

# 16 DAYS

OF ACTIVISM & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

# #BLACKLIVESMATTER



**TAG** TRANSFORMATION  
ACTION GROUP



Graphic artist: John Adams johndadams.co.za/mandela2019

# THE FHS PLEDGE

The FHS will produce caring and resilient professionals who are able to:

**Participate in shaping the health of South Africans** as agents of social justice and sustainable development.

**Engage communities** to own their health and wellbeing.

**Advocate for community-based health promotion and disease prevention** in addition to curative, rehabilitative and supportive health interventions.

**Produce research** that addresses inequities in health access and resources.

**Conduct research** that promotes community participation.



## ABOUT TAG

The **Transformation Action Group (TAG)** was established in 2015 by the Head of Department, and was initially comprised of members of UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences Department of Paediatrics and Child Health. However, being based at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital (RCWMCH), the committee has expanded to include representatives from the many divisions that serve the Children's Hospital, including nursing, surgical disciplines and anaesthetics, to name a few. **TAG** also works closely with RCWMCH management to foster an institutional culture change.

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Anisa Bhattay  
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Louise Cooke  
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# COMMEMORATING 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN CONTENT

PAGE 1 / **#BLM** DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT

PAGE 3 / FRIDAY, 17 JULY: **DAY 1** / AN INTRODUCTION TO 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM & AWARENESS OF THE  
**#BLACK LIVES MATTER / #BLM MOVEMENT**

PAGE 5 / MONDAY, 20 JULY: **DAY 2** / UNDERSTANDING THE #BLM MOVEMENT **A LONG WALK TO FREEDOM**

PAGE 7 / TUESDAY, 21 JULY: **DAY 3** / UNDERSTANDING THE #BLM MOVEMENT **"I CAN'T BREATHE"** A CHILLING ANTHEM  
FOR GLOBAL INEQUALITY

PAGE 11 / WEDNESDAY, 22 JULY: **DAY 4** / UNDERSTANDING **WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM**

PAGE 15 / THURSDAY, 23 JULY: **DAY 5** / UNDERSTANDING **WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM** ANTI-RACISM IS THE  
ONLY WAY FORWARD

PAGE 17 / FRIDAY, 24 JULY: **DAY 6** / UNDERSTANDING **WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM** A MESSAGE TO THE  
NEWLY AWAKENED

PAGE 19 / MONDAY, 27 JULY: **DAY 7** / **#BLM** THE ROLE OF WOMEN

PAGE 21 / TUESDAY, 28 JULY: **DAY 8** / **ACADEMICS & INTELLECTUALS** IN SYSTEMIC RACISM

PAGE 23 / WEDNESDAY, 29 JULY: **DAY 9** / **SCHOOLING & HIGHER EDUCATION** #YOUSILENCEWEAMPLIFY

PAGE 25 / THURSDAY, 30 JULY: **DAY 10** / **OUR ROLE AS TEACHERS** IN BASIC & HIGHER EDUCATION

PAGE 27 / FRIDAY, 31 JULY: **DAY 11** / **PARENTING & EARLY CHILD EDUCATION** TEACHING KINDNESS IS NOT ENOUGH

PAGE 29 / MONDAY, 3 AUGUST: **DAY 12** / **SPORT & #BLM** #STRONGERTOGETHER

PAGE 31 / TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST: **DAY 13** / **SPORT & #BLM: TAKING A KNEE** THE COURAGE OF COLIN KAEPERNICK

PAGE 33 / WEDNESDAY, 5 AUGUST: **DAY 14** / **RACISM** WHERE TO FROM HERE?

PAGE 35 / THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST: **DAY 15** / **THE POWER** OF SHARED EXPERIENCE

PAGE 37 / FRIDAY, 7 AUGUST: **DAY 16** / **A LONG WALK TO EQUALITY** WHAT LIES AHEAD?

PAGE 39 / THE FREEDOM CHARTER

PAGE 41 / CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

PAGE 42 / HUMAN RIGHTS

PAGE 43 / ACTIVISM & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN LIBRARY

# #BLM

## DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT

**T**he Transformation Action Group (TAG) and the Advocacy Committees and greater Department of Pediatrics and Child Health, and the University of Cape Town reject all forms of racism and commit to creating a safe, nurturing environment in which all people are treated with dignity and respect.

We commit to listening and learning from those who have experienced oppression because of their race, gender, religion, ability or sexual orientation. As we work towards transformation within our department, our society and ourselves, we encourage our members to engage actively with racial discrimination, so that we become part of the solution.

It is in this spirit, that we stand in solidarity with the **#BlackLivesMatter** Movement and strongly condemn the brutal killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery, as the most recent victims of police brutality against black people in the USA. During South Africa's current state of disaster, we also condemn the brutal assault of Collins Khosa, Sibusiso Amos, Elma Robyn Montsumi, Petrus Miggels, Adane Emmanuel and Ntando Elias Sigasa, while inherently remembering Hector Pieteron and the many others who have succumbed to racial violence over the years. We call for justice and an end to racism and discrimination in all its forms.

In 1996 our new Constitution committed to heal the divisions of the past and build a new South Africa "based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights."

A South Africa in which we would improve the quality of life for all of our citizens - so that each person is free to live with dignity and reach their full potential.

It is with this in mind, we share responsibility to educate ourselves about racism and the systems that uphold those inequities and to challenge those structures and practices which perpetuate these disparities and divisions. Within our internal structures, to work towards transformation in areas including research and curriculum, student supervision and support and recruitment and leadership. Further, as healthcare professionals we commit to be advocates for child health by addressing the social determinants of health - such as poverty, inequality, discrimination, food insecurity, violence, industry and climate change.

It is with a sense of urgency that we now renew our commitment to take action. We will use our voices, privilege and resources to challenge racism, discrimination, xenophobia and injustice in all its forms, and to actively build a more just, inclusive and equitable workspace and society. We also commit to uphold children's rights to dignity, equality, survival, development and non-discrimination.



Photo by David C Mike Source: [www.instagram.com/p/B2Lgk72Huk/](http://www.instagram.com/p/B2Lgk72Huk/)  
Street artist: Brian Rolfe / [www.instagram.com/brianrolfeart/](http://www.instagram.com/brianrolfeart/)



Dear Colleagues,

**A**s you are aware, the **Transformation Action Group (TAG)** and the Advocacy Committee prepared a statement that was adopted and issued by our Paediatric Department on 22 June, in response to the **Black Lives Matter movement**, as so many aspects of the movement highlighted ongoing issues related to racism that we have been grappling with as a country and department over many years. The last part of the statement reads:

*“We share equal responsibility to educate ourselves about racism and the systems that uphold those inequities and to challenge those structures and practices which perpetuate these disparities and divisions. Within our internal structures, to work towards transformation in areas including research and curriculum, student supervision and support, and recruitment and leadership. Further, as healthcare professionals we commit to be advocates for child health by addressing the social determinants of health such as poverty, inequality, discrimination, food insecurity, violence, industry and climate change.*

*It is with a sense of urgency that we now renew our commitment to take action. We will use our voices, privilege and resources to challenge racism, discrimination, xenophobia and injustice in all its forms, and to actively build a more just, inclusive and equitable workspace and society. We also commit to uphold children’s rights to dignity, equality and non-discrimination, survival and development.”*

In line with this statement we are using the opportunity of **Mandela Day** and the legacy of Tata Madiba to launch a similar concept as the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence that occurs annually in November, to launch **16 days of Awareness of Issues of Systemic Racism and White Privilege** to educate ourselves as a group with the aim to catalyse accelerated transformation.

The themes we will be highlighting through various articles, clips and quotes will hopefully allow a better understanding of these extraordinarily complex issues - we cannot shy away from them - nobody has all the answers but unless we seek them we will never find them. **The material should not take longer than 10-15 minutes to read or watch, for you to engage with at lunch time perhaps or at the start or end of your day.**

The vision is for this to be an opportunity for introspection, to initiate a personal journey of awareness and education. This process is not meant to feel threatening or judgmental, it is not only for the white people in our community but for us all, as we have all through our human experience been both a victim and a perpetrator of some sort of discrimination in our lives, whether it be related to race, gender, language, hierarchy, sexual preference or ability.

