



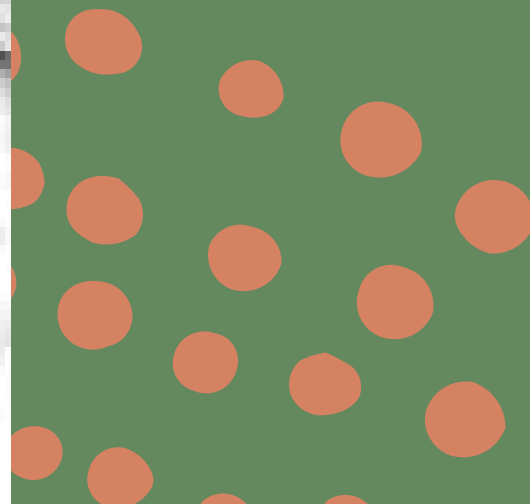
ACTIVELY ANTI-RACIST

ANTI-RACIST ACTIVISTS: WHITE ALLIES

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WHY SHOULD WE LEARN ABOUT WHITE ALLIES?



There is a **lack of awareness** of white allies who speak (and have spoken) up for change.

White people beginning to understand their whiteness may feel overwhelmed by the systemic oppression. This can lead to feelings of guilt, embarrassment, and resentment. These feelings often hinder healthy identity development. Knowledge of white allies can help them see that **individuals can make a difference**.

Having access to narratives of white allies gives white people renewed hope and empowers them to be **agents of change**.

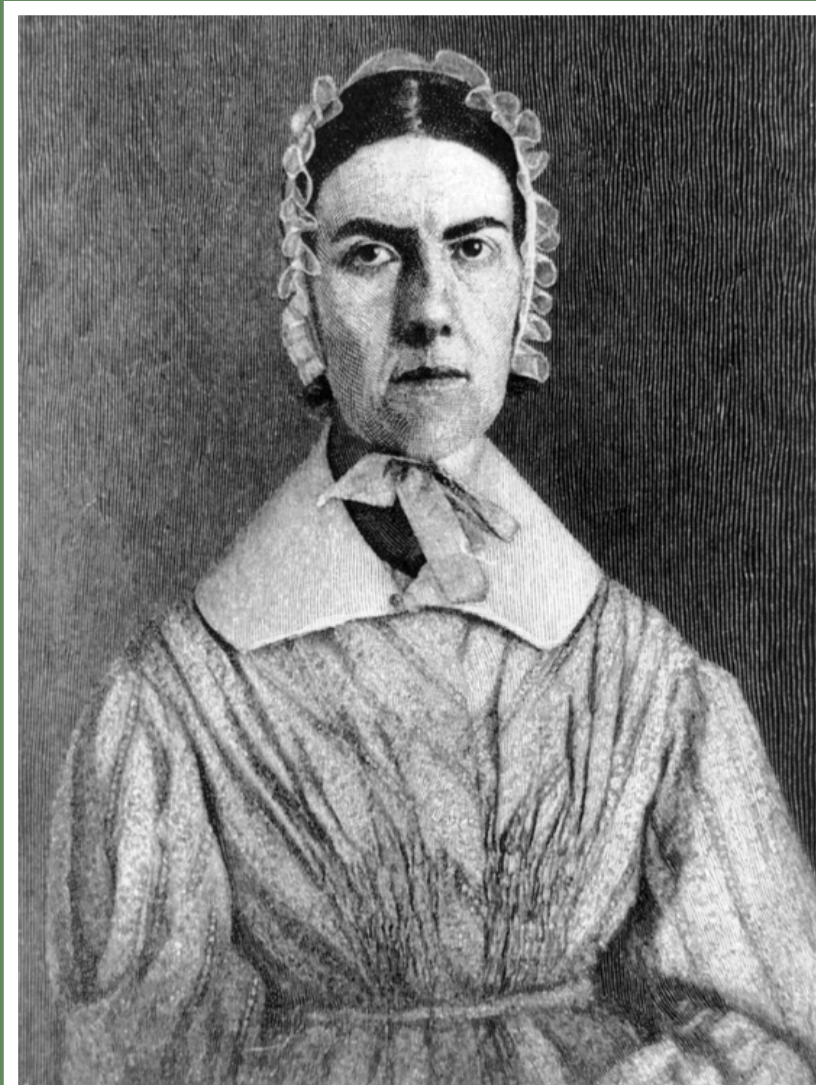
People doing the work are a guide for others: the role of the ally is to **stand in solidarity** with those targeted by racism, **speak up** against the unjust systems, and **challenge** other white people to act.

