

# WRESTLING WITH WHITENESS



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# RACIAL RECONCILIATION?

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RACIAL UNITY



EMBRACING EACH OTHER?



WHAT DOES THE STORY OF JACOB AND ESAU HAVE TO TEACH US ABOUT HOW RACISM WORKS AND THE PROCESS OF WORKING TO DISMANTLE RACIST SYSTEMS?

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*The Birth of Jacob and Esau* bronze relief, 8¼" x 18"

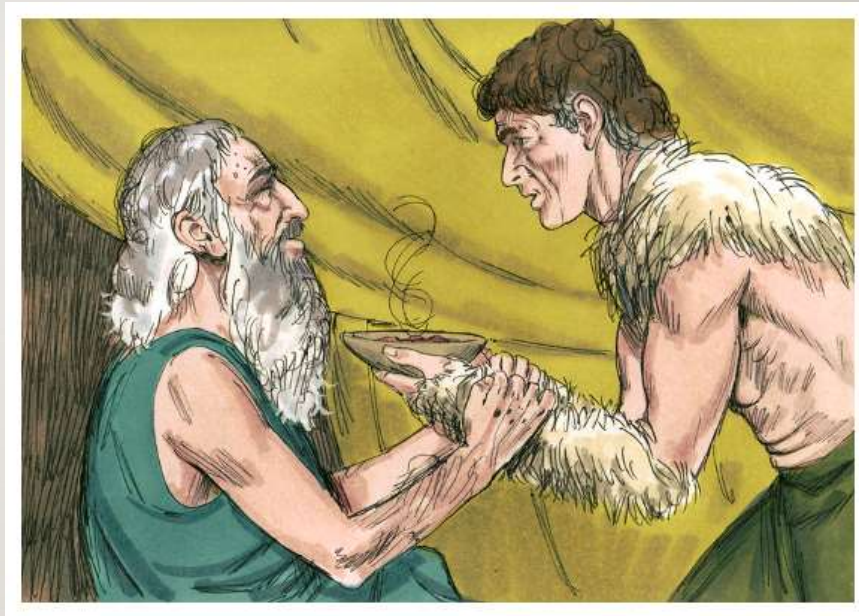


## JACOB & ESAU

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This is a story about power and privileges:

Jacob is judged for his deceit but also celebrated for his cunning...



# LIVING IN FEAR OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN DISADVANTAGED

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# JACOB WRESTLES

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# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY MEET?

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# WHAT DOES WRESTLING WITH WHITENESS LOOK LIKE?

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## HOW DOES WHITENESS OPERATE?

Remember how Jacob was an expert at coming up with ways to get his way...Whiteness has been very resilient at re-exerting itself in our society

### Overt White Supremacy (Socially Unacceptable)

Lynching  
Hate Crimes  
Blackface The N-word  
Swastikas Neo-Nazis Burning Crosses  
Racist Jokes Racial Slurs KKK

### Covert White Supremacy (Socially Acceptable)

Calling the Police on Black People White Silence Colorblindness  
White Parents Self-Segregating Neighborhoods & Schools  
Eurocentric Curriculum White Savior Complex Spiritual Bypassing  
Education Funding from Property Taxes Discriminatory Lending  
Mass Incarceration Respectability Politics Tone Policing  
Racist Mascots Not Believing Experiences of BIPOC Paternalism  
"Make America Great Again" Blaming the Victim Hiring Discrimination  
"You don't sound Black" "Don't Blame Me, I Never Owned Slaves" Bootstrap Theory  
School-to-Prison Pipeline Police Murdering BIPOC Virtuous Victim Narrative  
Higher Infant & Maternal Mortality Rate for BIPOC "But What About Me?" "All Lives Matter"  
BIPOC as Halloween Costumes Racial Profiling Denial of White Privilege  
Prioritizing White Voices as Experts Treating Kids of Color as Adults Inequitable Healthcare  
Assuming Good Intentions Are Enough Not Challenging Racist Jokes Cultural Appropriation  
Eurocentric Beauty Standards Anti-Immigration Policies Considering AAVE "Uneducated"  
Denial of Racism Tokenism English-Only Initiatives Self-Appointed White Ally  
Exceptionalism Fearing People of Color Police Brutality Fetishizing BIPOC Meritocracy Myth  
"You're So Articulate" Celebration of Columbus Day Claiming Reverse-Racism Paternalism  
Weaponized Whiteness Expecting BIPOC to Teach White People Believing We Are "Post-Racial"  
"But We're All One Big Human Family" / "There's Only One Human Race" Housing Discrimination



