



Another Black man, George Floyd, was brutally murdered by an agent of white supremacy—an officer of the Minneapolis Police Department. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mr. Floyd and his family. Had that police officer, our society, or our economy recognized and extended the basic human dignity and respect Mr. Floyd deserved, he would be alive today. Instead, through an act that graphically symbolizes this nation's history of white supremacy and economic oppression, a police officer prematurely ended his life by kneeling directly on his neck. His death compounds the loss of life that people of color have experienced due to COVID-19, where this week the total death toll in the US surpassed 100,000. While we mourn, we remember that our work to win liberation is more important than ever, and the urgency of our efforts to realize our liberation must intensify.

Our friend [Rodney Foxworth at Common Future](#) has characterized the phases of this crisis as responding to immediate needs, creating space to reimagine our future, and putting plans in place to restructure. We at LibGen like this framing of response, reimagining, and restructuring because it acknowledges the need for both immediate efforts to save lives AND a long-term vision that rejects a return to normal.

Our need to act quickly for public health has meant that things like releasing people from jails, sending checks directly to people, relieving student debt are now realities. Turns out we can do massive interventions if we need to, and there should be no going back. This moment lays bare that all of our policy decisions are just that, decisions that we should examine, critique and we are called to retire assumptions that drive racial exclusion in the economy.

This economy has been broken for a long time, with people of color navigating the sharpest edges of our economy. As we're putting an economy back together, let's decide we're not dragging any vestiges of this racialized brokenness into the future.

Updates

The Forge

Exploring Racial Capitalism

In the 'normal' economy, racism is profitable. Stay tuned for the June edition of [The Forge](#) where brilliant activists, researchers, and advocates explore the many dimensions of racial economic oppression and what we need to do to usher in a Liberation

Economy.

SaverLife Members Support #StructuralSolutions



Pre-Covid, we partnered with SaverLife to survey their members of color about the racial wealth gap. What policy solutions resonate with them? What are they looking for candidates to support? What do they think about their voting power? [Infographic takeaways here](#), [report here](#). We'll be surveying again later this year to get fresh takes since Covid.



We're Listening

A #LiberationEconomy depends on having national policies that are designed to meet the economic challenges of people of color and that set up people of color for economic liberation. Sign up, weigh in at [LibGen.Consider.It](#), and tell a friend to do the same.

What we're reading

- Federal policy responses to our housing crises have been and remain insufficient in this pandemic. Here's what organizers are demanding to usher in transformation: <https://ourhomesourhealth.org/>. More from Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor: [Cancel the Rent](#)
- [Now is time to seriously consider a federal jobs guarantee](#) by Angela Glover Blackwell and Darrick Hamilton.

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