

Your Ancestors May
Have Come Over
On The Mayflower...
Mine Were Here
to Greet Them.

The NEW3RS

Summer 2023

on ships called Jesus, liberty
our ancestors were already
ng before the Columbu

BEFORE IT WAS *DISCOVERED*



NOTICE.
Freedmen - Enrollment.
Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes will
be at session at
MUSKOGEE, IND. TER.,
April 1, 1902, until May 31, 1902, inclusive, for
purpose of hearing objections and supplemental testifi-
cations with respect to the enrollment of Cherokee
Freedmen.
Notice is hereby given to all Freedmen listed as
eligible claimants that after May 31, 1902, their cases
will be considered as completed, and will be finally
acted by the Commission and reported to the Secre-
tary of the Interior for his approval.
Native Cherokee, Freedmen, or Claimants by
application who have not already appeared to apply
for enrollment until July 1, 1902.
TAMM BAYV,
T. E. NEEDLES,
C. E. BECKENRIDGE.



Humankind has not woven the web of life.
We are but one thread within it.
Whatever we do to the web, we do
ourselves.
All things are bound together.
All things connect.
Chief Seattle, 1854

Thanks
giving
is a
day of
morning
for us



YOUR STORY IS OUR STORY

Welcome to *The New 3Rs*

Our pedagogical framework does what others have not. The New 3Rs brings together penthouse families and public housing families, Jewish children and Muslim children. Working with a psychologist and a social worker we have meticulously curated a safe space for families to candidly discuss and listen to the heart wrenching impact of systemic racism and commit to making a positive change in the perceptions Black people have of themselves and others have of Black people.

The New 3Rs position is the history of people from Africa is beyond enslavement. As long as we only teach the slave narrative the perceptions Blacks have of themselves and far too often others have of us — is less likely to change. We teach mathematics came from Mother Africa. Fine dining and the use of the fork were invented in Africa. We use 10,000 Black History artifacts to teach all how great we are.

– Starita Ansari, Ph.D.
Founder/EduTech Innovator

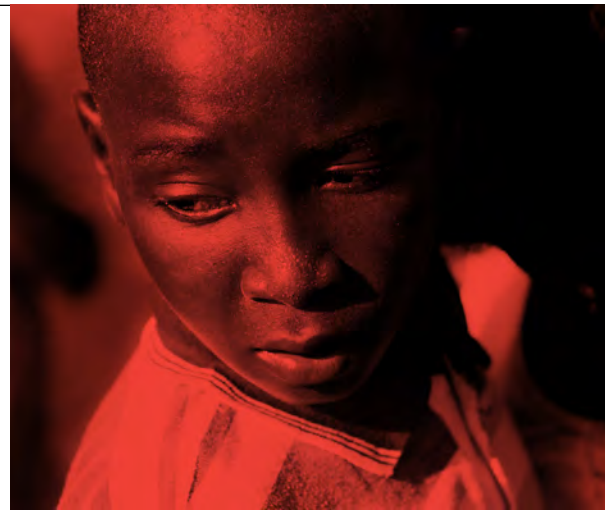
ON THE COVER:

Women’s History Month: HONORING LOZENO



By Estee, Age 12

During this year’s Women’s History Month, we honor Lozeno. She fought by Geronimo’s side to protect the Apache lands. She was a military strategist against the US.



Imagine

**By Erinda
 Age 13 | New Jersey**

Imagine living where you aren’t wanted.

Imagine trying to fit into a society that can’t see past your features.

Imagine having to work twice as hard and not being given the respect you deserve.

Imagine fighting for a cause that is given for free to everyone else around you.

Imagine watching your family being killed without reparations.

Imagine being criticized for looking a certain way just for them to change their features to look more like us.

Imagine being black in America.

Imagine being black.

Just imagine

Stop Imagining.

There is a BIG PROBLEM in education

By Jasper | Age 12 | California

There is a big problem in education, and it is crippling. It is a fact that the history of people of color is not being taught in school, especially that of people of African descent. I am Jasper Anthony and I as a 7th-grade student can safely say that in all of my years, I have not learned any Black history outside of Black History Month and even that was just a yearly overview of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Ruby Bridges. And I never noticed anything, because I never knew there was more until I joined this amazing group The New3Rs, and with the teaching of Mr. Dannie Gore.

In this class, I learned so much and I feel the history of Black people should be common knowledge. I realized that the way we learn history in school almost entirely focuses on what happened in Europe or people from Europe. My proposal is that schools should restructure their curriculum to include Black History in all subjects and during Black History Month we could move beyond just learning about the same 4 or 5 Civil Rights heroes every year. If you are learning about something that happened in Europe you could also talk about the African perspectives and influences, and later on the Native American influences and perspectives.

For example, you could work into a math class that our number system was an Arabic number system that was so advanced that they first figured out how to use zero as a number. That may sound unimpressive now but back then it was revolutionary, and it was passed on to Europe by the Muslim conquests of the Iberian Peninsula. And for science class, we could talk about the many medicines and biological technologies that were invented by Africans. Hundreds of years ago

they had medicines that accomplished the same thing as modern-day diarrhea tablets and aspirin. There are thousands of inventions from Africa.

