

**TELLING THE  
STORY OF THE  
ALABAMA BLACK  
BELT'S FOOD  
SYSTEMS**

**LINDSEY LUNSFORD, MEM**

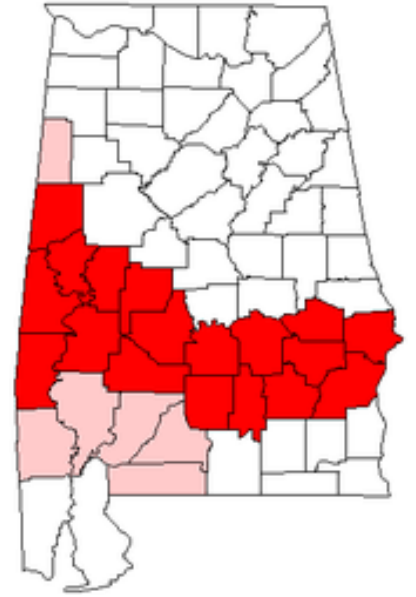
# THE WOMAN

- Sustainable Food Systems Resource Specialist
- Integrative Public Policy and Development Doctoral Student
- Tuskegee University



# THE PLACE

- The Alabama Black Belt
- HBCU - Tuskegee University
- Cooperative Extension
- Food Systems
- Structural Racism – Disparity
- Equity and Justice



# THE PEOPLE

- Community Based Participatory Research – *“As a Black Researcher”*
- Agent Interviews
- Public Dialogue – [Tuskegee Public Dialogue Team](#)
- The Process of Amplification...of Story Telling



# THE NETWORK

- [Racial Equity in Food Systems \(REFS\) Working Group](#) – Webinars, Listserv
- [eXtension Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Fellow](#) – eFeildbook
- Journal for Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development (JAFSCD) Shareholder Consortium's Equity and Inclusion Committee – *Not Just Another Equity Committee*
- Coming Together for Racial Understanding Inaugural Training
- INFAS Graduate Fellowship
- Keynote and Speeches





# WHAT SHOULD FOOD SYSTEMS SCHOLARS AND PRACTITIONERS FROM OUTSIDE THE HBCU SYSTEM BE AWARE OF, AND/OR ACTIONS TO TAKE, WITH RESPECT TO STRUCTURAL RACISM IN THE FOOD SYSTEM?

- The **Smith–Lever Act** of 1914 is a United States federal law that established a system of cooperative extension services
- “LAND-GRANT BUT UNEQUAL STATE ONE-TO-ONE MATCH FUNDING FOR 1890 LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES” - *Combined, 1890 land-grant universities did not receive almost \$57 million due to states not meeting the one-to-one match. – (APLU Sept. 2013)*
- **Disparity: An Analysis of the Historical, Political, and Funding Factors at the State Level Affecting Black Academic Agriculture** - Rupert Grant Seals, Ronald C. Wimberley Libby V Morris
- *A Federal Commission for the Black Belt South* - Ronald C. Wimberley, Libby V. Morris, & Rosalind Harris

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

You have to get over the fear of facing the worst in yourself. You should instead fear unexamined racism. Fear the thought that right now, you could be contributing to the oppression of others and you don't know it. But do not fear those who bring that oppression to light. Do not fear the opportunity to do better.

Ijeoma Oluo, [So You Want to Talk About Race](#)