

The faculty and students associated with the UCLA Center for the Study of International Migration have watched in horror as the Trump administration has repeatedly dehumanized immigrants in both rhetoric and practice. We see the parallels between this war against immigrants, which has resulted in the deportation of millions and the detention of at least 50,000 immigrants every day, and the ongoing, increased and emboldened state violence against African Americans. We condemn the acts in our country's long and unacceptable history of anti-Black racism, the latest of which include the police murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and Rayshard Brooks. We also express our outrage over the disparities that make African Americans and other communities of color particularly vulnerable to covid-19 and subjects them to the brunt of the economy's collapse.

Xenophobia, which fuels the deportation and detention of immigrants, parallels the anti-Black racism that has resulted in the murder of so many Black men and women at the hands of the police. Nonetheless, we take inspiration from the protests that fill the streets of American cities, just as we do from the immigrant rights movement. In the passion, diversity and persistence of these responses to injustice throughout the nation and the globe, we see the glimmerings of a new and better world, one committed to racial and social equality. For these reasons, just as we are committed to immigrant rights, we stand in unflinching support of Black Lives Matter.

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