

## Antiracism Recommended Media Resources

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#### 1. Reading List Recommendations Q & A

*I don't have a lot of time to read, but I want to learn more. What should I do?*

First, go to the **website** [www.justiceinjune.org](http://www.justiceinjune.org). Depending on how much time you have to learn about antiracism each day--whether it's 10, 25, 45 minutes a day, this website will help you maximize the time you do have.

Also, see the section on **YouTube Videos**.

In terms of reading, it depends on your specific area of interest.

*What do I read if I'm just getting started?*

If you're just wanting to learn more in general, I'd suggest White Fragility, How To Be An Antiracist, and either So You Want To Talk About Race or Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man as a bare

minimum. Or both. Also--*please*--read Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria?

Me and White Supremacy is also a good resource because it's a series of short chapters followed by five or six questions for self-reflection. It was originally designed to be a 28-day process, but the author is clear that it can be modified for a slower or faster pace. Me and White Supremacy asks the reader to self-reflect; it's a valuable resource, but don't make it the very first book you pick up. Read the other titles first. That way, you'll have both defused some of your white fragility in terms of thinking about race and you'll have a better appreciation for what the author is communicating.

Listen to Black voices. Read Trespassing: My Sojourn In The Halls Of Privilege, read John Lewis's graphic novel trilogy March, Jerry Craft's graphic novels New Kid and Class Act, read Tell The Truth And Shame The Devil. Read Between The World And Me.

***As a White person, I want to learn how to be a better ally to people of color. What should I read?***

Read White Fragility, How To Be An Antiracist, Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria?, and either So You Want To Talk About Race or Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man--or, preferably, both. Read Me and White Supremacy, really spend time thinking about the material and answer the questions.

***I'm a teacher/parent of a school-age child. How can I learn more about antiracism in schools?***

Read We Want To Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching And The Pursuit Of Educational Freedom, Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria. You might also be interested in Leading For Equity: The Pursuit of Excellence In Montgomery County Public Schools. (This book isn't listed below because it's pretty heavy on education policy

and statistics. I've worked in three different school systems, but there were times when I wanted toothpicks to keep my eyelids open.) You might also want to read [A Framework For Understanding Poverty](#) by Ruby K. Payne. (I didn't list it below because it's not a book on race, it's a book on poverty. This book was written 23 years ago, but it nonetheless sheds some valuable light on the intersectionality of race, wealth, and education.)

Also, there's a YA section. Jerry Craft's graphic novels are particularly good at explaining life as a Black kid from a middle-schooler's point of view. Good for kids and adults who work with them.

***I just don't understand how racism can still be an issue--slavery ended over 150 years ago. We've had a Black President, now we have a Black Vice-President. Isn't it time to move on?***

If only the answer were a simple Yes. Because millions of people of all races do want to move on. But the correct answer is, *Not quite yet.*

As a White person just beginning to explore this topic, the most critically important and beneficial thing we can do is to identify and reduce our White fragility. White fragility is a normal condition for someone who's never had to consider the implications of race before. Many of us have been taught that colorblindness is a supportive response to the people of color in our lives.

It can be confusing to hear this is actually part of the problem--especially when you sincerely thought you were doing the right thing. So don't beat yourself up for it. But now that you know you're fragile, please understand: As White people, we've got to start listening to Black voices on a deeper level. In order to do this, we must first feel emotionally safe enough to witness the pain of others. Dr. Beverly Tatum, in [Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria?](#) stresses the need for (along with helpful strategies) White people to create safe spaces for themselves as they do antiracist work. Without this zone of safety, it's too easy to give up.

Please know that resources exist to help you stay present, and that your efforts to educate yourself are vitally important.

Read White Fragility, So You Want To Talk About Race and/or Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man, (read both if you can!) Stamped From the Beginning, (either the grown-up or YA version). Read Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria? Read Me And White Supremacy. Read From Here To Equality: Reparations For Black Americans In the Twenty-First Century. Definitely read White Rage, but don't make it the very first book you read. Reading it first would be like asking a 10 year old to run a marathon.

## 2. Thumbnail Reviews

### General Education:

**The Burning: The Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921** by Tim Madigan.

On June 1, 1921, in Tulsa, OK experienced the bloodiest race massacre in US history. Over three hundred American lives (most of them Black), thirty-five square city blocks, and thousands of homes and businesses were annihilated by an armed White mob. Madigan's solidly researched and skillfully written account is a must-read for every adult in this country: If you're an adult in this country, you definitely didn't learn this in history class. Both the scope of the tragedy itself and the efforts to conceal it defy imagination.

