

The concept of reparations as proposed is unfair and racist in its concept. Slavery ended generations ago. If someone in Oregon has been sold or bought in his or her own lifetime, he or she may conceivably be owed compensation. I've never owned a slave, nor has anyone in my family. I wasn't born wealthy so didn't prosper from slavery even had I ancestors who were slave-owners (which they weren't). Look around at the many people of color who have risen from poverty: Dr. Ben Carson, or Justice Clarence Thomas, Susan Rice, Senator Cory Booker, Rep. Bennie Thompson, VP Kamala Harris! . . . many others, in many walks of life. Pastor Marc Little (Floyd Little's son, who is the board chair for the Center for Urban Renewal and Education (CURE)) spoke the other day pointing out that five native-American tribes enslaved both whites and blacks (sorry, he didn't name them on air, but maybe lists them on <https://meforworld.com/marc-little>.) His suggestion, and it parallels the life-stories of Dr. Carson and Justice Thomas, is to instill a work ethic, love for learning, and foster creativity, help write a business plan & then back a loan. Reparations are another form of enslavement. Like welfare run amok, he says.

Aside from their viewpoints, on which I concur, the dollar amount is way out of line. If a person could prove he, or she, has been harmed by a 'heritage of slavery' payment should be support while in school a sum sufficient to cover a down-payment on a house. Not a lifetime stipend, nor one protected from garnishment. Not an amount that would set a person up for a Hollywood-star lifestyle leading to burn-out, drugs, etc. If a person needs help, don't throw him a handout. Don't give him a fish; teach him to fish! or inspire him to invent a better fishing rod! Thank you.