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## From the Editors

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We, the editors of *Dialogues in Social Justice*, extend our thanks to the authors who contributed to the White Supremacy and Privilege Part II issue. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we worked through hurdles in the publication process. We also thank the various reviewers who sacrificed their time and talents to help develop the high quality articles presented in this issue.

Recently, I read an opinion piece by Elizabeth Leiba (2020). In the article Leiba shared an experience from when they were an undergrad. They went into a drugstore not realizing they had a new unopened pack of batteries in their backpack. When they attempted to leave the store, the battery pack tripped the security alarm and they were taken to a back room for questioning. They frantically looked for the receipt showing that the item had been purchased days earlier, but in the overwhelming swell of panic and fear, they could not find it. They implored security to just look at the security footage but were refused, the store manager insisted on pressing charges. They were subsequently arrested, taken to jail, booked, and detained for over four hours in a cage. Their mother who lived five hours away arrived and posted bail. In the car with their mother, Leiba found the receipt which was subsequently presented to the state attorney who immediately dropped the charges. One has to wonder why the dogged pursuit, why the infliction of so much trauma, why not the benefit of doubt over batteries that cost \$2.49.

Their account stands in stark contrast to a young man who raised a \$2 million bail from the support of celebrities and others, rich, and poor, who was identified by witnesses to the police as a person who shot and killed two people, injuring a third, who calmly walked past police under the cover of darkness carrying an AR-15 style rifle across his chest before driving over 15 miles to his home in a neighboring state, who police watched walk by them with his hands up. One has to wonder, why not the dogged pursuit, why the sparing of trauma, and why the benefit of doubt.

In 1989, Dr. Peggy McIntosh wrote about the invisible knapsack of white privilege that invisibilized the systems conferring power to some while issuing subjugation to others. McIntosh included things like not having to speak for her racial group and having bandages that matched her skin tone. In 2020, that knapsack of white privilege would include being able to say and become president of the United States "Grab 'em by the pussy. You can do anything" or "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody and I wouldn't lose any voters" or being able to walk past police with a rifle while being accused of killing two people without even being stopped or questioned.

As adult educators, we must pause and consider, what does this thing called white privilege look like in today's adult education environments? Authors in this issue peel back the covers to reveal the underbelly of the adult education, the ugly side of whiteness. From book reviews and course descriptions to reflections and research based articles, authors tackle this disconcerting topic. Additionally, a transcript of a powerful talk implicating whiteness highlights how language matters and must be harnessed to create a more equitable, just, and liberated society.

We look forward to sharing our upcoming issues on COVID-19 and adult education and the Black experience and adult education in 2021.

We hope you will find this assemblage of writing informative and useful as you courageously move through your journey toward social justice through adult education and toward greater understanding of what white privilege looks like in your practice and theory.

**Moving toward liberation one *Dialogue* at a time**

Lisa R. Merriweather, Joni Schwartz, Rodney Maiden, Edith Gnanadass,  
Stephanie Lynch, Bryndle L. Bottoms

**REFERENCES**

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