**We challenge and encourage everyone to begin or enhance their own journey over the next 16 days through accessing some of the material provided, starting with this thought-provoking piece by Robyn Porteous *White South Africans: We have got to get real about race.***

**Read the article:** [news24.com/news24/Columnists/GuestColumn/opinion-white-south-africans-we-have-got-to-get-real-about-race-20200707?isapp=true](https://news24.com/news24/Columnists/GuestColumn/opinion-white-south-africans-we-have-got-to-get-real-about-race-20200707?isapp=true)

ONE OF THE  
**MOST DIFFICULT**  
THINGS IS NOT  
TO CHANGE  
SOCIETY - BUT  
TO CHANGE  
YOURSELF.

NELSON ROLIHLEHLA MANDELA



Photo by Maxime Petit / © 2019 GroundUp. Creative Commons License.  
Source: [www.groundup.org.za/feed/entry/when-i-came-home](http://www.groundup.org.za/feed/entry/when-i-came-home)  
Street artist: Breaze Yomo / [www.instagram.com/breazyoyo/](http://www.instagram.com/breazyoyo/)

# MONDAY 20 JULY DAY 2

## UNDERSTANDING THE #BLM MOVEMENT A LONG WALK TO FREEDOM



NOW WE HAVE AN  
ALL-EMBRACING  
GLOBAL COMMUNITY,  
MAINLY YOUNG PEOPLE,  
PROTESTING FOR CHANGE  
ACROSS THE WORLD.

ANANT SINGH

**N**obody could have escaped the media coverage of the murder of George Floyd and other unnecessary deaths that were highlighted in the Departmental statement. Anant Singh, director of *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* (a film based on the autobiography of Nelson Mandela), and a *Place of Weeping* (the first local anti-apartheid film released in 1985) offers his insight into the events relative to the South African context in an article for the Daily Maverick [All lives matter, especially black lives:](#)

*In the past weeks, we have seen people around the world stand up against the brutality that led to the killing of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks and so many others whose names are not known to us. The tipping point for our freedom may have been in 1976, but it would be another two decades before those ideals were realised. I hope that the actions and introspections required today provide quicker outcomes. We simply cannot continue to lose any more lives.*

*The last 20 days since the slaying of George Floyd in the USA has been a revelation, with an outpouring of humanity all around the world, a solidarity that is long overdue...*

Read the article: [dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2020-06-15-all-lives-matter-especially-black-lives/#gsc.tab=0](https://dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2020-06-15-all-lives-matter-especially-black-lives/#gsc.tab=0)

As academics this challenge is real and urgent as conveyed in this Lancet editorial: [Medicine and medical science: Black lives must matter more.](#)

Read the article: [thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2820%2931353-2](https://thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2820%2931353-2)

TUESDAY 21 JULY  
**DAY 3**

UNDERSTANDING THE #BLM MOVEMENT  
“I CAN’T BREATHE”  
A CHILLING ANTHEM FOR GLOBAL INEQUALITY



Photo by Venant Balkum  
Source: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:George\_Floyd\_Tribute\_Outside\_Cup\_Foods\_Minneapolis.jpg  
Street artist, Gade Kenzo, Gade Melam, Xana Goldstein,  
Milo Anderson and Adam Haim Hernandez



Photo by David C Mike Source: [www.instagram.com/p/BZLgk72Hukr/](https://www.instagram.com/p/BZLgk72Hukr/)  
Street artist: Brian Rolfe / [www.instagram.com/brianrolfeart/](https://www.instagram.com/brianrolfeart/)

**T**he Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation published a media statement “**I CAN’T BREATHE**” A chilling anthem for global inequality responding to Collins Khosa, George Floyd, #BLM, the recent spate of local and USA police violence, and global inequality further contextualises the issues and urgency to address them:

*The distasteful truth linking the deaths of Collins Khosa and George Floyd at the hands of security forces in South Africa and the United States is that the lives of certain categories of people in our societies are considered more precious than others.*

*Floyd’s last words “I can’t breathe” as he was suffocated under the knee of Minneapolis policeman Derek Chauvin last week, speak for billions of human beings who are fundamentally disempowered because they are poor, because they are black, because they are women, because they are gay, because they are of “other” faiths, because they are defenceless... because they fall on the wrong side of their society’s power divide, the systemic inequality gap.*

*Khosa died at the end of March, soon after being strangled, slammed against a wall and hit with the butt of a machine gun by South African soldiers over-zealously enforcing the Covid-19 lockdown regulations, his family said. The soldiers involved in the incident have been cleared by a defence force inquiry, but a police investigation is ongoing...*

Read the comment: [tutu.org.za/i-cant-breathe-a-chilling-anthem-for-global-inequality/](https://tutu.org.za/i-cant-breathe-a-chilling-anthem-for-global-inequality/)

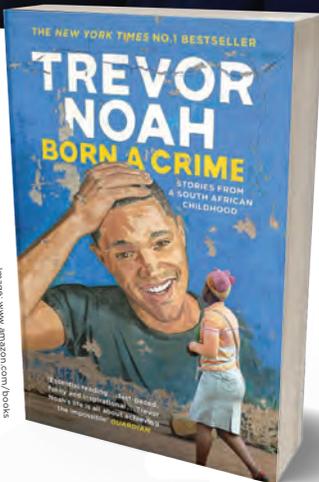
IF YOU ARE **NEUTRAL**  
IN SITUATIONS OF  
**INJUSTICE,**  
YOU HAVE **CHOSEN**  
THE SIDE OF  
**THE OPPRESSOR.**

ARCHBISHOP DESMOND MPIOLO TUTU

# UNDERSTANDING THE #BLM MOVEMENT “I CAN’T BREATHE” A CHILLING ANTHEM FOR GLOBAL INEQUALITY



## THE DAILY SHOW WITH TREVOR NOAH



**O**n **The Daily Social Distancing Show with Trevor Noah** he shares his thoughts on the killing of George Floyd, the protests in Minneapolis, the dominos of racial injustice and police brutality, and how the contract between society and black Americans has been broken time and time again.

Watch: [youtube.com/watch?v=v4amCfVbA\\_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4amCfVbA_c) and [www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4amCfVbA\\_c&t=8s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v4amCfVbA_c&t=8s)

He has been very vocal **on issues around #BLM** and in his wry, but insightful way, explains issues many of us feel uncomfortable with, such as looting.

Read his article: [iol.co.za/entertainment/celebrity-news/local/watch-trevor-noah-unpacks-what-led-to-the-black-lives-matter-protests-48794572](https://www.iol.co.za/entertainment/celebrity-news/local/watch-trevor-noah-unpacks-what-led-to-the-black-lives-matter-protests-48794572)



Poster art for Trevor Noah's *That's a Fact* show by Danny Richardson  
Source: <https://www.behance.net/gallery/90104453/Trevor-Noahs-That's-a-Fact>

**IMAGINE TO YOURSELF, IF YOU GREW UP IN A COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY DAY SOMEONE HAD THEIR KNEE ON YOUR NECK... YOU TELL ME WHAT THAT DOES TO YOU AS A SOCIETY, AS A COMMUNITY, AS A GROUP OF PEOPLE, AND WHEN YOU KNOW THIS IS HAPPENING BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF YOUR SKIN.**

TREVOR NOAH

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DECADES, INEQUALITY HAS BEEN ON THE RISE IN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ALIKE. BUT IN AN AGE OF WIDENING DIVIDES BETWEEN RICH AND POOR, SOUTH AFRICA STANDS OUT BECAUSE OF ITS SQUANDERED HOPES. MANDELA'S RAINBOW NATION WAS SUPPOSED TO SHOW THE WORLD HOW A NEW, EQUITABLE SOCIETY COULD BE BUILT OUT OF THE ASHES OF REPRESSION AND RACISM. BUT BY SOME MEASURES, INEQUALITY IN THE COUNTRY TODAY IS WORSE THAN IT WAS UNDER APARTHEID.

ARYN BAKER



**F**or the next 3 days we will explore the concepts of white privilege and systemic racism from various perspectives.

### The story behind TIME's cover on inequality in South Africa

The May 13, 2019, International cover of TIME magazine examines South Africa as “the world’s most unequal country.” Depicting a topic as expansive as inequality in a single frame is a challenge, especially since unequal experiences are often lived adjacently, but separately.

Photographer Johnny Miller has successfully achieved a method of visualizing inequality - by using a drone to spotlight from above how rich and poor can inhabit spaces that are right next to each other, but so different. His photographic project **Unequal Scenes** has garnered widespread praise and been featured in many of the world’s top publications.

