Hidden History: Understanding the Origins of Racial Inequity
Emancipation Proclamation through Post Reconstruction: 1863-1900s

TAKEAWAYS for Panel 2

Mr. Everett

- The Wilmington Insurrection was a result of the United States not holding the former Confederacy accountable after the Civil War.
- The legacy of slavery, Jim Crow, racial massacres (Wilmington, Tulsa, Rosewood, etc.), all provide the case for reparations for Black Americans.

Dr. Masur

- The Civil War was a conflict over slavery, and enslaved people played crucial roles in it.
- Because slavery was such a consequential institution, its abolition required a rethinking of American life from top to bottom, including three new constitutional amendments that reflected new thinking about individual rights and equality.
- Reconstruction was the first time the nation as a whole confronted the legacies of slavery. African Americans made some critical advances, but it turned out that the US government had neither the power nor the will to delivered what it had promised.

Dr. Harris

- Three pillars of Jim Crow: disfranchisement, segregation, and violence, all with national acquiescence
- Some consequences for Black health: nutrition, housing, health care
- Black resistance (lawyers, journalists) and Black institution-building (schools, hospitals)
Hidden History: Understanding the Origins of Racial Inequity
“Emancipation Proclamation through Post Reconstruction: 1863-1900s”

RESOURCES for Panel 2

For its Martin Luther King Week Celebration Lake Michigan College compiled an extensive list of resources for further exploration. https://www.lakemichigancollege.edu/community/mlk

In addition, our speakers and panelists have offered these additional materials for consideration.

Books:

Mia Bay, To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells (2009)
W. E. B. Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folk (1903)
J. William Harris, Deep Souths: Delta, Piedmont, and Sea Island Society in the Age of Segregation (2001)
Steve Luxenberg, Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation (2019)
A Day of Blood (book) by LeRae Umfleet
From Here to Equality (book) by William Darity Jr. & Kirsten Mullens
True Story Behind the Wilmington Ten (book) by Larry Reni Thomas


Kate Masur, *Until Justice Be Done: America’s First Civil Rights Movement, from the Revolution to Reconstruction* (2021)


**Film/video:**

Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *Reconstruction: America After the Civil War* - (4-part PBS series)


**Website:**

[https://eji.org/projects/community-remembrance-project/](https://eji.org/projects/community-remembrance-project/) (Documentation and remembrance of the history of lynching in the U.S.)

**Article:**

Recent work by Dr. Masur:

“Lessons from the Civil Rights Struggle that Began Before the Civil War,”

“Yes, Wednesday’s Attempted Insurrection is Who We Are,” [https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/01/08/yes-wednesdays-attempted-insurrection-is-who-we-are/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/01/08/yes-wednesdays-attempted-insurrection-is-who-we-are/).

“The Lack of Federal Voting Rights Protections Returns us to the pre-Civil War Era,”
https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/03/29/lack-federal-voting-rights-protections-returns-us-pre-civil-war-era/

Podcast:
Seizing Freedom (on African Americans during the Civil War and Reconstruction), with Dr. Kidada Williams of Wayne State: https://www.seizingfreedom.com.

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