Office of Religious Education & Catechesis

Racism

OREC Media Resources

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VIDEOS

**DVD 1034**  
**When Did We See You?**  
*Adult, Grade 7-8, Grade 9-10, and Grade 11-12.*  
29 minutes

A video about a portrait of Jesus that prompts viewers to rethink their role as members of the Body of Christ. The video begs the questions: "If the community watches us for a day, will they see the deeds of Jesus, and hear his words?" Images of Jesus are everywhere, in every culture, framed and enshrined for all to see. How closely do his followers identify with the one whose name they bear? How close do they want to get? How does Jesus live in the Body we call church? The video walks viewers of all ages through the creation of a new portrait of Jesus that begs a few more questions of believe.

**DVD 1105**  
**What Would You Do: Confronting Discrimination and Prejudice**  
*Adult, Grade 9-10, and Grade 11-12.*  
38 minutes

Encourage viewers to explore biases and stereotypes with this group of ABC News segments. Each scenario puts actors into exchanges with unwitting bystanders, generating a wide range of responses—from overt hostility towards other races and cultures to acts of genuine compassion. Scenes include a bakery clerk’s refusal to serve a Muslim woman wearing a headscarf; cruelty towards an overweight woman seated on a boardwalk; a very public argument that threatens to become violent; and a purse-snatching in a crowded square, after which witnesses are asked to view a suspect lineup. Repeating the two latter situations, producers achieve varying reactions among onlookers by switching the races of the actors.

NOTE: Teacher/Facilitator should preview before showing and be prepared to discuss with class after showing
Listening To Children: A Moral Journey with Robert Coles
Parent/Teacher, and Adult. 90 minutes

How does a child grow up to become a good person? What values guide a child through life's challenges? How do parents pass on inner strength to their children? These are the questions Pulitzer Prize-winning author and child psychiatrist Robert Coles explores in this penetrating program. Coles reveals the lives of eight children struggling to cope with problems of modern life, family breakdown, AIDS, racism and riots.

Hotel Rwanda
Adults 122 minutes

Inspiring real-life story of Paul Rusesabagina (Don Cheadle), a hotel manager in Rwanda who, at great personal risk, saved the lives of thousands of refugees marked for death during the nightmarish days of the Rwandan genocide. He sheltered them from the slaughter occurring outside his hotel compound. Well-written, directed and acted, the emotionally riveting and profoundly moral movie deals with an extremely dark chapter of history, but it is a powerful testament to hope, courage and the nobility of the human spirit, as well as the unsung heroism of “ordinary” people.

Bring Down the Walls
Adult, Grade 9-10, and Grade 11-12 15 minutes

Catholics are motivated to become more conscious of the social dimensions of faith in this presentation. The video focuses on the heritage, principles and practice of Catholic social teaching. The themes and reflections of the recent U.S. Bishops' statement, "A Century of Social Teaching: A Common Heritage, A Continuing Challenge" are brought to life.

Teen Scenes and More Teen Scenes: Life Situations for Teen Discussions
Parent/Teacher, Grades 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12. 40 minutes

TEEN SCENES (22 min): Ethical / moral decision making is the focus of this exciting new video featuring four vignettes dramatizing the kinds of moral dilemmas facing today's young people. Talented teen actors realistically portray their peers in a series of situations in which decisions must be made while dealing with issues like peer pressure, social cliques, making grades and materialism. Each vignette last four to seven minutes and ends at the point where the decision must be made - the rest is up to the viewer! A leader's guide is included with questions to start the lively discussions that will surely follow this compelling new program.
Paulist priest and moral theologian, Richard Sparks, provides insights into living Christian values

Christian Moral Living: The Challenge and the Possibility - explores the foundational building blocks of Christian morality including definition of morality, conscience formation, virtue, objective truth and how to make a prudent decision.

Bioethical Issues: Ethics at the Edge of Life - explores core Christian bioethics principles including the sanctity of human life and numerous healthcare issues from a Christian perspective.

Human Sexuality: Wonderful Gift, Awesome Responsibility - treats issues of human sexuality within the context of the dignity and goodness of all of us as sexual beings.

The Gospel is a Social Message: Justice in the Christian Tradition - explores why churches must speak out on issues like racism, economic justice and the "seamless garment" approach to life issues.

This three-part video series tells the story about the faith of a community of African Americans who have searched for generations to find deliverance from the evils of racism, bigotry and oppression. This is a story about hope, perseverance, and a steadfast, unrelenting faith in God. The Enduring Faith video series is a celebration of the enduring power of the faith and the faithful in African American communities throughout the United States. It is also an exploration of one diocese’s history of struggling to deal with prejudice—especially between blacks and whites. Prejudice is not easily removed—and as this series will show—prejudice is often not even easy to identify.
BOOKS

**BK SJGEN MCGIJ 1981**  
Parenting for Peace and Justice  
Adults

*Parenting for Peace and Justice* offers an approach to parenting that involves stewardship, nonviolence, prayer, social action, and the avoidance of sexual and racial stereotyping.

