

The Manchester Historical Society

Resources on the History of Racism and Race in America

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Following the murder of George Floyd and the current protest movement, there is an increased interest in and need for resources on the history of racism in the United States and how it affects us today. The free resources below provide *starting points* to learn about the historical context of the recent protests as well as the history of systemic racism. These resources are only the tip of the iceberg in terms of what is available online. Everyone is encouraged to seek out additional resources that give voice to what people of color have experienced and continue to experience in America.

National Museum of African American History and Culture on “The Historical Foundations of Race”: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race/topics/historical-foundations-race>

National Museum of African American History and Culture “Talking About Race” Resources: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race>

“Many Rivers to Cross”: Multi-part documentary on African American history hosted by Harvard University Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. (Free to stream on PBS): <https://www.pbs.org/show/african-americans-many-rivers-cross/>

“The Choices Program” at Brown University: Short videos discussing the history of the Civil Rights Movement. This video series is focused on Mississippi but has relevance for Civil Rights movements in the U.S. as a whole : <https://www.choices.edu/video-playlist/?unit=405>

Smithsonian Magazine “Racism Kept Connecticut’s Beaches White Up Through the 1970s” This article examines just one facet of structural racism in CT: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/connecticuts-beaches-were-largely-limits-african-americans-through-1970s-180969494/>

Oprah Winfrey “Where Do We Go From Here?” Recent two-part series free to watch on You Tube.

Part I: <https://youtu.be/09ysfL2SIHo>

Part II: <https://youtu.be/1jy6LpivqIM>