TAKE ACTION

Jewish Language for Protest Signs

When we attend rallies and protests about police violence or mass incarceration, bringing Jewish language to our signs sends an important message. We don't just happen to be Jews in attendance; we are showing up as Jews, rooted in Jewish text and tradition, representing the Jewish community. Here are a few texts from #BlackLivesMatter protests—short and simple enough to understand at a glance, with great depth and power to them—to get you started.

- The light of God is the human soul. (Proverbs 20:27)
- Anyone who sheds blood is considered to have diminished the divine image. (Breishit Rabbah 34:14)
- The blood of my brother cries out to me from the earth. (Genesis 4:10, adapted)
- Silence is akin to consent. (Talmud Yevamot 87b)
- Remember: my life is but a breath. #ICan'tBreathe (Job 7:7)
- One who destroys a single soul is considered to have destroyed an entire world. (Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5)