



COVID-19 and Race: Talking to Children about Race & Social Justice

Thursday, July 9, 12:30-1:30 pm (CT)

The dual crises of the coronavirus pandemic and police violence have brought to light deep racial disparities, igniting discussions about race and racism in households worldwide. Families find themselves grappling with difficult conversations and adults are looking for guidance on how to engage children, especially as they challenge their own biases, prejudices and behaviors that, intentional or not, sustain racism.

Many parents recognize that this moment presents a critical opportunity for families to consider their responsibility and commitment to advancing racial equity, and are looking for resources and support. The following panel of parents, educators, entrepreneurs and advocates came together to share their experiences and insights, from talking with children about race to raising children with a racial equity lens.

Panelists:

Mary Ferguson | [Racial Justice Director, YWCA Metro St. Louis](#); Founder, North St. Louis Arts Council

Heather Fleming | Founder, [In Purpose Educational Services](#); Author of [My Black Friend Says ... Lessons in Equity, Inclusion, and Cultural Competency](#)

Adelaide Lancaster | Co-Founder and Director of Strategy, [We Stories](#); Board co-chair, Forward Through Ferguson

Alex Stallings | Director of Early Learning, [Nine Network of Public Media](#); Advisory Board Member, Turn the Page STL

Moderators:

Jason Heisserer | Head of School, [Crossroads College Preparatory High School](#)

Atia Thurman | Associate Director, [Clark-Fox Policy Institute](#), Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

View a [recording of the discussion here](#).

Resources

[*My Black Friend Says . . . Lessons in Equity, Inclusion, and Cultural Competency*](#) by Heather Fleming

[*White Kids: Growing Up with Privilege in a Racially Divided America*](#) (NYU Press) by [Margaret Hagerman, PhD](#)

[*Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America*](#) by Jennifer Garvey

We Stories | www.instagram.com/westoriesstl

YWCA – Metro St. Louis | <https://www.ywcastl.org/what-were-doing/racial-justice>

Talking to Young Children About Race and Racism (PBS) | <https://www.pbs.org/parents/talking-about-racism>

[The Conscious Kid](#) | Parenting and Education through a Critical Race Lens

Talking to your kids about racism (UNICEF, June 2020) | <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/talking-to-your-kids-about-racism>

Talking to Kids about Race (National Geographic, June 2020)
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/talking-about-race/>

Uplifting Youth Through Healthy Communication About Race (American Psychological Association)
<https://www.apa.org/res/parent-resources/index>

Why All Parents Should Talk With Their Kids About Social Identity, 2019 (NPR)
<https://www.npr.org/2019/10/08/767205198/the-things-parents-dont-talk-about-with-their-kids-but-should>

Talking Race with Young Children, (NPR, 2019)
<https://www.npr.org/2019/04/24/716700866/talking-race-with-young-children>

COVID-19 and Race Series

The coronavirus pandemic has exposed glaring health and economic disparities among communities of color – and the societal systems that are failing them. The disparate and devastating effects on Black and Brown people point to a more insidious disease and an underlying condition that has been long diagnosed – racism.

The Brown School and the Clark-Fox Policy Institute organized a series of discussions to elevate the voices of local leaders, medical providers, researchers, advocates, activists and more. The series serves as a platform for highlighting multiple perspectives and draws on community-based and evidence-based knowledge to address the challenges facing Black and Brown people. Speakers and participants share their insights into the scope of the issues, root causes, and recommendations for advancing racial and health equity.

Click on the link below to access programing information and video recordings:

<https://clarkfoxpolicyinstitute.wustl.edu/learn-2/pulse-on-policy/covid-19-and-race-the-disproportionate-impact-on-the-health-of-communities-of-color/>