

**PRESS RELEASE
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**Greater Sacramento to Hold its Second,
And Nation's Largest Teach-in Focused On Racism
October 27-30 – Sacramento Faces Race.**

(Sacramento, CA) Last year, thousands participated with their community organizations, religious groups, and student bodies to discuss the underpinnings of what has become a constant societal discussion—racism. This year, Sacramento Faces Race weekend will be October 27-30. Taking place at sites like the Sacramento Public Libraries, Folsom Lake College, coffee houses, and houses of worship, SFR continues to deliver its promise to be the country's largest Teach-In ever to address systemic racism.

The goal of the weekend is to recognize and understand systemic racism from the Black-American experience and perspective. To learn how it operates. To see how it affects individuals and our communities. And to provide a springboard for positive and equitable change. Participants are invited to facilitated panel discussions by volunteer professionals about topics like the Kaepernick controversy, The two murders, Emmett Till and Trayvon Martin, who galvanize our Civil Rights Movement and Black Lives Matter, and understanding some of America's racist laws and policies, historic and now. The weekend will end with a community-wide teach-in and candle lighting reflecting on our children lost to deaths and unfair imprisonment. Clergy can choose from talking points, and others will simply download and host a private, self-directed discussion.

Sacramento Faces Race was conceived and is managed by Lynn Berkley-Baskin of Folsom who is thrilled with last year's outcome. "... in 2014 and '15 there were great, regional initiatives being put into place, but what a difference a year or two makes!" says Ms. Berkley. "Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Sacramento City Council, United Way, Sac ACT, Black Lives Matter, LEAD, NAACP, Urban League, United Way, faith organizations, and so many others have taken bold steps to initiate racial justice and systemic change in our region." Lynn is continuing to focus on bridging coalitions of supporters to create opportunities for collective change. Lynn is a lifetime social activist. In 2015, after participating in the NAACP and Mayor Johnson's Just Justice Forum in Sacramento the year prior, she was invited to participate in a Washington D.C. summit about systemic racism with national racial justice leaders including U.S. Congress members and White House officials. In 2016, she once again participated in Congressional meetings for change, in D.C. with Bend the Arc, a Jewish Partnership for Justice.

"Sustainable change in civil discord cannot happen through blame and punishment. Legislation alone cannot make change. It must happen through understanding the perspectives of those who claim the inequity so we can change our system of inequity." Says Ms Berkley-Baskin.

Adds Joy Johnson PhD; President Sacramento Area Congregations Together (SacACT) and Founder, Life Matters Inc., a Christian community development organization; Associate Pastor; Agape ALIVE Church in Roseville:

"In the height of racial tensions in our nation's cities, Sacramento Faces Race will 'intentionally' guide our region into courageous conversations to discuss hidden wounds, to build relationships, and to be a catalyst to spawn new cultures of change!"

As President Lyndon Johnson stated in his 1965 speech following a week of turmoil in Selma - "There is no Negro problem. There is no Southern problem. There is no Northern problem. There is only an American problem."

Visit www.SacramentoFacesRace.com in the coming weeks to learn more about how/where/when you can attend - even host a Teach-In. Groups already committed to participate include; Sacramento Public Library, Sacramento ACT, The Interfaith Council of Greater Sacramento, Sacramento Board of Rabbis, Impact Sac, Cinders Bar, and Folsom Lake College. Check the site often for project updates.