

FORMER OBAMA ADVISER VALERIE JARRETT ON WHY THESE PROTESTS ARE DIFFERENT

Have these protests succeeded in shining a light on the systemic issues facing people of color in America?

I'm old enough to remember the civil rights movement in the '60s, and as momentous as it was leading to the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act, never before have I seen protests of this magnitude in all 50 states, involving people of all races, all ages, of all backgrounds. And that is heartening, but protests alone aren't enough.

What are some of the policy solutions that you'd like to see put forward, and at what level?

When President Obama was in office, he convened a task force on 21st century policing to say, What are the best practices around the country to improve this relationship, this bond of trust between communities of color and law enforcement? Several recommendations are in that report. One that President Obama highlighted [this month]: he asked all local mayors to review with their community over the next 60 days their policies on use of force. We know that when we have policies to de-escalate and the police officers are trained accordingly, we see less violence between police and communities of color. When

President Obama was in office, we stopped giving local law enforcement military equipment that we no longer needed. The sheer presence of that military equipment is deeply offensive and scary to local community residents.

Do you support the legislation from congressional Democrats to reform police departments?

I think it's absolutely a step in the right direction, and I think that it should be debated in the Senate. We should have hearings. We should have community input. But thanks to the cell cameras, you're beginning to capture on video a problem that we know has been going on for way too long. And I say to the extraordinarily talented members of the law-enforcement community who are out there, who put themselves in harm's way, every single day, that the bad apples are really tainting the overall reputation.

The Minneapolis city council voted to begin disbanding the city's police department. Do you think that's a good idea?

I think that democracy depends upon having law enforcement. It's one of the ways that we keep our democracy functioning. The question is, Are we really using our law enforcement in a way that is fair and just and that builds this bond of trust? We do need to look at how we can get systemic change and build this bond of trust.

Do you agree with the advocates who say that Joe Biden bears some responsibility for the tough-on-crime approach of the 1994 crime bill?

I think what is heartening about what we're seeing now is that people are saying, Let's do things differently. I'm sure that there are parts of the crime bill with the advantage of hindsight that Vice President Biden wouldn't support today. In fact, he has said that. We can police more smartly, more efficiently, more in a way that builds trust, and yet reduce the number of people who are actually incarcerated.

—Molly Ball

Watch the full TIME 100 Talks interview at time.com/jarrett-talks



HOW TO SUPPORT RACIAL JUSTICE

BY SANYA MANSOOR

AS THE NATION REELS FROM THE police killing of George Floyd and protests with institutional racism and police brutality, many people are left wondering, What can they do?

Hundreds of thousands of protesters have turned out across the country, from both big cities and rural towns—to demand sweeping changes, from police reforms, like mandatory body camera use and implicit-bias training, to defunding the institution and allocating federal or state budget funds to community groups.

If you want to show up for the cause but are not able to protest, there are many ways to engage, from educating yourself to spreading awareness and donating money.

FUND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

• You can donate to Black Lives Matter, which was founded in 2013 after



< A mural honoring George Floyd is painted in Houston's Third Ward, where he was raised

neighborhood-watch volunteer who fatally shot Trayvon Martin was acquitted.

Also consider organizations committed to ending mass incarceration and extreme sentencing, like the Equal Justice Initiative, which provides legal representation to people who have been wrongly convicted, unfairly sentenced or abused in state jails and prisons.

Some groups, like the National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, focus on helping female inmates and ex-convicts.

Those interested in a grassroots impact can donate to local mutual-aid funds, which work to address systemic inequalities by offering assistance like food and financial help. Many right now are helping those struggling during the coronavirus pandemic, which has disproportionately infected and killed those in the black community.

DONATE TO HELP PROTESTERS

Bail funds have had a particularly busy two weeks as more than 10,000 protesters have been detained across the U.S., according to a count from the Associated Press. These funds are typically collectives driven by volun-

teers working to raise money to free people incarcerated on bail, as well as to advocate for systemic bail reform.

Many bail funds, like the Minnesota Freedom Fund, have been inundated with donations and now suggest donors redirect their money to other bail funds and organizations in need.

The National Bail Fund Network lists a number of bail funds by state. National organizations include National Bail Out and the Bail Project. Other groups focus on helping specific communities, like the Black Trans Protestors Emergency Fund or the LGBTQ Fund.

HELP BLACK FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES IN KILLINGS

You can directly help grieving black families whose loved ones have been unjustly killed by giving to fundraisers set up to help cover grief counseling, as well as the costs of funerals and legal expenses.

Philonise Floyd has set up a memorial fund for his brother George Floyd. GoFundMe fundraisers are also active for the families of Ahmaud Arbery, who was shot and killed while jogging in a residential area in Georgia in February, and Breonna Taylor, an EMT and aspiring nurse, who was sleeping in her Louisville, Ky., home when a police officer shot and killed her in March.

FREQUENT BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES

Supporting black-owned businesses, especially now, could be crucial to helping them stay operational during the pandemic.

Black-owned businesses often have trouble securing loans. They have also struggled to access federal aid programs designed to alleviate the economic burden for small businesses struggling to stay afloat amid stay-at-home orders.

VOLUNTEER

If you can't protest or donate and want to help, you can also donate your time

action

or energy. To help protesters, you could provide childcare or meals or sew masks for those attending rallies.

Consider whether your skills or profession enables you to help. If you have access to a large kitchen, you could consider providing food at a larger scale. If you're a health care professional, you could help as a street medic for protesters—or share resources with them. If you know how to speak a language other than English, you can translate documents and news about protests. If you're a lawyer, consider offering pro bono services.

You can become a legal observer, and help document police action during protests. The National Lawyers Guild provides training; check with your local chapter for more information.

If you're thinking of a longer-term commitment, consider mentoring or tutoring at-risk youth.

EDUCATE YOURSELF AND HAVE UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATIONS

Lasting change won't happen without actively deconstructing our beliefs about race. For many people learning how to be an ally, the best way to start is by educating themselves and listening.

TIME has curated lists of books to read and movies to watch to teach yourself about racism. Suggested literature includes Ta-Nehisi Coates' epistolary *Between the World and Me*, as well as a children's version of Ibram X. Kendi's best-selling *How to Be an Antiracist*, called *Antiracist Baby*.

Documentaries are a good place to start. Ava DuVernay's *13th* walks through the origins of the mass incarceration of black men and its link to the ratification of the 13th Amendment in 1865. *Whose Streets?* dives into the Black Lives Matter uprisings in Ferguson.

Having sometimes uncomfortable conversations about racial justice, police violence and anti-blackness with your own families and communities—even if English isn't their first language—can be helpful. The crowdsourced resource Letters for Black Lives translated a letter into two dozen languages that can be a useful framework to start that discussion. □