

Micah 6:8

DO JUSTICE

LOVE MERCY

WALK HUMBLY

END RACISM

Driving While Black: Race, Space, and Mobility in America (PBS Special)

"Mobility is essential to freedom," we hear in the trailer for the PBS Special, "Driving While Black." But mobility is just one aspect of the limited freedom of people of color. Discover how the advent of the automobile brought new mobility and freedom for African Americans but also exposed them to discrimination and deadly violence, and how that history resonates today.



"Driving While Black" explores the deep background of a recent phrase rooted in realities that have been an indelible part of the African American experience for hundreds of years – told in large part through the stories of the men, women and children who lived through it.

[Click here to watch the trailer.](#)

Drawing on a wealth of recent scholarship – and based on and inspired in large part by Gretchen Sorin's recently published study of the way the automobile and highways transformed African American life across the 20th century ("Driving While Black: African American Travel and the Road to Civil Rights" (W.W. Norton, 2020)) – the film examines the history of African Americans on the road from the depths of the Depression to the height of the Civil Rights movement and beyond, exploring along the way the deeply embedded dynamics of race, space and mobility in America during one of the most turbulent and transformative periods in American history.(1)

(1) <https://www.pbs.org/show/driving-while-black/>