Visit the Unequal Scenes website [unequalscenes.com](http://unequalscenes.com)

Miller’s drone work from South Africa proved to be the perfect fit for **Aryn Baker’s cover story**, providing a shockingly honest look at inequality in a way that is not visible from the ground. The cover image shows two neighborhoods outside of Johannesburg, with wealthy Primrose on the left and the informal settlement of Makause on the right...

Read the Time article by Katherine Pomerantz [time.com/5581483/time-cover-south-africa/](http://time.com/5581483/time-cover-south-africa/) and Read the Time cover story by Aryn Baker [time.com/longform/south-africa-unequal-country/](http://time.com/longform/south-africa-unequal-country/)



WEDNESDAY 22 JULY  
**DAY 4**

UNDERSTANDING  
**WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM**



Photo by Jeffery Miller [www.jefferymiller.com](http://www.jefferymiller.com)  
Source: [www.africaindian.org.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=147&Itemid=147](http://www.africaindian.org.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=147&Itemid=147)  
Street art by KAY Lee Gordon, KAY Freddy Sam [www.kayleeandkay.com](http://www.kayleeandkay.com)

# UNDERSTANDING WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM BASED ON THE COLOUR OF MY SKIN



Photo by Nardstar  
Source: <https://nardstar.com/gallery/think-for-yourself/>  
Street artist: Nardstar / www.nardstar.com

**T**his article by Lori Lakin Hutcherson, the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of Good Black News **What I Told My White Friend When He Asked For My Black Opinion On White Privilege** conveys a succinct and important message:

*“As to you being part of the problem, nobody is mad at you for being white. Nobody. Just like nobody should be mad at me for being black. Or female. Or whatever. But what IS being asked of you is to acknowledge that white privilege DOES exist, and*

*to not only treat people of races that differ from yours “with respect and humor”, but also to stand up for fair treatment and justice, to not let “jokes” or “off-colour” comments by friends, co-workers or family slide by without challenge, and to continually make an effort to put yourself in someone else’s shoes, so we may all cherish our unique and special contributions to society as much as we do our common ground...”*

Read the article: [huffpost.com/entry/what-i-said-when-my-white-friend-asked-for-my-black\\_b\\_578c0770e4b0b107a2415b89](https://huffpost.com/entry/what-i-said-when-my-white-friend-asked-for-my-black_b_578c0770e4b0b107a2415b89)

# WHITE PRIVILEGE IS A SET OF ADVANTAGES AND/OR IMMUNITIES THAT WHITE PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM ON A DAILY BASIS BEYOND THOSE COMMON TO ALL OTHERS. WHITE PRIVILEGE CAN EXIST WITHOUT WHITE PEOPLE'S CONSCIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF ITS PRESENCE AND IT HELPS TO MAINTAIN THE RACIAL HIERARCHY IN THIS COUNTRY.

MEMBERS OF PROFESSOR ARLENE AVAKIAN'S CLASS *THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF WHITENESS AND WOMEN*, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS



**T**he points below are part of the **South African version** of Peggy McIntosh's the **invisible knapsack of white privilege** written in America in 1989.

/ I assume that everyone knows I have good intentions so I feel no hesitation in approaching others of any race to ask for directions or other assistance.

/ Others are likely to assume I have good intentions so they don't lock the doors or roll up their car window when I am near.

/ I have never had to change my name or use another name to make it easier for others to pronounce.

/ I can walk in my neighbourhood without fear of being stopped by security questioning my legitimacy.

/ It's not likely that I, as an adult, will be called **The Girl or The Boy** (unlike the adult domestic worker who might be referred to as The Girl, or the adult gardener, as The Boy.)

/ It's easy for me to watch movies and TV shows, and find books where the main positive characters are white, like me.

/ Because my white children regularly see themselves reflected positively in books, TV shows and movies, they get the sense they are *normal* and children of different races are *other*.

/ Because the majority of models in advertisements are white (despite the fact the country is majority black), I get the impression that white skin and silky, straight hair is the standard of beauty.

/ Despite being a minority group in South Africa, I'm not asked to adjust my cultural norms to make others who don't share my norms more comfortable.

/ I can be oblivious to the language and customs of black people who constitute the majority in South Africa without being economically or socially disadvantaged.

/ If I commit a crime, people would likely be curious about, and attribute the reasons, to my own individual story (not my race).

Source: Invisible Backpack of White Privilege - A South African Version [whiteworksa.wordpress.com/invisiblebackpack/](http://whiteworksa.wordpress.com/invisiblebackpack/)

Read Peggy McIntosh's article [nationalseedproject.org/images/documents/Knapsack\\_plus\\_Notes-Peggy\\_McIntosh.pdf](http://nationalseedproject.org/images/documents/Knapsack_plus_Notes-Peggy_McIntosh.pdf)

THURSDAY 23 JULY  
**DAY 5**

UNDERSTANDING  
**WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM**  
ANTI-RACISM IS THE ONLY WAY FORWARD



Photo by Nardstar  
Source: theguardian.com/us-news/2020/july/31/crowds-gather-in-detroit-to-support-us-george-floyd-protests

**C**ontinuing the theme from yesterday, there is an increasing use of the term **anti-racism**. Ijeoma Oluo defines **anti-racism** as “...*the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, even in yourself. And it is the only way forward.*”

This article by Savala Trepczynski, of the Center for Social Justice at Berkeley School of Law, **Black and Brown People Have Been Protesting for Centuries. It's White People Who Are Responsible for What Happens Next** highlights the challenge to begin one's own journey:

*“How do you know you're white?”*

*I'm talking to a hundred law students. The room is racially diverse and full of people who have gotten into top law schools. They're committed to making*

*racial equity a cornerstone of their work. But not a single hand goes up to answer my question — and this matters.*

...*White Privilege* is when white people say: “surely ALL lives matter” when a black person says: “Black Lives Matter” and *White Fragility* is what white people feel when they're told they can't say that...

Read the article: [time.com/5846072/black-people-protesting-white-people-responsible-what-happens-next/](https://time.com/5846072/black-people-protesting-white-people-responsible-what-happens-next/)

This **Ted Talk** has an important and humbling global message regarding the need to discuss racial issues and share stories.

View the Ted Talk: [tutu.org.za/i-cant-breathe-a-chilling-anthem-for-global-inequality/](https://tutu.org.za/i-cant-breathe-a-chilling-anthem-for-global-inequality/)



# OF COURSE BLACK LIVES MATTER! DO WE THINK OUR LITTLE WHITE A\*\*\*S ARE THE ONLY ONES THAT MATTER?

DOLLY PARTON

**F**or Friday these are some lighter perspectives on how to process and integrate some of the new insights and perspectives gained this week:

Meera Mohan-Graham's article **Anti-racism is about humility: a message to the 'newly awakened'** is an insightful read:

*A gentle and VERY, VERY FIRM reminder to my many newly-awakening white and fellow non-Black POC friends: in your newly fired-up state, as your eyes are opening to the full magnitude of systemic injustice against the Black community, the insidiousness of racism in our society, and the urgency of addressing it...you likely have the urge to "do something big, NOW." You may be feeling frenetic, or deeply guilty about your inaction and silence to this point.*

*As a result, you might find yourself tempted to do something massive, on your own, with limited guidance. In the past three days alone, I've seen people trying to create and lead collective groups about anti-racism, an individual trying to 'compile recommendations' on policy brutality to email to local officials, and countless people creating solidarity art — all of whom are openly stating that they "finally see that there's such a problem/acknowledge the harm of their silence and are working to learn and do better."*

*HOLD. PAUSE. BREATHE. PAUSE AGAIN. If you barrel forward right now, you are about to create a bunch of work and distractions for people that are already engaged in this stuff..*

Read the article: [medium.com/@meeramohangraham/anti-racism-is-about-humility-a-message-to-the-newly-awakened-772f63806fd1](https://medium.com/@meeramohangraham/anti-racism-is-about-humility-a-message-to-the-newly-awakened-772f63806fd1)

For those who prefer watching a speaker, this **Ted Talk** is well worth the 15 minutes, although more American than South African-focused, this is both eloquent and entertaining with common themes to ours.

