Force hone in on, is defining that beneficiary class. There's been all kind of, um I don't know, pushback. And you know the lineage for us is like, that is the key. And I mean you've said it here so plainly, I almost feel like it's too simple. But, there has to be much more weight put to it. And so what advice would you give to the Task Force to make these criterion and establish the beneficiary class here in California?
Chemerinsky:
There are two problems with focusing on lineage rather than race. One is all Blacks, even if the're not Descendants of Slavery, are individuals who've suffered because slavery existed in the United States. The tremendous disparity in wealth that exists in this country are in the words of the Supreme Court a "badge on incident of slavery." And so I understand the view that since all Blacks have suffered because of the history of racism, all should be able to get reparations.
The other problem that I have alluded to and as you know, records are so incomplete, how are people going to be able to prove lineage? Acknowledging those two issues and they are importance. I'm saying if you look at what's likely to be upheld in the courts, whatever you and I believe, I think if this is defined an the base of race, it's going to be deemed a violation of Prop 209, and deemed a violation of the US Constitution. So what I am advising is to choose the approach even if it's not perfect, it's the best chance of prevailing, even when challenged in court.
Chad:
Yes, absolutely. That is we have been trying to do here. Give ourselves the best chance of success and the best chance of reaching this goal. So this is important information. Ah, first of all Dean has the Task Force here in California reached out to you? Cause you need to deliver this information directly to them. Have you heard from them?
Chemerinsky:
They were very kind and invited me to testify on December 7 <sup>th</sup> , at the very time I have a meeting, that is scheduled that

is quite important for my Law School that can't be re-scheduled.

Chad:

Understood

Chemerinsky:

So I hope there will be another opportunity to speak with them.

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Or if there is a way to submit recorded testimony or written testimony.

#### Chemerinsky:

I would be glad to.

#### Chad:

Because this is important information. This Task Force as they deliberate on eligibility. They need to hear that not only is it important that we talk about eligibility, to make sure we are targeting the correct groups with these uh, programs and proposals of redress. Also giving us the best chance of success. And so, going on a lineage basis, it exponentially, from what I am hearing from you, increases our chances of success and increases our chances of avoiding challenges in the Court for whatever comes out of this California Body.

#### Chemerinsky:

As I have said my goal is to be of help. And if I can be of help, then doing recorded testimony, or written testimony, I'd be glad to. I know the work is continuing. So I just want to be of assistance. I don't think what I am saying to you is controversial among constitutional law professors or constitutional lawyers. I think any will tell you how you, anything that is defined in terms of race within education, contracts, employment, those references are going to be deemed invalid under Prop 209 and there going to have very little chance of succeeding with this Court. And so the key is to define this in a way that isn't about race. And I know it sounds silly because what we are talking about is the history of racial discrimination in the United States. But if we focus on going forward, what law could be enacted that has the greatest chance of succeeding in the Courts in the future, I think whichever you talk to will tell you, lineage rather than race is the way to define the class of beneficiaries.

#### Friday:

And I think that's also a challenge obviously, you know with HR40. The language in HR40 is a little bit all over the place in terms of African Americans, there is language about the Descendants of Slaves, um and so it runs this gamut. And the intention I know with the modern language that was put into HR40 is this idea of capturing all Black People. But Jovan, Dr. Jovan Scott Lewis who is a Commissioner on the California Task Force, he really hones in on harm and who were the harmed classes, and when we start to take a step back and look at that on the Federal level, I think that there really is no argument about the Descendants who have really sort of been here seven to ten generations long and have lived through all the different gyrations of American History. And I don't know how we could make a strong argument to Sheila Jackson Lee out of Texas who is the Congressional Sponsor for HR40. Have you read any of HR40 and the language in that Reparations Commission?

#### Chemerinsky:

I have. Of course its about a Commission the language isn't precise. What is crucial is - is that the language in any bill that would actually give reparations define it so that it is not about race. And I think that the example that is very powerful is after World War II, Japanese Americans who were interned were given Reparations by the Federal Government. Not all Japanese Americans could get Reparations. Only those who were interned. Now if others had been interned, they were able to make claims for reparations, but it was specifically about giving Reparations to people who had been subjected to a policy of the United States Government. I think that is what lineage based reparations does. Slavery was a policy of the United States Government. It was written into the Constitution in 1787. The institution of slavery was repeatedly upheld by the Supreme Court, enforced by an Act of Congress, and Acts by the President. And what this is doing is providing the Descendants of the individuals that were enslaved with reparations much like the reparations after World War II provided to those that were interned.

