

Free Community Newspaper

PikePulse

Helping
Build Our
Community

June 20, 2020

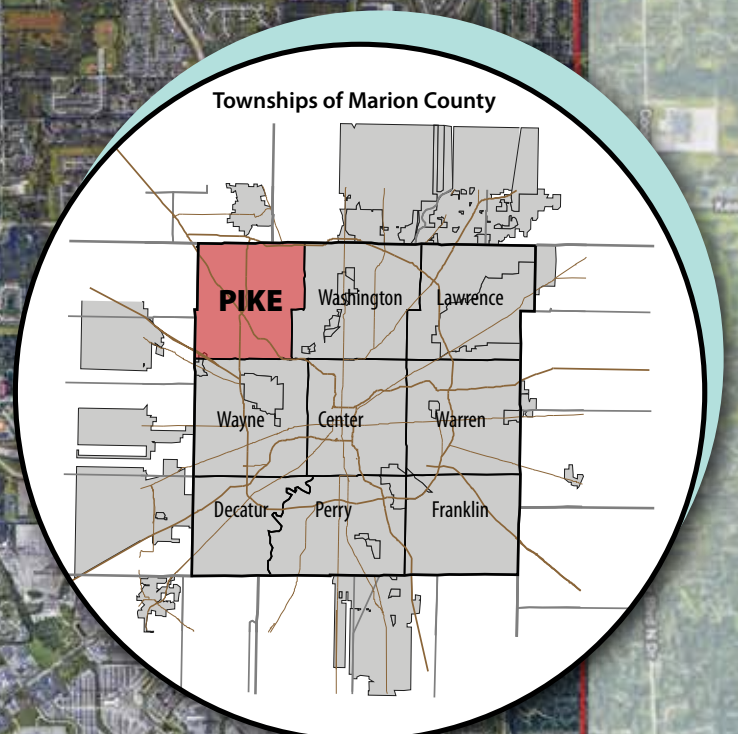
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Our Pillars of Engagement
with Pike Township



Pike Township border in red

Are we at a turning point?



Our mission is to help build a stronger sense of community by keeping our fingers on the pulse of Pike Township and publishing positive, upbeat, and relevant news.

Pike Pulse is the only free newspaper in Pike Township that is delivered by the US Postal Service twice a month to every residential and business address.



Pike Pulse Pillars of Engagement

I. Cultural Pillar — where we live

- Stories about Pike residents
- Stories celebrating our diverse cultures
- Stories highlighting opportunities

II. Social Pillar — how we connect

- Spotlight groups and organizations
- Communicate celebrations for Veterans
- Information about our religious diversity
- Neighborhood association news
- Health updates
- Art exhibits and performances
- Youth and adult athletic updates
- Academic celebrations

III. Economic Pillar — how we make a living

- Commercial development
- Business-to-Business communications
- Business-to-Consumer communications
- Pike job openings
- Legislative and township development
- Community development
- Pike Business Park news

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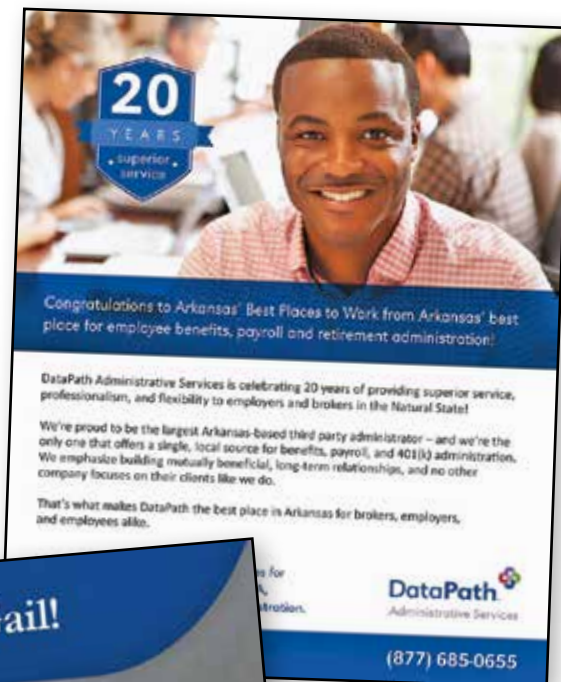
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CELEBRATIONS & TRIBUTES

Show your appreciation for staff accomplishments.

Celebrate Leaders

An ad in **Pike Pulse** is a way to thank leaders and other longtime staffers for their unique spirit and impact on your organization.



To help foster a culture of gratitude for good work, **Pike Pulse** offers 30% off any ad celebrating retirements, awards or achievements.

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(Twice a month except for November and December
when we publish one issue each month)

Pike Pulse Newspaper

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The **Pike Pulse** team is committed to producing a
newspaper that

- Helps Build Community,
- Celebrates residents,
- Builds businesses, and
- Partners with organizations in and around
the Pike Township.

**News and ad Deadlines: 10 days before
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A Free Community Newspaper

PikePulse

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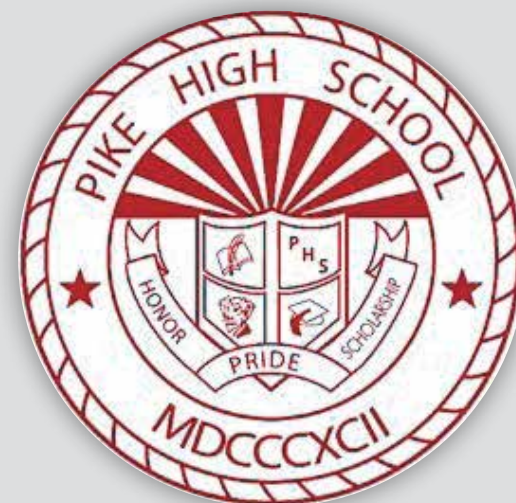
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If you do not get your paper, contact us at:
317-429-7200 or
brock@pikepulse.com.

Special Announcement!

Updated listing of one of the
largest graduating classes of Pike
High School, **The Class of 2020**, will
be in the next issue of *Pike Pulse*.



Clint Fultz

From our Publisher: Our Commitments to You

Welcome to the Pike Pulse! This is
our second issue of a twice monthly publi-
cation that focuses on building a sense of
community in Pike Township.

We have no plans to make this a
subscription-based paper (like the *Star*
or *IBJ*). We want it to be free to every
resident and business in Pike Township.
As a free newspaper, we make money by
selling space in the paper to those who
want to share their message with you –
advertising messages, announcements,
congratulatory statements, celebrations,
and other things.

I have a request for you:
Encourage the places you like
to put us to work for them.

Ask your favorite places to contact our
Director of Development, Brandon Fish-
burn (brandon@pikepulse.com) and let
Brandon know you did.

It would not be fair to ask that of you
without sharing how our paper will be run
and what we will put in it. Here are our
commitments to you:

1. **Free delivery** by USPS mail carrier to
everyone and every business in Pike.
2. **Hyper-local news** and information
written by Pike people to benefit our
community.
3. **Advertisements are limited** to busi-
nesses that sell in or close to Pike
Township.
4. **No political editorials** will be published.
5. **We will provide a forum** to build posi-
tive relationships among the richly
diverse communities in Pike.
6. **We will provide space** to share news
about our children and schools in
each issue.
7. **We are always open to suggestions.**
Send them to brock@pikepulse.com.

– **Regarding “political”:** We welcome posi-
tive political ads, but we will not have a
political editorial page or print a Pike Pulse
list of “supported” candidates. Our Editor-
in-Chief will consider printing any “To
the editor” letter when the sincerity and
transparency of the sender can be verified
(no anonymous letters will be printed), and
only those that deal with the northwest
side of Indianapolis. As to political ads: by
law we may be required to print a negative

ad, but it is our hope political ads in the
Pike Pulse are positive, not slinging mud at
an opponent.

– **News from you that we print for free:**
We welcome news about your family, your
heroes, your religious organizations, your
neighborhood, and other local groups. We
are a great way for you to communicate
with your own community. Send news and
pictures directly to our Editor-in-Chief,
Brocky Brown (brock@pikepulse.com).

I live in Pike. My business is in Pike,
and I invest in Pike. I am a board member
of the Pike Township Residents Associa-
tion (30 years with a dedicated group of
talented local leaders). I chair the Land-
Use Committee of the International Mar-
ketplace Coalition, where exciting develop-
ments are in the works.

For three decades Pike leaders and I
have complained about not having a way
to communicate with our Township. Well,
I decided to create in this newspaper to
solve that problem. I gathered this compe-
tent, experienced team together, and we
are giving it our all.

Heartfelt comments from National Leaders



Bernice Albertine King is an American minister and the youngest child of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. In her adolescence, King chose to work towards becoming a minister after having a breakdown from watching a documentary about her father. King was 17 when she was invited to speak at the United Nations. Inspired by her parents' activism, she was arrested multiple times during her early adulthood while protesting peacefully.

From Wikipedia

My heart is heavy right now because I was that six-year-old who lost her Dad [referring to George Floyd's daughter]. I was five years old when my father was assassinated. The tragedy is we didn't hear what my father was telling this nation, and his words are now reverberating back to us.

