



The Powerbroker:

Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights

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Using this Guide



Community Cinema is a rare public forum: a space for people to gather who are connected by a love of stories, and a belief in their power to change the world. This discussion guide is designed as a tool to facilitate dialogue, and deepen understanding of the complex issues in the film *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights*. It is also an invitation to not only sit back and enjoy the show – but to step up and take action. This guide is not meant to be a comprehensive primer on a given topic. Rather, it provides important context, and raises thought provoking questions to encourage viewers to think more deeply. We provide suggestions for areas to explore in panel discussions, in the classroom, in communities, and online. We also provide valuable resources, and connections to organizations on the ground that are fighting to make a difference.

For information about the program, visit www.communitycinema.org





From the Filmmaker

I wanted to make *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights* because I felt my uncle, Whitney Young, was an important figure in American history, whose ideas were relevant to his generation, but whose pivotal role was largely misunderstood and forgotten.

In addition, I was raised by my grandparents, Whitney and Laura Young, so I felt I had a good sense of the important influences on his life—values that were important and could be shared.

My grandparents believed that despite segregation, it was important to never succumb to anger. “Don’t get mad, get smart,” they said. “Never let anyone drag you so low as to hate them.” These words of wisdom, I believe, helped Whitney Young become the great mediator of the American civil rights movement.

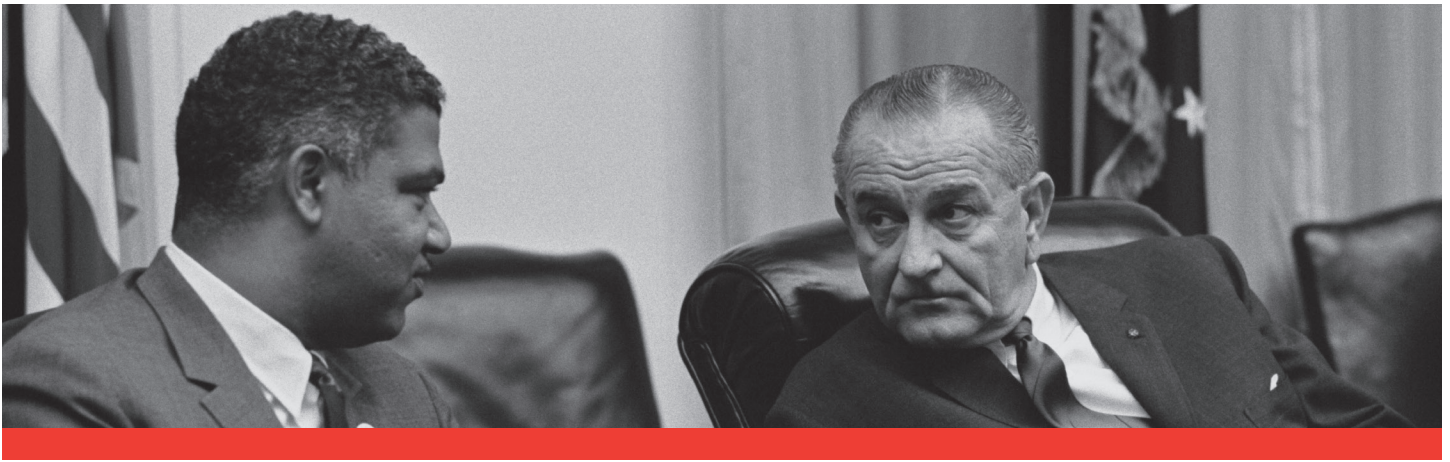
By doing this film, as corny as it sounds, I learned to never give up on my dream. I’m a naturally impatient person, but because this was so difficult to accomplish, with so many roadblocks, twists, and turns, I just had to keep going. I think I found a great home in *Independent Lens*.

I hope *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights* will inspire young people to cherish their responsibility in helping to create a more equitable society.

People should see this film because it’s a story of triumph over ignorance and hate. Generations of African Americans have passed life lessons on to their descendants, enabling those descendants to survive slavery and segregation, turning indignities into sources of courage and determination. I wanted to pass these messages on to young people of all ethnicities who still confront a polarized society.



