



INSIDE THE VAULT

Lynching and Anti-Lynching Materials
with Dr. Terry Anne Scott

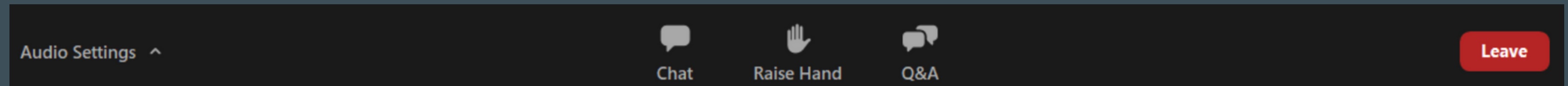
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023



THE
GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE
of
AMERICAN HISTORY



How to Participate



- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.
- The views expressed here are those of the historian.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.



Terry Anne Scott

Dr. Terry Anne Scott is an award-winning historian, author, and speaker. She left her position as an associate professor of American history and chair of the Department of History at Hood College in Maryland to become the director of the Institute for Common Power.

Dr. Scott's research interests focus largely on urban history, the intersection of sports and race, African American social and cultural history, and political and social movements. She is the author of several books, including *Lynching and Leisure: Race and the Transformation of Mob Violence in Texas* (winner of the 2022 Ottis Lock Endowment Best Book Award). She is also a featured historian in the critically acclaimed documentary *Lynching Postcards: Token of a Great Day*, which received a 2022 NAACP Image Award, a 2022 Peabody nomination, and was short-listed for an Academy Award.

Throughout her career, Dr. Scott has been heavily involved in community service and activism and has served as a researcher and consultant.



Today's Document

FOR THE GOOD OF AMERICA

Do you know that the United States is the Only Land on Earth where human beings are BURNED AT THE STAKE?

In Four Years, 1918-1921, Twenty-Eight People were publicly BURNED BY AMERICAN MOBS

3436 People Lynched, 1889 to 1922

For What Crimes Have Mobs Nullified Government and Inflicted the Death Penalty?

The Alleged Crimes	The Victims	Why Some Mob Victims Died:
Murder	1248	Not turning out of road for white boy in auto
Rape	571	Being a relative of a person who was lynched
Crimes against the Person	615	Jumping a labor contract
Crimes against Property	333	Being a member of the Non-Partisan League
Miscellaneous Crimes	453	"Talking back" to a white man
Absence of Crime	1.6	"Insulting" white man
	3436	

Is Rape the "Cause" of Lynching? . . .

Of 3436 people murdered by mobs in our country, only 571, or less than 17 per cent., were even accused of the crime of rape.

83 WOMEN HAVE BEEN LYNCHED IN THE UNITED STATES

Do lynchers maintain that they were lynched for "the usual crime?"

AND THE LYNCHERS GO UNPUNISHED

There were four lynchings in eight days after the failure to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. One of the victims being publicly burned at the stake.

TO MAINTAIN CIVILIZATION IN AMERICA

AND FOR THE GOOD NAME OF THE NATION
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70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

NAACP, "For the Good of America," ca. 1926.
(Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06197)



The next four slides contain graphic historical images of lynchings. Viewer discretion is advised.



