
RACISM: HISTORY, STRUGGLE, AND PROGRESS



Understanding the past to
change the future

WHAT IS RACISM?



Racism is when people are treated unfairly because of their **skin color** or **race**.

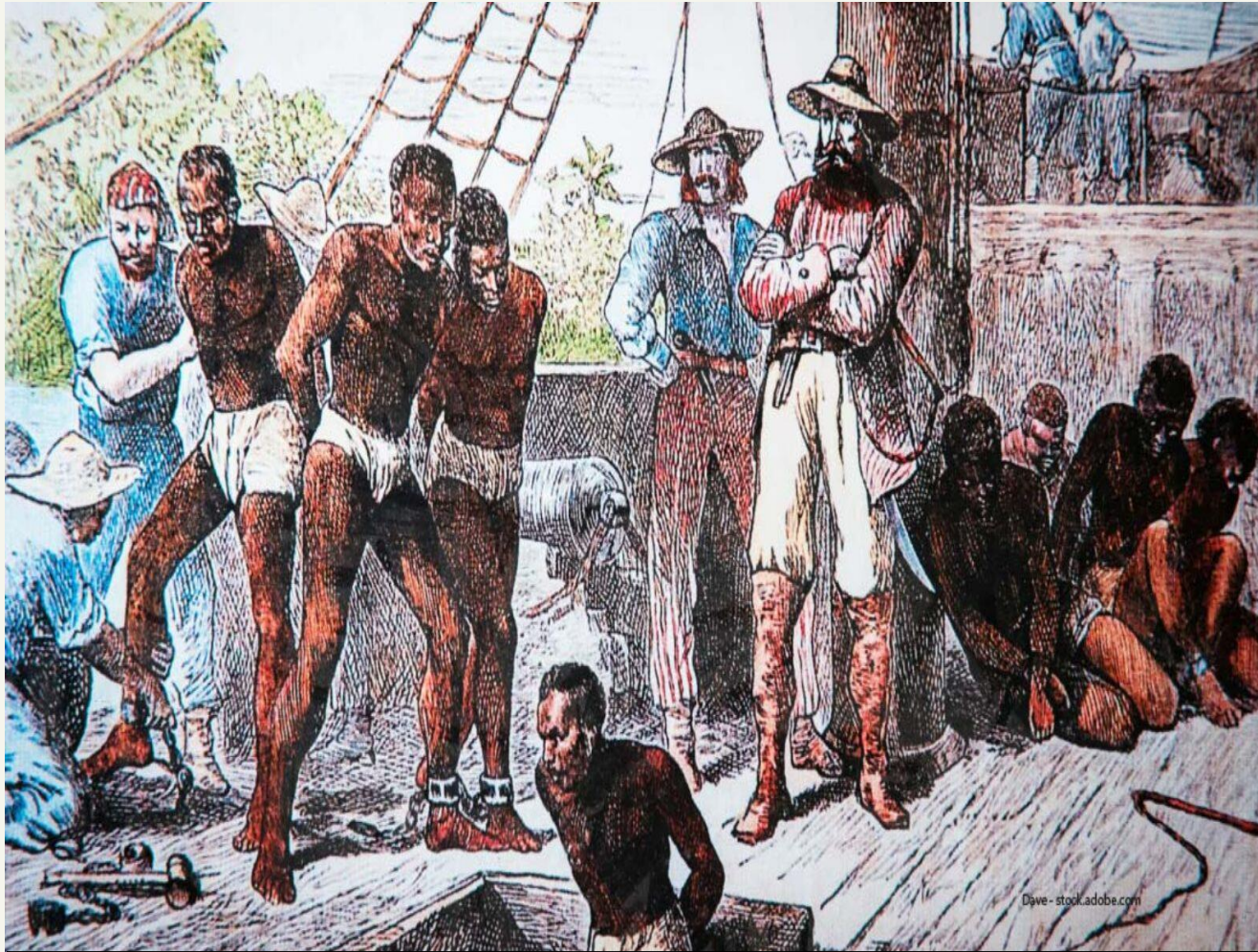
It means judging someone before knowing them.

Racism can happen at **school**, at **work**, or in **everyday life**.

It hurts people and creates inequality.

This presentation shows the history, the fight, the progress — and the people who changed the world

SLAVERY



- Millions of Africans were taken as slaves (1500s–1800s)
- Forced to work with no freedom or rights
- Extreme violence and suffering
- Slavery created deep injustice



H
HISTORY

CIVIL WAR & RECONSTRUCTION

- **Civil War (1861–1865)**

War between North (against slavery) and South (wanted slavery).

