



Albert Einstein College of Medicine

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From: Diversity Enhancement <diversity.enhancement@einsteinmed.org>

Date: June 18, 2020 at 11:38:04 AM EDT

To: Einstein-Office of Diversity Enhancement <Einstein-ODE@einsteinmed.org>

Subject: Happy Juneteenth (Resources linked)

Good Morning Everyone:

With everything that is happening in the world, it is important to make sure we understand the history behind it. I know a lot of people have been taking the time to educate themselves about the current events. For that I thank you.

As you all may know, June 19, 1865 marks the day Texas received the news of the Emancipation Proclamation. The Emancipation Proclamation was issued January 1, 1863; it took 2 years and 6 months to spread the news to all the states in the confederate south. Although Texas was the last confederate state to receive this news, enslaved African Americans in Texas were *not* the last to be freed. In parts of the deep south, particularly Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Florida, Black Americans continued to be enslaved well into the 1960s while their freed brethren were fighting Jim Crow.

[Juneteenth](#) does not signal the end of slavery for all African Americans, or Black descendants of American slavery if you will, but it serves as a commemoration of our collective freedom whether that happened before 1865 or a century afterward. It represents all the ways in which freedom and justice for African Americans and our Black brethren throughout the African diaspora has always been delayed, whether in slavery or in the criminal justice system. It is a reminder that we are *not* free until we are *all* free. In the wake of Juneteenth I wanted to share these articles with you. These articles detail Black American accounts of continued slavery, judicial persecution, healthcare, and more. Let's continue to work in unity to shift Einstein culture and to learn and grow together.

As a student that is four generations removed from slavery and three generations removed from share cropping, this history is very near my heart and is extremely important to understand the climate of Black America, 1619 to present day. Please take the time to look at these articles. They summarize aspects of post-Emancipation America.

Happy Juneteenth!

Please see some light educational resources, linked below:

[American Medicine Was Built on the Backs of Slaves. And It Still Affects How Doctors Treat Patients Today.](#)

[How the Bad Blood Started](#); history of American healthcare (podcast)

[Scientific Racism: A Brief History of the Enduring Phony Science That Perpetuates White Supremacy](#)

[Black People Were Enslaved in the US Until as Recently as 1963](#)

[How the End of Slavery Led to Starvation and Death for Millions of Black Americans](#)

Also see: [Mass Graves](#) of Emancipated Black Americans

[How 20,000 Blacks Died through Starvation and Overwork in the 'Devil's Punchbowl' Concentration Camp in Mississippi](#)

The Slave Patrol: [Not Just George Floyd: Police Departments Have 400-year History of Racism](#)

Also [here](#)

Mass arrests post-slavery: [Exploiting Black Labor After the Abolition of Slavery](#)

Also see the ["13th" Documentary on Netflix](#)

[A Very Abbreviated History of the Destruction of Black Neighborhoods](#)

With love,

Victoria Sedwick