



1300 East 9th St., Suite 1100
Cleveland, OH 44114
866.822.8224 ucc.org

In a ruling made Thursday, June 29, the U.S. Supreme Court declared affirmative action admissions programs at public and private colleges and universities unconstitutional. This key achievement of the Civil Rights Movement has been dismantled by justices who benefited from 400 years of an educational system that was constructed to promote racial inequity in this country.

Affirmative Action programs have never been about granting unearned access to non-white students, but rather such efforts remain necessary to disrupt the barriers to equal and equitable education for all people that are fortified by racism and economic inequity in our society. Although Affirmative Action was struck down, legacy admissions, donor designated admissions, and athletic admissions to the most esteemed institutions in our nation remain available to those who are well resourced in society.

The officers of the United Church of Christ re-affirm this denomination's firm support of Affirmative Action policies as an antidote to the systemic and systematic racism that remains a barrier to qualified non-white students all over the nation. We are grateful for the dissenting opinion of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, and caution all that what the Supreme Court has done today is not only egregious, but another poignant reminder that "justice" in our court systems is not, and never has been, blind.

Handwritten signature of John C. Dorhauer in black ink.

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer

Handwritten signature of Karen Georgia A. Thompson in black ink.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson

Handwritten signature of Traci D. Blackmon in black ink.

Rev. Traci D. Blackmon

Officers of the Church

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson
Associate General Minister, Wider Church Ministries
and Operations and Co-Executive for Global Ministries

Rev. Traci D. Blackmon
Associate General Minister,
Justice and Local Church Ministries