View the Ted Talk: [ted.com/talks/baratunde\\_thurston\\_how\\_to\\_deconstruct\\_racism\\_one\\_headline\\_at\\_a\\_time](https://ted.com/talks/baratunde_thurston_how_to_deconstruct_racism_one_headline_at_a_time)



FRIDAY 24 JULY  
**DAY 6**

UNDERSTANDING  
**WHITE PRIVILEGE & SYSTEMIC RACISM**  
A MESSAGE TO THE NEWLY AWAKENED



AP Photo: Mark Humphrey  
Source: abcnews.go.com/Entertainment/wireStory/mural-highlights-dolly-parton-black-lives-matter-quote-72532371  
Street artist: Kim Radford

MONDAY 27 JULY  
**DAY 7**

**#BLM: THE ROLE OF WOMEN**



**T**his week we will focus on issues related to women and children, and education.

Paediatrics is one of the specialities in medicine with a strong female presence making this article by Jennifer Palmieri **How white women can be better Black Lives Matter allies** an insightful reflection on the history of the parallel gender equality movement relevant:

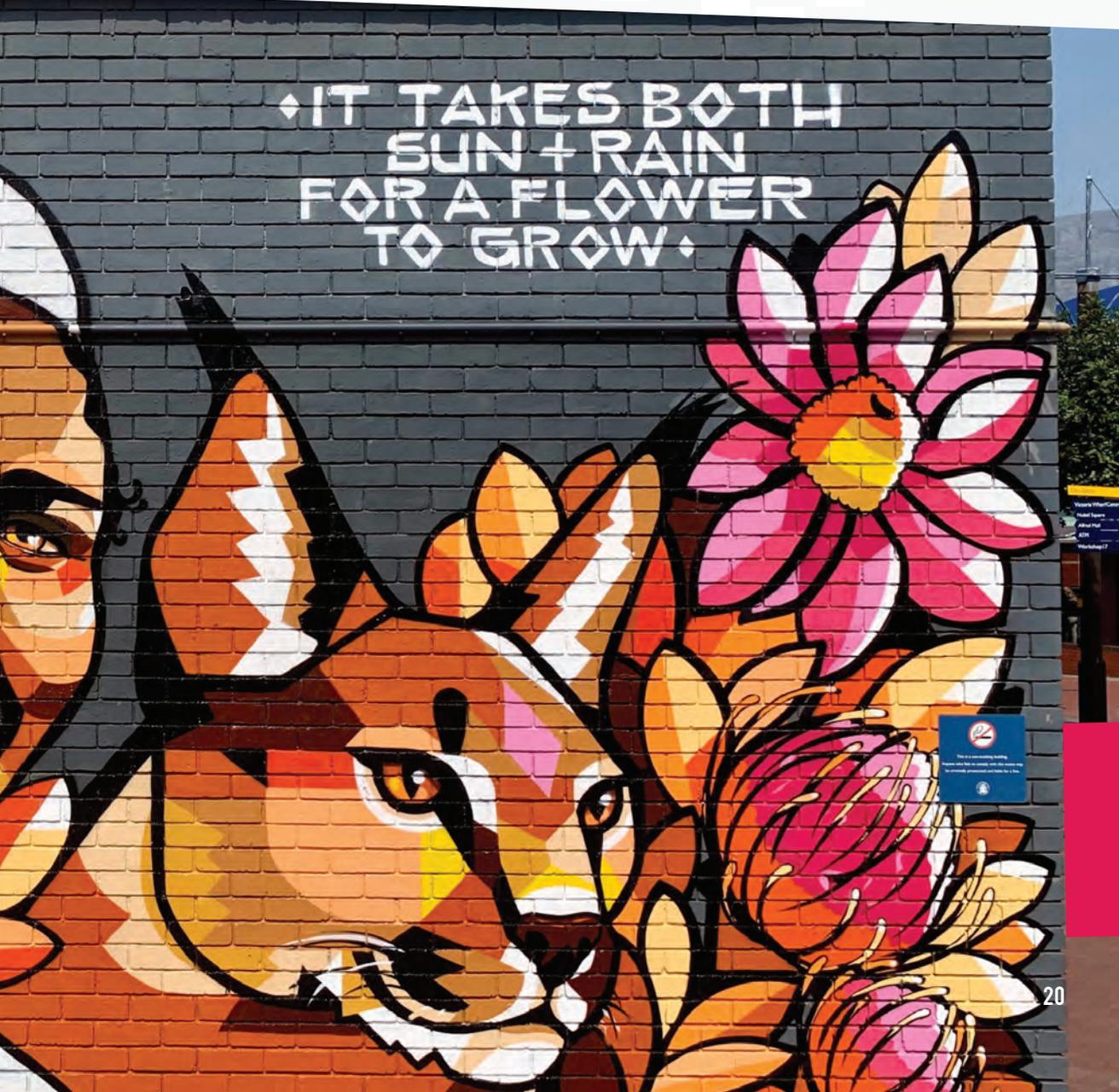
*Forget posting a black square to Instagram — white women must acknowledge that they too, have benefited from the white male patriarchy system, and that racism is entwined in their historic push for equal rights...*

Read the article: [vanityfair.com/news/2020/06/how-white-women-can-be-better-black-lives-matter-allies](https://vanityfair.com/news/2020/06/how-white-women-can-be-better-black-lives-matter-allies)

As child advocates, this article **Black children's lives matter** by Mark Heywood on "Youth Day" resonates:

*June 16, 2020, is the 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Soweto Uprising on 16 June 1976. Because of COVID-19, it will probably be the most difficult year young people in South Africa have faced since those brutal and murderous days. Millions are hungry. Millions have had their dreams of schooling interrupted. Young people will be bearing the brunt of job losses, that is if they had a job in the first place. Sadly, today should be considered a day of shame rather than celebration; a day for an urgent and tangible recommitment to equality for young people...*

Read the article: [dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-06-15-black-childrens-lives-matter/#gsc.tab=0](https://dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-06-15-black-childrens-lives-matter/#gsc.tab=0)





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Street artist: [Ricky Lee Gordon aka Freddy Sam](http://www.freddy.com) / [www.freddy.com](http://www.freddy.com)

Image © [www.freddy.com](http://www.freddy.com)

TUESDAY 28 JULY  
DAY 8

ACADEMICS & INTELLECTUALS  
IN SYSTEMIC RACISM

**M**any academics and intellectuals hide behind their “educated status” and don’t recognise many ingrained prejudices in themselves and societal systems. This article by Victor Ray and Alan Aja [Racism isn’t about ignorance. Some highly educated people have upheld systemic inequality](#) share their thoughts:

*As rebellions against the police killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, shake the America, education is once again being prescribed as racism’s cure.*

*Nothing warms our nerdy professorial hearts like seeing people buy books, and we understand the need for knowledge to attack entrenched social problems (please keep borrowing, exchanging and buying books, everyone). And we are deeply committed to popular anti-racist education. We hope anti-racist education can play a part in eradicating myths about causes and consequences of racial inequality...*

Read the article: [washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/06/18/racism-isnt-about-ignorance-some-smartest-minds-have-upheld-systemic-inequality/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/06/18/racism-isnt-about-ignorance-some-smartest-minds-have-upheld-systemic-inequality/)

*“Those who receive this privilege (of higher education) therefore, have a duty to repay the sacrifice which others have made. They are like the man who has been given all the food available in a starving village in order that he might have strength to bring supplies back from a distant place. If he takes this food and does not bring help to his brothers, he is a traitor. Similarly, if any of the young men and women who are given an education by the people of this republic adopt attitudes of superiority, or fail to use their knowledge to help the development of this country, then they are betraying our union.” Julius Nyerere, Tanzanian Politician and Writer*

IGNORANCE,  
ALLIED WITH  
POWER,  
IS THE MOST  
FEROCIOUS ENEMY  
JUSTICE CAN HAVE.

JAMES BALDWIN

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY

DAY 9

# SCHOOLING & HIGHER EDUCATION #YOUSILENCEWEAMPLIFY

WE WERE IN  
**PAIN!**

WE ARE IN  
**PAIN!**

WE ARE  
STILL IN  
**PAIN!**

LOVELYN NWADEYI

#

**#yousilenceweamplify** is an Instagram account where scholars of colour highlighted their often horrifying experiences of racism in mostly private schools in South Africa and has triggered a parallel wave to **#BLM** in South Africa, confronting systemic racism in schools - and is as relevant in Universities related to Undergraduate and Postgraduate teaching and students.

