How Race Works and What it Means for the Church
Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
Racialized Society

- Race matters profoundly for differences in life EXPERIENCES, life OPPORTUNITIES, and social RELATIONSHIPS.

- Rewards allocated UNEQUALLY by racial group.
RACE IN THE U.S.

More of Society’s Rewards

WHITES

ASIAN

Foreign

American

HISPANICS

BLACKS

Less of Society’s Rewards

NATIVE AMERICANS
Median Income of Males With Income in 2008 Dollars by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin (1990 to 2008)
- Differential Returns on Education
Forbes Richest 400 Americans, 2010

387 are white
9 are Asian
3 are Hispanic
1 is African American
0 are Native American

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Gates</th>
<th>Warren Buffet</th>
<th>Larry Ellison</th>
<th>Christy Walton</th>
<th>Charles Koch</th>
<th>David Koch</th>
<th>Jim Walton</th>
<th>Alice Walton</th>
<th>Robson Walton</th>
<th>Michael Bloomberg</th>
<th>Sergey Brin</th>
<th>Larry Page</th>
<th>Sheldon Adelson</th>
<th>George Soros</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Dell</td>
<td>Steve Balmer</td>
<td>Paul Allen</td>
<td>Jeff Bezos</td>
<td>Ann Chambers</td>
<td>John Paulson</td>
<td>Donald Bren</td>
<td>Abigail Johnson</td>
<td>Phil Knight</td>
<td>Carl Icahn</td>
<td>Ron Perelman</td>
<td>Rich Kinder</td>
<td>John Mars</td>
<td>Jacqueline Mars</td>
</tr>
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</table>
US is racialized in at least the following areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) health</th>
<th>(2) death</th>
<th>(3) employment</th>
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<tr>
<td>(4) marriage</td>
<td>(5) occupation</td>
<td>(6) life expectancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) crime</td>
<td>(8) persnl &amp; social identity</td>
<td>(9) advertising</td>
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<td>(10) names</td>
<td>(11) education</td>
<td>(12) neighborhoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(13) auto loan rates</td>
<td>(14) SES &amp; spatial mobility</td>
<td>(15) consumerism</td>
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<tr>
<td>(16) respect</td>
<td>(17) expectations</td>
<td>(18) music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(19) religion</td>
<td>(20) cost of products</td>
<td>(21) mortgage rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(22) history</td>
<td>(23) TV watching</td>
<td>(24) wealth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25) property values</td>
<td>(26) politics</td>
<td>(27) entrepreneurship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(28) access to hi-qual affordable products</td>
<td>(29) self-esteem</td>
<td>(30) product mark-up prices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(31) env pollution, haz waste</td>
<td>(32) social networks</td>
<td>(33) school lunch tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(34) child poverty</td>
<td>(35) standardized exams</td>
<td>(36) language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(37) crim. justice</td>
<td>(38) generational mobility</td>
<td>(39) respect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Four Steps in Modern Era

- De-colorate
- Segregate
- Incarcerate
- Alienate
De-colorate

- Color Blind Ideology
- Outgrowth of 1960s
- Firm hold since 1980
Segregate
Distribution of Urban Poor by Neighborhood Poverty Rate
A Real World Example: Milwaukee, 1971-1993

For Whites and Blacks, if in 1971 home worth $40,000

In 1993, that same house for Whites $250,000

In 1993, that same house for Blacks worth: $32,000

Emerson’s Neighborhood

80% African American
16% Latino
4% Other

Source: 2010 U.S. Census
Built/Purchased in 2006 $273,000
Sales Agreement Sept 2012 $225,000
Appraised Sept 2012 $160,000

Net Gain: $-113,000
Wealth Differences 2002

- Black Median Net Worth: 6,000
- Hispanic Median Net Worth: 8,000
- White Median Net Worth: 90,000
- White/Hispanic Ratio: 11.25 (10.0 1988)
- White/Black Ratio: 15.00 (11.8 1988)

http://www.prospect.org/cs/articles?article=race_wealth_and_intergenerational_poverty
Wealth Differences Over Time

- Followed same 2000 black and white families from 1984 to 2007, examining changes in the racial wealth gap.
- Found a 4 fold-increase in the gap over this time.
As of 2012

Whites have:

50% more wealth than Asians

18 times more wealth than Hispanics

20 times more wealth than African Americans

Based on U.S Census Bureau Figures
Racial Comp of U.S. Congregations, 1998

Homogeneous

93%

Racially Mixed

7%
Racial Comp of U.S. Congregations, 2007

Homogeneous: 93%
Racially Mixed: 7%
How Segregated are U.S. Congregations?

