

Action Items for Racial Justice
(compiled by Benedictines for Peace, June 2020)

Call your Congressional Representative and ask them to support H.R. 40, a bill before the United States Congress that would establish a commission to examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies. Among other requirements, the commission will identify (1) the role of federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery, (2) forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants, and (3) lingering negative effects of slavery on living African-Americans and society.

Take an implicit bias test, available for free at this link: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/> This will help you identify your own unconscious prejudices, so that you can better unlearn them.

Participate in the 21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge, which offers resources for you to read, listen to, watch and share. Click here to get started. <https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge>

Learn about the racial wealth gap and the policies that created and perpetuated it. NETWORK Advocates for Social Justice offers a “Racial Wealth and Income Gap workshop” which combines an informational presentation, interactive simulation, individual reflections, and group discussion to educate participants about the origins of our nation’s racial wealth and income gap. Click here: <https://networkadvocates.org/rwig/>

NETWORK Advocates also offer “The Recommit to Racial Justice: guide which can be used individually or with a group. Click here. <https://networkadvocates.org/recommittoracialjustice/>

Donate to, or volunteer for, an organization like Reclaim the Block <https://www.reclaimtheblock.org/home>, Black Lives Matter <https://blacklivesmatter.com/contact/>, the NAACP <http://www.naacperie.org/take-action/donate-2/>, or the Loveland Foundation <https://thelovelandfoundation.org/about/>.

Contact your local elected leaders and learn about what they are doing to ensure structures and accountability are in place against police brutality and racism. Support structures that include input from and accountability to communities, especially communities of color in your local area.