In history class, while we are learning about the Roman Empire, we can also learn about the Carthaginian Empire. Right now, I am learning about Christianity. We can devote part of that unit to how Christianity affected African regions – like how it was used to justify the slave trade. I am not a professional in history or curriculum development, but these are just a few ideas from my experience, but I am sure there are many more. For example, Egyptians built the pyramids, which is a feat of human intelligence that even modern-day engineers, archaeologists, and scientists don’t understand. Do you know if Mansa Musa were alive today he would be wealthier than Bill Gates and the leading philanthropist? He was a Black man. But you probably wouldn’t learn this in your average history class because it is not involving Europe. That is sad because I also have not learned about Native Americans much, other than their conquest by Spain and other colonizers. I am not saying learning European history is bad or invaluable. I am saying we need a restructured curriculum that values the contributions of Blacks and Indigenous People. We cannot only focus on White and Christianity.

The point I am trying to get across is that there is not enough Non-Eurocentric history being taught in schools and this can be changed by simply giving out a new curriculum and while it may be hard making a new one it will be a good usage of time to teach Black kids the successes of their ancestors and the great things Blacks have done around the world. It will give Black children pride and power. Kids who are not Black also will learn the greatness of Black people.



While there may be some controversy and opposition to what I am opposing, what is wrong with teaching the truth? We need to make some anti-racist decisions and those who won't teach Black History because of it being possibly harmful to white people to know what their ancestors did, my message to you is that you need to know.

Teaching the truth is the only way to stop racism and work toward treating Black and Indigenous People with respect. Me being a White male learning Black History and how racism impacts everything, from the time a Black person is born to their death, from where they go to school to the jobs they have, had "bad side effects". It made me want to make America a better county for Black people. And honestly, I just think white people don't want to feel shamed or uncomfortable, and who would? But this is something that people like me need to just bear through. Yes, it is also my history and what my ancestors did. In The New 3Rs, we are taught "Your Story is Our Story". I deserve along with all other people in America or the world to learn Black History, so we work together to correct the wrongs. Here is what I have to say to white people

who are afraid to learn Black History and talk about how racism harms Black people, just get some thick skin and take it like a champ, because everyone needs to own up to what they did along with what their ancestors did to give them the privileges they have today.

For the people who are like me, who are trying to help fix this world or maybe just understand racism, these are my thoughts on why it's important to teach the truth. The truth is not in textbooks or Google. Learn from historians like Mr. Dannie Gore or the California African American Museum. You may have noticed that I am passionate about racial justice, equity, and making life equal for all regardless of race. I want at least some of these things to happen soon.

Judging by the way that our government is right now, it is going to take some time. I hope that you learned something from this blog post and that you agree with at least some of the stuff I said. You can do what I have done. Call Congress and tell them Black History can be taught in science, English, gym all of the subjects. That is what I have done. Have a wonderful rest of your day. ■

HEALTHCARE

3 Ways to Solve Healthcare Inequities

By Ethan | Age 12 | California

In America, the word **HEALTHCARE** means different things to different people based on the color of their skin. Black people are sometimes treated differently when they're in the hospital than their White counterparts. Even today, there still is the false belief that medication affects Black people differently and that Black people have some kind of superhuman tolerance for pain.

Removing the statue of racist, J. Marion Sims, who performed experimental gynecological surgeries for years on enslaved Black women without anesthesia, has not removed racism in health care. Medical staff didn't believe Serena

Williams was in pain and she nearly died. We, as Black people, are oppressed in the medical field and mistreated by doctors, and doesn't matter how much money we have.

There are many racial healthcare discrepancies in the medical field that somehow don't add up to democracy. In the U.S., Black mothers have three times more of a chance to die of pregnancy-related issues than the average White woman. This is very sad. I want to know why Black women are getting different



care and what is being done. Another discrepancy, in 2018, White Americans were 60% of the U.S. population, but only 26% of White men were new AIDS patients. Black Americans were 13% of the population, but Black men were the majority of new AIDS cases in the U.S. The reasons for this were lack of support in Black communities and miseducation.

Now that we have talked about racism in health care, I want to propose a few solutions on how we can try to solve this. My first solution is to check the backgrounds of some of the doctors who are not Black. If there have been racial discrimination complaints,

they cannot be hired. Second, there should be questions on the medical exams that test racism. Third, is to educate Black people in their churches, schools, and barbershops about health care. The biggest solution is free science programs for kids in rural and urban black communities taught by people who look like me. Help Black people become doctors and researchers.

The other thing I'd like to speak about is the lack of access to doctors, pharmacies, fresh food, and gyms

for Black people. In the U.S., quality of care and access to medication and healthy food depends upon income. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator.”

Since we all have the same creator, should everyone have the same access to the same health care?

“*Since we all have the same creator, should everyone have the same access to the same health care?*”

I want to voice my solution to a health care issue that not only impacts Black people. COVID-19 vaccines are free. The cost of healthcare in the USA is very high and many Black, White, Asian, Indigenous, and LatinX people cannot afford healthcare. All citizens of the United States should have access to the best health care.

The first solution is lower the cost of medications and prescriptions. The next solution is everyone should have excellent health insurance. This last solution is already being done in other countries that have free healthcare. Truly there should be no disparities in health care because the United States has the second-highest number of billionaires. The question is why does the United States have inequities in health and why are they worse for Blacks?

“*There are many racial healthcare discrepancies in the medical field that somehow don't add up to democracy.*”

Lastly, before I wrap up, all the things I've talked about have been happening for decades and people have been advocating for racial justice for decades. But, politicians haven't been truly taking us seriously. In my eyes, those of us who are concerned about inequities in healthcare must work together for the good of all, particularly for Black and Indigenous People. We can never stop! I believe after all our attempts the health care system in the United States will provide the best care to all and will not discriminate. ■

He is Not a Refugee. He is My Daddy!

