

# THIS IS THE MOMENT

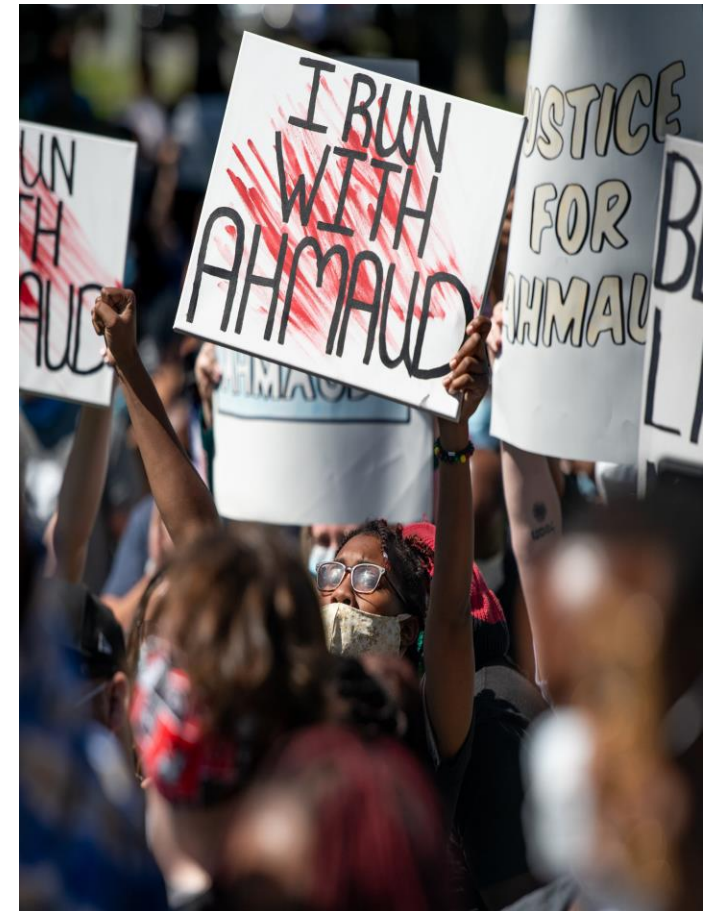
CITYLAB

## The Toxic Intersection of Racism and Public Space

For black men like Christian Cooper, the threat of a call to police casts a cloud of fear over parks and public spaces that others associate with safety.

By [Brentin Mock](#)