Tatum, 2017

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ANGELINA GRIMKÉ WELD

1805–1879



Angelina Grimké Weld was one of the first women to publicly speak against slavery in the U.S. and **advocate for racial and gender equality**. Raised on a slave-owning plantation, she and her sister witnessed the cruelties of slavery first hand. Committed to a life of activism, the duo joined the **Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society**. Weld wrote a series of abolitionist letters for *The Liberator*, solidifying her career as an abolitionist and speaker. She brought **a petition to end slavery with 20,000 signatures** to the Massachusetts State Legislature and became the first woman to speak to the legislature. She continued to speak and fight for equality throughout her life.

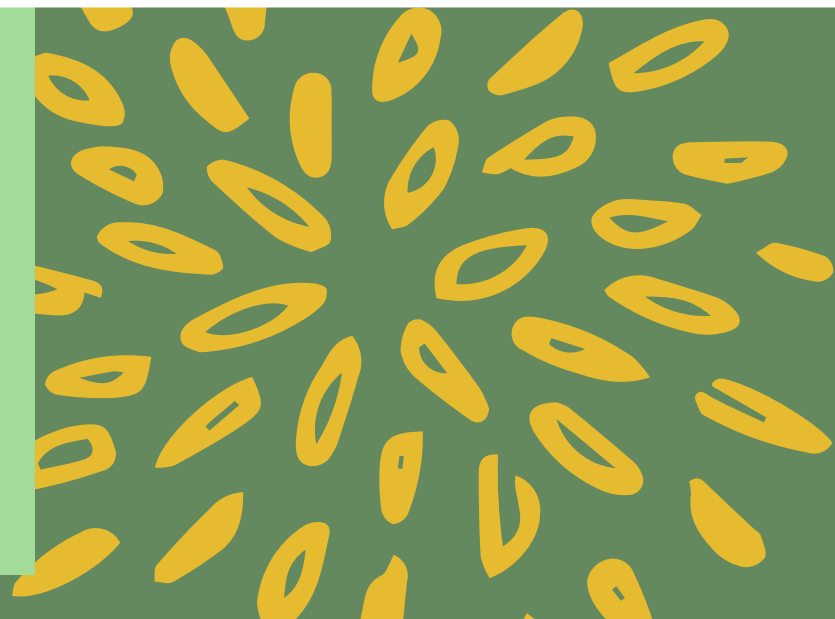
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LILLIAN SMITH

1897–1966

Lillian Smith was an **advocate for racial reform** in the South before and during the Civil Rights Movement. She is known for her controversial novels, famously ***Strange Fruit***, featuring interracial couples and addressing segregation, white supremacy, and other social injustices. She founded the magazine ***The South Today*** which focused on timely southern politics and included works by Black writers and women.

