



## BLACKLIVESMATTER.UK

### The information in this document is not exhaustive

This is by no means an exhaustive list of Black Lives Matter values or talks for all Black Lives Matter independent chapters, coalitions, collective or groups whose ideologies and or objectives may be the same, similar or even differ to some extent. We do not claim to talk for the entire Black Lives Matter global organisations, coalitions, collectives or groups here in the UK or abroad but does give an indication of the many aspects of Black Lives Matters and the Black Lives Matter Movement. We do not claim to be spokespersons, agents for the Black Lives Matter movement as a whole or the entire Black population but do stand in unity and solidarity for racial equality, equity and social justice and for black lives to matter in every nation and corners of the world.

Black Lives Matter movement was established in reaction to black people in the US being over three times more likely than white people to be killed by a police officer. It is a movement for racial equality and against racism. Prior to the Black Lives Matter movement we had the Civil Rights Movement of the 60's, the Black Lives Matter Movement is a follow on continuum to eradicate the harmful effects of racism perpetuated against Black and Brown people and the equal opportunities denied, yet afforded to White people.

'Black Lives Matter' is a statement which has become an important way for Black, Brown and White people, anti-racist and citizens of all colours, all nations to come together, united in the stance that Black and Brown lives matter as much as White lives and racism is not acceptable and to stand together united to show support for members of the Black and Brown community who experience racial discrimination simply because of the colour of their natural born skin.

'Black Lives Matter' has become synonymous with racism and social injustices committed against Black people and is an important, impactful statement and phrase for many following the murder witnessed by millions around the world, the killing of an African-American man called George Floyd, however, the term 'Black Lives Matter' was first used widely many years before in 2013 after a teenage boy called Trayvon Martin was killed by a neighbourhood watch volunteer who did not face any punishment and yet again justice was not served to the victim, his family, the black community and many more victims before him. These types of deaths relating to racism and killings of Black men were not the first or will be last and we're here to make a commitment to an unrelenting stand for Black lives to matter equal to White and any other lives right across the world. And in this connective world using technologies, social media and mobile phone it's less likely police can hide incidents of brutality committed against Black people and will be exposed and confronted like never before. Enough is enough. Police brutality and racism needs to be eliminated.

## The birth of the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter

**Alicia Garza was in a bar in Oakland, California, July 2013 and she had been following the trial of George Zimmerman, a neighbourhood watch volunteer in Sanford, Florida, who had shot dead a 17-year-old African-American by the name of Trayvon Martin in February of the preceding year. Martin had been unarmed, on his way back from a 7/11 convenience store where he had just bought himself an iced tea and a bag of Skittles.**

**Alicia Garza logged on to Facebook. She wrote an impassioned online message, "essentially a love note to black people", and posted it on her page. It ended with: "Black people. I love you. I love us. Our lives matter."**

**Garza's close friend, Patrisse Cullors, read the post in a motel room 300 miles away from Oakland that same night. Patrisse started sharing Alicia's words with her friends online. She used a hashtag each time she reposted: #blacklivesmatter. The following day, Garza and Cullors spoke about how they could organise a campaign around these sentiments.**

**A call to action to make sure black lives actually does matter. Alicia and Patrisse reached out to Opal Tometi, The three women started by setting up Tumblr and Twitter accounts and encouraging users to share stories of why #blacklivesmatter. Alicia made protest signs with block capital letters and put them in the window of a local shoe shop. Patrisse led a march down Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills with a banner emblazoned with the same hashtag. The slogan started gaining traction. And the rest is history - #BlackLivesMatter**

## June 2020

Millions of people took part in protests across the world following the murder of George Floyd yet another unjustified killing. George Floyd's murder occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and this murder caught on film posted to social media and was the catalyst causing outrage in White people too, in fact giving rise and wrath from all people of all colours, ethnicities and nationalities felt the emotional torment and pain of the inhumane killing right alongside Black people and the pandemic of COVID-19 gave space and time for many turn to social media to speak out against what had happened, to vent and to unite in making a stand against police brutality. The world's largest protest took place and brought people of many colours and of many races and nations out onto the streets to protest against the never ending incidents of police brutality. Assembles and demonstration to place right across the globe and in many cities, towns and even small villages to voice the anger, frustration and exasperation of the injustices Black people have long suffered and live through, forever enduring a sustained, targeted and unlawful acts committed by serving police officers could not be ignored.

