

MOVING PEOPLE FORWARD

THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY IN COLORADO

**Road to Reparations: race and
reckoning through mobility policy**

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Denver March Powwow 2019



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Norms

- Be present and actively listen
- Generously share your thoughts, ideas and questions in the chat
- Assume best intentions of each other
- Challenge your assumptions
- Seek to understand new, different or constructive perspectives
- Expect and accept non-closure
- Lean into any discomfort
- Hold yourself and each other accountable to these norms



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Mike Washington

Director of Denver Metro
Outreach, Diversity, Equity,
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Road to Reparations: Race and reckoning through mobility policy

Destiny Thomas, PhD | MOVING PEOPLE FORWARD

thrivance
GROUP

Understanding Reparations:

Acknowledgment, restitution, repair, and atonement for all forms of state sanctioned slavery whereby the beneficiaries of slavery are meaningfully and actively working to bring wholeness and justice to the victims and decendants of slavery and for its ongoing impacts and pervasive ideological violence.

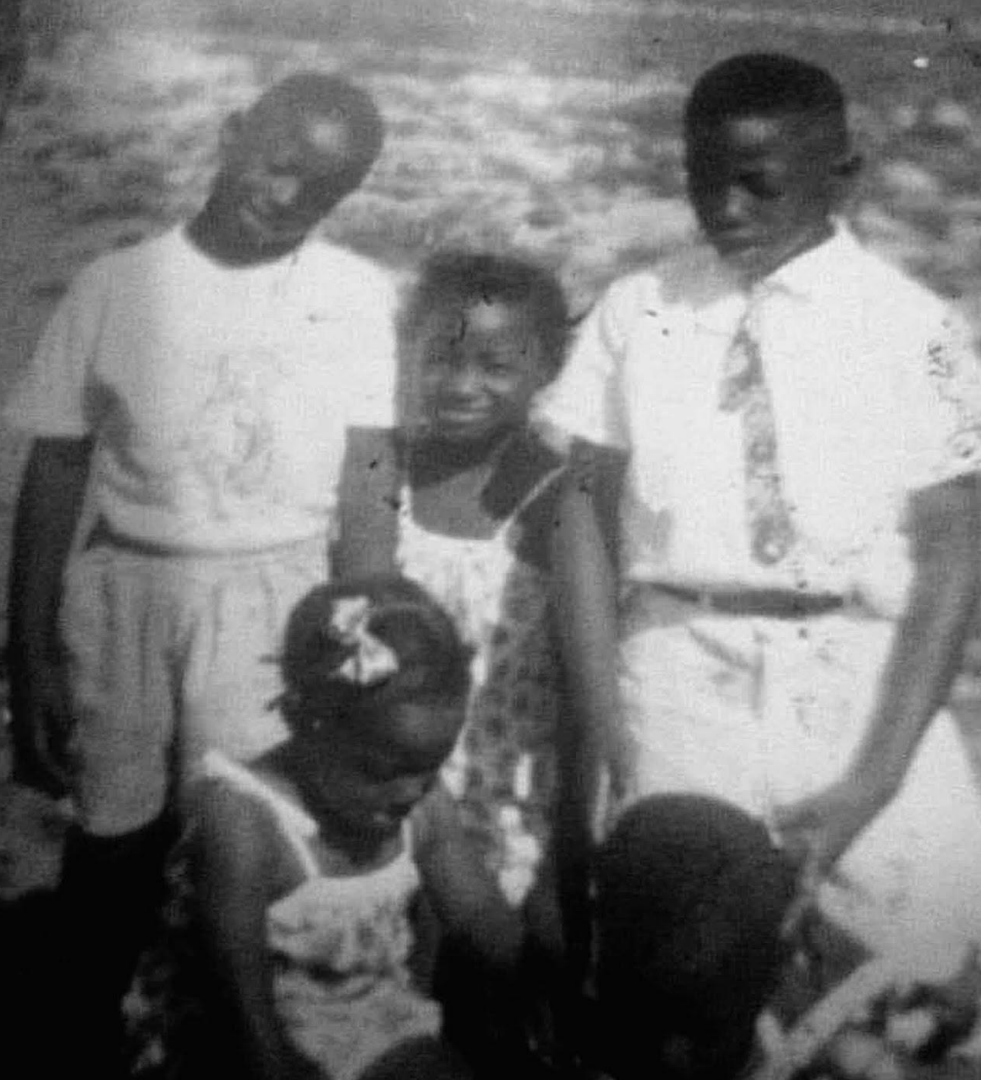
According to the American Psychological Association, hostage and kidnap survivors can experience impacts to:

Thinking: Intrusive thoughts, denial, impaired memory, decreased concentration, being overcautious and aware, confusion, or fear of the event happening again

Emotions: Shock, numbness, anxiety, guilt, depression, anger, and a sense of helplessness

Interactions: Withdrawal and avoidance of family, friends, activities, and being on edge