Slavery ended after the war (13th Amendment, 1865).

- **Reconstruction (1865–1877):**

The government tried to give Black people rights, education, and protection.

Black men voted and were elected to office for the first time.

- **After 1877, Southern states took back power and started new racist laws.**





HD

OFFICIAL TRAILER

AFTER SLAVERY: SEGREGATION



- After slavery, Black people were still not treated equally
- “Jim Crow” laws separated Black and white people
- Daily life still full of unfair treatment
- Legal discrimination continued for decades

- Many people lived in fear and danger



- **Ku Klux Klan (KKK)**
 - A **white Fascist group** in the United States
 - Used **violence, fear, and threats** against Black people
 - Attacked homes, churches, and communities
 - The Ku Klux Klan killed thousands of people.
 - Historians recorded over 4,000 lynchings, many connected to the Klan.
 - The real number is higher because many crimes were never reported.
 - Tried to stop Black people from voting or having equal rights
 - A symbol of **hate, racism, and terror**
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- **Early Heroes**

- **Mary Jane Patterson (1862)** – first African American woman to finish a college degree
- **Harriet Tubman** – helped enslaved people escape



- **Frederick Douglass** – ex-slave, strong voice for freedom





**BLACK
HISTORY** / **IN
TWO
MINUTES**
(OR 50)

**HARRIET
TUBMAN:
THE MOSES
OF HER PEOPLE**

From Slavery to “Legal Equality” (But Not Real Equality)

End of Slavery

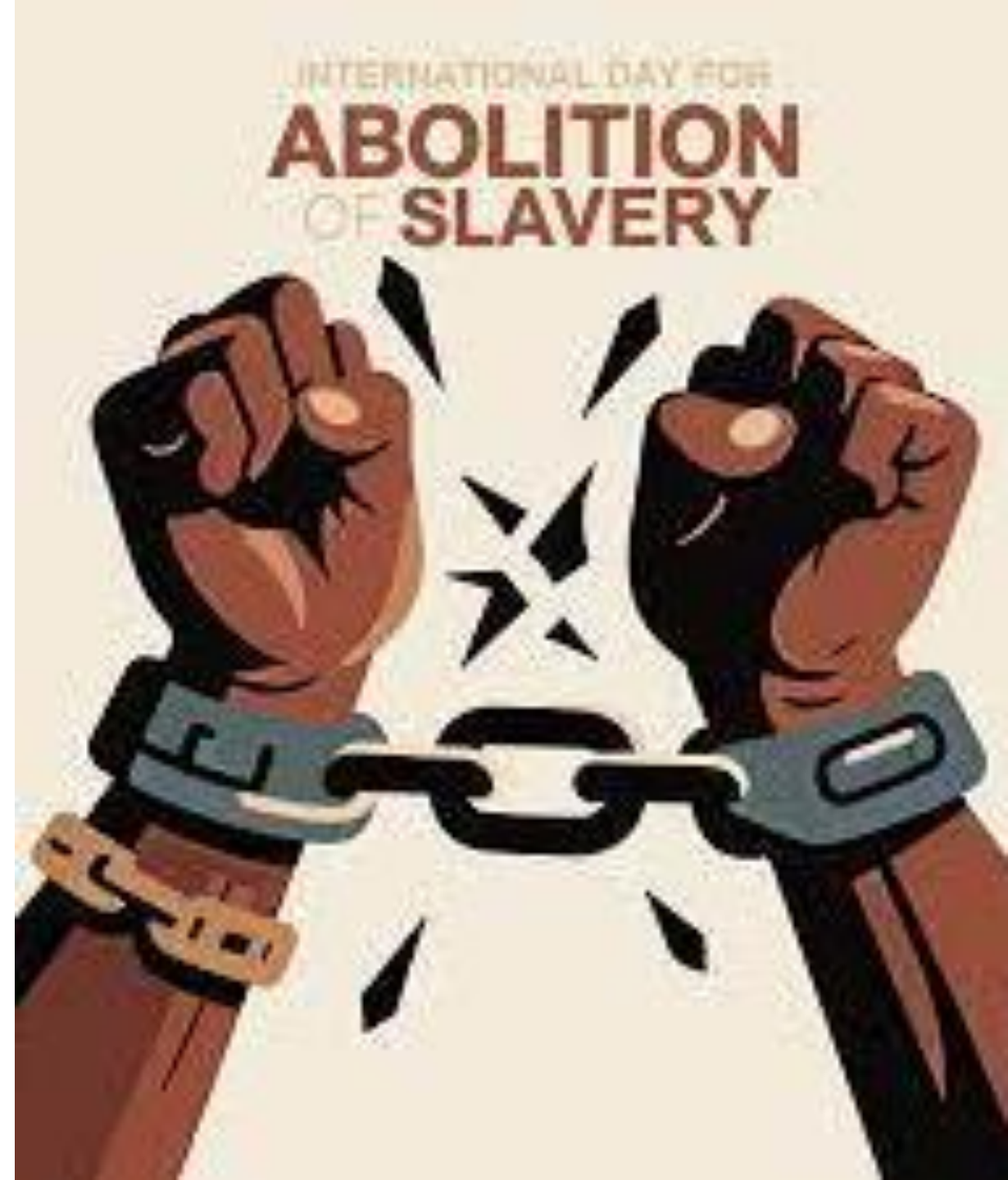
- **1863:** Lincoln said slaves in the South were free.
- **1865:** Slavery ended in all the USA.

