



## ONA Statement on Racism and Injustice

The Oklahoma Nurses Association condemns racism and injustice as well as police brutality. We wholeheartedly believe that *Black Lives Matter*. Racism is a longstanding public health crisis impacting both mental and physical health placing a disparity in care and outcomes for our patients of color. We as nurses must work together to address this racism and discrimination facing our patients and each other.

The Code of Ethics obligates nurses to be allies and to advocate and speak up against racism, discrimination and injustice. This is non-negotiable! As American Nurses Association (ANA) President Ernest J. Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN so well states, *“At this critical time in our nation, nurses have a responsibility to use our voices to call for change. To remain silent is to be complicit. I call on you to educate yourself and then use your trusted voice and influence to educate others about the systemic injustices that have caused the riots and protests being covered in the news. The pursuit of justice requires us all to listen and engage in dialogue with others. Leaders must come together at the local, state, and national level and commit to sustainable efforts to address racism and discrimination, police brutality, and basic human rights. We must hold ourselves and our leaders accountable to committing to reforms and action.”*

### Resources

#### **Organizations:**

- [Oklahoma NAACP](#)
- [National Council of Negro Women](#)
- [Families USA](#)
- [National Pan-hellenic Council](#) (Black Fraternities and Sororities)
- [Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority](#)
- [National Black Nurses Association](#)
  - [Oklahoma City Black Nurses Association](#)
  - [Eastern Oklahoma Black Nurses Association](#)
- [Interfaith Alliance of Oklahoma](#)

#### **Social Media:**

- **Emmanuel Acho** (@thEMANacho): He has tweeted out a 3-5 minute tweet that's entitled: "Dear White People, for days you have asked me how you can help...I've finally found an answer". During this tweet (and others to follow), he answers and encourages questions from White people and others about black culture. I have included the link to his first tweet below. As he mentions, there will be other tweets that provides a candid up-front answer to questions from everyone.  
Let your guard down and listen. <https://t.co/74SVv8XOqp>  
(<https://twitter.com/thEMANacho/status/1267609472589090816?s=02>)

#### **Listen**

- [A Decade of Watching Black People Die](#) CodeSwitch Podcast from NPR
- [Anger: The Black Woman's "Superpower"](#) CodeSwitch Podcast from NPR
- ["When Civility is Used as a Cudgel Against People of Color"](#) CodeSwitch Podcast NPR
- ["The Power of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Anger"](#) CodeSwitch Podcast NPR

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**Watch**

- [“How Studying Privilege Systems Can Strengthen Compassion”](#) TED Talk
- [“Let’s Get to the Root of Racial Injustice”](#) TED Talk
- [“How to Overcome Our Biases? Walk Boldly Towards Them”](#) TED Talk
- [“How We’re Priming Some Kids for College and others for prison”](#) TED Talk

**Read**

- [“Who Gets to Be Afraid in America?”](#) by Ibram X. Kendi
- [The 1619 Project](#) from the New York Times
- [“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”](#) by Peggy McIntosh
- [“The Intersectionality Wars”](#) by Jane Coaston
- [“The Case for Reparations”](#) by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- [What’s My Complicity? Talking White Fragility with Robin Diangelo](#) by Adrienne Van Der Valk  
Anya Malley
- **“White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism”** by Robin DiAngelo  
available for purchase or download on Amazon/Apple etc.