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Ambassador Robert Wood Johnson
U.S. Embassy
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2 June 2020

Dear Ambassador Johnson,

I'm writing as Warden of Goldsmiths, University of London to express the institution's condemnation of the killing of George Floyd and the ensuing situation in the US.

It is abhorrent that a police officer's actions have led to the death of an unarmed Black man. The anger and upset being shown by passionate, peaceful protestors across your country, and the world, is clear and justified.

Much of the response from US authorities is not: the footage emerging from America is truly shocking, with the disproportionate police treatment of protestors sending a worrying message around the globe.

From so much negativity I hope positives can emerge, with your country finally taking seriously the message that Black Lives Matter to bring about lasting change in US society.

There is no doubt that all institutions must place racial justice at the heart of their mission. At Goldsmiths we have admitted our failings on addressing racism and racist structures and are working with our community to build new cultures and ways of working, with each and every one of us at the College responsible for being part of this change.

This is vital work which we all must undertake. With America burning both literally and morally, I urge you and your nation to use this moment to decisively pivot and establish real and lasting equality.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Frances Corner OBE
Warden

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