



Keyboard Trust

# Keyboard Networker Report

Nov. 2021

## The Shaking and Racial Justice

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# 01

# The Shaking and Racial Justice



The world has witnessed many things shaken; from economics to our freedom of movement, to climate change, political struggles, monarchies, and even the church. Hebrews 12:27 mentions the shaking of the earth and heaven so that what cannot be shaken might remain.

To determine the value of something, it needs to be tested to its fullest extent so that you can find out if it is reliable.

***"The words "Once more" signify the removal of what can be shaken—that is, created things— so that the unshakable may remain". Hebrews 12:27***

Our fight for racial justice has never stopped shaking; we witness injustice every day, and we demand change together. In a number of cities and towns across the globe, statues that symbolize systematic racism for more than a century were toppled.

Earlier this year, a statue of slave trader Edward Colston was toppled in Bristol and is now on display in the museum. In our city, the church showed up and spoke out, standing for racial justice by participating in the protests.



# 02

## The Shaking and Racial Justice

We created spaces for tough conversations and developed resources. You can read the [statements](#) and listen to the [podcasts](#) we put together from church leaders. It is our goal to engage with churches and faith leaders from a wide range of denominations in the city. As there is strength in unity, unity requires more than just standing together. It requires commitment and action that challenges our norms.

In the past year, I have undertaken some key racial justice work with Colse Leung, of For Diversity, and we have held numerous meetings with other key individuals who have a passion for strategic change. May 2020 marked the 1 year since George Floyd murder and the increase of protesting from the Black Lives Matter campaigners for justice. So, we held an online meeting with several key panellists members both local and national, who brought a wealth of knowledge and insight on combating racism in the church.

Alongside this, we devised an online survey and shared it in the community. From those findings, we had about 82 people respond, from diverse backgrounds, ages and faith. Although, we found that some of the results showed that some people were discouraged with where the church was in terms of racial justice.

- They wanted more from their churches, to stand up for racial justice.
- They want their churches to create spaces for open conversations.
- They want spaces to cry, they want spaces to share how they're feeling.

The complete findings will be shared in Jan 2022. So we continue to talk we continue to meet and we continue to look at how we can make a significant difference.

To connect with **Racism and the Church** - Get in touch

Email or access all of our pages via [Linktr.ee/racismandthechurch](https://linktr.ee/racismandthechurch) or join our Facebook page



We also within Keyboard, created spaces for Pastors and Faith leaders, to focus on a holistic approach to self-care. Following on from the success of last summer's online group sessions with Dr Claire Fleming and Adam Kishtainy. We ran the event again in Nov but did not get a significant response, so it was postponed. These spaces allowed people to come together, share and be vulnerable, but also find support. You can see below, on the events/projects list, what we've been organised or whom we partnered with over the past year.

# 03

## The Shaking and Racial Justice

I think we have established a stance, in trying to be more inclusive in everything that we're trying to do, looking at it from a holistic view, providing social gatherings, spiritual health, mental health and self-care and support in bereavement. We have also devised a list of some of the faith and non-faith activities for Black History Month for October, which was held both in Bristol and nationally.

I was able to write for the CTE Sept newsletter on The Shaking and Racial Justice you can find the article by clicking [here](#).



I want to thank all the church leaders and faith leaders and facilitators that participated in the events that we've organised. I think that they found it very useful, and that's very important. It's a great honour to be able to be in a position to do this. And so I hope that as we work together moving forward that we would just find the unity that we need to make a change in Bristol for the long term. Thank you

***"Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep".  
Romans 12v15***

So, to finish off, if I were to ask you the following question, have you noticed a difference in how you perceive and act towards a particular group of people over the past few years? And how has it changed you as a person?

Toppling external things is not enough. In *2 Corinthians 10v5* we are told to "tear down every presumption and argument set up against the teachings of God" - meaning anything that is lifted up should be cast down.

What needs to be changed in our thinking, our ideologies and our ideas? Each of us deals with unconscious biases and prejudices on a daily basis, towards others who may look, act or speak differently to us. They worship and express themselves differently than we do, it doesn't mean it's wrong, it is just another beautiful way of expression and diversity of how God wants His church to look like.

# 04

## The Shaking and Racial Justice

**Check out these sites that explain unconscious biases:**

Implicit Bias | Concepts Unwrapped  
Our HiddenBias  
Unconscious Bias and Ingrained Belief

In order to achieve lasting change, we need a new way of thinking, which will give us new keys to success. To produce new results, we must first change internally, and then externally.

***"Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep".  
Romans 12v15***

As a result, we strive to build unity between our church communities and promote greater inclusion. Transforming society requires us to challenge the status quo, bit by bit. We work together honestly, challenge each other, become accountable, and change the status quo. What unites us all is that we are human. That is to say, if anyone hurts, we all hurt, if anyone cries, we all cry, and if anyone rejoices, we all rejoice. We all fight for justice with a wave of righteous anger whenever it is necessary.



Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carmen Carroll".

Keyboard Networker  
Churches Together in Greater Bristol |

Together4Bristol | Keyboard 2020 Trust  
10hrs a week, Mon, Tue x1 extra day

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Like & Share Social Media on Facebook | Twitter

Christian community: Keyboard Trust | [www.together4bristol.org.uk](http://www.together4bristol.org.uk)





# 2021 - Events & Projects

Some of our events and groups/organizations that we partnered, supported

## Keyboard Trust in the Media June & Nov

**Keep The Faith**

Search Results for: voices from pastors

**BLACK LIVES MATTER**  
INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE.

Voices from Pastors of White Led- Churches & Faith Groups Standing Together Against Racial Injustice

The Keyboard Trust has engaged in conversations with a number of Church Leaders and Faith groups within the past month.

**Keep The Faith**

Voices from Pastors of Black Led-Churches Standing Together Against Racial Injustice

Share

## Keyboard contribution to Bristol Manifesto 2021



## Church & Faith Leaders Lunch & Networking



## Contact us

Keyboard Trust

