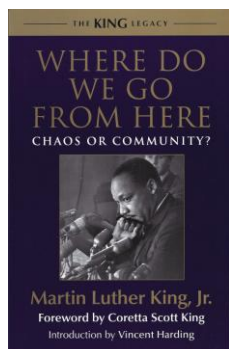


The Everyperson's One-Page Guide to Racism -

By

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1. Racism is the belief in superior and inferior races.
2. Modern science has thoroughly refuted the belief in superior and inferior races.
3. Racism uses degrading and insulting stereotypes of individuals and groups.
4. Stereotypes are “overgeneralizations” and almost always misleading.
5. Racism appears to develop in places with high degrees of inequality where the privileged groups can use racism to justify their privileges.
6. In the U.S. the racism with the most consequences has been aimed by whites against Native Americans, African Americans and Latinos.
7. Racism can lead to harassment, intimidation, denial of rights and community discord.
8. In the U. S. racism helps rationalize discrimination in housing, health, education, employment and the justice system.
9. Racism has helped rationalize slavery and genocide.
10. Racism can linger indefinitely in the institutions of a society – even if all the members are no longer racist: this is called “institutional racism.”
11. Institutional racism is the most difficult racism to overcome.
12. Institutional racism can even be difficult to identify – it requires learning about our society.
13. Affirmative action is not “reverse racism.” Instead, it is an attempt to make our society more fair and equal. It is one means of overcoming institutional racism.
14. Racism makes it harder for people to work together to make their lives better.



Overcoming racism is hard work - but it can be done. Overcoming racism makes it possible to build a community with a high quality of life for everyone.

This page was developed for use in the Martin Luther King Community Build in Ithaca, New York, 2010–2011.

The Three Faces of Racism

By

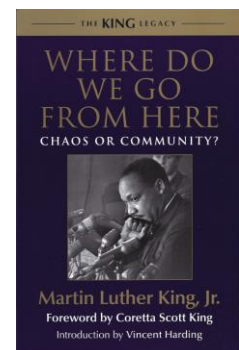
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Racism comes in three forms:

1. A belief or set of ideas;
2. Practices such as discrimination or even violence; and
3. An element of our institutions such as poor healthcare, or inadequate educational facilities

Face #3 – institutional racism – is usually the most difficult to identify and overcome. It can exist even if no racist beliefs are around and no direct racist practices are occurring.

In his 1967 book, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, Martin Luther King outlines a set of clear and effective procedures to root out all three forms of racism and to set our communities on a path towards a high quality of life for all.



19 March 2010

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