Bonnie Boswell Hamilton
Filmmaker



The Film

Whitney Young was one of the major leaders of the civil rights movement. A man of great intellect and charm, he moved comfortably through the inner sanctums of power, working tirelessly to open opportunities for African Americans at a time when segregation was still a powerful force in many American institutions. Yet, today he is not as well remembered as other civil rights leaders, despite his many achievements on behalf of African Americans. ***The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights*** tells the story of this great, unsung hero of the civil rights movement, a man who practiced Black Power in a radically different way.

Produced by Young's niece, Bonnie Boswell Hamilton, the film uses home movies, family photos, audiotapes of Young, and never-before-seen archival footage to describe Young's journey from segregated rural Kentucky to the segregated U.S. Army, where he discovered his talent and skill in interracial mediation. Working for the National Urban League in the years following World War II, Young began to gain access to the halls of power and he learned how power works. He understood that business leaders were not swayed by moral persuasion, but by being shown the practical benefits of a new policy for business. He cultivated relationships with people in power and was able to present the case for hiring African Americans to the CEOs of companies such as Ford Motor Company, Time Inc., and PepsiCo. The more the white world trusted Young, however, the more African Americans felt uneasy about his relationships with corporate leaders. He was labeled a sellout, an "oreo," an "Uncle Tom." In time, his life was threatened, and as the Black Power movement emerged, authorities arrested two African American men who were plotting to assassinate him.

As executive director of the National Urban League during the 1960s, Young was part of a group of civil rights leaders who met with President John F. Kennedy to lobby for civil rights legislation and who planned the 1963 March on Washington. The meetings continued under President Lyndon Johnson, whose pragmatic approach to solving problems was similar to Young's. The two men had a close relationship, which became strained as the Black Power movement took hold. The Vietnam War further complicated the relationship, and also led to a split between Young and Martin Luther King Jr.

The late 1960s were difficult years for Young. While much of his "Domestic Marshall Plan" found its way into Johnson's War on Poverty, programs to help the poor were cut because of expenses for the war in Vietnam. Young was caught between the African Americans he was trying to help and a white world that was angered and frightened by the militant rhetoric of Black Power leaders and racial turbulence in the streets of the United States. Although he paved the way for a better life for African Americans, Young's untimely death in Nigeria in 1971 left a lot of his work unfinished, even to this day.

Selected Individuals Featured in The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights

Vernon Jordan – Former CEO, National Urban League

Henry Louis Gates Jr. – Professor, Harvard University

Julian Bond – Founding member, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

Kenneth Chenault – CEO, American Express

Manning Marable – Professor, Columbia University

Dennis Dickerson – Whitney Young's biographer

Victor Wolfenstein – Professor, UCLA

Bonnie Boswell Hamilton – Whitney Young's niece

Eleanor Young Love – Whitney Young's sister

Lauren Young Castel – Whitney Young's daughter

Background Information

Milestones in the Civil Rights Movement

Although most people associate the modern civil rights movement with the 1960s, African American leaders began laying the groundwork during the previous two decades for the more visible, more vocal, and ultimately more militant movement that came later. In 1941, A. Philip Randolph proposed a march on Washington, D.C. as a way of pressuring the government to integrate the armed forces and to ensure fair employment opportunities in defense industries for African Americans. During the 1940s and early 1950s, a series of legal cases resulted in rulings affecting higher education for African Americans. The following is a partial list of the civil rights events that gained widespread attention and had far-reaching effects:

1948—President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9981, integrating the armed forces.

1954—In a unanimous decision, the Supreme Court rules in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

1955—Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat to a white passenger, launching the Montgomery Bus Boycott in Alabama, which lasted over a year.

1957—Daisy Bates leads efforts to integrate Little Rock's Central High School in Arkansas, amid turbulence, white resistance, and enforcement by National Guard troops.

1960—Four African American students in Greensboro, North Carolina, stage a peaceful lunch-counter sit-in, the first of a series of sit-ins across the South.