Because the book was written 20 years ago, Madigan was able to directly interview some of the massacre survivors. While Madigan focuses mainly on the Black experience, he includes references to the few White Tulsans who did what they could to save Black lives and property.

"I did this," Madigan says, "to drive home the point that, even in 1921, there was a clear choice to be made. There was ample opportunity for Whites to choose right over wrong, even against the backdrop of that particular time period."

**How To Be Antiracist** by Ibram X. Kendi. An absolute must-read for any human being who wants to interrupt racism. Dr. Kendi discusses racism and antiracism in terms of personal behavior. The result is both deliverance and obligation for the reader: A single person can behave in both racist and antiracist ways. If you're a human being, please read this book. That's all I can really say: Please. Read. This. Book.

**From Here To Equality: Reparations For Black Americans In the Twenty-First Century** by William A. Darity and Kristen Mullen. I admit it--I

was so intimidated about reading a book co-written by an economist that I owned it for three months before cracking the cover. I haven't been able to help my son with his math homework since fourth grade.

But don't let math-anxiety prevent you from reading this book. Darity and Mullen's publication is a clarion call to action. In terms of a "White Fragility" score, I'd score it as a hairsbreadth below Carol Anderson's **White Rage** (reviewed below in this section). Both **From Here To Equality** and **White Rage** are critically important reading as well as breathtakingly well-researched and written. But don't lead with either one if you're White and just beginning to educate yourself about systemic racism. Reduce your White fragility first. Then--*please*--read both of them.

**Me And White Supremacy** by Layla Saad. This book originally started as an internet-based 28 day racism-interrupt challenge. Saad, a Black Muslim woman who grew up in the UK and now lives in Qatar, guides readers through a self-reflection journey of examining different aspects of white supremacy. Among others, topics include White privilege, White fragility, tone policing, anti-Blackness. Saad is very clear that this particular book is only intended for audiences of White people, and White-passing people of color. An excellent, excellent resource. And it will definitely show you where you still have White fragility.

**Overcoming Bias** by Tiffany Jana and Matthew Freeman. An interracial couple, Jana and Freeman are co-founders of TMI Consulting, a diversity and inclusion management company. Tiffany Jana also has a TED Talk about the power of privilege, mentioned below.

**So You Want To Be Less Stupid About Race** by Crystal Fleming. (First thing: If you have younger children who like to pick up Mommy's books, be warned that Fleming uses "adult words" throughout the text.) She writes about her experience as a Black, bisexual journalist in a biracial lesbian relationship. One of the things I think about the most is her description of her experience working in France, and the racism she encountered there. Spoiler alert: Similar, yet different.

**So You Want To Talk About Race** by Ijeoma Oluo. Oluo is a biracial, Black-identified lesbian who was raised by a White mom. Reading this warm, honest, poignant book felt like sitting at the kitchen table, listening to a good friend. If you're just beginning to educate yourself, Oluo's book is a good place to start.

**Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man** by Emmanuel Acho. To me, this book has the same warm feeling of **So You Want To Talk About Race**—sitting across the kitchen table from a trusted friend who is calmly answering questions you didn't even realize you had. Both of these books are excellent places to begin reading about anti-racism awareness.

**We Want To Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching And The Pursuit Of Educational Freedom** by Bettina L. Love. Love writes from the perspective of a Black lesbian educator, and like many of authors on the topic of race, she does an excellent job of discussing the intersectionality of race, gender, sexual orientation, and other factors. One of the most compelling aspects of Love's work for me was her discussion of how charter schools negatively impact Black students, and how teaching the concept of "Grit" (White educational psychologist Angela Duckworth's work) in schools is anti-Black. Important reading for anyone in education.

**White Fragility: Why It's So Hard For White People To Talk About Race** by Robin DiAngelo. An absolute must-read for any White person who wants to become more racially aware. *If you're White, please read this book:* The

most significant contribution as White people can make to ending systemic racism is to identify and reduce our White fragility.

Only then are we able to begin to clearly examine and address the myriad, excruciating facets of systemic racism.

