END RACISM DAY - MARCH 21

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future and renders the present inaccessible."
-- Maya Angelou

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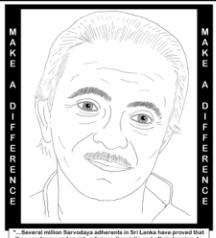

"...Several million Sarvodaya adherents in Sri Lanka have proved that they can transcend racial, religious, linguistic and ethnic barriers to accept a common state of ideals, principles, and constructive programs to build a new society as collectively envisioned by them."
-- Dr. Ari Ariyaratne

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"It demands great spiritual resilience not to hate the hater whose foot is on your neck, and an even greater miracle of perception and charity not to teach your child to hate."
-- James Baldwin

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"Despite the threat of global terror hanging over all of us, there is only one path to pursue the Millennium. We must disarm these weapons and renew our commitment to quality public schools and dedicated teachers and good housing and quality health care so that we can build stronger neighborhoods."
-- Carol Bellamy

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves. We should, therefore, protest openly everything ... that smacks of discrimination or slander."
-- Mary McLeod Bethune

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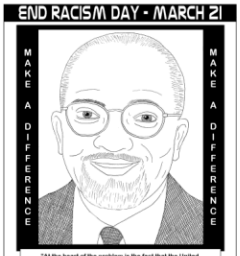

"At the heart of the problem is the fact that the United States is a racially divided nation where extreme racial inequalities continue to persist."
-- Robert Bullard

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"Sexual, racial, gender violence and other forms of discrimination and violence in a culture cannot be eliminated without changing culture."
-- Charlotte Bunch

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"Man has but little healed the advice of the wise man. He has been - fatally, if not willingly - less virtuous, less constant, less rational, less peaceful than he knows how to be, than he is fully capable of being. He has been led astray from the ways of peace and brotherhood by his addiction to concepts and attitudes of narrow nationalism, racial and religious bigotry, greed and lust for power."
-- Rajiv Gandhi

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"Non-violence can truly flourish when the world is free of poverty, hunger, discrimination, exclusion, intolerance and hatred - when women and men can realize their highest potential and live a secure and fulfilling life. Until then, each and every one of us would have to contribute - collectively and individually - to the struggle through non-violence."
-- Aravind Dhivanthan

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"Racism is a much more clandestine, much more hidden kind of phenomenon, but at the same time it's perhaps far more terrible than it's ever been."
-- Angela Davis

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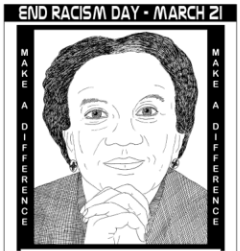

"If parents snicker at racial and gender jokes, another generation will pass on the poison adults still have not had the courage to snuff out."
-- Marian Wright Edelman

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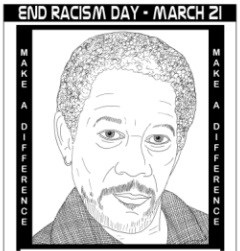

"I am going to stop calling you a white man and I'm going to ask you to stop calling me a black man."
-- Morgan Freeman

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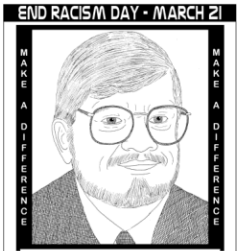

"Everywhere we turn, we see violence and hate and prejudice and anger and all of those negative emotions that are destroying humanity. And we have to wake up and take note of this and try to change our course, so that we can create a world of peace and harmony, where future generations can live happily together."
-- Arun Gandhi

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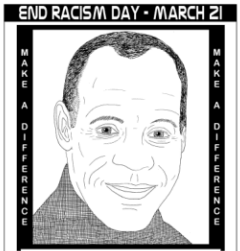

"If we talk about the environment, for example, we have to talk about environmental racism - about the fact that kids in South Central Los Angeles have a third of the lung capacity of kids in Santa Monica."
-- Danny Glover

