



compact for

# RACIAL JUSTICE

An agenda for fairness and unity.

## BUILDING SUPPORT FOR THE COMPACT FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

**SO, YOU ARE EXCITED** about what the Compact for Racial Justice stands for. The Compact for Racial Justice is a big and bold idea. Here's how you can help build support for the Compact by getting your friends, family, coworkers and community involved.

### WHAT IS THE COMPACT?

The Compact for Racial Justice is a proactive plan for fairness and unity in our communities, politics, the economy and the law. It offers concrete strategies and policy proposals to reverse racial disparities and move our society towards full equity, inclusion and dignity for all people. The Compact transcends talk of personal prejudice with compelling evidence of institutional racism and realistic, proactive solutions. It seeks to engage a broad base of activists, opinion leaders and policymakers in making government and powerful institutions accountable for eliminating racial inequality in our schools, hospitals, courtrooms and workplaces.

### DOESN'T THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION PROVE THAT WE ARE BEYOND RACE IN AMERICA?

The election represents an historic leap and a huge opportunity. The cultural significance of having a person of color hold the highest office has enormous symbolic value. But the real change has yet to come, nor is it guaranteed. Deep and long-standing racial disparities and divisions continue to permeate our society. But now, more than any time in our recent history, if we think and act boldly and swiftly we can use the heightened momentum and hope to truly dismantle structural racism. We cannot afford to complacently relish the afterglow. Now is the time to fight for equity and inclusion in all areas of society, including housing, healthcare, employment and education.

### WHY IS THERE A FOCUS ON STRUCTURAL RACISM?

Structural racism—the overarching system of racial hierarchy and inequality that routinely privileges whites and disadvantages people of color—profoundly affects most issues and institutions in the U.S. If we are serious about finding solutions to our racial issues, then we must address the historic underpinnings and root causes of racism. That means that our strategy for change must speak to the cultural norms and popular ideas that contribute to current racial inequities.

### OK, BUT WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?

1. Read the Compact for Racial Justice
2. Sign the pledge for racial justice
3. Have your organization endorse the Compact
4. Spread the word to others in your community
5. Contact one of the Compact campaigns listed on the reference sheet
6. Check the Compact website for future updates, developments and action ideas at [www.arc.org](http://www.arc.org)





# RESOURCES FOR POLICY ACTION

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Families Against Mandatory Minimums** [www.famm.org](http://www.famm.org)

Want to change mandatory sentencing laws? Here's how. The FAMM action center helps you communicate with your elected lawmakers in Congress (the federal level) and in your state. Elected lawmakers have the power to reform harsh mandatory sentencing laws, but they must have your support—their constituent—to do so.

**The Sentencing Project** [www.sentencingproject.org](http://www.sentencingproject.org)

The Sentencing Project firmly believes that citizen involvement in criminal justice reform is critical. We work closely with established community-based organizations to identify means by which local leaders can empower their neighbors in order to influence public policy.

## ECONOMY

**United for a Fair Economy** [www.faireconomy.org](http://www.faireconomy.org)

The Racial Wealth Divide (RWD) program deepens the understanding about the historical and contemporary barriers to wealth creation among communities of color. RWD highlights the importance of wealth and wealth-building strategies among communities struggling to attain economic equality. We develop and offer resources—such as workshops, publications, data, policy initiatives and community empowerment strategies—for community leaders, activists, organizations, media and the public at large. Our goal is to help create a network of people and groups who want to abolish the racial wealth divide.

**Center for Community Change** [www.communitychange.org](http://www.communitychange.org)

The Center for Community Change strengthens, connects and mobilizes grassroots groups to enhance their leadership, voice and power. We believe that vibrant community-based organizations, led by the people most affected by social and economic injustice, are key to putting an end to the failed “on your own” mentality of the right and building a new politics based on community values.

## GREEN ECONOMY

**Green for All** [www.greenforall.org](http://www.greenforall.org)

Last year, Green For All and our allies helped ensure that the 2007 Energy Bill included two critical provisions: the Green Jobs Act and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. These programs are essential investments in green-collar job creation and job training, and will be fundamental to building an inclusive green economy strong enough to lift people out of poverty. But they will only be implemented if Congress votes to fund them in the Appropriations Bill for 2009. Learn how you can get involved in building a green jobs movement at [www.greenforall.org](http://www.greenforall.org).

## HEALTHCARE

**Health Care for America Now!** [www.healthcareforamericanow.org](http://www.healthcareforamericanow.org)

Health Care for America Now is a national grassroots campaign organizing millions of Americans to win a guarantee of quality, affordable health care for all. We are grounded in organizations that can mobilize people at work, at home, in their neighborhoods and online. Health Care for America Now has local groups supporting this campaign in 40 states. These local groups regularly hold protests and house parties, and canvass their neighborhood in support of health care for all. Contact your local group via email and tell them you are interested in volunteering!





## EDUCATION

**The Schott Foundation** [www.schottfoundation.org](http://www.schottfoundation.org)

The Schott Foundation for Public Education seeks to develop and strengthen a broad-based and representative movement to achieve fully funded, quality preK-12 public education.

**Justice Matters Institute** [www.justicematters.org](http://www.justicematters.org)

Who should make the policies for our schools? Justice Matters believe that it should be students, families, communities of color, educators and other people who care about racial justice in schools. Get involved in making policy by telling us what you think and help us develop ideas for policies that will transform our schools.

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**The Advancement Project** [www.advancementproject.org](http://www.advancementproject.org)

Advancement Project is a democracy and justice action group. Using law, public policy and strategic communications, we act in partnership with local communities to advance universal opportunity, equity and access for those left behind in America.