Some in the department may be parents, others as child health advocates should add voice to ensuring the environments at school and university do not perpetuate racism.

This article by Leah Nasson **#yousilenceweamplify** has opened a vital space: *But let's talk about class, as well as race* is a thought-provoking analysis of **#BLM** and it's wider context:

*When we talk about transformation in schools in the leafy suburbs of Cape Town or other cities, do we talk about why it is that they remain so racially homogenous? Do we say what needs to be said: That equal access to education in a market economy can never result in e(quality) in education?*

Read the article: [dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2020-06-09-yousilenceweamplify-has-opened-a-vital-space-but-lets-talk-about-class-as-well-as-race/](https://dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2020-06-09-yousilenceweamplify-has-opened-a-vital-space-but-lets-talk-about-class-as-well-as-race/)

Read *An open letter to white teachers and parents - consider this an olive branch* by social justice practitioner, Lovelyn Nwadeyi.

Read the article: [lovelynnwadeyi.com/post/an-open-letter-to-white-teachers-and-parents-consider-this-an-olive-branch](https://lovelynnwadeyi.com/post/an-open-letter-to-white-teachers-and-parents-consider-this-an-olive-branch)

# FEEES MUST FALL



Poster by Faith47  
Source: <https://www.facebook.com/faith47/>  
Street artist: Faith47 <https://www.instagram.com/faith47/>  
Participate in our online project with the #feesmustfall hashtag  
Available on South African news site Daily Maverick for free download and non-commercial use.



Photo by Lindsey Stein  
Source: popsugar.com/smart-living/photo-gallery/4470134/image/44180009/Enjoy-city-street-art  
Street artist: [SenzArt911](#) / [facebook.com/SenzArt911/7rc-p](#)

**T**here are vital lessons about recognising cultural diversity applicable to our interactions with parents and caregivers in our medical as well as educational environment. Janet Gonzalez-Mena and Dora Pulido-Tobiasen's article **Teaching Diversity: A Place to Begin** is a valuable guide:

*Building positive identities and a respect for differences means weaving diversity into the fabric of children's everyday lives. Working with families is an important first step in helping children accept, understand, and value their rich and varied world.*

*We all want children to grow up in a world free from bias and discrimination, to reach for their dreams and feel that whatever they want to accomplish in life is possible. We want them to feel loved and included and never to experience the pain of rejection or exclusion.*

*How can we prepare children to meet the challenges and reap the benefits of the increasingly diverse world they will inherit? We can raise children to celebrate and value diversity and to be proud of themselves and their family traditions. We can teach children to respect and value people regardless of the color of their skin, their physical abilities, or the language they speak...*

Read the article: [scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/teaching-diversity-place-begin-0/](https://scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/teaching-diversity-place-begin-0/)

This **article** by Lucy Kellaway humbly demonstrates lessons learnt from students from varied cultural backgrounds, covering issues like unconscious bias, very applicable in our work with medical students and registrars.

Read the article: [ft.com/content/014b4bcf-ac8f-4027-86d5-70e2550003e3?sharetype=blocked](https://ft.com/content/014b4bcf-ac8f-4027-86d5-70e2550003e3?sharetype=blocked)

*Others challenge the use of the word diversity. Being black or brown isn't diversity...it's normality. The word makes the non-disabled, heterosexual, white male and female socially accepted as the norm and everyone else who doesn't fit that status quo is labelled as diverse.*

**DISCRIMINATION  
HURTS  
AND LEAVES SCARS  
THAT CAN  
LAST A LIFETIME,  
AFFECTING GOALS,  
AMBITIONS,  
LIFE CHOICES,  
AND FEELINGS OF  
SELF-WORTH.**

JANET GONZALEZ-MENA AND DORA PULIDO-TOBIASSEN

THURSDAY 30 JULY

**DAY 10**

OUR ROLE AS TEACHERS IN  
**BASIC & HIGHER EDUCATION**

FRIDAY 31 JULY

# DAY 11

## PARENTING & EARLY CHILD EDUCATION TEACHING KINDNESS IS NOT ENOUGH

NO ONE IS BORN  
HATING ANOTHER PERSON  
BECAUSE OF THE  
COLOUR OF (THEIR) SKIN,  
OR BACKGROUND,  
OR RELIGION.

PEOPLE LEARN TO HATE  
AND IF THEY CAN  
LEARN TO HATE

THEY CAN BE  
TAUGHT TO LOVE

FOR LOVE COMES MORE NATURALLY  
TO THE HUMAN HEART  
THAN ITS OPPOSITE.

NELSON ROLIHLAHLA MANDELA

**T**eaching kindness is a staple of elementary practice, but that isn't the same as teaching justice. Educator Bret Turner's article [Teaching Kindness Isn't Enough](#) explores and shares his ideas:

*Dr. Seuss books have long been held up as parables. For years, we've celebrated when Sam-I-Am's persistence pays off and felt our hearts grow three sizes right along with the Grinch. But in February 2019, a [groundbreaking study](#) pinpointed in depth what people had been saying for years: [white supremacy lurks in the pages of many Seuss books.](#)*

*The foundation of the easy-to-spot morals of the stories were disturbing depictions of people of color and racialized non-human characters. The study led a number of educators to wonder: **How could these racist ideas exist alongside such valuable lessons? Alongside such kindness?***

*Educators, particularly elementary educators like me, are good at talking and teaching about kindness. It's at the core of elementary pedagogy, after all: those lessons and teachable moments related to being a good friend, being generous and acting thoughtfully...*

Read the article: [tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2019/teaching-kindness-isnt-enough](https://tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2019/teaching-kindness-isnt-enough)

Read the **groundbreaking study** *The Cat is Out of the Bag: Orientalism, Anti-Blackness, and White Supremacy in Dr. Seuss's Children's Books*: [sophia.stkate.edu/rdyl/vol1/iss2/4/](https://sophia.stkate.edu/rdyl/vol1/iss2/4/)

Read the article *It's Time to Talk About Dr. Seuss*: [tolerance.org/magazine/its-time-to-talk-about-dr-seuss](https://tolerance.org/magazine/its-time-to-talk-about-dr-seuss)



gekke

FALCO ONE

Photo by Janalene  
Source: [japinewworldjourney.com/category/south-africa/](http://japinewworldjourney.com/category/south-africa/)  
Street artist: FalcoOne / [facebook.com/FalcoOneGraffiti/](https://www.facebook.com/FalcoOneGraffiti/)



Image Source: <https://www.ict.org.za/> (Copyright © 2019). All rights reserved. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

MONDAY 3 AUGUST

## DAY 12

SPORT & #BLM  
#STRONGERTOGETHER

**R**ugby World Cup winner and Springbok captain Siya Kolisi visited his old school Emsingeni Primary with a lab full of iPads and the promise of a better future for its students.

*Kolisi in partnership with iSchoolAfrica and iStore donated a mobile iPad lab to Emsingeni at KwaZwilde in Port Elizabeth. The lab has 20 Apple iPads with pre-loaded applications aligned to the South African curriculum, has one plug point to charge all iPads simultaneously and can be locked away securely in the school safe.*

*Since 2009, the iSchoolAfrica programme has brought technology and classroom practises to 240 rural and township schools with the aim to change lives through improved teaching and learning.*

Read the article by Ziyanda Mgandela: [iol.co.za/ios/news/bok-captain-kolisi-goes-back-to-his-old-school-with-a-lab-full-of-ipads-30448915](http://iol.co.za/ios/news/bok-captain-kolisi-goes-back-to-his-old-school-with-a-lab-full-of-ipads-30448915)

South African rugby has voiced its support for #BLM protest in an article **49 rugby coaches, former players join former Proteas in support of Lungi Ngidi and Black Lives Matter.**

Read the article by Sibusiso Mjikeliso: [news24.com/sport/rugby/springboks/breaking-49-rugby-coaches-join-former-proteas-in-support-of-lungi-ngidi-and-black-lives-matter-20200715](https://news24.com/sport/rugby/springboks/breaking-49-rugby-coaches-join-former-proteas-in-support-of-lungi-ngidi-and-black-lives-matter-20200715)

The **reflections of our rugby captain** who united the nation last year in essence summarises so much of what we have covered in a deeply personal way.

