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Police, when we hear that word it's supposed to strike a sense of safety and peacefulness amongst us but as days goes by more often than not when a person hears that police are coming or they have been called especially when that particular someone happens to be a black American they often start to think that their life maybe in danger even if they are innocent since so many cases have shown that if you are a person of color and decide not to cooperate with the police you might get killed even if that means giving away your rights and freedom as a human being and it gets even worse, as an everyday citizen you would go and think that police is supposed to calm the situation and bring it down which often sadly isn't true, there has been so many times that a situation could have easily been calmed down and talked through yet the police decide to escalate the situation and which leads to the victim to their deaths. The sheer magnitude of police brutality especially towards people of color are outrages and unimaginable given how police forces are often held to such high status when it comes to reform yet time after time they go on to display their true nature to the public which is a lack of humanity that resides deep within them. My main question for this research bibliography is How has Police Brutality affected black Americans throughout New York?. The main reason why I got very interested in this question is that ever since George Floyd death I can't stop pondering the question of why? Why did the police officer have to put his full weight on the neck of Floyd when he could have easily done that on his back or even sit him up and put him at the back of his cruiser given there were 4 police officers I'm sure were competent enough to put a single man behind their cruiser. Why did Floyd have to die?. By the end of this research I hope to understand the logic behind the things that police officers do in simple situations which can easily be calmed and easily escalated.

Source 1:

Amanda Grahama , Murat Hanerb , Melissa M. Sloanc , Francis T. Cullend , Teresa C. Kulige , and Cheryl Lero Jonsonf. *Web-B-Ebscohost-Com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu.* <https://web-b-ebsohost-com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=4>.

The source goes on to talk about how police aggression has affected black minority groups for centuries and how the suppression of black people in the early ages of recorded history is just as vibrant today but in the form of systemic oppression and physical oppression. The source also goes to highlight some major cases such as Eric Garner, and Micheal Brown. The case of Eric Garner is one that perfectly displays how simple situations can be escalated to the point of death. Eric Garner who is an African Americans and also a father of 6 was illegally selling cigarettes near a ferry, the police was called to the seen after Garner who was beloved by the community and was also known as a person who could break up fights so it doesn't lead to further hard was doing just exactly that, on July 17, when the police was called to the seen Garner was put into an illegal chokehold by officers Daniel Pantaleo and Justin D'Amrico and pinned to the ground even though those chokehold maneuvers goes strictly against NYPD rules but the officers choose to do it anyways what's even more shocking is the fact that even after Garner had repeatedly said to the officers that he wasn't able to breather the officers choose to not listen to him and keep on the chokehold they had on him which eventually lead to him passing out and later dying. Erick Garner's death had become a movement which would go down in history as one of the most influential black lives matter movements ever since it had united so many different kinds of people from different backgrounds together to rally and protest against a system which was clearly corrupt against black Americans. I agree with what the source has said since all of the points that the sources bring out regarding police brutality towards black Americans are all true and it has been portrayed countless times in famous cases. " Even more troubling, these aggressive, proactive police practices have, on occasion, escalated to involve excessive uses of force, including police killings of unarmed Black citizens" (page 2). This quote perfectly supports the argument that police brutality does exist and has been affecting black Americans for a long time since it highlights how police have shown time after time that they are

just simply incapable of de-escalating a situation when it comes to people of color. Some other information that I would still need to look up is if some of those police officers ever faced any kinds of consequences and what were those consequences.

Source 2:

Betty L. Wilson, Terry A. Wolfer. Web-B-Ebscohost-Com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu.

<https://web-b-ebshost-com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=4>.

This source also highlights how black Americans of different ethnicity has been targeted by the police and how when it comes to black Americans police often tend to escalate the situation rather than de-escalate the situation which quite often leads to someone getting shot or even a fatality but, this source goes more in depth on how different bodies of influence such as church and congress has spoken about this crucial dire matter yet more reforms seems to be a distant future. The Church and Congress are more worried about keeping their influence rather than fixing something that affects countless lives in our community and different communities. I agree with what the source is also saying since the source portrays an image where the congress and church wants to help but they are more worried about the backlash and potentially loss of support they might get from supporting something that is very controversial and has a strong support from both ends of the aisle. “Despite these reasons for involvement, clergy and their congregations have often hesitated or failed to confront police brutality”(page 3). This quote goes to show just how the congress and the Church who hold immense power and influence hesitates to get strongly behind a movement which can help countless lives and set the police brutality against black Americans straight. One question that I still have after reading the source is when will congress and the Church finally stand up and say that enough is enough and do something about this issue? How many more Erick Garner’s would have to die before some significant action is taken?. This source tells me that there are higher powers in society who would rather keep their power than to do something that would be extremely good for the society that their supporters live in. If I could say something to the author I would go on and say that I applaud the author for their dedicated research and bringing light to the matter.

Source 3 : world, TRT. “Police violence against Black Americans fuels debate over critical race theory”, trtworld.com, June 30, 2021,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZniVUReeTY&ab_channel=TRTWorld.

This youtube video is one that touches close to my heart since it has such strong imagery the video goes on to show the moments before George Floyd was murdered by police officer and how he was telling them over and over again that he can't breathe yet the officer persisted on and kept the knee on his neck anyways even after he was in last ditch effort calling his mom for help, the officers still had not a single drop of humanity left to show him and save his life. The video also goes to show how black Americans are treated unfairly across so many different parts of our society for example the healthcare system the video shows how a black woman was told that she was faking it and told to go home. I agree with what the video is showcasing how black Americans are treated in such poor manners across so many different aspects of life that they should be receiving the same treatment as a white woman or any other type of people for that matter. “ My neck hurts mama!” (15 seconds). These were one of the final last words that George Floyd said to the police officers in last ditch effort that they would stop the cruelty and save his life yet the officers completely disregarded that and kept their knees on his neck which eventually led him to suffocate and die. The main question that I still have after watching the video is when will the violence be enough and the police that are supposed to protect and serve actually protect and serve rather than take innocent lives.

I would also applaud the author for putting together such a nice video that has helped me understand the topic even more. This document further showcases just how bad the black Americans population is treated by the police.

Conclusion: This research has helped me understand more in depth just how bad the police and other parts of society treat black Americans unfairly compared to other people. This research has also helped me understand that even though there are higher powers in society that have been put there to make their supporters and everyone's lives better, they choose not to simply due to the fact that they may receive bad publicity and which would hurt their careers at offices or churches. What really surprised me after doing my research is how the congress, which has the power to make drastic changes to everyday people's lives chooses not to do so. What I learned

from this research is extremely important since this will live with me for the rest of my life and I will be able to advocate for this when I get the chance to simply due to the fact that I now possess more information on a critical topic that has impacted our society and devastated countless communities for so long. The main people that really need to know about my research are people in power who have the ability to make change in our society which would better everyone's lives and help heal countless communities that have been devastated by this epidemic of police brutality.