

**STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES AND SOLUTIONS:
A US PERSPECTIVE**



WHYHUNGER

- A grassroots support organizations that provide critical resources to support grassroots movements and fuel community solutions rooted in social, environmental, racial and economic justice. We are working to end hunger and advance the human right to nutritious food in the U.S. and around the world.
- US Programs and Global Movements Program
- Hunger Hotline

STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES

- Racist policies have resulted in generations of poverty and food insecurity for people of color
- Policies in other areas (housing, education) affect levels of poverty and food insecurity.

INITIAL HISTORICAL INSULTS

- In the Americas, Europeans and people of European descent murdered and dispossessed Native Americans populations for their natural resources beginning in the 15th century
- West Africans were kidnapped, enslaved and shipped across the Atlantic Ocean and sold as chattel to do back breaking labor, primarily on sugar, tobacco and cotton plantations from the middle of the 15th century to near the end of the 19th century.

STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES

- Land dispossession
- Labor policies, low wage employers and income inequality
- Food Apartheid in Neighborhoods
- Housing and education
- Narrative-pull yourself up by your bootstraps, “Welfare Queen”

STATISTICS

- Hunger and Food Insecurity
- 35.2 million people struggled with hunger in 2019
- the food insecurity rates are higher than then national average (about 10.5%) for some groups
 - 19% of households headed by Black, non-Hispanic people experience hunger and 15.6% of households headed by Hispanic people experience hunger; compared to just 7.9% of White, non-Hispanic households
- COVID
 - 54 million experiencing hunger
 - 20% Black people report not enough to eat
 - 19% Latinx people report not enough to eat
 - 7% of white people report not enough to eat

SOLUTIONS

The people who get to define success are the people who are suffering-Poor People's Campaign

- Building Collective Grassroots Power
 - Alliance, Network, and Coalition Building (National Black Food and Justice Alliance, HEAL Alliance, Closing the Hunger Gap)
- Alternative Economies
 - US Federation of Workers Cooperatives
 - Cooperation Jackson
- Leadership Development (Organizing)
 - Food Chain Workers Alliance
 - Soul Fire Farm

SOLUTIONS

- Policy
 - Supporting and protect people and the planet
 - Local Food ordinances (Maine Food Sovereignty Act)
 - Michigan Good Food Charter
- Narrative Change

THANK YOU!

Contact Information

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