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JULY

This month, I am reposting my favorite quotes on “*RACISM*,” which never seem to leave us. My wish, however, is that it will one day. I hope you will find these quotes inspirational and helpful during this period of unrest in our great nation.

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

—Martin Luther King Jr.

“Don’t hate what you don’t understand!”

—John Lennon & Yoko Ono

“No human race is superior; no religious faith is inferior. All collective judgments are wrong. Only racists make them.”

—Elie Wiesel



“When you’re sharing a foxhole with another man, you don’t worry about what color he is, just whether or not he will protect your back.”

—Lee Benson

“Ignorance and prejudice are the handmaidens of propaganda. Our mission, therefore, is to confront ignorance with knowledge, bigotry with tolerance, and isolation with the outstretched hand of generosity. Racism can, will, and must be defeated.”

—Kofi Annan

“Racism is still with us. But it is up to us to prepare our children for what they have to meet, and, hopefully we shall overcome.”

—Rosa Parks



“I wish I could say that racism and prejudice were only distant memories. We must dissent from the indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from the fear, the hatred and the mistrust...We must dissent because America can do

better, because America has no choice but to do better.”

—Thurgood Marshall

Haile Selassie said to the United Nations in October 1963, as part of a much longer speech:

"On the question of racial discrimination, the Addis Ababa Conference taught, to those who will learn, this further lesson: That until the philosophy which holds one race superior and another inferior is finally and permanently discredited and abandoned: That until there are no longer first-class and second-class citizens of any nation; That until the colour of a man's skin is of no more significance than the colour of his eyes; That until the basic human rights are equally guaranteed to all without regard to race; That until that day, the dream of lasting peace and world citizenship and the rule of international morality will remain but a fleeting illusion, to be pursued but never attained;..."



“In this country American means white. Everybody else has to hyphenate.”

—Toni Morrison

“Hating people because of their color is wrong. And it doesn’t matter which color does the hating. It’s just plain wrong.”

—Muhammad Ali

“For the master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house. They may allow us to temporarily beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change. Racism and homophobia are real conditions of all our lives in this place and time. I urge each one of us here to reach down into that deep place of knowledge inside herself and touch that terror and loathing of any difference that lives here. See whose face it wears. Then the personal as the political can begin to illuminate all our choices.”

—Audre Lorde



“Until the philosophy which holds one race superior and another inferior is finally and permanently discredited and abandoned, everywhere is war. And until there are no longer first-class and second-class citizens of any nation, until the colour of a man’s skin is of no more significance than the colour of his eyes. And until the basic human rights are equally guaranteed to all without regard to race, there is war. And until that day, the dream of lasting peace, world citizenship, rule of international morality, will remain but a fleeting illusion to be pursued, but never attained...now everywhere is war.”

—Popularized by Bob Marley in the song “War”
– Haile Selassie I, Selected Speeches



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