

South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)

NYU South Asian Law Students Association stands in solidarity with NYU BALSAs and our fellow law student associations in grieving the death of Michael Brown and despairing over the lack of accountability for this, and other numerous injustices committed against people of color.

We echo all that has been said about police brutality, the dysfunctional criminal legal system, and the indifference to racial injustice that pervades society. Our only addition is this:

We have noticed that some media outlets have used images of South Asian shop owners standing in their looted stores to evoke sympathy for the Ferguson police force and antipathy towards the protestors. Creating divisions between communities of color so that they turn against one another has been a tool of the oppressor for centuries. We strongly condemn these attempts to turn minority communities against each other, and reject any criticism of the protests in our name. Several media outlets have reported on the reciprocal solidarity South Asian business owners and protestors in Ferguson have shown each other:

- http://colorlines.com/archives/2014/10/dispatch_from_ferguson_convenience_store_owners_talk_race.html
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/16/ferguson-protesters-guard-stores_n_5684042.html

We recall the great alliances black and brown communities have formed throughout history in their joint struggle against racial oppression, and humbly follow the lead of our BALSAs sisters and brothers in demanding accountability for the murder of Michael Brown.

In solidarity,
SALSA

<http://www.law.nyu.edu/studentorganizations/southasianlawstudentsassociation>