

TALKING ABOUT THE MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD & THE BLACK LIVES MATTER DEMONSTRATIONS

In response to the events of spring 2020, StoryCorps aims to create a space for reflection around the murder of George Floyd and the demonstrations that followed. Each conversation recorded will be archived at the Library of Congress, where future generations can listen to and learn from this moment in the struggle for racial justice.

People process these events in different ways and on different timetables. People may feel energized, activated, angry, cynical, or every shade in between. We welcome the entire constellation of emotion and perspective. Regardless of circumstance, StoryCorps strives to provide a safe environment to share your stories.

To anyone who believes they will benefit from reflecting with another on this moment in American history, we invite you to record with us. We hope this will result in the sharing of wisdom from one generation to the next, reflection on how one's race influences their life as an American, and reflection on what "America" means to you and what you hope it can be. We honor the opportunity to hold, preserve, and share your story.

OVERVIEW OF THE INTERVIEW PROCESS

1. Choose a person in your life with whom you'd like to share a reflective discussion on the topic.
2. Familiarize yourself with [StoryCorps Connect](#) or with our [App](#). On each platform you can review our question list and decide on which questions you'll ask one another. Feel free to create your own questions as well.
3. Agree on a time when you will meet for your interview and enjoy your conversation.
4. When filling out your post-interview information form, tag the interview with the keyword "George Floyd Protests 2020".
5. Share your interview with friends and family or on social media.

SUGGESTED PAIRINGS

Please feel free to invite a loved one or friend to interview. We encourage intergenerational pairings: someone who is older and has had experiences that they are willing to share with someone who is younger. We also invite you to have a conversation with a peer or friend with whom you have shared experiences that impacted you both. The combinations of people who have and might come to the interview experience are endless! Here are some suggestions:

- ▶ A person who lived through the race riots of the late 1960s speaking to a younger person witnessing this for the first time
- ▶ Two high school students discussing what the protest of George Floyd's death means to them
- ▶ Two parents discussing what it's like to parent a Black child in America in 2020
- ▶ Two elders reflecting on these events in comparison to those of the late 1960s
- ▶ Someone who is voluntarily quarantining due to COVID-19 speaking with someone who is publicly demonstrating
- ▶ Two people at a protest discussing why they're protesting
- ▶ Two Black Americans discussing what this event means to them

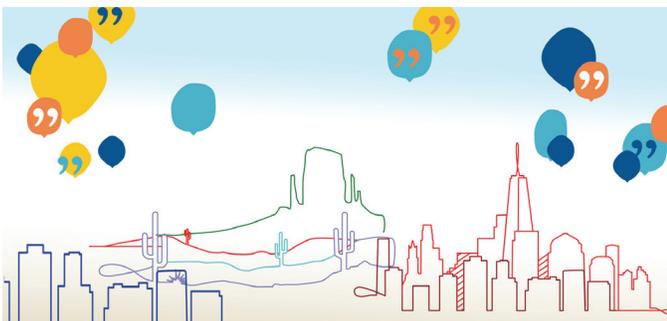
QUESTIONS FOR GEORGE FLOYD / BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS OF 2020

- What were your thoughts and feelings when you heard about the murder of George Floyd?
- What were your thoughts and feelings when you watched the demonstrations?
- What has been hardest for you through all of this?
- What lesson(s) do you hope our country can take from this moment?
- What lesson(s) do you hope I take from this moment?
- What are your hopes for the future of this country?
- What are your dreams for me?
- Do you have any wisdom or advice for me about getting through this moment?
- (For elders) How does this moment compare to the civil rights protests of the 1960s?

CHECKLIST FOR INTERVIEW DAY

- ✓ If you don't already have one, create an account at archive.storycorps.org.
- ✓ Prepare your questions in advance: write down or print a copy of questions you'd like to ask. Be prepared to go off script and ask follow-up questions!
- ✓ Invite your partner to record on [StoryCorps Connect](#) or the [StoryCorps App](#) by sharing a private link to your recording session. *Pro tip: You'll need a login to start.*
- ✓ Begin the interview by introducing yourself and your partner. State the location, date, and year where and when you are conducting the interview. *Example: My name is Abraham Lincoln. Today is June 19, 2020 and I am talking with my friend Frederick Douglass.*
- ✓ After you record, enter your summary, title, and keywords. Don't forget to use the keyword **George Floyd Protests 2020**.
- ✓ Thank your partner for sharing their story with you. Share your interview on social media and tag **George Floyd Protests 2020** and @StoryCorps.

Watch, listen to, and share stories about racism experienced by Black Americans [here on storycorps.org](https://storycorps.org).



WHAT IS STORYCORPS?

Founded in 2003, StoryCorps has given people of all backgrounds and beliefs, in thousands of towns and cities in all 50 states, the chance to record interviews about their lives. We preserve the recordings in our archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. Today, it is the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered.