

Revision to [DRAFT Statement of Conscience](#)

Proposed Revision:

add to the statement after DRUUMM's mention in the statement something to explicitly say "including the Asian/Pacific Islander Caucus"....

Proposed Revision:

Add: "Our UU role as a spiritual anchor to BIPOC UUs requires the financial and administrative support of the spiritual healing systems within the UUA infrastructure and programming that serves goals of BIPOC-only efforts. With the concept of reparations still in discussion nationwide, we can be a model for how to consider, with each social justice gesture, how to always consider the singular healing needs of BIPOC UUs when planning any event or effort."
Suggested location: open

Proposed Revision:

On page 95, first paragraph, line 7, I propose changing "ability" to "disability."

On page 95, second paragraph, line 21, following "cruel responses to immigration" I propose adding the following: "ableism in all its forms which discriminates and harms disabled people (with variations of body and mind), fat discrimination, criminalization of poverty."

Proposed Revision:

"Build relationships across boundaries of privilege and oppression. Through the lens of intersectionality, we understand how systemic white supremacy breeds the lie of division. From unequal access to housing, to poverty, healthcare barriers, and environmental degradation, we all suffer. ~~Yet w~~When one group seeks help for a problem such as racism, another oppressed group that is a member of the dominant race may feel that the roots of their own suffering will not be addressed. ~~We believe systemic white supremacy is embedded in all oppressions in the U.S.~~ Unitarian Universalists must forge relationships beyond boundaries of privilege and power as we struggle for justice for all oppressed people while continually focusing on the vital work of undoing systemic white supremacy. We believe systemic white supremacy is embedded in all oppressions in the U.S. There are myriad groups to partner with on anti-racism, including groups like

<p>Black Lives Matter, Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU), Black Youth Project, Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries (DRUUMM), the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, the Movement for Black Lives, the NDN Collective (an Indigenous led organization), the Poor People’s Campaign, and Standing Rock nation."</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>Most egregious, we are losing lives of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color [(BIPOC)] all across this nation—from long-standing ills of police violence, to hate crimes, to emerging crises of the pandemic—due to the evil of systemic white supremacy.</p> <p>STRIKE: We can join in action outlined in the GA 2020 Actions of Immediate Witness (“Address 400 Years of White Supremacist Colonialism” and “Amen to Uprising: A Commitment and Call to Action”).</p> <p>STRIKE: This includes not only engaging in action beyond the denomination, but also internal work within the denomination to overcome the ways in which systemic white supremacy is woven into our group cultures, interpersonal relationships, and individual ingrained biases.</p> <p>STRIKE: May the inspiration and connections on this website serve as a catalyst for your ongoing journey in this vital work.</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>suggest that – at the very least – League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) be added to the many groups mentioned for partnership</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>Line 28: A space between the words "and" and "national" that have been run together.</p> <p>Line 49: Clarify that we mean the United States and not the US Universalist Unitarians by removing the abbreviation and writing out the word United States and adding a period.</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p>	

<p>Suggestion: Substitute the phrase “systemic racism” for the phrase “systemic white supremacy” in all places</p> <p>Suggestion: Remove the call to implement the recommendations in Widening the Circle of Concern (WtCoC) and the affirmation of that report</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>Line 4 - Since poor whites have many of the same economic, health and other challenges as poor POC and therefor should not be considered a priviledged group in modern America, the words "white priviledge" should be revised to "affluent whites priviledge".</p> <p>Line 27 - the word "in" should be inserted just before the word "support"</p> <p>Line 28 - "andnational" should be corrected to "and national"</p> <p>Lines 29 and 30 - "strategic accountability" should be revised to "strategies for success" (or "strategic plans")</p> <p>Line 69 - "of world communities of peace and justice" should be revised to "of world communities with peace and justice"</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>[paraphrasing] Adapt entire statement for reading ease so that for example it could easily be read and understood by anyone with a reading level commensurate with 6-8 years of education reading.</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>With the rise of multiple flavors of authoritarianism around the globe, I am concerned about the very extreme US-centric language of the Draft Statement of Conscience that's before us. Perhaps US-centrism is just the waters in which we swim. However, it inadvertantly risks marginalizing UUism in a world where the USA is no longer the absolute center, as this language seems to implicitly assume.</p>	
<p>Proposed Revision:</p> <p>"We recognize the importance of holiday celebrations and other special events. We are grateful for the recognition of Juneteenth as a national holiday in the United States. We encourage congregations to honor Juneteenth during each year. We ask congregations to observe the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day We also ask that the American Thanksgiving Day holiday be reclaimed in order to affirm the need for social justice and environmental</p>	

protection. The American Thanksgiving Day does not belong to one race, one religion, or one geographic region, and the holiday should not be used to celebrate colonialism or any form of imperialism or white supremacy. We ask for a multiracial and multicultural holiday for healing, reconciliation, community service, and the giving of thanks. Congregations, theological schools, and other institutions, can develop the month of November as Unitarian Universalist History Month. November can be a month in which we review our history, our values, and our concerns, as we work to dismantle racism and the other forms of oppression in ourselves and in our institutions."

Proposed Revision:

"There is no "systemic white supremacy" in US society in 2021 according to the common meaning of that term: "belief that the white race is superior to other races"."

I would recommend a new title: "Understanding Racial Extremism: A Call to Prophetic Action".