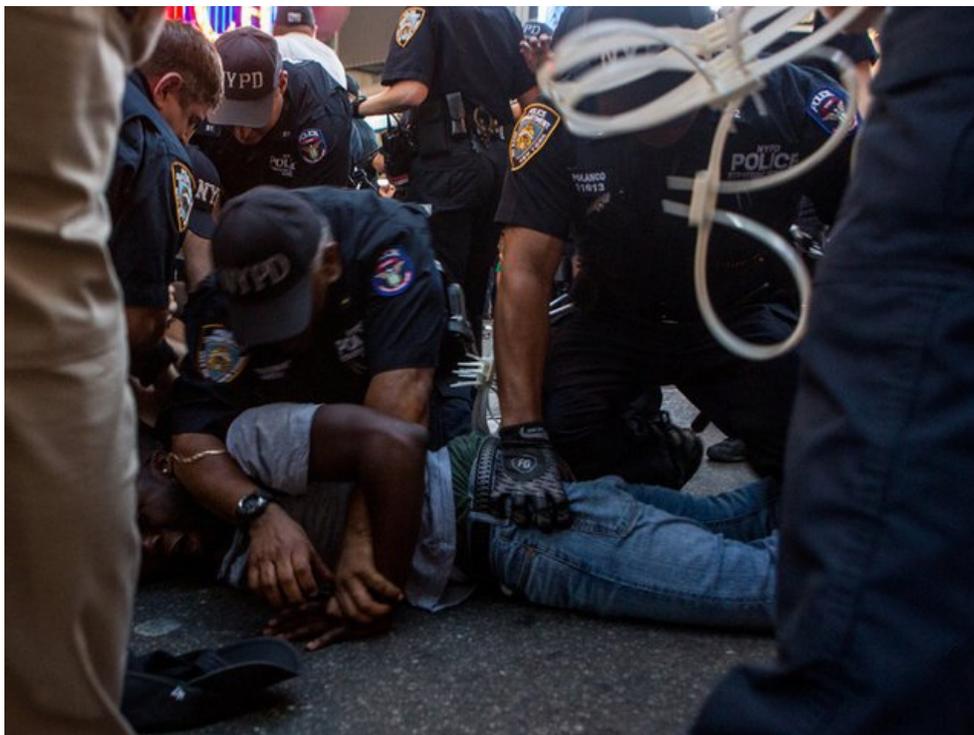
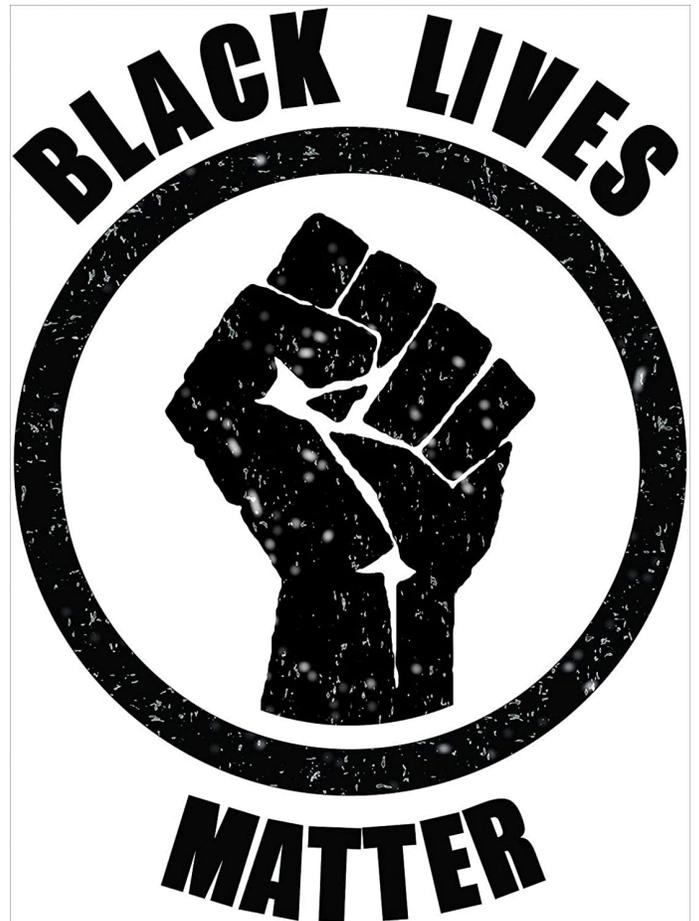




The “white devil” is almost over. The white devil being racism and discrimination. The newspaper articles in this week’s reading all talk about Gordon Parks’ work in representing and showing the struggles faced by black Muslim groups. There were photos showing men training to learn self-defense. Photos of the black Muslim community doing everyday things such as women sewing and educating children. Park’s work however mainly focused on highlighting and bringing light to the issues and stories faced in society towards these groups of people.



A recent movement this reminds me of is the Black Lives Matter (BLM) Movement. Sadly even though the newspaper article in the reading was titled, “The White Devil’s Day Is Almost Over” even in 2021 it is still not over. #BlackLivesMatter was actually founded in 2013 but spiked tremendously in 2020 due to the brutal unjustified death of George Floyd. The mission of this global movement is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes. This movement to me in the present day feels really similar to Parks’ work because Parks and this movement use media as their weapon. Parks uses the photos he takes while this movement uses all of the social media. All of 2020 the #BlackLivesMatter showed up on everyone’s social media feed and the iconic fist that the movement uses as its logo is just as iconic as the McDonald’s golden arches.





I thought I would share this poster. The one on the left is one of Gordon Parks' original movie posters. The one on the right is me recreating it using his quote and his images. His iconic quote, "I picked up a camera because it was my choice of weapons against what I hated most about the universe: racism, intolerance, and poverty" I feel really express what was read in this week's reading. It reminds me how in history class in high school I forgot what location but it talked about how news reporters were just as much soldiers as the actual ones because they would put their lives on the line to get photo age in areas of war just so the media can be shared and awareness can be spread to get support and help for the war. Gordon Parks is like a hero without a cape because his images showed the problem for those who needed help to see and brought awareness to racism, discrimination, and poverty to help those in need of this injustice they faced.