#### Friday:

And slavery laws themselves were lineage based right. If your mother was born enslaved, and you were the child, regardless of who fathered you, you know, you were born into slavery. And so I, you know, for the repair and for the redress to be lineage based, when the harm itself was lineage based, I hate to oversimplify again, logically just makes crystal and clear sense.

I want to switch here just a little bit to talk about Native Americans Treaties and current, modern awards, in terms of compensation. There are different conversations, that we within the reparations community have. Dr. Sandy Darity out of Duke University has certainly quantified a valuation and its based on closing the racial wealth gap. We have Dr. Thomas Craemer coming out of the University of Connecticut, who has just based on wages and simple interest at I think 6% interest, his numbers are in the quadrillions. But I think that we could learn something in terms of Indigenous Treaties and compensation that has been received and re-negotiated over time. Can you talk a little bit about that.

Chemerinsky:
Sure. No compensation is going to be adequate.
Chad:
Yes.
Chemerinsky:
No compensation is going to completely eliminate the racial wealth gap. No compensation can ever erase the horrific things that were done to people long ago. But that doesn't deny that compensation can make a real difference in people's lives. And also be a very important statement by the United States Government. Or the State of California. And there are many Treaties with Native American Tribes that have to be thought of in the context of reparations. In much the same, they're not going to make anybody whole. They are not going to be able to eliminate the horrors that were done. But they are still important to pursue.
Chad:
Yes. I want to ask you a quick Constitution question Dean.
Chemerinsky:
Sure.
Chad:
So, you know in the case of Japanese internment, their claim really was on a violation of the Constitution as I understand it from John Teteishi's book. Our claim is more so on how the Federal Constitution was legally weaponized against us, right. So it was like as you just said, slavery in many cases legal. Black Codes, legal. Jim Crow, legal in the prevailing law of the land. So my question is what does this say about the American Constitution? Is that document still relevant, or enforceable, or even should be something that we keep looking towards?

Chemerinsky:

First, the Supreme Court in Korematsu vs. the United States in 1944 upheld the evacuation of Japanese Americans on the West Coast and effectively their internment. What President Franklin Roosevelt called concentration camps. So the Constitution failed African Americans, people of African Descent early in American History and through out American History. But the Constitution also failed those of Japanese Descent in the 1940's.

Chad:

Good point. Absolutely.

### Chemerinsky:

The Constitution very much institutionalized slavery. Article 4 Section 2 had the fugitive slave clause that said, excuse me rather if a slave escaped from a slave state to a free state, the slave had to be returned like a piece of property. The Constitution said that Congress could not abolish the institution of slavery for twenty years and it was one of the few provisions of the Constitution that could not be Amended. Slaves were deemed 3/5ths of a person. And we can go on and on with the provisions in the United States Constitution that very much protected the institution of slavery.

And from 1787 when the Constitution was written until 1865 when the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment was adopted, And that's 78 years. Not one Supreme Court Decision even chipped away at the institution of slavery. The key Supreme Court Cases all protected the rights of slave owners. But then we get to your question about the Constitution today. As much as the Constitution is a slave document, its also the law of the land. And it's also the Constitution that was used by Thurgood Marshall to forge Brown vs. Board of Education and the end of Jim Crow laws. It's the Constitution that we rely on to protect our most basic rights. So we can't ignore the fatal flaws in the Constitution that we have had from the beginning. But the reality is it's the governing document that we have to live under and litigate under.

Chad:

Absolutely.

Friday:

(Sigh) I always think the Constitution needs to be changed in a couple of places so. (laughs) So that's just me and my take on it, but we hear you loud and clear. Dean Chemerinsky I am wondering if there is any Case Law in particular that you think the AB3121 Task Force Members or any other municipalities, the City of LA is about to have a task force. Is there any Case Law in particular that you think they should be considering as they are again defining beneficiary classes, as they are looking to decide what kinds of repairs are appropriate? I think having that referenced and catalogued here in our show for people to come back to might be an asset long term?

### Chemerinsky:

Sure. In terms of the US Constitution I would look carefully at Supreme Court Case called Wygant vs. Jackson Board of Education. It involved the Jackson Michigan school system that had recently hired a number of Black Teachers when there needed to be lay offs. So it decided to fire White Teachers with more seniority. And they said they were doing this because they were trying to remedy the broad history of race discrimination in the United States. They were doing this also because of the importance of providing role models in a school system that was overwhelmingly Black. The Supreme Court declared this unconstitutional. And flat out stated "government can't use race to benefit minorities, to remedy the general history of social discrimination." The Supreme Court has said that on many occasions. We can come up with all the reasons we want, why that's wrong, why the government should be able to use race to remedy the history of discrimination, but that is not where the Supreme Court is. And that's why I think its so important that whatever reparations are adopted NOT be defined based on race. But be defined in terms of lineage.

