

## PRESS STATEMENT BY THE CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY (CORE).

58 years ago, The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) introduced the CORE Rules for Action, a manifesto that described, in full detail, our organization's commitment to direct action through nonviolence, which CORE has long advocated as the most effective means to combat inequality in America,

In the wake of the tragic events throughout last summer nationwide as well as the isolated acts of some on January 6th, 2021, in Washington DC, CORE has decided that this is the time to reintroduce the CORE Rules for Action. This is the time for this message as our country faces divisions and threats of inner turmoil and violence.

Our 13-point program remains as relevant and necessary in charting a path forward for the country today as it was in 1963 when we first stated that:

*"Nonviolence has been shown to be a powerful social force."*

The CORE Rules for Action was and has continued to be an essential guide for our organization. It sets rules and responsibilities for those who seek to fight injustice under our banner. The CORE Rules of Action make clear that CORE members must make an effort to understand the situation at hand and be willing to investigate matters, before coming to conclusions. We must never attempt to discredit any in ways that work against our noble goals; such as spreading malicious and dishonest content. That is why we mark that one of the **"Guarantees of the Individual to The Group"** is that:

*"A CORE member will make a sincere effort to avoid malice and hatred toward any group or individual."  
(Guarantee #4)*

Both injustice and the efforts to destroy it are human beings' work, not the result of supreme good or supreme evil individuals.

*"A CORE member will be willing to admit mistakes." (Guarantee #4)*

CORE's intents and messages have not strayed away from the course in the decades since we first made these points. The Rules of Action were made when, through CORE's non-violent protests in the darkest days of the Civil Rights Movement, we helped bring about individual and systemic change for Black Americans and helped bridge the gap between America's powerful promise and brutal reality.