1961—“Freedom rides” take place throughout the South to test new laws prohibiting segregation in interstate travel facilities.

1962—In Birmingham, Alabama, Commissioner of Public Safety Eugene “Bull” Connor uses fire hoses and dogs against civil rights demonstrators—images of this are published and televised widely.

1963—Over two hundred thousand people join the March on Washington (see sidebar).

1964—President Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting all discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin.

1965—A march in Alabama from Selma to Montgomery in support of voting rights is disrupted by police violence.

1965—Congress passes the Voting Rights Act of 1965, making requirements such as literacy tests and poll taxes illegal.

Source

- » www.infoplease.com/spot/civilrightstimeline1.html
- » crmvet.org

The March on Washington

The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom took place on August 28, 1963, during the centennial year of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Initiated and organized by A. Philip Randolph and his close associate, civil rights leader Bayard Rustin, the march was much larger than any other previous demonstration in the nation's capital, attracting some two hundred and fifty thousand participants. The purposes of the peaceful and orderly demonstration were to call attention to the high levels of African American unemployment in the United States and to seek a redress of a range of grievances that included the systematic disenfranchisement of African Americans and persistent segregation in the South. Marchers were rich and poor, white and African American, the well known as well as ordinary citizens. In addition to the civil rights groups that sponsored the event, other major organizations lent their weight to the effort, including the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, the American Jewish Congress, the United Auto Workers, and many other unions. The march, televised live to the nation, culminated in a gathering at the Lincoln Memorial with a program of songs sung by Marian Anderson, Odetta, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, and others, and speeches by the march's leaders, the most famous being Martin Luther King Jr.'s “I have a dream” speech.

Sources

- » www.core-online.org/History/washington_march.htm
- » mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/encyclopedia/enc_march_on_washington_for_jobs_and_freedom



Biographical Information on Whitney Young

One of the major civil rights leaders of the 1960s, Whitney Moore Young Jr. made significant contributions to the advancement of African Americans, expanding their economic opportunities, particularly in corporate America. His biography in brief follows below:

Birth: July 31, 1921, in Lincoln Ridge (Shelby County), Kentucky

Education: Earned a BS from Kentucky State University, a historically black institution; Received a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Minnesota in 1947

Personal: Married Margaret Buchner, January 2, 1944; Two daughters

Career highlights and accomplishments:

1942–1944 – Served in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of sergeant; Mediated disputes between African American soldiers and white commanders

1950 – Became president of the National Urban League’s Omaha, Nebraska, chapter; Helped expand job opportunities for African American workers; Tripled the chapter’s number of paying members

1954 – Appointed dean of the Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University) School of Social Work

1960 – Became state president of the Georgia National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Received a Rockefeller Foundation grant for a year of postgraduate study at Harvard

1961–1971 – Served as executive director of the National Urban League; Increased the number of employees from 38 to 1,600 and the budget from \$325,000 to \$6.1 million; Expanded the mission to include programs such as “Street Academy” for high school dropouts and “New Thrust” to support local African American community leaders

1969–1971 – Served as the first African American president of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

1960s – Proposed a “Domestic Marshall Plan” focused on cities and described in his book *To Be Equal* (1964), calling for \$145 billion over 10 years to eradicate ghettos and improve education, health services, and housing; His proposals were partially incorporated into President Johnson’s War on Poverty

Throughout his career – Cultivated relationships with high-level white business and political leaders in order to improve the opportunities available to African Americans

Death: Drowned while swimming in Lagos, Nigeria, March 11, 1971

Sources:

- » racerelements.about.com/od/trailblazers/a/WhitneyYoungBiography.htm
- » www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=43988

The Leaders and Their Organizations

Sometimes referred to as the “Big Six,” the civil rights leaders who appear in *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young’s Fight for Civil Rights* were the most prominent spokesmen for the movement in the 1960s. In the preceding decades, these leaders and their organizations had often worked together to advance the causes of African Americans. Despite tensions and disagreements between them during the 1960s, they provided a unified front in seeking full rights for African Americans, and until the second half of the decade, all adhered to Gandhian principles of nonviolent action.

