

# PSYCHOLOGISTS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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## **PsySR Statement on Events in Ferguson, Missouri**

Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR) expresses deep sympathy with and support for the Brown family of Ferguson, Missouri, as well as for all those saddened and outraged at the ongoing lack of social justice for communities of color in the United States. Police forces have a special duty to protect and serve the public, but too often that public has excluded large sectors of our society. All too often the police and other authorities are the *source* of problems for communities of color, acting with systemic racial bias, perpetrating violence and brutality towards black and brown men in particular, using their power not in the service of justice but in the service of social control. As long as racism continues to permeate our society, and as long as state authorities are allowed to decimate and victimize individuals and families of color without accountability, real peace will be unattainable. We express our solidarity with the nonviolent protestors on the streets of Ferguson and around the country who demand justice. We also encourage our membership and members of the psychological community in general to support and to provide pro bono any requested professional services to communities and individuals affected by the events in Ferguson.

November 27, 2014