Henry Smith, Paris, Texas

February 1, 1893



J. L. Mertins, *Little Myrtle Vance
Avenged*, ca. 1893.
(Library of Congress, 2016648613)

Robert Henson Hillard, Tyler, Texas

October 29, 1895



C. A. Davis, *In the Hands of the Mob*, 1897.
(Library of Congress, 2015645598)



C. A. Davis, *First Fire Withdrawn*, 1897.
(Library of Congress, 2015645597)

Russellville, Kentucky

July 31, 1908



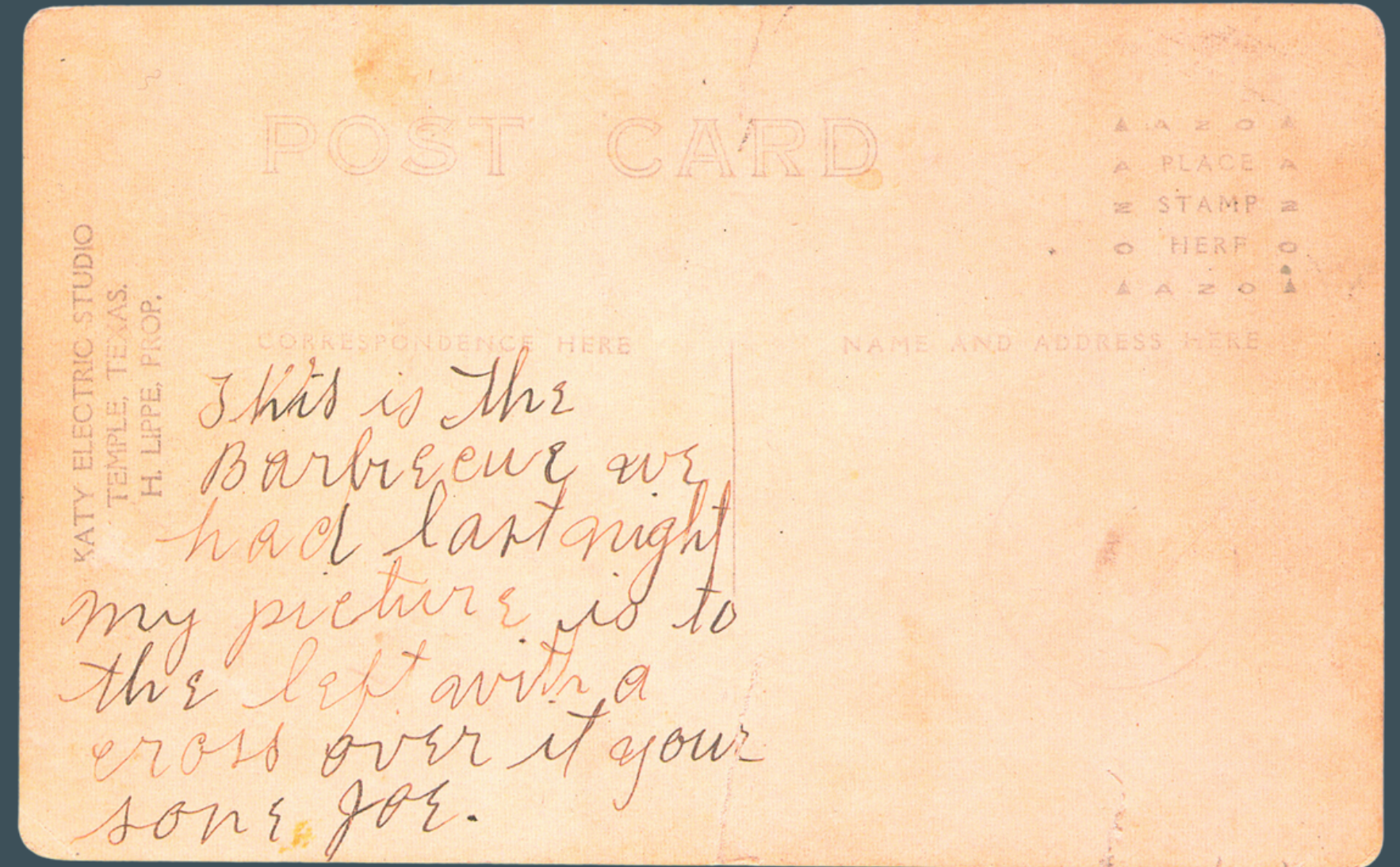
**"TAKEN FROM DEATH," LYNCHING AT RUSSELLVILLE,
LOGAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, JULY 31, 1908.**

