

At the core of the reparations movement is a distorted and demeaning view of both blacks and whites.

Reparations brands whites as an oppressive people too powerful for black Americans to overcome. Those who push the reparations movement often portray black Americans as hapless victims devoid of the ability, which every other culture possesses: to assimilate and progress.

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Progressives “suggest that slavery is the root cause of the misery found within today’s urban community,” former NFL star Burgess Owens asserts. The left’s reductive view portrays black Americans as permanent victims and ignores policies of the last half-century that have hurt the black community.

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WATCH: Burgess Owens on reparations.

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Reparations proponents ignore the massive costs America has already paid for slavery.

America paid a devastating price for slavery at the cost of 600,000 lives during the Civil War.

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President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. The Republican president’s death was ultimately a result of his promotion of the cause of black liberation.

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Southern Democrats tried to reverse the gains of the Civil War by introducing Jim Crow laws.

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Black Americans have made great strides despite anti-family policies aimed at the black community over the last 50 years.

Though they were designed to help black families, President Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society programs did more harm than good.

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The welfare state, more so than the legacy of slavery, is to blame for the current problems facing the black community.

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In 2017, there were over 16,000 black households in the top one percent of net worth.

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In 2001, Robert Johnson became the first black billionaire after selling the Black Entertainment Television (BET) cable channel.

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According to a report from the Institute for Family Studies, almost 6 out of 10 black men will enter the middle class by middle age. Those living in poverty has dropped from 41 percent to 16 percent since 1960.

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Prominent Democrats are increasingly calling for slavery reparations despite its massive costs and demeaning premise.

A recent study published in the *Social Science Quarterly* estimated that slavery reparations could cost anywhere from \$6 to \$14 trillion dollars. Other studies have put the potential price tag at \$10 trillion.

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New Jersey Senator Cory Booker, commenting on a proposed reparations bill, said, “It is impossible for us to craft an American future that is fair and just without openly acknowledging and confronting its inequalities.”

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Presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren endorsed the reparations bill, saying, “Black families have had a much steeper hill to climb – and we need systemic, structural changes to address that.”

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Actor Danny Glover and author Ta-Nehisi Coates both called for reparations in a House hearing.

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2020 Democratic presidential candidate Julian Castro said, “I’ve long believed the country should consider reparations because of the atrocity of slavery.”

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Burgess Owens’ great-great-grandfather Silas Burgess escaped slavery and became a successful farmer.

Silas Burgess came to America on a slave ship and sold on an auction block in Charleston, South Carolina, to the Burgess Plantation.

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He was able to escape the plantation through the Underground Railroad at age 8.

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He escaped with elder slaves and was helped along by white and Mexican Americans.

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Eventually Silas Burgess became a successful farmer of 102 acres of farmland, which he cultivated and paid off within two years.

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