



Stony Brook **Medicine**

**School of Social
Welfare**

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Dear SSW Community,

As we await the significant legal outcome of the Derek Chauvin criminal trial in Minneapolis, our society faces many challenges in reversing the catastrophic damage to the civil and human rights of our society in the past five years. It is incumbent upon us all to work harder at exposing and dismantling the engines of entrenched, systemic racial inequities and oppression that threaten inclusive democracy in the United States. The recent murders of Asian-American women in Atlanta and other violent crimes targeting the Asian population further emphasizes the need for robust anti-racist education in our schools and communities.

As practitioners, educators and students of social justice, it is inherent that we support the proposed policing reform efforts in our society to provide sustainable community policing, including investing resources in health/mental health services, affordable housing, and education equity in many of the BIPOC marginalized communities in our nation.

As social change agents, we must emphasize the importance of protecting voting rights and civic engagement, by dismantling voter suppression laws and keeping the right to vote in the hands of the American people.

In the midst of these very difficult times, it's critical that our society decriminalize and stop the mass incarceration of Black and Brown citizens, which contributes to a culture that dehumanizes marginalized people.

Finally, we must make all efforts in our attempt to eradicate poverty. We must realize that the challenges of poverty, overlapped with other intersectional challenges, creates major barriers to advancement for many in our nation. "Injustice To One, Is Injustice To All".

For a list of anti-racism resources, please visit the website that is continuously updated:
<https://socialwelfare.stonybrookmedicine.edu/news-events/anti-racism-resource-list>

In Solidarity,

Marvin L. Colson, Clinical Associate Professor & Dr. Anna Hayward, Associate Professor,
EDISC Co-Chairs
& the EDISC Committee