**White Rage: The Unspoken Truth Of Our Racial Divide** by Carol

Anderson is only five chapters long, but it's the hardest five chapter book I've ever read in my life. It's an incredibly important book, and in my personal opinion every White person who cares about racial healing should read it. Anderson is a gifted scholar and writer—but be warned: This book is a no-punches-pulled sampling of vicious acts of racism and racial cruelty. I implore you not to begin with this one. At the very least, first read **White Fragility**, **How To Be Antiracist**, and **So You Want To Talk About Race**. But do read it. Because **White Rage** is as painful to read as it is important to read.

**Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race** By Beverly Daniel Tatum.

Is it possible to fall in love with a book? Because if it is, I have. Dr. Tatum, a licensed psychologist and President Emerita of Spelman College has created a dazzling book. Her professional knowledge of child and young adult developmental stages was anticipated, but the compassion and thought she puts into teaching blew me away. Specific examples provided in addressing questions asked by her own (young-at-the-time) children, her college and adult students are crafted with love, deliberation, and grace. Dr. Tatum articulates the evolving needs young Black children, teenagers and adults must meet in order to forge a positive Black identity. She discusses the need for Whites doing antiracist work to support one another, preventing burnout.

She also addresses affirmative action, implicit bias, identity issues for other groups (Latinx, Native American Asian and Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern/North African), the needs of children in multi-racial families, and cross-racial dialogue.

All of this material is in one well-written book--it's like finding netherite armor in the MineCraft Battle Against Systemic Racism.

**Why I'm No Longer Talking To White People About Race** by Reni Eddo-Lodge. The author is a Black female living and working in the UK. I read this account because I was hoping to learn that racism isn't as severe in the UK. (Spoiler alert: Evidently, it is.) Lodge provides a well written, clear perspective of her experiences.

### **Memoir:**

**Abina And The Important Men: A Graphic History** by Trevor Getz and Liz Clarke. In 1876, a wrongfully enslaved West African young woman named Abina escaped to a British-controlled territory and sued her former master. This graphic novel is based on the court transcript.

**Between The World And Me** by Ta-Nehisi Coates. This is so beautifully written it makes me want to cry. It makes me want to cry because I can't write this well, and I'll never be able to. Imagine watching Lang Lang play piano when all you can do is pick out "Chopsticks," and you get the idea. Simply put, **Between The World And Me** is a letter from Coates to his teenage son about how to navigate the world from within a Black body. It's haunting, exquisite, and utterly alive with tenderness. Everyone should read this book, and that's really all I can say about it.

**Born A Crime** by Trevor Noah. First, to explain the title: Trevor Noah was born in South Africa during apartheid to a Black mother and a White father. When his parents took him on outings, they literally had to pretend they didn't know each other—Trevor and his mom had to walk on one side of the street, and his dad had to walk on the other. As one would expect from Trevor Noah, his account is honest, moving, and often hilarious.

**Breaking Hate: Confronting The New Culture Of Extremism** by Christian Piccolini. Piccolini was only fourteen years old when he was



recruited into the ranks of Hammerskin Nation. A former leader in the white supremacist movement, Piccolini describes the planning and implementation of the “boots to suits” movement. He has spent the last 20 years mentoring others and helping them disengage from the white supremacist movement. He has trained FBI agents, worked abroad with the State Department, and has several compelling TED Talks. He compares membership in ws groups to addiction, offering a clear-eyed analysis of how these groups recruit, and how to effectively support members who are trying to leave.

**Climbing The Broken Stairs** by Frieda A. Adkins. Adkins and her five brothers grew up in—there’s no other way to say it—a horrifying environment. Some kids grow up in poverty, some kids grow up with abuse, and too many grow up with both. Adkins credits her experience in the military with giving her a way to climb the broken stairs of her childhood experience. This is a deeply moving, honest, courageous account of a survivor.

**The Complete Maus** written and illustrated by Art Spiegelman. A two volume set of graphic novels. Art Spiegelman’s parents were Holocaust survivors, and his mother took her life when Art was 20 years old. The novels are based on interviews with his father.