But racism continued

- Black people still faced **violence** and **unfair laws**, especially in the South.

“Separate but Equal”

- **1896:** A court said Black and white people could be separate.
- *But the places and schools were not equal at all.*



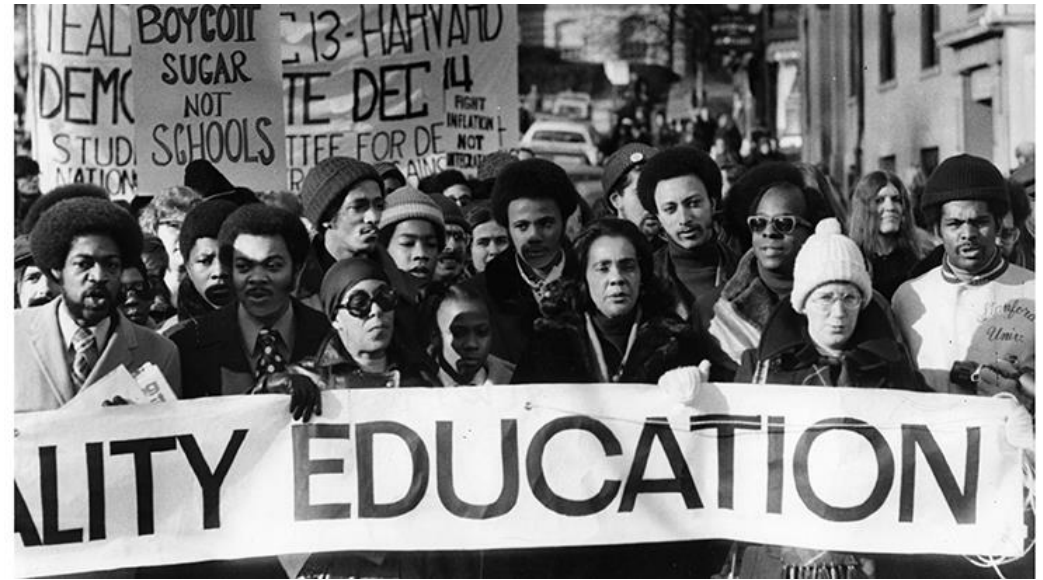
PROBLEMS AFTER 1964



- Some Southern states refused to change.
- Some schools stayed separate for **10–20 more years**.
- Black students faced threats and unfair treatment.
- Many white families moved to private schools (“white flight”).
- Racist groups like the KKK continued intimidation.

The Fight for Equal Education

- 1954 — **Brown v. Board:** Court said **separate schools are NOT equal.**
- 1957 — **Little Rock Nine:** 9 Black students entered a white school with **Army protection.**
- 1964 — **Civil Rights Act:** Ended legal segregation.





Civil Rights Movement (1950s–1960s)

- People protested for equal rights.
 - They used **peaceful marches** and sit-ins.
 - They wanted fair laws for voting, schools, and jobs.
 - It was a **big step** toward equality.
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MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

- Leader of peaceful protest.
- Gave the famous “I Have a Dream” speech.
- Worked for justice and equal rights.
- Was killed in 1968 for his activism.



