



TALKING ABOUT RACE

*AS SHOWN BY 13TH
DOCUMENTARY*




PREFACE



While there are countless different groups that experience racism other than the target group in *13th*, African Americans are the only group of whom the majority of their ancestors were brought here against their will. Their unique experience is the reason this presentation focuses more heavily on them.

Racism is a very prevalent issue affecting a variety of people and many ethnicities. It's important to understand racism as well as how we can work together to fight it so we can build a better future.



RACISM
AS A 
STRUCTURE

ABOUT THE *13TH*



13TH CLIPS

PLAY VIDEO AT THIS LINK

<http://bit.ly/13thClips>

SUMMARY OF THE 13TH

- ★ Racism has persisted and evolved as an institution
- ★ Criminals are constitutionally deprived of freedom
- ★ African Americans arrested en masse
 - War against crime = War on drugs = War on race
 - Super predator: portrays African Americans as dangerous
 - Three Strikes law: third felony results in mandatory sentencing
 - Private prisons monetized mass incarceration
 - Financial disparities force plea bargains that almost always result in jail time
- ★ Felons who are released from correctional institutions are vastly limited in occupational, housing, etc. opportunities in society
- ★ **RACISM IS NOT A CONCEPT OF THE PAST**

WHITEBOARD DISCUSSION



What stereotypes might you have about your own culture and how can you work to change these perceptions?

STUDENT SURVEY

**FILL OUT A SURVEY
ON TODAY'S LESSON
AT THIS LINK:**

bit.ly/13thSurvey

Feedback on the 13th Lesson

While the 13th documentary specifically focuses on the historical experiences of Black Americans, its commentary about structural and systemic racism in America is still very pertinent to a variety of marginalized groups. The issue is particularly relevant now in the wake of recent social and civil movements such as Black Lives Matter, which has shown the importance of such education and has highlighted the failure of America to properly address this issue. There is no better time than now for students to engage in discussions regarding the history of racism within the United States.

Therefore, the 13th Lesson is part of an ongoing curriculum under development for the past five months from the TJ Equity Team and Student Government Association (SGA).

There will be a follow-up lesson concerning TJ's mascot (the Colonial) and its connotations. Any feedback, whether positive or negative, is appreciated and may be used to help improve this follow-up lesson. This form is completely anonymous.

What were your thoughts on the lesson?

Your answer

What are aspects that can be improved?

Your answer

EXTRA RESOURCES

- The full *13th* documentary: <https://bit.ly/36boQG5>
- Black Lives Matter: <http://bit.ly/2fGemTc>
- Equal Justice Initiative: <http://bit.ly/2fGfOoL>
- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander: <http://bit.ly/2fWa8aL>
- *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* by Cathy Park Hong: <https://bit.ly/2JVHhXm>
- *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson: <https://bit.ly/3nsuaL8>
- *The House I Live In* (2012) directed by Eugene Jarecki: <http://bit.ly/2dBUWAH>
- Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ): <http://bit.ly/2fGhZZi>
- “On Solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement” : <https://bit.ly/3a2vlvY>