FROM THE INTERSECTION OF ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT AND ANTI-BLACK RACISM COUNCIL REPORT

KEY SOCIAL CONTEXT FOR POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN ADOLESCENCE

WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SAY?

Adolescence is a unique time of life when healthy development and experiences with racism intersect within the contexts and spaces where we develop, creating different experiences along racial lines. Research highlights how these key contexts can shape healthy development for Black youth.

PEERS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

During adolescence, relationships with peers become increasingly central to healthy development as belonging to social groups outside the family takes on new importance.



FAMILY

Supportive relationships with parents and other caregivers are crucial in adolescence, even as youth establish stronger relationships with peers and engage in more exploration.



SCHOOLS

As the largest institution serving youth in our country, schools have great potential to promote anti-racism and facilitate positive development for Black youth.



COMMUNITY

The communities and neighborhoods where adolescents spend time also offer promising avenues to support positive growth and resilience in the face of racism.



CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

As developmental scientists, parents, teachers, and policymakers, we must collectively support adolescents by interrupting and dismantling racism so that adolescents can become the healthy, compassionate, free-thinking adults of tomorrow that our nation and world need to thrive.