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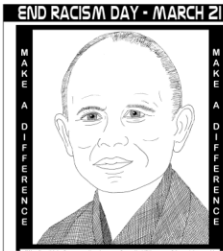

"We often think of peace as the absence of war; that if the powerful countries would reduce their arsenals, we could have peace. But if we look deeply into the weapons, we see our own minds - our prejudices, fears, and ignorance...Seek to become more aware of what causes anger and aggression, and what overcomes them. Root out the violence in your life, and learn to live compassionately and mindfully."
-- Thich Nhat Hanh

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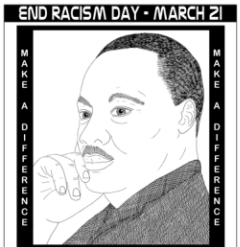

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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"What we need to do is learn to respect and embrace our differences until our differences don't make a difference in how we are treated."
-- Yolanda King

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"The United States of America is a nation where people are not united because of those glaring frailties: racism, injustices and inequities."
-- Yuri Kochiyama

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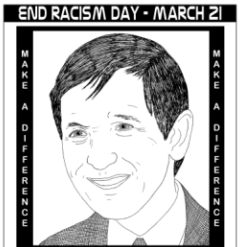

"Poverty is a weapon of mass destruction. Joblessness is a weapon of mass destruction, homelessness, a weapon of mass destruction...racism, a weapon of mass destruction... We must disarm these weapons and renew our commitment to quality public schools and dedicated teachers and good housing and quality health care so that we can build stronger neighborhoods."
-- Dennis Kucinich

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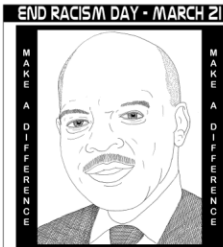

"We've come a long way, but we still have a distance to go before all of our citizens embrace the idea of a truly interracial democracy, what I like to call the Beloved Community, a nation at peace with itself."
-- John R. Lewis

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"I resolutely believe that respect for diversity is a fundamental pillar in the eradication of racism, xenophobia and intolerance."
-- Rigoberta Menchú

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"We have to build things that we want to see accomplished, in life and in our country, based on our own personal experiences ... to make sure that others .... do not have to suffer the same discrimination."
-- Patsy Mink

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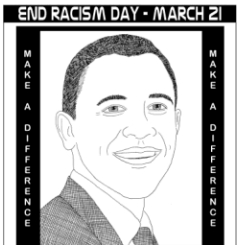

"Our goal is to have a country that's not divided by race."
-- Barack Obama

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"...we need to realize that we have a role to play in overcoming our own discrimination which is sometimes very subtly held..."
-- Bishop Samuel Ruiz Garcia

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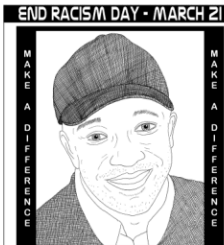

"...we all sometimes ... harbor some prejudices and all, but we have to know in our heart it's wrong. And we all want to remember that we are connected. And that any kind of racism is wrong."
-- Russell Simmons

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"If you judge people you have no time to love them."
-- Mother Teresa

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"I think we have to own the fears that we have of each other, and then, in some practical way, some daily way, figure out how to see people differently than the way we were brought up to."
-- Alice Walker

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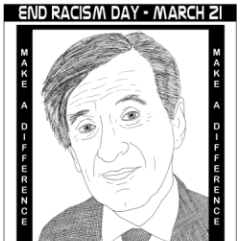

"We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentors, not the tormented. Wherever anyone is persecuted for their race or political views, that place must become the center of the universe."
-- Elie Wiesel

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"Love is what we are born with. Fear is what we learn. The spiritual journey is the unlearning of fear and prejudices and the acceptance of love back in our hearts."
-- Marianne Williamson

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"Excellence is the best deterrent to racism or sexism."
-- Oprah Winfrey

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