**The Conversation of Race and Inequality in Modern America: The Legacy of slavery and Jim Crow**

**Bryan A. Stevenson and Jon Stewert**

**Bryan A. Stevenson** is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, a private, non-profit organization headquartered in [Montgomery, Alabama](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montgomery%2C_Alabama), and is a professor at [New York University School of Law](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_University_School_of_Law). He has gained national acclaim for his work challenging bias against the poor and people of color in the criminal justice system. Stevenson has assisted in securing relief for dozens of [condemned prisoners](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Condemned_prisoner), advocated for poor people and developed community-based reform litigation aimed at improving the administration of criminal justice.

<http://thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/84idyk/exclusive---bryan-stevenson-extended-interview-pt--2>

**Quick Summary:**

Because Americans have never understood the myths of their own history that made it possible to have slavery, "Slavery didn't end; it evolved," Alabama's Bryan Stevenson told Jon Stewart during the **Oct. 16, 2014, "Daily Show."** [***New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof praised Stevenson's work**](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/12/opinion/sunday/nicholas-kristof-when-whites-just-dont-get-it-part-3.html?ref=opinion&_r=0) and his book in his [**Oct. 11, 2014, column**](http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2014/10/bryan_stephenson_is_americas_m.html) and notes that Bishop Desmond Tutu called Stevenson "America's young Nelson Mandela." Why do we need a 'Nelson Mandela'? asks Kristof, noting that, of course, racial equality in the United States has made a lot of progress in the last 50 years. “There's a risk that that progress distracts us from the profound and persistent inequality that remains," Kristof writes, noting that the Michael Brown shooting and on-going aftermath in Ferguson, Mo., is just one of the more obvious indications that "many whites in America don't understand the depths of racial inequity lingering in this country."

**Answer the following question:**

**What problems continued after the end of Reconstruction?**

Shorter: <http://thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/d9wrvk/bryan-stevenson>

1. 5 minutes (end of the conversation starts to touch on the legacy of slavery and racial inequality)