



June 2020

Dear reader

We are at a most turbulent time as we face society's reaction to racial prejudices and biases that unfortunately exist to this day. George Floyd's killing has brought out the feelings of confusion and hurt that have lain just under the surface for so many people of colour. Right across the world, people are angry about racial injustice and societies around the world should take note of that energy, including here in the UK.

COVID -19 has highlighted the continual race and health disparities in the UK, 94% of NHS Doctors who have died are from ethnic minorities, Coronavirus is twice as lethal to black men than white men, 40% of the poorest UK households are black households, ethnic minorities account for 50% of children incarcerated in young offender's institutes, black mothers are 5 times more likely to die in childbirth than white mothers. These statistics are unacceptable.

Coronavirus has replicated and increased existing health inequalities according to Public Health England's report Disparities in the Risk and Outcomes of COVID-19. This virus has had the greatest impact on people from ethnic minority backgrounds, those in deprived and highly-populated areas and workers with low-paid, public-facing jobs. Racial disparity amplifies the risks and impacts of this virus.

We recognise the frustration and hurt expressed over the last week and we must make sure we confront the pain of racial injustice. Conservatives Against Racism For Equality (CARFE) are pushing to address racial disparities and we are committed to tackling the injustices faced by our black community. We will play our part to repair the hurt by raising awareness of social injustice and we pledge our commitment to level-up the inequality in health, education, justice, housing and career outcomes. There are past sins of society that have been determined by skin colour and these will no longer be tolerated.

We stand with Conservatives Against Racism For Equality and all those calling to be heard. Violence and vandalism are not the answer but we must break down the barriers that stop us as Conservatives engaging meaningfully in race relations as we stand side by side with our black Britons in the fight for racial equality. We have a role to play to rid ourselves of prejudice and injustice.

We want all Conservatives to take the following pledge:

RACISM

**If we see it,
we'll call it out.
If we're made aware of it,
we'll call it out.
If we discover it,
we'll call it out.**

It is who we are as people, not the colour of our skin that defines us.

Every day we have the opportunity to make change and we the undersigned know that we need to start now. This begins by ensuring the Government takes effective action in response to the PHE report into Coronavirus disparities and leveling up against racism. This is pivotal to make the United Kingdom a place that all of our children will be proud to call home.

Albie Amankona & Siobhan Aarons
Co-Founders – CARFE