HANGED ON THE OLD PROCTOR LYNCHING TREE. THIS IS A MULTIPLE CEDAR TREE AND THESE FOUR MAKE A TOTAL OF NINE MEN LYNCHED ON THIS TREE, SOME WERE WHITE MEN. THIS TREE IS AN OLD LAND MARK AND WAS AN OLD CEDAR TREE, EVEN IN THE YOUNGEST DAYS OF THE OLDEST SETTLERS. RUSSELLVILLE IS ONE OF THE PIONEER TOWNS OF KENTUCKY AND WAS SETTLED IN A CANE BRAKE. THIS IS AN EXACT PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT DAWN AUG. 1, '08

COPYRIGHTED 1908, BY JACK MORTON, SALESMAN, STAHLMAN BUILDING,
NASHVILLE, TENN. U. S. A

Jack Morton, [Postcard depicting the lynching of four African Americans], Nashville, Tennessee, 1908.
(Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06265)

Will Stanley, Temple, Texas July 10, 1915



Katy Electric Studio, [Postcard depicting the lynching of Will Stanley], Temple, Texas, 1915.

(Unknown)

"The Waco Horror"

May 15, 1916

(Supplement to the CRISIS, July, 1916)

The Waco Horror

*A*N account of the recent burning of a human being at Waco, Tex., as reported by a special agent of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

1. The City.

THE city of Waco, Tex., is the county seat of McLennan county. It is situated on the Brazos river, about half way between Dallas and Austin. It is the junction point of seven railways. The city is in a fertile agricultural region with grain and cotton as the chief products, and with nearly two hundred manufacturing establishments, representing some seventy different industries.

It had a population of 14,445 in 1890 which increased to 20,686 in 1900, and to 26,425 in 1910. The white population in these twenty years has almost exactly doubled. The colored population has increased from 4,069 to 6,067, forming thus 23% of the population. The bulk of the population is native white of native parentage, there being only about 1,000 foreigners in the city.

The whole of McLennan county contained in 1910 a population of 73,250 of whom 17,234 were Negroes. This total population has nearly doubled in the last twenty years.

Waco is well laid out. The streets are broad, over sixty miles of them being paved.

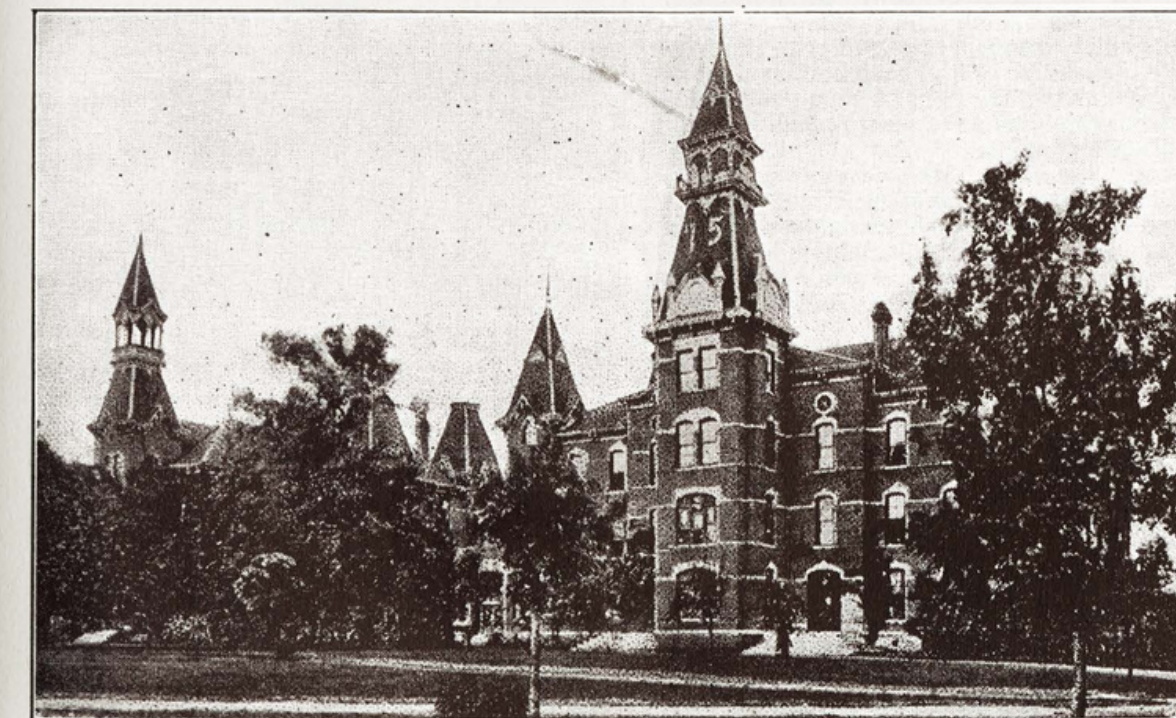
The sewer system of one hundred miles is excellent. There is a fine city-owned water system, and parks on the surrounding prairies.

