Background

Since 1960, the ethnic and racial statistics show decrease in the number of caucasian people, and an increase in those identifying as black, Hispanic/Latin-x, Asian and multiracial. Projections expect that this trend will continue through 2060.

Chelmsford too enjoys an increase in diversity since 2010.

Such an increase in diversity is something to be celebrated. However, it seems in recent years that animosity between people of different racial or ethnic identity has increased.

How do reverse this trend and return to working toward a more united people?

Where do racial injustices exist in your community and in society as a whole?

Why is protecting equity and opportunity for all people important to our country?

What measures can we take to increase equity and opportunity in America?

* Drawn from statistics available from the U.S. Census Bureau www.census.gov

Related Films:

- **13th (2016)** by Ava DuVernay: examines the system of mass incarceration which disproportionately affects African Americans
- **Central Park Five (2012)**: A Ken Burns film about a wrongful conviction that persisted for 13 years.
- **Fruitvale Station (2013)**: Follows a day in the life of a young black man in Oakland California until tragedy strikes.
- **Get Out (2017)**: Framed as a horror film, this film highlights the underlying prejudices that prevent us from embracing people of different backgrounds.
- **The Graduates (2013)**: Explores the issue of increasing drop out rates among Latin-x high school students.
- **The Hate U Give (2018)**: The film adaptation of the young adult novel about a teen drawn to activism after the murder of her childhood friend.
- **Skate Kitchen (2018)**: A film that follows a diverse group of girl skaters through the urban landscape of New York City.
- **Whose Streets? (2017)**: An account of the Ferguson uprising as told by the people who lived it.

Related Podcasts:

- **Serial S.3 (2018)**
- **Justice in America (2018)**
- **The Appeal (2018)**
- **News Beat S.3 (2018)**
READ

**The Classics**
- The Fire Next Time, by James Baldwin
- Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison
- The Souls of Black Folk, by W.E.B. DuBois
- Why We Can’t Wait, by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Nonfiction**
- Between the World and Me, by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- Citizen, by Claudia Rankin
- The Color of Law, by Richard Rothstein
- It Was All a Dream, by Reniqua Allen
- A More Beautiful and Terrible History, by Jeanne Theoharis
- The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander
- Race on the brain: what implicit bias gets wrong about the struggle for racial justice, by Jonathan Kahn
- Rising Out of Hatred, by Eli Saslow
- The Short Tragic Life of Robert Peace, by Jeff Hobbs
- Tears We Cannot Stop, Michael Eric Dyson
- They Can’t Kill Us All, by Wesley Lowery
- When they call you a terrorist: a Black Lives Matter memoir, by Patrice Kahn-Cullors

**Fiction**
- Sing, Unburied, Sing, by Jessym Ward
- The Sellout, by Paul Beatty
- Where I Live, by Brenda Rufner
- Bluebird, bluebird, by Attica Locke
- The Bluest Eye, by Toni Morrison
- The Hate U Give, by Angie Thomas
- Vengeance, by Zachary Lazar

ENGAGE

One Book Chelmsford
presents an Evening with Clint Smith
Mr. Smith will discuss his work and poetry, followed by a signing
Monday evening, January 28 at 7PM
Chelmsford Performing Arts Center

COME TOGETHER

Can Civility Save Us? w/ Craig Freshley,
Thursday, January 10 at 7PM
Please Register

Live Music: Songs of our Times with Vermont folk ensemble Windborne
Friday January 11 at 7PM

One Book discussions:
Monday evening, Jan. 7
Wed. morning, Jan. 16

Legal Aid and the American Justice System,
Thursday January 31 at 7PM
Let’s Talk: Crime and Policing, a REACT Chelmsford conversation with Keith West,
Feb. 5, at 7PM - Please register

Film Screening: the 13th
Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 7PM
Ask a Muslim Anything, w/ Robert Azzi, Thursday Feb. 21 at 7PM - Please register