

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

7/9/2020 – DPSC Zoom

RESOLUTION 2020-02

Declaring Racism A Public Health Issue In California

WHEREAS, Race is a social construct with no biologic basis, racism is a social system comprising individual and systemic racism, that is an institutional and structural process of assigning value or opportunity based on social interpretations of appearance, disadvantaging some individuals and communities while advantaging others, and depleting the strength of the whole society through the fostering of hatred and waste of human resources; and

WHEREAS, Racism and oppression have dramatically affected communities that experienced slavery, genocide, forced relocation, and removal of children from their families, who were punished for speaking their native languages, criminalized for learning to read and write, and forbidden from practicing traditional rituals, all of which have contributed to the plagues of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and extreme poverty and continue to contribute to intergenerational, historical trauma, stress, microaggressions, and internalized racism for millions of California citizens; and

WHEREAS, Racism causes persistent discrimination in housing, education, employment, transportation, criminal justice, and healthcare, and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism is a social determinant of health such as exposure to lead, poor air quality, lack of safe places to walk, bike or run, food deserts, and inadequate health education, yet evidence shows that reconnecting people to the vibrant strengths of their ancestry and culture, helping process the grief of past and present traumas, and creating new historical narratives can have healing effects for those out of balance emotionally, spiritually, mentally or physically due to the generational and continuing trauma of racism;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County will actively participate in the dismantling of racism by assessing and correcting internal policies and procedures to make sure anti-racism is a core tenet of the party, working to create an inclusive organization and identifying specific activities to increase diversity and equity, and offering educational training to expand leaders' and employees' understanding of how racism affects people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County will drive policies to improve physical and mental health in communities of color and demand that all local, state, and national entities recognize racism as a public health crisis and act fully to combat and overcome it.

Sponsor: Kendra Lewis