Podcast Discussion Guide - Episode 5
White Brutality

The Ways & Means podcast series The Arc of Justice is produced in partnership with Duke Professor William A. “Sandy” Darity Jr. and folklorist and arts consultant A. Kirsten Mullen based on their book From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the 21st Century. Darity is the Samuel DuBois Cook Distinguished Professor of Public Policy at the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University.

Over six episodes, the podcast series explores disparities in economic opportunities between African Americans and whites throughout American history – describing what might have been, and policies that still could be implemented in the future.

This series is produced by the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy, and the team from the award-winning Ways & Means podcast. The series is hosted by journalist Lindsay Foster Thomas and will be broadcast on North Carolina Public Radio WUNC in 2021. Season 6 (The ARC of Justice) of Ways & Means is made possible through support from the Duke Office for Faculty Advancement thanks to funding from The Duke Endowment, and also support from North Carolina Public Radio and the Sanford School. The series is part of Duke’s Forever Learning Institute as part of the America Today theme. We invite you to listen to the episodes and to use this guide for additional resources and dialogue.

waysandmeansshow.org
Tips as You Listen:

1. Open ears and heart.
2. Get comfortable in your discomfort,
3. Continue to do your own research.
4. Talk about what you have learned with others.

Key Terms to Learn:

**White capping** - an often violent act by whites to repress African American progress that occurred in the U.S. in the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries.

**Red Shirts** – a white supremacist paramilitary terrorist group that was active in the late 19th century around the Reconstruction era of the United States.

Resources to Read:


Listen to Episode 5: [waysandmeanssshow.org](http://waysandmeanssshow.org)

Documentary to view: *Wilmington on Fire* (Blackhouse Publishing, 2015)

Questions to Discuss:

1. How was violence deployed in the U.S. to push forward the agenda of white supremacy?
2. What was the impact of white violence on racial wealth inequality?
3. Why is it important that the true scope of these violent attacks become known? What are the lasting impacts of an incomplete historical record of these events?
4. What is the significance of the federal government not investigating these hateful crimes?
5. Why is accountability for these crimes important?

Share your thoughts online: @WaysMeansShow @DukeSanford

"The Wilmington massacre was the point at which the possibility of joint rule between whites and blacks in the state of North Carolina was extinguished... for virtually a century."

- William A. "Sandy" Darity Jr.