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- **Raised Fist: The Symbol of Black Power**
 - *Tommie Smith & John Carlos – 1968 Olympics*
 - “In the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, athletes **Tommie Smith and John Carlos** raised their fists during the medal ceremony.

Their silent protest called attention to racism and inequality in the United States.

Although they were punished and expelled from the Games, their gesture became a powerful global symbol of Black pride and the fight for human rights.”



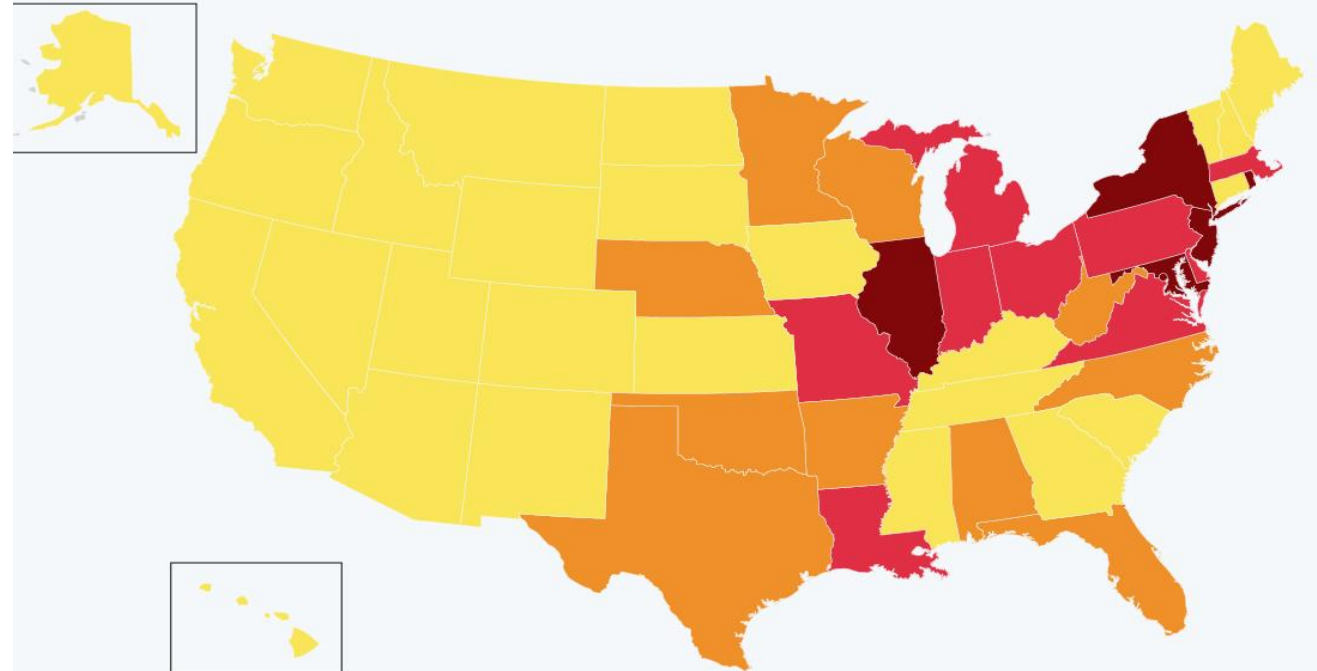
Modern Racism

- Still exists today.
- Police violence and unfair treatment continue.
- Not everyone has equal chances in school or work.
- Racism can be **open or hidden**.

Black Americans 2.5X More Likely Than Whites to Be Killed By Police

Percent disparity between each state's African American population and percentage of blacks killed by police in 2019

■ 30% or more ■ 20-29% ■ 10-19% ■ 10% or less



Source: Mapping Police Violence



“I CAN’T BREATHE”, GEORGE FLOYD

Who was George Floyd?

- George Floyd was a Black man living in Minneapolis, USA.
- He had a family and worked in different jobs.
- He was an ordinary person, not famous.





What happened in 2020?

- A police officer put his **knee on Floyd's neck** for about **9 minutes**.
- Floyd said **"I can't breathe"** many times.
- He died because he could not breathe.