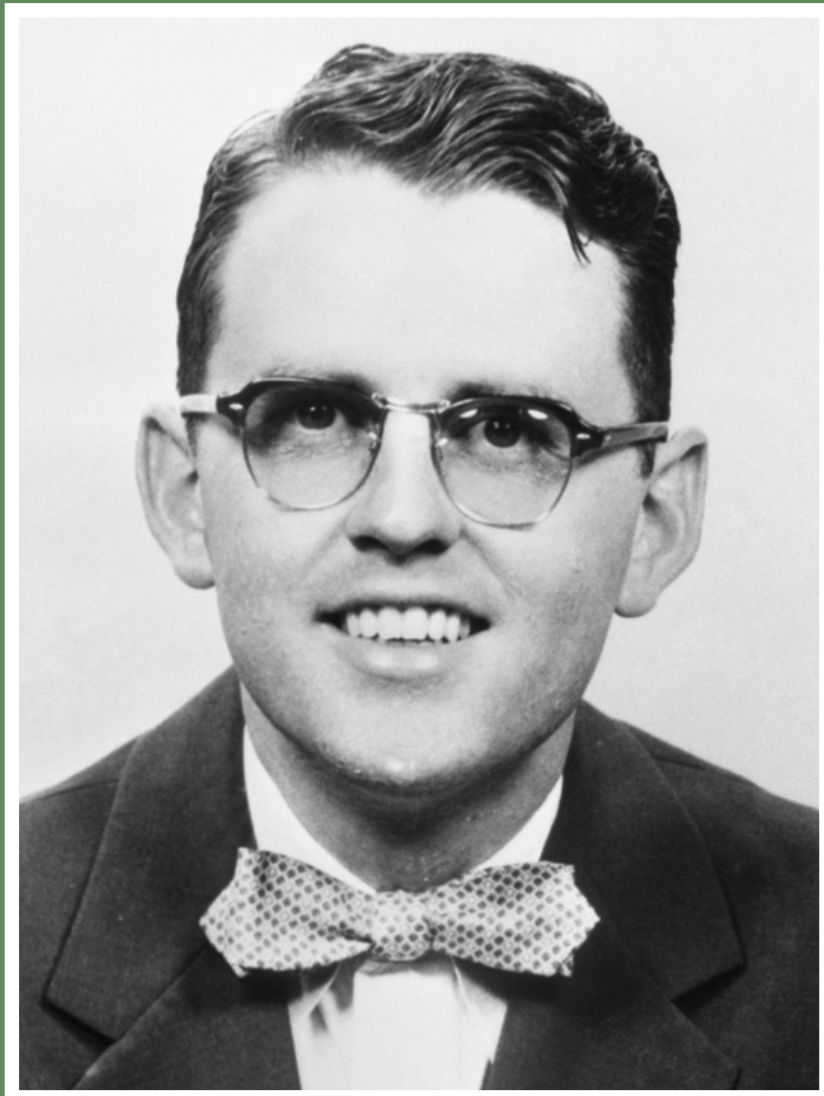
Even though she was faced with violence and considered a traitor by many in the South, she continued to **use her voice to speak against segregation and racial injustices.**



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JAMES REEB

1927-1965



James Reeb was an American minister who fought and died in the Civil Rights movement. During his life, he worked as a minister and joined the **American Friends Service Committee**. Reeb heard Martin Luther King Jr. call for clergy to join nonviolent protests, and he went to Selma to march and pray. After the march, Reeb was killed by White supremacists. The nation mourned his death, and Lyndon B. Johnson referenced his martyrdom when proposing the draft of the Voting Rights Act. Delivering Reeb's eulogy, King said, "He was a witness to the truth that **men of different races and classes might live, eat, and work together as brothers.**"

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HELEN JOSEPH

1905-1992

Helen Joseph spent much of her life **fighting against the apartheid**, a system of institutionalized segregation in South Africa. She was a founding member of the Congress of Democrats, the African National Congress' (ANC) white ally, and helped form the pro-ANC Federation of South African Women. She spearheaded a protest of 20,000 women when the government extended the pass laws to Black women, subjecting them to the internal passport system maintaining segregation in the country. She was accused of treason but continued to fight with Winnie Mandela to end the apartheid. She was recently awarded the **Isithwalandwe-Seaparankoe**, the **highest honor of the ANC**.



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TIM WISE

1968–

Tim Wise is an anti-racist activist, writer, and educator. For the past 25 years, he has spoken across the United States to over 1000 colleges, high schools, community groups, and other gatherings.

He has also provided **anti-racism training to military, law enforcement, media, medical professionals, and more**. His books, including his memoir *White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son*, address **racial injustices, White privilege, and racial identities**. He has served as an advisor to the Fisk University Race Relations Institute and has been featured in anti-racism documentaries. He continues to write essays, speak publicly, and publish books to promote social change.



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MORE WHITE ALLIES

Ruth Frankenburg

Ellie Bulkin

Andrea Ayvazian

Sara Evans

Mark Warren

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz

Michael Schwerner

Tillie Olsen

Morris Dees

Minnie Bruce Pratt

Jane Elliot

Ruth Seid

Jennifer Harvey

Mab Segrest

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