



For Immediate Release
Nov. 16, 2015

People are angry. It is not Culture of Care's position to take that anger away. It is not anyone's place to trivialize the anger another person feels. This pertains to every viewpoint of students, faculty, and residents of Mizzou, Yale, and now Indiana University. When people are angry, sad, frustrated and hurt, we should reflect and consider what we can do to care for one another.

Racism exists, not in an isolated space but close to every one of us in this university and beyond. This is not an exaggeration but a reality that people of color encounter every day. A reality that others have the luxury to ignore. Suspicious looks and verbal attacks contribute to inequity among the races, which serves as reminder about the perceptions people carry. To the majority, these attacks are just isolated incidents that are easily forgotten and dismissed. To people of color, this is an unavoidable experience. This racism harbors a sense of fear that pervades constantly. Moving forward, this is something we cannot continue to ignore on campus and within ourselves. It is imperative to our community that we acknowledge our biases in order to challenge our preconceived notions of race and societal expectations.

Changing our biases isn't enough. Inaction can have an equally large effect as action can. Silence in the midst of racism speaks two narratives. One, it is not worth speaking out in opposition. Two, the victim does not have an ally present. We hope to end this silence with everyone having the courage to care to step up and say something when you hear or see discrimination. Together, every one of us shape a community where social systems can be challenged and changed. Consider what YOU can do to create a safe and inclusive culture.

Finally, we would like to lend our ears to the situation. Culture of Care will always offer a safe space for voices to be heard.

Anthony Bandel | Director of Marketing | anbandel@indiana.edu
Atrayee Mukherjee | Director of Respect | atramukh@indiana.edu
Daniel Niersbach | Director of Drug and Alcohol Awareness | daniarsb@indiana.edu
Danielle Castonzo | Director of Sexual Well-Being | dcastonz@indiana.edu
Emma Hughes | Director of Mental Health | ethughes@indiana.edu
Mackenzie Conrad | Co-Chair | macconra@indiana.edu
Maria Guido | Director of Operations | mkguido@umail.iu.edu
Patrick Holbrook | Co-Chair | pdholbro@indiana.edu
Tarah Patz | Director of Finance | tpatz@indiana.edu

To report any situations, do not hesitate to fill out an incident report [here](#) and learn more about your rights as protected by the university [here](#).

Do not hesitate to call 911 or IUPD (812) 855-4111 in an emergency or to report a threat.

###