In terms of the California Supreme Court, there are very few cases about Prop 209. The Hi-Voltage Case is the most important, and it's an opinion by then Justice Janice Rogers Brown, that broadly defines what Prop 209 prohibits. It says that it even prohibits outreach on the basis of race. And so its key in the defining, what's a preference and again to go back to where we started, I think it reinforces Prop 209. If this is about education, contracts and employment, it can't be based on race.

### Chad:

Yeah so absolutely. And it makes perfect sense. It is someplace that we have been for a while now. And – But hearing it from you in all of your years of experience, I think solidifies it for us and really makes it real.

I had a quick question going back to Native American Treaties. Because part of what we are engaged in all the time, and you heard Friday reference it, is trying to determine, what is the number? Right, what is the compensation number? And how do we properly, you know again, there is no compensation enough for all that we have been subjected to. But as we talk about the compensation for Native Americans, and what came out of those treaties, can you talk a little bit about the evolution of that. Because it wasn't just one number, and done sort of thing, if I understand correctly. And I believe you quoted Case Law also, Native American Case Law in our conversation earlier. So I just want to open it up on that subject of compensation. Or any thoughts you may have.

Chemerinsky:

Sure. And let me be clear, economists will need to advise you.

Chad:

Absolutely.

Chemerinsky:

How to measure the compensation.

Chad:

We've got a pretty good one in Sandy Darity.

Chemerinsky:

In Constitutional Law...

And the reality is your Political Experts will tell you, what's politically viable in terms of the numbers. I can just talk about what is constitutional. In terms of the Native American Treaties, one thing to remember is its not a single Treaty that provides reparations. There's Treaties with many different Native American Tribes and they provide many different forms of Reparations. And you'll need to study to see if some that are more applicable to what you're looking for. But I think as you do, it's key that it wasn't one Treaty with all Native Americans at one point in time. And so in this sense I think there's probably going to be, if it can be adopted one bill through Congress, one bill for the State Legislature. I don't know that its going to be a whole series of them. Maybe, but at this stage just getting one adopted would be a huge accomplishment.

Chad:

Agreed

Friday:

And I know this is a little bit of a random question; but often times when I may be speaking to reparations and repair, I'll take a look at France and Haiti. And I look at that only because there is often the 'well we can't trace' and like you said here today 'how do you find the records.' I am usually like the Mormon's have pretty good records. Um the Church of Latter Day Saints, however I think it was 182 years that France collected to the descendant families of the slave owners who ultimately lost their slave holdings, in Haiti. And it was financed, and it took that long to sort of pay the debt back. Often times, you know, people talk about repair, and I think that 200 years 182 years is like a significant, is a significant amount of time. I certainly think here in the United States, obviously the harm lasted that long. But when you are talking ultimately about proposals and negotiating them, and including things like education, employment, contracting, small business loans, we can go on defense contracts, we can go on and on. But do you think that it is actually reasonable in terms of time, because compensation to me is one thing, and then there is a portfolio of benefits, that need to last over a duration of time. What is your analysis of just on expectations, and that 182 year mark that happened in France and Haiti's case of the payback.

### Chemerinsky:

Um I think there are several questions here. One is what are the records like. Will it be possible for people to prove lineage? If this is lineage based? And again that's not my expertise. But I think it is a crucial question if its going to be pursued along lineage lines. What will be necessary for someone to prove that they are entitled to the benefits. You want to have it be sufficiently generous in the definition, that people will be able to take advantage of it, but not so limited that its not geared towards and not focused on the people that should be able to get the reparations.

Second in terms of the time period, slavery officially ended in 1865. So if I am doing my math right that was one hundred and fifty six years ago. I don't know how long the reparations should continue, but people who have been suffering, the effects of slavery since it ended. And of course all the time that it existed, so to me that is a practical question of how can you best provide reparations based on lineage. How will you define whose entitled; what benefits will they get; for what period of time? Those, if those are the questions, then you are beyond the Constitution of it, now your just on how do you make the program work.

### Chad:

Implementation. And execution at this point.

### Friday:

And yeah, implementation I think will be the biggest thing. I mean when we look back at Tulsa Oklahoma, they had a Commission, they made recommendations, and they were never implemented. And so I always do try to explore what does that practically look like as you're saying, because I think at times, when you talk about the Black American experience, sometimes I think it feels so big, and omnimous to people that they just would rather we can't deal with it, but I always get back to a Callie House, who I think what she did in her day immediately following the Civil War, the fact that she was able to have 30,000 people across the South who were formerly enslaved paying into the pension, learning about how they should be fighting against the United States Government and then being dismissed via mail fraud of all things, it's an important conversation for us to keep coming back to, it's an important one.