We all know change is necessary right now, and it's not easy. We know there has to be changes in policing in this nation of ours.

But I want to talk about America's choice at a greater level. My father said we have a choice: non-violent coexistence or violent coannihilation.

What we have witnessed has placed that choice before us again. We have seen people who are following the path of nonviolent protests and people who have been hell bent on destruction. Those choices are now looking at us, and we have to make a choice.

The history of this nation was founded in violence. My father said, "America is the greatest purveyor of violence." The only way forward is if

I'm talking about systemic violence. I'm talking about policy violence. I'm talking about what he spoke of: the triple evils of poverty, racism, and militarism. All violent. Albert Einstein said, "We cannot solve problems on the same level of thinking in which they were created." If we are going to move forward, we must deconstruct the systems of violence we have built in America. We must reconstruct on another foundation.

Our new foundation must be love and nonviolence. As we move forward, we can correct the course if we make that choice. It's called, "Nonviolent coexistence." We cannot continue on the pathway of violent coannihilation.

So how do we do that?

First, we must deconstruct our old thinking. We must deconstruct the way we see people and deconstruct the way we operate, practice, engage, and set policy. **There's a lot of heart work -- H-E-A-R-T work -- to do in the midst of all the H-A-R-D work.** Heart work is hard work. One

of the things we must do is ensure everyone, especially my white brothers and sisters, engage in the heart work-- the anti-racism work in our hearts. No one is exempt from this, especially in my white community. We must do the anti-racism work in our hearts.



The second thing is I encourage people to look at the nonviolence training that we offer at the King Center, kingcenter.org. We must learn the foundation of understanding to our interrelatedness and interconnectedness. We must understand our loyalties and our commitments. Our policy making can no longer be devoted to one group of people but has to be devoted to the greater good of all people.

I'm inviting you to join us on our online protest every night at 7PM on the King Center Facebook page. Many people have things to express and contribute. We all have to change and have to make a

choice. It is a choice to change the direction we have been going. "We need a revolution of values in this country," that's what my Daddy said. He changed the world. He changed hearts. And now what has happened over the last 7-8 years and through history has shown us we have to change course. We all have to participate in changing America with a true revolution of values where people are at the center, not profit. Morality needs to be at the center, not our military might.

America does have a choice. We can choose the path of destruction, or we can choose nonviolent coexistence.

And as my mother said, "Struggle is a never-ending process. Freedom is never really won. You earn it and win it in every generation." Every generation is called to this freedom struggle. You may want to exempt yourself, but every generation is called. I encourage corporations in America to start doing anti-racism work. I encourage every industry to start doing anti-racism work and pick up the banner of understanding non-violent change. We can do this. We can make the right choice to build the beloved community. Thank you.



Anthony D. Romero is the executive director of the ACLU. He assumed the position in 2001 as the first Latino and openly gay man to do so. Romero was born in New York City to Puerto Rican parents and spent the initial years of his childhood growing up in a public housing project in the Bronx. His father worked as a houseman at a large Manhattan hotel and was repeatedly turned down for a more financially lucrative job as a banquet waiter, being told that it was because he did not speak English well enough. His father decided to seek assistance from the attorney of the labor union he belonged to, hoping to file a grievance against his employer. He won the case, which allowed for him to find better paying work and later allowed for the family to improve their standard of living. The family subsequently moved to suburban New Jersey, where Anthony graduated high school. Romero was the first member of his family to graduate from high school. He received his B.A. degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs in 1987, having written a senior thesis titled "Colombian Migration and Political Participation in the United States". He later received a J.D. from Stanford University Law School in 1990. He is a member of the New York bar. He was a Dinkelspiel Scholar at Stanford University, a Cane Scholar at Princeton, and a National Hispanic Scholar at both institutions.



From Wikipedia

I think community is really important right now. With so many of us feeling the trepidation, the weariness, the anger, the fear, the frustration, the terrorism that we've experienced in our communities, this is a time to huddle around a virtual campfire with your posse, with your family, with your loved ones and your network. It's not a time to be isolated or alone. It's time for us

to lean in and get involved. You cannot change the channel. You can't tune out. You can't say, "This is too hard to fix." It's not that hard for us to listen, and learn, and heed, because it's the only way we're going to build out of this. By hearing the voices of our neighbors and loved ones, and by hearing the voices on Twitter, people who we don't know.

White Communities need to pay even closer attention. This is a test of your character. Are you willing to lean in and engage?

For me, these have been a really hard couple of weeks. This is really a test of whether or not we really believe in the American experiment. Do we really believe

it? Do we really believe that out of many, one? That a country with no unifying language, no unifying culture, no unifying religion, can we really become one people, all equal before the law, all bound together with belief in the rule of law? Do we really believe, or do we just think, "It's a nice saying to see on the back of a paper dollar?"

And for me, this is a referendum on the American experiment, on whether we really believe. The future is in our hands. This is not like other crises.

I've been the head of the ACLU for almost 20 years. I feel like I've seen it all. Yet, this is different, and this is different because it is cumu-

lative. This is centuries of systemic discrimination, and the bill has come due, and it will continue to be due. And we will pay unless we really do something quite different.

I have been scratching my head at the ACLU for the last week. We've been at this for a hundred years. My organization's been working on this from its inception in 1931. We were involved with the report about lawlessness and law enforcement beginning in 1931. We opened up our first storefronts after the riots in Watts so that we could bring legal services and lawyers to the community and demand justice from the police departments. We brought the Miranda ruling

ACLU Continued.

(the right to remain silent). We brought Gideon (the right to a court-appointed attorney if you can't afford one). We fought Bloomberg on stop and frisk. It took him years and a loss in front of our litigation to finally apologize. We've been at this for a hundred years.

And for the communities that have lived this for 400 years, I've been scratching my head, thinking, "It ain't working." We don't need another round of lawsuits on racial bias or implicit bias in police departments. We don't need to find a new lawsuit on qualified immunity. We don't need another race discrimination or gender discrimination lawsuit to implicate police departments. We've done that. And we will continue to do that.

For me, where I've come is that we need to defund the budgets of police departments. It's the only way we're going to take power back. The more I've read over the last couple of weeks about where this country is, the more I'm clear that is my North Star at the moment. We will continue to bring the litigation on qualified immunity. We will do the efforts to hold unaccountable law enforcement officials accountable. We will bring lawsuits, because the Justice Department is not doing that. So we will continue to do all that good work.

But the real thing is we're going to go after those budgets. When you look at the fact that we spend a \$100 million dollars on policing, more than on incarceration. Minneapolis spent 30% of their budget on policing. Oakland, 41% on policing. New York City police department spends more money on policing than it does on housing preservation, development, community, youth services, and homelessness. We're going after the money.

That's hardcore advocacy. Bills drop in local legislatures to cut the funding to police, to stop these programs that give the federal military surplus to police departments so they become like little mini armies. These don't look like police officers. They look like standing armies. The enemy are communities of color. We need to take away their toys, we need to cut their budgets, we need

to shrink the police infrastructure so that we can get police out of the lives of people of color and communities of color.

Police enforce things when they should not have a role to play. People should not lose their lives over whether or not a cigarette pack has the proper tax stamp, or whether a \$20 bill was forged or not. That's not worthy of spending our dollars on police. Get them out of that business. Let's focus on the most important and the most serious of crimes, and that's it. That's it. We're going to de-police our communities, shrink those budgets. We're going to reinvest those monies in local communities. It will be like a "Water on Stone" campaign with local legislatures. Local city councils will have report cards for people who talk out of both sides of their mouth and say, "We believe in police reform," and yet they still approve budgets with 30% to 40% for the police? We'll stop that. I'm going to put that right to the public.

What we have tried to do is simply not working. I struggle with finding optimism in this moment. We have to find the optimism. In the face of so many setbacks, there's been some change. It's been too little, too slow, and not enough. We have to rocket boost it. But we can't lose sight of the optimism.

I've been thinking about the folks who inspired me. Dr. King's father, of course, and the words of others have inspired me. But I also find inspiration in the words of a scholar I really don't like very much, Sam Huntington. He's criticized as a conservative or racist. But sometimes you can find inspiration even in your enemy's words. In one of his books he writes about how America is a disappointment because it fails to live up to its aspirations. He actually describes America is a failure, because it doesn't live up to its ideals. But it's not a failure. It's not a bunch of lies. It's a disappointment. And in the disappointment, also is the fact that there's hope.

I'm paraphrasing it, but I think we must wrap all of that together and think about the disappointment, and the hope, and the resolve to do better. And we need to listen and lean in.

Thank you.

Pike Township border in red

Are we at a turning point?

Note from the Editor:

When we began the *Pike Pulse Newspaper* we expected to cover only Pike Township activities, but then here comes the pandemic: What a challenge! How can we imagine building back from that? We covered aspects of Coronavirus and were looking forward to celebrating the reopening of our society.

But the horrific death of George Floyd and the daily protests that followed have provided a new urgency, which we of course simply have to address. Our world is changing and Pike Township is changing with it.

