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Introduction



- The United States has a long history of systemic racism, from slavery and segregation to redlining and mass incarceration.
- These discriminatory practices have led to persistent disparities in areas such as education, employment, housing, healthcare, and criminal justice.
- The effects are profound and far-reaching.
 - Minorities often face barriers to success that most white Americans do not experience.
 - Minorities are more likely to live in poverty, have lower levels of education, and have limited access to healthcare.
- Importance
 - It helps us recognize and address systemic racism.
 - It promotes empathy and understanding
 - It helps us create a more inclusive and equitable society.
 - It promotes social cohesion and harmony
 - It is essential for our collective well-being



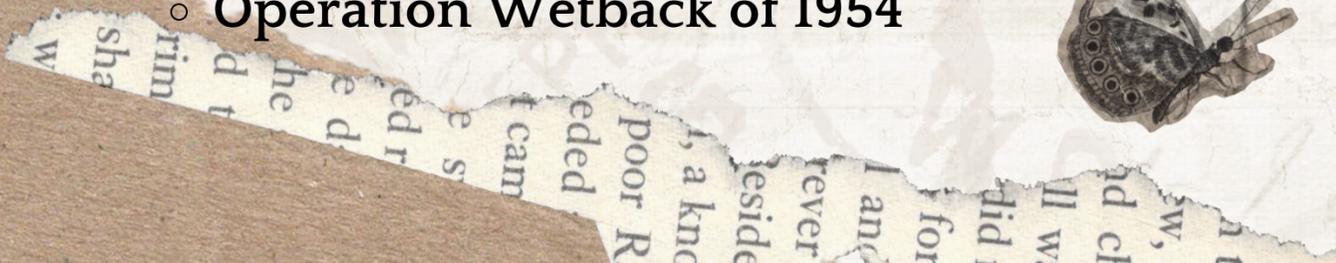
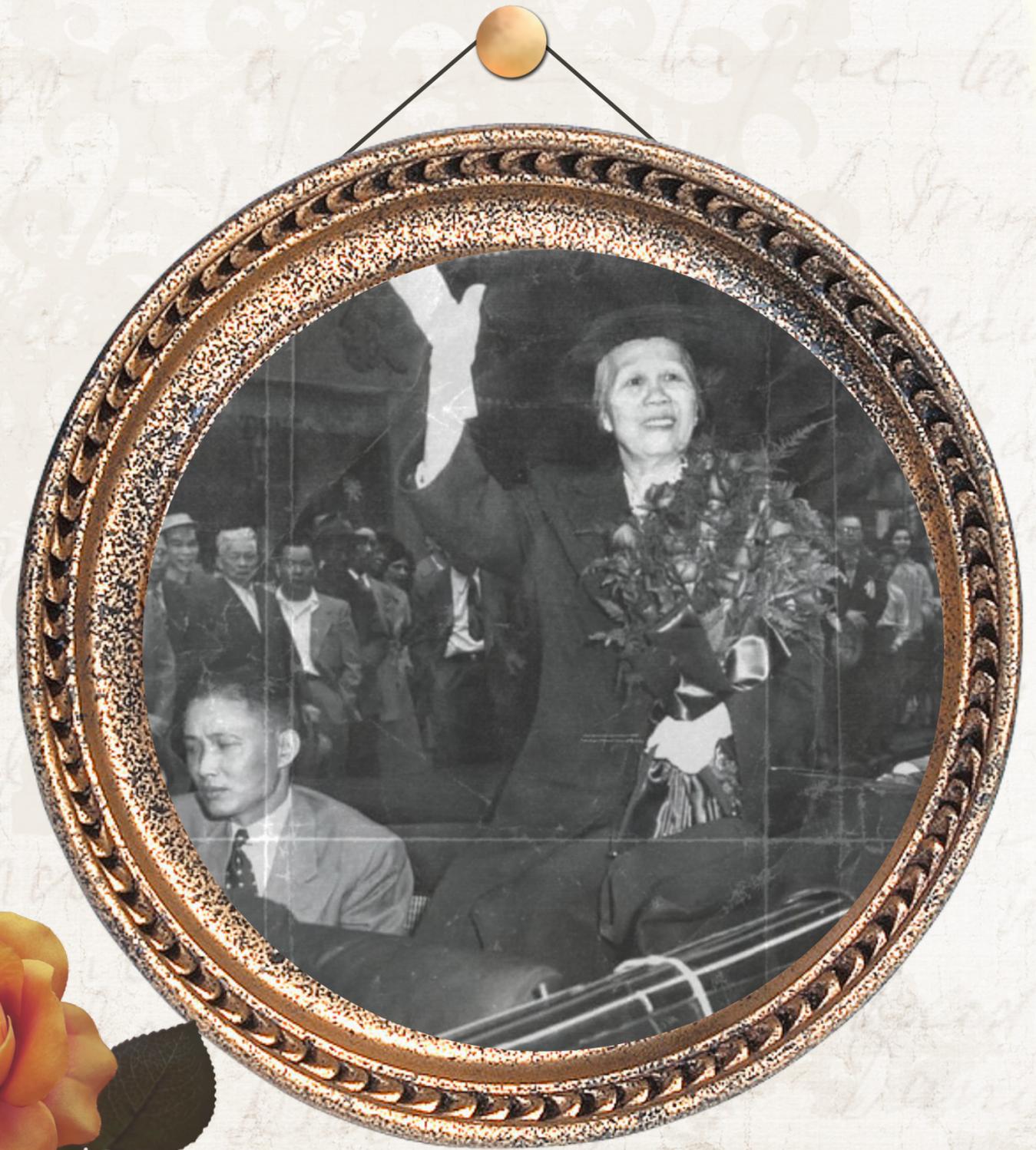
Historical Roots