By Jamya

Age 11 | New York

Last year

This man you see

He was not a refugee

But just a man

Who loved to laugh

And walk with his class

By the sea

He liked America

But he was forced to flee

He could be you

He could be me

But it was my father

And there was nothing I could do

But I tried

He was not a refugee

But just an amazing guy

He was not a refugee

But that's what the system

Wanted everyone to believe

He had a family

Who loved and cared

Now it's hard to bear

The fact that he's not here,
but we're still strong since

Even though he's not here he's here

And we want the world to be aware

INTERNATIONAL

By Blake | Age 12 | New York

Reparations: Haiti is Long Overdue

When I think of Haiti I think of Cassava Pone, a Caribbean dessert enjoyed by many who are Americans now, whose elders were born in the Caribbean. Cassava, fishing, coffee, and gold were the economy. The Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic), and Jamaica were the lands of Indigenous People. Mostly Arawak which was until white people slaughtered them for their gold. The French, the British, and the Spaniards wanted all the natural resources of the Caribbean without working for it or paying for it. They enslaved us from countries in Africa and brought us to the Caribbean to build their wealth and killed us because we demanded to be respected.

In the 1700s, Haiti was a French colony with about 500,000 enslaved Africans. At the start of the Age of Exploration, most of the Indigenous people of Haiti were killed by European diseases. The French stole from Haiti and the people from Africa were enslaved for profits from the Commercial Revolution. This was when international trade replaced land ownership as the primary method of acquiring wealth. Haiti was France's most profitable colony, specifically because of its sugar and coffee. The people of Haiti wanted to end their control, abolish slavery, and receive independence. A former Haitian slave named Toussaint L'Ouverture helped lead a slave uprising, the Haitian Revolution and abolished slavery in Haiti. While he did not survive the revolution, he also, along with Jean-Jacque Dessalines helped Haiti gain its independence from France, which they so deserved.

Haiti became the first independent Black republic in the world. After Haiti gained its independence, they were able to maintain it because a Haitian soldier named Henri Christophe created a fortress in case someone attempted to invade again. It was the largest fortress in the western hemisphere. The Haitians destroyed their plantations because they did not want to be reminded of slavery and the hardships they had to go through.



In response to the Revolution, France demanded reparations for its losses and threatened blockade if the Haitians refused, which meant sealing off Haiti so nobody would be able to enter or leave, thus no trade. It took over six generations for Haiti to pay France what is estimated today to be \$21 billion in reparations. Haiti has been suffering since its independence. France ended up making Haiti the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

France must repay Haiti for the enslavement of Black people and prevent Haiti from having the best hospitals, universities, and lives. France owes Haiti more than \$21 billion and this earthquake is the time for France to do more than food and water! France must replenish the agriculture of Haiti, build schools, hospitals, homes, etc that can survive earthquakes and hurricanes, and return \$21 Billion! Black people gave the world its inventions and its wealth! Whether we live in Haiti or not, every nation that benefited from enslaving Black people has centuries of debt to pay. ■

On Race, Ballet and Being Muslim

Dear fellow Americans, my name is Leila.

I am a Black Muslim girl born and raised in Harlem. Living in Harlem, we do not experience a lot of racism. Harlem is a neighborhood that is diverse. There are mosques, synagogues, and churches, people who take public transportation to work, and others who drive Tesla. Most of the people that live in Harlem are Black like me. But my sisters and I attend elite White schools outside of Harlem because in New York City the best schools are in White communities.

My little 7-year-old sister attends one of the most prestigious ballet schools in New York City, the School of American Ballet. She once dreamed to become a ballet dancer like Misty Copeland, until she was racially assaulted in a cafe by students.

We often have dinner at Lincoln Center after my sister's ballet class. This day there were some college students from Julliard who decided to sit at a table across from us talking about Muslims and how we wear "rags" on our heads, and they pointed at my mother's headscarf as an example. They kept talking about us the same way White people talked about slaves in the movie about Harriett Tubman. Like Harriett Tubman, my mom held her anger and tears. But, then one kid said: "Black people have big lips and noses and nappy hair". He was going to pull up a picture of a Black person on Google, but then said, "I don't need an example."

"Leaving behind nights of terror and fear, I rise, into a daybreak that's wondrously clear, I will rise."

Maya Angelou, "I Will Rise"

They kept staring at us and started giggling. We were the only Black people in the café, so they obviously were talking about us. My mom could not stand what they were saying and politely approached them to address their inappropriate behavior. They responded aggressively and said it was "Freedom of Speech".



My mom immediately took all of our stuff and told the security guards about what happened. They said that they could not do anything about it.

My 7-year-old sister was really traumatized thinking people see her as ugly because of her dark skin and short hair. She told my mom that she was not pretty enough to do ballet because she is not White with long hair. My mom tells her she is beautiful and shows her successful Black women with dark skin. It has not worked, and she is too afraid to return to ballet.

My mother always has told us that we can be whoever we want to be. But, I was blind not to see that racism also exists in New York City. In our home, we have Lupita Nyong'o's quote, "No matter where you are from, your dreams are valid". We also have Maya Angelou's poem "I Will Rise". My favorite stanza: "Leaving behind nights of terror and fear, I rise, into a daybreak that's wondrously clear, I will rise."

