

**SCYM Minute on the Trump Administration**  
**Thursday, May 8, 2025**

Quakers from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas met in annual sessions April 13-20, 2025 and approved a Minute which enumerates ways in which Trump administration policies are in conflict with Friends' testimonies. Friends Meeting of Austin minuted their adoption of this minute at the May 4, 2025 Business meeting.

**South Central Yearly Meeting**  
**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**  
**Minute Regarding the Trump Administration**  
**April 19, 2025**

As members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; we are guided by the Light within, seeking to live in accordance with our testimonies of peace, integrity, equality, simplicity, community, and stewardship. Our faith leads us to uphold the inherent worth and dignity of every person and to act with compassion, justice, and nonviolence in all areas of life regardless of race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or immigration status.

We are moved to speak plainly at this time, as we witness policies and rhetoric from the Trump administration that contradict our most deeply held religious beliefs. When a government disregards constitutional norms and the rule of law, attacks the legitimacy of elections, or acts with impunity; it breaks the sacred trust between citizen and state. We are called by the Spirit to witness against such abuse with steadfast love.

We affirm that:

- **Peace** is not compatible with the glorification of military force, the erosion of diplomacy and cooperation, or the targeting of marginalized communities through rhetoric or action whether through foreign policy or within our own borders.
- **Integrity** cannot flourish in an environment where falsehoods are routinely disseminated, public trust in democratic institutions is undermined, and accountability is disregarded.
- **Equality** is denied when policies promote the discrimination of people of color, intolerance of religious diversity, restrict immigration and asylum, and marginalize LGBTQ+ individuals, women, and the poor.

- **Simplicity** is intentionally replaced with chaos and confusion when officials use inflammatory rhetoric, barrage us with contradictory statements, engage in outright lies, and rely on social media and executive fiat to willfully bypass the deliberative processes that are the cornerstone of our democracy.
- **Community** is broken when leaders sow division by implicitly and explicitly bullying and threatening those with whom they disagree, scapegoat vulnerable groups, and reject collective responsibility for public health, climate stewardship, and the common good.
- **Stewardship** is abandoned when we fail to nurture all that has been entrusted to us — not for personal gain, but for the well-being of all, including generations yet to come. The failure to uphold this responsibility reflects not care, but consumption. Not service, but self-interest.

We recognize that no political administration perfectly reflects our values. However, we find the words and actions of the Trump administration cruel at its core and its disregard for truth, embrace of violence, and the dehumanization of others purposefully egregious and harmful.

We speak from a place of profound religious conscience, not from partisanship.

We call on all people of faith and goodwill to examine the spiritual cost of complicity and silence. We seek to live out our testimonies not only in worship, but in public witness, advocacy, and loving resistance.

We reaffirm our commitment to justice, compassion, and nonviolence, and we invite others to join us in building a more just and peaceful world.