

Being the Light, Working for Justice

Listening and Reading List

These are just a few suggestions to get you started, for those wanting to learn more about the lived experience of race (other than “whiteness”) in the United States. Please feel free to share other resources that you have found useful.

Podcasts:

1. [BlackLITE](#): Four young black men discuss their lived experience of race and racism.
2. [Code Switching \(NPR\)](#): Conversations hosted by journalist of color on a wide range of topics.

Books:

3. [The Miner's Canary by Lani Guiner and Gerald Torres](#): A great read for this election year, as it contains thoughts on expanding social justice movements.
4. [Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism](#) by bell hooks: An analysis of how racism and sexism converge in the treatment of Black women.
5. [Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde](#): Talks about race, class, gender, sexual orientation from her own personal experiences, and looks at intersectional identity through the lens of police violence, gender-based violence, colonization, and more.
6. [The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison](#): Examines how beauty is constructed around “whiteness” and shows how powerful self-love can be for Black women.

7. [*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin](#): Collection of nonfiction essays addressing race, religion, and how they've intersected in American history.
8. [*Letter from Birmingham Jail* by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#): Classic writing from the height of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s.
9. [*The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander](#): Examines how “criminal justice reform” in the 1990s became the latest form of racial segregation and oppression in the United States.
10. [*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates](#): A letter from the author to his son about the realities of being a black man in the United States.
11. [*Thick* by Tressie Macmillan Cottom](#): A collection of essays on the experience of being a black woman, and academic, in the United States.

To learn more, visit <http://www.blacklivesmatter.com/>.