My sister is only 7. I'm hoping she will rise because we are Muslim and not White with long hair, we are not less than anyone else. ■

I Didn't Create My Hair Style it Was Created for Me

By Jaden
Age 11 | North Carolina

I used to wear my hair cut close, but during the summer before the fifth grade, I decided that I wanted to wear my hair in braids. I asked my grandmother if she would braid my hair and she said she would.

At the start of school, the school bus picks up the kids to take us to school. One morning one of my classmates said that I was dirty, because of my braids. After school, when the school bus dropped me home, I called my grandfather and told him what happened. He said to me:

"Tell your classmate that you didn't create this hairstyle. Your ancient African Egyptian ancestors did and wore this hairstyle thousands of years ago. And if he looked on the walls of the ancient Egyptian Pyramids, he could see the evidence for himself."

My hairstyle has a history. I didn't create it. It was created for me and it is well-documented. I Dream of an America where people are not mean to others because they don't look like them. ■



Really, Only 28 Days?

By Jaden
Age 11 | North Carolina

The first people on earth were Black People. They lived in Africa a very long time ago. One of the places Black people lived was Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania.

They were hunters and fishers. At first, they had no clothes, tools, or houses. Then, they invented thousands of things. The first invention was the fire stick to roast food. Black people traveled, explored, and invented.

They gave the world everything.

In return, all Black people get is the shortest month of the year! ■

Systemic Racism in Schools

Black women in the United States have more education than any demographic in the United States but earn the least.

Within the last couple of years Critical Race Theory, a theory that calls for the awareness of systemic racism and pushes for racial equity, has sparked conversations in private schools.

In the wake of the public lynching of George Floyd, New York City private schools began adjusting their curricula to fit “woke” and “progressive” narratives and setting days or periods of time dedicated to fighting racism.

More schools are hosting diversity conferences. In these conferences, students are led in workshops with teachers to reflect upon racial matters within their schools in hopes of making private schools become safer spaces for Black students.

On the flip side, these schools are extremely expensive with annual tuition costing tens of thousands of dollars with historically minimal financial aid to have a meaningful number of Black students per class, instead of one Black girl and boy. That doesn’t achieve racial equity in schools. It’s the racial economic gap in the United States of America that prevents Black families from affording tuition.

Black women in the United States have more education than any demographic in the United States but earn the least. My family and all their friends have attended graduate school. Independent schools attempt to make their environments safer for POC, however, their admissions practices generally lack a true commitment to racial equity and uphold de facto segregation in education.

I wish they would stop using adjectives like “inclusive” and “belonging”. There are too many days that too many Black students don’t feel included or they belong.

We need to see far more Black leadership in our schools! ■

HOW DO YOU PROTECT GIRLS FROM FGM?

By Leila | Age 12 | New York

To protect oneself from COVID-19 wear a mask, stand six feet apart from others outdoors, and no indoor gatherings. How do you protect girls in Somalia, Egypt, Mali, Ethiopia, and 25 other countries from Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)? My mother comes from Somalia, where she narrowly escaped the war in the late nineties. According to my mother, living and growing up in the predominantly religious and cultural context of those days, was a nightmare and constantly placed her at risk for the horrific experience of FGM. Although she survived by fleeing to Kenya and then to the U.S., here in Harlem, some families from African nations send their daughters back to their country to be mutilated so they will be acceptable for marriage. This practice is widespread in Africa and Asia.

Through my mother’s story, I understand the victims of FGM. My mother’s childhood stories have informed me of what it might have been like for me and my two sisters if we had to live under those cultural and religious beliefs. The idea that girls live in fear that this might happen to them one day is completely

unacceptable. According to the World Health Organization and health researchers, FGM causes severe bleeding and sometimes death. Women and girls who went through FGM experience chronic pain, develop complications during childbirth and suffer from post-traumatic stress disorders and depression.

About 200 million girls from birth to age 15 have undergone the procedure. There is an estimated 68 million girls that will have experienced FGM from now to 2030. We have to put an end to these torturous and dehumanizing acts. It is time for people in other nations to fight for the end of FGM. Women and girls are traumatized, and children are dying daily, because of FGM.

I am going to protect girls by raising awareness and mobilizing resources for The New 3Rs Youth Giving Circles to support organizations fighting FGM. Watch A Piece of Me | UNFPA. Then, Feb 6th join the United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation. FGM Must End! ■



Embracing My History & Values

By Nisa | Age 12 | New York

It was never about what I could and couldn't buy. It wasn't about how many pairs of shoes I owned. It wasn't about blending in with the rich White kids. It was about the twinge I got when I realized that I have to be mindful of money though I lived in a nice house. White girls in my class went to the nearby Patisserie, Boulangerie, or some other fancy-named place I'd never stepped foot in. I'd tail along just to see what it felt like to be inside one of those stores, hear the twinkle of rich people's laughter, and smell the overpriced and overrated goods. Time slowed for me, but for my White friends, this was a one-and-done. It was habitual. They'd spot whatever they wanted, whip out daddy's American Express card, and walk out the door onto the doorman-lined blocks of Madison Avenue.

"Why are you taking so long?" would be their first question to me. I'd tell them I was indecisive. Honestly, I wasn't hung up over which scone would taste better. I was figuring out which one would be worth the \$12 or if it's worth it at all. A follow-up (and unprovoked) response would be "I can get it for you." It always felt like a knife in my chest to remind me no matter how educated Black families are the income of Whites is at least \$150,000 more than Blacks. Because of money, White girls far too often think they are better. Black mums have far more education than theirs! It's because race matters more than intelligence in America. It has always been about White Privilege or the perception of being better.