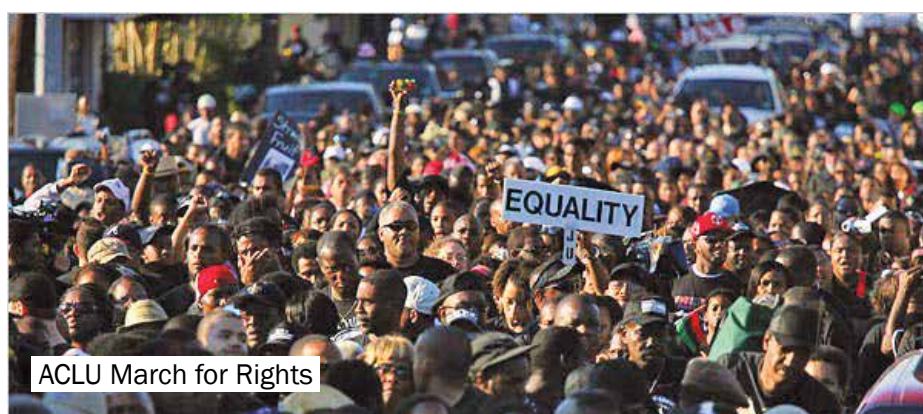
Are we at a turning point in our society?

As Chris Anderson, the head of TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) pointed out: "I think before we can even start to answer any question about what do we do now, we just have to seek to understand the immensity of this moment. So many people in the United States and beyond are grappling with feelings of anger, frustration, deep, deep sadness, and really helplessness. No matter who you are, you have questions about what to do now. How do we make things better? And as we've seen violence like this unfold for many, many years, what is the path forward?"

We at *Pike Pulse* reached out to our Faith Leaders in Pike Township. We're so grateful to have found some who were able to take the time to engage in a discussion about racial injustice in Indianapolis, the unbearable acts of violence against the black community that we witnessed, the dangers to a nation from anger and fear, and how on earth we can move forward from this to something better.

Our new staff reporter, **Arnita Williams**, arranged meetings with each Faith Community Leader. The next 6 pages are the answers to the questions she asked.

Brock Brown



ACLU March for Rights



Arnita M. Williams, Pike Pulse Staff Reporter

- Freelance Writer • Entrepreneur • Leather Artisan
- Life-long resident of Indianapolis
- Family has resided in Pike Township since 1975.
- B.A. Business Administration/Marketing
- Marian University Alumna
- United States Air Force veteran
- Hobbies/Quiet Time: Bible study
- Listening to jazz
- Growing house plants
- Reading biographies

Are We At A Turning Point?

FAITH Leader



Pastor Jeffrey Johnson

Pastor Jeffrey A. Johnson, Sr., of **Eastern Star Church**, leads a ministry based on evangelism and discipleship. "Where Jesus is exalted, and the word is explained!"

ing businesses that employ black people, helps them advance economically, and helps them become more educated. Burning businesses does not help the community.

Are peaceful protesters doing that, or are the anti-black groups that want to destroy and disrupt?

One of my mentors, **Pastor William J. Shaw**, says the demonic take advantage of people who are hurting.



Pastor William J. Shaw

determine who the president is by protesting afterwards. We determine it by voting. If they had run around before the election to get more votes for our side, they could have been more effective. I think with our young people the issue is education.

When **Dr. Martin**

Luther King, Jr.

and others in the civil rights movement held protests and marches, you could see the agitation they created. What young people don't know about is how to

obtain the legislation that's needed to address the things protesters demand.

The Urban League and the

NAACP have demanded this nation teach black history in schools. If we

can't get black history classes in school systems, we're going to have to figure out a way to teach it in

our homes, our churches, our mosques or in our communities. We've got to figure out a way to get our children educated so they can learn more than just how to protest and about civil disobedience. There are other aspects of this they need to know. And if they don't learn about black history then as adults they'll be as messed up as this nation is with racism and the racial divide now.

We know there's help and hope because we've seen it. We've seen successful black leaders in every field, whether it's politics, television, movies, athletics, business or education. We've seen it across the board. So, we can transcend the racism and rise above it. I think education is a big part of it.

Why do you think more white faith leaders don't speak out?

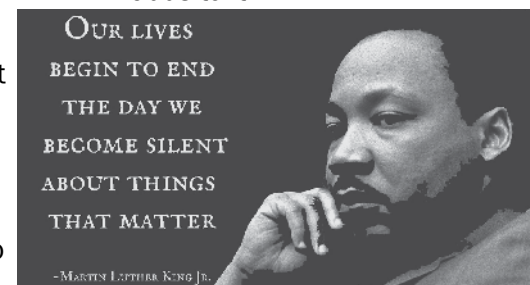
A lot of our white faith leaders' theology is twisted. Many of them look in the Bible and talk about a personal relationship with God through his son, Jesus Christ. I do that too, but what they fail to do with that theology is to understand the social deliverance.

Jesus said, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to set the captives free." So, Jesus comes and addresses oppression.

Jesus didn't die on the cross because he said he was the Son of God. He died on the cross because he addressed the unjust systems in society: whether it is an educational system, a political system or an economic system. That's why he was crucified. He came to deal

with social injustice.

The white pastors, preachers and managers, not all of them, but most of them, ignore that. And not only have they ignored it, they deny it. They said what Jesus taught has nothing to do with social injustice. And so, their silence adds to it.



What did **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, say about the real tragedy of racism? It's not the actions of bad people, it's the silence of good people who never thought about racism.

So, here you claim to be a Christian and a child of God. You see this racial divide, you see this social injustice, but you don't say anything. You don't say anything to your people, and you don't say anything to the powers that be.

It's the theology of the white faith leaders that is so limited. They teach: "You've got to get yourself right and then you're done." No, you're not. There's a social expression of our faith, and it deals with community. And they think, for whatever reason, they don't need it.

How has all this affected you?

I'm 58 years old and these racial injustices are not isolated incidents. It's not just **Sean Reed**. It is not just **George Floyd**. This is not just **Breonna Taylor**. This is my 58 years of living in a nation that is racially divided with intent.

We have policies, laws and legislations that intentionally do this to black people and have done it for more than 200 years. I've been in 58 of those years. So, these are not isolated incidents for me.

There are individuals, organizations and institutions that don't wait on **George Floyd** or **Sean Reed** or **Breonna Taylor**. We fight against this racial divide every day, every week, every year. We are always fighting against this systemic racism.

I'm on the board of National Action Network with **Reverend Al Sharpton**. I'm part of the **Urban League**. I'm part of the **Indianapolis Urban League**. I'm on their board. I'm part of the board of the **United Negro College Fund**. What we do with the black initiative



How do we respond to the police killing of George Floyd?

I believe the original sin of the United States is racism. The killing of George Floyd is nothing new to us. What's happening new is the racial sins are being recorded. We first had video cameras, and now we have cell phones.

And we have a teenage girl who recorded what happened to George Floyd. We never would have known the truth had she not had the courage to record it and then report it.

From the time this nation began, we've had deep racial divide. From the way Native Americans were treated, through slavery, through lynching — this is normal behavior for the United States of America. It is just being recorded and made public more often now.

The response I've seen historically from protests has been very helpful. Our society needs what I call "agitation." That's what protests do. People march with signs, make demands, and let people know: "We're not going to take this any more! There needs to be change!"

Protests bring irritation and motivate policy makers and leaders throughout this nation to take another look at what's going on.

I'm talking about peaceful protests, not about killing somebody, or burning a police car, or shooting at a police officer or burning a building. For the life of me, I can't see at all how burn-

And we are the people who are hurting.

We're hurting because of the racial divide. We're hurting because of food deserts. We're hurting because of lack of health-care for people of color: for black people, brown people and poor people. We're hurting because of police brutality. We're hurting because our sons are gunned down by those who are supposed to protect and serve, and often times at no consequence to them.

So, when we go for peaceful protests, here come the demonic. Here comes this evil presence that does things to jeopardize what we have a right to do as citizens of the United States.

And, yes, there are some protesters who falsely claim to be for George Floyd and what we're all about, but who don't do right. I think the destruction is done by people trying to sabotage the peaceful protest. I believe they are the people who don't give one care about social justice, but are doing these things to make matters worse.

How can young people live amidst all that's going on?

What I try to help young people understand is we know how to agitate society with peaceful protests, marches, and making lots of noise. We got that. What we don't have down is how to bring about legislative change.

When it's time to register to vote, and time to vote, good people don't seem to follow through and vote. After Trump got voted in as president, a bunch of young people ran around the nation protesting about him being voted in as president. Well, we don't



George Floyd



Sean Reed



Breonna Taylor



Reverend Al Sharpton

Are We At A Turning Point?

(continued)



Indianapolis Urban League



is to enhance this community. I meet with elected officials, business leaders and social justice leaders. This is not something I do because something bad happened a week or a month ago. This is my life.

I'm able to do this because I learned about my history, about the people who made sacrifices for me to live where I live. I know those who motivated me to go to school, and to make what I make and to do what I do. It's not new to me. This ain't no, "Now I've gotten inspired because something bad happened." No. I do this every day.

