

Recommended Resources from the White Privilege Task Group

“White privilege” is not a new term, but it can still create feelings of unease or defensiveness among many “White race” people. I speak of “White race” because while we can talk about a “Black race,” or other racial identity groups, but many people tend to think of “White” as the human race or not a racial group at all. Within North American cultures, White is often considered to be the societal or aspirational norm, which means that all others are the exception, and all other racial groups exist within the culture of Whiteness. By understanding “White” as a racial identity along with other racial identity groupings, we can better see the gift and diversity of the whole human family. —*Bill Smith, former Bay of Quinte Executive Secretary and chair of White Privilege Working Group, January 2019*

United Church of Canada Resources

- [That All May Be One](#), Anti-Racism Policy Statement 2000
- [Ending Racial Harassment: Creating Healthy Congregations](#) The United Church of Canada, 2008 (see Downloads at bottom of webpage)
- [Glossary of Terms](#) shared at the 43rd General Council for framing conversation
- [Two churches are better than one: The United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ are working together to tackle anti-Black racism](#), *Mandate* magazine, Winter 2018 (see Downloads at bottom of webpage)
- [White Privilege: a workshop](#), *Mandate* magazine, May 2017
- Round the Table blogs on anti-racism and White privilege: Visit www.united-church.ca/blogs/round-table and search “anti-racism or intercultural” to find a number of perspectives written by a variety of voices.
- Racial Justice Workshops: The United Church offers regular online educational sessions about racial justice, which are mandatory for ministry personnel and highly recommended for all leaders in the church. Conversations about White privilege, White supremacy, and a culture of Whiteness are all part of the conversations. You can sign up for an upcoming session or ask to be added to the waiting list for a future session. See www.united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars/upcoming-webinars.

Ecumenical Resources

- [Cracking Open White Identity towards Transformation](#), The Canadian Council of Churches, 2012: A distinctly Canadian educational and theological resource introducing the topic of White privilege. Some of the contributors to this anthology are United Church leaders like Steve Willey, Susan Eagle, and Michael Blair.
- [White Privilege: Let’s Talk, A Resource for Transformational Dialogue](#), The United Church of Christ, 2017: An insightful resource with a particularly helpful opening chapter, “The Spiritual Autobiography,” which offers a simple tool for measuring awareness and personal biases on this topic.
- Deepening Understandings of Intercultural Ministries Program, the Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning: A five-day ecumenical program that includes conversations about the markers of White supremacy culture, power, privilege, and

more. Participants end with practical ideas for their own ministry contexts. Bursary assistance is offered for United Church participants. Search “DUIM” at www.united-church.ca.

Beyond Church

- [Ontario Public Service Anti-Racism Policy](#): one example
- National Film Board [anti-racism films playlist](#)
- Books:

[White Fragility](#) by Robin DiAngelo, Beacon Press 2018

This book deals with the reality of White Privilege and reactions to it (anger, fear, guilt, argumentation, and/or silence). The author redefines racism as something other than racial slurs and the KKK, seeing it as systemic and built into the very fibre of society. Visit her website, robindiangelo.com or search YouTube for videos featuring the author.

[White Privilege](#) by Paul Rothenberg, Worth Publishing, 2012

This is an excellent anthology about the creation and continued existence of racism and White Privilege in the United States. It helps readers understand the rise of White Privilege in the USA and the difficulty of dismantling it. Includes a chapter by Peggy McIntosh on the invisible knapsack—the package of unearned assets they carry that many White people are unaware of.

[Understanding White Privilege](#) by Frances E Kendall, Routledge Press, 2013

This book is a mix of Kendall’s personal story of becoming an ally and educator in the antiracism movement and also an excellent resource in dealing with our own understanding of White Privilege. The author’s statistics reveal an overwhelming dominance in wealth, lifestyle, power, and influence held by the “White race.” She poses the question: If scientific data show that we are all biologically and intellectual equal, why is there such disparity? Kendall challenges people to move from that of observer to that of ally.

[Orientalism](#) by Edward Said, Pantheon Books, 1978.

This book was foundational to the beginnings of post-colonial studies.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orientalism_\(book\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orientalism_(book))