I left many stores empty-handed, but, my values of who I am are intact. Money cannot change that! I know the history of America: Who stole land and inventions and who enslaved and murdered others. Throughout history, this nation has never been kind to me, and I have never hated anyone. A history I wish White girls knew. That's okay because I am proud of who I am and my family. Anyway, I have better food at home. ■



By Sunay | Age 14 | New York

Environmental Racism

Poisoned tap water in Flint, Michigan, toxic waste dumps in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and the South Bronx in NYC known as Asthma Alley from Fresh Direct toxic truck emissions. What do these things have in common? All are examples of environmental racism, a form of systemic racism where communities of color are disproportionately forced to grapple with health hazards through policies and practices that force them to live close to sources of toxic waste such as sewage works, mines, landfills, power stations, and major roads. As a result, these communities suffer greater rates of health problems.

Environmental racism can take many forms, from workplaces with unsound health regulations for hourly workers to the placement of unsafe power stations close to predominantly non-white communities. It can mean citizens drinking contaminated groundwater or being schooled in decaying buildings with asbestos problems.

Many of these problems face low-income communities as a whole, but race often plays a larger part in one's proximity to pollution. A study in 2007 found "race to be more important than socioeconomic status in predicting the location of the nation's commercial hazardous waste facilities". The study proved that Black children were five times more likely to have lead poisoning from proximity to waste than White children. Even Black Americans making \$50-60,000 a year were more likely to live in polluted areas than their White counterparts that lived on public assistance.

The case of Flint, Michigan, is a prime example of environmental racism. In 2014, to save money, the city changed its water source to the Flint river but failed to treat the new supply adequately, exposing the city's 100,000 majority-Black inhabitants to dangerous levels of lead and other contaminants such as E.coli. Between 6,000 and 12,000 children drank tap water containing high levels of lead, a neurotoxin. Twelve citizens eventually died from Legionnaire's Disease. The residents had been complaining for 18 months of foul-smelling, discolored water, hair loss, headaches, and skin rashes. Their complaints were dismissed until the community forced the city to reconnect to the original water supply and admit their wrongdoing. The Michigan Civil Rights Commis-

sion concluded that the slow official reaction was a "result of systemic racism".

Yet, it is not only Black populations that suffer from the consequences of environmental racism. Indigenous populations often suffer from environmental racism as well. In the US, Native American communities continue to be exposed to large amounts of nuclear and other hazardous waste, as corporations take advantage of weaker ecological laws on Native land. For example, decades of uranium mining on the land of the Navajo tribe have caused longstanding problems in the community. From 1951 until 1971, the US Public Health Service performed a massive human medical experiment on 4,000 Navajo uranium miners, allowing them to work without informing them of the effects of radiation. The effects were predictable: elevated levels of lung cancer and other diseases from breathing in radon.

The 2016-17 protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline were another example where the tribes challenged the system and lost. The 1,172-mile oil pipeline was considered a threat to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation's water supply, as well as sites of historic importance and culturally sensitive burial grounds. Consequently, the tribes began protesting and pushing back against the company. Though unsuccessful, the protests caught the public's eye, drawing national attention and even support from influential politicians like Bernie Sanders.

Environmental racism occurs because low-income Black and Indigenous communities lack the resources to raise awareness or fight a costly legal battle, which are often available to wealthier White communities. So, what is being done? The environmental justice movement works to raise the voices of vulnerable populations through academic studies, media pressure campaigns, and public activism. Grassroots movements also use social media, along with civil disobedience and marches, to make their views heard. Environmental racism is part of the broader picture of systemic racism, which must be fought to bring about a fairer society.

I am one of the co-chairs of The New 3Rs Youth Philanthropy Giving Circle. We want to fund Black-led community organizations fighting environmental racism. Contact us at compassion@thenew3rs.org. ■

RACISM AND POVERTY

By David | Age 13 | New York

There is a misconception that discrimination and poverty are unrelated. The circle of racism continues to repeat itself holding Black people in poverty. Our country's economy was built on the backs of enslaved Blacks taken from Africa and continues to say in the history books that America has become better. Actually, the United States of America turned into a society full of hidden and visible modern forms of exploitation and oppression based on race.

The justice system has structural racism built into the foundation, which started with slave militias (police) and then went into the ongoing mentality of controlling Blacks as if they were second-class citizens with fewer rights. According to a 2019 calculation, Black people are eight times more likely to be incarcerated for a small amount of marijuana compared to a white person with the same amount. Also, Blacks are likely to have a 20% longer sentence for committing the same crime as white person.

The ending of mass incarceration is vital to Black communities from losing fathers and mothers and children to prison. Having a record of offenses makes it much harder for a Black person to get a job and build wealth. Also having a supposed "Black" name can significantly affect one's ability to get employed. Research has shown that employers are more likely to interview and hire a person with a "white-sounding" name than a "Black" name, due to subconscious racism.

Redlining also prevents Blacks from building wealth. Redlining is supposedly not practiced anymore. In the past, redlining was due to the government's policy of underrating the value of properties in Black neighborhoods. Now predatory lenders target Blacks and

raise their interest rates. Blacks often aren't provided mortgages or business loans. A study in 2018 shows that Blacks are turned away from home loans more often than whites because of their race. These practices hinder economic growth.

