

SEYM Zoom Worship Sharing

July 11, 2020

Quotes and Queries on Racism

Contributed by the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism

“Remember that you are beloved. Remember that you are not alone. Remember that God calls us to realize the Beloved Community here and now, and gives us the gifts, the tools, and the partners we need to do so.” (New England Yearly Meeting. June 5, 2020)

Quotes:

1. “The Quaker meeting is meant to be a blessed community- a living testimony to a social order that embodies God’s peace, justice, love, compassion, and joy, and an example and invitation to a better way of life. Like our other testimonies, community can be a prophetic call to the rest of society.” (SEYM **Faith and Practice**, 2013)
2. “We recognize that our silence in this moment would be a collusion with violence. So we speak: to support the leadership of Black people, Indigenous people, and other people of color; to support those calling and working for change in the streets, in government, in essential work, and at home. We seek to reclaim the symbols of faith from their use to justify the sins of the empire. We seek to publicly recommit ourselves to Truth. “Black Lives Matter.” (New England Yearly Meeting. June 5, 2020)
3. “Whiteness, like race, may not be *true*, - it’s not a heritable characteristic that has roots in physiological structures, or genes or chromosomes. But it is *real*, in the sense that societies and rights and goods and resources and privileges have been built on its foundation.” (Michael Eric Dyson. Foreword to **White Fragility**, Robin DiAngelo, 2018)

Queries:

1. When was the first time I became aware of racism? What effect did that awareness have on me?
2. How has the existence of white privilege or entitlement affected my life?
3. When was the first time I noticed that I unintentionally held racist thoughts or acted in a racist way regarding Black people, Indigenous people, or other People of Color?
4. What has helped my process of transformation in living into an equitable society for all ?

