

# CARE Centers: Community Advisory, Resource & Education

**Rapid Response Support**

**DATE: Nov. 8, 2024**



## Summary of Incident & Harm:

On Nov. 6, 2024, Black people across the U.S. began receiving racist text messages invoking the trauma and incredible cruelty of this country's history of slavery. These text messages originated from difficult-to-trace phone numbers. No perpetrators have yet been publicly identified. These messages have targeted Black college and high school students along with Black organizers and activists. Those receiving these texts reside largely in the South. Along with a range of allies, the Southern Poverty Law Center is currently investigating this incident.

If you or someone you know has been affected by this incident, or any other, and wish to report it, you may do so through the SPLC's [Report a Hate Incident form](#).

## Whom is this Designed to Support?

This resource offers young people, their families and caregivers, educators and administrators, and other allies and community members with a range of actionable knowledge. Some resources listed below utilize trauma-informed approaches to help you care for yourself and those in your life who are experiencing a range of negative emotions. Some offer strategies for the prevention of radicalization and extremism as well as sustaining support for those who feel targeted by such incidents of hate and extremism. Lastly, some are for those in education institutions who must respond to this incident with evidence-based solutions and best practices for supporting affected individuals, colleagues and others.

## Resources

For those in educational settings:

- [Identifying and Responding to Bias Incidents](#) – Short resource for recognizing and responding to hate and bias incidents.
- [Building Resilient & Inclusive Communities of Knowledge](#) – Higher education toolkit that includes guidance across capacities.
- [Responding to Hate and Bias at School](#) – Guide for K-12 administrators and educators that includes immediate crisis intervention guidance.
- [Understanding and Responding to Trauma](#) – Short resource for K-12 educators on recognizing trauma and supporting students.
- [Trauma-Responsive Education: Supporting Students and Yourself](#) – Webinar for K-12 educators on understanding trauma.
- [Speak Up at School](#) – Guide for K-12 educators on responding to hate and bias.

### For Families and Communities:

- [10 Ways to Respond When a Hate Crime or Incident Occurs in Your Community](#) – Short resource with steps to effectively respond – and prevent future incidents.
- [Prevention and Resilience: Supporting Young People Through Polarizing Times](#) – Short read on building supportive networks to help young people remain resilient against manipulative, hateful disinformation.
- [Peacemaker's Toolkit](#) – A guide for evangelical faith leaders on responding to hate and extremism in their communities.
- [Building Resilience & Confronting Risk: A Parents & Caregivers Guide to Online Radicalization](#) – Guide for primary parents and caregivers.
- Short supplements for [educators](#), for [coaches and mentors](#), for [elections and moments of national stress](#).
- [Building Networks & Addressing Harm: A Community Guide to Online Youth Radicalization](#) – Guide for trusted adults who are not a child's parent/primary caregiver but are part of their broader social network.
- [Handle With Care: Supporting Young People During Crisis Events](#) – Short resource for supporting children and youth during crisis events.
- [Talking to Children About the History of Slavery in the United States](#) – Recommendations for discussing the history and legacy of slavery and race, including age-appropriate information to emphasize in conversations.

### What are the SPLC & PERIL's CARE Centers?

The Polarization & Extremism Research & Innovation Lab (PERIL), in strategic partnership with the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), has launched an initiative to establish Community Advisory, Resource and Education (CARE) Centers. CARE Centers develop preventative solutions that are upstream from harms, victim- and survivor-centered, and community-based while also advocating for non-carceral responses. CARE Centers provide resources to prevent and counter political and hate-fueled violence.

CARE Centers seek to help build local networks of practitioners and community experts to address community needs and help serve affected and concerned community members. These centers will use a public health approach to preventing radicalization that prioritizes the well-being of communities and addresses harms caused by those holding supremacist ideologies.

To learn more, please visit PERIL at [perilresearch.com](http://perilresearch.com), the SPLC at [splcenter.org/peril](http://splcenter.org/peril) and [lfj.pub/learningcenter](http://lfj.pub/learningcenter). Contact CARE Centers at [CARE\\_Centers@american.edu](mailto:CARE_Centers@american.edu).