

**WRITING PROMPT FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION – PREPARATION FOR READING AUGUST 1965** Write about the first time you realized that racism exist and be as detailed as possible. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- How old were you and the people involved? What was the situation?
- What kind of impact did it have on you? Did it change the way you looked at or related to the people involved?
- Did it change your self-perception or perception of the world?

POEM: **AUGUST 1965** ANALYSIS READ THE POEM THREE TIMES.

What are some of the recurring colors?

What effect does the violent protest have on the daughter and the mother?

1. WATCH THE VIDEO ON THE WATTS RIOTS

[L.A. TIMES VIDEO WATTS RIOTS, 1965](#) 1:35

Does the video help the reader understand the poem better?

2. For further insight read the [ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA – WATTS RIOTS, 1965](#)

**CREATIVE EXPRESSION – CREATIVE GALLERY LOSS OF INNOCENCE**

1. Reread your writing reflection on your first realization that racism exists.
2. Choose a color – a scent – and an item (noun) that was in the scene you described.
3. Take those items and use them to create something that captures that experience.
4. CREATIVE GALLERY – Display poetry with artwork throughout the classroom.
5. Have a poetry reading and a discussion of the display.

**Extended Assignment:** Analysis – Synthesis – Evaluation (compare/contrast)

**Goals:**

1. Students will analyze the documentary and synthesize the information studied in the previous three lessons in discussing the two real life situations.
2. Students will then create possible solutions. This information will also them be applied personally, either through discussion or a writing reflection.

**Watch the Documentary:**

A Time for Burning (57 minutes) which takes place a year after the riots.

- Discuss the impact the riots had on the community.
  - What goals did the different groups of people have?
  - What was the motivation for their goals?
  - When possible, incorporate some of the ideas from the lessons on racism, systemic racism and unconscious bias.
- Were the people successful in achieving their goals?
  - What were the concerns that might have prevented some of them from changing their mindsets and behavior?

- This documentary was dated 1966.
  - Do you think people still behave that way today?
  - What are some things that might help change or affirm the way the people in the documentary think and behave?