



In the wake of the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and the countless acts of violence against Black Americans that occur daily, The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence joins those calling for systemic reform that address these violations of human rights and their impacts on the health, safety, and security of the Black community.

Racism is one of the many systems of oppression that plays a role in domestic violence. While anyone can be a victim of domestic violence, people of color, and especially Black people are at an increased likelihood of experiencing domestic violence and their experiences differ from their white counterparts.

Addressing domestic violence means condemning racism and all oppressive systems. As outlined in our policy platform, The Network [seeks safety for all in our community](#) and [we stand for racial justice and equity](#). These recent events demonstrate the lack of safety that persists for Black people in our community and the continuing work that must be done to address a larger mission. We are committed to [fighting for all survivors](#) and raising the voices of those facing oppression and who have experienced harm.

The Network recognizes that domestic violence advocacy work was built on a reliance of institutions that have historically upheld these systems of oppression. This is something that we as advocates grapple with daily, as we seek to provide service to all survivors. We recognize the unique experiences of survivors of color and how we ourselves have failed this group at times. The Network is dedicated to doing the work to address these failures and provide resources and services that meet the unique needs of survivors of color.

We extend our condolences to all in the communities impacted by this violence. We stand in solidarity and continue to push for changes that will lead to a safe community for all.

If you are looking to continue the conversation around how fighting racism and other systems of oppressions aligns with our work, consider joining our book club. We are beginning by discussing Hood Feminism by Mikki Kendall. The first meeting is on June 17<sup>th</sup>. [www.the-network.org](http://www.the-network.org)