



Racist ideology is responsible for the savage murder of innocent men and women at a Buffalo, New York grocery store this past weekend.

We are extremely saddened by the loss of life. We are angry and disgusted by this disturbing and appalling act of premeditated hate.

As news of the tragic mass shooting this weekend unfolds, the fact that this act was a racially motivated hate crime becomes clearer.

The shooter, an 18-year-old white male, dressed in tactical gear was heavily armed as he began shooting customers in the parking lot and proceeded into the store – all while streaming on a social media network. Ten of those shot, mostly black, have died, while three were wounded.

Police are seeking to authenticate a “manifesto” with the suspect’s name, birthdate, and biographical details that were posted on Google Docs.

The document states that the author claims to have been radicalized online and adheres to the “great replacement” theory, a “theory” shared by some white supremacist groups, which claims that people of color are being brought into the country to overtake white voters.

White supremacist killers have used this “theory” to justify violence against people of color and those of the Muslim and Jewish faith.

YWCA Greenwich, Hartford Region, and New Britain call for authorities to charge this person with a hate crime and domestic terrorism. He must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

We cannot allow such acts to continue to occur in our country.

A critical part of the mission of YWCAs in Connecticut is to stand against racism. We will continue to call out and speak against hatred in all forms.