

# Racial Awareness Resources

## Compiled by Barbara McChesney

### Films:

- [Deconstructing White Privilege with Dr. Robin DiAngelo](#) - a 22 minute overview of her concepts given in 2017
- [Dr. Robin DiAngelo discusses 'White Fragility'](#)
- 13<sup>th</sup>- Available on Netflix
- Betty Soskin documentary playing on NBC Bay Area 7/4/20: <https://vimeo.com/427086677> Betty is 98 years old and is the oldest National Park Ranger in the country. Barbara McChesney has met her several times and highly recommends this documentary.
- Seeing White podcast: <https://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/>

### Books *(with notes by Maureen and Barbara):*

- **“White Fragility: why it’s so hard for white people to talk about racism” Robin D’Angelo (Comments from Maureen)**  
Published June 2018 and still a top-ten seller; forward by Michael Eric Dyson  
If a white person could read only one book on race, and about the effect of white privilege on, well, everyone, then this eye-opener would have to be it. I love Robin DiAngelo’s clarity and warm-heartedness. This book is easy to read because it flows so well, yet doesn’t pull back on some hard-to-hear realities. One striking insight concerned how white people want to be “cared for” in a conversation about race – *oh, no, we don’t mean you* – much as feminists sometimes soothe males who feel criticized when the topic of equality comes up.

I’d been listening to this book shortly after it came out, wrestling a bit with what “white privilege” means for me. While waiting for a prescription at Safeway, I picked up a few more items, and needed a cart. So, I walked out of the store, merchandise in my hands, to find a cart. Without a second thought . . . and then I had a second thought.

- **“How to Be an Anti-Racist” by Ibram X. Kendi (comments from Maureen)**  
I’m listening to this on audio. The writer is reading, and he goes back and forth between major historical events and his own life as the son of professional Black parents involved in civil rights activities. So it’s scholarly and well-reported, with some jaw-dropping inequity stats (not improving) while also being personal with a detailed look at Kendi’s life and growth. The distinction between “not racist” and

“anti-racist” is stressed, and it helps break through the thinking that stops progress. Fascinating info, too, about the origin of “race” as a concept.

- **“White Like Me: reflections on race from a privileged son” by Tim Wise**

(Maureen) Part memoir and part well-researched political essay, white Tim Wise explores white privilege and the unexpected damage it does to the privileged. His stories about Jewish and Christian family members’ experiences with race are riveting.

- **“White Rage: the unspoken truth of our racial divide” by Carol Anderson** (*Comments from Maureen*) A National Book Critics Circle Award Winner. One of the many historical perspectives that sticks in my mind was about poll taxes in southern states. These, along with rigged “literacy” tests, were enacted by Southern whites to unravel Black advances in the Reconstruction era. Well, poor whites *also* did not care to pay poll taxes, driving voter participation down to an astonishing few percentage points. For many decades, this small slice of voters in about nine states sent 18 our U.S. Senators, mostly active racists, to Washington.

- **“How to be Less Stupid about Race” On racism, White Supremacy, and the Racial Divide by Crystal Marie Fleming.** *Barbara currently reading. How to Be Less Stupid About Race* is your essential guide to breaking through the half-truths and ridiculous misconceptions that have thoroughly corrupted the way race is represented in the classroom, pop culture, media, and politics. Centuries after our nation was founded on genocide, settler colonialism, and slavery, many Americans are kinda-sorta-maybe waking up to the reality that our racial politics are (still) garbage. But in the midst of this reckoning, widespread denial and misunderstandings about race persist, even as white supremacy and racial injustice are more visible than ever before.

## **10 minutes a Day- Resource list**

Click on the link below, or Copy and Paste it into you in your browser as it includes a wealth of information.

Justice In June

<https://www.windsorrotary.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Justice-in-June.pdf>