Congregations are

10 times less diverse
than the neighborhoods they sit in.

And they are

20 times less diverse
than public schools.
Incarcerate
Changes in Criminal Justice System

Created War on Drugs

  Created mandatory sentencing for drug possession

Results since 1980:

  Number of annual drug arrests tripled
  Number of annual drug arrests resulting in prison sentence quadrupled
  1100% increase in population imprisoned for drug offenses

Prison population 1980: 300,000
Prison population 2010: 2,300,000

Today, more than 7,000,000 Americans behind bars, on probation, or on parole

MORE THAN 31 MILLION DRUG ARRESTS SINCE WAR ON DRUGS DECLARED
Racial Implications of Changes

Fact 1: Whites are majority of drug users
Fact 2: Similar rates of use and selling by racial group, except white youth, who use at higher rate

Yet: Black men sent to prison on drug charges at rate 13x white men
Yet: 75% of all people imprisoned for drug offenses are black or Latino

Changes in Incarceration Rates since 1983:
- For whites, 8 times greater
- For Latinos, 22 times greater
- For blacks, 26 times greater

Black and Hispanic Men under 35:
ABOUT 1/3 WILL BE BEHIND BARS, ON PROBATION, OR ON PAROLE AT SOME POINT IN LIFE
If convicted of felony drug offense or imprisoned

* No student loans
* Cannot live in public housing
* Cannot serve on juries
* Cannot vote for at least 12 years
* Severely limited employment opportunities
* Much more likely to be sent back to prison
* Closed circuit of perpetual marginality
Alienate

Illegal ALIEN
not "illegal immigrant"

e-Claire
Immigration Crisis

Immigration at the Crossroads 2012
### Enforcement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>No Documentation!</strong></th>
<th><strong>Raid and Audit!</strong></th>
<th><strong>Enforce and Deport!</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No driver's licenses and more uninsured drivers</td>
<td>Pushes undocumented into cash economy</td>
<td>Splits up families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indentured servants</td>
<td>Increases uninsured, underpaid population</td>
<td>Disrupts communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ER only medical choice</td>
<td>Penalizes businesses who try to comply</td>
<td>Kids live in fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education suffers</td>
<td>Deprives government of tax revenues</td>
<td>Detention facilities are overflowing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gangs offer main alternative</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over-burdened social agencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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How Race Works Today

- De-colorate
- Segregate
- Incarcerate
- Alienate
Health & Social Problems Closely Related to Inequality among Rich Countries

Problems = Trust level, mental illness, substance addiction, life expectancy, infant mortality, obesity, children’s educational performance, teen births, homicides
“We will be greatly misled if we feel that the [race] problem will work itself out. Structures of evil do not crumble by passive waiting. . . . Evil must be attacked by a counteracting persistence, by the day-to-day assault of the battering rams of justice.”

Where Do We Go From Here, 1967, p. 128.
Strategy for Healing the Brokenness

1. Determine that one role as religious organizations and people is to work for justice and reconciliation

2. Work across level and type
## Approaches to Change

### Focus of Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Change</th>
<th>INTERNAL</th>
<th>EXTERNAL</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL</td>
<td>*Heart Conversion</td>
<td>*Educational Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Personal Study</td>
<td>*Job Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL STRUCTURAL</td>
<td>*Diversify Organization</td>
<td>*Immigration Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Theology of Justice</td>
<td>*Advocate for Changed CJ Laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Dinners of 6</td>
<td></td>
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Strategy for Healing the Brokenness

1. Determine that one role as religious organizations and people is to work for justice and reconciliation.

2. Develop focus by considering level and type.

3. TRINITY is our key: Unity in Diversity. Go not alone. Be part of a religious movement.
Unstoppable