

Our Children Deserve Better

Children are our precious resource. They deserve a world filled with hope, promise and free from fear. In the last several months, the daily life they have known changed dramatically. Covid-19 surfaced and did not discriminate. It infiltrated our communities without any warning. Our children were forced to be educated at home, with limited or no physical contact with family and friends. Their school year ended, summer vacation is here. Many families are foregoing vacations due to the lingering Covid-19; and its continual negative impact on our communities. Our children's lives have changed.

Just as the school year came to an end for our children; the news of the death of George Floyd swept across our nation. This tragedy has shed darkness over communities nation-wide. The inexcusable actions of a few have grasped the attention of America and the world. Many protests are happening. Police brutality, racial injustice, unjust treatment, and systemic bias are only a few reasons why people of all nationalities are walking alongside one another and protesting. Media coverage of this tragedy has seeped into the lives of our children. Our children have now been exposed to protests and commentaries regarding this tragedy. Again, our children's lives have changed.

Our children need to have conversations with the adults in their lives, regarding both topics. They need to understand that some things in life have resolutions and some do not. They deserve to have a dialogue about the "value of human rights", today more than ever. Our children need to recognize how our individual differences make the world we live in stronger. Families need to come together, demonstrating through action and not silence; that unjust treatment of others is not acceptable. There is pain and anger in our country. We need to demonstrate compassion, empathy, love and humanity. Our minds and hearts must be open, to be a part of the solution. There are some who need to be heard; while others truly listen.

We each have a responsibility to heal our communities and country through our words and actions. Let's work alongside one another to dismantle inequities, discrimination and racism. Our children deserve better.