- Doctrine of Discovery - a set of legal principles that governed European colonizing powers. This gave a legal justification for the colonization of indigenous lands.
- Manifest Destiny - a belief that it was the divine mission of the United States to expand westward and spread American democracy and culture across the continent
 - This idea was used to justify the forced removal of Native Americans from their ancestral lands, as well as the annexation of territories like Texas, California, and Hawaii.
- Master Narrative - believed that USA was settled by European immigrants and Americans are white. The national identity of Americans is defined as white and if you're not white then you are seen as different, inferior, and unassimilable.
- The Legacy of Slavery and Segregation
 - 1619
 - Jim Crow Laws - enforced racial segregation in the Southern part of the US between the end of Reconstruction in 1877 and the beginning of the civil rights movement in the 1950s



Contemporary Forms

- Model Minority Myth - often used to describe Asian Americans, who are perceived to have achieved a higher level of success and integration into American society compared to other minority groups
- Perpetual Foreigner - a stereotype, assumption, or idea that Asian Americans "no matter how long they were in the US, no matter where they were born, no matter their citizenship, they're still not considered Americans.. They're just extensions of Asia."
- Systemic racism and discrimination in education, housing, and the criminal justice system
- Immigration Policy and the Treatment of Undocumented People and Immigrants
 - Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
 - Immigration Act of 1924
 - Operation Wetback of 1954



Impact

NATIVE AMERICANS

- Forced removal from their ancestral lands
- Genocides and mass killings
- Cultural erasure and assimilation
- Discrimination in education, employment, and housing
- Were called "savages" or "primitives"

AFRICAN AMERICANS

- Slavery
- Jim Crow Laws
- Racial Violence: Lynchings, mob violence, and race riots
- Discrimination in Education, Employment, and Housing
- Mass Incarceration
- Black Codes
- Poll Taxes and literacy tests

LATINO/A/X AMERICANS

- Xenophobia and Anti-Immigrant Sentiment
- Language Discrimination: English-only Policies
- Discrimination in Education, Employment and Housing
- Racial Profiling and Policing

ASIAN AMERICANS

- Exclusionary Immigration Policies
- Internment of Japanese Americans
- Anti-Asian Violence
- Stereotypes and Perpetual Foreigner Status
- Discrimination in Employment and Education

UNDOCUMENTED/ IMMIGRANTS

- Deportation
- Employment Discrimination
- Racial Profiling
- Limited Access to Healthcare and Social Services
- Family Separation