There are thirty-nine white and twenty-four colored churches in Waco. By denominations the white churches are: Baptist, 14; Methodist, 9; Christian, 4; Presbyterian, 3; Jewish, 2; Episcopal, 2; Evangelistic, 1; Lutheran, 1; Catholic, 1; Christian Science, 1; Salvation Army, 1.

The colleges are: Baylor University, Baylor Academy, the Catholic College, the Independent Biblical and Industrial School, all white; and the Central Texas College and Paul Quinn, colored colleges. There are also the A. & M. College, the Gurley School, the Waco Business College, Toby's Practical Business College, the Provident Sanitarium, and the Training School.

Baylor University was founded in 1854 and has between 1,200 and 1,300 students. It is co-educational. The president is running for the United States Senate.

Two high schools serve white and colored population, and there are seven banks, including four national banks.



BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, WACO.

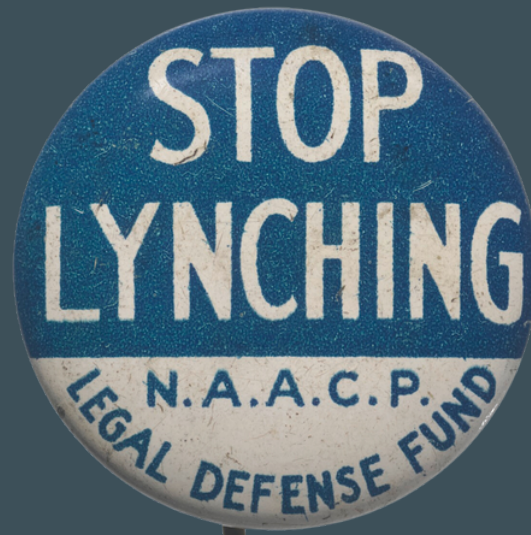
NAACP, "The Waco Horror," supplement, *The Crisis* 12, no. 3, July 1916.

(Modernist Journals Project, Brown and Tulsa Universities)



"The Shame of America"

1922



NAACP, "Pinback button for N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense Fund anti-lynching campaign," ca. 1940s. (National Museum of African American History and Culture, 2011.159.3.12)



NAACP, "The Shame of America," advertisement, *New York Times*, November 23, 1922. (George Mason University, History Matters)

THE SHAME OF AMERICA

Do you know that the United States is the Only Land on Earth where human beings are BURNED AT THE STAKE?

In Four Years, 1918-1921, Twenty-Eight People Were Publicly BURNED BY AMERICAN MOBS

3436 People Lynched 1889 to 1922

For What Crimes Have Mobs Nullified Government and Inflicted the Death Penalty?

The Alleged Crimes	The Victims	Why Some Mob Victims Died:
Murder.....	1258	Not turning out of road for white boy in auto
Rape.....	571	Being a relative of a person who was lynched
Crimes against the Person.....	615	Jumping a labor contract
Crimes against Property.....	333	Being a member of the Non-Partisan League
Miscellaneous Crimes.....	453	"Talking back" to a white man
Absence of Crime.....	175	"Insulting" white man.
	3436	

Is Rape the "Cause" of Lynching?