# DREAMS & LADDERS

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## THE LADDER

**Community of Love and Resistance**

**Collective Action**

**Taking Responsibility / Self-Righteousness**  
white can do right / especially me

**Open Up / Acknowledgement**  
Houston, we've got a problem

**Guilt and Shame**  
white is not right / I'm bad

**Denial and Defensiveness**  
I am not the problem

**Be Like Me**  
we're all the same, you're the problem

**What Are You?**  
first contact

**I'm Normal**

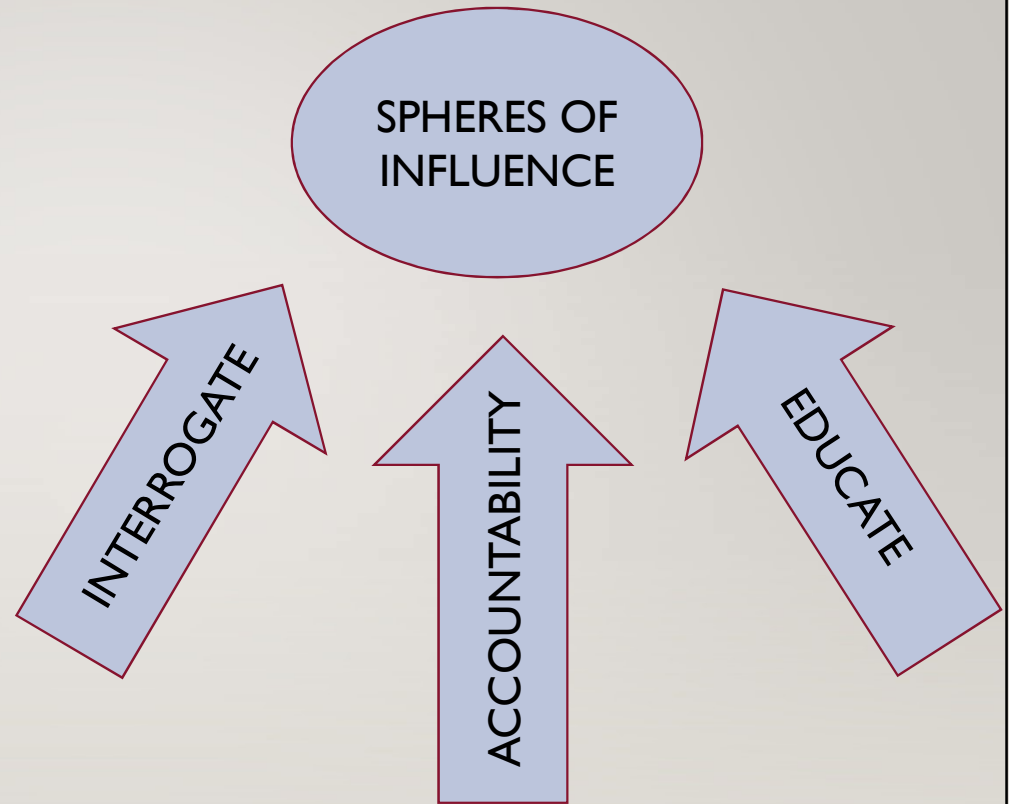
# TAKING ACTION

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“CALLING IN”

VS.

