



EDUCATING OURSELVES ABOUT RACE

A LIST OF THINGS TO

**READ
WATCH
LISTEN TO**

**TO HELP US
UNDERSTAND WHY THE
BLACK LIVES MATTER
MOVEMENT IS
SO IMPORTANT**

**"YOU EITHER HAVE TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION,
OR YOU'RE GOING TO BE PART OF THE PROBLEM."**

- ELDRIDGE CLEAVER

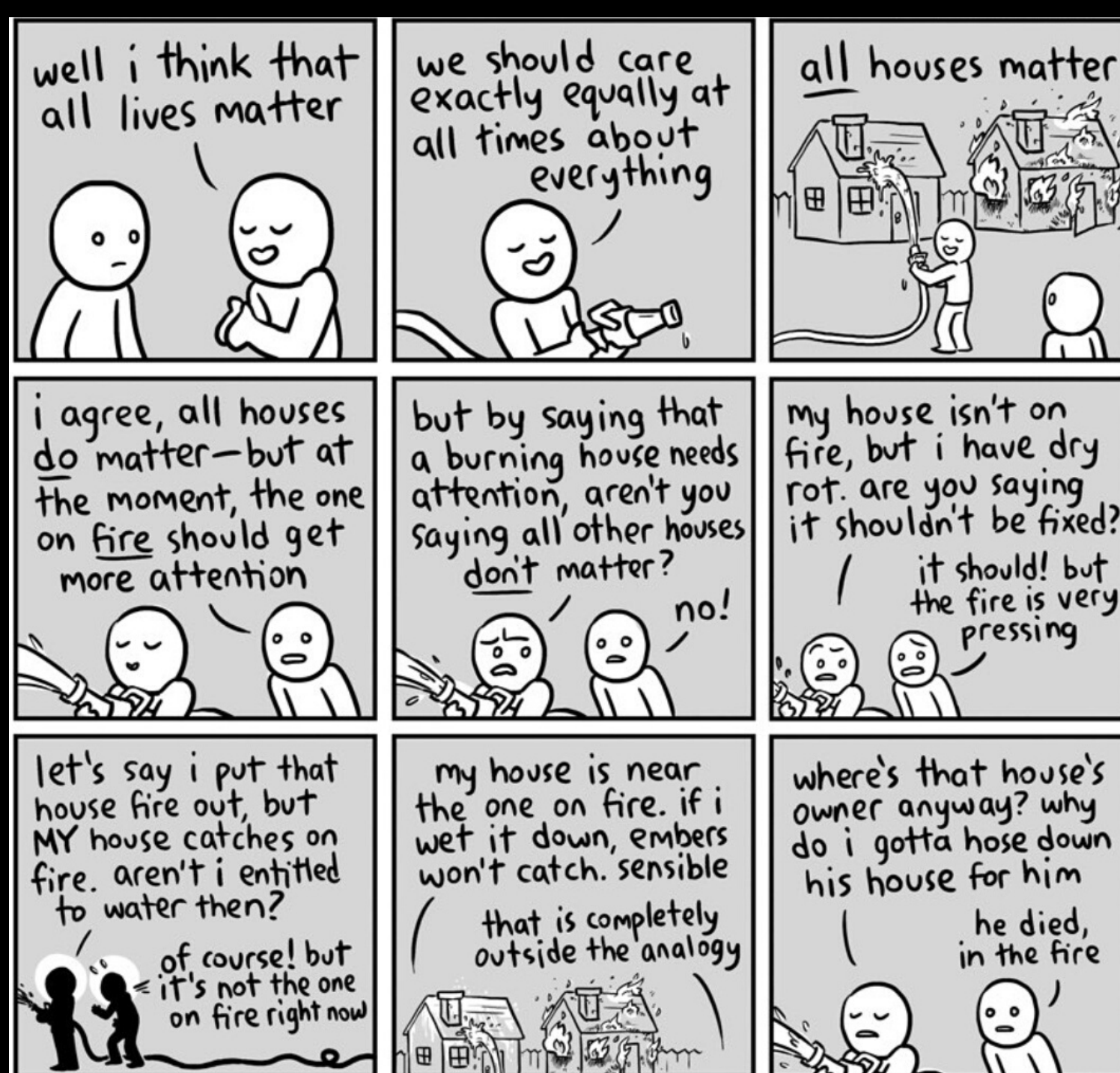
I'm sure you've seen lots in the news and on social media recently about the murder of George Floyd and the protests that have been taking place, in America and around the world. Perhaps some of you even took part in BlackOutTuesday or have posted under the hashtag of BlackLivesMatter. I'm sure we all agree that racism is awful and that no one should be discriminated against for the colour of their skin or their cultural heritage. However, posting a black square on Instagram isn't really enough. Nor is just being 'not racist'. We must strive to be 'anti-racist' and actively educate ourselves so that we can challenge the entrenched racism that still pervades our society.

