

## Statement in Solidarity with Anti-Racist Efforts

We stand in solidarity with any efforts to dismantle white supremacy. We want to express clearly and unequivocally our outrage at the killing of Black people by the police. At the same time, we affirm that these protests and this historical moment are about much more than police brutality: they are about acknowledging the ways that systemic racism pervades all aspects of our lives in society—our institutions, laws, and personal interactions.

We recognize—quoting fellow [sociologists at the University of Minnesota](#)—“that the outrage, pain, and suffering in our community is not equally distributed. ...We do not all see or experience this time in the same way.” But like our Minnesota colleagues, we commit to the [call from our AU colleagues Dr. TaLisa J. Carter, Dr. Lallen T. Johnson, and Dr. Kareem L. Jordan](#) to “read, listen, talk, and act with intention” in our continuing anti-racist work.

This moment asks us to do the work of anti-racism. Part of that work calls us to recognize the ways in which academia is complicit in upholding structural racism. To that end, we, the undersigned, commit to actions that will lead to meaningful and substantive change for an anti-racist future, inside and outside the academy. Sociology department faculty are committed to anti-racist work in research and in teaching, which we know can play a powerful role in transformative social change. Right now, this work includes: disseminating relevant public scholarship (see [here](#) and [here](#) for examples); organizing a teach-in on the historical and contemporary connections between police violence and white supremacy; and participating in an [initiative developed by Academics for Black Survival and Wellness](#) “to honor the toll of racial trauma on Black people, resist anti-Blackness and white supremacy, and facilitate accountability and collective action.” We also resolve to redouble our efforts to increase the number of Black and scholars of color on the sociology faculty and in leadership positions in the department.

Sociology faculty will pursue anti-racist work for as long as it takes. We encourage all current, former, and potential sociology students, faculty and staff within reach of this message to contact us if we can, in any way, also support you in your anti-racist work.

Ernesto Castañeda-Tinoco  
Kim Blankenship  
Susan McDonic  
Celine-Marie Pascale  
Molly Dondero  
Chenyang Xiao  
Nicole Angotti  
Gay Young

Zephi Francis  
Michelle Newton-Francis  
angie luvara  
Cynthia Miller-Idriss  
Erica M. Lesto  
Mike Bader  
Dan Myers