Freezing and devaluing the housing market in Black neighborhoods and the government not investing in infrastructure improvements limits the value of the properties. The outcome of "redlining" is Black people cannot build wealth. Though the Fair Housing Act was passed over 50 years ago, loans and housing are not equally accessible. Whites always had easy access to good home loans, thus building wealth through home ownership that they can pass to their children.

The prejudicial actions and brutality of police, a corrupt justice system, employment discrimination, and redlining all cause poverty to be more prevalent among Blacks. Having any offenses on your record leads to employment difficulties. Not having a well-paying job causes poverty. Black people make almost 30% less for the same job as White people; thus reinforcing the cycle of poverty. This must stop!

Too often people attribute poverty to Blacks working less hard and having less education. These are racist ideas. For you to help, you need to inform yourself. Learn about the impacts of racism on poverty and self-esteem. Recognize how difficult it is to be Black in America and do something!

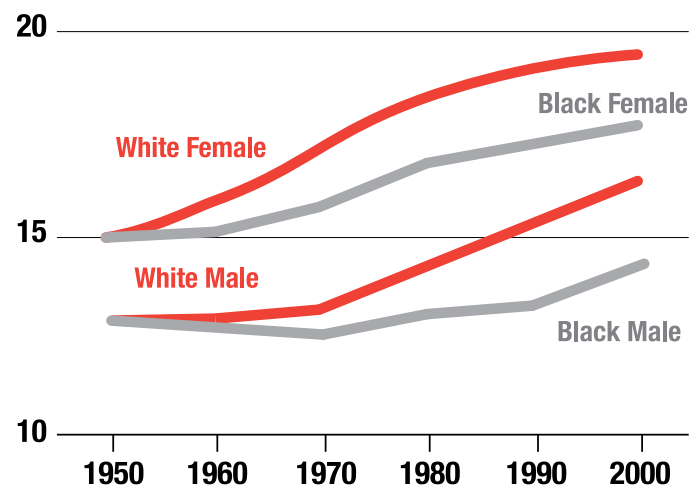
Be a responsive philanthropist by donating to Black-led organizations. Write or call local officials and ask what they are doing about racism, That is what we do in The New 3Rs. Over four hundred years of racism is intolerable, and more than any race should have to bear. Please share this information with friends and family. ■



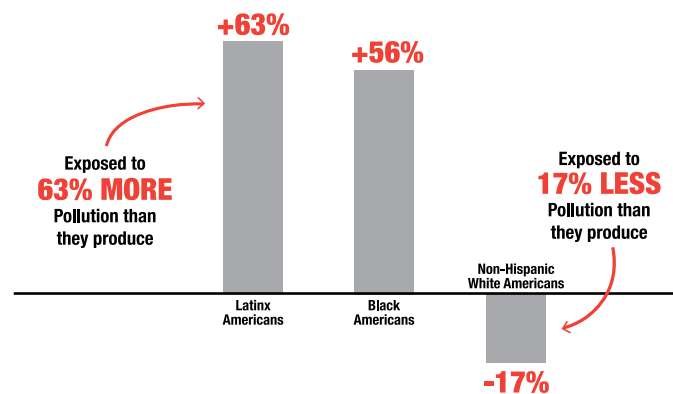
COVID-19 and Racism

The Coronavirus Pandemic, which had claimed over 500,000 lives, has brought the health disparities between different races to light. Black people/African Americans have a larger chance of catching the disease, getting hospitalized, and death compared to White people. Because of a lack of proper health-care or cannot afford a doctor, too many Black people aren't able to see a doctor before the illness becomes serious enough to be hospitalized.

Additional Years



Environmental injustice is systemic racism that has plagued many poor communities for decades. This issue mostly affects communities where people are treated like second-class citizens. They live in housing that has lead poisoning, poor ventilation, mold, and dirty hallways. All things that make people sick and die. These buildings are mostly in Black or LatinX communities. These neighborhoods also have hazardous waste sites, polluting industrial facilities, and other locally unwanted land uses that cause respiratory diseases. This is another reason why more Black and LatinX people are dying from COVID-19 than other races.



We are informing people of health racism so that it will be easier to help change and fix this ongoing problem. Nobody should die because of their race or class. We hope using data such as the life expectancy of Blacks and the chances of COVID-19 infection in Black people may open some eyes. Informing them of the income disparities and the environmental racism also will allow people to understand the issue better. COVID-19 taught us health disparities between different races. We are informing others and asking you to call your local government official and advocate for them to stop health racism. Hopefully, we can stop the vicious cycle of innocent Black and LatinX lives cut short. ■

The Crisis We Are In

By Blake | Age 12 | New York

About 4 months ago
 When Christmas was here
 We heard about a deadly virus
 That was really near
 Nobody was as scared
 It wasn't as severe
 But here we are 4 months later
 Quarantined with fear
 The whole world is in crisis
 Everyone taking everything from the
 nearest store
 We're on the verge of a financial war
 Hand Sanitizer, Soap, Tissues, Toilet paper
 Everything is gone
 We can't believe this is happening
 What's going on?
 Meanwhile, they canceled the NBA
 Even though some players still wanted to play
 Number of people dying changes day by day
 People around the world are at risk
 Many of them are already sick
 Presidents of other countries have shelter in place
 Is our president concerned about the human race?
 This may just be the beginning
 I wake up hearing that the amount of deaths is increasing
 Meanwhile, the fear inside of me is releasing
 Spray clothes with alcohol, wipe chairs, desks,
 and doorknobs, and wear masks
 They are so many tasks
 But we need to be careful
 This is not a drill
 The whole entire world is going downhill
 I may be exaggerating, overreacting, and
 going crazy
 But I do know that this is getting more severe daily
 Protect yourself and don't be lazy
 Hopefully, they will find a cure
 In the meantime, let's not be immature



