

Reading is not for Everybody: Community volunteers are needed for future race focus book reviews and discussion events

We have tried to contact the Omaha Public Library multicultural, diversity (DEI) person responsible for helping facilitate the including race focus issues and agendas. Nevertheless, people in the apartheid public library have not responded to correspondences during the past few years. However, to our chagrin, no contact, no acknowledgment of correspondence is part of the culture of the silly hall. How is it possible in today's rapid media environment that a racial diversity public-funded functionary can ghost the community on issues central to their existence? Hence, as Malcolm X said, we should not depend upon enemies for our salvation. Moreover, I see so-called Diversity and Equity, and Inclusions professionals sidestep the concept of racism, bias, and prejudice. Moreover, such terms or not synonymous, and one could learn such terms and concepts from readings.

It is that racial focus vein we created this section. At times, we do for ourselves before we ask, whine and cry about what others are sabotaging for us.

We are looking for volunteers who will help bring light and substance to the books or an article that we should be reading to advance out the current malaise affecting too many in Trench town. Such activities and others will help develop authentic leadership instead of the self-serving gadflies who only use the word "I" when speaking about our struggle. Addle brain folks with mental health challenges also attempt to run for public office when they lack the funds for bus fares or can't afford basic living conditions. Some elders should tell such Negroes that they have mucus running from their nose before they waste our time or graphite on do-nothers or insignificant personalities. In the land of freedom of speech, freedom of thought trumps speech. If you can't speak truth to power, go to the back of the bus and do the shadow boxing that too many self-appointed experts do in this community.

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I am reminded of Rev. Tony Saunder's comments on Facebook. He was placed in "Facebook Jail." He was not allowed to engage on Facebook because he put some anti-Trump items on this social platform. My first brush was how a Rev goes to "jail" for helping our community. It's time we use our platforms, web pages, and other means instead of enabling or continuing to make racists wealthy off our backs. It is about time we promote our institutions, ideas, or agendas that help promulgate the **fight for** oppressed folks. And if those so-called Black, poverty-solving institutions or organizations are not doing the people's work, then we should rightfully call for the elimination of useless entities. Here is a list of books suggestions for future engagement for our community.

The list is not exclusive or in the order of importance, and others might have other suggestions for building the foundation for community engagement activities.

1. Fixing the Wealth Gap by Rodney A Brooks
2. Brainwashed Challenging the Myth of Black Inferiority by Tom Burrell
3. The Condemnation of Blackness: Race Crime and the Making Urban American

4. From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in Twenty-First Century by William A. Darity
5. How Jews Became White Folks and what that says about race in America by Karen Brodtkin
6. Making Negro of Christians: The Religious Instruction of the Negroes in the United States by Charles Culcock Jones Sr.
7. How White Folks Got So Rich: The Untold Story of White Supremacy. Robin D.G. Kelley
8. The New Welfare Bureaucrats: Entanglements of Race, Class and Policy Reform by Celeste Watkins-Hayes
9. Black Slaves, Indian Masters: Slavery, Emancipation and Citizenship in Native American South by Barbara Krauthamer
10. In the Shadow of the Ivory Tower: How Universities Are Plundering Our Cities by Davarian L. Baldwin
11. Etc. Other suggestions: (ARB:4-20224-2022)