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LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

Righteousness. Justice. Liberty. Virtue.

liberty

How is DLI Different from Black Lives Matter?

DLI believes that black lives matter, and we fully support the efforts to raise awareness of unlawful killings of black people and fight for justice for the victims and their families. We also recognize that the movement that has grown up around Black Lives Matter is much larger than the official organization that has copyrighted that name. We do have some key differences with the official "BLM." Because we seek common ground wherever we can, we will only highlight what we believe, rather than offering critiques of other organizations.

DLI does Christian work based on the life and legacy of Frederick Douglass

There have always been different models of how black Americans should work for progress. Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King, Jr. worked within the bounds of the Constitution to call America to live up to its own ideals. DLI seeks to follow the lead of these great Americans, through peaceful advocacy and community engagement, while modeling the Christian virtues of love, faith, peace, patience, kindness, and humility. We do not support unlawful violence or the destruction of property.



DLI supports and seeks to strengthen the traditional black family

DLI believes that the traditional family—headed by married biological parents and supported by extended kin—is the ideal environment to raise children and the foundation for all success, including upward mobility. We work to strengthen families by supporting marriage, parental rights, offering training and resources for pastors and ministers, and education regarding public policies that create space for these activities. We do not believe government can take the place of the family.

DLI supports criminal justice reform in the context of the rule of law

DLI supports reforming the existing system of criminal justice through reducing overcriminalization at every level, working to prevent criminality and recidivism, advocating for de-escalation training for all police departments and working toward improving community-police relations wherever needed. We do not support abolishing or defunding police.

DLI supports creating economic opportunity through free markets

DLI believes that the free exchange of goods and services creates the greatest economic opportunity for all people regardless of race or background. We believe in the right to own property, the right to own one's own labor, and the right to make a living legally and ethically. We believe in a free market of education, where all parents can choose what is best for their children from a variety of options. We do not support policies that infringe on these rights. We believe this is the best way to lift people out of poverty and create a society where all can prosper together.





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