And I'm glad to see people getting their a-ha moments about racism. I just got mine real early. I see people have moments when they awaken to what's happening in the community and want to participate in it at some level. Everybody's not going to have the same level of influence, but everybody here does something.

I feel I'm supposed to do this because somebody did this for me. Now it's my turn to do what I can for others who will follow.

FAITH Leader



Reverend
Dr. Wayne L. Moore

Rev. Dr. Wayne L. Moore of Olivet Baptist Church & President of the Baptist Ministers Alliance, shepherds "one of the oldest African-American Baptist churches in the city of Indianapolis where they unapologetically worship the Lord, encourage His people and evangelize to the lost."

What would you say is the most effective way to achieve justice as it relates to the protesting that's going on now?

The first thing is to admit there is systemic racism in our country. Lord knows, once we admit that systemic racism exists then we can get together and begin to learn and strategize how to combat it. The first thing we must realize is the fight is going on all over the country. What we see is a total let down in municipalities. The municipal leaders of government have let local communities down by not creating a task force that would improve police and community relationships. That's why we have the problems we have today.



Why do you think more white faith leaders are not speaking out about the current condition of our nation?

It would be a conflict of interest for them because most of the white faith leaders are supporting the administration. The evangelicals and the high-level religious personalities are supporting the administration that's in right now. White faith leaders are not joining in like they should. If they did, it would help tremendously to put things into place and to create policies to change all of this.

Arnita: There was a news report that the attorneys for the four white cops who killed George Floyd, are going to appeal the charges levied against them by using the "qualified immunity" law that was established in the 1960s, which protects police officers who kill blacks. There was another instance about three years ago, where a black cop was sitting in his patrol car after responding to a call by a white woman who heard someone being assaulted outside her home. She walked up to the police car and the black cop turned around and instantly, out of reflex, shot her. She died. He's in prison now.

Do you think the "qualified immunity" law is a double standard, in favor of white police?

Yes, it is a double standard. We must be conscious that the Federal Order of Police is a pretty strong organization. They're in the business of not disciplining officers; they're in the business of protecting officers at any level. And so, this is going to be something to watch and to see the double standard come into fruition. But I believe if the double standard comes into fruition, we're going to have more rioting, and it's going to be more severe.

Do you believe the protesters are doing the vandalizing or are

anti-black groups tearing up black communities during the protests?

I lived through a riot, and I don't think black people are destructive like that anymore. I believe there are some white supremacist groups who have been instigating the violence. I believe they instigated a lot of things as it relates to the riots, and I believe they still are. And since they've been exposed, they have tapered down. And black people — yes, we have problems — but most of the recent destruction did not come from the black community.

With the recent killing of Drearon Reed here in Indianapolis, three weeks prior to George Floyd's death, how has this personally affected you?

I am really concerned about community and police relationships. If authentic relationships between police and community were in place, we could have talked about what happened to the brothers here in Indianapolis. None of the destruction would have taken place. You would have had some tension, but I don't believe you would have had the tension to the degree we had for the first two to three weeks. We had a total breakdown in community and police engagement.



Obama's Taskforce on 21st Century Policing

I'm reading **President Obama's Taskforce on 21st-Century Policing** which was completed in May, 2015. He has all of the needed reform in there, but people just don't want to implement it.

We have administrators who don't want to do it. If the City-County Council really means to do good for the City of Indianapolis, they would begin to create police reform. Right now, reforming Indianapolis police is only the new jail. It's not new policy. And that is what is bothering me. There is no community engagement, and there are no police working together with the community. It's a problem now. And it is going to continue to be a problem in the future.

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Are We At A Turning Point?

(continued)

FAITH Leader



Pastor
Aaron Woodruff

Pastor Aaron Woodruff of Eagle Creek Grace Bible Church, leads a multi-cultural congregation with the purpose to glorify God, based on the Word of God, with the mission to make disciples through the resource of God's Holy Spirit.

How should we approach the protests occurring around the nation?

When I look at the protests, we need to step back and take a deep breath. There's anger and bitterness from different sides. We may not understand the full situation. We need to start listening to one another and share with each other, even if there's differences of opinions, and a difference in world view.

There's still common ground in how we treat humanity. I believe when we can take that view, all sides, depending on every view, we can listen to one another

and then speak on real-tough issues our nation's facing today of hate, discrimination, bigotry, social injustice and the economic chasms with various groups. I think many of those issues of injustice can be traced to how

we're raised, taught specific views, and what we've been exposed to.

What is the solution to divisiveness?

I think we need to have a fundamental return to the truth of God's word. Because everything in God's word does not matter whether you're male or female,

whether you're Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, Asian. It does not matter what your cultural background is, or what race you may put down on a card or a questionnaire.

There's a unique way we treat one another. I think, when we can get back to a real rhetoric that has real solutions, just in the form of what we do, based on our truth and conscience, then, we'll see people through a different lens.

Your question is very important. But, there's not an easy answer. I watch news on all channels, because I want to get every viewpoint. As I watched the news the other night, you know what I saw? No one had the same answer. There were 30 different opinions one night. And, 35 different opinions on another night. But you know what I realized? There



was one word I never heard and that was "God." Nowhere did I hear "God."

What is the major problem?

I think our major problem is that the heart of man is filled with hate and evil. And we lose the perspective that all people are created in the image of God. What we need to do is come together as a society. However, it's very hard to do when there's no absolute truth on which people can base their opinions. They run with how they feel or what they think.

What additional issues do you feel could be addressed as possible solutions to racism in this country?

I think we need to also get a real understanding of our history. Many crimes and terrible things were perpetrated against African Americans that other races have not experienced. Therefore, there may be a lack of awareness or understanding of where someone may be coming from. So, there needs to be education.

There needs to be listening. But my most fundamental belief is that we need to return to the Lord. We need to return to the fundamental, abiding principles and the truth of God's word. If we could do that as a nation, this may sound cliché, but it could change the world. And, that's the full truth.

We do not look at people as uniquely special. We're not looking at them as created in God's great image, as someone the Lord knit together in their mother's womb. And then born into sin. Now men are killing, hating and destroying one another for the most useless of reasons, and there's not a good one. By skin color, by what side of town you live on, what side of town I live on, how I was raised . . . all of this is coming out of man. God paints a vivid picture of what sin has done to man.

When we take God out of society, take Him out of schools, and when we take Him out of the public square, we no longer base our values on His word and His principles. The Bible says: "Love the Lord, your God," first, and then, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Because when you do that, you fulfill everything the Bible says. You don't hate your neighbor. You don't

steal from your neighbor. You don't trash-talk your neighbor. You don't gossip against your neighbor. You edify them. You lift them up. You encourage them. You help them. You want to give to them.

Can you imagine if we applied the Lord in our lives? Or God back into our schools? God back into our government, and started preaching gentleness? If we start treating each other with kindness?

Christ died for us. He's the greatest example of love. He's the greatest example of all the past, present and future times of the world of love. God demonstrated this to us. And He says: hey, I've done something for you. I don't want you to hate black people. I made them uniquely special to me. I don't want you to hate white people. I made them. Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, African American, Africans from Africa, Arab, all people.



How do you know that you are just as special before God as anyone else? For God so loved the "world." Not a particular race. All mankind. All humanity.

I believe as flawed as this experiment of the United States of America has been, we see both great good and horrific things. But when society gets away from the fundamental truths of God's word, and expels God from society, that society cannot stand for itself. We need to return to God. And we seek good things like that in our society. But the real issue is a heart issue. And, until we clean-up the heart, it's very hard to get a good start.

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Are We At A Turning Point?

(continued)

FAITH Leader



Pastor
Terry A. Webster, Sr.

Nu Corinthian Baptist Church is for ministry, fellowship, worship, evangelism and discipleship. It is the church where the lost are sought and disciples are taught.

How should America approach the protests occurring around the nation at this time?

I certainly suggest protests. As our constitutional right, I certainly suggest protesting, but protesting in a way so it would not lead to violence and destruction. We are not for destruction. I am advocating for peaceful protesting.

What do we do now? Where do we go from here?

I would say raise our voices to be heard peacefully for justice.

What has gotten the public protests to this point was the unjust treatment of George Floyd. Black men around this country are being treated unjustly. We have systemic racism at the top that needs to be weeded out.

We have to be careful about generalizing. Every police department is not a bad police department. Every citizen is not a bad citizen. But because of the vile treatment and hideous treatment that black men are receiving around this country, we certainly have some in authority now who need to be weeded out.

I would love to see all of those who are involved in the George Floyd murder receive criminal charges. And I would love



Nu Corinthian Baptist Church



to see the Floyd family get justice. Black men are not getting justice around our country. I would like to see it start at the top, wherever the top is. And we need to weed out this immoral act of racism.

How can young people exist, live and function within our current situation? They're watching everything we do. What should we tell them?

What ages are you identifying as young people?

Arnita: I saw a parent with a three-year-old at a protest. George Floyd's daughter, who is six years old, began asking questions. She was interviewed on CBS this morning. So, I would say toddlers and up.

Pastor Webster: My encouragement for parents and my hope for young people of that age would be for them to have a solid foundation at home. If we're going to help young people, I would ask parents to make sure your children are growing up in good environments that are conducive to learning the truth, a holistic approach to life, and not just looking at life from a hopeless perspective.