Read the article: [enca.com/sport/its-time-change-kolisi-black-lives-matter](http://enca.com/sport/its-time-change-kolisi-black-lives-matter)

Visit Siya Kolisi The Bear on instagram: [instagram.com/siya\\_kolisi\\_the\\_bear/channel/?utm\\_source=ig\\_embed](https://instagram.com/siya_kolisi_the_bear/channel/?utm_source=ig_embed) and [instagram.com/tv/CC001enDyBJ/?utm\\_source=ig\\_embed](https://instagram.com/tv/CC001enDyBJ/?utm_source=ig_embed)

**MY JOURNEY BEGAN AT THIS SCHOOL AND IT'S WHY I WANT TO START CHANGING LIVES HERE BY INTRODUCING WORLD-CLASS TECHNOLOGY. MY DREAM IS TO PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUTH TO REALISE THAT WHETHER THEY LIVE IN THE SUBURBS OR A TOWNSHIP, THEY CAN BE ANYONE THEY WANT TO BE.**

SIYA KOLISI

# TUESDAY 4 AUGUST DAY 13

## SPORT & #BLM TAKING A KNEE THE COURAGE OF COLIN KAEPERNICK

*IF YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE IN THE BREAKFAST ROOM, THE NEXT PERSON THAT WALKS IN WOULD NEVER COME AND SIT NEXT TO YOU. THAT LONELINESS, THAT YOU ARE PLAYING WITHIN THE SAME TEAM, GETTING INTO THE SAME BUS, DRIVING ALL THE WAY TO THE STADIUM, BOWLING TO THEM, SINGING THE SAME NATIONAL ANTHEM. SO, THOSE THINGS, I HAD TO FIND A WAY TO OVERCOME THEM.*  
LUNGI NGIDI

**M**ost South Africans are passionate about sport which has the opportunity to unite a nation #strongertogether as we saw in the Rugby World Cup last year.

Many will have seen some of the controversies around the support for the #BLM in international and local sport, initially in **cricket circles**, and the concept of **taking the knee**:

*It is a game that, more than any other, is built on historical race and class divides, being the pastime of choice for English aristocrats and royals since, at least, the early 18th century.*

*In South Africa, cricket took the route of every other major sport: delineated along racial lines, with the white game delivering the country's official representatives and black and coloured players relegated to the fringes of society..*

**Read the article:** [news24.com/news24/analysis/first-take-cricket-is-political-and-lungi-ngidi-has-recognised-the-moment-20200710](https://news24.com/news24/analysis/first-take-cricket-is-political-and-lungi-ngidi-has-recognised-the-moment-20200710)

Former West Indies cricketer Michael Holding delivered a powerful and emotive speech alongside former England player Ebony Rainford-Brent **Until we educate the entire human race, this will not stop** to explain why the black lives matter movement has to lead to a change in education, having drawn on not only their own experiences but those witnessed in recent months to detail how society is “brainwashed” into unconscious racism...

**Read the article:** [independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/england-vs-west-indies-black-lives-matter-michael-holding-ebony-rainford-brent-speech-sky-a9607781.html](https://independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/england-vs-west-indies-black-lives-matter-michael-holding-ebony-rainford-brent-speech-sky-a9607781.html)



In 2016, Eric Reid (left), the first NFL player to join Colin Kaepernick (right) in his protest against racial injustice in the United States. Kaepernick, an American football quarterback, became a national and global #BLM protester taking a stand against racial injustice by taking a knee during the national anthem.

Photo by Michael Zepeda - Getty Images  
Source: <https://www.fox.com/4504014/colin-kaepernick-kneel/>

**I AM NOT GOING TO STAND UP TO SHOW PRIDE IN A FLAG FOR A COUNTRY THAT OPPRESSES BLACK PEOPLE AND PEOPLE OF COLOUR. TO ME, THIS IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO CHANGE. WHEN THERE'S SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AND I FEEL LIKE THAT FLAG REPRESENTS WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT AND THIS COUNTRY IS REPRESENTING PEOPLE THE WAY THAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO, I'LL STAND.**

**COLIN KAEPERNICK**



# WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST DAY 14 RACISM WHERE TO FROM HERE?

**S**omething is in the air: Ben Okri on the fight against racism, is written by the celebrated Nigerian writer who shares his pain and hope that the human race will finally reject the shackles of racism, oppression and social injustice, and together, black and white, build a new modern moral civilization.

*Something is in the air. In the past, the great clashes were around visible and measurable events: the Berlin Wall, apartheid. There is a part of what is happening now, the demolition of the statues of the Bristol slave merchant, the suppression of the statues of King Leopold II in Belgium. Perhaps these protests are about a long-awaited idea, an idea that will tear apart our societies and restore the place of real justice in all aspects of our lives.*

*Perhaps the human race is finally growing, rejecting the horrible shackles of racism, rejecting all its injustices. Perhaps the time for this primitive idea of racial superiority is finally over. Blacks and whites join forces in their monumental protests to wrest this evil from our societies, our institutions, our hearts.*

*In this case, the real **birth of modern moral civilization began on May 25, 2020, when, for eight minutes and 46 seconds, George Floyd repeated 16 times that he could not breathe.***

Read the article: [oltnews.com/something-is-in-the-air-ben-okri-on-the-fight-against-racism](https://oltnews.com/something-is-in-the-air-ben-okri-on-the-fight-against-racism)

16DAYSOFACTIVISM&AWARENESSCAMPAIGN  
#BLACKLIVESMATTER #BLM

THURSDAY 6 AUGUST

DAY 15

THE POWER OF SH



**O**ver the past three years TAG has hosted various VOICES sessions using individuals' stories and sharing of experience to sensitise the audience about a variety of issues of discrimination. There is power in stories.

*Michelle Obama shares her guidance and insight: "If we can open up a little bit to each other and share our stories, our real stories. That's what breaks down barriers. But in order to do that, you have to believe that your story has value. Be vulnerable, dare to be vulnerable. We are at crossroads of where we have to think of what we are as a nation. I remain hopeful that people want better. If not for themselves, then for the next generation."*

It is worth 15 minutes of your time listening to **The Danger of a Single Story** a powerful message on TedTalks from a young Nigerian writer on her experiences growing up in a middle class Nigerian home and subsequent studies and work in America and England.

View on TedTalk: [ted.com/talks/chimamanda\\_ngozi\\_adichie\\_the\\_danger\\_of\\_a\\_single\\_story](http://ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story)

