



To: Faculty, Staff, Sessional Instructors, and Students
From: Kundoqk, Jacquie Green, Social Work
Date: February 3, 2017
Re: January 2017 US Executive order & Quebec City murders

Yowitz Colleagues;

Most of you have heard this past week about these acts of violence towards our community partners and friends in the Muslim community. We call upon you to stand in solidarity to confront these acts of violence and terror to our friends. It is during these times that our 'actions' must take on its meaning, in that we 'do something' that will show our respect and support to the Muslim community. Our support and solidarity must move beyond letter writing and protests, and as socially just social workers, it is necessary for us to look at our own practices, policies and laws that need to shift to be inclusive and aware of how these injustices can negatively influence are thinking and practice in our own country, province or city.

In the past week we all of seen news broadcasts about this violence; however, what in other news there are 1000's of people who are shifting their practices to reach out and provide support to Muslim citizens in our country. There are people who suggest writing to our MP's; Prime Minister to ensure that all peoples in this country can live freely. There are Universities including their Professors who are signing a document rejecting this ban.

As a school, what is our role in confronting this violence? What is our role as educators, learners and workers to be a support or form of resource during this horrific time? More importantly how do we make our social justice work in this violence 'life long'? I recall the work that was during the 9/11 attacks, and all the interest that went into this movement – but then, the movement went silent. Why?

As a school, university and human being, lets come together and shift the minds and actions of those who implement and perpetuate these kinds of violent acts. Lets come together and show our support, stand in solidarity and continue to raise our voices to this injustice. Lets examine how our own policies and practice 'can' be and 'must' be inclusive to all peoples.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have thoughts about how to move forward.

In spirit

Kundoqk, Jacquie Green
Director/Associate Professor