



June 3rd, 2020

As the Asian American Student Association at the University of Utah, we stand in solidarity with the Black community and those fighting against racism. Silence is no longer an option at a time like this. We are a part of the generation that can break the silence and change the system.

Background:

Since January 1, 2015, 1,252 Black individuals have been shot and killed by the police. Let this be a reminder of how our system has consistently failed Black people/POC. This injustice also serves as a reminder that many of these deaths by the hands of police do not make it to national news. We support the movement to shine a light on the dangerous impacts of anti-Blackness currently happening and fight for the freedom and justice for Black people and, by extension, all people.

How to take action:

Racism and police brutality have been common themes amongst marginalized groups and minorities within our country. In order to be advocates for change, we must listen, learn, educate ourselves, and actively support our Black communities. We encourage our members to self reflect on their own hearts and address it within their homes. We encourage everyone to speak up about the current injustices. Help educate family members, friends, and other people around you about what is going on.

Ignoring this matter will not make it go away. We acknowledge that shying away from having difficult conversations is a part of the problem. This change is long overdue. We will not turn a blind eye to all the injustices POC face. We urge everyone to have these difficult, but vital conversations in our spaces, homes, and communities. Dialogue is needed to move forward. Let us all do what we can as a society to move forward and support the Black community in fighting for justice and equality.

We all have the opportunity to learn, change, and do better. It is our responsibility to take *action*. Together, we can make a difference.

Conclusion:

As the Asian American Student Association, we fully support our community who have decided to take action against police brutality and the injustices that have taken place. We encourage our members and officers to do so as individuals and ask that it is done in a way that does not pose a risk to themselves or their peers.



While we, as the Asian American Student Association, recognize our privilege and the fact that we will never be able to fully understand the unjust treatment that our Black communities have faced for generations, we hear and stand by those who have been wrongfully subjected to police brutality.

We pledge to further educate our organization on the salience of voicing out the injustices of today's society that our Black community faces daily.



Resources to learn more, donate, and advocate for change:

Resources:

- Black Cultural Center at the U ([BCC](#))
- Black Faculty and Staff Association at the U ([BFSA](#))
- Black Student Union at the U ([BSU](#))
- [Comprehensive list on how you can help - petitions, text or call, donate, etc.](#)
- [Resources for the Black Lives Matter Movement](#)
- [Resources & Tools Regarding Racism & Anti/Blackness](#)

We would like to state that Black Lives Matter is a non-violent organization. The violence seen at various protests has been incited by non-black people. Many members of the black community asked these individuals to refrain from using violence during their protests. These events of violence have negatively impacted the perception of black leaders in Black Lives Matter. For more information on the violence occurring during these protests and on what Black Lives Matter advocates for, we encourage you to visit the links below.

- Black Protesters Who Want To Demonstrate Peacefully Are Calling Out White People Who Instigate Violence ([Buzzfeed News](#))
- Black Lives Matter ([BLM](#))
- Black Lives Matter Utah ([BLM Utah](#))

Articles and Books:

- 6 Ways Asian Americans Can Tackle Anti-Black Racism in Their Families ([Everyday Feminism](#))
- 10 Books About Race Non-Black People Should Be Reading ([Refinery 29](#))
- 20+ Allyship Actions for Asians to Show Up for the Black Community Right Now ([Medium](#))
- A Report from Occupied Territory ([The Nation](#))
- Every fatal police shooting since 2015 ([Washington Post](#))
- 'Model Minority' Myth Again Used As A Racial Wedge Between Asians And Blacks ([NPR](#))

Local Community:

- [Support Black-owned businesses in Utah](#)