



Our center is devoted to inspiring peace. But peace is not possible when racism prevents God’s children from seeing each other as He sees all of us: as divine souls with infinite worth, regardless of our physical characteristics. As [President Russell M. Nelson expressed](#):

We join with many throughout this nation and around the world who are deeply saddened at recent evidences of racism and a blatant disregard for human life. We abhor the reality that some would deny others respect and the most basic of freedoms because of the color of his or her skin...

Let us be clear. We are brothers and sisters, each of us the child of a loving Father in Heaven. His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, invites all to come unto him—“black and white, bond and free, male and female.” It behooves each of us to do whatever we can in our spheres of influence to preserve the dignity and respect every son and daughter of God deserves.

Racism is a widespread problem without easy solutions, but we believe that tragic moments such as these recent events can serve as a catalyst for positive change. Knowing where to start can be difficult, but becoming paralyzed by the enormity of the challenge and doing nothing is not a morally acceptable option. Our center will be actively looking for ways we can increase peace by combatting racism both on campus locally and throughout the world. We invite others to join us as we seek for ways to initiate change within our spheres of influence.

Friends of the center who have spoken recently about racism in ways we find compelling include BYU Maxwell Institute [Director Spencer Fluhman](#), Utah State University [Professor Patrick Mason](#), and BYU Law [Dean Gordon Smith](#). We have also appreciated the thoughtful words of therapist and author [Resmaa Menakem](#) and Yale University [Professor Claudia Rankine](#).