NO VOICE

By Jamya | Age 10 | New York

I began patting the black leather seats and thinking about how I got to skip school on this windy Thursday morning. As my mom began to speed up, I could hear the tires screeching. I wanted to tell her to slow down because my life was in her hands. That only would make her more upset than she already was. When we hit a red light, she looked at me. I pretended I could not see her, but when I looked at her I saw a dark soul for a sec. I wanted to ask her what was wrong, but I did not want to be nosy. And suddenly a breeze hit me. I focused on where the apple cinnamon and orange peel scent were coming from. Wait! Orange peels. My dad loves to give me oranges. I have not talked to my dad. I reached for my mom's phone and she yelled, "Sit back". I was hesitant to ask if I could use my phone to call my dad, but I did anyway and she told me her phone was dead, while I could clearly see it was fully charged. So, I turned to my sister and asked to use her phone, and when my sister whispered to my mom, "You have to tell her". "Tell me what?" I asked, and my mom began to tell me what? "Princess it's about your dad." As soon as she said princess, I knew something was wrong because that word doesn't come around often.

My mom continued: ICE was watching your dad for a couple of weeks and when he was getting in his van to go to work they locked him up. The ICE officers didn't pat him down correctly. He still has his cell phone in his pocket. Your dad is so terrified he spelled immigration with three g's when he texted me. ICE cannot know he has his phone. I began to cry. My mom and sister began to pass me tissues. All I could do was pray that we would have a repeat of 2010 and a hurricane or something would happen to cause the government to send him back and he wouldn't have to go back to a country he hasn't been in over 30 years.

Dad was put on a plane at 6 a.m. on January 16, 2018: The same day of his 10 a.m. court hearing.

They kept my dad in a tiny jail in Haiti where deportees are kept until someone pays to get them out or until someone comes to claim you like you're a piece of luggage. My father has no family in Haiti. The same good friend who was deported back to Haiti in the 80s, when he and my dad were really young for a drug offense, was kind enough to pick my dad up from jail and allow him to live in his basement.

My dad was taken from me for a nonviolent crime he committed 30 years ago.

Nobody seems to care about sending my father back to Haiti. Nobody thinking or caring how it will change our lives – No more science camps. No more afterschool dance. No more math club programs. No More chats about our day with dad! All I could think about is what am I going to do on Fridays. I would no longer be able to spend Fridays with dad, who left work early to pick up my brother and me from school. He would take us to fun places like the Atlantic Mall, where we would get Pizza and play games at Chuck E. Cheese. We would also go to Brooklyn Bridge Park to play and get ice cream. We would also hang out at Dave and Busters, where he would spend an arm and leg on us. You stole a very important part of me – My Dad!

I have a passport and I will eventually see my dad again. But, I dream of an America who knows how many children, like me, cry every night, though you don't hear Our Voices.

I pray to God you will use Your Voice to bring my dad home. ■

Now's the Time for Youth to SPEAK OUT

By Jasmine | Age 14 | New York

My interest in government and politics started in 1st grade when I was elected as the mayor of our Lego town that we had created in the classroom. At the end of the year, I remember a classmate commending me about how I was “the best” mayor they had seen all year. That statement, though it seems insignificant, gave me assurance in my confidence when it came to leading change within my community. Since then, a lot of time has passed, but I am fervently passionate about politics.

Eight years later I was entering my freshman year of high school. I saw my school had a politics discussion club, I immediately signed up. A few weeks later as I waltzed up to the club meeting room, I peered into the window to see the club dominated by one demographic: White males. Despite the fact that the majority of government officials fall under this demographic, I was still startled. I know it isn't because Blacks at my school aren't informed about politics, but I still couldn't help but wonder why this is?

That weekend I decided to descend upon the streets of Harlem and ask Black adolescents this question: Are you interested in politics? The results of this question reinforced what I saw at the meeting, as only 16% of the respondents replied “yes” to my question. This ultimately signals a larger problem that is often overlooked, and I feel that more must be done to ensure that young Black people are involved and have an interest in the legislative process.

I believe the solution to this is that there must be a larger effort enforced, preferably youth-led, to ensure that young Black people have an active interest in politics. The next fifty years will belong to us, and if we don't practice speaking our voices now, what implications will that have for our future? What will this mean for the climate crisis or the criminal justice system? If we do not speak our voices, we ultimately are passing up the constitutional right to vote, that many of our grandparents did not have, because of Jim Crow.

I propose a solution that would entail a series of youth-targeted workshops for Black youth. The objective of these workshops would be to display to teens how topics that are currently being debated in government directly impact them, and what they could do to counter these effects. Methods for teaching kids to speak their voices about issues that concern them could be through utilizing social media campaigns, teaching them how to write legislation, and teaching methods of effective citizen involvement in government. The time is now for Black youth to act and ensure that they will continue to have their voices heard all around the country from here on out.

