

"Land of Our Fathers"



A GUIDE TO LISTENING WITH CHILDREN

1619 is a New York Times audio series hosted by journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones, who created The 1619 Project initiative for The New York Times Magazine. You can find more information about it at [nytimes.com/1619podcast](https://www.nytimes.com/1619podcast). Episode five is a two-part episode that explores the history of Black land ownership in America through the experience of the Provost family, Black sugarcane farmers from Louisiana.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE LISTENING

- Some of the history & personal stories told in this podcast are hard to listen to because they describe painful events. What can we do to take care of ourselves when something is both important & difficult to listen to?

WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN & SPECIAL ORDER #15

Part 1 (0:00-6:37)

- How did the actions & decisions of the four politicians & officials mentioned (Sherman, Stanton, Lincoln, & Johnson) directly influence the lives of Black Americans at the time? What may have been a long-term effect of those actions and decisions?

JUNE & ANGIE'S STORY

Part 1 (6:37-29:17)

- What was the significance of owning & farming land to June's family?
- What influence does the banking industry have over the lives & livelihood of farmers?
- Do you think that the way other farmers began to characterize June as lazy & deserving of his losses is valid? Why or why not?

FIRST GUARANTY BANK LAWSUIT

Part 2 (0:00-11:35)

- What does this portion of the story teach us about the impact of someone being willing to speak out about an injustice?
- The First Guaranty Bank lawsuit is still open & ongoing. What do you think will be important questions for the judges & juries to consider as they study this case?

PIGFORD V. GLICKMAN

Part 2 (11:35-29:30)

- Racism & discrimination are often discussed as existing within legal and social systems. This means that the way a system is set up allows for easy discrimination against certain people. In what ways is the Pigford case a demonstration of systemic racism?

CLOSING

Part 2 (29:30-35:08)

- The episode closes with anecdotes by June Provost & Nikole Hannah-Jones. How do they capture the emotional impact of racism & discrimination both historically & in our modern day?

AFTER LISTENING ACTIVITY

Research the recent backlash against the Biden administration's debt relief program for minority farmers. Use facts & ideas from your research to determine if you think the program is fair.