



Northern California Chapter, The Explorers Club

Join us on August 14th for a Zoom Meeting with

Bill Phillips

***An Informal Discussion Exploring
the Nuances of Race in America***

This is a reminder about our zoom call this Friday. The time is a bit different from our normal calls, so please remember to look at the schedule (hint: socializing starts at 6:00PM PDT, chapter updates at 6:20 and the talk by Bill Phillips at 6:30). The issue of race is something that the club as a whole is addressing and I am very pleased that Jimmy Friedman asked his friend Bill Phillips to speak opening with us about his experiences as a Black man in America. Bill has also provided a reading list for those who want to delve into this matter further -- provided at the end of this message. Settle into a comfortable chair before you start Bill's reading suggestions; he has many.

The link for the Zoom Call is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89477951009?pwd=NkRnZXBDUER0UU85R3VieGZKUfK2Zz09>

- **Zoom link: 894 7795 1009**
- **Password: 1010**

Other News:

Chapter Connect: We've been asked to prepare a Chapter Connect meeting for September 10th, from 3 - 4:30 PM (PDT). It should be a fast tour of our chapter with some short presentations by a few of our newer members and a few of our seasoned veterans. You'll have a chance to 'meet' some of the newer people who've not yet spoken at a chapter meeting and hear what sort of exploration a few longer-term members have been doing. Announcements for this event will come from New York, probably in early September.

The Explorers Club 50: We are all ourselves pretty incredible and we also know other people who are incredible. The club is looking for nominations for The Explorers Club 50. Nominate yourself or someone who inspires you. Here's an excerpt from the Club announcement and a link for the nomination form: <https://explorers.org/about/the-explorers-club-50>

"Each of us knows an explorer who is making a meaningful difference in the world, someone who has inspired and challenged you. We are looking for people who are changing the way we look at the world - whether it be through spoken word, saving a language, field work, or in a lab, whether they work with the tiniest organisms or are helping to solve the world's biggest problems.

We want you to nominate this individual for our newest initiative - THE EXPLORERS CLUB 50.

Criteria are purposely broad. Think outside of the box, beyond celebrity and lauded accomplishment. Your nomination should tell us who or what defines exploration in the 21st-century - the best, the brightest, and most influential."

There are lots of club activities for the summer months, and some ways that you can contribute to our future membership. After the Chapter Connect meeting, we will be starting up our monthly meetings at the end of September. These will be Zoom for the time being.

Take care and explore safely,

Lesley Ewing, FN '93
Chair — Northern California Chapter, The Explorers Club
lesleycoastal@gmail.com
www.explorersnorca.org
Tom Dolan, MN'14 Vice Chair
Anna Freitas, MN'17 Treasurer
Joyce Chang, MN'17 Secretary

SOME RESOURCES FOR LEARNING MORE ABOUT RACISM IN AMERICA - 8/2020

Compiled by Bill Phillips

There are many more resources, including Bill himself. Please contact Bill who will gladly highlight other resources on racism in America if you are interested in learning more. E-mail: billphil86@gmail.com

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION:

“WHAT CAN WE DO, AS ALLIES, TO FACILITATE RACIAL JUSTICE IN THE U.S.?”

<https://medium.com/equality-includes-you/what-white-people-can-do-for-racial-justice-f2d18b0e0234>

SAN FRANCISCO ACHIEVERS ORGANIZATION:

<https://www.sfachievers.org>

WEB DUBOIS SCHOLAR'S INSTITUTE:

<https://duboisscholars.org>

SUPPORT ANY HBCU SUCH AS:

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

FISK UNIVERSITY

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

BOOKS:

“White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism?”. By Robin Di Angelo

“White Kids”: Growing Up With Privilege in a Racially Divided America” By Margaret A. Hagerman; Excellent and current!

How To Be An Antiracist. By Ibram X. Kendi

“Between the World and Me” By Ta-Nehisi Coates (short book, but wealth of info)

“The Peculiar Institution, Slavery in the Ante-Bellum South”, By Dr. Kenneth M. Stamp

"The Panther and the Lash" By Langston Hughes (Short book of Poems)

"The Fire Next Time", by James Baldwin

"Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War", by Tony Horowitz. Pub 2010 (U.S. History); Good look into the modern southern United States.

"Slave Testimony" - By Dr. John W. Blassigame Provides some black testimony on the institution of systemic slavery in the U.S.

"How the South Won the Civil War", By Dr. Heather Cox-Richardson.

"Race Matters" By Dr. Cornel West; Discusses the racial hierarchy in American Life. (short book)

"Bullwhip Days: The Slaves Remember, an Oral History", edited by James Mellon

"Where Do We Go From Here", By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., (Revised, 2010 edition)

"The Autobiography of Malcolm X", By Malcolm X and Alex Haley (1965)

LINKS:

"10 Examples That Prove White Privilege Exists in Every Aspect Imaginable", By Jon Greenberg

(10 minute read): <https://www.yesmagazine.org/social-justice/2017/07/24/10-examples-that-prove-white-privilege-exists-in-every-aspect-imaginable/>

<https://medium.com/equality-includes-you/what-white-people-can-do-for-racial-justice-f2d18b0e0234>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/06/22/what-numbers-say-whites-blacks-live-two-different-americas/?arc404=true>

<https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2018/01/09/blacks-in-stem-jobs-are-especially-concerned-about-diversity-and-discrimination-in-the-workplace/>

