

MESSAGE FROM THE MORNINGSIDE MONTHLY MEETING RACIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP:

In recent months, the United States has experienced racial strife and activism that has spread across the country and the globe untapped since the civil rights era of the 1950s and 1960s. While the unjust killing of Black people in America is nothing new, the recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd has clearly struck a deep chord moving us beyond Black America and now reaching all racial and ethnic communities. We welcome this as an opportunity to inspire anti-racist education and activism in particular among white Quakers as well as with Quakers of color and Quakers at large. The Racial Justice Study Group (RJSG) sponsored by Morningside Monthly Meeting has held monthly meetings supporting the education of participating attendants (Quakers and friends of Quakers) over the past two years. In future months we will be working toward establishing a NYQM racial justice network to continue this work with Friends in the New York City region. We see education focusing on the history of racism in America as a crucial foundational step upon which to further build and sustain justice-focused activism. As such, we encourage other monthly meetings within the NY Quarterly Meeting to develop racial justice study groups to encourage an anti-racist agenda within your communities and among your members. The facilitators of the Morningside Monthly Meeting RJSG are available, individually or collectively, to provide suggestions and guidance toward this objective upon your request.

In Friendship,

The Morningside Monthly RJSG facilitators: David C. Fletcher, Karen Taborn, Helen Garay Toppins

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