Of 3,436 people murdered by mobs in our country, only 571, or less than 17 per cent., were even accused of the crime of rape.

83 WOMEN HAVE BEEN LYNCHED IN THE UNITED STATES

Do lynchers maintain that they were lynched for "the usual crime"?

AND THE LYNCHERS GO UNPUNISHED

THE REMEDY

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill Is Now Before the United States Senate

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was passed on January 26, 1922, by a vote of 230 to 119 in the House of Representatives

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill Provides: That culpable State officers and mobbists shall be tried in Federal Courts on failure of State courts to act, and that a county in which a lynching occurs shall be fined \$10,000, recoverable in a Federal Court.

The Principal Question Raised Against the Bill is upon the Ground of Constitutionality.

The Constitutionality of the Dyer Bill Has Been Affirmed by—
The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives
The Judiciary Committee of the Senate
The United States Attorney General, legal adviser of Congress
Judge Guy D. Goff, of the Department of Justice

The Senate has been petitioned to pass the Dyer Bill by—
29 Lawyers and Jurists, including two former Attorneys General of the United States

19 State Supreme Court Justices
24 State Governors
3 Archbishops, 85 bishops and prominent churchmen
29 Mayors of large cities, north and south.

The American Bar Association at its meeting in San Francisco, August 3, 1922, adopted a resolution asking for further legislation by Congress to punish and prevent lynching and mob violence.

Fifteen State Conventions of 1922 (13 of them Democratic) have inserted in their party platforms a demand for national action to stamp out lynchings.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is not intended to protect the guilty, but to assure to every person accused of crime trial by due process of law.

**THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IS NOW BEFORE THE SENATE
TELEGRAPH YOUR SENATORS TODAY YOU WANT IT ENACTED**

If you want to help the organization which has brought to light the facts about lynching, the organization which is fighting for 100 per cent. Americanism, not for some of the people some of the time, but for all of the people, white or black, all of the time

Send your check to J. E. SPINGARN, Treasurer of the

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR IN PART BY THE ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADERS.

"For the Good of America"

ca. 1926

- The Equal Justice Initiative has documented 4,084 lynchings in twelve southern states and 300 lynchings in other states between 1877 (end of Reconstruction) and 1950.
- Lynching was declared a federal hate crime on March 29, 2022, when President Biden signed into law the Emmett Till Antilynching Act.



NAACP, "For the Good of America," ca. 1926.
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Crimes against the Person	615	Jumping a labor contract
Crimes against Property	333	Being a member of the Non-Partisan League
Miscellaneous Crimes	453	"Talking back" to a white man
Absence of Crime	176	"Insulting" white man
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Upcoming Programs

INSIDE THE VAULT: May 4 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)

- We will be joined by Andrew Robertson (CUNY) to discuss materials related to eighteenth- and nineteenth-century voting rights.

LINCOLN PRIZE LIVESTREAM: April 11 at 8 p.m. ET (5 p.m. PT)

- We will celebrate the winners of the 2023 Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize: Jon Meacham and Jonathan W. White.

GILDER LEHRMAN NATIONAL HISTORY ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIPS:

The National History Academy, in conjunction with the Gilder Lehrman Institute, is offering twenty scholarships to their residential summer program for tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students, to be held July 2–28.

Applications are due by May 10.



Upcoming Programs

MA IN AMERICAN HISTORY: Applications for the summer semester of the Gettysburg College-Gilder Lehrman MA in American History are open now! The deadline to apply is May 18. The semester begins June 1 and ends August 24.

HISTORY SCHOOL: We are offering two AP prep courses for high school students (grades 9–12), "AP United States History: Strategies and Technique" and "AP US Government and Politics: American Government and You." Each course consists of six one-hour-long classes held weekly via Zoom.

