Dyrisha John September 25,2020 ENG1121 Unit 1 Writing Assignment Word count

Letter About Discourse Community

To Mister Governor Andrew Cuomo,

Having to write to you on this subject is such a huge honor that I was chosen to write on the behalf of my fellow community members. Today in this age we are starting to get into this whole movement for the black lives lost and also for the unfair treatment we are getting by your fellow police officers. I say this because we will never respect anybody who will not give us the respect we need. This black lives matter movement should have started years ago because this isn't the first time we've seen that we are being treated unfairly and that isn't right. This movement took too long for people to see and know about. It took too long for people like yourself and fellow people in the government to see that this is a problem and still some of you don't understand that this is a problem which is sad. It takes people being killed for people to finally care and understand the problems that black people face in everyday life. All I'm asking of you is to try to walk in my shoes as I tell you about every problem we have faced throughout history. The number one problem we've faced throughout history is the killing of unarmed black men by the police and them getting away with it because they are under oath and they swore to protect everybody. But social media has played a huge role in trying to help bring justice but we need it because the police did not enforce wearing body cameras till 2014 after Michael Brown an 18 year old resident in missouri, Ferguson was shot and killed by a police officer. After being matched to a description of a suspect in a convenience store robbery. Which then led to the officer shooting an armed black man. That left a mother without her son not getting to see her child go to college and or graduate that man was just starting his life he was taken too soon. The event in Ferguson led to the expansion of the use of body cameras which was proposed by the United States first black president Barack Obama in 2014. The purpose of me mentioning this is to show how crucial this is in today's society honestly it's sad that this had to happen and if you don't feel bad for these innocent black men that just shows that this world is very cruel. How about I give yet another example in today's society. How about we talk about Rayshard Brooks, a 27 year old who fell asleep in his car, blocking the drive through lane at a fast food restaurant. How was he killed you probably already know but I'll tell you still police cameras showed the former officers Garett Rolfe and Devin Brosnan speaking to Brooks for more than 40 minutes after complaining that the 27 year old had fallen asleep in his car. The officers told Brooks he had too much to drink to drive and then they proceeded to attempt to restrain him and a struggle ensued and Brooks fled. He was then shot twice in the back even after they knew he was drinking and had too much to drink they still shot him. I can't say that I'm surprised because there has been a lot of police brutality. This isn't the only one. Theirs also Daniel Prude who is 41 years old he had run onto the street naked while going through a mental health episode.Prude

was initially compliant one emergency service found him at 3 AM so he became agitated please place a spit hood on his head. Officer Mark Vaughn Use his body weight so forth proves hard against the pavement as others restrained him. Prude said police were trying to kill him as he was restrained for over three minutes. Autopsy found he was dead of complications of asphyxia due to the restraint as well as acute intoxication. How do you know the messed up part that happened in Rochester New York in New York Attorney General James says proves that there are seven police officers involved suspended on September 4, 2020. The messed up part about this all is proof that he was experiencing a mental episode. I wish the police didn't know what to do so they placed a hood over his head kinda like the ones that the KKK wore. And there is a video showing all that went down that day and it spread around social media. The whole world watched as this man was killed by police officers that were not fired: they were suspended for two different things. As if that's not enough we're going to bring one that everybody knows about George Floyd who was 46 years old he allegedly tried to use a counterfeit \$20 bill. Yes he died over a \$20 bill. Floyd was handcuffed on the ground as officer Derek kneeled on his neck for eight minutes and 46 seconds as Floyd pleaded with the four officers present and repeatedly told him that he cannot breathe. The officer kept his knee on Floyd's neck even when he became unresponsive. Two autopsy reports listed Floyd's death as a homicide although they gave different causes. This video went around social media for a long time. This started the riots in the March for peace. For peace of mind and peace of soul and peace from police brutality. All for officers involved were fired and are being charged with some type of second-degree murder. And if that is not enough to make you see the bigger picture that I'm trying to paint to you guys. Let's talk about another person that is famous in this whole black lives matter movement there's Miss Breonna Taylor

We still have not gotten justice for. Miss Taylor was asleep at home when Taylor and her boyfriend were sleeping. The plainclothes officers arrived at their apartment to execute a search warrant in a drug case. They believed it was a break in and Walker called 911 and fired his license firearm. Taylor, who was on his arm, was shot eight times. And there are also several others, some we have not even gotten justice for. So when black people say they're tired we really are tired. You would think once slavery ended that we will be all good there will be no racism no judging of our skin color but till this day we still get judge by the color of our skin.i mean you can ask why is this important im tired of seeing on social media every other day or every day another one of my fellow brother and sisters killed by police for no reason i feel as if you need to step up and take into hand that their is no peace until me and my brothers get the justice we deserve. Let's take into account that yes not all of these issues and or examples happen in new york but i feel like it deserves some recognition by you and your fellow pairs so we avoid this happening in new york. Maybe these officers need more training. We should feel safe but we will never feel safe till some type of change happens. Just like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s message, "None of us are free until all of us are free," from a concept centered primarily on the freedom dreams of black heterosexual men to a campaign that equally addresses the freedom struggles of all people but is explicitly centered on black liberation.

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