

Social Justice & Allyship: An Anti-Racism Series for Adoptive Parents of BIPOC Kids

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Why do I have to pay for this course? Shouldn't great information like this be free?

There is a lot of great information available for free on the internet and at libraries and we'll recommend you take a look at some of these resources throughout the course! We've purposefully priced the series to be affordable for folks of all socioeconomic backgrounds. To compare this to one-on-one consulting or counseling, which typically costs between \$150-250 an hour, this course is only \$75 per hour per couple or \$66 per hour per single person. This is a significant discount. Additionally, this series is an original course created entirely by Kara and Karyn, specifically designed to answer questions and address topics that pertain to adoptive parents of Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour children and includes a deep-dive into understanding social justice movements in Canada. To our knowledge, there is no course like this of its kind in Canada or the United States. This work, while essential and deeply important, is informed by years of lived experience and professional and academic research and as such, has great value.

2) I would like to take this course, but we plan to be at the cottage or away for some of the sessions. Are you offering this again in the Fall? Can I get a discount for sessions I can't attend?

We understand – we love summer too! However, we would gently encourage you to consider this statement and the position of privilege it assumes. It is an enormous privilege that allows us to select when and where we want to enter conversations and learn about racism. Our BIPOC children are not able to turn racism off for a summer vacation or time at the cottage, and in fact, depending on where we spend our summers (cottage country, etc.) , may even encounter more incidences of racism and discrimination. Police brutality does not abate in the summer. Anti-Asian backlash and racism does not abate in the summer. The oppression of Indigenous peoples and our position of colonial occupation of their land does not abate in the summer (Canada Day, anyone?). We are not able to offer a discount for any missed sessions, but in the case of emergencies, we may be able to provide you with a recording of the missed session (one session maximum, must be approved by facilitators in advance).

3) I'm pretty new to anti-racism. What types of things should I be doing to prepare for this course?

Welcome! We're so glad you're joining us. Once you register for the course, we'll provide you with a list of resources and required reading and learning, including articles, books, and videos. We don't expect you to read everything in one go and we'll have some required readings for you to review before each course. Other than that, we ask that you come with an open mind and a willingness to learn so that you can be the best advocate for your child and create an environment and a community where they belong and where they feel able to celebrate their unique selves.

4) What happens if I still have questions after the series is over?

We expect and hope that you will! We are still learning every day how to be anti-racist and how to be allies in our society. We're planning to roll out some additional opportunities to stay connected with your group and with us through book clubs and other parent groups. Stay tuned and let us know if this is something you might be interested in!

5) What support will be available to me during the course?

We will be starting a private Facebook group for families to discuss the readings, connect with other participants, and engage with each other after the course is over. Joining the group is optional, but we'd recommend it so that you can hold each other accountable and share resources as you find them.

6) I'm not sure that my child is old enough to even know he/she/they are of a different race than me. What age should my child be before I join a course like this?

Trust us – your child notices your race and their own. There is no perfect age to become anti-racist and learn how to best advocate for your child. Whether your child is an infant or in their 20s, there is always more to learn. We encourage you to enroll no matter what the age of your child and we plan to integrate age-specific resources as it is appropriate session by session.

7) We are still in the process of adopting or considering adoption. Is this course right for us?

This course is for families who are already parenting BIPOC kids. We'll let you know if we offer other courses for prospective or future adoptive parents!