



Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor of New York City
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

DREAM is an organization with a twenty-six year history of inspiring youth to recognize their potential and realize their dreams in both East Harlem and the South Bronx. As such, we respectfully add our name to the long list of organizations that request the removal of the J. Marion Sims statue in Central Park near the intersection of 5th Avenue and 103rd St. in East Harlem. The presence of this statue reminds our youth, families, and entire community of a painful past in which people of color in our nation were subjected to horrific abuses as a result of the color of their skin.

DREAM works to level the playing field and create a different future for youth, regardless of race or socioeconomic status. As such, our organization opposes the celebration of a public figure whose track record of experimental medicine on non-consenting and un-anaesthetized enslaved individuals for medical and personal gains stands in stark contrast to our organization's mission.

DREAM thanks you for working hard, in the wake of white supremacist violence in Charlottesville, to examine symbols of hate within our own city, and hopes that you will commit to the removal of the Dr. Sims statue as part of this initiative.

Many thanks,

Richard Berlin
Executive Director,
DREAM