

## **Text of the IndivisiblesNC statement:**

We are grateful, heartened and inspired by the hundreds of people who showed up in downtown Durham on Sunday evening to support racial equality and show solidarity with those who were present at or impacted by the events in Charlottesville.

Our goal with this vigil was to bring together a shocked and saddened community to show those with evil in their hearts that they are far outnumbered. With a rapid organizing timeline, we reached out on Saturday afternoon to find representatives of our community who are most impacted by the increasingly hateful and violent speech, actions, and policies of white supremacists and their allies. These included Muslims, people of color, the LGBTQ community, and the Latinx community.

Ensuring a safe vigil that brings the community together in solidarity was our top priority. To ensure that the vigil met the expectations of the attendees in terms of length and message, we were forced to turn away many attendees who approached the organizers asking to speak. We are saddened that there are community members who believe we did not act in good faith. We hope that our allies will forgive any unintentional transgression against them, and work with us to defeat racism and hate.

We share the community's sadness that not every voice could be heard. We believe in building a unified movement when possible, and we understand that different approaches and tactics can be deployed. The organizations involved in planning this rally remain committed to peaceful, non-violent protest that provides safety for everyone present and is in compliance with the law. To that end, the police were notified of the event via press release. The organizers had no further direct interaction with them.

We support our allies who are working to end police brutality in communities of color, and we will continue to collaborate with other groups who share our commitment to peaceful protest.