

Statement of intention for the YM theme: *We come together with the theme of “Unraveling Racism” to communicate “heart to heart” in an effort to live up to our testimonies of equality, community, and integrity, make SAYMA a more welcoming spiritual home for all, and seek justice while healing our communities.*

Advice for European American Friends:

Do:

Listen to the lived experience of Friends of Color.

Be mindful that Friends of Color have to live with the impact of racism on their daily lives.

Be open to diverse manners of expression. For example, Friends of various cultural backgrounds may raise their voices while speaking passionately about a topic with no intention of offending anyone.

Process your feelings with other European American Friends by holding each other accountable to educate yourselves, change behavior, and take more action against racism.

Don't:

Make Friends of Color spokespeople for everyone of their race.

Ask Friends of Color to relieve feelings of guilt you may have.

Ask Friends of Color to affirm your good intentions.

Credit for Statement of Purpose for SAYMA theme: by Susan Firestone and Sharon Smith, approved by SAYMA Yearly Meeting Planning Committee.

Credit for Advice For European Friends: adapted for SAYMA by Susan Firestone, Folami Adams, and Sharon Smith from "Advice for European Americans" handout from the interest group for European Americans Working on Racism at the FGC 2015 Gathering.