(Note: The positions listed are those held during the 1960s.)

James L. Farmer Jr. (1920-1999), co-founder and first national director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), was born in Marshall, Texas. He graduated from Wiley College in 1938 and received a divinity degree from Howard University in 1941.

CORE was founded in 1942 by an interracial group of students as a pacifist organization that sought to change racist attitudes. The founders were influenced by Gandhi’s teachings about nonviolence, and CORE brought tactics such as sit-ins and “freedom rides” to the civil rights movement. By the late 1960s, the membership had begun advocating for a more aggressive approach, and when Farmer stepped down, he was replaced by more militant leadership.

Source:

» www.core-online.org/History/james_farmer.htm

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968), president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), was born in Atlanta, Georgia. He received a BA from Morehouse College in 1948, a divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania in 1951, and a PhD from Boston University in 1955. In 1964 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

The SCLC grew out of the Montgomery Bus Boycott that took place from December 1955 to December 1956 under King’s leadership. Founded in 1957, the SCLC adopted nonviolent mass action as its main strategy and made the SCLC open to all, regardless of race, religion, or background.

Source:

» www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html

John Lewis (1940-), chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), was born to sharecropper parents in Troy, Alabama. He was educated in Nashville, where he graduated from the American Baptist Theological Seminary and received a bachelor’s degree in Religion and Philosophy from Fisk University. Since 1987 he has served as U.S. Representative for Georgia’s Fifth Congressional District.

SNCC was founded in April 1960 by young people who had led the lunch-counter sit-ins in Greensboro, North Carolina, earlier that year. Based on a philosophy of nonviolence, SNCC became a force in the 1961 Freedom Rides and voter registration efforts. In 1965, some members began to challenge the group’s commitment to nonviolence, leading to a divisiveness that weakened the organization. As SNCC’s militancy increased, it became a target of the FBI’s Counterintelligence Program. Many of SNCC’s most dedicated members left the group, and by the late 1960s the organization had disintegrated.

Source:

» mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/encyclopedia/enc_student_nonviolent_coordinating_committee_sncc

Asa Philip Randolph (1889-1979), organizer and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP), was born in Crescent City, Florida. He was educated at Cookman Institute, an academic high school for African Americans. He abandoned theatrical ambitions to study economics at City College of New York.

BSCP represented the first serious effort to form a labor organization within the Pullman Company, a major employer of African Americans. While the organization itself did not play as prominent a role in the civil rights struggle as the others listed here, Randolph was an activist throughout his adult life, both as a labor organizer and a civil rights leader. Along with Roy Wilkins of the NAACP and Arnold Aronson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (now the Jewish Council for Public Affairs), Randolph founded the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, which has coordinated the legislative campaigns of every major civil rights law since 1957.

Source:

» blackhistory.com/content/61725/a-philip-randolph

Roy Wilkins (1901-1981), executive director of the NAACP, was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He received a degree in sociology from the University of Minnesota in 1923.

The NAACP was founded in 1909 by a group of white descendants of abolitionists and several prominent African Americans, among them W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells, and Mary Church Terrell. The organization has focused on removing barriers to racial equality through legislative and judicial processes. Through its Legal Defense and Educational Fund, headed by Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP scored many victories on behalf of economic and social justice for African Americans, including the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation case.

Source:

» www.naacp.org/pages/naacp-history-Roy-Wilkins

Whitney Young (1921-1971), executive director of the National Urban League, was born in Lincoln Ridge, Kentucky.

The National Urban League grew out of the Freedom Movement, better known as the Great Migration, when large numbers of African Americans left the South and moved to northern cities. In the early 1900s, several organizations were established to help the migrants, who were inexperienced in city living, adjust to urban life and reduce the discrimination they faced. In 1911 these groups merged to form the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, later renamed the National Urban League. Interracial in character, the League has waged a multifaceted campaign since its founding to bring educational and employment opportunities to African Americans.

