

From Concern to Action

- Have I intentionally and aggressively sought to educate myself further on issues of –isms (especially those that I am not marginalized or oppressed by) by talking with others, viewing films/videos, finding reading material, attending lectures, joining a study group or other activities?
- Have I spent some time reflecting on my own childhood and upbringing and analyzing where, how and when I was received messaging that supported specific -isms?
- Have I spent some time recently looking at my own attitudes and behaviors as an adult to determine how I am contributing to or combating -isms?
- Have I eliminated my use of language that might be degrading or hurtful to others?
- Have I openly disagreed with comments, jokes, references or actions that reinforce the -isms among those around me?
- Have I interrupted comments, actions, etc. that reinforce the –isms when they occur around me—even when this involves some personal risk?
- Have I grown in my awareness of the -isms in TV programs, advertising and news coverage and sought out/supported media that provides narratives that counter the -isms?
- Have I taken steps organize discussion groups or a workshop aimed at unlearning -isms with friends, family members, colleagues or members of my house of worship?
- Have I organized to support political movements committed to racial justice and to oppose political candidates who are not?
- Do my personal buying habits support stores and companies that demonstrate a commitment to racial justice both in the United States and in other countries?
- Have I organized to support racial justice curriculum in local schools? Do I see myself as a resource person for referrals—directing people to individuals, organizations and resources who assist others in dismantling -isms?
- Have I made a contract with myself to keep paying attention to the -isms over weeks, months and years?
- Have I worked to ensure the institutions and industries I am part of provide equitable access to racially marginalized communities including services and employment even when this involves some risk?