



Stand Up to Racism, South Asians: The South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO) Calls On South Asians to Stand Up and Fight Back Against The Destruction of Black and Indigenous Lives in Canada and around the world.

The South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO) stands in solidarity with the communities and families of Regis Korchinski-Paquet, of D'Andre Campbell, of George Floyd, of Breonna Taylor, of Tony McDade, and of too many others. We stand firmly in support of Black and Indigenous lives.

The ongoing protests and eruptions of grief and outrage in Canada and the United States are a direct symptom of a longstanding colonial violence and anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism that has been dogmatically reinforced at the personal, institutional, and systemic levels. While it is undeniable that South Asians have been victims of discrimination and racist violence, it is also undeniable that South Asians have been perpetrators and supporters (directly and indirectly) of racism and violence against Black and Indigenous communities. South Asians have long been enforcers of White Supremacist ideology and have often succumb to the “model minority myth” that they are somehow better than their racialized counterparts. Make no mistake, our progress in Canada was made possible on the backs of Black and Indigenous communities.

No community, however historically or currently oppressed, is above becoming another communities’ oppressor. SALCO stands firmly with those who are disenfranchised by the “justice” system in Canada and around the world, without exception. We recognize the determination of those in our South Asian communities who are committed to battling the fires of racism burning across the globe, and we condemn the beliefs and actions of members of South Asian communities who continue to perpetuate anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism in their everyday lives. The only way forward is by amplifying and crediting Black and Indigenous voices, defending Black and Indigenous lives, examining the roots of White Supremacy and oppression, and supporting and funding Black-led and Indigenous-led initiatives.

We call on South Asian communities across Canada to reject complicity and to condemn violence in all its forms perpetrated against Black and Indigenous communities by the State, law enforcement, and the public at large. South Asians are not immune to the corrosive impact of racism in Canada, and yet, we have been largely silent on the far more pervasive and undiminished impacts of anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism and colonial violence on Black and Indigenous communities. **South Asians must commit to fighting racism—especially anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism at every level.**

We cannot differentiate the system that allows “model minorities” to live comfortably from the one that denies Black and Indigenous communities the ability to breathe. It is the same system. Now is the time to investigate the impacts of any form of racism on the survival and well-being of Black and Indigenous communities. **We have a duty to challenge the privileges we are afforded, especially when those privileges come at the expense of the lives and safety of Black and Indigenous people**

We call upon the entire South Asian community to use this moment to do the following:

- Speak up on anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism – use every opportunity that comes your way.
- [Donate](#): support communities with your **money**, with your **time**, and with your **words**.
- Mobilize your resources:
 - fund Black initiatives, businesses, and individuals;
 - [research and read](#): educate yourself on the interwoven threads of colonialism and White supremacy in your own history and in the history of Canada and the US;
 - speak out against statements you know to be untrue and harmful in your own families and communities. This [intergenerational letter](#) may help.
- Support legislative and policy changes that stand to help dismantle structural racism or improve the lives of marginalized people. Learn about past recommendations that have already been made and remain to be fully enforced by State and Police actors:
 - [Andrew Loku Inquest Recommendations](#)
 - [Seven First Nations Youths Inquest Recommendations](#)
 - [94 TRCC calls for Action](#)
- Re-evaluate what it is that has made you uncomfortable about this situation: consider the source of your privilege, and whether it comes at the expense of others' ability to be heard.