



The Detroit Mercy Law Immigration Law Association recognizes that immigrants fight tirelessly to come to this country and are often met with the harsh truth that **every system in America is racist**. The immigration system is racist. Education is racist. Medicine is racist. Criminal justice is racist. Housing is racist. Drug enforcement is racist. Law enforcement is racist. Specifically, these systems have been used as weapons for centuries to disenfranchise Black Americans. Upon becoming aware of these systematic injustices, Americans voice their solidarity by taking to the streets and standing in solidarity with Black Americans. For immigrants, this is not so simple. Please take a moment to read this article discussing immigrants and their justified fears of protesting alongside Black Americans: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/14/us/black-lives-matter-immigrants-visa-status-protest-trnd/index.html>

As it relates to the murder of Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement officers, it is known that police do not differentiate between different demographics of Black Americans. Police do not care about sex, gender, age, economic status, or immigration status when it comes to killing innocent Black people. Please read the following Times article regarding the shootings of Alfred Olango and David Felix: <https://time.com/4531836/black-immigrants/>

Since law enforcement is inherently prejudicial against Black people, Black immigrants are more likely to be stopped by police and deported. While only roughly 7% of undocumented immigrants are Black, they are at higher risk of deportation. Please read this article on the experience of Chris Gustave: <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/12/the-double-punishment-for-black-immigrants/549425/>

We have found research to better educate us on Black immigrants and their struggles in this country. Specifically, the Black Alliance for Just Immigration has resources in the form of PDFs posted on their website: <https://baji.org/resources/>

The fight for comprehensive immigration reform includes Black immigrants. The fight for Black lives includes Black immigrants. The fight for equality, human rights, and love includes Black immigrants. The Detroit Mercy Law Immigration Law Association stands with Black Americans and their overdue justice.

In Solidarity,

2020 Detroit Mercy Law Immigration Law Association

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