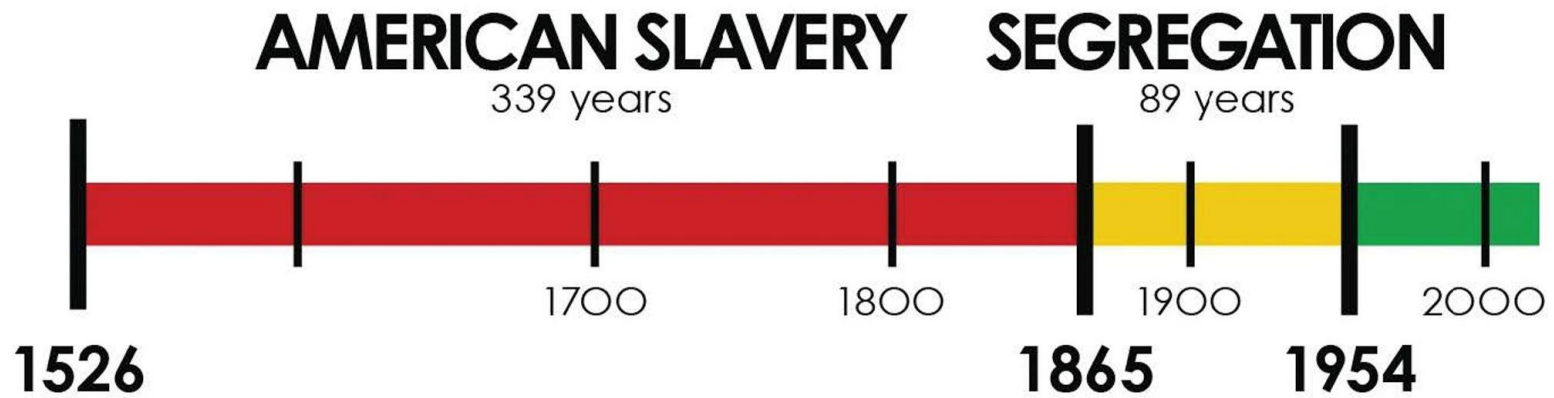
Survivors often develop an unconscious bond to their captors and experience grief if their captors are harmed. They may also feel guilty for developing a bond.



**"Perhaps home is not a place but
simply an irrevocable condition."
- James Baldwin**

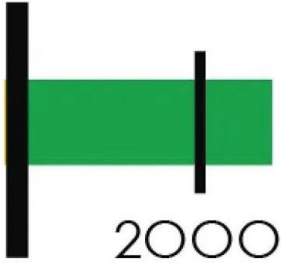


Are we there yet?





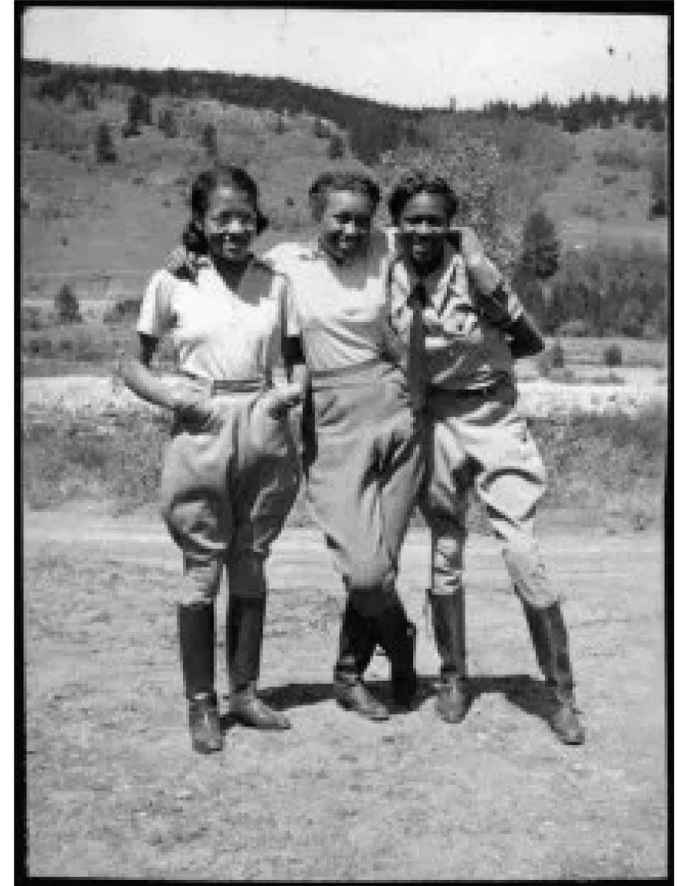


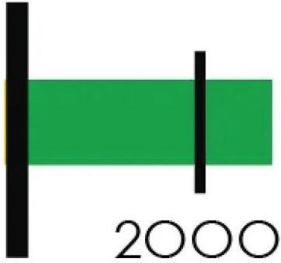


2000

"By the end of the 1950s, many black people in Colorado were enjoying mountain parks that just five or ten years earlier had been off limits to them. During the 1960s, **as African Americans enjoyed access to an increasing variety of mountain recreational parks, hotels, and motels, the lure of Lincoln Hills continued to fade.**

