

March 27, 2018

To: Pima County Green Party Steering Committee

From: Eduardo Quintana, Minority Outreach Representative

Whereas,

Last Fall, a new member, a black member, head of the Black Lives Matter Movement in Tucson, was greeted to her first Green Party meeting with the slogan "All Lives Matter." This was wrong, hostile, and contrary to the GP core values. I believe an apology is in order but none has been forthcoming. I propose that we re-affirm the Four Pillars/Ten Key Values in particular the following provisions, approve the following resolution and then as a body apologize to the injured party.

FOUR PILLARS/TEN KEY VALUES

2. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

All persons should have the rights and opportunity to benefit equally from the resources afforded us by society and the environment. We must consciously confront in ourselves, our organizations, and society at large, barriers such as racism and class oppression, sexism and homophobia, ageism and disability, which act to deny fair treatment and equal justice under the law.

7. FEMINISM AND GENDER EQUITY

We have inherited a social system based on male domination of politics and economics. We call for the replacement of the cultural ethics of domination and control with more cooperative ways of interacting that respect differences of opinion and gender. Human values such as equity between the sexes, interpersonal responsibility, and honesty must be developed with moral conscience. We should remember that the process that determines our decisions and actions is just as important as achieving the outcome we want.

8. RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

We believe it is important to value cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity, and to promote the development of respectful relationships across these lines.

We believe that the many diverse elements of society should be reflected in our organizations and decision-making bodies, and we support the leadership of people who have been traditionally closed out of leadership roles. We acknowledge and encourage respect for other life forms than our own and the preservation of biodiversity.

“One of our key values is respect for diversity. We are committed to establishing relationships that honor diversity; that support the self-definition and self-determination of all people.”-GP Platform

“The Green Party stands firmly for social justice for all those living in this country regardless of their immigration status.”-GP Platform

Therefore, be it resolved,

The phrase “All Lives Matter” is a slogan associated with the backlash against the Black Lives Matter movement. The “All Lives Matter” slogan represents a refusal to acknowledge that the state does not value all lives in the same way. This is illustrated by the disproportionate use of violence by the police against people of color, racist policies like red-lining, the drug war, and mass incarceration. The Black Lives Movement is a movement, originating in the African American community, that campaigns against police violence and systemic racism towards black people.

The Pima County Green Party unanimously and unequivocally supports Black Lives Matter and rejects the slogan “All Lives Matter.”

In addition, be it known that the Pima County Green Party supports Mexican American Studies (MAS) as an expression of self-definition and self-determination of the Mexican-American people.

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