But learning the truth about life, the truth about your world around you — the good, the bad and the ugly — and then going forward in a positive way with truth as our foundation. That must begin in the home.

I have not heard many white faith leaders speak out. Why do you think that is?

I don't want to accuse them of any type of racism, but I saw a sign downtown when I was down there protesting that probably says it all: "Silence on racism is racist."

You cannot be silent on the ugly, immoral act of racism and stand behind a sacred desk and declare the word of God. So Jesus spoke out about classified racism. He spoke out about different sects and their beliefs.



Without really calling them out, I certainly would have to say if you proclaim the love of Christ Sunday after Sunday, you need to take a position on the injustice and the inequality we are witnessing today. And you need to take a position on it, not just on Sunday mornings, but it needs to be a voice resounding in public and standing with those who are being treated in an unjust manner.

How has the recent killing of Dreajon Reed here in Indianapolis, three weeks prior to George Floyd's murder, personally affected you?

To all our young black men in our community, and our young black boys that are coming up, it goes back to the statement I made about the family.

Be responsible. Understand that the law is given not for those who do good, but for those who do evil. These killings have caused me to want to continue to teach our young black men how to be responsible and how to respect the law. And how to stay on the right side of the law without going into a whole lot of other things.

It has given me a desire even more, and the hunger to want to instruct our young black men in the way of right. So that when they have a brush with the law, they can respectfully know how to respond.



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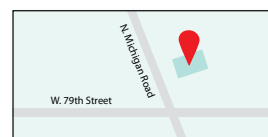
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Are We At A Turning Point?

(continued)

Community FAITH Leader



Lindsey B. Mintz,
Executive Director
of the Indianapolis
Jewish Community
Relations Council
(JCRC)

Lindsey B. Mintz

What is your view on police brutality, murder and excessive force used against non-white workers by police without consequence?

My reaction, my opinion, my stomach, my mind — all of me — I find police brutality against black lives absolutely horrific. And I recognize that it is not just today. It's not just over the last few years. It is a direct legacy and consequence of how our country came into existence.

I think it is way past time for us to be reckoning with the truth of what has gone on in this country for several hundred years. When it comes specifically to police reform, the Jewish community and the JCRC are absolutely supportive of more civilian oversight and participation — not just oversight. Several of the reforms we support are listed in the JCRC website. And I'm happy to talk to you more about the Jewish Community and how we get involved with these issues, if you're interested.

Arnita: Yes, I'm very interested. I actually didn't know how to ask that because I need to be educated about your ethnicity as well.

Lindsey: First of all, I want you to feel comfortable asking me questions, just like you would want me to be able to ask you questions. We are from different communities and different life experiences. Please ask me questions about the Jewish Community, but I want to make sure I answer the questions you brought to me first.

Arnita: Okay. Here's my first one: What do you see as a solution to racism in America?

[After a thoughtful pause, Lindsey began:] The solution to racism is people meeting each other, people getting to know each other, and people learning about each other. Learning has to be the first step for a lot of people who aren't quite as far along this journey of accepting and of reckoning with the truth of systemic racism in the country.

Learning comes from listening. These might seem like small things, but if everybody commits to listening to somebody who's not like them, it would be a positive beginning. In this particular case, in this particular moment — a moment that needs to be sustained — it means reaching out to members of the black community. And not just asking, "What can I do?" Not just asking, "Explain racism to me." That is something the white community needs to work on themselves, but ask this: Will you tell me your story?" Ask Black Community members to share experiences as a black person in this country.

It starts with listening. There are all sorts of activism: organizing, voting, reaching out to elected officials at all levels of government, marching in the streets, but it must start with listening.

And it must be a generational commitment.

I had somebody ask me the other day, "Aren't we just going to be back here talking about this next year?"

And I said, "Yeah, and we should be. We should be talking about it the year after that, and year after that." It's not just a conversation to have right now. It's the conversation that needs to be systemic. The conversation around racism needs to permeate all aspects of society, just like racism does.

Arnita: Last night on the news I saw young people in Brownsburg and Avon who have taken a stand. They were protesting racism. They had signs and everything. It was really remarkable to see the number of those children who were part of it. And one of the young protesters did say this is going

to be the first generation that takes the stand saying we're not going to stand for this anymore. It just brought joy to my heart.

Lindsey: Yes! And people ask, "How do we capitalize on this moment?"

I'm not comfortable with the word "capitalize," and I don't like thinking of it as only a "moment."

We're all swimming in our Facebook moments and social media statements. I saw a Facebook post that said, "If you were wondering how you would've acted if you lived through the 1960s civil rights movement, now is your chance to stop wondering and get active."

So, if this is the next chapter of the civil rights struggle in this country, I'm saying: "Bring it on!"

We're going to do this; we can do this. And yeah, it has to be a commitment that an entire generation needs to commit to. Everybody is invited to participate in this transformative, transformational moment. Everybody should feel like they have a role that they can play that's constructive.

How has this personally affected you?

Personally? It's really hard for me to separate my personal and professional feelings about this systemic racism.

I've been Executive Director of JCRC for eight years and worked five years prior to that as the Jewish Community's voice and advocate in the State House. I spoke for the Jewish community to our legislature.

I have been thinking about how the Jewish community engages in the most challenging public policy issues of our time. And how does the "Jewish Community" feel about it?

The Jewish Community, like all communities, is not monolithic. There is great diversity within the Jewish Community, both politically, economically, and

certainly heritage-wise. There are members of our community who descended from Europe, but there are many Jews in our community who have African ancestry, or Middle Eastern ancestry, or Asian ancestry. There are Jews all over the world, and Jews in this country who come from all over the world.

And so, this isn't just the Jewish Community looking at the Black Community. The Black Community is us. We are coming to a time when we look at ourselves and say, who are we and where are we?

It's well time for us to lift up voices of black Jews and other Jews of color. It's well past time for us to take a hard look at our communal organizations and institutions and our practices around diversity and inclusion. This journey starts at home, and that home might be a physical home with your family and the parent trying to figure out how to talk to their kids, but it also starts in congregations and in communities. That's really important for Jews of color in our Jewish Community to hear.

You asked what this has meant to me personally. I have spent close to 15 years representing the Jewish Community to the community at large. JCRC is tasked with integral affairs, interstate affairs, public policy, coalition building, and Israel advocacy.

How do I represent the Jewish Community when I'm building relationships in the Black Community or Latinx Community or Immigrant Community or LGBTQ Community or the Muslim Community? How do I build those relationships? I need to know where my community is, and it can be difficult. It can be really difficult sometimes to have the conversation inside the Jewish Community.



Are We At A Turning Point?

(continued)

Where are we right now? That's what is ahead of me as a leader of the Jewish Community. I want to help bring my community into this moment in a way that is constructive and also to meet people where they are.

Many members of the Jewish community are marching in the streets. Some are more apt to pick up the phone and call elected leaders in all levels of government, but there are plenty who are still just beginning their journey of understanding what dismantling systemic racism means. And so



part of my job -- in addition to taking interviews, in addition to speaking to elected officials, in addition to all of these things outside the Jewish community, a lot of my job in the next several months, if not several years -- is going to be working within the Jewish community to help us both individually and communally engage in this work of racial justice and equity in a really meaningful, substantial way.

Arnita: Wonderful answer! Here's my last question for you.

How do you explain this to the children?

Thankfully, there is no shortage of resources right now, and there are websites answering just that question. But I'm not an educator. I am a mom. And, we haven't talked about anti-Semitism and the connection between white nationalism and white supremacy and anti-Semitism.

With the increase of anti-Semitism over the last few years, and the increase in violent anti-Semitism, members of the Jewish Community aren't comfortable walking into their place of worship, unless there's a security guard. This is part of the challenge. At the very time when the Jewish community was seeking some more support from law enforcement to help keep our institutions safe, we have to recognize that having law enforcement in our institutions may not be making everybody feel safe.

That's another part of the



conversation we need to have. So having a conversation about anti-Semitism is something Jewish parents -- and all parents, but particularly Jewish parents over the last few years -- are still trying to figure out.

In talking about racism to children I'll share the same advice I give to Jewish parents who want to talk to their children about anti-Semitism. The behavior kids need to see is an adult standing up and speaking out when they see something that is racist, or anti-Semitic, or Islamophobic or xenophobic. Children need to see what that looks like. Adults need to stop racist comments or to point out racist articles and clarify the bias of the article. Adults can also talk to children about how to talk about it. Depending on the child and the family, reading together and learning together is always a good option. Really being intentional about the

conversations you bring into a family conversation, into a family gathering, this is not easy stuff. Sometimes it's harder to have a conversation inside your family than it is to have a conversation between two people from different families.

Sometimes it is easier for me to connect with my counterparts in the Muslim Community or Black Community in discussing the challenges we face then it is to have a discussion (or an argument) inside our own families. It can be more painful because it's family.

But this is what has to happen. This is absolutely what has to happen. It has to be generational in both directions, from the smallest thing to the biggest thing. Young people need to see behavior from their parents and teachers and religious leaders that they can model. Because that's where it starts. But I also think there's a ton of resources online.

