

JUNETEENTH & REPARATIONS

What is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth is a celebration and commemoration of the day the last enslaved people in the U.S. learned about the Emancipation Proclamation which legally ended slavery for people not convicted of a crime.



What are reparations?

Reparations are a framework for collective repair of gross human rights violations - like chattel slavery, genocide, war crimes, white supremacist violence, land theft, forced sterilization, incarceration, and police violence.

The United Nations names 5 elements that must be met for reparations to be complete:

- ◆ Acknowledgment
- ◆ Compensation
- ◆ Restitution
- ◆ Rehabilitation
- ◆ Cessation and Non-Repitition

Why is the Movement for Black Lives talking about reparations on Juneteenth?

The end of slavery marked on Juneteenth did not come with reparations. Black people in the U.S. are still owed acknowledgment, compensation, restitution, and rehabilitation for all of the harms that flowed from our enslavement, and for all of the wealth built on our stolen lives, labor and torture. **Demands for reparations are central to the Vision for Black Lives, the policy platform of the Movement for Black Lives.**

We demand reparations for:

- ◆ The enslavement of African-descended people in the United States.
- ◆ All of the continuing impacts and harms that flow from chattel slavery and anti-Blackness, including Jim Crow, white supremacist violence, segregation, land theft, housing discrimination, environmental racism, educational injustice, mass criminalization and incarceration, detention and deportation.
- ◆ The War on Drugs and discriminatory enforcement of prostitution laws.
- ◆ Police violence, and violence against people in prison, on probation and parole, and in immigration detention and deportation.

How can we join in the demand for reparations?

The Movement for Black Lives is committed to building local power to secure reparations for Black people in the U.S. Call your Congressperson and Senator and demand that they pass HR40, legislation that would create a national commission to determine how reparations should be made to people of African descent in the U.S.

- ◆ **Call your state legislators** and demand that they introduce and pass state legislation that would create a commission to study how the state contributed to and benefited from slavery and its after-effects and determine how the state should make reparations to people of African descent.
- ◆ **Call on your local legislators to introduce and pass a resolution in support of HR40.**
Read more here.
- ◆ **Call on your local legislators** to study how your city and county contributed to and benefited from slavery and its after-effects and to determine how it should make reparations to people of African descent.
- ◆ **Become a community-cosponsor of the BREATHE Act (breatheact.org)**, federal legislation drafted by M4BL that would meet the demands for reparations included in the Vision for Black Lives.

REPARATIONS
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NOW!