Source:

» nul.iamempowered.com

From Nonviolence to Black Power

The American civil rights movement is considered one of the most successful uses of nonviolent protest to achieve specific goals. All the major civil rights organizations and their leaders adhered to precepts taught by Mahatma Gandhi, especially the principle of *satyagraha*, which is central to Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence. *Satyagraha* can be loosely translated as "truth force," and stands in contrast to both passive resistance and armed struggle. It is a weapon of the strong, and it is actively and deliberately employed, never allowing the use of violence. As a strategy for change, nonviolence involves the active withdrawal of citizens' consent and cooperation from an incumbent regime or current system. The arsenal of "weapons" available for nonviolent action is wide-ranging and includes those tactics most frequently used in the civil rights campaign, such as sit-ins, boycotts, and marches.

By 1966, some within the movement were becoming impatient with the nonviolent approach practiced by the SCLC, the NAACP, and others in the mainstream civil rights movement. The younger membership of SNCC wanted more concessions for African Americans more quickly and they adopted more radical, militant language and tactics. They criticized the moderate path the elder leaders were following and rejected desegregation as a goal, calling instead for a more defined, separate position of power for African Americans. The idea behind the Black Power movement was to unite African Americans into a political force, with an emphasis on African American self-sufficiency. Although the

Black Power movement was criticized by mainstream civil rights leaders and became a target of FBI investigations, the movement ultimately resulted in a number of positive developments (see sidebar).

Some of the major figures of the Black Power movement were

- **Stokely Carmichael (1941-1998)**—A civil rights activist who participated in the 1961 Freedom Rides; Became chairman of SNCC—after John Lewis—in 1966, and began speaking about Black Power
- **Bobby Seale (1936-)**—An activist who co-founded (with Huey Newton) the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense after the assassination of Malcolm X in 1965; One of the "Chicago Eight," charged with conspiracy and inciting to riot during the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968
- **H. Rap Brown (1943-)**—Served as SNCC chairman following Stokely Carmichael, during a period of alliance between SNCC and the Black Panthers; Currently serving a life sentence for the murder of a Fulton County (Georgia) sheriff in 2000
- **Louis Farrakhan (1933-)**—Leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI), he was second in command during the 1960s; The NOI's stated goal is the improvement of the spiritual, social, and economic conditions of African Americans; In October 1995, he organized and led the Million Man March in Washington, D.C.

Source:

» blackhistory.com/cgi-bin/blog.cgi?blog_id=62378&cid=54

Contributions of the Black Power Movement

Criticized by civil rights leaders for turning toward harsh rhetoric and more aggressive tactics, the Black Power movement nevertheless succeeded in energizing African Americans to realize their potential for personal and professional growth. While some argue that Black Power led to the isolation of the African American community by rejecting assimilation into the mainstream culture, the movement is also credited with uplifting African Americans by cultivating feelings of racial solidarity. Other ways that the movement increased Black Power were that it

- helped organize self-help groups and community organizations not dependent on whites to succeed;
- put greater emphasis on African American history and culture;
- encouraged the establishment of African American Studies programs;

- mobilized African American voters to elect African American candidates;
- led to the "Black is Beautiful" movement, helping African Americans feel pride in themselves and their appearance;
- gave rise to the Black Arts Movement, founded in Harlem by writer and activist Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones), encouraging African Americans to establish publishing houses, magazines, and art institutions.

Effects of the movement rippled beyond the African American community, as other groups—Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans—took inspiration from Black Power to deal with their own issues of identity politics and cultural expression.

Source:

» blackhistory.com/cgi-bin/blog.cgi?blog_id=62378&cid=54

How Far Have We Come?

There is no question that the civil rights movement produced major changes for African Americans and tore down barriers of discrimination in education, housing, the workplace, and the voting booth. After the election of Barack Obama as President of the United States in 2008, there was much talk of the United States now being a postracial society, one where race no longer mattered. But subsequent events have cast doubt on this feeling, and two recent polls indicate that America has not yet reached a point of true racial equality.

