

Finding Your Space in the Fight Against Racism

About This Resource:

What is your role in the fight against racism? You may not have the financial means to donate to an antiracist organization, feel comfortable attending a protest, or march for justice. However, everyone can locate a space in which they can operate to amplify antiracist voices, ideas, or policies. According to Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, an antiracist is “one who is supporting an antiracist policy through their actions or expressing an antiracist idea.” Use this resource to explore how you can use your unique strengths, access, and privileges to position yourself in the fight against racism.

1. **Think about your strengths.** In what spaces do you excel? People in your life may explicitly affirm your strengths, or your strengths may manifest themselves through the roles that you tend to assume. If you are an educator, you are likely skilled at helping people understand and apply information. How might you leverage this or other skills to combat the spread of racism and racist ideas?
2. **Identify your abilities.** While we may take our capabilities for granted, it is essential to acknowledge that not everyone can do what you can do! Can you speak in front of a crowd without fear or impediment? Are you inspired to create poetry or artwork? Are you physically and mentally well? Talents or abilities that may seem mundane might serve to amplify the work of antiracism!
3. **Consider the individuals and resources to which you have access.** By virtue of your connections - personal, professional, familial, or otherwise - you may have access to resources and/or individuals to which other people do not. How can you use this access to strategically position antiracist ideas in spaces where they can reach audiences who would not otherwise hear them?
4. **Outline your sphere of influence.** Defining your sphere of influence may require a careful analysis of your identity, role in various social groups, and your position within groups or organizations. Are there specific



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individuals or groups with whom your voice carries significant weight? Consider the ideas, plans, or policies that you have a role in shaping. How could you use this influence to stand up against racism?

5. **Assess your privileges.** You likely have already begun to identify some of your privileges that stem from your abilities, access, and influence. Do you have other opportunities that might uniquely position you to propel antiracist ideas forward? Consider your level of education, socioeconomic status, race, and other characteristics that might be advantageous in spreading antiracist ideas.
6. **Reflect on your passions.** What brings you joy? Although antiracist work can be substantial, you might be surprised to find that your emotions can fuel your activism! Channeling your passions into the fight against racism can feed your soul while you are making a difference. How might your hobbies, talents, or passions leave an antiracist mark on the world?

Now that you've analyzed the attributes that might inform your work, use the graphic below to map out your unique space in the fight against racism.



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