

## **Remedying the Inequities and Injustices of Racism**

**Proposer of Resolution:** Diane B. Pollard

**Parish or Organization:** Reparations Committee, The Episcopal Diocese of New York

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**Title of Resolution:** Remedying the Inequities and Injustices of Racism

Whereas, the events of 2020 have laid bare and visible the inequities and injustices of treatment between the African-American community and the white communities in this country, and

Whereas, these iniquities have been created by the long-term support of beliefs of white supremacy, and

Whereas, these iniquities are confirmed by the startling realities of daily life in America for African-Americans and by the racial divide of over 400 years.

### **Text of Resolution:**

Resolved: that the congregations, members, and related organizations of The Episcopal Diocese of New York actively engage in civic and secular activities in their communities and nationally that will eliminate discrimination against Blacks in intent or effect and will support dramatic institutional changes in the structures and laws of this land; and further,

Resolved: that congregations, members, and related organizations of The Episcopal Diocese of New York look within their communities and identify issues that might benefit from church involvement and take action necessary to help eradicate the problems; and further,

Resolved: that congregations, members, and related organizations of The Episcopal Diocese of New York engage in activities in the coming days that will ensure maximum participation in our upcoming national and local elections.

### **Explanation:**

The Reparations Committee of The Episcopal Diocese of New York has since 2006 engaged in a variety of activities designed to study and address the impact of slavery in our Diocese, in our daily lives and in the lives of our congregations. The scope of our engagement has included the study of various forms of literature and media productions that has served as education into our complicity in these heinous activities. We believe that the time has come for our Bishop and

Diocese to commit to more action-focused activities by publicly raising our voices at the local and national levels. This would include urging participation on an ongoing basis in the 2020 Census and other such research designed to provide a more equitable distribution. We invite our Bishop and Diocese to call out the ingrained atrocities of mass incarceration, poor health care and long-term exploitation of African-Americans, and to engage in conversations and actions that will encourage dramatic and positive institutional changes in the Diocese and the Church. This resolution calls out our Diocese to honor the late Georgia Congressman, John Lewis, to be standard bearers of “Good Trouble” and move us closer toward becoming God’s Beloved Community.