Black, Brown as well as White people have had enough living side by side in a world of inequities, racial and social inequalities, racial disparities and discrimination and feel racism has no place in a modern progressive society and has to stop and to stop now.

Injustices was taking place in America, in the UK and elsewhere which brought about protest in many cities, states, towns and small villages in the US, UK and many other countries with people of all colours, anti-racist wanting to break silence to express their anger, feeling silence is no longer an option that will resolve racism but to be untied under one powerful voice that will be heard. Many White people recognising for the first time Black lives have not had the same value as White lives in society and want change and for Black lives to be valued equal to White lives. As well as a phrase of support Black Lives Matter has grown into a worldwide, global campaign and movement with individuals, groups, collectives, coalitions and organisations committed and united in the cause to stamp out racism.

Police brutality has been committed against Black people for hundreds of years, Black lives simply did not matter, hasn't mattered and this has to change and to change fast, we have no more time to waste and wait for another generation to experience a lifetime treatment suffering prejudices and racial discrimination.

Since the events of 2013 in the US, many more incidents have taken place across America, in the UK and other parts of the world which have led to increasing calls for the protection of Black lives. The discrimination Black people face dates all the way back to slavery and colonialism. Many businesses, charities and campaign groups have been challenging racial inequality for years, alas without the change we need, business people and people in power need to do more about institutional racism in the workplace, our governments needs to implement and use legislation in law and utilise the legal power in law within the race equality and human right acts to bring people and organisation to account and to effect racial equality and justice. Racism still affects Black people today and will again tomorrow and the days months and years after and this is why we are committed to continuing the fight for racial equality and social justice each and every day. The fight for social revolution must continue to see the demise of racism in institutions, systems and societies - Revolution to Evolution.

## Biography- short biographical profile

### **VIO - Values, Ideologies and objectives**

#### Values

**Black Lives Matter stands for racial equality and for all lives to matter equally as any other instead of the ones always being known as the 'other'**

Black Lives Matter and the Black Lives Matter Movement is not a statement or belief that only Black lives matter, what we are saying is Black lives don't matter why any other lives should matter anymore and until Black lives matter no other lives can or should matter anymore. Black lives have to matter just as much as White lives and we will continue to fight the cause until Black lives do matter. We believe all lives are of value and matter equally whatever the skin colour, whatever the gender or any other human characteristics that makes our ethnicity and identity. All lives should matter equally and this is what we stand for, what we fight for, why we protest and create a united voice. We want nothing more and nothing less than equality for all people of the world.

It's time for us all to stand up, speak up and speak out and say that "Black Lives Matter". Black people do not deserve to be treated poorly or less than White people. It's time for anti-racist of all nations to stand up for what's right, stand up for humanity and choose to stand on the side of the oppressed and not with the oppressor.

Black people don't want to be treated better than anyone else we want to be treated the same as everyone else, equal to people of any other race and of any other colour. And for White supremacist, racist who wish to dominate and to hijack the Black Lives Matter campaign with fake news in an attempt using great effort and endeavours to take away the positive attention and progress Black Lives Matter is making around the world to level up human equality for all serves to demonstrate the racial injustice and racism Black people still have to endure and encounter each and every day and must be stamped out and the campaign for Black lives to matter must continue until the end. The Black Lives Matter Movement will grow in its essence and we are committed to jump as many hurdles and to navigate every single or multiple obstacles put out in front of us in an attempt to dissolve the movement.

