

Institutional Racism Motion from Brownswood

Identifying and challenging institutional racism.

“In the light of the Windrush scandal, [Black History Month](#) has taken on a renewed significance and it is more important now than ever that we learn and understand as a society the role and legacy of the British empire, colonisation and slavery,” said Jeremy Corbyn.

‘The Labour leader also set out plans to support a new Emancipation Educational Trust to educate future generations about slavery and the struggle for emancipation through school programmes, visits to historical sites and focusing on African civilisation before colonisation.’(1)

Institutional racism permeates all areas of society, including the criminal justice system, health, immigration, housing, employment, education, media and social services. This leads to disproportionate outcomes that indicate a disadvantage or lack of parity in experiences and outcomes.

Government policy has created a hostile environment that has disproportionately had a devastating impact on people of African descent. This is an example of institutional racism. The Government's own Equality Audit and other statistics confirm the disproportionate outcomes affecting people of African descent.

They are more likely to be stopped and searched, more likely to be jailed by courts, more likely to be excluded from school, more likely to be evicted, more likely to be made redundant, more likely to be paid less for equivalent qualifications, more likely to be unemployed, more likely to be on a low wage, more likely to be sectioned under the mental health act, less likely to get a job or be promoted when employed.

This CLP welcomes and supports the announcement of an ‘educational trust’ that focuses on Black history education.

We also commend Dawn Butler’s statement that all legislation will be equality assured.

We also support the commitment shown by the Labour Party to challenge all forms of racism; as was indicated via the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000, following the MacPherson Inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence initiated by the Party's Home Secretary Jack Straw.

However, in this current climate of growing hostility and in light of the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jnr, we must accept that racism and institutional racism are far from eradicated and are in fact on the rise.

- We therefore call on the Labour Party to publicly affirm its commitment to UN resolution 68/237 (IPDAD) International decade for people of African descent, working towards justice, development and recognition, and set out its plans for demonstrating its resolve to have the resolution implemented by the British government.

For example, working towards mainstreaming the excluded African history that has been hidden and denied particularly in higher education. Challenging negative media representation and the exclusion of people of African descent.

- We ask the Labour Party to commit to reinstating the duty to promote race equality as was superseded by the 2010 Equality Act.
- To be part of building a framework within which to define and identify institutional racism affecting people of African descent.
- To be willing to discuss reparations by showing a willingness to establish an 'All-Party Parliamentary Commission For Truth & Reparatory Justice'.
- We also call on Hackney Council to publicly acknowledge its commitment to UN resolution 68/237 (IPDAD) International decade for people of African descent, working towards justice, development and recognition.

References:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/11/jeremy-corbyn-labour-vows-to-increase-teaching-of-black-history-in-schools>

[\(1\)](#)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/34/notes> Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/notes> Equality Act 2010

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/277111/4262.pdf Macpherson report

<https://stopthemaangamizi.com/> Reparations

http://www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade/pdf/A.RES.69.16_IDPAD.pdf IDPAD activities

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