# Racial Justice Advocates & Organizations

Institute for the Study of Crime & Justice Racial Justice Project



This slideshow profiles some of the many organizations and individuals who engage in work to raise awareness and promote racial justice.



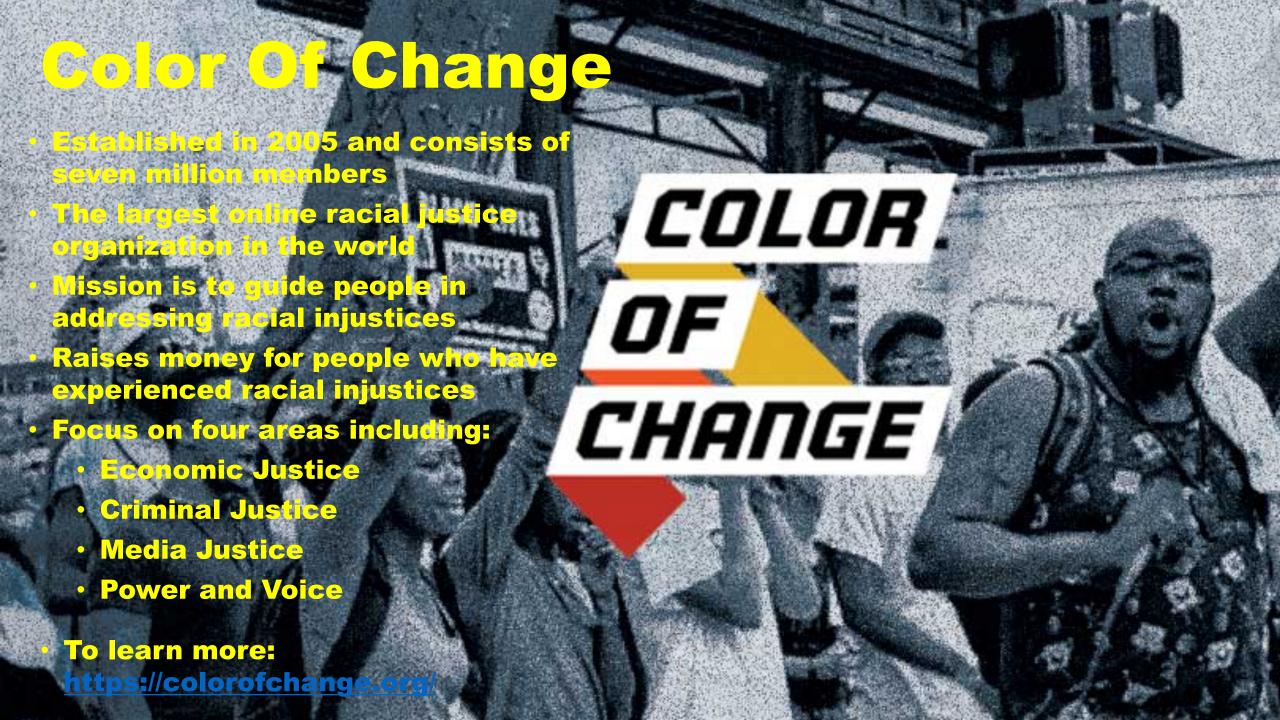
- Founded in 1989 by Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy
- Their mission is to end mass incarceration, unfair sentences, and to protect the human rights of vulnerable people in America
- Provides legal representation for:
  - Wrongful convictions
  - Unfairly sentenced
  - Abused in prisons/jails
  - Learn more at <a href="https://eji.org/">https://eji.org/</a>



# **American Civil Liberties Union**

- Founded in 1920 after the "Palmer Raids" that led to thousands of people arrested without warrants and detained without charges
- Their mission is to fight for civil liberties as guaranteed by the United States Constitution
- They address issues such as:
  - Capital Punishment
  - Criminal Law Reform
  - Juvenile Justice
  - Racial Justice
  - Prisoners' Rights
  - LGBTQ Rights
  - Immigrants' Rights
- To learn more: <a href="https://www.aclu.org/">https://www.aclu.org/</a>





# National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

- Founded in February 1909 in response to ongoing violence against Blacks in the U.S., mot notably the deadly riot in Springfield, IL
- Mission is to ensure equality for all and to eliminate race-based discrimination
- NAACP focuses on 6 areas:
  - Criminal Justice
  - Health
  - Environmental & Climate Change
  - Media Diversity
  - Education
  - Economic Discrimination
- Learn more at: <a href="https://www.naacp.org/">https://www.naacp.org/</a>





# The Innocence Project

- Founded in 1992 by Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck who had exonerated many individuals through DNA testing
- Their mission is to free innocent people who are incarcerated and to address these injustices through reform
- Areas of focus for the Innocence Project are:
  - Exonerate the innocent
  - Improve case law
  - Reform policies
  - Support exonerees
  - Educate through science & research
- To learn more: https://innocenceproject.org/



### Dr. Marquita Taylor

Leadership Engineer, Assistant Director, Founder, Professor

- Obtained a Doctorate in Leadership for the Advancement of Learning and Service, and a certificate in Race and Equity.
- With the NAACP, Taylor conducts qualitative and quantitative research in areas of entrepreneurship and human development.
- Fights for inclusivity and equity in education among diverse groups, specifically underserved populations and women.