Looking at racial progress since the civil rights era, a 2011 *USA Today*/Gallup poll found that about 90 percent of both blacks and whites say that civil rights for African Americans have improved. But in other areas, there is not so much agreement. Here are some of the poll's findings:

- Blacks have as good a chance as whites to get any job for which they are qualified – 78 percent of whites (41 percent in 1963); 39 percent of blacks (23 percent in 1963) agree
- New civil rights laws to reduce discrimination are needed – 15 percent of whites, 52 percent of blacks agree
- Approve of interracial marriage – 83 percent of whites (17 percent in 1968); 96 percent of blacks (56 percent in 1968)
- Relations between blacks and whites “will eventually be worked out” (black responses only) – In 1963: 70 percent agree, 26 percent disagree, “would always be a problem”; In 2011: 55 percent disagree, “conflict won’t end”
- Obama’s presidency will improve race relations in the United States (all Americans) – 70 percent (2008), 35 percent (2011) agree

A 2012 Associated Press poll of racial attitudes found that racial prejudice has increased slightly in the four-year period of 2008 to 2012 from 48 percent to 51 percent, while the percent expressing pro-black attitudes has decreased.

Thus, while electing an African American president represented a sea change in American politics and racial attitudes, much more work needs to be done before the United States can call itself “postracial.”

Sources:

- » www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2011-08-17-race-equality-poll-mlk_n.htm
- » usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2011-08-17-race-poll-inside_n.htm
- » thegrio.com/2012/10/27/ap-poll-us-majority-harbor-prejudice-against-blacks

Topics and Issues Relevant to *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights*

A screening of *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights* can be used to spark interest in any of the following topics and inspire both individual and community action. In planning a screening, consider finding speakers, panelists, or discussion leaders who have expertise in one or more of the following areas:

Nonviolent protest

Segregation/integration

Race relations in the United States

Civil rights

Race and politics

African American leaders

Interracial harmony

War and race

The Black Power movement

Thinking More Deeply

1. After seeing the film, why do you think Young is not as well remembered as some of the other figures in civil rights history?
2. What do you think about Young's arguments for integration's benefits for business? What is the relevance of these points in today's world?
3. Why do you think African Americans felt uneasy about Young's closeness to the white business and political establishment?
4. What do you think about Whitney Young Sr.'s "secret curriculum" at the Lincoln Institute? Was it necessary for him to be deceptive about what the students were learning? If so, why?
5. In the film, Henry Louis Gates Jr. says that the media was responsible for the success of the civil rights movement. The media has also been given credit for helping to end the Vietnam War. Do you agree that the media can have this much influence? Why or why not? What role is the media playing in current social and political movements?
6. The media was also criticized for sensationalizing the Black Power movement and stoking fear among white Americans. In your opinion, was this criticism justified? Can you think of current examples of the media overemphasizing a local or national story and arousing strong emotions in the public?
7. Compare the effectiveness of the Black Power movement to the slower, more deliberate approach of the mainstream civil rights organizations. Did they each advance the cause of African American civil rights? If so, how?
8. Victor Wolfenstein of UCLA suggests in the film that white people fear African Americans. Do you agree? If so, what is the basis of this fear?
9. Both Young's "Domestic Marshall Plan" and President Johnson's War on Poverty placed special emphasis on preferential treatment of African Americans in order to compensate for the damage that had been done to them economically, socially, and educationally. In recent years, there have been calls to end various types of affirmative action. Do you think that affirmative action should have time limits? If so, how would you define those limits? If not, what is the justification for extending affirmative action indefinitely?
10. What effect has the presidency of Barack Obama had on racial attitudes and race relations in the United States?

