The ideology of race has become embedded in our on ancestry. There is no scientific basis for or features (phenotypes) such as skin color and humans largely based on observable physical posture to a more powerful, proactive and even justice” framework can move us from a reactive we are against, but also what we are for. A “racial goes beyond “anti-racism.” It’s not just about what people are able to achieve their full potential in life, opportunities and outcomes for everyone.

**Racial justice** is the systematic fair treatment of people of all races that results in equitable identities, institutions and culture and is used as a basis for discrimination and domination. The concept of **racism** is widely thought of as simply personal prejudice, but in fact, it is a complex system of racial hierarchies and inequities.

At the micro level of racism, or individual level, are internalized and interpersonal racism. At the macro level of racism, we look beyond the individuals to the broader dynamics, including institutional and structural racism.

**Racial justice** — or **racial equity** — goes beyond “anti-racism.” It’s not just about what we are against, but also what we are for. A “racial justice” framework can move us from a reactive posture to a more powerful, proactive and even preventative approach.

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**Internalized racism** describes the private racial beliefs held by and within individuals. The way we absorb social messages about race and adopt them as personal beliefs, biases and prejudices are all within the realm of internalized racism. For people of color, **internalized oppression** can involve believing in negative messages about oneself or one’s racial group. For white people, **internalized privilege** can involve feeling a sense of superiority and entitlement, or holding negative beliefs about people of color.

**Interpersonal racism** is how our private beliefs about race become public when we interact with others. When we act upon our prejudices or unconscious bias — whether intentionally, visibly, verbally or not — we engage in interpersonal racism. Interpersonal racism also can be willful and overt, taking the form of bigotry, hate speech or racial violence.

**Institutional racism** is racial inequity within institutions and systems of power, such as places of employment, government agencies and social services. It can take the form of unfair policies and practices, discriminatory treatment and inequitable opportunities and outcomes. A school system that concentrates people of color in the most overcrowded and under-resourced schools with the least qualified teachers compared to the educational opportunities of white students is an example of institutional racism.

**Structural racism** (or **structural racialization**) is the racial bias across institutions and society. It describes the cumulative and compounding effects of an array of factors that systematically privilege white people and disadvantage people of color. Since the word “racism” often is understood as a conscious belief, “racialization” may be a better way to describe a process that does not require intentionality. Race equity expert John a. powell writes: “ ‘Racialization’ connotes a process rather than a static event. It underscores the fluid and dynamic nature of race… ‘Structural racialization’ is a set of processes that may generate disparities or deprive life outcomes without any racist actors.”

**Systemic racialization** describes a dynamic system that produces and replicates racial ideologies, identities and inequities. Systemic racialization is the well-institutionalized pattern of discrimination that cuts across major political, economic and social organizations in a society. Public attention to racism is generally focused on the symptoms (such as a racist slur by an individual) rather than the system of racial inequality.

Like two sides of the same coin, **racial privilege** describes race-based advantages and preferential treatment based on skin color, while **racial oppression** refers to race-based disadvantages, discrimination and exploitation based on skin color.

**Equity** involves trying to understand and give people what they need to enjoy full, healthy lives. **Equality**, in contrast, aims to ensure that everyone gets the same things in order to enjoy full, healthy lives. Like equity, equality aims to promote fairness and justice, but it can only work if everyone starts from the same place and needs the same things.