## Ideologies

**Black Lives Matter believes in racial equality, in equal justice, in equal opportunities, in human rights, and believes in democracies that is inclusive and works for all people and citizens of its nation**

**Black Lives Matter does not believe in putting one categorised group or race above another on basis of a societal class, colour of skin, gender or other human characteristics.**

Black Lives Matter is a decentralised and civil right social justice movement with autonomy, the right and condition to self-govern, often protesting against incidents of police brutality and racially motivated violence against Black people. The Black Lives Matter movement comprises of a broad array of people, with wide ranging views and opinions, while there are distinct groups, coalitions, collectives and organisations identifying as "Black Lives Matter", the movement includes political activists, and many more who are non-political, it includes people who purely and fundamentally perceive racism from a human right perspective and to correct from prospective basis in the context of going forward from this point onwards that will not necessarily include retroactive action, such as calls for reparation, not necessarily strongly opposed by the idea of reparation either but simply want to level up and remove disparity for parity, inequity for equity, inequality for equality and to live in a "better world" where everyone is treated equally. And where historical truth are told and not hidden but instead fully acknowledge and by doing so is making amends for past wrongs and endeavouring to putting things right and in a way no more people of Black heritage and future generations of Black people are born to a nation, a so called civilisation to suffer purely because the colour of the human natural born skin.

A nation become all the worse for doing very little to quell racism, accepting a culture of racial discrimination nurtured by indifference and unwillingness of the state to radically address racial inequalities and injustices in society will never escape the repercussions of using and abusing, marginalising and excluding its citizens from society's opportunities. Events of today is tomorrow's history and will affect our future and will not look favourably on a nation never giving a status or priority or importance by people in power, often White who does very little to dismantle systemic, systematic and institutional racism. Governments have created sub-groups and categorised 'ethnics' 'minorities' using tick boxes that have achieved little more than to continue the marginalisation that has served to prevent, deny and excluded as lesser human beings in society and thus put in the mind of the nations and indigenous people Black people are not good enough. The lack of desire to eradicate racism is telling, to forever neglect to the detriment of its non-White citizens is neglect, failure of duty and care of humanity and unforgivable. To live and die undervalued as a human being is unforgivable. To disempower black people through lack of will to tackle racial discrimination for centuries is unacceptable, objectionable, offensive and unforgivable. However, Black people do not want revenge or retribution and this we have clearly demonstrated over the centuries by long enduring racism and the injustices without resorting to Black vs White wars and enduring violence and uprisings that many would expect after historical atrocities and police brutality, systematic racial discrimination and being handled badly day in day out, undervalued and treated less humane, favourable than many in the western world treat, care for and treasure their family pet.

Black people just want equality. It's shouldn't be too much to ask for and to receive, which is our human rights. White people need not fear Black people, we've long proved after centuries of ill treatment right up to the modern day that we only want racial equality, fair justice, peace and harmony with people of all skin tones, are after all we're all the same, bleed the same and breathe the same. We are all human.

The past atrocities of colonialism, slavery and the transatlantic slave trade is unforgettable and unforgivable, however forgiveness and absolution of today's governments, systems and institutions is likely to be granted to those who choose to actively act now to end racism. The lines will be written in history for tomorrow's past. Will tomorrow be the day history and history books looks favourable on US, UK and the rest of the western world in its actions to eradicate racism or will on condemn the White nation for many more centuries and suffer periodic uprising revealed in archive and stored (hidden) an accumulation of historical records that gets unearthed from time to time. What may history reveal about a life of a Black Man, a Black Woman, and a Black Child in the 21st century?

## Anti-Racist

Many White people have been enlightened during 2020, many who were not necessarily racists have arisen from their closeted protection of being white skinned, previously ignorant, untouched and unharmed by the existence of racism, not a concern or a problem of White people to solve or resolve, this was before witnessing the killing and viewing the vivid moving images of the murder of George Floyd. No longer unaffected by racism, the blindfolds that protected White people from having to acknowledge racism or think about Black people's struggle have been exposed

and no longer unaffected by Black and Brown people's long endured pain and injustices. Many more White people are now awoken, united in solidarity with their fellow citizens and active in creating and wanting change in communities, society and the world we live and share.

### **Humanity at its best is human united in its fight to quell humanity at its worse.**

Some supporters have long felt long felt social and racial justice central to their core and as far back as they can remember having an awareness of the immense damage that is done by prejudice and discrimination, especially where it becomes embedded in cultures and states. One supporter spoke of their great grandparents who were killed in a genocide and had learnt about these atrocities at a young age and details of the events that led up to it, this sparked an interest and commitment in fighting prejudice and discrimination whenever it was witnessed.