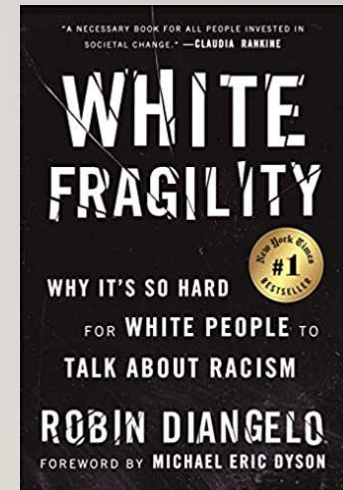
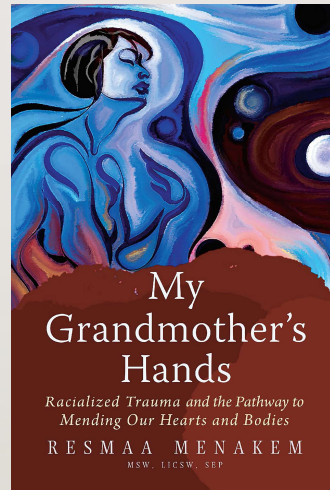
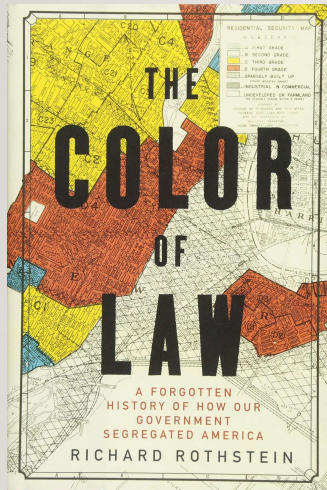
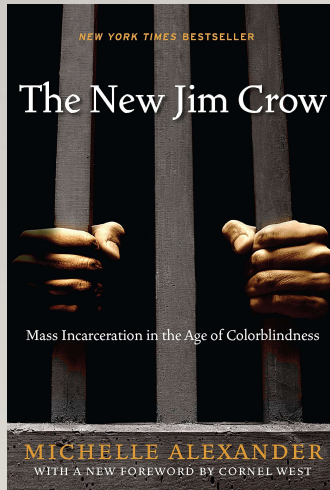
“CALLING OUT”





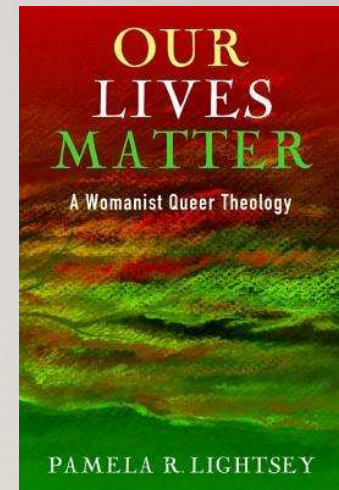
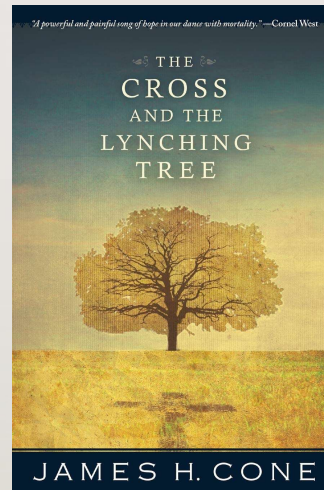
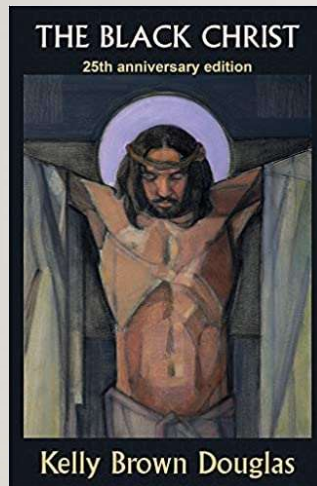
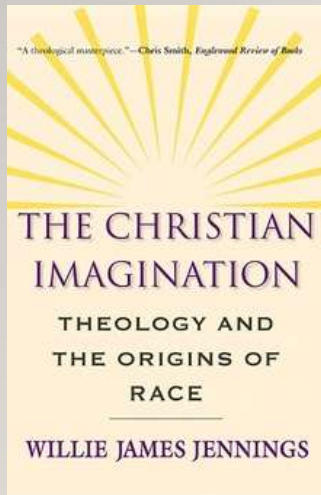
# EDUCATE YOUR AWARENESS

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# INTERROGATE YOUR THEOLOGY

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# THE ONGOING LEGACY OF RACISM IN AMERICA...

EDDIE GLAUDE, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

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# DISCUSSION

