



June 1, 2020

The Alliance of Social Workers in sports is deeply saddened by the heartbreaking events involving Mr. George Floyd, Ms. Breonna Taylor, and Mr. Ahmaud Arbery. These are three names that represent many others who had their lives cut tragically short, lives taken through the evil of injustice. These reoccurring and unnecessary instances of violence inflicting the African American community must stop now. Much discussion and corrective action is needed to end the ongoing, overt racism impacting relationships within our communities. We must stand together to condemn and change systemic racism.

As an Alliance we have over 250 members that must share their voice. As a sport-based organization we must encourage athletes and leagues to use the immense power of their platform. These platforms can move society in the direction of critical thought and existential peace. As humans we must show support to those who are feeling the heavy weight of these senseless acts. We must talk with the young people in our lives about these events. We must let them know our pain and how we can contribute to a more safe, just, and inclusive future.

Each day unfolds more fully the anger oppression. We know change happens when people show up and use their voice to speak for what is right. Our Alliance respects and empathizes with this tide of outrage. We know advocacy and public displays of emotion take many shapes and we need to remember to use our voice, time, talents, and treasures in ways that support and inspire. The best way we can honor the lives lost is to advocate in ways that propel us to a greater generation. Falling silent does nothing to turn the tide. The thoughts and prayers of our Alliance are with the families, friends, and communities of the lives lost.

Sincerely,

Matt A. Moore, Ph.D., MSW
President
Alliance of Social Workers in Sports