Suggestions for Action

Together with other audience members, brainstorm actions that you might take as an individual and that people might do as a group. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. Work with other interested individuals to organize an interracial dialogue in your community. To help with this activity, you might consult the *One America Dialogue Guide* from President Bill Clinton's Initiative on Race, which offers comprehensive guidelines for conducting a discussion about race. Find the guide at www.racematters.org/oneamericadialogueguide.htm. Alternatively, your place of worship or a local college or university may already have a similar initiative in place and can provide the support needed for your effort.
2. In advance of the next election in your area, help to increase voter registration, especially among minority groups, young people, and women—all of whom are typically underrepresented on voter lists. Many organizations sponsor nonpartisan voter registration drives, including the League of Women Voters, the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Rock the Vote, churches, and civic groups.
3. One area where there is still a great deal of disparity is in the access to and use of digital technologies. Help to bridge the digital divide in your community by volunteering your time to help train families in setting up and using computers or by helping to make computers available to underprivileged children. Find more ideas at www.networkforgood.org/topics/education/digitaldivide.
4. Whether you want to take action on a personal level or with a group, read "Ten Things Every American Should Do to Promote Racial Reconciliation," compiled as part of President Clinton's Initiative on Race. Find the list at clinton3.nara.gov/Initiatives/OneAmerica/what.html.
5. Keep abreast of the NAACP's Action Alerts and take action on those issues that are especially important to you. Find out about other ways to get involved in the NAACP by contacting the local chapter. Get details at www.naacp.org.
6. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) welcomes the participation of volunteers in its mission to promote economic justice and civil rights. Find a chapter in your area at [atm.net/content/sclc/pdf/2005/chapter\[1\].directory.2005.pdf](http://atm.net/content/sclc/pdf/2005/chapter[1].directory.2005.pdf) and learn how you can be involved.
7. The National Urban League offers numerous volunteer opportunities for those interested in supporting its national programs and those of its local affiliates. To get involved, visit nul.iamempowered.com, where you can also find a list of local affiliates.
8. What is the most pressing civil rights issue in your community? Poll your community and join together with other interested individuals to discuss a plan of action, which might include letters to the editor, lobbying elected officials, a community forum, or other appropriate measures.
For additional outreach ideas, visit www.itvs.org, the website of the Independent Television Service (ITVS). For local information, check the website of your PBS station.

Resources

www.whitneyyoungfilm.com – The official website for *The Powerbroker: Whitney Young's Fight for Civil Rights* contains biographical information about Whitney Young and examples of his legacy.

www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Whitney_M._Jr._Young.aspx – This online encyclopedia entry contains details on much of Young's work in business and civil rights.

www.history.com/topics/civil-rights-movement – This website contains comprehensive information on the civil rights movement.

nul.iamempowered.com – The mission of the National Urban League is to enable African Americans to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights.

www.naacp.org – The NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. From the ballot box to the classroom, the NAACP continues to fight for social justice for all Americans.

sclcnational.org – The SCLC is a national civil rights organization whose mission is to promote spiritual principles within its membership; to promote personal responsibility, leadership potential, and community service; to ensure economic justice and civil rights; and to eradicate environmental classism and racism wherever they exist.

www.congressofracialequality.org – The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) fights for the rights and interests of minorities and the impoverished and works to bring about nonviolent social, political, and economic change for the underprivileged.

www.civilrights.org – The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights is a coalition of more than two hundred national organizations that promotes and protects the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States through legislative advocacy and outreach to targeted constituencies.

www.commondreams.org/views05/0331-31.htm – Common Dreams is a national nonprofit news center and citizens' organization committed to encouraging critical thinking and civic action on a diverse range of social, economic, and civil rights issues affecting individuals and their communities.

www.aeinstein.org – The Albert Einstein Institution is a nonprofit organization advancing the study and use of strategic nonviolent action in conflicts throughout the world.

www.peacemagazine.org/198.htm – This website lists 198 methods of nonviolent action from *The Methods of Nonviolent Action* by political scientist Gene Sharp.

www.dadalos.org/int/Vorbilder/Vorbilder/gandhi/satyagraha.htm – This website supported by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) provides an explanation of Gandhi's principle of satyagraha.

www.mapsofindia.com/personalities/gandhi/satyagarh.html – This website provides a more detailed explanation of satyagraha.

Credits

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ITVS

The Independent Television Service (ITVS) funds, presents, and promotes award-winning independently produced documentaries and dramas on public television and cable, innovative new media projects on the internet, and the Emmy Award-winning series *Independent Lens* on PBS. ITVS receives core funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation funded by the American people.

Learn more at www.itvs.org