



# For the Sake of Black Children

In response to the ongoing first degree murder of Black people, **The Center for the Education and Equity of African American Students (CEEAAAS)** acknowledges that anti-Blackness is the most dominant form of racism in the U.S.

We recognize that the anti-Black violence experienced by Black people in the U.S. and in the world is paralleled in K-20 school settings. The endemic and ongoing violence against Black people in all segments of society has existed since 1619 (and before) when African people were violently brought to the U.S. against their will. We propose that the United Nations' declaration of **the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024)** should be extended to *International Centuries for People of African Descent*--the equivalent of the four centuries since African people were first brought to the U.S. until now. Beginning immediately, emphasis should be placed on dismantling anti-Black racist policies, laws, and mores. However, undoing the damage that has been done will take generations of humane treatment of Black people.

We stand in solidarity with universities, schools, organizations and others that are speaking up and taking reflective action as long as Black people are being murdered in society and our children are being *spirit*-murdered in schools.

We call for ongoing actions and efforts to change existing endemic, racist policies in all institutions—e.g., educational, political, governmental, healthcare, economic, religious. The violence against Black people, both covert and overt, must stop and desist immediately. We understand that these institutions must rewrite their constitutions, laws, bylaws, and policies so that they are fair to Black people and acknowledge our humanity.

Borrowing from the American Educational Research Association (AERA)'s Commission on Research in Black Education [CORIBE] report that was published in 2005, we recognize that dismantling anti-Black racism is a precondition of global social justice since African thought and Blackness represent the diametric opposites of Eurocratic thought and Whiteness—which have been privileged in institutions and society.

Hence, we are committed to continuing, amplifying, and extending our unapologetic commitment to dismantling anti-Black racism and other forms of racism. To then end, we will continue:

- **Our Pedagogy of Love for Black Students, Families and Communities** which acknowledges Black wisdom, strengths, history, culture, epistemologies, cosmologies, and so forth.
- **Monthly roundtables** which focus on cultural and academic excellence of African American students.
- **Annual conferences** which focus on cultural and academic excellence of African American students.
- **Professional development** with P-20 educators on cultural and academic excellence of African American students.
- **Drs. Diaspora** Historians in Residence program.
- **Coursework** through the University of South Carolina (*Educating African American Students*).
- Working to change educational policies to reflect educational equity for African American students.
- Advocating in K-12 schools for African Diasporic students and families.
- **Exemplars of effective teaching** of African American students.
- International solidarity throughout the African Diaspora through collaborative work to counter anti-Blackness.

In Solidarity,

Dr. Gloria Swindler Boutte, **Founder and Executive Director**

Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed, **Director**

Jarvais J. Jackson, M.Ed., **Graduate Assistant** & the CEEAAAS Family Internationally