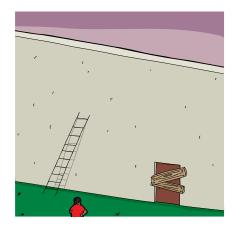
# HOLLYWOOD, HEALTH & SOCIETY

USC ANNENBERG NORMAN LEAR CENTER

# Systemic Racism: An Overview

# What Exactly Is Systemic Racism?

"Racism is not a feeling or emotion. It is a way of thinking, creating, and implementing policies and laws that provide privileges to whites that are nonexistent to minorities. Racism exists on an individual level but more importantly, racism exists in the institutions and structures of our society." —**Dr. Angela Davis** 





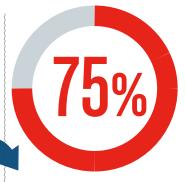
"Racism is a visceral experience . . . the sociology, the history, the economics, the graphs, the charts, the regressions all land, with great violence, upon the body." —  $T\alpha$ -nehisi Colphates

Health Care: Black mortality rates can be predicted by historical differences in states' abolishment and enforcement of Jim Crow Laws in the 1800s.

### Economic: White slaveholders extracted more than \$14 trillion worth of labor, in today's dollars, from their captives-resulting in an inequitable wealth gap. -*Center for American Progress*

## INEQUITABLE SYSTEMS

Systemic racism has led to inequitable systems that continue to ripple throughout society today and affect the health of Black and minority communities and individuals. Education: Lower income brackets in Black and brown neighborhoods lead to lower tax benefits for school systems, which base school funding on local taxation. -U.S. News & World Report



Percentage of communities near harmful landfill sites that are predominantly Black as a result of historic redlining and residential segregation practices.

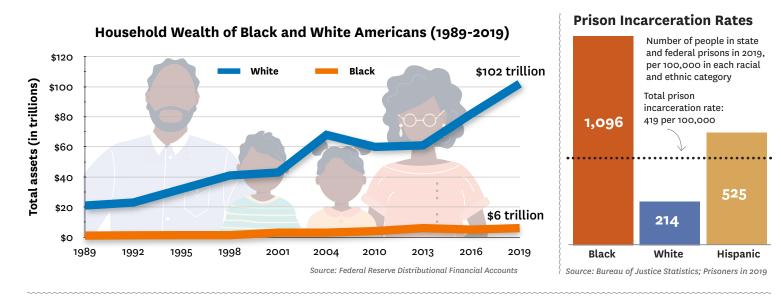


Click or tap button to learn more about environmental racism.



Voting Rights: An estimated 1 in 16 Black Americans does not have the right to vote due to past convictions-4 times the rate of other Americans. -The Sentencing Project

**Criminal Justice:** In 12 states, more than half of the prison population is Black; in 7 states the black/white prisoner disparity is larger than 9 to 1. *—The Sentencing Project* 



Systemic racism is the ultimate societal antagonist for characters of all backgrounds. To be an anti-racist is to fight one of the biggest antagonists in society. Each character must choose to either dismantle systemic racism or uplift it.



Highlighting the ways characters address systemic racism in different settings, places of employment, and daily interactions is a good place to start. In addition to revealing the problem, show collective solutions to illustrate a way out.