Organizations and sites are collecting children's books on how to have a conversation about racism. Check out what's online. And libraries will be opening soon.

Arnita: Thank you! My questions are answered, but you wanted to share something.

Lindsey: Yes, I do! The *Hebrew Bible* commands us to not just pursue justice; we are commanded to recognize that all people are created in the image of God. And

we are commanded not to stand by idly while the blood of our neighbor is being shed.

There's no shortage of commandments that instruct us on how to act and how to treat others. The main one is: **"Love your neighbor as yourself."** Rabbin over the centuries continue to teach this.

There's a powerful quote hanging in my office from a rabbi, hundreds and hundreds of years ago, **"While you are not commanded to finish the task, neither are you free to desist from it."** Which means that in my lifetime I might not see the end of anti-Semitism. I might not see the end of racism. But just because the task is large, just because I might not ever see a society completely free of hate in my lifetime, that doesn't mean I don't work for it every day. That doesn't mean I get off the hook and say, "Well, it's too big of a job, and what can I do?" Every person, whether the task is going to be completed or not in your lifetime, must try to work it out.

I'm very grateful of what Judaism teaches me to do. I look to my history, the Jewish Community, and the reason why JCRC

was established. The history of Jews in this country and our history for the past 120 years -- from the beginning of the 20th century -- is a record of what we now call "civil rights issues."

The Jewish community has a long history regarding racism and establishing human rights. But it's not enough to just look to our past and point out, "Half of all freedom writers in the 60s were members of the Jewish community," or, "The person who spoke right before Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his "I Have a Dream" speech, was a rabbi who said, "Silence is complicity."

All of these things are important touch points for American Jews to acknowledge and say, "Look, we've been a part of this struggle for a long time." But now it's time to find a new generation of leaders. Let's not just look to our past, let's look to our present and our future.

Arnita: Thank you so much, Lindsey. I really appreciate you sharing your views.

Lindsey: Thank you for contacting me. I'm excited to see the newspaper and grateful for the opportunity to share my views.



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Shawna Sparks is an advisor to employers regarding their retirement plans and is involved in forming new wealth management relationships. She is a registered representative with Series 7 and 66 registrations and licensed in insurance and a Chartered Retirement Plan Counselor (CRPC).

Born and raised in the Hoosier state, she holds an Associate's degree from Ivy Tech and a Bachelor's degree from IUPUI. Her husband Travis is a career Firefighter. Their son, Landon wrote the Sparks family motto when he was 7: "Adventures are fun! So, let's have some fun!!!!"

Establishing a Financial Safety Net - or a Retirement Account

In times of crisis, you don't want to be shaking pennies out of a piggy bank to make ends meet. Having a financial safety net in place can ensure you're protected when a financial emergency arises. One way to accomplish this is by setting up a cash reserve — a pool of readily available funds that can help you meet emergency or highly urgent short-term needs.

How much is enough?

Most financial professionals suggest you have three to six months' worth of living expenses in your cash reserve. The actual amount, however, should be based on your circumstances. For example, do you have a mortgage? Do you have short-term and long-term disability protection insurance to pay? Are you paying for your child's orthodontics? Are you making car payments? The bottom line: Without an emergency fund, a period of crisis (e.g., unemployment, disability) could be financially devastating.

Building your cash reserve

If you haven't established a cash reserve, or if the one you have is inadequate, you can take several steps to build it up:

- **Save aggressively:** If possible, use pay-roll deductions. They are automatic. Try making yourself "buy money" just like you buy a gallon of milk. Write yourself a check to put into saving, and mobile deposit it.
- **Reduce or limit your eating out, movies, lottery tickets.** For every time you don't go out, reward yourself by adding that money to your savings. (You'll be amazed at how fast it accumulates!)

- Use current or liquid assets (short-term certificates of deposit — or proceeds from holding your own garage sales).
- Use earnings from other investments (e.g. stocks, bonds, or mutual funds).

Where to keep your reserve

You'll want to make sure that your cash reserve is readily available when you need it. However, an FDIC-insured, low-interest savings account isn't your only option. There are several excellent alternatives, each with unique advantages. For example, money market accounts and short-term CDs typically offer higher interest rates than savings accounts, with little (if any) increased risk.

Note: Don't confuse a money market mutual fund with a money market deposit account. An investment in a money market mutual fund is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC. Although the mutual fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1 per share, it is possible to lose money by investing in the fund.

Review periodically

Your personal and financial circumstances change often—a new child comes along, an aging parent becomes more dependent, or a larger home brings increased expenses. Because your cash reserve is the first line of protection against financial devastation, you should review it annually.

The opinions voiced in the material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. To determine which investment(s) may be appropriate for you, consult your financial advisor prior to investing. All performance referenced is historical and is no guarantee of future results. All indices are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. This information provided is not intended to be a substitute for specific individualized tax planning or legal advice. We suggest that you consult with a qualified tax or legal advisor.



This How to Build Community graphic by Syracuse Cultural Workers is available online as a wall-sized poster at SyracuseCulturalWorkers.com.



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The Racial Wealth Gap in America: Asset Types Held by Race

Published June 12, 2020 by Jenna Ross

The Racial Wealth Gap

People of color have faced economic inequality for generations, and the recent wave of **Black Lives Matter** protests has renewed discussions on these disparities.

Compared to White families, other races have lower levels of income and net worth. They are also less likely to hold assets of any type. In fact, 19% of Black families have zero or negative net worth, while only 9% of White households have no wealth.

Today’s chart uses data from the U.S. Federal Reserve’s triennial Survey of Consumer Finances to highlight the racial wealth gap, and the proportion of households that own different kinds of assets by racial group.

Asset Types Held By Race

The financial profile between racial groups varies widely. Below is the percentage of U.S. families with each type of asset, according to the most recent survey from 2016.

	White	Black	Hispanic
Primary Residence	73%	45%	46%
Vehicle	90%	73%	80%
Retirement Accounts	60%	34%	30%
Family-owned Business Equity	15%	7%	6%
Publicly-traded Stocks	61%	31%	28%

Vehicles are the most common asset across all racial groups, followed by a primary residence.

However, the level of equity — or home value less debts — families have in their houses differs by race. White families have equity of **\$215,800**, whereas Black and Hispanic households have net housing wealth of **\$94,400** and **\$129,800** respectively.

In addition, White households are more likely to hold financial assets such as retirement accounts, family businesses, and stocks. These assets are instrumental in building wealth, and are prominent in the wealth composition of America’s richest families.