The American writer, Scott Woods said this, which I think is really important:
 'Yes, racism looks like hate, but hate is just one manifestation. Privilege is another. Access is another. Ignorance is another. Apathy is another. And so on.'

This can be really hard to accept, especially when we think we are good people who strive to treat people equally and compassionately.

It can also be tricky to understand why people are so passionate about the 'Black Lives Matter' movement, specifically. You might have seen people posting things like 'All Lives Matter' or reacting negatively to the protests.

However, this post is helpful for understanding that:



Racism is awful, in all forms. But the reason that the 'Black Lives Matter' movement is so crucial, is because it isn't just a reaction to random acts of hate by individuals against individuals. Instead, it is a reaction to systematic racism, that dates back to the slavery of African peoples. Yes, obviously all lives matter, but the lives of black people are disproportionately at risk as a result of the systems that are put in place supposedly to protect society. And that is why we must strive to educate ourselves, so that we don't inadvertently become part of that insidious problem.

To help a little with that, I've put together a list of things you could read, watch or listen to, if you are interested in increasing your awareness of these issues. I've grouped them into things that are suitable for KS3, KS4 and KS5. Obviously, you don't have to be restricted to these categories entirely, but I have grouped things according to which age it is suitable for – if you are interested in something aimed at older students, perhaps check with someone at home first that it is appropriate for you, as some of the content can be quite distressing. Equally, if you are in KS4 or KS5, take a look at the recommendations for the groups below you too, as there's still lots you would find interesting.

If you read or watch or listen to something – whether or not it is on the list – and want to reflect or discuss it further, you can always email me: vwaddoups@taptonschool.co.uk. It'd be good to hear your thoughts!

KS3

THINGS YOU COULD READ

Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry – Mildren D Taylor

The Boy at the Back of the Class – Onjali Q. Rauf

Lies We Tell Ourselves – Robin Talley

The Other Side of Truth – Beverley Naidoo

To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee

Noughts & Crosses – Malorie Blackman

We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide – Carol Anderson and Tonya Bolden

Resist – Veronica Chambers

All American Boys – Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You – Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds

THINGS YOU COULD WATCH

The Butler

Hidden Figures

Selma

The Help

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Remember the Titans

The Secret Life of Bees

Not All Superheroes Wear Capes: How You Have the Power to Change the World (Youtube)

THINGS YOU COULD LISTEN TO

Why is February Black History Month?

(<https://www.nonfictionminute.org/the-nonfiction-minute/why-is-february-black-history-month>)

A podcast about Bessie Coleman

(<https://invisiblenotbroken.com/i-cant-believe-that-happened-history-podcast-for-kids/2019/2/27/bessie-coleman-aviation-history-black-history-month>)

KS4

THINGS YOU COULD READ

Pigeon English – Stephen Kelman

The Hate U Give – Angie Thomas

I know Why the Caged Bird Sings – Maya Angelou

Twelve Years a Slave – Solomon Northrup

Uncle Tom's Cabin – Harriet Beecher Stowe

Girl, Woman, Other – Bernadine Evaristo

Americanah – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Natives – Akala

The Good Immigrant – Nikesh Shukla

They Can't Kill Us All – Wesley Lowery

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race – Reni Eddo-Lodge

Don't Touch My Hair – Emma Dabiri

How to Be Antiracist – Ibram X. Kendi

THINGS YOU COULD WATCH

13th

I am Not Your Negro

Dear White People

The Hate U Give

Twelve Years a Slave

The Danger of a Single Story – Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche

What Happens When I Try to Talk About Race with White People (Youtube)

White People, Enough (Youtube)

Let's Get to the Root of Racial Injustice (Youtube)

THINGS YOU COULD LISTEN TO

About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge (<https://www.aboutracepodcast.com/trailer>)

Black Lives Matter playlist – Spotify

KS5

THINGS YOU COULD READ

The Color Purple – Alice Walker

Invisible Man – Ralph Ellison

Their Eyes Were Watching God – Zora Neale Hurston

Beloved – Toni Morrison

Things Fall Apart – Chinua Achebe

Me and White Supremacy – Layla F. Saad

Brit(ish) – Afua Hirsch

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness – Michelle Alexander

Freedom Is A Constant Struggle – Angela Davis

Dark Days – James Baldwin

Between the World and Me – Ta-Nehisi Coates

White Fragility – Robin Deangelo

Queenie – Candice Carty-Williams

White Girls – Hilton Als

Your Silence Will Not Protect You – Audre Lorde

So You Want to Talk About Race – Ijeoma Oluo

Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice – Paul Kivel

Diversify – June Sarpong

Black and British: A Forgotten History – David Olusoga

I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness – Austin Channing Brown

THINGS YOU COULD WATCH

When They See Us

Do the Right Thing

If Beale Street Could Talk

Angela Davis on Intersectional Antiracism (https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=IBgdzK3jfEq&feature=emb_title)

THINGS YOU COULD LISTEN TO

1619 (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/podcasts/1619-podcast.html>)

Code Switch (<https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/?t=1591199383933>)