

Resources for Further Learning on Bias

Podcast: “Why Can’t We See?” on the Center for Action and Contemplation website, a conversation with Brian McLaren, Jacqui Lewis and Richard Rohr. October 5, 2020 *Theologian and writer Brian McLaren has done some great work on understanding all the ways that bias can show up in human life, attitudes and actions, and along with Rohr and Lewis, roots this work in theology and living in right relationship.* Also from Brian McLaren: [Recognizing our Biases](#)

“ON BEING” EULA BLISS TALKING ABOUT WHITENESS

“You can’t think about something if can’t talk about it,” says Eula Bliss, the writer helpfully opens up lived words and ideas like complacence, guild and opportunity hoarding for an urgent reckoning with whiteness.

THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY

One of the most beloved and watched Ted Talks, writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie shares a powerful reminder that “our lives, our cultures, are composed of many overlapping stories.” She warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding.

“On Being” interview with Ruby Sales

Civil rights legend Ruby Sales learned to ask “Where does it hurt?” because it’s a question that drives to the heart of the matter — and a question we scarcely know how to ask in public life now. Sales says we must be as clear about what we love as about what we hate if we want to make change.

“One Being” podcast interview with Resmaa Menakem

Resmaa Menakem is a Minneapolis-based therapist and trauma specialist who activates the wisdom of elders, and very new science, about how all of us carry in our bodies the history and traumas behind everything we collapse into the word “race.”

Choose with care and intention the media you consume: If you are a reader or a movie lover, you know that worlds you could not have imagined open in a well-crafted novel or a great film. Now there are numerous studies¹ that have shown that the more we choose to read and watch and listen to media that shares the stories of people from diverse and varied backgrounds, ethnicities, genders and abilities, our biases lessen, and we are more empathetic in our attitudes and understandings of other people. So the next time you turn on your favorite streaming platform to find a fun rom com or sci-fi movie, choose the option that has characters that don’t look like or sound like you. The next time you go to the memoir or fiction section of your library, seek out authors that have identities that are different from yours. It isn’t just

¹ One such article: [How Does Fiction Reading Influence Empathy?, Inclusive Content Reduces Racial and Gender Bias](#)

enjoyable to explore diverse stories; it actually opens our minds and hearts wider to others and reduces bias.

What is Intersectionality?

Sociologist Kimberle Crenshaw created the term “intersectionality” to capture a complexity of discrimination and explains it in these two short videos:

[What is Intersectionality?](#)

[Intersectionality NOT Identity](#) Also, a helpful “intro” video with graphics: [Intro to Intersectionality](#)

What do discriminatory attitudes and actions look like in daily life? [The Dismantling Racism](#) website continues many insights and examples on how racial bias shows up in our life together, and what we might do to create communities, COMs, churches and a society where all people are valued, respected, and has great learning tools for embracing the value of creating spaces that are hospitable to all persons. While the focus is on racial bias, this information can be adapted to address other forms of bias too.

Books for Further Reading:

Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice that Shapes What We See, Think, and Do by Jennifer L. Eberhardt, 2019.

The Blindspots Between Us: How to Overcome Unconscious Bias and Build Better Relationships. By Gleb Tsipursky, 2020

The End of Bias: A Beginning: The Science and Practice of Overcoming Unconscious Bias, by Jessica Norde, 2021.

Unraveling Unconscious Bias, by Pragy Agarwal, 2020. [Interview with Pragy Agarwal](#).

Caste: The Origins of our Discontents. By Isabel Wilkerson, 2020.