

Race & Racism (F14)  
December 8, 2014

### **The Case for Reparations**

“Two hundred fifty years of slavery. Ninety years of Jim Crow. Sixty years of separate but equal. Thirty-five years of racist housing policy. Until we reckon with our compounding moral debts, America will never be whole.”

Reading: Ta-Nehisi Coates. June 2014. “The Case For Reparations.” *The Atlantic*.

1. What are the policies and practices that Coates uses to make the case for reparations? Does it all depend on the injustices of slavery? Why or why not?
2. What sort of reparations is Coates asking for?
3. What is his argument for reparations?
4. What can and/or should be done?

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

24.236 / 24.636 Topics in Social Theory and Practice: Race and Racism  
Fall 2014

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.