

Videos and Movies:

1. [*Tolerance is for Cowards*](#) by Randall Stephenson. CEO of AT&T.

At AT&T's National Employee Resource Groups conference in 2016, CEO [Randall Stephenson](#), challenges the employees to seek understanding about the causes of the country's current racial tension and to engage in tough conversations. He offered support for the Black Lives Matter movement. He said that if such a dialogue were to begin at AT&T, "I feel like it probably ought to start with me."

Stephenson told a story of hearing a close friend's speech, an African American, that had been given at a church following the shooting of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, LA, and protests thereafter.

Stephenson admitted to the employees, "I will be honest with you, when I watched this video, I was really ashamed that this [an African American man's experience in the United States] was all new information to me."

The CEO's comments were recorded by an employee and posted on YouTube.

2. [*Invictus*](#), Morgan Freeman & Matt Damon.

Invictus is a 2009 American-South African [biographical sports drama film](#) directed by [Clint Eastwood](#) and starring [Morgan Freeman](#) and [Matt Damon](#). The story is based on the [John Carlin](#) book, *Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation*, about the events in [South Africa](#) before and during the [1995 Rugby World Cup](#).

Freeman and Damon play the Black [South African President Nelson Mandela](#) and the White [François Pienaar](#), the captain of the South Africa [rugby union](#) team, the [Springboks](#), respectively.

While attending a game between the Springboks and [England](#), Mandela recognizes that the black people in the stadium are cheering for England, and not their own country, as the mostly-white Springboks represent prejudice and apartheid in their view; he admits that he did the same while imprisoned on [Robben Island](#).

Knowing that South Africa is set to host the [1995 Rugby World Cup](#) in one year's time, Mandela persuades a meeting of the newly black-dominated South African Sports Committee to support the Springboks. He then meets with the captain of the Springboks rugby team, [François Pienaar](#) ([Matt Damon](#)), and implies that a Springboks victory in the World Cup will unite and inspire the nation. Mandela also shares with François a British poem, "[Invictus](#)", that had inspired him during his time in prison.

Throughout an almost miraculous performance, the Springboks, lead by Pienaar, rise to a final victory capturing the Cup title against their arch rival, the New Zealand All Blacks.

3. [*The Green Book*](#), Mahershala Ali & Viggo Mortensen

Jazz, race and an unlikely friendship inspire the new film about navigating Jim Crow America.

In 1963, Don Shirley, famed leader and pianist of the Don Shirley Trio set out on another tour, but this time with a white driver, a gregarious Italian-American bouncer known as Tony Lip, to handle problems that might arise in the “sundown towns” of the North and the Jim Crow-era South. “My father said it was almost on a daily basis they would get stopped, because a white man was driving a black man,” recalls Lip’s son Nick Vallelonga, who has turned their journey into the film, *Green Book*, winning best picture at the 91st Academy Awards (Feb. 2019).

Vallelonga was 5 years old when his father headed out on the road with the pianist. After they returned more than a year later, the men lived their separate lives—Shirley played to acclaim in Europe and Lip became an actor—but they remained friends. As a child Vallelonga visited Shirley in his studio in Manhattan and heard stories about their trip. “That’s an unbelievable movie,” he remembers thinking. “I’m gonna make it one day.” In his 20s, Vallelonga, an actor and occasional screenwriter, interviewed his father and Shirley about how these two men from starkly different backgrounds navigated the racism they encountered. But Shirley stipulated that he didn’t want the story told until after his death.

Both men passed away in 2013, and those conversations, along with letters Lip wrote his wife, form the basis of *Green Book*, which stars Mahershala Ali as Shirley and Viggo Mortensen as Lip. The title is a reference to [*The Negro Motorist Green Book*](#), a travel guide for African-Americans published from 1936 to 1967 that promised “vacation without aggravation.”

Read more: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/true-story-green-book-movie-180970728/#kTs16LDbs0ybxSzA.99>

4. [*Don’t Dismiss Voices Just Because They’re White or Male*](#), a speech by President Barack Obama.

In July 2018, former president of Barack Obama delivered a forceful rejection of identity politics during a speech saying democracy doesn’t work if people dismiss opposing voices for reasons like they are “white” or “male.”

Speaking at the Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture in South Africa, Obama said to make democracy work, people had to follow the example of Mandela in engaging with people who look and think differently.

"This is hard," Obama said. "Most of us prefer to surround ourselves with opinions that validate what we already believe," he added.

Obama reminded his listeners that Nelson Mandela, upon exiting prison, reached out to those who had jailed him. "... because he knew that they had to be a part of the democratic South Africa that he wanted to build," Obama said.

5. [*Nothing Would Be More Tragical Than to Turn Back Now*](#), (Jan 23, 2019) by Rev. William Barber.

"Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, President of Repairers of the Breach and a recipient of the 2018 North Star Award delivered a rousing acceptance speech during this year's National CARES Mentoring Movement Gala. [His remarks start at about 14 minutes into this video.]

"In addressing poverty in America, the President of the Repairers of the Breach said, 'There are over 140 million people [that are] poor and working poor in this country. The majority of them are white, not Black. The majority of them are women and children.' In closing, Barber announced a 40-day build up to an initiative called the 'Souls of Poor Folks' that will confront lawmakers and 'reset the moral narrative.'" —by Roland S. Martin, February 10, 2018

Rev. Barber calls to all people, "We must recapture our moral imagination and our discontent for the way things are." He formed the Moral Monday Movement to respond to injustices in the south, particularly in North Carolina.

"Repairers of the Breach is working in partnership with the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice, the Popular Education Project, and hundreds of local and national partners, to lead the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. This multi-state movement has emerged from more than a decade of work by grassroots community and religious leaders, organizations, and movements fighting to end systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, environmental destruction, and other injustices."
(<https://www.breachrepairers.org/poorpeoplescampaign>)