1960





2000

In Colorado, in 1970, Black families earned 73 percent of white family incomes and Latino families earned 72 percent. By 2010, those numbers had **fallen to about 60 percent and 50 percent, respectively**

1970

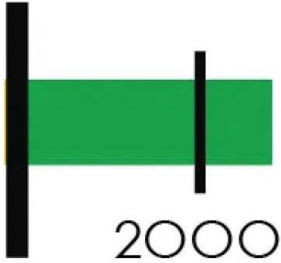




Nixon issues moratorium on almost all subsidized housing programs and Regan (in '76) **slashes HUD by 50%**

1973





The presidency of Ronald Reagan marked the start of a long period of skyrocketing rates of incarceration, due to his unprecedented expansion of the drug war. **The number of people behind bars for nonviolent drug law offenses increased from 50,000 in 1980 to over 400,000 by 1997.**

1980

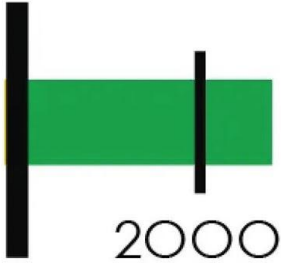




Clinton introduces **zero
tolerance housing** in
1996

1980

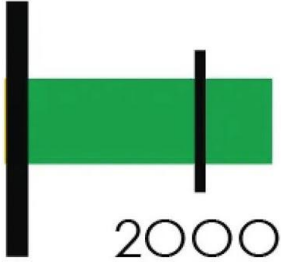




"An analysis by the
Denver Post found that
judges only rejected
five out of 163 no-knock
warrant requests from
Denver police in 2000"

2000





2000

Colorado Correctional Industries employed 1800 inmates in 2016, fighting wildfires, milking cows, harvesting crops, manufacturing equipment, training dogs, recycling, and repairing furniture.



2016



2000

"Slavery prohibited. There shall never be in this state
either slavery or involuntary servitude, ~~except as a~~
~~punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have~~
~~been duly convicted.~~"

2018



2000

Denver **police used excessive violence, didn't turn on
body cameras** during George Floyd protests | **2020**

**What does mobility
have to do with this?**

Railroads bought and sold slaves with contracts and elaborate, printed bills of sale. They recorded these events in balance sheets and company account books. Railroads also developed forms for contracts to hire enslaved labor from slaveholders. Because the company was liable for the "loss" of enslaved "property," contracts often spelled out detailed provisions for accidents and the conditions of labor.

**Trans-Atlantic Transport of
Enslaved People**

Fugitive Slave Acts

Segregated Transit

Railroads

School Busing

White Comfort

Policing

Carlessness as a poverty construct

Redlining and urban renewal

Freeway expansion

(High speed) Rail

Purplelining

Green burden

Disinvestment (Infra)

Trans-Atlantic Transport of
Enslaved People

1526

Railroads

339 years

1700

Fugitive Slave Acts

1800

1865

89 years

1900

1954

School Busing

White Comfort

2000

Policing

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Carlessness as a poverty construct

AIG – bought American General Financial which owns US Life Insurance Company.

US Life - used to insure the lives of slaves.

Aetna – insured the lives of slaves in the 1850s.

Bank of America – grew in part out of the Bank of Metropolis, which accepted slaves as collateral. Brooks Brothers – got its start making clothes for slaves

Brown Brothers Harriman – a Wall Street bank that owned hundreds of slaves and lent millions to Southern planters, merchants and cotton traders.

Brown University – named for the Brown brothers who gave money to the university. Two were slave traders, another ran a factory that used slave-grown cotton. University Hall was built in part by slave labour.

CSX – rented slaves to build rail lines.

Harvard Law School – endowed with money from Isaac Royall, an Antiguan slave owner and sugar grower.

JP Morgan Chase – made a fortune from the slave trade.

Predecessor banks (Citizens Bank, Canal Bank in Louisiana) accepted slaves as collateral, taking possession of 1,250 slaves from owners who defaulted on loans.

New York Life – insured slaves. Of its first 1,000 insurance policies, 339 were policies on slaves.

Tiffany's – founded with profits from a cotton mill in Connecticut that processed slave-grown cotton.

USA Today – its parent company, Gannett, had links to slavery.

Wells Fargo – Georgia Railroad & Banking Company and the Bank of Charleston owned or accepted slaves as collateral



The case for CPR-U

According to the APA, when hostages are released, it is essential for them to:

- Receive medical attention
- Be in a safe and secure environment
- Connect with loved ones
- Have an opportunity to talk or journal their experience if and when they choose
- Receive resources and information about how to seek counseling, particularly if their distress from the incident is interfering with their daily lives
- Protect their privacy (e.g. avoid media overexposure including watching and listening to news and participating in media interviews)
- Take time to adjust back into family and work

Thank you!
@drdestheplanner
unurbanist.com

Q&A



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Tickets at bit.ly/raffle221



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THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY IN COLORADO

2021 Speaker Series



Session 1: Redefining safety in
Colorado's transportation system
February 9

February 9-18
bit.ly/MPF2021

Thank you!



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