ISEE Statement on Anti-Black Violence and Racism

June 5, 2020

Black lives matter. In a world that is experiencing a global pandemic, recent events highlight that racial injustice is endemic in the United States and beyond, and call for the need to take a firm position that stands in solidarity with all Black members of our chapter, society, and communities.

As the leading body for environmental epidemiology, we are committed to improving racial inequities that are pervasive in our environment and range from violence committed against the black community to systemic racism that inequitably impacts the air, water, housing, neighborhoods, land use, consumer products, food, access, and more. These inequities are responsible for persistent health disparities and are likely amplified by recent actions to weaken environmental standards in the United States.

ISEE is fully committed to supporting and promoting studies that shine light on environmental injustice and racism. As an organization, we promote actions that would reduce these systemic problems. We strive for equitable environmental health.

With this statement, we importantly note that our job is not done. Our long-term and sustained work includes promoting discussions and listening to the Black members of our society, educating our full membership about racial injustice and environmental inequity in the United States and globally, and providing opportunities to highlight the research being conducted on racial injustice and environmental inequity as they relate to health.

We are committed to supporting the research and careers of our Black members by recognizing the many barriers they face. ISEE will take steps to expand Society participation among underrepresented minorities. Importantly, we take the stance of encouraging all members to be change agents promoting equity, inclusion, and diversity within and outside ISEE.

Joan A. Casey
Marianthi-Anna Kioumourtzoglou
On behalf of the ISEE North American Chapter

Mark J. Nieuwenhuijsen
On behalf of ISEE Global