### Chad:

Absolutely. Dean you have kind of covered it for me here I am trying to see if I have any more questions for you. But you were just as clear as you were in our lead up call and when we reached out to you for your assistance in this, in trying to wrap our minds around it. I'm not an attorney, here, so it helps to have the legal perspective. Especially the Constitutional perspective.

As we think about equal protections, as a obstacle at the Federal level, what recommendations would you have for us and you know we understand lineage, is the basis, but are there any other pitfalls or any other obstacles that we should be aware of just in your professional opinion.

### Chemerinsky:

Sure. The Supreme Court has consistently said, since 1978 that the Government can't engage in programs that are race based to benefit minorities in response to the general history of race discrimination in society. There is no point in butting your head against that wall. Its so important that this not be defined as a race based program and as remedy for a long history of discrimination. Because the Supreme Court has said it won't accept it.

Second keep in mind that the cases that have held affirmative action since 1978 all are now vulnerable with a different and much more conservative court. So the temptation maybe try to gear something around the Supreme Court has upheld, in Bakke, Gruder, and Fisher may not get you very far in a court that is not going to respect those as precedent.

So is a court right now that is very hostile to anything that will look like an affirmative action program based on race.

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Yes That's a great point.

### Friday:

And this is, I don't know maybe another random, I don't now – We will see – I am enjoying your answers, so I am just trying to go for it here. You know, um, back in the 1800's, let's say the 1880's I think there were maybe 50, 60, million Americans living here in the United States. And today I think the number is 326 – 327 million which is a significantly more – in terms of population and people. However we are also at a time where numerically – I think the statistic is maybe 20 – 27% of Americans are for reparations. Which is like the highest percentage that has ever existed, despite the fact that there are so many more people. And I am just wondering with that data point, what advice you might have in terms of – I don't know – garnering more support around it, and I know you are coming from a legal space, but I definitely think that the numbers matter. The fact that there is national support for the bill. It's changing across the country. I am just wondering what do you think could be done to either grow that number or to move the needle or you know...

### Chad:

I've got a similar thought let me piggy back on that. In your spaces in your legal spaces Dean are these conversations occurring?

### Chemerinsky:

I'm sorry I don't understand the question.

### Chad:

Around reparations, around the importance of lineage, specifically for the Black Community are you having, cause you said to any kind of Constitutional ah, you know ah, expert this is kind of a clear cut case. I am just wondering if these kinds of conversations are occurring in legal circles that we might not have visibility into. It goes kind of to Friday's question of raising awareness and what do you think we could do from an awareness perspective.

### Chemerinsky:

Yes the conversations are occurring. But obviously not with the intensity that you are focusing on it. As an example I teach equal protection and constitutional law. I focus a great deal on the programs that the Congress adopted after the Civil War. That today we might think of as reparations. Or certainly as race conscious programs. Things like the Freedmen's Bureau that existed then. And I do think if this is ever litigated on racial terms, it will be important to argue to the conservative justices, that this is really what Congress had in mind back in 1868. So yeah its talked about. I have colleagues like John Powell who I think you know whose focused a great deal on this. Um my final exam question on my Constitutional law class last spring was exactly what we're talking about now.

### Chad:

Oh I like it.

### Chemerinsky:

In terms of the constitutionality of a reparations program, I did not define it on the basis of lineage, but on the basis of race and the way the program was set up, because it was so difficult to prove lineage. Because all who were Black suffered under the effects of slavery, all should be able to benefit, and whether this would be constitutional or not. So yes its there. Um in terms of what can be done to increase support, again I'm a Constitutional law professor, I'm not an expert on anything like that. I think here the racial reckoning that occurred after the death of George Floyd is so

important to build on. People aren't aware of the tremendous gap in wealth, in income, solely on the basis of race and how much that ties to the legacy of slavery. And so I think some of what has to be done is educating people.

### Chad:

100 percent. 100 percent. And we are going to talk a lot about that with our next guest the author of "Redress." Education has to be central. Dean thank you once again for making yourself available to us and sharing in your wisdom and your insight. It's not often, I can't think of anybody else that I have spoken to that has argued in front of the US Supreme Court. So just in that, you know, thank you for lending your expertise and your insight, your wisdom to us. We firmly agree with you lineage based reparations is the pathway and I am sure we are going to be reaching out to you when we get those challenges and when we are trying to prepare for any potential challenges for further insight and for further advice. So thank you and have a good weekend.