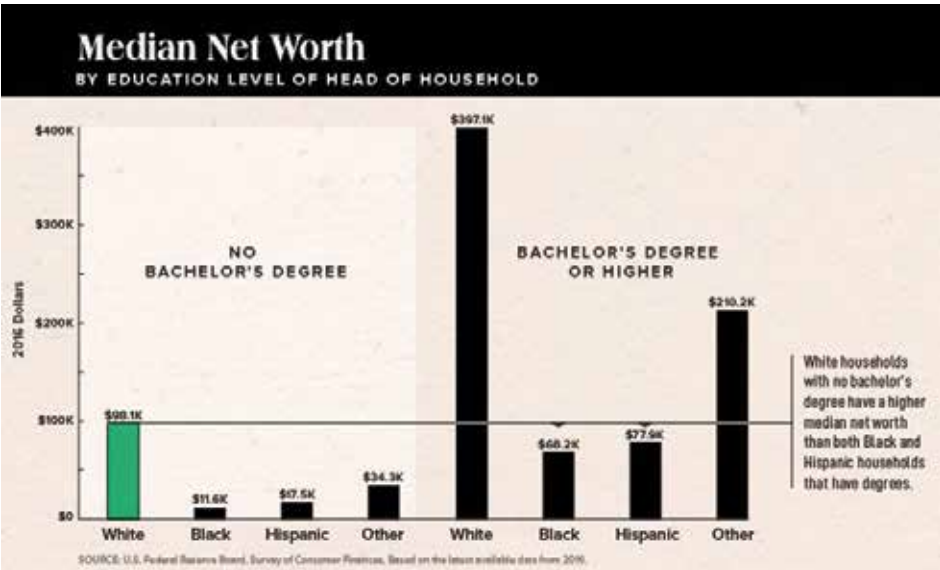
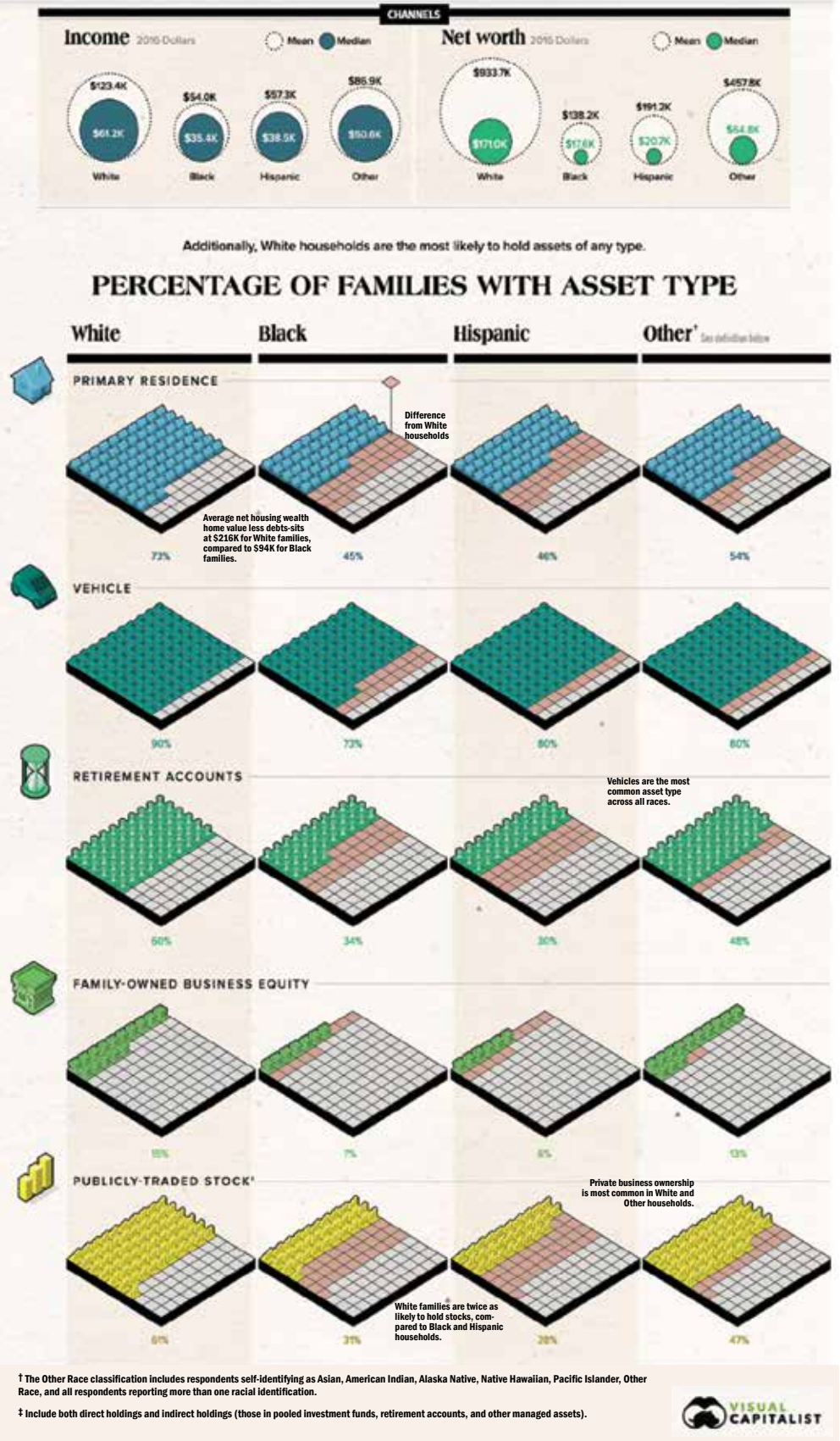
With fewer people of color holding these assets, they miss out on higher average returns than low-risk assets, as well as the power of compound interest. These portfolio differences are striking, but they are not the most important contributing factor in the racial wealth gap.

Demographic and Economic Variations

White households are also more likely to have demographic characteristics that are associated with wealth. According to the U.S. Federal Reserve, they are:

- **Older**, with more than half of households age 55 and up
- **More highly educated**, with 51% having some type of degree
- **Less likely to have a single parent**
- **More likely to have received an inheritance**

For example, **39%** of White heads of households have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to **23%** and **17%** for Black and Hispanic household heads, respectively. However, education doesn’t fully explain the wealth inequities.



Enormous wealth disparities exist between families with the same education level. Even in cases where Black and Hispanic household heads have obtained a bachelor’s degree, their families’ median wealth of **\$68,000** and **\$78,000** respectively is still lower than the **\$98,000** median wealth for White families where the head has no bachelor’s degree.

After accounting for demographic factors, researchers still found there were considerable inequities. What, then, could be primarily responsible for the racial wealth gap?

The Income Gap

While previous research found that the wealth gap is “too big” to be explained by a difference in income, a recent study from the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland offers a new perspective. Focusing on White and Black U.S. households only, researchers analyzed the dynamics of wealth accumulation over time, as opposed to previous studies that considered short time periods.

They found that **income inequality** was the primary contributor to the racial wealth gap. According to the model, if Black and White households had earned the same labor income from 1962 onwards, the Black-to-White wealth ratio would have reached **0.9** by 2007, almost equal.

Moving forward, the study concludes that policy changes will likely have a positive impact if they address issues contributing to income gaps. This includes reducing racial discrimination in the labor market, and creating programs, such as mentorships, that improve environments for specific racial subgroups.



Fire Chief
Chris Tragesser

Chief Trag's Corner

Fire Chief Chris Tragesser's Guide for Pike Safety

While this Fourth of July might seem a little different than most years, the Pike Township Fire Department is still here to keep you safe. We understand people may be hosting their own celebration since many public

fireworks displays and gatherings have been cancelled. There are several safety tips to keep in mind to ensure that you have a safe holiday while having fun.

The Fourth of July is one of the busiest days of the year for the PTFD. In 2017 the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) reported 304 firework-related injuries occurred among 238 individuals. Fifty-one individuals experienced multiple types of injuries. Burns were the most commonly reported injury. The most common burns were to the hands, fingers or arms (43.4%); however, burns to the leg, foot or toes (17.4%), face, ear or head (15.3%), eyes (11.7%), trunk (9.0%), and other (3.3%) also occurred. In 2017, more than one-third of all reported fireworks related injuries involved individuals 18 years of age or younger. The youngest injured person was one-year-old.

An entire house here in Pike Township became a complete loss due to a fire caused by fireworks. This firework was un-noticed and was lit off by another individual in an adjacent neighborhood. Follow these tips to keep yourself and Pike Township safe this Fourth of July.

Firework Safety:

- If you plan on lighting your own fireworks this year, always make sure you light them on the ground and in an open area
- Have a hose turned ON and a fire extinguisher nearby
- Never light more than one firework at a time. Never attempt to re-light or fix a "dud" firework.
- Don't point sparklers or fireworks at yourself or others, especially while they're being lit.
- Always supervise children around fireworks and sparklers

Backyard Grilling Safety:

Grilling and the Fourth of July come hand-in-hand. However, one of the most common calls to PTFD on the Fourth of July is from cooking fires. Follow these tips to keep your home and family safe while grilling out this holiday:

- Keep the grill at least three feet away from decks, siding, branches and any outdoor equipment that can catch fire quickly
- Never grill indoors, in the garage, in any enclosed area, or on a surface that might catch fire
- Keep children and pets away from your grill
- Avoid loose clothing that can catch fire while cooking

Heat Safety:

The Fourth of July usually brings sun and heat. Look over these important tips while outside:

- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. Avoid dark colors because they absorb the sun's rays and make you feel hotter
- Wear sunscreen and make sure to reapply often
- If animals are outside, check on them and make sure they have water and shade

Follow these simple tips for a safe Fourth of July, and your family will have a safe and memorable holiday!



AnnaKay Nicholson

This announcement was a Mother's request



July 4th Celebration a few years ago

PIKE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EXCITING AND CHALLENGING CAREER?

Pike Township Fire Department is seeking
qualified candidates to establish a
Firefighter hiring list.

Application period will run from now until July 3, 2020.

For more information and to apply go to:
www.pikefire.com

Pike Pulse Newspaper

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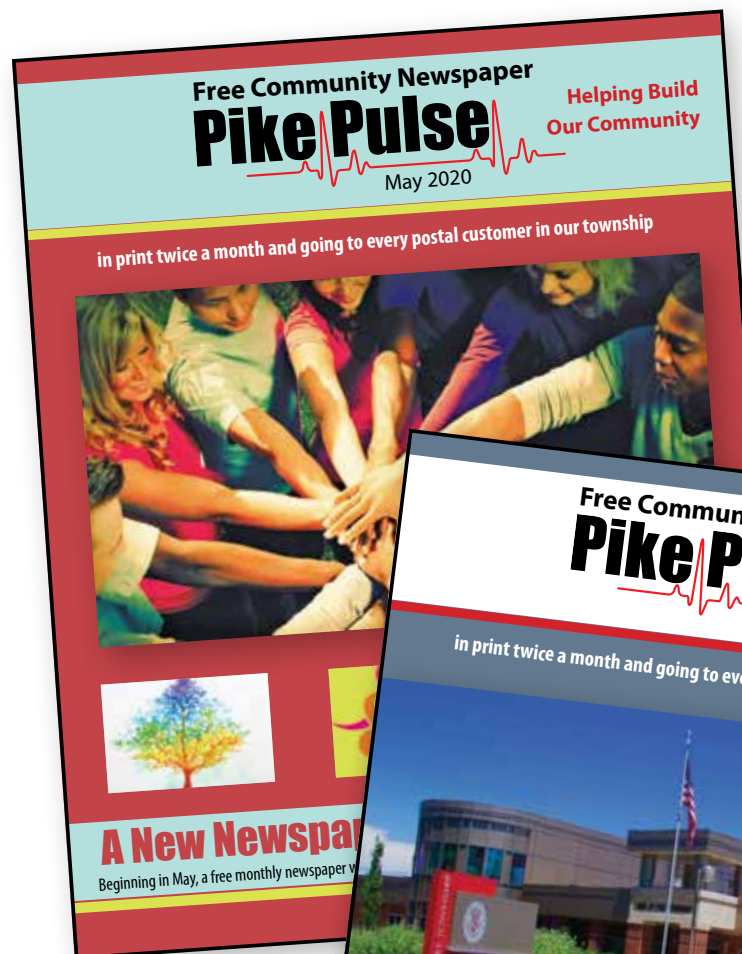
Pike Pulse is the only township-based, independent trade publication in Pike.

