




Resource Guide

At Mission: St. Louis we walk alongside our community, join us in this journey and review the following resources to further educate ourselves. This resource guide is a starting point to becoming an ally and will be updated frequently.





Terminology

- **Ability:** A concept that symbolizes or categorizes people based on person's ways of navigating and negotiating society – physically, emotionally, psychologically, and/or mentally.
- **Access:** One's ability to know, find and/or use the tools and resources that will allow them to live whole and healthy lives.
- **Agent/Privileged/Dominant Group:** A social group that is positively valued, considered to be superior, independent, or “normal” and has access to social power.
- **Allyship:** Allyship is a process, and everyone has more to learn. Allyship involves a lot of listening. Sometimes, people say "doing ally work" or "acting in solidarity with" to reference the fact that "ally" is not an identity, it is an ongoing and lifelong process that involves a lot of work.

Terminology

- **Antiracist action:** Antiracist action seeks to dismantle institutionalized practices of racism. It also identifies and confronts racist ideologies which manifest overtly and covertly in institutions, conversations, curriculum, and organizational structures.
- **Individual Oppression:** The beliefs, attitudes, and actions of individuals that support or perpetuate privilege & oppression. Individual (racism/sexism/heterosexism/ableism/etc.) can occur at both an unconscious and conscious level and can be both active and passive. Examples include telling a “____-ist” joke, using a racial/gender/religious/etc. epithet, or believing in the inherent superiority of a group of people.
- **Institutional Oppression:** The network of institutional structures, policies and practices that create advantages and benefits for dominant group members and discrimination, oppression, and disadvantages for subordinated group members. The advantages for dominant group members are often invisible to them or are considered entitlements or rights available to everyone as opposed to unearned privileges awarded to only some individuals or groups. Institutions may be Housing, Government, Education, Media, Business, Health Care, Criminal Justice, Employment, Labor, Politics, Religious Organizations, etc.



Terminology

- **Intersectionality:** Intersectionality is a theoretical framework that comes from critical theory to describe the way that oppressive institutions like racism, sexism, ableism, xenophobia, classism, transphobia, etc are interlapping and cannot be separated from one another.
- **Marginalization:** When a member of a racial, ethnic, religious, cultural or any social group is relegated to an unimportant or powerless position within a society or group. Being marginalized requires historical and ongoing oppression of the identity in question
- **Racism:** In a nutshell, racism is a perpetuation of historical, systematized discrimination. While personal actions can contribute to or reinforce institutional oppression, that is, be racist, racism is much more than the sum of individual actions. “Racism” can describe company or government policies, cultural practices, and other things that contribute to social systems of oppression.

This terminology list is by no means exhaustive. Definitions are compiled from the TriColleges Resource Guide. This list will expand with time, please reach out with any terms to include or adjustments to make.

Source: <https://guides.tricolib.brynmawr.edu/c.php?g=285382&p=1900870>





Immediate actions:

- Actively keep yourself informed and vote in local elections. Take actions to protect other's rights to vote as well.
- Research the laws, budgets and policies that disproportionately and systemically affect Black communities. Understand the importance of systemic change and what you can do to contribute to that change.
- Support local and national nonprofits that seek to empower and transform communities.
- Engage in conversations that might make you uncomfortable in attempt to learn and grow. Listen to others and take initiative to teach yourself and others.





Movies, TV shows & podcasts

If we want to understand the cycle of poverty in America we must address the intersectionality between race and class. Here are a few movies, tv shows and podcasts that highlight those issues.

Movies

- The Line
- BlackKkKlansman
- Just Mercy
- A Place at the Table
- 13th
- Becoming
- Poverty in the USA
- If Beale Street Could Talk
- The Hate U Give
- Poor Kids
- Hidden Figures
- Waiting for Superman

TV Shows

- When They See Us
- Insecure
- Atlanta
- Busted: America's Poverty Myths
- Self Made
- Time: The Kalief Browder Story
- Lovecraft Country
- Queen Sugar
- The Middle

Podcasts

- Pod Save the People
- 1619
- City Limits
- Code Switch
- Pod for the Cause

For more entertainment: <https://www.popsugar.com/entertainment/photo-gallery/48137615/image/48137642/Hidden-Figures-2016>

- Off-Kilter <https://www.cnet.com/pictures/black-lives-matter-movies-and-tv-show-that-put-racism-in-the-spotlight/4/>

<https://womenlovetech.com/10-movies-and-shows-you-can-watch-to-support-the-black-lives-matter-movement/>

<https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/2020/06/just-mercy-antiracism-streaming-content-black-lives-matter>



Books

- How to be an Antiracist - Ibram X. Kendi
- Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City - Matthew Desmond
- The New Jim Crow - Michelle Alexander
- White Fragility - Robin DiAngelo
- The Warmth of Other Suns - Isabel Wilkerson
- The Lines Between Us - Lawrence Lanahan
- The Missing Class - Katherine S. Newman and Victor Tan Chen
- The Working Poor - David K. Shipler
- The Vanishing Half - Brit Bennett
- Passing - Nella Larsen
- So You Want to Talk About Race - Ijeoma Oluo
- Free PDF's written by Black Activists:

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1mljH99Nwy-SfgbDec-UDHSrrN1_JLmwB





Articles

- [How you can be an ally in the fight for racial justice - Deray Mckesson](#)
- [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice - Corinne Shutack](#)
- [Who Gets to Tell Stories About Poverty? - Prospect.org](#)
- [The Lense of Systemic Oppression - National Equity Project](#)
- [Understanding Poverty - Urban Institute](#)
- [How to be an Active Bystander When You See Casual Racism - New York Times](#)
- [A Timeline of TV's Working-Class Sitcoms - Vulture](#)
- [Poverty Data - Talkpoverty.org](#)
- [An Atlas of Upward Mobility Shows Path Out of Poverty - New York Times](#)

