

Madame Speakers, members of the Committee:

My name is Monte Jarvis, Multnomah County resident.

I'm 53. A Lifelong Democrat and have worked on many progressive, democratic issues and campaigns. I'm white and I'm racist. I've been in denial, silent and submissive to white privilege all my life. I have a lot of work to do everyday to be Anti-racist. It's uncomfortable, humiliating when I make mistakes, but Black Lives Matter to me today.

And speaking of Black Lives Mattering, as a Democrat I'm ashamed. We've supported racist policies that contributed to murdering Black Lives due to the military police force we help create!

As Democrats, we need to take the lead in making the Amends for the harm we caused Black Lives.

Our words can't be trusted, only our actions.

COVID-19 proved we can change, and change on a dime.

No more excuses.

So ban chokeholds, excessive use of force, and create a real standard of review. Find ways to incentivize and penalize counties and cities to abolish the police as we know it today, to abolish police union cover ups and immunity, and let's bring dignity back to what unions stand for: workers rights and collective bargaining. I support directing 100% of state and local cannabis revenue to Black Lives and people of colors' futures, and none to the Police. I support all of UNITE Oregon's, Rose City Justice, Campaign Zero's, and Black Lives Matter's recommendations.

So I ask we join together as Democrats, as labor union members, as centrists, and progressives in doing our anti-racist work and taking anti-racist actions. We need to End racist policies everywhere we find them no matter how uncomfortable. I appreciate the opportunity to speak, especially after being so silent about racism so long. but so many need their voices heard and we, white people, need to do our work. Long overdue.

Thank you.

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