

LONG ISLAND AREA COUNCIL (LIAC) UPDATES

Provided by Jim and Lynn Smith, UUCSR LIAC Representatives

December, 2021

Long Island Advocates for Police Accountability (LIAFPA) and LIAC invite you to a Zoom screening of the documentary, *Racially Charged: America's Misdemeanor Problem*, on January 10 at 7:30 PM. The film exposes how our country's history of racial injustice has evolved into an abuse of criminal justice power in which millions of mostly poor people of color are abused. The film will be followed by a discussion led by advocates and experts. Register [HERE](#). For questions, email LIAC Social Justice Coordinator Mary Beth Guyther at mbguyther@gmail.com.

In the wake of several rallies by the white supremacist group Proud Boys and various hate crimes in Long Island communities, LIAC unanimously signed on to an anti-hate proclamation at its December 19 meeting. The proclamation was issued three days earlier by the LIAFPA group and many allies at a press conference in Centerport. It came after incidents involving hate mail to LGBTQ+ people, the defacing of a Muslim-owned shop, display of a Confederate flag and nooses in several places, the beating of Hispanic workers, use of a swastika and racist graffiti, the dumping of human feces at a mosque in Hicksville, the ransacking of Jewish houses of worship in Long Beach, and other incidents. The People's Public Proclamation Against Hate says that "Hate has no home on Long Island." It adds, "Be it further resolved that: We will all use our respective positions, powers and offices to eradicate hate on Long Island and create welcoming communities."

The LIAC Board postponed until January 9, 2022 discussions about whether to make plans to run its Coming of Age and Our Whole Lives programs, and the Sophia Fahs Summer Camp, due to the spike in COVID-19 infections over the past few weeks.

The Board also has not decided whether to have an in-person Annual Dinner this coming April. There was discussion on December 19 about possibly focusing on educational programs in 2022 that would amount to "inner work"—increasing our knowledge of systemic racism and stoking our own spirituality—rather than on social justice work—due to the pandemic. We also discussed the possibility of having an outdoor event/party/worship service to lift our spirits.