### Chemerinsky:

Thank you I admire your work and just let me know how I can be of help to you.

Transmittal End Timestamp 39:30

### DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: L-Roy Jetson

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:32 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

Subject: REPERATIONS

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

Hello RTF my name is Lester Johnson, I am so glad I can finally voice my opinion about the long overdue REPERATIONS and what that looks like for us. I'm a 39 yr old "African American" and I can tell you that I've seen this conversation come up with most of our Celebrities and people with strong influence and I haven't seen anyone who can say exactly how we will know who the decendents of the Slave we're &the way we can fo a process of qualification is by our last names every slave owner gave his last name to us my middle and lastname "CARTER & JOHNSON are 2 Anglo-saxons names from English and Scottish make up "BRITAIN" and we know that they are ENGLAND BRITISH PEOPLE from "EUROPE" who enslaved our people and simple choose willingly to ignore what been owed to us while paying Asians in 1988 for Pearl Harbor and they get a "ANTI-CRIME BILL" in 2020 UNANIMOUSLY from the RIGHT AND THE LEFT while I know of 2 "BLACK" MEN WHO WERE LYNCHED IN PALMDALE AND LANCASTER THAT NEVER MADE HEAD LINE NEWS it's never broadcast.... why doesn't that ever get exposure & JOE BIDEN had the """CAUCASITY""" to say our people wasnt "BLACK" IF WE DIDN'T VOTE FOR HIM BIT NOT ONCE DID HE OKAY THE GEORGE FLOYD ACT WAY WASN'T THATPASSED LIKE THAT ANTI-HATE ASIAN BILL THAT WAS PASSED .... WE KNOW WITH INFLATION WE WOULD BE OWED AT LEAST \$30 million with 100 acres of land from the 40 acres and that "MULE" we never received but ""THEY"" know what's seriously owed to us "AFRICAN AMERICANS" will break the BANK BUT THAT ISN'T OUR FAULT WHEN ITS OURS WHILE THE US GOVERNMENT SPENDS AND GIVES TRILLIONS OF MONEY TO OVER SEAS COUNTRIES & PAYING FOR UNNECESSARY WARS THEY CREATE THE IRONY.... now I say this I dont need 40 acre All I need is 1 that I can build my brand new home on from the Millions that owed and we want our CASH we cam start our own businesses with no hate.... and I also want to say this if anyone KNOW AND BELIEVE THEIR IS A GOD AND HIS NAME IS YAHAWAH THEY WOULD KNOW THAT THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRAVE WAS BIBLE PROPHESY FOR THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DEUTERONOMY 28:68 THAT WE WILL GO INTO SLAVEY FOR NOT FOLLOWING OUR GODS COMMANDMENTS BECAUSE WE ARE THE IEWS OF THE BIBLE &THE IS THE REAL BEST KEPT SECRET THAT "THEY"DONT WANT TO COME OUT.... to whoever that will read my email I'm going to leave you some BIBLE SCRIPTURES SHOWING HOW GOD FEELS ABOUT THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL aka HEBREW ISRAELITES..... KJVA.... DEUTERONOMY 28:1-15 ARE THE BLESSINGS 28:15-68 ARE THE CURSES THAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL IF THEY DONT FOLLOW YAH'S COMMANDMENTS ..... AND ALSO WHO "CHRIST" CAME AND DIED FOR AND THESE ARE GOD & HIS SON "JESUS CHRIST" SAID.... KJV... EXODUS 2:25, EXODUS 9:1, EXODUS 11:7, LEVITICUS 20:26, DEUTERONOMY 7:1-6, PSALMS 147:19-20, PSALMS 148:14, BARUCH 2:28:35, ISAIAH 1:3, ISAIAH 14:1-3, ISAIAH 45:17, ISAIAH 46:13, JOEL 2:27, JOEL 3:4, AMOS 3:1, AMOS 4:5, MATTHEW 2:6, MATTHEW 10:5, MATTHEW 15:21-24, REVELATION 21:12-14.... ALL THOSE SCRIPTURES &MANY MORE SHOWING GOD ONLY FLAVORING THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL OUT OF THE 40+ NATIONS HE CREATED & THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE ALWAYS MADE SLAVES FOR NOT LISTENING TO OUR FATHER DEUTERONOMY 28:46 GOD SAID THAT IT WILL BE ON US FOR A SIGN AND A WONDER WHO WE REALLY ARE &IF "THEY" CAN CONTINUE TO KEEP THE LION SLEEP WE WONT EVER WAKE UP TO CRY TO GOD HOW WE DID FROM THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT WHEN MOSES CAME, THIS IS WHY WE AS A PEOPLE GROUP HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH WHATBWE HAVE BECAUSE WE AFRICAN

