Conversation on Race


February 19, 2021
Conversations on Race Town Halls began in 2018 as an effort to have open and honest conversations about race in our community. Since then, we have held 5 events with the public and presented the idea twice to our colleagues in Congress. Professor John Powell also participated in each of these events.

- April 2019 with Rep. Barbara Lee in Berkeley
- July 2019 meeting with Democratic colleagues in the House
- June 2020 call with Democratic colleagues in the House
- July 2020 virtually
- September 2020 with Reps. Barbara Lee and Jackie Speier virtually
Racial Disparities: By the Numbers

► **Income** - In 2019, the median household income for White households was $91,000. For African Americans, it was $57,000 and for Hispanics it was $59,100.

► **Poverty** - African Americans are nearly 3x as likely as White Americans to live in poverty. In 2011, 10% of White Americans were poor, compared with 28% of African Americans, 25% of Hispanics, and 12% of Asians.

► **Homeownership** - In 2019, 75% of White households owned their own homes, compared with 46% of African American households, 61% of Asian households, and 50% of Hispanic households.

All statistics are national
Racial Disparities: By the Numbers

- **Education** - In 2012, 92% of White adults, 86% of African American adults, 65% of Hispanic adults, and 89% of Asian adults had at least a high school education.

- **Life Expectancy** - White life expectancy at birth exceeds African American life expectancy at birth by nearly four years, according to data from the National Center for Health Statistics.

- **Incarceration Rate** - In 2010, African American men were more than 6x as likely as white men to be incarcerated.

All statistics are national
### Contra Costa County Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
<td>82.1%</td>
<td>65.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
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Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-13)

Congresswoman Barbara Lee has served in Congress since 1998. Prior to coming to Congress, Congresswoman Lee served in the California State Assembly. Throughout her career she has been dedicated to addressing poverty and diversity.
Congressman Emanuel Cleaver (MO-05)

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II is now serving his ninth term representing Missouri’s Fifth Congressional District. Having served for twelve years on the city council of Missouri’s largest municipality, Kansas City, Cleaver was elected as the city’s first African American Mayor in 1991.
Professor John Powell
UC Berkeley

John a. powell is an internationally recognized expert in the areas of civil rights and civil liberties and a wide range of issues including race, structural racism, ethnicity, housing, poverty, and democracy. Professor powell leads the UC Berkeley Othering & Belonging Institute.
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