<https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=61>

<https://www.heritage.org/civil-society/commentary/nick-cannons-anti-semitism-symptomatic-deeper-problem>

<https://blackdemographics.com>

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/05/06/black-imprisonment-rate-in-the-u-s-has-fallen-by-a-third-since-2006/>

<https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2020/06/12/amid-protests-majorities-across-racial-and-ethnic-groups-express-support-for-the-black-lives-matter-movement/>

<https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2018/01/09/diversity-in-the-stem-workforce-varies-widely-across-jobs/>

John Lewis statement just before he died.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/30/opinion/john-lewis-civil-rights-america.html>

VOTER SUPPRESSION:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/kentucky-cuts-polling-locations-angry-mob-long-lines-georgia-election-day-disaster-confusion-a9577501.html?amp>

61 Ways votes are suppressed in the US:

<https://www.votingrightsalliance.org/forms-of-voter-suppression>

There is a good video to watch and share here:

<https://sojo.net/media/resisting-voter-suppression>

and more about the campaign here: <http://lawyersandcollars.org/>

ALSO: <https://sojo.net/articles/voter-suppression-theological-issue> :-)

TWITTER COMMENT:

<https://twitter.com/surlybassey/status/1275231994016870401>

PODCAST:

[How Facebook is Undermining BLACK Lives Matter](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-daily/id1200361736?i=1000479057029)
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-daily/id1200361736?i=1000479057029>

YOU TUBE: John Oliver TV Show 2 August 2020 (US History-30 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsxukOPEdgg>

U.S. History: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) August 2, 2020. Also available on YouTube.

ARTICLES:

[THE TRAYVON GENERATION, In the New Yorker Magazine. Good article. https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/06/22/the-trayvon-generation](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/06/22/the-trayvon-generation)

FILM:

Documentary: "I Am Not Your Negro" Narrated By James Baldwin

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner", with Sidney Poitier, Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy.

"Da Five Brothers" By Spike Lee (Netflix)

"Hidden Figures" - Black women mathematicians at NASA

"Red Tails" - Film about the Tuskegee Airmen in WWII

"Glory Road" - A sports movie about how a NCAA basketball team in the sixties started an all-black team for the first time and how that team went on to defeat a powerhouse of the day. The movie looks at racism against blacks in college athletics.

"42" - The Story Jackie Robinson

"Birth of a Nation" - black and white movie used to justify racism at the turn of the 20th century. A classic

"Loving" - Historically based story about an interracial couple trying who were married when Virginia had a law banning miscegenation (marriage or inbreeding among different races). Mrs. Loving was an African-American/Native American mixed race woman and her husband was a white construction worker. Basis of a historic US Supreme Court Case decided in 1967 which began dismantling of the Jim Crow laws.

"GLORY" - A civil War movie about the second African American Regiment in the Union Army, the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment.

Another Documentary moderated by James Baldwin ca 1963 about San Francisco Remaster by KQED et al in 2013:

<https://diva.sfsu.edu/collections/sfbatv/bundles/216518?searchOf fset=0&mc cid=e7ca9c2e45&mc eid=e0a52f588d>

INTERESTING QUOTES:

"There are so many ways of being despicable it quite makes one's head spin. But the way to be really despicable is to be contemptuous of other people's pain." - **James Baldwin**

From President Lyndon B. Johnson on the Black protests for voting rights a few days after John Lewis and others peacefully protesting were brutalized in Selma in 1965:

"Their cause must be our cause too," Johnson said. "Because it is not just Negroes, but really it is all of us, who must overcome the crippling legacy of bigotry and injustice. And we shall overcome."

Note: The speech (LBJ's) was delivered a few days after racial violence erupted in Selma. The marchers were trying to register blacks to vote and were attacked. A white Unitarian Minister was killed.

Any real change implies the breakup of the world as one has always known it, the loss of all that gave one an identity, the end of safety. - **James A. Baldwin**

As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

- **Nelson Mandela**

"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

- **Nelson Mandela**

Forgiveness liberates the soul. It removes fear. That is why it is such a powerful weapon.

- **Nelson Mandela**

Man's goodness is a flame that can be hidden but never extinguished.

- **Nelson Mandela**

Courageous people do not fear forgiving for the sake of peace.

- **Nelson Mandela**

POETRY:

Excerpt from Poem "*All About Love: New Visions (Love Song to the Nation)*" by Bell Hooks

"When I heard cynicism instead of hope
in the voices of young and old.
I began thinking and writing about love
Cynicism is the greatest barrier to love.
It is rooted in doubt and despair.

The transformative power of love is not...embraced in our society
because we often wrongly believe
that torment and anguish are our "natural" condition.
This assumption seems to be affirmed
by the ongoing tragedy that prevails in modern society.

In a world anguished by rampant destruction,
fear prevails.

The desire to be powerful is rooted
In the intensity of fear,
Power gives us the *illusion* of having triumphed over fear,
over our need for love.
[but] lovelessness torments.

If we remain unable to surrender our attachment to power,
if any feeling of vulnerability strikes terror in our hearts,
we cannot know love
To return to love, to know perfect love,
we surrender the will to power."

A star at dawn, a drop of dew, an echo, a rainbow and a dream.

Siddhartha

These notes were prepared and compiled by W.M. Phillips III