

JUSTICE FROM THE STREETS TO THE
EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM


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INTRODUCTIONS

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OUR GOALS



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TO ENCOURAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATORS TO TAKE ACTION

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TO LEARN ABOUT CHILDREN'S
DEVELOPMENT OF IDENTITY AND
ATTITUDES TOWARDS OTHERS

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TO OFFER A NARRATIVE OF WHO
POLICE ARE IN YOUNG CHILDREN'S
LIVES

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AND TO EXPLORE HOW TO TALK WITH CHILDREN ABOUT POLICE BRUTALITY

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CHILDREN'S IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT AND ATTITUDES TOWARD DIFFERENCES



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BY 3 MONTHS CHILDREN NOTICE DIFFERENCES



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6-MONTH OLDS CAN
CATEGORIZE (NON VERBALLY)
BASED ON RACE



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BY 18 MONTHS TODDLERS CAN
PLACE A PHOTO OF
THEMSELVES IN THEIR
RACIAL/ETHNIC GROUP



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BY 2 CHILDREN ARE
BEGINNING TO REASON
BASED ON RACE



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BY 2 1/2 ALL CHILDREN SHOW AN IN-GROUP BIAS



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BETWEEN 2-2 1/2 CHILDREN BECOME AWARE OF AND BEGIN ABSORBING SOCIALLY PREVAILING STEREOTYPES ABOUT PEOPLE, INCLUDING THEMSELVES



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BY 3 OR 4 WHITE KIDS STILL SHOW WHITE IN-GROUP BIAS, BUT KIDS OF COLOR START CHOOSING A POTENTIAL WHITE PLAYMATE



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BY THE TIME CHILDREN ARE 4, THEY ARE DEVELOPING THEORIES ABOUT WHAT CAUSES A DISABILITY, SKIN TONE, AND GENDER BASED ON THE MESSAGES THEY RECEIVE AROUND THEM



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BY 5 OR 6 CHILDREN ARE STILL SHOWING AN IN-GROUP BIAS TOWARD WHITES



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7-10 YEARS OLD STILL MAKE THE SAME BIASED DECISIONS BUT THEIR BIAS IS BECOMING MORE IMPLICIT



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BETWEEN 9-10 ATTITUDES
HAVE SOLIDIFIED



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VIDEO



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REFLECTIONS

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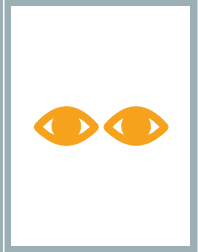
HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU WATCH THAT VIDEO? WHAT COMES UP FOR YOU?

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WHAT ARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AROUND HOW CHILDREN VIEW POLICE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD?

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WHAT DID YOU SEE AS YOUR ROLE?



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ANSWERING CHILDREN'S QUESTIONS ABOUT POLICE BRUTALITY AND VIOLENCE

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TIPS

- Tell the truth. Be concrete and specific.
- Don't be afraid to initiate the conversation and follow the child's lead.
- Keep the conversation going.
- Make space for all the feelings. Feelings don't need to be fixed.
- It's okay to say, "I don't know."
- Engage in your own racial identity development, continuing to **hone your own racial equity lens**.

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STRATEGIES

- Subtly setting limits without shaming
- Personal storytelling
- Tell stories about your own questions & confusion
- "That's a really good question! I don't know how to answer right now"
- Community agreements or family norms
- BREATHING!!!!
- Inquire: ask questions
- Keep talking: keep the conversation going
- Talk about similarities *and* differences
- Exposure **and**...
- Walk your talk. Kids look to how you live your life.
- Have explicit conversations
- Share about your own racial identity and experiences

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