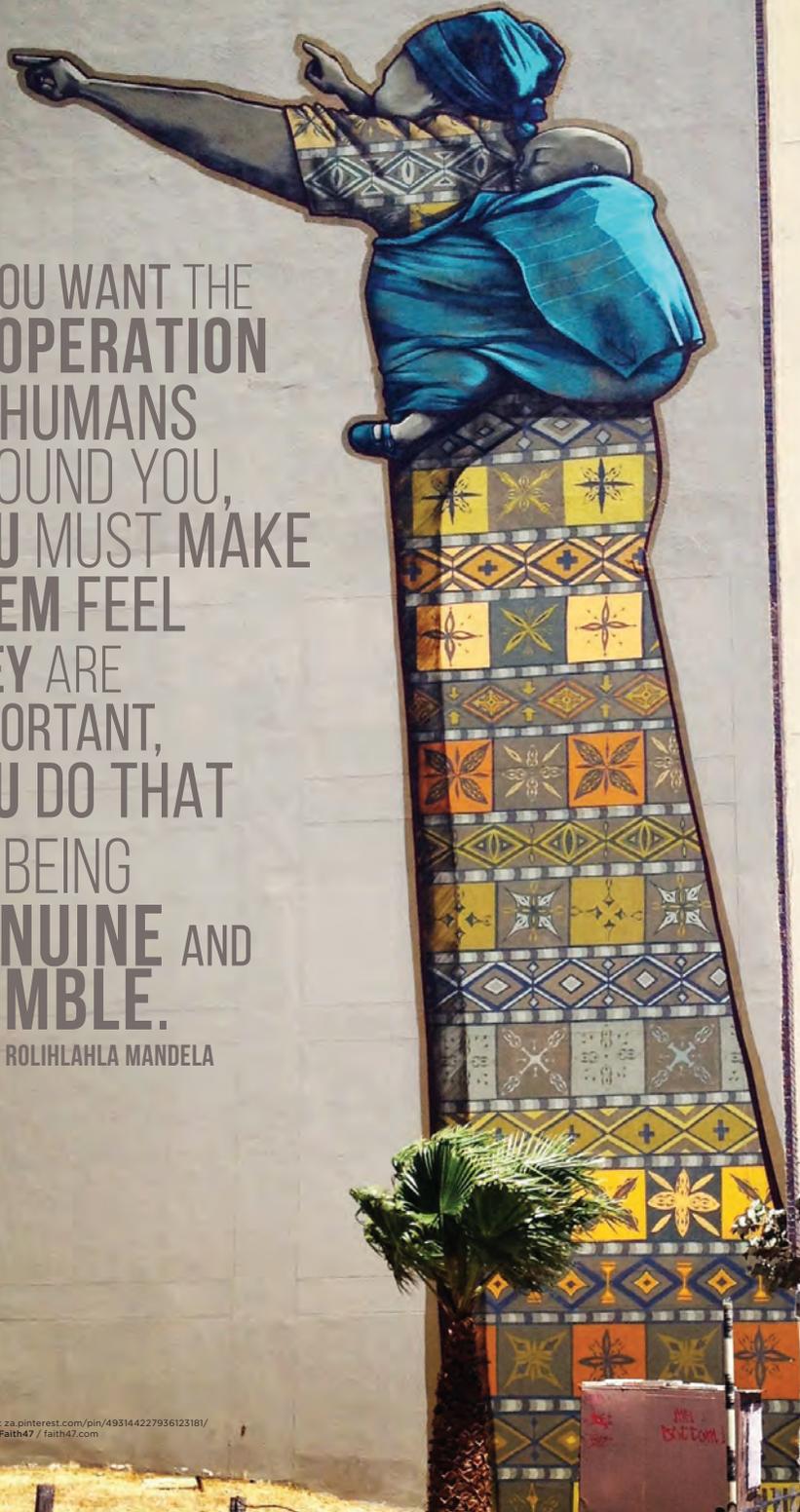
# ARED EXPERIENCE



YOU  
ARE  
NOT  
ALONE TOGETHER

IF YOU WANT THE  
**COOPERATION**  
OF HUMANS  
AROUND YOU,  
**YOU MUST MAKE**  
**THEM FEEL**  
**THEY ARE**  
IMPORTANT,  
**YOU DO THAT**  
BY BEING  
**GENUINE** AND  
**HUMBLE.**

NELSON ROLIHLEHLA MANDELA



# FRIDAY 7 AUGUST DAY 16

## A LONG WALK TO EQUALITY WHAT LIES AHEAD?

**O**ur last link **Seven things organisations should be doing to combat racism**, from The Penumbra published in the Lancet, is a guide for organisations to combat racism:

*The police killing of George Floyd in the United States ignited the global #BLM movement, stimulated organisations, including healthcare institutions, to vocalise their stance on racial equity. The coming years will show if these statements translate into lasting change.*

*The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that addressing our racist societies and structures is a matter of life and death. We need to get real about racism, and doing so will require concrete and focused action, commitment, discipline, ambition, boldness, and money.*

Read the article: [thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2820%2931565-8](https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2820%2931565-8)

### WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION?

CHANGE USES EXTERNAL INFLUENCES TO MODIFY ACTIONS, BUT TRANSFORMATION MODIFIES BELIEFS SO ACTIONS BECOME NATURAL AND SO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED RESULT. MARCEL CHAUDRON

### IN CONCLUSION

It is our hope this **16DAYSOFACTIVISMAWARENESSCAMPAIGN** will encourage action, increase awareness and allow for a deeper understanding of **White Privilege** and why **Black Lives Matter** - and facilitate the support of **anti-racism**.

We all have daily opportunities to make a fundamental difference in the lives of those around us, whether it be colleagues, students, patients, or our own families and children. Have conversations within yourself and with others, interrogate what makes you who you are, this should be a place of truth and reconciliation - not a space for blame and shame.

**Let us aim for better care:** self-care, care of students and colleagues, humility and investment in the future generations we are trying to keep healthy physically so they are kept mentally healthy too, and provide each child with every and equal opportunity and safety regardless of the colour of their skin.

#BLM

Cash Loans

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WOMEN  
MATTER  
1.87.8337



Source: faith47.com/the-freedom-charter-street-art/  
Street artist: Faith47 / faith47.com

# WE

THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA, declare for all our country and the world to know: that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of all the people; that our people have been robbed of their birthright to land, liberty and peace by a form of government founded on injustice and inequality; that our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities; that only a democratic state, based on the will of

all the people, can secure to all their birthright without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief; And therefore, we, the people of South Africa, black and white together - equals, countrymen and brothers - adopt this Freedom Charter. And we pledge ourselves to strive together, sparing neither strength nor courage, until the democratic changes here set out have been won.

## THE PEOPLE SHALL GOVERN

- / Every man and woman shall have the right to vote for and to stand as a candidate for all bodies which make laws.
- / All people shall be entitled to take part in the administration of the country.
- / The rights of the people shall be the same, regardless of race, colour or sex.
- / All bodies of minority rule, advisory boards, councils and authorities shall be replaced by democratic organs of self-government.

## ALL NATIONAL GROUPS SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS

- / There shall be equal status in the bodies of state, in the courts and in the schools for all national groups and races.
- / All people shall have equal right to use their own language, and to develop their own folk culture and customs.
- / All national groups shall be protected by law against insults to their race and national pride.
- / The preaching and practice of national, race or colour discrimination and contempt shall be a punishable crime.
- / All apartheid laws and practices shall be set aside.

## THE PEOPLE SHALL GOVERN THE COUNTRY'S WEALTH

- / The national wealth of our country, the heritage of all South Africans, shall be restored to the people.
- / The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole.
- / All other industry and trade shall be controlled to assist the well-being of the people.
- / All people shall have equal rights to trade where they choose, manufacture and enter all trades, crafts and professions.

## THE LAND SHALL BE SHARED AMONG THOSE WHO WORK IT

- / Restrictions of land ownership on a racial basis shall be ended, and all the land redivided amongst those who work it, to banish famine and land hunger.
- / The state shall help the peasants with implements, seed, tractors and dams to save the soil and assist the tillers.
- / Freedom of movement shall be guaranteed to all who work on the land.
- / All shall have the right to occupy land where they choose.
- / People shall not be robbed of their cattle, and forced labour and farm prisons shall be abolished.

## ALL SHALL BE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW

- / No one shall be imprisoned, deported or restricted without a fair trial.
- / No one shall be condemned by the order of any Government official.
- / The courts shall be representative of all the people.
- / Imprisonment shall be only for serious crimes against the people, and shall aim at re-education, not vengeance.
- / The police force and army shall be open to all on an equal basis and shall be the helpers and protectors of the people.
- / All laws which discriminate on grounds of race, colour or belief shall be repealed.

## ALL SHALL ENJOY EQUAL HUMAN RIGHTS

- / The law shall guarantee to all their right to speak, to organise, to meet together, to publish, to preach, to worship and to educate their children;
- / The privacy of the house from police raids shall be protected by law;
- / All shall be free to travel without restriction from countryside to town, from province to province, and from South Africa abroad;
- / Pass Laws, permits and all other laws restricting these freedoms shall be abolished.

## THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY

- / All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers.
- / The state shall recognise the right and duty of all to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits.
- / Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work.
- / There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full pay for all working mothers.
- / Miners, domestic workers, farm workers and civil servants shall have the same rights as all others who work.
- / Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished.

## THE DOORS OF LEARNING AND CULTURE SHALL BE OPENED

- / The government shall discover, develop and encourage national talent for the enhancement of our cultural life.
- / All the cultural treasures of mankind shall be open to all, by free exchange of books, ideas and contact with other lands.
- / The aim of education shall be to teach the youth to love their people and their culture, to honour human brotherhood, liberty and peace.
- / Education shall be free, compulsory, universal and equal for all children.
- / Higher education and technical training shall be opened to all by means of state allowances and scholarships awarded on the basis of merit.
- / Adult illiteracy shall be ended by a mass state education plan.
- / Teachers shall have all the rights of other citizens.
- / The colour bar in cultural life, in sport and in education shall be abolished.