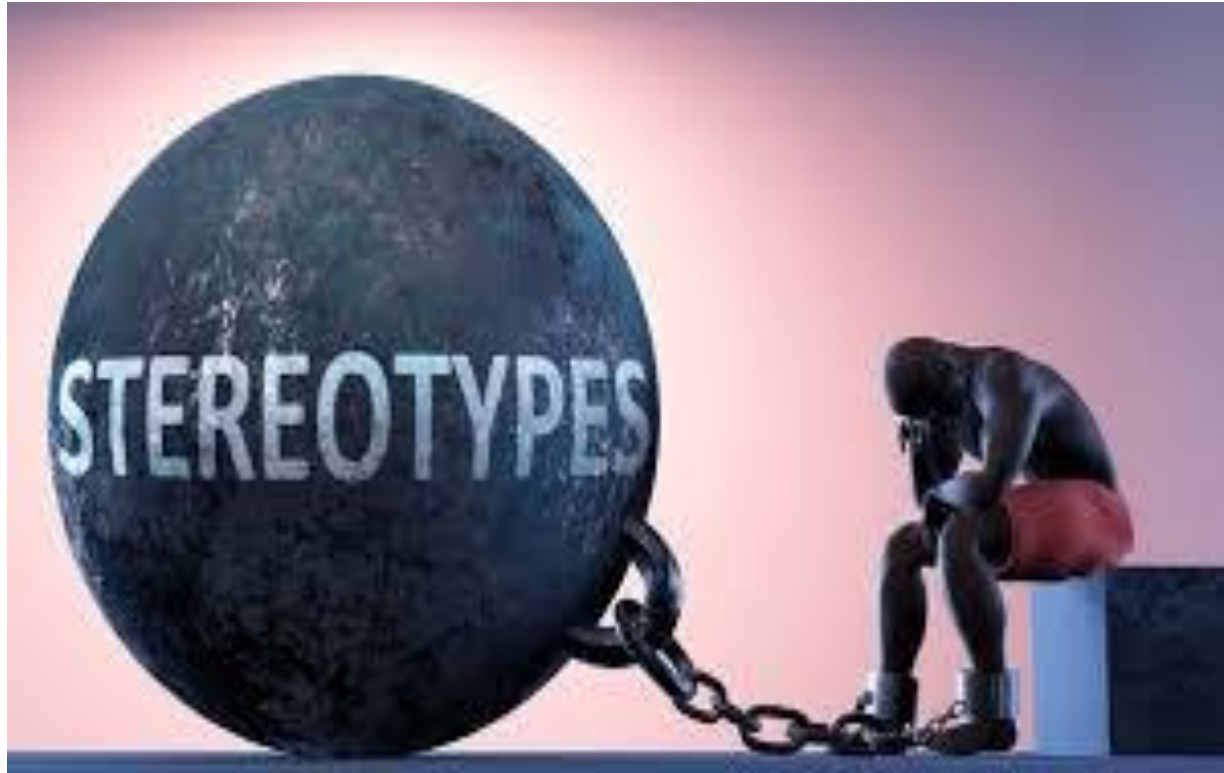
Why was this important?

- A video of the incident was seen around the **world**.
 - It showed **police violence** and **racism**.
 - Millions of people marched in protest.
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BLACK LIVES MATTER



- Protests happened in many countries.
 - People asked for justice, safety, and equal rights.
 - “I can’t breathe” became a symbol against racism.
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These stereotypes were used to justify discrimination.

- “Black people are **less intelligent.**”
- “Black people are **naturally aggressive** or dangerous.”
- “Black people cannot do **serious jobs** like science or leadership.”
- “Black people belong to **low-paid physical work.**”

These wrong ideas helped create:

- unfair laws
- school segregation
- job discrimination
- police violence

- *Stereotypes tried to limit what Black people could do.*
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Breaking Stereotypes

Why These Stories Matter

- Many Black men and women worked hard and **proved them wrong.**
- Their success shows that **race does not decide talent.**
- Now we look at people who **changed minds** and **changed history.**

WOMEN WHO REACHED THE STARS: MAE JEMISON & KATHERINE JOHNSON

Katherine Johnson, a brilliant NASA mathematician, calculated the paths that allowed astronauts to travel safely.

Mae Jemison became the first African American woman in space, proving that determination can break any barrier.

Both women faced discrimination, but their courage and talent opened doors for future generations.

They show us that science becomes stronger when everyone has the chance to contribute.”



ARTS & CULTURE

Maya Angelou

Famous poet and writer; strong voice for equality.



Toni Morrison

The first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.



James Baldwin

Writer who spoke about identity, racism, and justice.



SPORTS

- **Jackie Robinson**

First Black player in Major League Baseball.

