

Querida Latinx Familia/Dear Latinx Family:

In recent weeks, we have cried, posted, tweeted, and protested as we continue to mourn the murder of the lives of Black members of our community.

Ahmaud Arbery.

Breonna Taylor.

Monika Diamond.

Dominique Clayton.

George Floyd.

Tony McDade.

Not to mention the countless names of Black people whose lives were ended *off* camera. In *A People's History of the United States*, Howard Zinn writes, "The memory of oppressed people is one thing that cannot be taken away.... For Blacks in the United States, there was the memory of slavery, and after that of segregation, lynching, humiliation. And it was not just a memory but a living presence--part of the daily lives of Blacks in generation after generation." Black people have been and continue to be subject to inequality and racial injustice stemming from hundreds of years of systems built on white supremacy.

This is not the first time that people have protested to end violence against Black people, and the need to continuously do so can be taxing. The emotions surrounding these events are insurmountable. There is no amount of words that can express the sadness and profound loss that is felt. To our Black, Black Trans, and Afro-Latinx siblings, we love you. We value you. You matter. Your life matters. **Black Lives Matter, all the time.**

To our Latinx familia who are white-presenting or who do not identify as Black, this is also our fight. However, with that said, we recognize the existence of racism and anti-blackness that is so ingrained in our culture. Therefore, we must acknowledge that we have a commitment to dive into this work and the real work starts from within. Now more than ever, it is critical that we commit to unlearning, identifying our blind spots, and using our privilege to speak out against racial injustices.

On behalf of the Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community, we vow to honor our commitment through our core values of advocacy, comunidad, and development by continuing to center the experiences of the Black community and ensuring that we lift their voices, by making our Black members feel included and at home, and by fostering a space where our Black members can have and be mentors for themselves and for others. It is our hope that we can continue to be a support for one another and continue to uplift communities that are being directly impacted.

I invite you to check out the following list of resources and events to start the internal and external work. This list is by no means meant to be exhaustive, but rather a guide and a way to get the conversation(s) started. Let's start working together.

Internally

- **LIVE Online Workshop** hosted by the [Latinx Parenting Organization](#) on June 20 2020, 11:30AM PST/2:30PM EST - [Raising Anti-Racist Humans: Dismantling Colorism & Racism in Latinx/Chicanx & Biracial Families](#)
- **Anti-Blackness in the Latinx/a/o Community hosted by the NASPA National LKC** on Friday, June 19 1:00-2:30PM ET, 12-1:30PM CT, 10:00-11:30AM PT - **Registration Link to come soon!**
- **Read about Anti-Blackness** (and act on it). There is lots of great information out there. A few examples are [How Latinx People Can Fight Anti-Black Racism in Our Own Culture](#), [Non-Black Latinx Resources on Anti-Blackness](#), and for those of you who are interested in reading and having these conversations in Spanish, check out [Recursos Antirracistas En Español](#)
- **Take the time to breathe.** Breathe for you. Breathe for others. Take good care of yourself. Fill yourself with the things you need in order to effectively serve others. Check out the following mental health Instagram Pages: [Dive In Well](#), [The Nap Ministry](#), [Sista Afya](#), [Ethel's Club](#), [Healhaus](#), [Inclusive Therapists](#). If you want to take a step further, download [Shine Text](#), a Black and Women of Color owned mental health app with free resources under COVID

Externally

- **Take Action** and seek justice for the families of Ahmad Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and the many other Black Americans unjustly murdered and abused by law enforcement and other protectors of white supremacy - [Resources for Accountability and Action for Black Lives](#)
- **Talk with your family about what is going on.** Dr. Maricela Becerra (pronouns she, her, and ella) a UCLA Department of Spanish & Portuguese Assistant Adjunct Professor created this guide to help members of the Latinx community with having these anti-racist conversations in Spanish within their own families - [A Spanish Guide: How to Talk to my Latinx Family about Black Lives Matter](#)
- **Financially support and promote local businesses, particularly Black businesses.** Look into the following Apps: [Official Black Wall Street \(BSW\)](#), [Black Nation](#), [Support Black Owned](#)
- **Email Government officials and council members** to reallocate egregious police budgets towards education, social services, and dismantling racial inequality at [Defund12.org](#)
- **Most importantly, VOTE**

Todos Unidos,

The Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community Leadership Team