

The Douglass Plan

Summary of Key Points

For the full plan, visit
peteforamerica.com/douglass-plan

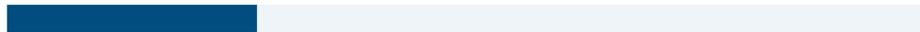
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- Designate & fund Health Equity Zones to address the most pressing health disparities, especially in communities with histories of redlining
- Address the underrepresentation of Black Americans in the health workforce & train to combat racial bias when treating patients
- Revitalize the Office of Civil Rights in HHS
- Dramatically increase Title I funding to support higher teacher pay & supplemental services for lower-income students above and beyond state and local funding resources, to guarantee an opportunity equal to their peers; alongside an increase of \$25 billion for HBCUs and MSIs
- Debt cancellation for borrowers in low-quality, overwhelmingly for-profit and predatory programs
- Make public college tuition free for lower-income students & ensure living costs are covered without having to take on student debt through increased investments in the Pell Grant program
- Increase funding to the NEA target grant funding to promote the ongoing documentation of Black history & culture
- Preserve cultural and historic sites documenting the history of Black people in the United States
- Eliminate incarceration for drug possession, reduce sentences for drug offenses (applied retroactively); in addition, eliminating mandatory minimums, abolishing the death penalty, & an independent clemency commission



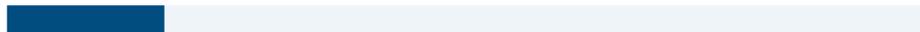
Unemployment rates among participants in a postsecondary education program in prison will, on average, decrease by nearly 10 percentage points.

No Program



27% unemployed

Participated in Postsecondary Education Program in Prison



17% unemployed

Source: "Investing in Futures: Economic and Fiscal Benefits of Postsecondary Education in Prison." Vera Institute of Justice. January 2019

- Fight the profit motive in the criminal justice system, including by abolishing private federal prisons (alongside federal grant support for states that commit to criminal justice reform)
- Reduce the criminalization of poverty and its link to incarceration
- Restore access to postsecondary education while incarcerated, known to increase the likelihood of finding jobs upon release and decrease recidivism rates
- Restore the right to vote for all formerly incarcerated people immediately upon release from confinement
- Establish comprehensive measures to hold police accountable to their communities, including transparent data on use of force & misconduct, body-camera requirements, and accountability protocols

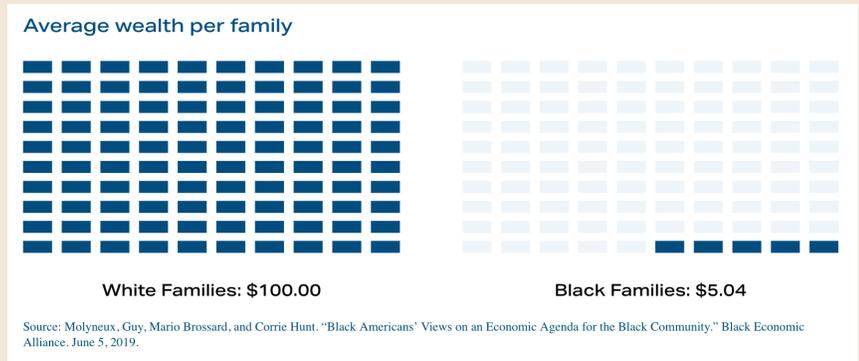
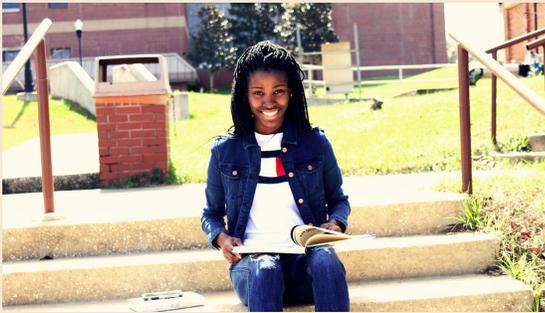
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SECURITY

- Create the federal Walker-Lewis Entrepreneurship Fund to invest in entrepreneurs and small business owners from underrepresented backgrounds, including a "Debt-for-Jobs" plan to help students start businesses
- Propose a 21st Century Community Homestead Act to launch a public trust that would purchase abandoned properties and provide them to eligible residents in pilot cities while simultaneously investing in the revitalization, fostering asset ownership that tackles the inheritance wealth gap & introduce services and jobs in those communities
- Expand enforcement of environmental protections and invest in solutions to environmental threats, particularly focusing on communities of color & working families who face disproportionate health effects from inadequate infrastructure



DEMOCRACY

- Expand access to the ballot; automatically registering eligible voters using information the government already has, allowing online and same-day registration, and making registration portable within states
- Increase access and ability to vote early and by-mail, make Election Day a national holiday, and set/enforce accessibility standards for poll workers, distribution of voting machines, registration materials and polling places
- Replace the Electoral College with a National Popular Vote
- Reduce the power of big money in politics and elevate ordinary voices by creating a strong public financing system to match small donors (so average citizens can run for office funded by their communities)
- Fix the flaws in our current representation structure by: depoliticizing and getting a more accurate Census count; providing full representation to the people of DC; fighting discriminatory racial gerrymandering

"Not only is it right to remedy centuries of dehumanization & discrimination in and of itself, but also when Black Americans live in freedom and justice, all Americans have greater opportunities to live in freedom and justice."

