

## Middlebury College Economics Department Anti-Racism Statement

Monday, June 8, 2020 5:06 PM

We mourn the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. We condemn racially motivated acts of violence, police brutality, and military action against civilians. We acknowledge that these recent events are a continuation of centuries of institutionalized anti-Black racism. We stand in solidarity with Black students, colleagues, and community members who live with the stress, fear, despair, and violence that structural racism has created and maintained for generations.

We must do more than condemn racism. As a department, we commit to engage in antiracist work on an ongoing basis. We commit to do more in our classrooms to acknowledge and discuss institutional racism and the long movement for civil rights and political freedoms. We commit to do more to mentor Black students and support scholarship on race and injustice.

For too long, the majority of our profession has not paid enough attention to organizations like the National Economic Association (NEA), whose members have, in the words of its current board, "struggled to research, analyze, understand, and address the systematic and institutionalized practices of anti-Black racism generating the economic and social inequalities oppressing the Black community" since its inception in 1969. We see their statement as a call to action for all of us in the research and policy communities [<https://www.neaecon.org/nea-anti-racism-statement/>]. We also vow to listen to and learn from recent initiatives like the Sadie Collective [<https://www.sadiecollective.org/>], which exists to "address the pipeline and pathway problem for Black women in economics, finance, data science, and policy." We hope that our discipline follows the lead of these organizations. As a department, we know we have work to do to make this an antiracist department and to push for change in our profession.

Please reach out to us if there is anything we can do to support you.

[[http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/econ/faculty\\_staff\\_officehours](http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/econ/faculty_staff_officehours)]

Please stay safe,

The Middlebury Economics Department