



**SIMMONS**

School of Social Work  
300 The Fenway, Boston, Massachusetts 02115-5898  
www.simmons.edu

T 617-521-3900  
F 617-521-3980

## **Ferguson: We stand with you**

We, the faculty of the Simmons School of Social Work stand in solidarity with the faculty and staff of the School of Social Work at Portland State University and the faculty of Smith School of Social Work in their call to action to stand against injustice and oppression. We are disappointed and outraged by the grand jury decision not to indict former officer Darren Wilson in the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO.

We believe that the events in Ferguson are not unique to that community. We are sensitive to the fact that these injustices happen in our hometown of Boston, MA and across the United States. Toward this end we are responding to the calls for action by Smith College School for Social Work

<http://bit.ly/SmithStatement> to promote and engage in:

- Non-violent social and political action to provoke systemic change that promotes justice, safeguards human rights, and ensures fair and equitable treatment and respect for human dignity for all people.
- Critical dialogue about the systemic forces of race and racism that shape ourselves and construct our relationships with others.
- Investigation and analysis of how these dynamics affect the communities within which we live and work.

And by the Portland State University School of Social Work to:

- Participate in non-violent social and political actions to interrupt oppressive practices and promote systemic changes
- Engage in critical dialogue about the systemic forces of race and racism that shape our relationships and communities
- Strategize around solutions to dismantle racist institutions and practices.
- Support those who are most affected by oppression and injustices inherent in our systems.
- Advocate for policies that support alternatives to policing including community-based approaches to safety and conflict resolution.

<http://bit.ly/PortlandStateFergusonWeStandWithYou>

In addition to promoting and engaging in the above actions, the Simmons School of Social Work will open a dialogue with schools of social work in the greater Boston area about social justice actions we can take on the local level to respond to the outlined initiatives. We pledge to keep these issues at the forefront of our continuing work to end oppression and social injustice.



**SIMMONS**

School of Social Work  
300 The Fenway, Boston, Massachusetts 02115-5898  
[www.simmons.edu](http://www.simmons.edu)

T 617-521-3900  
F 617-521-3980

Members of the faculty and staff of the Simmons School of Social Work,

Joanna Almeida

Gary Bailey

Silvana Castaneda

Johnnie Hamilton-Mason

Kim Harriman

Suzanne Hecker

Denise Hildreth

Denise Humm-Delgado

Kathy Jungreis

Dana Grossman Leeman

Allyson Livingstone

Kathleen Millstein

Kelly Pratt

Michelle Putnam

Jennifer Putney

Nora Rushford

Candace Saunders

Kristie Thomas

Beverly Sealey

Suzanne Sankar

Tien Ung

Hugo Kamyra

Kathy Lopes

Sandra Bailly

Members of the faculty and staff of the Simmons College Department of Sociology

Becky Thompson

Valerie Leiter

Donna Cole