I dream of an America where all youth, regardless of color, understand how the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the United States impact their lives. ■



God is My Weapon

Do you remember,
when I cried?
I fell to my knees,
waiting to die.
I looked at him in the eye,
When I saw him punch me,
I wondered why?
When I decided to tell you,
you started to cry.
Wondering what I would do,
the next day of school when I walked with you.
He is like a fire stopping thousands
and thousands of lives,
causing people to die.
When I walked to school,
he had to pay.
Thinking about my worries,
all day.
Looking at him face to face,
Trying to beat him in the mental race.
Talking to him,
clenching my fist.
Waiting for victory,
at my risk.
What would happen when I use
my strongest muscle?
Preparing for a mental rumble.
Acting genial,
watching him respond.

Staring at him,
thinking beyond.
All the tears were wiped away,
knowing God will get him anyway.
Wanting to fight,
was not right,
so I became bright,
walking away with great delight.
Knowing that I did something right.
Thinking alright,
hold on tight.
Life isn't fair,
there will be people like that everywhere.
Don't stop trying,
And remember where there is God,
walk away and nod.
God is my weapon,
straight from heaven.
That is something a bully cannot take,
even with all their hate.
Reflections of my early school days.

Dear Children,
Always tell your family when you are getting bullied/teased. I should have when I was younger. Your family can help you. If you don't tell your family, the bullying will continue, and you will fall into Great Depression like I did. Don't be scared of the bully, the bully knows when you are scared. Don't give the bully joy, by being his victim. I dream of an America where nobody is bullied because of their intelligence, race, gender, disability, or religion.

I Dream of an America Where Humans Care About Animals

I dream of an America where animals are not abused in shelters. I dream of an America where we use products that aren't tested on animals, which can cause harm to them, and an America where animals aren't abused for their skins.

Animals are so important for the world's wellbeing, as they help the ecosystem. For example, bees are one of the world's most important animals. They make honey and they pollinate agriculture. Without pollination, there will be no food and we will die! One of the most ironic sayings attributed to dogs is, "A dog is a man's best friend". Every year about 1.2 million dogs are euthanized by shelters across the U.S. This happens because these shelters take in too many dogs that can be adopted. The shelters do not conduct adequate and effective marketing to get people to adopt as many dogs as possible. Dodo's article, (If Everyone Read This, The Shelters Would Be Empty by Christian Cotroneo) states: "Those days can be some of the most stressful, confusing and sad days of a dog's life."

Animals don't deserve to die because of the things we like and enjoy, such as makeup and coats. Makeup, one of the things girls treasure the most, is one of the reasons why rabbits are being killed. Victoria's Secret is selling in China again. For China to authorize the selling of the store's products, they insist on testing imported cosmetics on animals. This happened after years of them promoting a "never to test on animals" policy. Victoria's Secret accepts that China's government requires tests on animals for cosmetics, and they choose to go into the market regardless of our protest in the US for animal rights. They have to burn rabbit's corneas so they can test makeup. Companies such as Bath & Body Works, Henri Bendel, and La Senza stay true to their cruelty-free policies.

Animals such as sheep, horses, dogs, and birds, etc. get killed and abused for things we enjoy. Horses whipped to race faster, so humans can gamble. Sheep are getting stomped, kicked, thrown, and beaten for their wool. Lululemon, a famous clothing line also has a secret. Their newer brand "Down" is made with bird's feathers. The feathers being used for DOWN are being ripped off the bird's skin when they're alive.



Lululemon claims that the feathers come from birds that are not alive but, we can't be sure because it is impossible to track birds' feathers back to their original supplier to determine how the feathers were obtained since most feathers look the same.

Birds are also getting killed for their meat and foie gras. Ducks get force-fed to get their liver thicker (and more palatable for human consumption). In addition to being force-fed, they live in filthy conditions on factory farms before they're killed in violent and painful ways.

I dream of an America where people care about all the horrible things being done to animals. Animals are beneficial to our existence, and they don't deserve to die at human hands for skin, makeup, and ineptitude. Americans should give more thought to alternative warming products other than animal skins, and they should find more humane ways to test makeup ingredients. I dream of an America where animals are respected and treated fairly.

If you love animals half as much as I do, please share this message and follow the dodo, to learn how to protect our animals.

JOIN *The New 3Rs*

Come along and learn in our Workshops teaching Black History!

“The New 3Rs is a safe and diverse space for us to discuss America’s history and Black History.”

– Amira
Co-Chair,
Youth Responsive Philanthropy Giving Circle

Youth Philanthropy: Promoting Racial Justice

“When people think of philanthropists they think of Oprah Winfrey or Rockefeller. My friends and I are philanthropists! We give grants to Black organizations around the world. Join us and stand up for Black lives!”

– Estee
The New 3Rs Student

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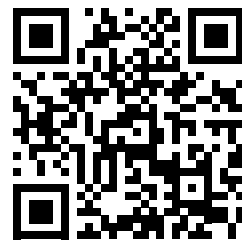
The New 3Rs is a registered 501 (c) (3) organization. Using the arts and storytelling, we teach Pre-K to 12 children, civics, Global African Diaspora Influences, and the intersectionality of the social justice areas: animal rights, ageism, class, disabilities, environment, famine, gender, health disparities, race, and religion.

Participating children co-create a Youth Responsive Philanthropy Giving Circle, with the support of EJC and WISE award grants, to the greatest needs nationally and internationally. Together, we are creating a More Civic and Compassionate Society one child at a time.

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