*"As a white person of privilege in terms of race and class, I am not innocent of prejudice myself and have made and will make mistakes on this journey. In the past two or three years, the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement and people connected with it have helped me to gain a new perspective on my own participation and role in a white privileged society and I find myself on a new learning curve."*

Many White people thought that not being racist was pure and enough and part of being a good person. This was until summer of 2020 when many encountered the term 'anti-racist' only now realising there's much more to simply being able to say "I'm not racist" and swiftly moving on. A significant number of White people went on their very first protest during 2020. A Black Lives Matter demonstration against police brutality and the death of George Floyd, from large city marches to smaller protests in and around villages throughout the UK, for many finding unity and solidarity in standing together fighting for racial and social justice extremely powerful and are now trying to read more, learn more about anti-racism work and committed to do more in the future to create a more harmonious world.

*"I want a better world than we have now, and I know I need to actually contribute to that, not just wish for it."*

The slogan "Black Lives Matter" itself remains un-trademarked. A phrase, anti-racist slogan and statement owned by no one, belongs to everyone - **Black Lives Matter.**

The same goes for the world owned by no one but belongs to everyone - **All Lives Matter.**

The broader movement and its related organisations typically advocate against police violence towards black people as well as for various other policy changes considered to be related to racial equality, equal and social justice, prejudices and intolerance against LGBTQ and for Black liberation from all discrimination and more besides

# Objectives

**Black Lives Matter is to eradicate racism and the effects of racist systems that detrimentally affect the daily lives, quality of life, job opportunities and width of the economic gap between Black and White people.**

The Black Lives Matter Movement has many goals. BLM activists seek to draw attention to the many ways in which Black people are discriminated against, treated badly, unfairly in society and the ways in which national institutions, laws, policies and White people in power help to perpetuate exclusion, unfairness and racism to favour those who look like them, having White skin. The Civil Rights and Black Panther Movement fought long and hard and so will the Black Lives Matter Movement continue the fight through such means as political action, non-political action, civil action, social disobedience and affirmative action seeking to increase the representation of marginalised groups based on their race, creed, nationality gender or sexuality, in areas in which they are excluded in education, employment, business, letter writing and poster campaigns, and of course nonviolent protests.

Black Lives Matter seeks to combat police brutality, the over-policing of targeted Black and 'ethnic minorities' including disproportionate stop and search of young black boys and men and in neighbourhoods with a high population of disadvantaged, marginalised Black and Asian citizens and where poverty is high, to expose the individuals and institutions who abuse those in their care and custody and oppose for-profit prisons and services increasingly used and contracted, outsourced offending institutions. Black Lives Matter efforts have included calls for better training for police and greater accountability for police misconduct, public responsibility and accountability. BLM activists have also called for "defunding" the police by means of reducing police department budgets and instead investing funds in communities and social services, such as mental health and conflict-resolution programs, youth service and community support by doing so would also serve to free up the police having less to deal with increasing demands, situations and incidents of mental health issues they are not qualified or adequately trained to deal with and reduces officers time and ability to deal with criminal incidents that need attention but not least is what can be devastating consequences to a person suffering a mental health breakdown and has led to deaths in custody when the person should be in hospital rather than in handcuffs, leg restraints and police custody. Black Lives Matter and BLM activists have also worked on voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns in Black communities and for young people to take up their right to vote as full citizens of their nation. In addition, Black Lives Matter programs have and are supporting Black businesses driving Black economics to close the race based gap and celebrating Black artists and writers and much more under the identity of 'BLACK LIVES MATTER'

**THE FIGHT MUST GO ON UNTIL ACTIONABLE MANIFESTATION OF SYSTEM CHANGE IS DISMANTLED AND THE EFFECTS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IS ERADICATED AND DEFEATED.**



*We will get to the end goal because Black Lives Must Matter the opportunity of change is here like never before and we can only go forward – **Change must come.***

BLACK LIVES MATTER

BLACKLIVESMATTER.UK.