

IEC Position Statement: Acknowledgement of Hate Crimes against Black Persons

Summer 2020

This past week, the nation has been inundated with videos of a white police officer in Minneapolis and a white woman in Central Park engaging in intentional, racially motivated, hate crimes. Their overt and covert white supremacy (see Figure 1) has once again highlighted the great strides we as a country must make to end systemic, lethal racism.

Overt White Supremacy (Socially Unacceptable)

Lynching
Hate Crimes
Blackface The N-word
Swastikas Neo-Nazis Burning Crosses
Racist Jokes Racial Slurs KKK

Calling the Police on Black People White Silence Colorblindness
White Parents Self-Segregating Neighborhoods & Schools
Eurocentric Curriculum White Savior Complex Spiritual Bypassing
Education Funding from Property Taxes Discriminatory Lending
Mass Incarceration Respectability Politics Tone Policing
Racist Mascots Not Believing Experiences of BIPOC Paternalism
"Make America Great Again" Blaming the Victim Hiring Discrimination
"You don't sound Black" "Don't Blame Me, I Never Owned Slaves" Bootstrap Theory
School-to-Prison Pipeline Police Murdering BIPOC Virtuous Victim Narrative
Higher Infant & Maternal Mortality Rate for BIPOC "But What About Me?" "All Lives Matter"
BIPOC as Halloween Costumes Racial Profiling Denial of White Privilege
Prioritizing White Voices as Experts Treating Kids of Color as Adults Inequitable Healthcare
Assuming Good Intentions Are Enough Not Challenging Racist Jokes Cultural Appropriation
Eurocentric Beauty Standards Anti-Immigration Policies Considering AAVE "Uneducated"
Denial of Racism Tokenism English-Only Initiatives Self-Appointed White Ally
Exceptionalism Fearing People of Color Police Brutality Fetishizing BIPOC Meritocracy Myth
"You're So Articulate" Celebration of Columbus Day Claiming Reverse-Racism Paternalism
Weaponized Whiteness Expecting BIPOC to Teach White People Believing We Are "Post-Racial"
"But We're All One Big Human Family" / "There's Only One Human Race" — Housing Discrimination

Covert White Supremacy (Socially Acceptable)

Figure 1. Covert and Overt White Supremacy, modified from 'You Shall Not Replace Us!' *White supremacy, psychotherapy and decolonisation* (Turner, 2018)

The Inclusive Excellence Committee in the Morgridge College of Education stands with the University of Denver and reiterates: “communities of color have always been criminalized, marginalized and victimized...our systems and institutions have failed to create the equity we know is fundamental to our dignity as human beings.”

We acknowledge the unspeakable horror, despair, and grief that members of our Black community are experiencing. We recognize that nothing can diminish the pain. In addition to the [resources shared by the Chancellor](#), we wish to offer the following resources as an immediate response to help mitigate the trauma our community is enduring.

Online Resources:

- [Anti-racism resources \(Document compiled by Sarah Sophie Flicker, Alyssa Klein in May 2020\)](#)
- [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice](#)

Recommendation by a recent DU Graduate (BM, Class of 2020):

- Text “FLOYD” to 55156, click the link they send, and sign the petition calling for the officers responsible for Floyd’s death to be indicted for murder.
- Donate to the Black Lives Matter organization.
- Contact the Minneapolis district attorney at (612) 348-5550
- Contact Mayor Jacob Frey’s office at (612) 673-2100 and say “I want justice for the murder of George Floyd. I demand the prosecution of the 4 officers involved. This is a racist hate crime and an abuse of power.
- Donate to the Minnesota Freedom Fund to provide bail money for protesters who are arrested.
- Donate to the [GoFundMe for George Floyd](#).

As they so eloquently wrote: “It is essential for Universities to stand up for their minority students and put their efforts into fighting against the oppression and violence that threatens them every day. If we are silent on the issue, we are part of the problem.”

References:

Turner, D. (2018). ‘You Shall Not Replace Us!’ White supremacy, psychotherapy and decolonisation. *Journal of Critical Psychology, Counselling and Psychotherapy*, 18(1), 1-12.