**The Gift of Our Wounds: A Sikh and a Former White Supremacist Find Forgiveness After Hate** by Arno Michaelis and Pardeep Singh Kaleka. Two months after the 2012 Sikh temple shooting in Oak Creek, WI, Michaelis and Singh Kaleka met for the first time. Singh Kaleka, who had lost his father in the shooting, needed answers. Michaelis, a former skinhead, tried his best to provide them. Fast-forward a dozen years, and the two men now work with *Serve 2 Unite*, a nonprofit co-founded by Singh Kaleka. *Serve 2 Unite* brings together Wisconsin school students, providing education about collaboration, peace, and forgiveness. This book is at once painful and compellingly beautiful. It alternates between Michaelis’s and Singh Kaleka’s viewpoints. Michaelis exhibits tremendous courage in facing his own past in order to move beyond rage,

to help others and to forgive himself. That being said, I found the narrative on his skinhead days jarring, even sickening.

Singh Kaleka's narrative is deeply moving: His love for his father, his determination to honor his memory by making the world a better place, and his faith are palpable. Unexpectedly, **The Gift of Our Wounds** also educated me about basic tenets of the Sikh faith. (Spoiler alert: there's a lot of Sikh-Quaker commonality I was totally unaware of.)

This book is about pain, loss, forgiveness, and growth.

**I Beat The Odds** by Michael Oher. Yes, *that* Michael Oher—the pro football player. The “Blind Side” guy. After seeing the film, I wanted to learn more about Oher. As one would expect, his personal account differs significantly from the Hollywood version of his life. It's a very inspiring read. Both Oher in this memoir and his adoptive parents Leigh Ann and Sean Tuhey (in their own memoir **In A Heartbeat: Sharing The Power of Cheerful Giving**) maintain that the film portrayal of Oher as a passive foil for White saviors is inaccurate. Sean Tuhey said having Leigh Anne teach Michael how to block and Sean, Jr. explain the playbook with condiments was “pure cinematic nonsense...by the time he got to us, Michael was already a fairly impressive athlete.”

**Kaffir Boy** by Mark Mathabane. Mark Mathabane grew up in extreme poverty in South Africa during apartheid. Think midnight police raids, gang warfare, hunger, and rats. Tennis skill earned him a scholarship to a US university. Mathabane has been a college professor, lecturer, author, Clinton-era White House educational advisor, and school principal. He lived in North Carolina with his wife Gail and their three children until 2004.

**Life In Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina** by Misty Copeland. Misty Copeland is the first Black dancer to become a principal in the American Ballet Theater's 75-year history. Copeland is an extraordinary talent who never even attended a ballet class until age 13. That's *really* late for a professional dancer to begin learning the craft. She's like the Grandma Moses of classical ballet. Her memoir is well written, moving (no pun intended), and incredibly inspiring. Copeland overcame multiple formidable

obstacles, reminiscent of ones described by Michael Oher in “I Beat The Odds.” Fully present in her trailblazing role, Copeland has written several other books and directly mentors young Black dancers.

**Love In Black And White: The Triumph Of Love Over Prejudice and**

**Taboo** by interracial married couple Mark Mathabane (see above) and Gail Mathabane. Gail, who is White, describes facing her family’s resistance to her marriage to Mark, who is Black. She also discusses how falling in love with Mark brought her previously unexamined racist programming into focus.

**My Life After Hate** by Arno Michaelis. Getting right to the point, I’ll say that while I admire Michaelis very much for the tremendous life changes he has made, I find his writing to be an acquired taste. Four years later, he co-wrote a book with Pardeep Singh Kaleka, called The Gift of Our Wounds: A Sikh and a Former White Supremacist Find Forgiveness After Hate (see above).

Michaelis is much easier to take when his writing is balanced with that of Singh Kaleka. I found this “solo” book unsettling and disturbing--there’s a *lot* of focus on drinking. And fighting. And fighting while drinking. And drinking while fighting. Some of it’s even funny, but overall it’s nowhere near as redeeming or as positive as The Gift Of Our Wounds. If you’re going to read only one of them, skip this one.

**Rising Out Of Hatred** by Eli Saslow. Saslow details the experience of Derek Roland Black, a former white supremacist who was raised in a family culture of white supremacy and groomed to inherit the family business of running the white supremacist website *Stormfront*. When Black went to college, however, he formed friendships that conflicted directly with what he’d been taught about race. Black became estranged from his family as a result, even legally changing his name to make a break with his past. This book is especially inspiring in terms of nonwhite friends who, after learning about his ideology, didn’t give up on him despite pressure to do so.