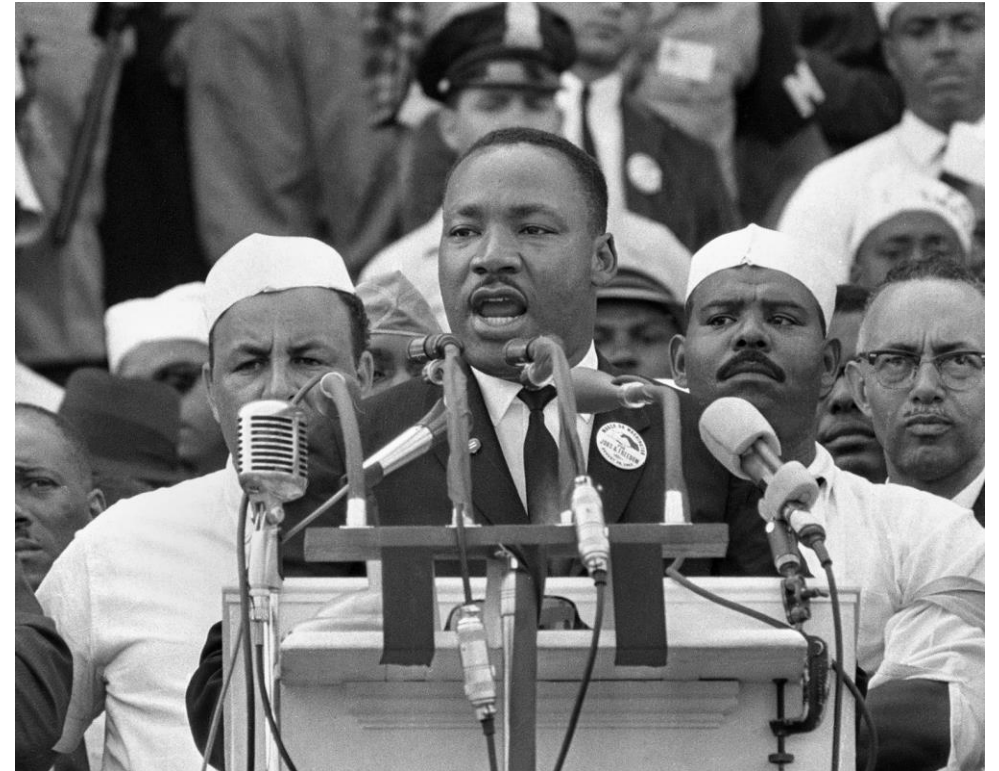
May 26, 2020, 7:37 PM EDT



# THE URGENCY OF NOW

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with **the fierce urgency of now**. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there 'is' such a thing as being too late. **This is no time for apathy or complacency**. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King



# MOVING TOWARDS JUSTICE

“Social justice is the virtue which guides us in creating those organized human interactions we call institutions. In turn, social institutions, when justly organized, provide us with access to what is good for the person, both individually and in our associations with others. **Social justice also imposes on each of us a personal responsibility to work with others to design and continually perfect our institutions** as tools for personal and social development.”

-- Center for Economic and Social Justice



# EQUITY IN PRACTICE

1. Perspective Transformation
- 2. Examine Background and Bias**
- 3. Question Power, Privilege, and Oppression**
- 4. Center Equity**
5. Engage Community
6. Assess Benefits and Burdens
- 7. Guard Against Dominant Culture Being Thinking**

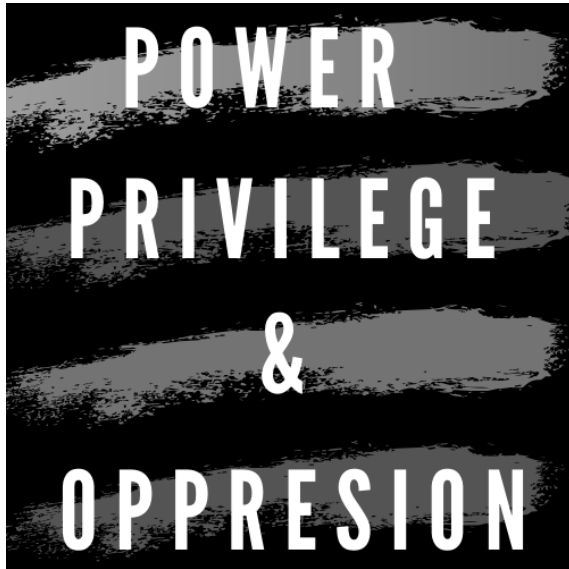


# EXAMINE BACKGROUND AND BIAS

1. What were my racial experiences or interactions growing up?
2. With whom do I feel safest?
3. Who feels safest around me?
4. Who is in my current sphere of influence?
5. Could anything I believe about another group of people untrue?  
How would I know?
6. Do I practice cultural humility?
7. Am I taking the steps to become anti-racist?



# QUESTION POWER PRIVILEGE AND OPPRESSION



1. What role has power played in today's society?
2. What does privilege mean to me?
3. In what ways have I been/experienced privileged (what opportunities have been afforded to me that I benefited from but did not earn on my own?)
4. In what ways has my privilege hurt or harmed others?
5. How can I interrupt the cycle of oppression, personally and professionally?
6. What does yielding my power and using my privilege for the good of oppressed groups mean to me?
7. How am I balancing power?
8. What makes me uncomfortable about my privilege?

# GUARD AGAINST DOMINANT CULTURE THINKING

1. What values have I placed on cultural norms associated with whiteness?
2. In what ways have I failed to value the cultural norms associated with other groups?
3. What would it look like (or what would need to change) if I used justice and fairness (equity) as the standard by which I make decisions?



**RIGHT  
&  
WRONG**

# SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL



A Social-Ecological Model for Physical Activity - Adapted from Heise, L., Ellsberg, M., & Gottemoeller, M. (1999)

1. Everything is connected
2. Behavior is influenced by everything from genes (at the individual level) to the political environment (at the public policy level)
3. Systems are made up of many "I"
  - a. Cannot understand the whole without recognizing the role of each component within the system



# READY FOR (COLLECTIVE) ACTION...

"There is a power that can be created out of pent-up indignation, courage, and the inspiration of a common cause, and that if enough people put their minds and bodies into that cause, they can win. It is a phenomenon recorded again and against in the history of popular movements against injustice all over the world."

~ Howard Zinn

