

Implicit Bias

Video Title: **It's Time to Talk About Race** Reflection Sheet: **High School Students**

Use this reflection page to explore your thoughts and ideas on race, disproportionality, and conversations about race as expressed in the video *It's Time to Talk About Race: The Elephant in the Room*.

- 1. The film opens with students talking about their own experiences with race. A young man who is white says, "We're taught whites stay with whites, blacks stay with blacks." A young man who is black says, "I walk past a white guy, I'll see a person. But what you're really seeing is white." A young woman says, "I am the double minority: female and black." What is your response to these statements? Have you ever said, experienced, or felt similar things? Explain.

- 2. The film tells us that it is essential to talk about race to begin to understand how to fix our education system. How can talking about race fix our schools? How can talking about race help you succeed in school? In your community? In life?

- 3. While leading a workshop of teachers, Maria Hernandez says, "It's evident right now as a nation that we are struggling with having a conversation about race and how race still plays out in America." She encourages the participants in her workshop to "push (their) growing edge." What makes you uncomfortable when talking about race? How do you push past discomfort to have these important talks with the people that can create change?

4. What happens if we deny racism exists? In our schools? In our communities?

5. Maria Hernandez says, "Oftentimes our males...our black and Latino students are negatively and disproportionately impacted by our educational system." What is your experience with "disproportionality" in school? What do you want your teachers to know about your experience?

6. One young black woman says, "You can walk into one room and there's all white people and they hate you because you're darker or because you're lighter. Or you could walk in another room with a bunch of white people and they love you. It confuses you. Which one are you? Which one today? Are you gonna be loved? Or tomorrow are you gonna be hated? It hurts just not knowing, just knowing it's the color of your skin." Comment on her words in terms of your own experiences.

7. What is your key takeaway from this video? Why?
