
ONFAITH

ASKING THE CLERGY

How can we stand up to racism?



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Judaism believes that standing up to racism is not just a moral impera-

tive, but also a spiritual one. Jewish tradition teaches us the value of every human being, created in the image of God. This foundational principle compels us to confront and challenge racism whenever we encounter it. It is crucial to educate oneself and others. Ignorance often fuels prejudice, and by learning about different cultures, histories and experiences, we can develop empathy and understanding. Engaging in open dialogue, attending workshops and reading literature on racial justice can broaden our perspectives. Speaking out against racism is essential. Whether it's a racist joke, comment or policy that disproportionately affects people of color, staying silent implies complicity. We must challenge such instances, even when it's uncomfortable. This includes advocating for equitable policies in our communities and institutions. In our congregations, we must create inclusive spaces where diversity is celebrated, and racial injustices are addressed head on. This involves regular introspection and a commitment to making our communities welcoming to all. Finally, prayer and reflection can guide and strengthen our resolve in this fight. Turning to our faith can provide comfort and inspiration, reminding us that the pursuit of justice is a sacred task.