



Report of the Commission on Social Witness February, 2019

Dear Congregational Members, Leaders and Delegates to GA 2019:

Between the 2018 and 2019 General Assemblies of the UUA, the Commission on Social Witness (CSW) drafted a statement of conscience on Our Democracy Uncorrupted, solicited comments on the draft, and revised the draft based on the comments received. The revised statement is included in the business agenda for the 2019 GA. The CSW also solicited comments on the congregational study action issue selected in 2018 on Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy. You can find additional information on Our Democracy Uncorrupted at <https://www.uua.org/action/process/csais/corruption-of-our-democracy> and on Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy at www.uua.org/statements/current/corruption-of-our-democracy.

Of the 698 congregations certified to vote in the congregational poll to admit a Statement of Conscience (SOC) on Our Uncorrupted Democracy to the business agenda for consideration at the 2019 General Assembly, 236 (34%) participated by voting, 81 (12%) registered an abstention, and 232 (33%) opted-out -- for a total 549 (79%) who interacted with the poll. The remaining congregations either did not interact with the poll or are zero-paid for FY2018.

Of the 236 that participated by voting: Voting Yes: 232 (98% of those that voted; 42% of the 549 who interacted with the poll in some form; 33% of all congregations certified to vote); Voting No: 4 (1.7% of those that voted; 0.7% of the 549; 0.6% of all congregations certified to vote). This meets the UUA Bylaws requirement that at least 25% of certified congregations participate in the poll.

Commissioners also revised information on the UUA web site.

The main CSW activities at the GA 2019 are

- A mini-assembly on the proposed Statement of Conscience on Our Democracy Uncorrupted;
- Debate and vote on adopting a Statement of Conscience on Our Democracy Uncorrupted;
- A workshop on the Congregational Study/Action Issues of Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy;
- Creating a time and space for social justice activists to meet with others who are like-minded and share resources, action opportunities, and consider joint actions; and
- Proposing, collecting signatures, and voting on Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs).

Meredith Garmon, Commissioner
Commission on Social Witness

**Mr. Richard Bock, Rev. Meredith Garmon, Dr. Susan Goekler,
Ms. Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod, and Ms. Jyaphia Christos-Rodgers**