

TRANSFORM

4-Week Anti-Racism Challenge (ARC) - It's not too late to join!

WEEK 3: January 15 – January 21

Choose from any of the following, or create your own anti-racism activities. Complete at least 3 activities each week. Use the tracking tool below to record your progress.

- **Connect:** Email or direct message us if you have ideas/suggestions for other anti-racism activities that we can share with the group (thanks to all of you that have sent ideas our way).
- **Donate** to The Hope Buss (featured in this week's "In the Spotlight"), an organization that "works to bridge the gap between local organizations and the community by attacking hopelessness at its core."
<https://thehopebuss.org/>
- **Donate** from your stimulus check. If your financial circumstances were not negatively affected by the pandemic, consider donating part or all of your stimulus check to an anti-racism organization working to help others stay afloat in these difficult times. Over 50 possibilities are listed at this link <http://bit.ly/35FybpX>
(Thanks to Terri Phelps for this suggestion).
- **Write or call:** Though we are all stunned by the destructive and deadly attack on the Capitol, we must make sure everyone is aware of the racist motivations for that act. Racist symbols were on display everywhere, tolerated and promoted. Read these articles regarding racist symbols in the riot:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/images-trump-mobs-at-capitol/2021/01/06/87324ae4-5061-11eb-bda4-615aaefd0555_story.html

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-01-12/washington-capitol-hate-symbols-race-riots-trump-antisemitism/13048516>

Write or call all of your elected officials and demand they speak out. You might use these phrases:

“I urge you to acknowledge and fervently denounce the racism exhibited in the breach of the Capitol as well as at all the protests in favor of overturning the election, at the US Capitol and elsewhere. The trauma such violent displays inflict on people of color can’t be understated and must not be tolerated. Speak up for racial justice and equality.”

Here are the links for our local elected officials:

Governor Andy Beshear: <https://governor.ky.gov/contact/contact-us>

Representative John Yarmouth: <https://yarmuth.house.gov/contact-john>

Senator Mitch McConnell:

<https://www.mcconnell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=ContactForm>

Mayor Greg Fischer:

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/mayor-greg-fischer/contact-mayors-office>

Your Louisville Metro Council member. Find contact info here:

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/metro-council/districts-1-26>

(Thanks to Julie Wood for this suggestion)

****Call on businesses** to abandon sales of racist memorabilia (For example: due to public outrage, Etsy has discontinued the CAMP AUSCHWICH shirts—why did Etsy ever sell such a hateful item?) When you see businesses making money off racist images, please speak up.

- **Commit:** Valarie Kaur, author of SEE NO STRANGER, is inviting folks, on January 21, the day after President-elect Biden takes his oath, to take our own oath to work toward transitioning into a multi-racial democracy. <https://thepeoplesinauguration.org/>
(Thanks to Kathleen Kaelin for this suggestion)

- **Watch** *Fire and Heart: A Blueprint for Liberation*, a film by Joan Brannon. Premieres Jan. 18th
 - <https://youtu.be/mSvOz0IMwIQ> (trailer)

- **Read:** Hannah Drake, the Louisville poet and writer, comments on the events of the week in *Leo Weekly*. Read her essay, “Chickens Always Come Home to Roost” (but, buckle up... she doesn’t mince words and the truth can sting) <http://bit.ly/2XHN0DE> Visit Hannah Drake’s website at <http://www.hannahdrake.com/home.html> She is a riveting speaker and writer. Consider buying her books and promote her work.

- **Join** a social justice group that you don’t already belong to. Some suggestions:
 - Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression: <http://www.kentuckyalliance.org/>
 - SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice): <https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/>
 - Black Lives Matter: <https://blacklivesmatter.com/>
 - The Movement for Black Lives: <https://m4bl.org/>
 - ACLU: <https://www.aclu.org/>
 - NAACP: <https://naacp.org/>

*Suggest others for next week’s activities

- **Journal** about your experiences with racism or anti-racism efforts. Write your own or if you like, use one of these from *Me and White Supremacy*
 - What have you begun to understand about your personal complicity in White Supremacy that you were not able to see before you began this work?
 - In what types of situations is it most difficult for you to speak up about racism? Why?

- Invite a friend to the 4-week ARC. **It’s not too late to join!** Forward this email (and copy me), and we will add them to the list to receive the weekly announcements. Or, ask a friend to join our Facebook page <http://bit.ly/3rV1HkC>

Use the link below to copy or download the ARC Tracking Tool:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Yp0fU8BtkaP4V07DOE5tPGGTOFWA9CpT/edit#gid=446847735>