## THERE SHALL BE HOUSES, SECURITY AND COMFORT

- / All people shall have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security.
- / Unused housing space to be made available to the people.
- / Rent and prices shall be lowered, food plentiful and no one shall go hungry.
- / A preventive health scheme shall be run by the state.
- / Free medical care and hospitalisation shall be provided for all, with special care for mothers and young children.
- / Slums shall be demolished, and new suburbs built where all have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, creches and social centres.
- / The aged, the orphans, the disabled and the sick shall be cared for by the state.
- / Rest, leisure and recreation shall be the right of all.
- / Fenced locations and ghettos shall be abolished, and laws which break up families shall be repealed.

## THERE SHALL BE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

- / South Africa shall be a fully independent state, which respects the rights and sovereignty of all nations.
- / South Africa shall strive to maintain world peace and the settlement of all international disputes by negotiation not war.
- / Peace and friendship amongst all our people shall be secured by upholding the equal rights, opportunities and status of all.
- / The people of the protectorates-Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland-shall be free to decide for themselves their own future.
- / The right of all the peoples of Africa to independence and self-government shall be recognized and shall be the basis of close co-operation.

LET ALL WHO  
LOVE THEIR PEOPLE  
& THEIR COUNTRY  
NOW SAY,  
AS WE SAY HERE.

# Children's Rights



## You have the right to:



A name and a nationality at birth



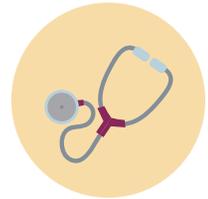
Family care and parental care



Basic Nutrition



Shelter



Basic health care services



Education



Social services



Protection



If you feel that your rights are being violated, please speak to someone you trust such as a parent, teacher, friend, police officer or family friend. They can call the following numbers for help:

Department of Social Development Hotline: **0800 220 250**

After hours: **082 227 0478**

Childline: **0800 055 555**

# HUMAN RIGHTS

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa was signed into law by former President Nelson Mandela on 10 December 1996.

Chapter 2 of the Constitution contains the Bill of Rights which provides for the following rights:

**EQUALITY**  
Everyone is equal before the law and may not be unfairly discriminated against.

**HUMAN DIGNITY**  
Everyone has inherent human dignity which must be respected.

**LIFE**  
Everyone has the right to life.

**FREEDOM AND SECURITY OF THE PERSON**  
You have a right to be free from all forms of violence and not be detained without trial.

**SLAVERY, SERVITUDE AND FORCED LABOUR**  
You may not be subjected to slavery or forced labour.

**PRIVACY**  
Your right to privacy includes your body, home and possessions.

**FREEDOM OF RELIGION, BELIEF AND OPINION**  
You have a right to have your own beliefs and opinions. You can follow the religion of your choice.

**FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**  
All people (including the press) can say what they want.

**ASSEMBLY, DEMONSTRATION, PICKET AND PETITION**  
You can hold a demonstration, picket and present a petition. But you must do this peacefully.

**FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION**  
You can associate with anyone you want to.

**POLITICAL RIGHTS**  
You can support the political party of your choice. If you are a citizen, and at least 18 years old, you can vote.

**CITIZENSHIP**  
Your citizenship cannot be taken away from you.

**FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND RESIDENCE**  
You can live anywhere in South Africa.

**FREEDOM OF TRADE, OCCUPATION AND PROFESSION**  
You can do any work you choose.

**LABOUR RELATIONS**  
You may join trade unions and go on strike.

**ENVIRONMENT**  
You have the right to a healthy environment.

**PROPERTY**  
Your property can only be taken away from you if the proper rules are followed.

**HOUSING**  
Everyone who is a citizen has a right to access to proper housing.

**HEALTH CARE, FOOD, WATER AND SOCIAL SECURITY**  
Everyone has a right to food, water, health care and social security.

**CHILDREN**  
Children under the age of 18 have special rights, like the right not to be abused.

**EDUCATION**  
You have the right to basic education, including adult basic education, in your own language (if this is possible).

**LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**  
You can use the language you want to and follow the culture that you choose.

**CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC COMMUNITIES**  
Communities can enjoy their own culture; practice their own religion; and use their own language.

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**  
In order to exercise your rights, you may have access to information held by another person, organisation or by the State.

**JUST ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION**  
Actions by the government must be fair.

**ACCESS TO COURTS**  
You can have a legal problem decided by a court, or a similar structure.

**ARRESTED, DETAINED AND ACCUSED PERSONS**  
This right protects accused people.

THE YEAR OF UNITY,  
SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
RENEWAL AND NATION  
BUILDING.

**Limitation of rights**  
The rights in the Bill of Rights may be limited. The limitation must be reasonable and justifiable in an open and democratic society based on human dignity, equality and freedom.

For the full text of the Constitution go to: [www.justice.gov.za](http://www.justice.gov.za) • Follow us on



the **doj & cd**

Department:  
Justice and Constitutional Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# ACTIVISM & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN LIBRARY

## FOR THE WEEKEND: CHILDREN & ADULT READING & ARMCHAIR ENTERTAINMENT

### HELP YOUR CHILDREN UNDERSTAND RACE AND PRIVILEGE

Here is the [link](#) to young children's audio books. Share this resource with your children's school or local librarian. Ask your librarian where the SA kids book section is and check if they have isiXhosa and Afrikaans kids' books too. If not – ask for them.

Link: [docs.google.com/presentation/d/18pOK3roiwPQ9WF7D2wA0o7Ktr8KwAJeZfn-o6O8T\\_\\_Y/present?ueb=true&slide=id.p](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18pOK3roiwPQ9WF7D2wA0o7Ktr8KwAJeZfn-o6O8T__Y/present?ueb=true&slide=id.p)

### READ BLACK AUTHORS

Pan-African Anti-racism and Solidarity [reading list](#) – visit for fantastic reads for you and your family.

Link: [johannesburgreviewofbooks.com/2020/07/03/pan-african-anti-racism-and-solidarity-reading-list-a-resource-from-the-jrb/](https://johannesburgreviewofbooks.com/2020/07/03/pan-african-anti-racism-and-solidarity-reading-list-a-resource-from-the-jrb/)

### WATCH MOVIES DIRECTED BY BLACK DIRECTORS AND/OR THAT FEATURE PEOPLE OF COLOUR

Green Book, Boyz in the Hood, Queen Sugar, Insecure, Dear White People, The Carmichael Show, Blackish, Grownish, Black Panther, A Wrinkle in Time, Get Out, and Sorry to Bother you are a good place to start.

13<sup>th</sup> is a 2016 American documentary film by director *Ava DuVernay*.

*The House I Live In*, directed by *Eugene Jarecki*, is a 2012 documentary film about the **War on Drugs** in the United States.

**12 must watch movies** by **black female directors**.

Link: [marieclaire.com/culture/a32811898/movies-by-black-directors-woman/](https://marieclaire.com/culture/a32811898/movies-by-black-directors-woman/)

**14 films** by **black filmmakers** that everyone should watch.

Link: [empireonline.com/movies/features/films-by-black-filmmakers-that-everyone-should-watch-in-2020/](https://empireonline.com/movies/features/films-by-black-filmmakers-that-everyone-should-watch-in-2020/)

### SHOWMAX CONTENT

**10 most topical shows** you can stream.

Link: [dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-09-10-most-topical-shows-you-need-to-stream-right-now/](https://dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-09-10-most-topical-shows-you-need-to-stream-right-now/)



**"AS LONG AS MANY OF OUR PEOPLE  
STILL LIVE IN UTTER POVERTY, AS LONG  
AS CHILDREN STILL LIVE UNDER PLASTIC  
COVERS, AS LONG AS MANY OF OUR  
PEOPLE ARE STILL WITHOUT JOBS, NO  
SOUTH AFRICAN SHOULD REST AND  
WALLOW IN THE JOY OF FREEDOM."**

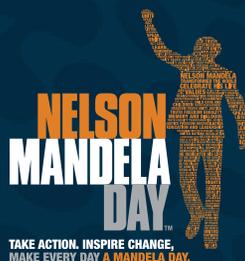
NELSON MANDELA



NELSON MANDELA  
FOUNDATION

*Living the legacy*

[www.nelsonmandela.org](http://www.nelsonmandela.org)



TAKE ACTION. INSPIRE CHANGE.  
MAKE EVERY DAY A MANDELA DAY.

A NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION INITIATIVE



**LISTEN WITH  
COMPASSION**  
**WALK WITH  
HUMILITY**  
**ACT WITH  
JUSTICE**

**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

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