**BK SJGEN SADLIER 1993**  
Building for Justice and Peace: Group Projects for Teens  
Grade 7-8, and Grade 9-10

Jesus made it very clear that God who loves justice and peace is not far from us but can be seen in the very faces and hearts of our fellow human beings whom Jesus calls his brothers and sisters. Each of the projects in this book provides you with an opportunity to deepen your understanding of the ability to build justice and peace. Who knows what good things will come about, what wonders will be done, what lives will be changed (including your own!) as you work and pray and act as people who see the face of Christ in others.

**BK SJGEN HAESJ 1984**  
Peacemaking: Activities for Children Book 1  
Grade 1-2, Grade 3-4, and Grade 5-6

*Peacemaking: Activities for Children, Book 1* consists of selected articles and activities chosen from among the first two volumes of the magazine *Peacemaking for Children*, 1983 and 1984.
To Act Justly: Introducing Catholic Social Teaching to Children with Stories and Activities

This engaging and easy-to-read book will help catechists and teachers open the eyes of their students to Catholic social teaching and to new ways of looking at and being involved in the world around them.

In this must-have resource guide, Anne E. Neuberger provides a way to teach youngsters how to think, feel, and act with justice, using stories that illustrate the seven social justice principles, the teachings of Vatican II, and the beatitudes. She includes creative activities that help children apply what they have learned in enjoyable, concrete ways.

The History of Black Catholics in the United States

"The story of the black Catholic community in the United States begins with the story of the Catholic church in Africa." With this historical overview, Davis, professor at Indiana's St. Meinrad School of Theology, begins his task--"to retrieve a mislaid memory" of the black Catholic presence in the United States for the last 300 years. The issue of slavery--including the uneasy responses of America's first bishop, John Carroll, in the late 18th century, and the pro-slavery views of John Hughes, outspoken archbishop of New York during the Civil War--is positioned within the political and social fabric of those centuries. Yet, as shown in this masterfully concise history, the faith flourished among such black Catholics as Pierre Toussaint, the 19th-century New Yorker now proposed for sainthood. Studded with personal stories, this is a chronicle both sad and inspiring.

Strength to Love

In these short meditative and sermonic pieces, some of them composed in jails and all of them crafted during the tumultuous years of the Civil Rights struggle, Dr. King articulated and espoused in a deeply personal compelling way his commitment to justice and to the intellectual, moral, and spiritual conversion that makes his work as much a blueprint today for Christian discipleship as it was then.
Black and Catholic - The Challenge & Gift of Black Folk
Adults

The present book fits within the long history of African-American Catholic attempts (e.g., the nineteenth century African-American Catholic Congresses and the twentieth century Federation of Colored Catholics) to address the issue of education for African-American Catholics. This book is part of an already established tradition of criticism and creative reform - this time within Catholic higher education.

And Don't Call Me a Racist!
Adults and Grade 11-12.

Using quotes across time, class and race, Mazel presents a an uncomfortable look at the divergent ways in which Americans view black / white relations. Most white Americans want to believe that racism is dead, or at least no longer the problem it once was. The sad truth is that racism is alive and well, and is even thriving as we enter the 21st century.

As the book points out, there is an unwitting racism - an "invisible" racism that is perpetuated in America today. It shows itself in through actions, words and assumptions, contrary to the way in which most white Americans believe (or see themselves.)

Go and Do Likewise: Catholic Social Teaching in Action
Adults

Our call as Christian disciples means to live as neighbor to everyone, to treat each person with mercy and compassion. In clear, concise language, the author discusses each of the principles of the Church's social teaching and then offers a wide range of creative ways to live them: in five minutes, ten minutes, and twenty minutes a day. An excellent resource for both individuals and groups, for peace and justice committees, for RCIA teams, catechists, teachers, and parish ministers.
What can I do to promote peace? I’m just one person!

If you’ve asked yourself this question, here are some answers. How You Can Be a Peacemaker offers spiritual wisdom and workable suggestions for you and your family, your class, or your discussion group. Beginning with Catholic Teaching, Part One explains Jesus’ teaching on love and nonviolence, the peace doctrine of Pope John Paul II, and the U.S. bishops’ pastoral letter, The Challenge of Peace. Part Two of the book offers many practical suggestions. It shows our role as teachers and models of peace, especially to our own children. It also suggests ways to make peace by doing the traditional Works of Mercy, which are in fact the Works of Peace. With discussion questions and suggestions for further reading at the end of each chapter, this is an ideal handbook for families, religion classes, or discussion groups. If you are looking for ways to respond to the challenge of peace, here is a handbook for you.

Using the biblical themes of justice and peace, this booklet contains reflections on the 15 mysteries of the rosary.

Prayer is an underutilized resource in the work of justice. Join with CCHD and Catholics across the country in praying this online version of the Scriptural Rosary for Justice and Peace. We pray the Luminous Mysteries to help us follow more closely the example set by Jesus in His ministry to the poor and the vulnerable.

Racial Justice and the Catholic Church examines the presence of racism and the resources within Catholic teaching and within the black experience, particularly the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. that can combat it and promote reconciliation and justice.
An abridgement of the acclaimed White Over Black, which won both the National Book Award and a Bancroft Prize. This study attempts to answer a simple question: What were the attitudes of white men toward Negroes during the first two centuries of European and African settlement in what became the United States of America?