

Dear Editor,

We just finished your September Dialog. We find it to be highly offensive personally and very misinformed. This issue reminds me of a headquarters staff that is so far removed from the day to day business that they have NO clue what is actually happening! We don't know you personally and you don't know me or my wife. What we do know is that you are on staff at the diocese and editor of the Dialog. You have a very important position with the power of the pen to influence many opinions.

Given we don't know each other how can you presume to know what is in our hearts and what our views of people of other color is? Yes Black Lives Matter! More than that, ALL Lives Matter!!! Even though he was a documented THUG Michael Brown's life mattered, but to hold him up as an example of racism is ludicrous! "Hands up don't shoot" never happened, according to **black** witnesses who saw what did happen. And to point to the Black Lives Matter Organization as an example of a group we should embrace is even more ludicrous! To bring them into this discussion is foolish and not at all helpful, when they are on video holding a march chanting "Pigs in a Blanket", "Roast them like bacon", "Oink, Oink, Bang, Bang", at police. They should be outcast and arrested for such actions. How can you in good conscious even think of bringing them into this conversation?

For your information, my wife and I have been mentoring a young black person for the last nine years, we have been there when his mother could not. We have dealt with school issues, helped buy his clothes, and paid part of his tuition to a Christian School, and got him involved in the choir school. We have been his confidant and friend. We are invested in this young man every way we can be. I also mentor a young 33 year old black business man in his professional development and to grow his business at HIS request. We have been totally involved in the formation and ongoing support of the Choir School of East Texas. Two thirds of these children are brown or black. Through the choir school they receive tutoring, voice and piano lessons and have college scholarship opportunities. How dare you tell us through your publication that we are all racist and insensitive to racism!

But, enough about we are trying to do. We are curious what specifically the Diocese is doing in actionable and specific programs to stop the abortion of black babies (over 1800 every day) or stop the murder of young black men by other black men (which *is the* number one cause of death of black men under 25)?

Perhaps, just perhaps sharing your personal efforts and those of the Diocese to help people of color would do more to inspire us, than chastising us with your pen.

Most Sincerely,

Gary and Alice Avery,  
Christ Church, Tyler