

## **Racial Justice Lunch and Learn Meetings**

## MLK Talks 'New Phase' Of Civil Rights Struggle, 11 Months Before His Assassination

Link: MLK Talks 'New Phase' Of Civil Rights Struggle, 11 Months Before His Assassination | NBC News - YouTube [1967 (27 mins)]

In 1967, bathed in the light of a stained-glass window at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Martin Luther King was interviewed by NBC's Sander Vanocur. MLK reflects: on non-violence as "practically sound" as well as the "morally excellent way"; the "de-personalizing" of Black people beginning with placing humans into slavery, and the continual stigmatizing of the color of Black skin; the racism in the South where it was legal, and easily visible, versus the North where Black labor was exploited, but where there was an "apathetic slumber" regarding ghettos and slums, and people who are, "constantly trying to make ends meet"; the limits placed on true equality-by whites who denounced segregated southern lunch counters and buses-when it comes to "guarantee[ing] an annual income, for instance, to get rid of poverty for Negroes and for all poor people"; and his position regarding racism and the US involvement in Vietnam. MLK left us with so much including this important message that should resonate for all white people today: Blacks have not been able to be "people" and "persons," and, "No one knows what it means to be a Negro unless one experiences it." Racial Justice Lunch and Learn honors Martin Luther King by listening to his Anti-Racist and Equity message. Using MLK's words, our group will begin to reflect on our own behaviors, practices and our Rochester community with regard to where we have and have not grown in Anti-Racism-or where we have furthered racism-in the last 60 years.

## **Additional Resources:**

Martin Luther King, Jr. On NBC's Meet the Press (1965) | Archives | NBC News - YouTube [25 mins]