**Tell The Truth And Shame The Devil** by Lezley McSpadden and Lyah Leflore. McSpadden, Michael Brown's mother, describes her childhood, and her experience as a young Black mom. As you can imagine, the foundation of the book itself—the police shooting of her first born child, Michael—makes this memoir a shattering read. The book also details her police reform advocacy work, and her efforts to support other mothers who have experienced this same tragedy.

**Trespassing: My Sojourn In The Halls Of Privilege** by Gwendolyn M. Parker. Parker, who grew up in Durham, North Carolina describes her experience as a high-achieving female Black student who constantly had to defend her right to be in law school, and later, her right to be accepted by clients and colleagues as an attorney. To put it simply—it's really, really good.

**Waking Up White** by Debby Irving. Irving, a white upper middle class woman based in Massachusetts, writes unflinchingly—and I really do mean unflinchingly—about her journey from being completely unaware of White privilege to actively working as a racial justice educator and writer.

## **Fiction**

**Black Buck** by Mateo Askaripour. Meet Darren Vender, valedictorian of Bronx Science High School. Now 22 years old, he's worked at Starbuck's for four years, despite his mom's constant prodding about college. Barista work gives him plenty of time to enjoy his mom's cooking and his girlfriend's company until the day he's abruptly recruited into an all-White hyper aggressive sales force. Think **The Devil Wears Prada** for a young Black guy, but with a more complex plot and characters. This is a high-speed read about the compromises Black employees are too often faced with in the corporate world.

**Push** by Sapphire. A painful read about Precious, a Black girl who is viciously abused by both of her parents. You have probably heard of or seen the film version—“Precious.”

I list it here because Michael Oher’s memoir is also on this list, and in a 2009 interview with NPR host Micheal Martin, film critic Wesley Morris compares his experiences of viewing “Precious” and “The Blind Side” as a Black audience member. About “Precious,” he says ‘I was much more moved by that movie than I was by "The Blind Side" because it does own up to a degree of reality that is true for a lot of black people.’

### **Young Adult (also great for no-longer-young adults):**

**All American Boys** by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely is told from the alternating viewpoints of two high school boys, Rashad and Quinn.

Rashad, who is Black, is falsely accused of shoplifting, and in the hospital after being beaten by a police officer. Quinn, who is White, witnesses the attack.

Their lives are forever changed: Rashad struggles with his new identity as the public face of police brutality protests. Quinn, who had previously known, trusted, and admired this particular police officer, must now face realities he had never imagined.

I’ll let the authors speak for themselves: *“As a black man and a white man, both writers and educators, we came together to co write a book about how systemic racism and police brutality affect the lives of young people in America, in order to create an important, unique, and honest work that would give young people and the people who educate them a tool for talking about these difficult but absolutely vital conversations”*

-authors Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely.

Fast moving and incredibly well written. Commonsensemedia.org rates this novel as appropriate for ages 12+.

**Dear Martin** by Nic Stone

High school student Justyce McAllister is simply trying to prevent his drunk girlfriend from driving her Mercedes Benz home, but the cop who handcuffs him believes Justyce is trying to harm her and steal her car.

Justyce begins writing to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as a way of trying to process the shock of being arrested and accused without cause. I don't want to give too much away in terms of the plot, but this is a richly textured, incredibly engaging novel. Commonsensemedia.org rates this novel as appropriate for ages 14+.

**The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas is a novel about a Black private high school girl who witnesses the police murder of a childhood friend. It's well written and even more impressive when you learn that this is Thomas's second book: She wrote this moving novel as a "keep busy" project while waiting to hear about the publication status of her first book. Impressive; when I have nervous energy, I usually just wind up alphabetizing my spice rack. Commonsensemedia.org rates this novel as appropriate for ages 13+.

**March** by John Lewis, with Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell. This three volume set of graphic novels is about John Lewis's early civil rights work. It's extremely well done in terms of both artwork and storytelling. Very powerful. Commonsensemedia.org rates this trilogy as appropriate for ages 12+.

**Monster** by Walter Dean Myers. High school student Steve Harmon loves his parents, his little brother, and his filmmaking class. He's also sixteen years old and abruptly on trial for murder. He tries to cope by writing his experience out, as if it were a screenplay. Commonsensemedia.org rates this as appropriate for ages 13+.

