

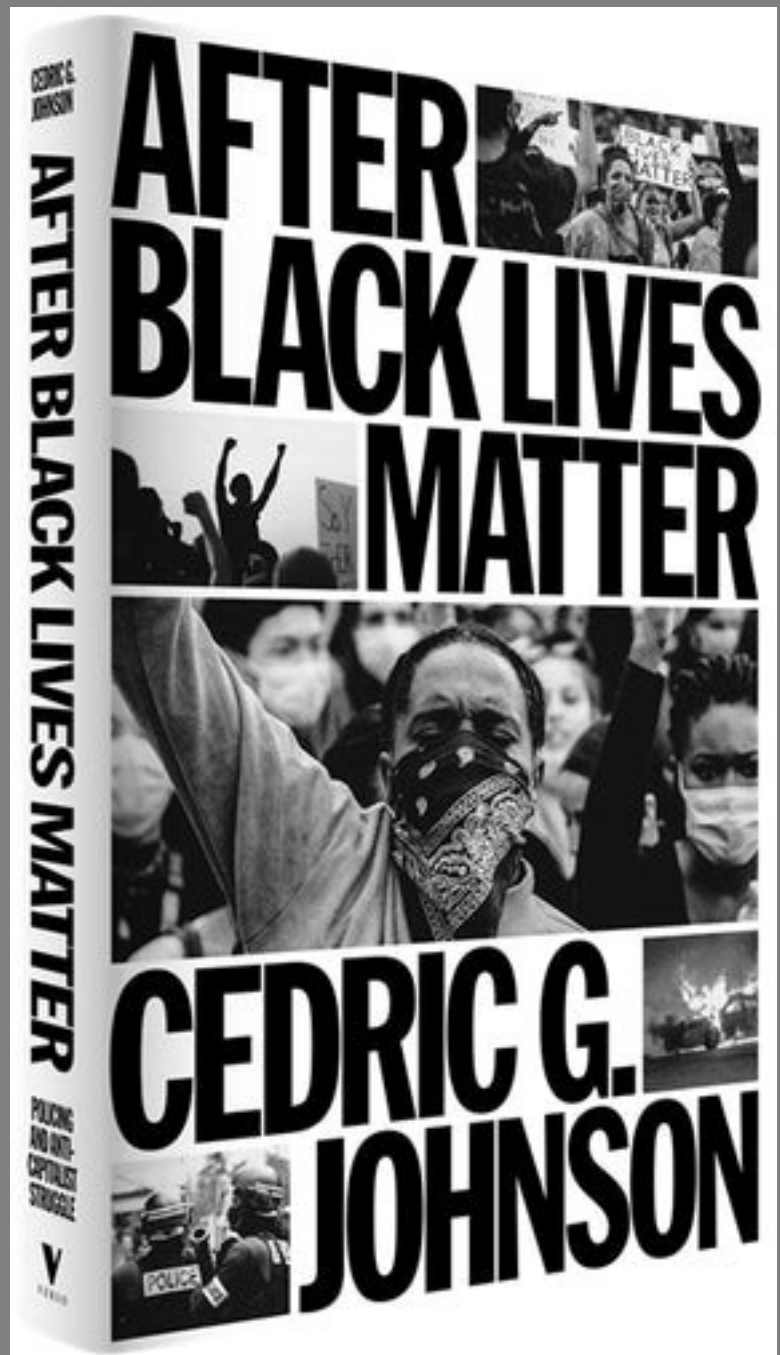
# The Guild

Local 1931 of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

*Silence is  
NOT  
an option*

We have a new school year ahead of us, and the fall semester offers the promise of accomplishing so much with our students, and with each other. Cedric G. Johnson is a Professor of Black Studies and Political Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His newest book, *After Black Lives Matter: Policing and Anti-Capitalist Struggle*, reflects on the promise felt during the uprising of Black Lives Matter that followed George Floyd's murder. Johnson helps us better understand the structural intersections between working class exploitation and anti-black racism, and the possibilities for broad coalition building based on those intersections. Specifically, coalition building through unions like ours. For this Silence is NOT an Option newsletter, AFT 1931's Social Justice Committee recommends using *After Black Lives Matter* as a tool for reflecting on our collective work as employees in higher education. His critique of existing histories of mass incarceration is heavy-handed, and debatable (specifically his critique of Michelle Alexander's canonical book, *The New Jim Crow*), but Johnson's focus on working class consciousness offers a new vision for building social movement against racist police brutality. It reminds us why expanding our focus beyond collective bargaining and our contracts is important for addressing multiple forms of inequities through holistic structural interventions. We hope you'll consider getting involved in AFT's growing network of active members and be a part of this new vision.

Your AFT Guild 1931 is providing free copies of *After Black Lives Matter* to all members. If interested, please scan and fill out this form.



If you would like to contribute and/or write a SINO email, please contact Pegah Motaleb at [pmotaleb@sdccd.edu](mailto:pmotaleb@sdccd.edu)