

Promoting Equal Rights and Peaceful Pluralism.

It's been said this moment is unprecedented so many times it almost feels cliché. But it still holds. We're in the midst of seismic shifts.

America's on track to become a majority minority country—more diversity than ever, in every sense. We're experiencing nothing short of a cataclysmic change in how ideas flow; internet, social media changing how knowledge flows through society. And our economy is undergoing radical change.

These can all be positive changes provided we meet the moment with openness rather than closing ourselves off.

Humans are hardwired to respond to difference and change by retreating inward and entrenching with our tribes. But this default isn't our only option. People are also capable of opening ourselves to new ideas and to each other. Collaborating to solve problems. Growing and innovating.

We work with partners in who are empowering Americans to do just that. We believe free people are capable of great things. Though the projects are varied, at the heart of all this work is a commitment to equal rights and a belief in the inherent dignity of every person.

Below is a small sampling of organizations we've stood alongside over many years in protecting civil liberties and equipping people to bridge even the deepest differences.

- CKI joined with the Anti-Defamation League, the Ford Foundation, the Aspen Institute, the National Immigration Forum, and others to launch the [After Charlottesville Project](#), focusing on tools to combat the rise in extremism, hate, and political violence.
- [UNC-Chapel Hill](#) social psychologist Kurt Gray and other scholars at the [Center for the Science of Moral Understanding](#) are undertaking research on drivers of intolerance and suggest new strategies for overcoming moral and political divides.
- At Arizona State University, the [Race and the American Story](#) project is building 30 scalable university programs to provide students with experience in engaging in civil dialogue about the confrontation between principles and racial injustice.
- At the [University of California, Berkeley](#), assistant professor of psychology Juliana Schroeder is conducting research to determine whether online communications can contribute to dehumanization and an unwillingness to hear other's views.
- [The Political Theory Project at Brown University](#) hosts the nationally recognized Janus Forum Lecture Series, which provides an opportunity for students to engage contrasting perspectives.
- [Narrative4](#) uses storytelling to build empathy between young people while equipping them to improve their communities.

- [StoryCorps' One Small Step Initiative](#) seeks to counteract the intensifying polarization in the country by bringing together individuals of different viewpoints for one-on-one conversations to remind us that we have more in common than divides us.
- In partnership with the Future of Storytelling Bridging Divides award, CKI supported the creation of a [virtual-reality experience](#) that puts audiences in the shoes of protestors during the civil rights movement. Equality Labs in North Carolina and the Police Foundation used this content in communities to build trust and cohesion.
- [New York University School of Law's Policing Project](#), which promotes public safety and human dignity by focusing on supporting community policing and fostering transparency using technology.
- [Georgetown University's Innovative Policing Program](#), which works with the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington to train new police recruits on best practices to build public trust.
- [The Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center at Southern Methodist University](#) brings a “stats and stories” approach to criminal justice reform—assessing the hard data while amplifying the stories of wrongful convictions and overincarceration.
- [The Buried Alive Project](#) works to eliminate life-without-parole sentences for nonviolent drug offenders by building data sets and sharing their stories.
- [The Center for Justice Research at Texas Southern University](#) focuses on innovative approaches to dismantle justice-oriented barriers for members of fragile communities. It is part of a partnership with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to establish university centers that promote awareness and understanding of the importance of removing educational, social, and economic barriers to opportunity for the least advantaged.
- [Claremont Graduate University](#) performs research that explores police force diversity and police bias and seeks to understand how “peer interactions” affect officer performance.
- [The Sixth Amendment Center](#) is the leading organization informing reforms to state-level right of counsel policies. Despite the constitutional requirement, people of limited means frequently receive representation in name only or not at all.
- [The Cato Institute's](#) Qualified Immunity Project educates the public about how qualified immunity prevents citizens from securing relief if their constitutional rights have been violated.
- [Police Executive Research Forum](#) studies use-of-force policies in Prince George's County, Maryland, seeking to create guidelines for de-escalation that can be replicated.
- Profs. [Brandon Warmke](#) of Bowling Green State University and [Justin Tosi](#) of Texas Tech University dive deeply into why we grandstand, how it stifles true engagement, and how, by avoiding grandstanding, we can re-build a public square worth joining in their book *Grandstanding: The Use and Abuse of Moral Talk*.
- [Stanford University's Religious Liberty Clinic](#) is training law students, working with other law schools to encourage similar work, and helping vulnerable clients obtain justice.
- [The National Constitution Center's classroom exchange program](#) brings the U.S. constitution to life for middle and high school students across the country to engage in civil conversations about some of America's most heated issues and discover different perspectives.

- [The National Institute for Civil Discourse \(NICD\)](#), founded in Arizona in the wake of the shooting of a former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, works with scholars from many disciplines and worldviews to discover ways to diffuse tension and draw strength from our difference.
- The [HBCU Speech and Debate League](#), the nation's first forensics league among Historically Black Colleges and Universities, promotes peaceful and civil discourse while also providing students greater opportunity for participation in speech and debate.
- Rejecting the normalization of polarization within the US, [Braver Angels'](#) grassroots organizing efforts facilitate workshops and debates to help us understand each other beyond stereotypes, strengthens community alliances, and reduce the vitriol that poisons our civic culture.