

# Do you know what Bethlehem police's implicit bias training is?

The Bethlehem Gadfly Police December 20, 2020

 Latest in a series of posts about the Bethlehem Police 

ref: [Implicit bias training for Bethlehem police](#)

ref: [A vision of Bethlehem as anti-racist city](#)

ref: [Bethlehem: The Anti-Racist City](#)

ref: [New branding campaign takes off](#)

Maybe you missed it.

It was easy to gloss over.

But the pilot program of implicit bias training for officers in the police department we posted about Friday is a self-described *anti-racist act*.

We know the difference between “not racist” and “anti-racist.”

Being not racist is passive, refusing to support or participate in racist ideas, action, attitudes, systems, behavior, belief, policies, procedures.

Many of us are “not racist.”

Being anti-racist is active, doing something to fight racist ideas, action, attitudes, systems, behavior, belief, policies, procedures.

Only a few of us are “anti-racist.”

Chief Kott recognizes the difference: “It would be incredibly naive and irresponsible of us to say that there is no such thing as a racist cop. . . . It’s one thing to say that I’m not racist, I’m not prejudiced. But it is a completely different thing to be anti-racist. . . . That [being anti-racist] is the driving force behind this [pilot implicit bias] training.”

Chief Kott has chosen anti-racism for herself and her department.

Gadfly would like to know the backstory, but he assumes this pilot program was her unforced idea, and she reports that she herself underwent the training.

How’s that for leadership.

So good.

Gadfly has been excited by the attack on systemic racism explicit in the Community Engagement initiative, and ever-so-tongue-in-cheek he has envisioned an additional brand for Bethlehem as “The Anti-Racist City.”

One step at a time.

He hopes anti-racism and systemic racism will be issues in the now fast upcoming mayoral and councilmanic campaigns.

**The Bethlehem Gadfly**