**The Script**

**NOTE: Feel free to alter the language of any question as long as the same information is gathered.**

Before you begin recording the interview remind the interviewee that they do not have to answer any questions they are uncomfortable answering.

Introduction

1. “My name is (INTERVIEWER NAME) and I am interviewing (INTERVIEWEE NAME) in (LOCATION) on (DATE). Do you give me permission to record and distribute this oral history?”
2. IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU’RE UNCOMFORTABLE ANSWERING FEEL FREE TO DECLINE TO DO SO.
3. Please fill in as much basic information as you are willing to share:
	1. Name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	2. Age? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	3. Occupation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	4. Racial Identity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	5. Gender Identity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	6. Sexual Orientation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	7. Religion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Where are you from? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. Tell me the long story of how you, or your family ended up in New York City.

Political System

1. Do you feel the government represents everyone equally? Why or why not?
2. What are your politics and does one of the political parties represent those beliefs?
3. Do you think our politicians do a good job of repping the people they serve?
	1. Why or why not?
	2. Do you know who your representatives are?
		1. If so, do you think they do a good job?
4. What do you think about the role of money in politics?
5. What, if anything, do you think is working in U.S. politics?
	1. What isn’t working?
6. If you’re from elsewhere, how is U.S. democracy different than the political system in your nation of origin?
7. Does the judicial system do a good job of delivering justice to people accused of crimes?

COVID-19

1. How has the Coronavirus changed your life?
2. How did the pandemic change your relationship with government funded systems, including, but not limited to, education, transportation, medical and social services?
3. What has been the hardest part of this pandemic for you and your family?
4. How did it impact you economically?
5. Has there been anything positive to come out of the pandemic for you?
6. Do you think NYC political leaders did a good job of responding to the pandemic?
	1. What about national political leaders?

BLM Protest

1. Explain to me why you think these anti-racist protests erupted?
2. Why do you think NYC became an epicenter of the protests?
3. How have the uprisings across the country shifted how you think about your ethnic identity and your place in US society?
4. Do you have any stories you are willing to share about encounters you have had with racism or the police?
	1. Are more stories among friends and family members being shared about racism and the police since the protests started?
	2. Have you learned about an experience of someone close to you?
5. How has social media played a role in your experience of the BLM movement?
6. Were you active in the protests at all in a digital or in person way?
	1. If So...
		1. Why did you get involved?
		2. How were you involved?
		3. Do you have any significant experiences of the protests you’re willing to share?
7. How have protests, in the context of the Coronavirus, shifted the way you think about race in America?
8. How did where you live, impact your views on the police and racism?
9. How have the past few years changed how you think about police and racism in the US?
	1. Did you learn more about the history of racism in this country since the protests started?
		1. What have you learned?
10. What have you seen people around doing that inspires you with regards to the movement for Black Lives?
11. Has your perception of law enforcement changed since May 2020? If so, how?
12. What do you think about the local and national government’s response to protests that began in May 2020?
	1. Can you be more specific?
13. How would you like to see this movement resolved?

2021

1. What are your reactions to the invasion of the U.S. Capitol by Trump supporters on January 6, 2021?
	1. What do you think led these people to attempt to violently overthrow the government?
	2. Were you surprised how they were treated by the police?
	3. What did you think about President Trump’s and other political leaders’ reactions to the invasion?
2. What did you think about the impeachment trial of former President Trump?
3. How do you think the events of the last few years impact our democracy going forward?

2022

1. What do you think about the current Supreme Court?
	1. What about their recent decisions?
2. How do you feel President Biden is doing?
3. Are you hopeful about the direction of the United States?
	1. Why or why not?