

Resolutions Promoting a Socially-Responsible Approach to Counseling

1. **SUBJECT:** Promoting a Socially-Responsible Approach to Counseling

2. **WHEREAS:** The work of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. exemplifies his commitment to peace, justice and the vital interconnections that exist between a just society and the psychological health of its inhabitants (See attachments), we suggest that the time has come for continuing an open and honest discussion about the need for counselors to implement more socially-responsible approaches into their professional practices.

THEREFORE, IT IS MOVED: That the American Counseling Association endorse the following social justice resolutions:

Resolution #1: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative affect that religious bigotry, violence, and discrimination have on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate these toxic social-environmental conditions in our society.

Resolution #2: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative impact that racism continues to have on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate this complex toxic social-environmental condition in our society.

Resolution #3: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative impact that sexism and sexual violence continue to have on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate these toxic social-environmental conditions in our society.

Resolution #4: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative impact that the ableism continues to have on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate this toxic social-environmental condition in our society.

Resolution #5: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative impact that heterosexism and violence against gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered persons continue to have on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate these toxic social-environmental conditions in our society.

Resolution #6: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative impact that ageism continues to have on human development, it is resolved that

the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate this toxic social-environmental condition in our society.

Resolution #7: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative affect that poverty has on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to eradicate these toxic social-environmental conditions in our society.

Resolution #8: Given the substantial body of empirical knowledge that describes the negative affect that war has on human development, it is resolved that the socially-responsible approach to mental health-care that Dr. King advocated is necessary to promote peace and to end to all wars in our world.

GOVERNING COUNCIL MOTION, PASSED SEPTEMBER, 2005