**New Kid** and **Class Act** by Jerry Craft. These companion graphic novels are written and illustrated by the uber-talented Craft. Fifth grader Jordan Banks has to take two buses to get to his majority-White, private upper school. Being new is a universally challenging experience, and Craft does a deft job of communicating the extra layers of complexity added by race and class. These books are honest, funny, and enriching.

Commonsensemedia.org rates these novels as appropriate for ages 8+ and 10+, respectively.

**They Called Us Enemy** by George Takei (yes, Lt. Sulu of the USS Enterprise!) co-wrote this graphic novel with Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott about his experience as a four year old child in Japanese internment camps with his parents and two siblings during World War II. Commonsensemedia.org rates this appropriate for ages 12+.

**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, And You** by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. Have you ever wondered “*How in the world did racism become systemic in the first place? How could it possibly have become this entrenched?*” This book, (the YA version of Dr. Kendi’s **Stamped From The Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas In America**) provides the architectural blueprint. Jason Reynolds is the most engaging writer I’ve had the pleasure of reading in a scholarly context.

The adult version is also excellent, and definitely more detailed, but if you enjoy reading YA books, or are looking for a kid-friendly educational resource on systemic racism, definitely pick this one up.

Commonsensemedia.org rates this as appropriate for ages 12+. (The authors also have a version rated as appropriate for 8+, which I have not yet read.)

### **Website:**

[justiceinjune.org](http://justiceinjune.org) is a self-education website “providing a starting place for individuals trying to become better allies.” It’s also inherently user-friendly and practical—activities are designed in terms of how much time you have available—be it 10, 25, or 45 minutes a day.

This site is an excellent resource. If you don’t have time to read books, this is the perfect tool for you. (But please, please at least read “White Fragility.”) This site also has specific resources for White parents trying to raise non-racist children.

## **YouTube Videos and TED Talks:**

**“Why I, As A Black Man, Attend KKK Rallies.”** In this approximately 19 minute Black musician Darryl Davis shares how he became friends with Robert White, a former police officer and former leader in the Ku Klux Klan. Incredibly powerful.

**“The Power of Pride: George Takei at TedxKyoto.”** approximately 17 minutes. Very moving. Takei describes how his family was forced to leave their home, his experience as a young boy in US Japanese internment camps, and how his family faced poverty, hostility, prejudice after being released. His clear faith in democracy is absolutely inspiring, given what he experienced.

### **The Power of Privilege: Tiffany Jana at TEDxRVAWomen.**

*Approximately 15 minutes long.* Black author and speaker Tiffany Jana discusses privilege and bias, identifying one’s own privilege even when it seems elusive, and the power of using your privilege to help others.

**Emmanual Acho has several YouTube videos.** Search for “Emmanual Acho, Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man.” I haven’t seen all of them, but in the ones I’ve seen, Acho is an engaging, accessible speaker.

**A Poem For My White Friends: I Didn’t Tell You (YouTube)** by Norma J. *Approximately 8 minutes long.* This YouTube video is of author Norma J performing the afore-named poem. It’s not easy to watch: Her pain and exhaustion are vivid, searing. Think of this as a not-quite **White Rage** video equivalent. Please do watch it--it has *so many* important messages that White people need to hear--but don’t start here if you’re just beginning to educate yourself about antiracism.

**I Grew Up In The Westboro Baptist Church. Here’s Why I Left** by Megan Phelps-Roper. *Approximately 15 minutes long.*



Remember Fred Phelps, the “God Hates Fags” minister? One of his granddaughters, Megan, opened a Twitter account in 2009. Her original goal was to increase the amplitude of Phelps’s message. Instead, she says, strangers showed her “the power of engaging the other.” Slowly, she began to form online friendships with people she’d been taught to hate. Like Derek Black (see **Rising Out Of Hatred**), Phelps-Roper was stunned to realize “other” people weren’t what she’d been taught. She has an extensive understanding of polarization and outlines four steps to follow in terms of reaching across ideological divides.

**Film:**

**White Man’s Burden** With Harry Belafonte and John Travolta. In **Why I’m No Longer Talking To White People About Race**, Reni Eddo-Lodge recounts watching TV as a preschooler and noticing “all the good people on TV were white, and all the villains were black and brown. I considered myself to be a good person, so I thought I would turn white eventually. My mum still remembers the crestfallen look on my face when she told me the bad news.” To get even the barest glimmer of an idea of what this might feel like—watch this film.

***This list is periodically updated***