

# Talking about Race and Racism with Kids



What do you say to your kids, grandchildren, or students when they ask you questions about painful race related events in the news? Children are dealing with racial issues every day in the media and through interactions at home, school and sports. Research has shown that children become more biased, confused and unable to get along with others of different ethnic groups if race is not talked about openly. Together we can build our capacity for talking with children about race, racism and whiteness that is supportive, grounded in the realities of the world and hopeful.

*“Growing up in an all-White, small rural town, I didn't feel equipped to speak with my children about issues of race. I wanted to be more than not racist, I wanted to be anti-racist. I attended a circle called "Talking about Race with Kids" that Denise offered, and it was exactly what I was hoping for - questions, answers, more questions, and some action steps. I left feeling heard and empowered to help empower my children.” - Mary Scavatto, Barton School Parent*

**Denise Konen, Licensed Parent Educator, offers this series at a location of your choosing.**

## **Series information:**

- **Five sessions for one and a half hours every week or every other week**
- **Create your own neighborhood, work, school or Community Education group**
- **There are a variety of schools, libraries and churches who will host your group**
- **Fee: \$100 per person for the five weeks (fee lowered when necessary)**

## **Facilitator's Bio:**

Denise Konen has taught in Minnesota's Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program and with groups of parents, teachers or grandparents who are in relationship with children of preschool, elementary, middle school and high school ages. She has developed a variety of parent education materials and is a contributing author of the book, Working with Fathers: Methods and Perspectives. She has been through extensive racial equity training with Glen Singleton and the Pacific Educational Group and Dr. Heather Hackman and is committed to advocating for a world where everyone belongs. She offers staff development opportunities and consulting for teachers and all those who care for children. Denise also meets individually with parents to offer a personalized approach to typical and more complex parenting dilemmas.

*“Justice will not come . . . until those who are not injured are as indignant as those who are.” - Thucydides*

**Denise Konen**

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