
CASTE

MCE RETREAT BOOK DISCUSSION

Internal Reflection: Personal Journey & Internalized Bias

“Indians will ask one’s surname, the occupation of one’s father, the village one is from, the section of the village that one is from, to suss out the caste of whoever is standing in front of them,” Wilkerson writes. “They will not rest until they have uncovered the person’s rank in the social order.” How is this similar to and different from the process of determining caste in America? Have you ever, for instance, asked someone what they did for work or where they lived or went to school, and been surprised? Did you treat them differently upon hearing their answer?

“Evil asks little of the dominant caste other than to sit back and do nothing,” Wilkerson writes. Whether in the dominant caste or not, what are some of the ways that each of us, personally, can stand up to the caste system?

External Application: MCE Manifestation

What are some of the elements required for a caste system to succeed? Who does it benefit? Who does it harm?

How does the caste system take people who would otherwise be allies and turn them against one other?

Future Hope: Possibilities

What are some of the steps that MCE, and each of us, can take toward dismantling the caste system?

