

**Whidbey Island Friends Meeting Statement for Dismantling Racism:
A Faithful Ethical and Moral Framework**

June 14, 2020

The Whidbey Island Friends Meeting (Quakers) joins with others across the nation in decriing the deaths of African-Americans through police violence that has specifically affected this portion of our population. We support the cry to stop the racial killings and address the underlying attitudes of white supremacy that perpetuate racial violence.

Our faith recognizes the equality and dignity of all humanity. We commit to confronting our own entanglement in racist systems and structures. We acknowledge the rage that fuels the protests and demands for justice. We will continue Quakers' historic advocacy for racial justice through the practice of active nonviolence, which we believe offers a loving opportunity for healing the sin of racism for future generations.

It is equally important to develop an ethical and moral framework to provide an alternative vision that supports our work addressing the evils of oppressive discrimination. Toward that end Whidbey Friends invite all people to join us in a commitment to seek a society that:

- Teaches us to recognize, acknowledge and take action to heal our own racism.
- Protects human rights.
- Offers all persons the opportunity for their potential to be fulfilled.
- Is free from discrimination whether due to race, creed, gender, ethnic or national heritage, age, sexual orientation, disability, or medical condition.
- Assures voting rights and a representative political voice.
- Transforms our criminal legal system and its pipeline-to-prison for people of color.
- Promotes educational, economic and employment opportunities.
- Offers medical care for all.

The Whidbey Island Friends Meeting is holding in the Light the family of George Floyd and others killed and diminished by the immorality and injustice of racism in all its manifestations. We also are holding in the Light members of law enforcement, those in positions of power, and each and every one of us who have knowingly or unwittingly been part of the problem. We believe that the transformational power of love and forgiveness is vital—perhaps now more than ever—for wholeness and healing.

[325 words, not including date and title]