Every issue of *Pike Pulse* reaches decision-makers in Pike Township. Whether you're a retail business looking to boost your market share or a manufacturer looking for ways to support your local community, *Pike Pulse* connects you with the people making things happen. Each issue is mailed to everyone in Pike twice a month.* It is also bundled and delivered to hotels, libraries, schools, select restaurants, and other strategically determined locations. ***Every issue is accessible to over 100,000 readers.***

THE FACTS:

Your message can reach over:
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*Pike Pulse publishes 22 editions annually — 2 issues every month except 1 each in November and December.



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The Road to Recovery: Which Economies are Reopening?

Published May 28, 2020, by Iman Ghosh

COVID-19 has brought the world to a halt—but after months of uncertainty, it seems that the situation is slowly taking a turn for the better.

This chart measures the extent to which 41 major economies are reopening, by plotting two metrics for each country: the mobility rate and the COVID-19 recovery rate:

In general, the higher the mobility rate, the more economic activity this signifies. In most cases, mobility rate also correlates with a higher rate of recovered people in the population.

Here's how these countries fare based on the above metrics.

Country	Mobility Rate	Recovery Rate	Total Cases	Total Recovered
Argentina	-56%	31.40%	14,702	4,617
Australia	-41%	92.03%	7,150	6,580
Austria	-100%	91.93%	16,628	15,286
Belgium	-105%	26.92%	57,849	15,572
Brazil	-48%	44.02%	438,812	193,181
Canada	-67%	52.91%	88,512	46,831
Chile	-110%	41.58%	86,943	36,150
Colombia	-73%	26.28%	25,366	6,665
Czechia	-29%	70.68%	9,140	6,460
Denmark	-93%	88.43%	11,512	10,180
Finland	-93%	81.57%	6,743	5,500

Mobility data as of May 21, 2020 (Latest available). COVID-19 case data as of May 29, 2020.

In the main scatterplot visualization, we've taken things a step further, assigning these countries into four distinct quadrants:

1. High Mobility, High Recovery

High recovery rates are resulting in lifted restrictions for countries in this quadrant, and people are steadily returning to work.

New Zealand has earned praise for its early and effective pandemic response, allowing it to curtail the total number of cases. This has resulted in a 98% recovery rate, the highest of all countries. After almost 50 days of lockdown, the government is recommending a flexible four-day work week to boost the economy back up.

2. High Mobility, Low Recovery

Despite low COVID-19 related recoveries, mobility rates of countries in this quadrant remain higher than average. Some countries have loosened lockdown measures, while others did not have strict measures in place to begin with.

Brazil is an interesting case study. After deferring lockdown decisions to state and local levels, the country is now averaging the highest number of daily cases out of any country. On May 28 the country had 24,151 new cases and 1,067 new deaths.

3. Low Mobility, High Recovery

Countries in this quadrant are playing it safe and holding off on reopening their economies until the population has fully recovered.

Italy, the once-epicenter for the crisis in Europe is understandably wary of cases rising back up to critical levels. It has opted to keep its activity to a minimum to try and boost the 65% recovery rate, even as it slowly emerges from over 10 weeks of lockdown.

4. Low Mobility, Low Recovery

People in these countries are cautiously remaining indoors as their governments continue to work on crisis response.

With a low 0.05% recovery rate, the **United Kingdom** has no immediate plans to reopen. A two-week lag time in reporting discharged patients from NHS services may also be contributing to this low number. Although new cases are leveling off, the country has the highest coronavirus-caused death toll across Europe.

The **U.S.** also sits in this quadrant with over 1.7 million cases and counting. Recently, some states have opted to ease restrictions on social and business activity, which could potentially result in case numbers climbing back up.

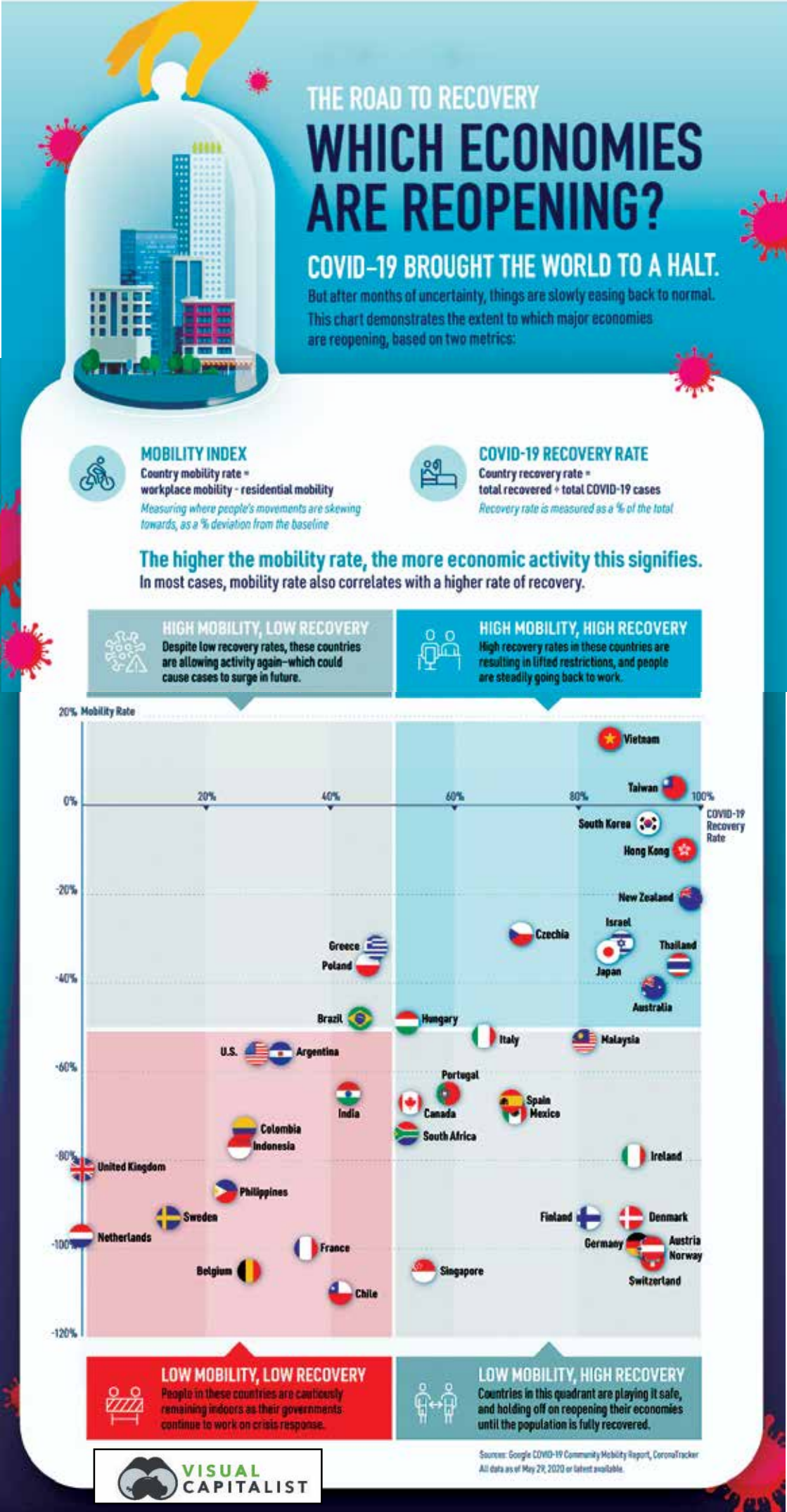
Over in **Sweden**, a controversial herd immunity strategy meant that the country continued business as usual amid the rest of Europe's heightened regulations. Sweden's COVID-19 recovery rate sits at only 13.9%, and the country's -93% mobility rate implies that people have been taking their own precautions.

COVID-19's Impact on the Future

A "second wave" of new cases could upend plans to reopen economies. As countries reckon with these competing risks of health and economic activity, there is no clear answer around the right path to take. **COVID-19 is a catalyst for an entirely different future.**

Without being melodramatic, COVID-19 is like the last nail in the coffin of globalization... The 2008-2009 crisis gave globalization a big hit, as did Brexit, as did the U.S.-China trade war, but COVID is taking it to a new level.

— Carmen Reinhart, Incoming Chief Economist for the World Bank



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