#### **Founded The Woman Doctor**

- A nonprofit organization which works to inspire women and girls to pursue terminal degrees in higher education.
- To learn more: <a href="https://www.thewomandoc.com/">https://www.thewomandoc.com/</a>

### **Bryan Stevenson**

# Lawyer, Social Justice Activist, Executive Director, & Founder

Author of *Just Mercy* 

Founder of Equal Justice Initiative

Professor, New York University School of Law

#### Causes & Cases:

Successfully argued multiple U.S. Supreme Court Cases

Focuses on death row cases, unfair sentencing cases, and cases dealing with mentally ill and children, including:

- Roper v. Simmons
- Miller v. Alabama
- Montgomery v. Louisiana
- To learn more: <a href="https://eji.org/bryan-stevenson/">https://eji.org/bryan-stevenson/</a>



# Eboni K. Williams

(Attorney, TV Host, Podcaster, Author)

- Host & Executive Producer, REVOLT Black News
- Advocate for racial and social injustice.
- Known for analysis of Legal and Culture Headlines.
- Uses platforms to inform the public of cases and law.

#### **Board of Directors for Safe Horizon**

- Victims' assistance organization
- To learn more: https://www.ebonikwilliams.com/





# Kimberle Crenshaw

Director, Founder, Professor, Lawyer, Civil Rights Advocate, & Scholar

- Professor at UCLA and Columbia University.
   Crenshaw
- Leader of the Why We Can't Wait campaign and involved with many racial justice gender interventions.

#### **Organizations Leadership**

Co-founder and Executive Director of the American African Policy Forum, Center for Intersectionality, and Social Policy at Columbia Law School.

#### To learn more:

https://www.law.columbia.edu/faculty/kimberle-w-crenshaw

## W. Kamau Bell

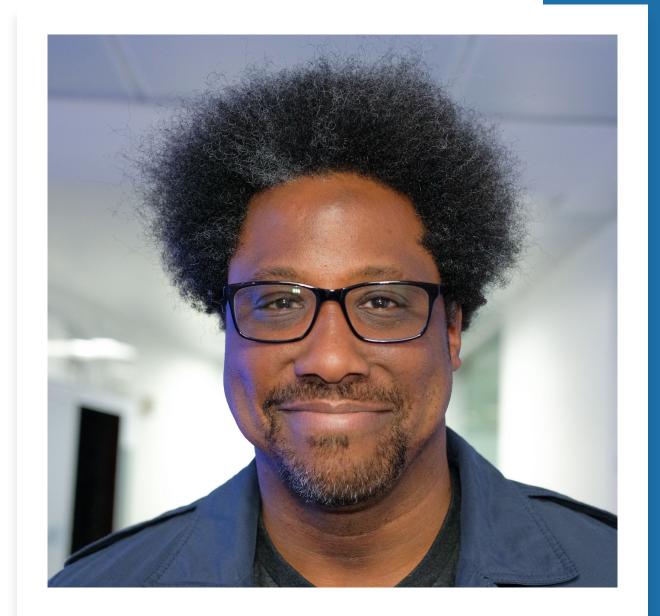
ACLU Artist Ambassador for Racial Justice & Sociopolitical Comedian

#### **Work Experience**

- Comedian
- Host of Emmy Award winning CNN docuseries United Shades of America with W. Kamau Bell
- Netflix special Private School Negro

#### **Example of Causes:**

 In 2018, Bell used the Emmys as a platform to speak out against the Family Separation crisis.





## Colin Kapernick

Football Player, Civil Rights Advocate, Philanthropist, & Founder

- Played for the 49ers until he was released for peacefully protesting the national anthem.
- Refused to express admiration for a country that deliberately persecutes black citizens.

#### **Affiliations & Causes**

- Know Your Rights Camp: educates black youth on American History, Legal Rights and empowerment
- Donates to Mothers Against Police Brutality, Million Dollar Pledge, as well as multiple organizations located in oppressed regions.
- To learn more: https://www.knowyourrightscamp.com/

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