

Dear City of Lawrence Leaders and Lawmakers:

In light of recent national political events we request that the City of Lawrence issue a statement of solidarity with the members of its community. We are aware of your solidarity statement with Black Lives Matter and the No Dakota Access Pipeline, however there are still people at risk and we ask for a more detailed letter to address the further safety of our community. Any statements made are to include the disabled, people of color, immigrants, native tribes, refugees, Muslims, LGBTQ persons, and all other marginalized groups. To ensure that all demands are met we ask that the Lawrence Police Department (LPD) also issue a statement of solidarity. Any statements made are expected to address all marginalized groups. The statement should include the following:

1. Chapter X Article I, Human Relations, "The practice or policy of discrimination against persons by reason of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, familial status, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity, is a matter of concern to the City of Lawrence..." As addressed in the article, the City of Lawrence stands with the belief that discrimination is unlawful and puts those affected by it in danger. However, this section protects these groups only in career, education, business, and housing. In order to promote a safe city, changes will need to be made to this article and those related to it. We ask that the revisions made include the promotion of safety from the Police Department and the creation of a city wide safe zone.
2. Lawrence will not label Black Lives Matter and any groups which promote social justice as criminal or terrorist organizations. The city will not attack any of these groups or those in attendance.
3. Lawrence will not assist, cooperate, or aid in the surveillance of persons belonging to the Muslim, immigrant, or refugee communities, in any way, shape or form.
4. We request Lawrence Lawmakers design legal strategies to resist federal policies which would put marginalized groups in danger.
5. We request Lawrence Lawmakers to design legal strategies to resist any possible defunding of businesses and organizations that include and are similar to Planned Parenthood.

All requests demanded above are to be included in any public statements and letters made to the people of Lawrence. Upon meeting these demands Lawrence will stand as a Sanctuary City and align itself with all members of their community.

Dear Lawrence High School,

I recently organized a group of students to walk out of school and protest the City of Lawrence and their position in human rights relations. I encourage you to read the document and demands we are going to present to them as they are built upon inclusivity, one of the many things that Lawrence High focuses on. Lawrence High holds a very special place in my heart as they have been very supportive of myself and my peers who face real threats in the world every day. I am inspired by the history behind our nation and the teachers who support my life through the power of education. I recognize that myself and others are apart of something bigger than any of us, it is for this reason that we have decided to stand up and let our voices be heard. Today I will lead this walk-out because I believe it is the best way to get the message of our often unheard voices, across to those in charge of Lawrence. I take full responsibility for my actions, but I view my and the actions of the students who are participating, as necessary for change.

Sincerely,

Viveca Price

~~Christina~~ ~~Basco~~ Finnell
Jatiana Younger
Reb Smith
Bo Smith
Alexis Pool
Sydney White
Ana Astor
Ciana Krauss
Sage Pelkey
Robert
leDoux
Jaiden Ganger
FAWUSHA
ROWLAND
Emily Cooper
Sera Riedesel
Niki Graterashi
Jakae Ray
Elijah Jackson
Cesar Reed
Jacob Bradley
Jasmine Shepard
Elyse Johnson
Jahonir Matchette
Vivian Pinn
Manyamamul
Haedyn M. Bell
Alycia Kimball
Alycia Kimball
Suanna
Washen
Halemann