Knology Public Statement: Black Lives Matter

June 5, 2020

The killing, brutalization, and marginalization of Black and African American people in the United States has gone unchecked for far too long. We strongly condemn the senseless and unjust persecution and killings of countless Black people. This has to stop. We stand in solidarity with the protests and calls for justice and systemic change.

As an organization, Knology states unequivocally that **Black Lives Matter**.

We call out white supremacy and anti-Blackness in all their forms and recognize that they harm our society at every level: within governments, companies, social groups, families, and individuals. This culture and belief system have a toxic effect on Black lives, and also on the lives of communities of color as a whole. It will take all of us - especially those of us with white privilege - to work hard for justice. This will require checking our own prejudices, calling out racism and racist acts when we encounter them, and reflecting on how we might be personally perpetuating inequity.

To be part of this change, we need to rethink our personal practices and work lives. The social sciences have an especially long history of marginalizing and mistreating Black people and suppressing their scholarly contributions – particularly those of <u>Black women</u>. As a social science research organization, we pledge to reexamine our assumptions and approaches as we move forward. We commit to consistently address this issue in our hiring, research design, partnerships, and internal policies. And we resolve to support and collaborate with scientists already working on these issues.

We want to recognize and lift up the good work that social science scholars have done on issues of systemic racism, solutions to racial injustice, and more. The list below shines a spotlight on the work of Black and African American social scientists who are studying the issues that matter and offering solutions that bring about meaningful and lasting change. We also point to resources shared by other organizations and scholars that can support people who want to understand and dismantle systemic racism, and work together to build a truly just world. We will be adding more to this list over time on this page: https://knology.org/article/black-lives-matter.