

I'm sure you've seen the news. It's been an intense few days, full of rage, heartbreak, and important questions.

George Floyd, a Black man, was murdered on camera by a cop in Minneapolis, sparking uprisings in cities across America and protests here in Canada. [1]

Black people are losing their lives because of racism and white supremacy.

The statistics speak for themselves: Last year, **almost 1,100 people were killed by police** in the US — that's 3 people every day. The victims were disproportionately Black. *99% of police killings over the past six years never resulted in an officer getting charged.* [2]

In Toronto, Black people are 20 times more likely to be shot dead by the police. [3] In Montreal Black and Indigenous people are 4 to 5 times more likely than white people to be stopped by police. [4]

Over the weekend in Toronto, Regis Korchinski-Paquet, an Afro-Indigenous woman having a mental health crisis died under highly questionable circumstances in police presence. [5]

Last month, **D'Andre Campbell, a Black man living in Brampton, called police for help** during a crisis — **instead he was shot and killed in front of his family.** [6]

And just last week, a Canadian woman living in New York called the cops on a Black man birdwatching in the park, knowing exactly what kind of response her phony screams could elicit. [7]

It might not look exactly like America's but Canada has a racism problem. It might be an uncomfortable truth for many of us, but anti-Black racism is deeply rooted in this country's history, institutions and culture. It's evident in the policing of predominantly Black neighbourhoods, the overrepresentation of Black people carded by police and in the way the media portrays Black-led movements. [8]

It's also evident in ourselves. It's the racist jokes we might tell or refuse to challenge. It's the unconscious bias we have that might make us trust Black doctors or university professors less than their non-Black counterparts. It's the snickering at people's names, or minimizing statements like: "I don't see race". It's taking to social media to criticize a building burning instead of speaking out against killer cops. It's denying that white privilege exists.

Unless non-Black people, especially white people, start learning about how anti-Black racism and white supremacy has shaped us and the societies we live in — and start challenging these systems — racism isn't going away and Black people will continue to die.

The journey to unlearning racism and white supremacy is actual work. It can be uncomfortable, but this discomfort pales in comparison to the violence Black people endure every single day.

Below is a collection of resources — books, articles, organizations to donate to, etc. — that you can use to learn, share and most importantly, act.

Anti-Black Racism Resources:

Books:

- [Opportunities for White People in the Fight for Racial Justice](#)
- [Policing Black Lives by Robyn Maynard](#)
- [White fragility by Robin DiAngelo](#)
- [The Skin We're In by Desmond Cole](#)
- [Black Life: Post Black Lives Matter and the Struggle for Freedom by Rinaldo Walcott and Idil Abdillahi](#)
- [Until We Are Free: Reflections on Black Lives Matter in Canada edited by Rodney Diverlus, Sandy Hudson, and Syrus Marcus Ware](#)
- [Me and White Supremacy by Layla Saad](#)

Articles and Other Readings:

- [Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor](#)
- [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice](#)
- [Explaining White Privilege to a Broke White Person](#)
- [How White Parents Can Use Media to Raise Anti-Racist Kids](#)
- [In Conversation: Desmond Cole and Téa Mtonji](#)

For additional resources you can check out [this curated list here](#).

Places to Donate:

- [Black Health Alliance](#)
- [In Memory of D'Andre Campbell](#)
- [George Floyd Memorial Fund](#)
- [Justice for Regis - Donation](#)
- [Black Lives Matter - Toronto](#)
- [Black Lives Matter - Vancouver](#)

True allyship goes beyond just being a *non-racist*. To dismantle racism and white supremacy we have to strive to become *actively anti-racist*. It's having difficult conversations with your friends and family who express anti-Black sentiments or bias. It's looking inwards and addressing your own anti-Black racism. It's writing politicians demanding police accountability. And most importantly, it's showing up for the Black community, fighting against racism and discrimination wherever it shows up.

With hope and respect,
Simran and Brittany for Leadnow

Sources:

- [1] The CBC, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/protests-george-floyd-us-1.5592829>
- [2] CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/01/george-floyd-death-police-violence-in-the-us-in-4-charts.html>
- [3] The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/10/toronto-black-residents-more-likely-shot-dead-ontario-human-rights-commission-report>
- [4] The CBC, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/spvm-racial-profiling-report-recommendations-and-findings-1.5311589>
- [5] The CBC, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/vigil-regis-korchinski-paquet-1.5592134>
- [6] CTV News Toronto, <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/he-was-already-on-the-floor-family-looks-for-answers-after-ontario-man-shot-dead-by-police-1.4886751>
- [7] The Huffington Post, https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/entry/amy-cooper-canada-central-park_ca_5ecd7fbbc5b6658c20605b3f
- [8] The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/nov/06/canada-overdue-reckoning-anti-black-racism>