

Statement from the MCC

5/29/20

Dear SCU Community,

We understand that SCU administration has released a statement, but we as an MCC community wanted to make sure that we spoke out about how the brutal murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery have affected our Black students and should be affecting our SCU community as a whole. At this moment, we don't want our Black students to feel alone, especially while we are having to social distance, please don't hesitate to reach out to our MCC community for support.

Black people have watched our community be brutalized and slaughtered on prime television and social media for the past 8 years. This is not to mention the 400 years of oppression our community has faced. We must recognize the anti-Blackness prevalent in every institution and community, including communities of color and this university. Not only does this reopen wounds of trauma, but it reminds us that we are not seen as worthy individuals. This weighs heavy on our hearts and minds and we ask you to support your Black friends and peers during this time.

As Black students, we know that we are not treated equally on campus. Not only is this apparent in-class lectures and discussions, but in social settings as well. It is also important to note that we are not so far removed from police brutality and injustice when it comes to dealing with SCPD and Campus Safety. We are aware that students are being profiled by these groups; whether it's through write-ups from Campus Safety or direct profiling from SCPD. As we see how police operate against Black bodies it is imperative that we reevaluate our relationship with SCPD as a university.

Please keep scrolling to see how you can support Black people during this time. MCC, Igwebuiké (Black Student Union), and TLC (Together for Ladies of Color) ask that you sign our petition demanding that the University "change their relationship with their police department and demand a new system that actively protects Black lives." This is an issue that should be felt deeply by all people, not just Black people. Our University claims to stand by the Jesuit ideals of caring for others, now is the time to show that this caring goes beyond just words.

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." -
Desmond Tutu