

**PRESS RELEASE
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Film and Discussion on Race and Criminal Justice

Anderson Township, Ohio, March 23, 2015

Could slavery and Jim Crow still impact encounters between the police and men of color? Can we do anything about this legacy? Greater Anderson Promotes Peace (GAPP), in partnership with Juneteenth Cincinnati, will explore these questions with a film and discussion on two Mondays in April.

The 90-minute PBS documentary *Slavery by Another Name* will be shown on Monday, April 13, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Facilitated discussion of the film will take place one week later, on Monday, April 20th, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Both programs are being held at Eastern Hills Friends Meeting, 1671 Nagel Rd., in Anderson Township.

"Questions about interactions between African American men and police abound," says GAPP Executive Director Louise Lawarre. "While there aren't easy solutions to these complex issues, they continue to demand our attention. How can we understand what is happening in cities like Ferguson and Cleveland if we don't know the 'back-story,' the history of black men and the criminal justice system?" Douglas A. Blackmon's book *Slavery by Another Name* and the documentary based on it explore the period from 1870 to World War II, an unremembered chapter in our history in which economic systems relied on the forced labor of black Americans.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War, the ratification of the 13th Amendment, and the first Juneteenth celebration of the end of slavery. Juneteenth Cincinnati is marking this historic moment with city-wide discussions about civil rights, criminal justice, and race. Juneteenth Cincinnati will present a report from the discussion groups to the community during the summer.

In preparation for the April 20 facilitated discussion, interested participants have several options to learn about this period of history. They can attend the April 13 free public screening of the documentary *Slavery by Another Name*, read Blackmon's book by that name, or watch the PBS documentary online at <http://video.pbs.org/video/2176766758/>

Both programs are free and open to the public. Pre-registration is appreciated by emailing gapp.peace@gmail.org

Greater Anderson Promotes Peace (GAPP) is a nonprofit organization serving Anderson Township, Mt. Washington, Newtown and western Clermont County since 1999. GAPP provides community-building activities and programs that honor diversity, encourage understanding and promote inclusion. For more information about GAPP and other upcoming community events, please visit us at www.gappeace.org.

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