AMERICANS ARE THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DEUTERONOMY 28:37 ALSO SAY WE WILL CALL BYWORDS AND PROVERBS AMONG ALL NATIONS THATS "BLACK" "AFRO AMERICAN" "AFRICAN AMERICAN" "NEGRO" NIGER" JUST LIKE THEY CALLED "SIMEON" THE HEBREW PROPHET IN THE BOOK OF... ACTS 13:1 SO WE KNOW WHO THE REAL "CHRISTIANS" WERE IN ANTIOCH WHICH SOMEBODY GAVE THAT NAME TO THE WHEN IN FACT THEY WERE HEBREW ISRAELITES NOT CHRISTIAN THEY KNEW THEY WERE HEBREWS ITS NO DIFFERENT THAN ALL THE NAMES THEY BEEN CALLING US BECAUSE WE WERE DISPLACED EXACTLY HOW JEREMIAH 17:4 SAY WE WILL DISCONTINUE FROM OUR HERITAGE OF KNOWING WE ARE HEBREWS AND NOT "AFRICANS" THIS IS EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT PART OF SO CALLED AFRICA WE COME FROM BUT EITHER WAY BEING A NEGRO IN THIS LAND ONLY TELLS ME FROM BIBLE SCRIPTURES THAT IM A HEBREW ISRAELITE aka A JEW those people who converted to the JUDAISM ARE NOT THE REAL JEWS THEY ARE JUST CONVERTS TO THE REAL RELIGION JUDAISM CHRIST SAID IN REVELATION 2:9 & 3:9 THAT ITS PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY ARE JEWS AND ARE NOT ALSO IN LUKE 21:24 "CHRIST" SAID THAT THE HOLY LAND IF ISRAEL WILL BE TRODDEN DOWN BY GENTILE WHO ARE JAPHETHS CHILDREN THOSE ASHKE"NAZI" AND OUR "CAUCASIAN Jew-ISH PEOPLE... SEE WHAT HAPPEND IS THEY READ THE BIBLE AND SAW THAT GOD HAD A CHOSEN PEOPLE AND THE EXALTED THEMSELVES TO BE THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WHEN IN FACT WE ARE THOS IS EXACTLY WHY THEY MADE LAWS &KILLED IS FOR READING THATS WHY BECAUSE IF WE REALLY KNOW WHO WE ARE AND WHY WE ARE THE FOCUS FOR KEEP DOWN AND BEING CONSUMERS BECAUSE WE AS A WHOLE SPEND THE MOST MONEY AND "AFRICAN AMERICAN" PEOPLE AND HOW WILL A ECONOMY SURVIVE IF WE PULLED BACK ON OUR SPENDING WITH OTHER PEOPLE AND NOT OUR OWN WITHOUT HATE WE WILL BE WERE WE NEED TO BE EXACTLY HOW WE DID IN TULSA OKLAHOMA WITH BLACK WALL STREET &WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPEN TO US WHEN "THOSE PEOPLE" GOT JEALOUS OF US HAVING THANGS AND PROSPERING, WE REALLY NEED TO GET BACK TO THAT WHEN WE GET WHAT REALLY OWED TO US IN CASH PAYMENTS PLUS LAND NOT SOME UNDERMINED STUFF WE DONT NEED WE WANT OUR MONEY PERIOD ITS BEEN TOO LONG AND WHAT WE ARE MOT GOING FOR OR HAVE IS JIM CROW JOE SAY WHAT HE SAID BE IN OFFICE FOR 4 YTS AND WE STILL DONT GET OUR MONEY... OBAMA COULDN'T EVEN GET IT FOR US AND ALL THAT PROPAGANDA WAS MADE ABOUT HIM BEING THE FIRST SO CALLED "BLACK" PRESIDENT AND IT DIDN'T EVEN GET TALKED ABOUT NOW THAT I REALLY SIT BACK AND THINK ABOUT IT TOUR WOULD THINK IT WOULD HAPPENED RIGHT BIT HE GAVE 4.4 MILLION TO EACH OF THE US PRISONERS THAT WERE IN IRAN FOR OVER A YEAR... NOW WITH ALL THAT WE NEED WHATS OWED AND RIGHTFULLY OURS.... Thank you I really look forward to hearing back from you

### DOJ acknowledged receipt

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Guy Marzorati

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:05 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** KQED interview request: Chair Moore

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

### Good morning -

Guy Marzorati here with KQED Public Radio. I'm writing to invite Chair Kamilah Moore onto our statewide <u>Political Breakdown</u> show. Our hosts Marisa Lagos and Scott Shafer would love to talk with her about her work on the task force.

