



Dear CCAG community,

It is so wrenching to turn on our televisions. Not a day goes by that my eyes don't well up and I fear for my two year old son and nine year old daughter's future.

At the same time, I realize the privileges they are granted due to systemic racism and white supremacy. The videos of George Floyd being assassinated by four police officers who clearly felt they could kill with impunity shakes me to the core every time I see a version. They are not alone.

This period in time has brought out the lie of a color blind society in some of the most stark ways in generations. The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on communities of color and the economic decimation these communities continue to face is morally bankrupt.

We must challenge ourselves to build a better society and remember Martin Luther King's quote "The arc of history is long, but bends towards justice."

Meanwhile the racist occupant in the White House fans the flame and had troops fire rubber bullets and gas on peaceful protesters to get a campaign photo-op. He continues to send signal to white supremacist organizations, many who are flaming some of the violence and looting we are witnessing.

I have been to several of the rallies demanding recognition that Black Lives Matter and have been inspired by the smart multiracial organizing being done by younger people.

We owe them a better future where the idea that all people are created equal and have the right to pursue life, liberty and happiness are realities and not just words on paper.

We urge you to consider supporting [Color of Change](#) and the [Connecticut Bail Fund](#) as initial steps. Change will not come overnight, but there is an urgency of now.

None of us can anticipate what the next five months and beyond will bring, but CCAG is as committed as ever to build a more just society.

We vow to work with you to achieve this and to make sure everyone knows that Black Lives Matter.

Tom Swan, Executive Director, Connecticut Citizen Action Group