

The Unveiling **Our Little known History**



Pulling Yourself Up By Your Own Bootstraps

How often have we heard this phrase to refer to someone who is “self made”? This week we’d like to share the inspiration for this “Unveiling” series.

We recently were shown a short video clip of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking just before the Poor People’s March on Washington in 1968. We began to see how little we knew of the federal help given white settlers (many of whom were European immigrants) as they spread across the midwest

and west in the years after the Civil War. We learned how sharply their experience contrasted to that of the newly freed Black slaves--**who had helped build the great wealth of this country**--and who were also trying to make a home and living for their families. With no help. Imagine how different our race relations would be if they’d been given the same aid and opportunities.

This short (1:14 min) segment of King’s speech explains the difference:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLV5y4utPKI&t=8s>

Watching this video, we felt *a veil had been lifted* in our understanding. We began to realize how much has been left out and how much has been “white washed” in what we know of American history. This series will try to shed light on how our country’s policies have often worked to help the white race thrive and block the Black race from sharing in its prosperity.

*Transcript for Dr. King’s speech can be found here:
<https://lastapostle.me/2016/01/18/dr-king-speechwe-are-coming-to-get-our-check/>