Would 30 minutes (taped, not live) on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> be possible?

Thanks for considering,

Guy

**Guy Marzorati** 

Reporter/Producer, California Politics & Government Desk

We're back in our reimagined headquarters in the Mission District. Come see us at KQED Live. KQED 2601 Mariposa Street

San Francisco, CA 94110-1426

### DOJ Acknowledged Receipt

### **Noel Garcia**

From: Aisha MartinWalton

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:16 PM

To: Grills, Cheryl

Cc: Michael L. Newman; Damon Brown; deeann2727@gmail.com; Catherina Nou; Alecia

Turner; Noel Garcia

Subject: Community Engagement Voice

Hello Dr. Grills, Mr. Harvey Brody, a retired dentist and former UC Regent sent the music video to me today. It is his statement, music video and lyrics. Dr. Brody has been following the work of the Task force since the first meeting, periodically reaching out to ask how he can help. He made this music video to contribute to the Reparations effort to use however the TF wishes and he hopes it will be useful to many audiences. He is sharing it with all TF Members.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This message was sent from outside DOJ. Please do not click links or open attachments that appear suspicious.

### Begin forwarded message:

From: Harvey Brody

**Date:** January 25, 2022 at 9:02:52 AM PST

To: reparationtaskforce@doj.ca.gov Subject: Community Engagement

### Dear Task Force Members:

For over 60 years, the gap between our Constitution and the reality of racial injustice has informed both my personal and professional life. I deeply believe that reparations can begin to address that gap. I was excited when the Task Force was established and continue to be so today.

The Task Force discussions and guest presentations have been amazing. You have inspired me to take action. I have given serious consideration to what form this should take, and what it means to be an ally. Over the last six months, I have written <a href="https://linearch.com/written-lyrics">https://linearch.com/written-lyrics</a> and created a <a href="mailto:music video">music video</a> as a potential means of engagement. I hope you will have time in your busy schedules to view this video and consider if/how it might be useful in support of your efforts to reach a wide audience. If you feel it could be of use to the Task Force, it is yours. I am considering putting together a virtual meeting to share an overview of Task Force objectives, the history of reparations, and ways to take action. If appropriate, I would very much appreciate your input, guidance, and collaboration.

I am looking forward to Dr. Grills report on January 27 and January 28 regarding strategies to implement Community Engagement.

Sincerely,

Harv

### Harvey A Brody DDS, M.Ed

Clinical Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Francisco Regent Emeritus, University of California

### DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group@googlegroups.com on behalf of Chris L <c.lodgson@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 7:55 PM

**To:** CA Reparations Task Force Public Community Group

**Subject:** YOUR California Reparations Newsletter From CJEC: January 2022

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### Peace! It's Chris Lodgson of CJEC, Coalition for a Just and Equitable California!

Hoping all is well with you, your family, and your community. Wishing you and yours a happy and healthy New Year! As we connect with friends and loved ones in this historic new year, let's make a point to put Reparations in our conversations!

Below is your January 2022 California Reparations Newsletter from CJEC! As always, feel free to send back any questions or feedback you have!

### AB 3121 California Reparations Task Force



1: January 27th/28th Public Meetings: The January meetings of the California Reparations Task Force are scheduled for Thursday January 27th and Friday January 28th, 9am - 4:30pm each day. January's meetings will focus on the impacts of racism on our Public, Mental and Physical Health. The Task Force will also continue its discussion on the Community of Eligibility, including testimony from California Secretary of State Shirley Weber, the author of AB3121, the law that created the California Reparations Task Force. Click here to view the meeting agenda. You can watch the January meetings LIVE on YouTube @ ETM Media Group.

2a: CJEC Community Engagement: CJEC is proud to have been selected as an official California Reparations Community Anchor Organization!! As an official Community Anchor Organization, with the support of the California Reparations Task Force, we'll host 2 official community listening sessions and work with other community organizations to raise awareness about California Reparations. Thank you to everyone who helped us achieve this historic honor!! And Congratulations to our Anchor organization partners as well!! Looking forward to doing AMAZING work for Reparations!

As you know, CJEC has been collecting and sharing YOUR thoughts and ideas for community engagement with the California Reparations Task Force. If you have thoughts about how you want the California Reparations Task Force to engage your community, <u>click here</u>, let us know, and we'll share your thoughts with them.

Don't forget, you can always share YOUR thoughts & ideas with the California Reparations Task Force directly! CALL and leave a voicemail for the Task Force at (213) 519-0504 OR send an email to ReparationsTaskForce@doj.ca.gov!