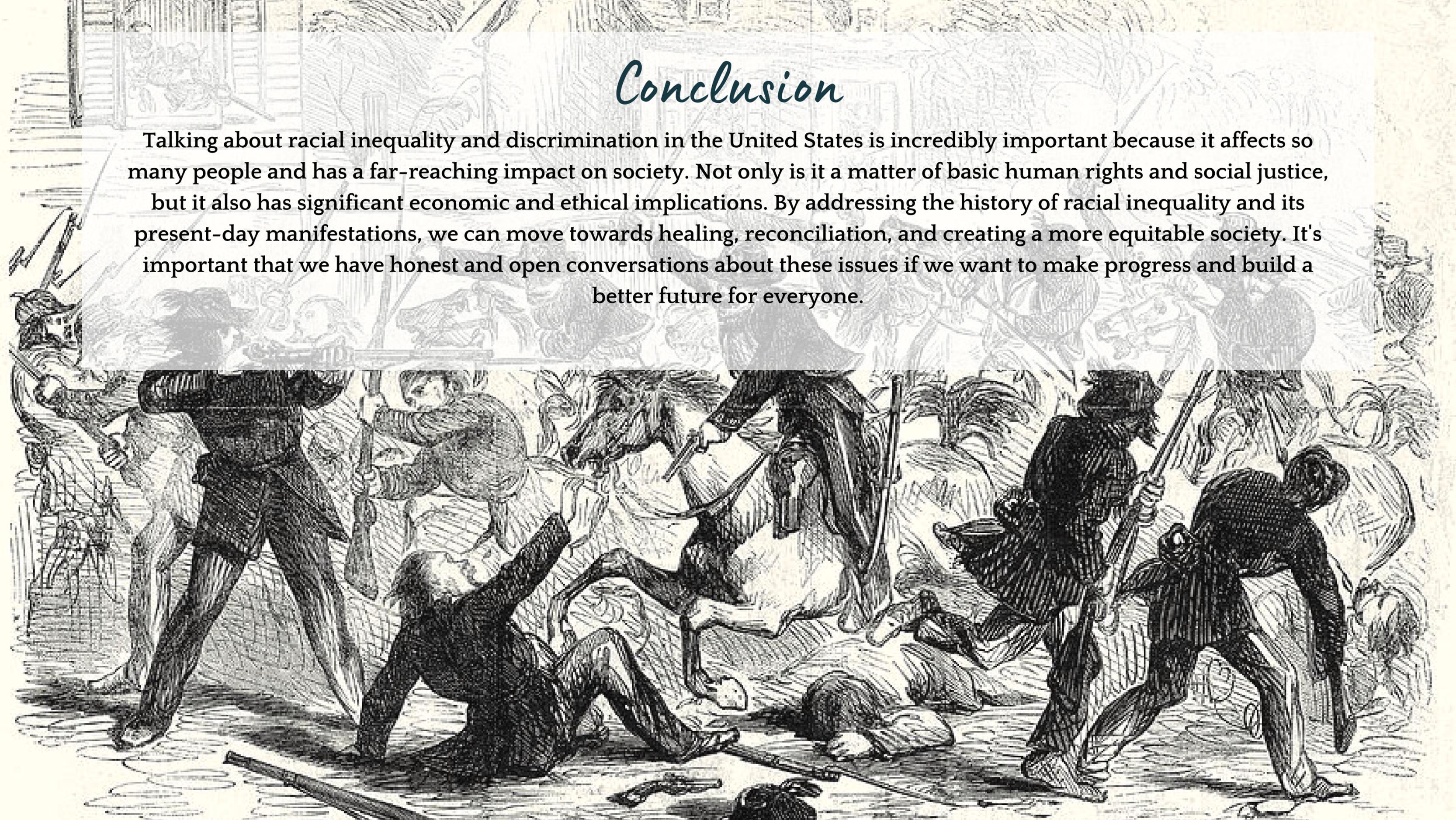
Responses

- Civil Rights Movement - led by African American activists and Martin Luther King Jr., who played a key role in ending racial segregation and discrimination in the United States. The movement had a significant impact on American society, leading to the passage of key civil rights legislation and greater awareness of issues related to race and discrimination.
- Ongoing Social Justice Movements and Activism
 - Black Lives Matter Movement
 - American Indian Movement
 - Immigrant Rights Movement
- Laws and policies responses to address racism and inequality
 - Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965, Affirmative Action, Fair Housing Act, Hate Crime Laws, & Criminal Justice Reform
- Churches' initiative to address Racial Justice and Reconciliation in their congregation



Conclusion

Talking about racial inequality and discrimination in the United States is incredibly important because it affects so many people and has a far-reaching impact on society. Not only is it a matter of basic human rights and social justice, but it also has significant economic and ethical implications. By addressing the history of racial inequality and its present-day manifestations, we can move towards healing, reconciliation, and creating a more equitable society. It's important that we have honest and open conversations about these issues if we want to make progress and build a better future for everyone.





*Thank
you*

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