**National Campaign to Restore Civil Rights** [www.rollbackcampaign.org](http://www.rollbackcampaign.org)

Created in response to recent federal court decisions that are eroding civil rights protections, the National Campaign to Restore Civil Rights is a collection of more than one hundred civil rights organizations and numerous individuals who have joined together to ensure that the courts protect and preserve justice, fairness and opportunity for everyone. The Campaign focuses on public education and outreach, finding ways to get the message out about the impact of court rulings on our communities, our opportunities and our rights.

## BIOTECHNOLOGY

**Generations Ahead** [www.geneticsandsociety.org](http://www.geneticsandsociety.org)

Generations Ahead (formerly the Gender, Justice, and Human Genetics program of the Center for Genetics and Society) works with a base of social justice leaders and organizations to address the concerns raised by new human biotechnologies. The organization is building a national, multimovement coalition of membership organizations to inclusively advocate for socially just and responsible uses of reproductive and genetic technologies. Staff work with advocates for reproductive health rights and justice; human rights; disability rights; LGBTQI rights; and racial justice, as well as other constituencies, to frame and develop an intersectional, multimovement approach to address these issues.

## IMMIGRATION

**The Accidental American** [www.accidentalamerican.us](http://www.accidentalamerican.us)

The Accidental American calls for a bold new approach to immigration: a free international flow of labor to match globalization's free flow of capital. After all, corporations are encouraged to move anywhere in the world so they can maximize their earnings. A discussion guide and other resource links are included at this website.

**National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights** [www.nnirr.org](http://www.nnirr.org)

National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights is a national organization composed of local coalitions and immigrant, refugee, community, religious, civil rights and labor organizations and activists working to promote a just immigration and refugee policy in the United States and to defend and expand the rights of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of immigration status.





## BLOGS COVERING RACIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

- AFRONETIZEN** [www.afro-netizen.com/](http://www.afro-netizen.com/)
- ALL ABOUT RACE** [www.allaboutrace.com/](http://www.allaboutrace.com/)
- ANGRY BLACK WOMAN** [theangryblackwoman.com/](http://theangryblackwoman.com/)
- ANGRY ASIAN MAN** [www.angryasianman.com/](http://www.angryasianman.com/)
- BLACK AGENDA REPORT** [www.blackagendareport.com/](http://www.blackagendareport.com/)
- COLOR OF CHANGE** [colorofchange.org/](http://colorofchange.org/)
- THE COUP MAGAZINE** [www.thecoupmagazine.com/](http://www.thecoupmagazine.com/)
- CULTURE KITCHEN** [www.culturekitchen.com/](http://www.culturekitchen.com/)
- THE DAILY VOICE** [thedailyvoice.com/](http://thedailyvoice.com/)
- DMIBLOG** [www.dmiblog.com/](http://www.dmiblog.com/)
- THE FIELD NEGRO** [field-negro.blogspot.com/](http://field-negro.blogspot.com/)
- JACK & JILL POLITICS** [www.jackandjillpolitics.com/](http://www.jackandjillpolitics.com/)
- MAMITA MALA** [mamitamala.com/](http://mamitamala.com/)
- MATT ORTEGA** [mattortega.com/](http://mattortega.com/)
- MOVEMENT VISION LAB** [www.communitychange.org/our-projects/movementvisionlab](http://www.communitychange.org/our-projects/movementvisionlab)
- OF AMÉRICA** [ofamerica.wordpress.com/](http://ofamerica.wordpress.com/)
- PAM'S HOUSE BLEND** [www.pamshouseblend.com/](http://www.pamshouseblend.com/)
- RACEWIRE** [racewire.org/](http://racewire.org/)
- RACIALICIOUS** [www.racialicious.com/](http://www.racialicious.com/)
- SEPIA MUTINY** [www.sepiamutiny.com/sepia/](http://www.sepiamutiny.com/sepia/)
- SPEAK FIERCE** [www.coloredgirls.org](http://www.coloredgirls.org)
- STOP DOG WHISTLE RACISM** [racecardpoliticwatch.wordpress.com](http://racecardpoliticwatch.wordpress.com)
- THINK PROGRESS** [thinkprogress.org/](http://thinkprogress.org/)
- TOO SENSE** [halffricanrevolution.blogspot.com/](http://halffricanrevolution.blogspot.com/)
- ULTRABROWN** [www.ultrabrown.com/](http://www.ultrabrown.com/)
- VIVIRLATINO** [vivirlatino.com/](http://vivirlatino.com/)
- XICANO POWER** [xicanopwr.com/](http://xicanopwr.com/)
- ZENTRONIX: DUBWISE & HIPHOPCENTRIC** [www.cantstopwontstop.com/blog/](http://www.cantstopwontstop.com/blog/)



# THE COMPACT FOR RACIAL JUSTICE PLEDGE



An agenda for fairness and unity.

The Compact calls for structural changes in our political, economic, social and legal systems to guarantee full equity, inclusion and dignity for all of us.

**YES!** I support the values and principles espoused by *The Compact for Racial Justice*, and pledge to help advance racial justice in our nation.

**YES!** I'd like to receive action alerts by e-mail.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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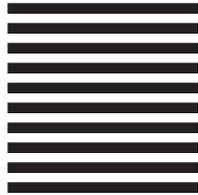
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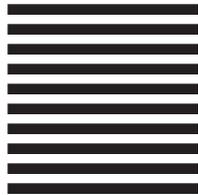


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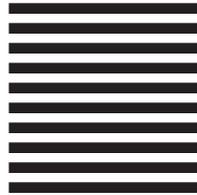
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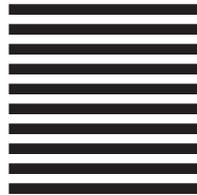


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