- 2b. **MLK Day of Reparations Action 2022:** Thank you so much to ALL of the volunteers who engaged our community about California Reparations on MLK day!!! We made over 125 contacts in person in Sacramento and Oakland combined!! You did AMAZING work!!
- 3. See below for upcoming California Reparations events, including town halls and panel discussions!



### PUBLIC MINISTRY TOWN HALL

### FEATURED PANELIST



Dr. Joseph Evans, Dean Morehouse School of Religion



Darlene Flynn, Director Dept. of Race & Equity - City of Oakland



Dr. Jovan Scott Lewis U.C. Berkeley Professor and California Reparations Task Force Member



Congresswoman
Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. Representative Texas
18th Congressional district



Chris Lodgson Coalition for a Just and Equitable California

### PAST DUE

### BLACK REPARATIONS

...and when you set them free don't send them off empty-handed".
- Deuteronomy 15: 13, MSG

January 29th | 11AM - 12:30PM

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN -Y KkLHpRvyx0eqjH9fltQ

# Town Hall Meeting

### GET IN ON THE CONVERSATIONS

ATTENTIONS ENTREPRENEURS

Please join us for a T Hall on Reparation

Date: 01/27/2022

Time: 6pm-8:30pi

Meeting ID: 890 3514

### https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035145700

Best, Chris Lodgson CJEC, ARCC cjecofficial.org

### P.S/FYI's

Right now, as it relates to the California Reparations Task Force, CJEC's objectives are:

- 1. To Ensure the Task Force is open and responsive to community voices.
- 2. To Ensure the Task Force creates strong Reparations proposals.

Do you agree with our goals? <u>Click here</u> to take our poll and let us know! Interested in helping CJEC achieve these goals? <u>Click here</u> to volunteer!

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "CA Reparations Task Force Public Community Group" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <a href="mailto:ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com">ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com</a>.

To view this discussion on the web visit <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group/efbd29ce-bc75-4b5c-943d-a3cb7bec9449n%40googlegroups.com">https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/ca-reparations-task-force-public-community-group/efbd29ce-bc75-4b5c-943d-a3cb7bec9449n%40googlegroups.com</a>.

For more options, visit https://groups.google.com/d/optout.

### DOJ did not respond

### ReparationsTaskforce

From: Anthony Hayes jr

Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 8:47 AM

To: ReparationsTaskforce

**Subject:** United state of native America 1776

**Attachments:** IMG\_20211220\_002404\_055.jpg; IMG\_20211220\_001913\_991.jpg; IMG\_20220125\_

203957\_144.jpg; IMG\_20211220\_221138\_468.jpg; IMG\_20220122\_155148\_876.jpg; IMG\_

20211212\_190009\_748.jpg; IMG\_20220125\_191934\_847.jpg

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Tell Holly Mitchell she wrong

Father rights violation is a crime 1MILLION fine...i started at Kamala Harris office 2016..

Im not white..

I won by default 1BILLION

Why they keep stealing my money

Why they killing my son

Government curruption 25MILLION fine..

Federal reserve bank is guilty of murder

Janet Yellen is guilty of murder..



### nationalreparationsleague

NATIONAL REPARATIONS LEAGUE

# Where's the Stop Black Hate Crime Bill

### RACEIEST PENALTY 1BILLION

@nationalreparationsleague

nationalreparationsleague We got questions...



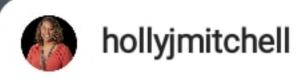


nationalreparationsleague

## Stop controlling the government like a monopoly game.thats a Color of law violation.You owe 14.7 trillion

### REPARATIONS NOW

nationalreparationsleague Not next year, not next month, NOW!





LA COUNTY DOUBLES DOWN ON EFFORTS TO

### DPSS IS GUILTY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAFFICKING.STOP KIDNAPPING KIDS FOR

### CASH.COLOR OF LAW VIOLATION.GOVERNMENT CHERUPTION 25MILLION FINE

**hollyjmitchell** Major sporting events continue to be prime locations for human traffic... more



henrylouisgates

# Finding VOUS GATES, JR.

You have the power to rewrite the constitution for Reparations

henrylouisgates Only one more hour until #FindingYourRoots with... more



### blackhistoryunlocked

In 1916, a white mob beat, stabbed, shot, and hung Anthony P. Crawford, a 56-year-old Black farmer in South Carolina after he dared to argue with a white merchant over the price of cottonseed



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**RACIAL HEALING FOR JUSTICE:** 

### REPARATIONS & TRANSFORMATION

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING 7:30 PM EST ON 1/18/22 | FACEBOOK.COM/REPBARBARALEE

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