He changed sports history in 1947 by breaking the colour barrier, facing racism with courage and dignity.



- **Serena Williams**

One of the greatest tennis players of all time.

She won 23 Grand Slam titles and inspired millions through her strength, determination, and confidence.



- **Simone Biles**

One of the most decorated gymnasts in history. She revolutionised the sport with her power, precision, and unmatched skills.



LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL CHANGE

- **Nelson Mandela** was a leader against apartheid in South Africa.
- He spent 27 years in prison because he fought for equality.
- After his release, he helped bring peace and democracy to the country.
- In 1994, he became the first Black president of South Africa.
- Mandela showed that courage and leadership can change a nation.



PROGRESS & HOPE

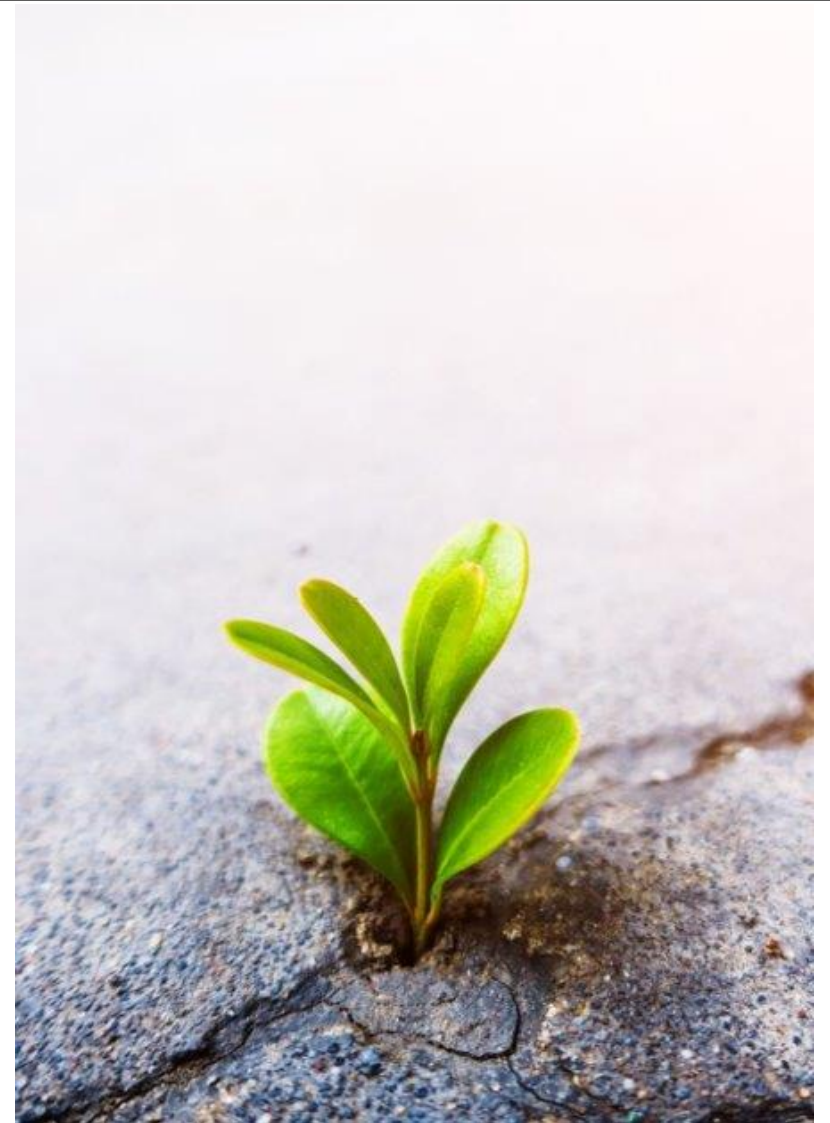
We Can Move Forward.

“Racism has a long history, but so does the fight against it.

Every time we choose kindness, fairness, and courage, we push the world forward.

Hope grows when we refuse to stay silent.

Together, we can build a future where everyone is treated with dignity.”





**“EQUALITY IS A CHOICE WE
MAKE EVERY DAY”**

IMAGINE. RESPECT. INSPIRE.

A better world doesn't appear on its own.

It grows from the choices we make – how we treat others, how we listen, how we act.

The stories we saw remind us that justice begins with small steps and becomes powerful when we walk together.

“Be the reason someone believes in fairness.”



Scan to Answer the Questionnaire

