

JENAE BUTLER

2020



JINTTHE
FIGHT
AGAINST
INEQUALITY



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	THE REASONING BEHIND THE PROTESTS
2	OTHER IMPORTANT FACES TO KNOW
3	UNCOMFORTABLE FACTS ABOUT POLICE BRUTALITY
4	WHAT IS BLACK LIVES MATTER?
5	DEBUNK THE MYTHS BEHIND OUR ACTIVISM
6	WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN ALLY
7	ALLYSHIP: THE DO'S AND DONT'S
8	WAYS TO GET INVOLVED
9	ABOUT THE AUTHOR

## THE REASONING BEHIND THE PROTESTAGE FLOYD THE RESULT

THE RECENT MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD IS A RESULT OF THE ON-GOING ISSUE OF POLICE BRUTALITY AND BIAS WHEN CONSIDERING THE VALUE OF BLACK MEN AND WOMEN'S LIVES. FLOYD WAS ARRESTED FOR USING A COUNTERFEIT \$20 TO BUY CIGARETTES IN MINNEAPOLIS LAST MONDAY. OFFICERS CLAIM HIS RESISTANCE LED TO THE VIDEO FOOTAGE SHOWING DEREK CHAUVIN KNEELING ON FLOYD'S NECK FOR 8 MINUTES - AN ACT THAT ULTIMATELY LED TO HIS DEATH. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME POLICE FORCE HAS LED TO THE DEATH OF A PERSON OF COLOR (POC) HOWEVER, THIS INCIDENT HAS LED TO NATIONWIDE PROTESTS THAT HAVE PUT A MORE INTENSE FOCUS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT BIAS AGAINST POC THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT UNACKNOWLEDGED AND MISTREATED BY THOSE IN POWER.

THESE PROTESTS ARE NOT BASED ON FLOYD ALONE.
RATHER, THE MISTREATMENT AND BLATANT RACISM
SHOWN AGAINST UNARMED/NON-VIOLENT POC THAT
HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR DECADES. PROTESTORS
THAT HAVE TAKEN THE STREETS OF MANY DIFFERENT
CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO STAND IN
SOLIDARITY WITH THE BLACK LIVES MATTER
MOVEMENT TO MAKE A DEEPEND PUSH FOR LAW
ENFORCEMENT REFORM.

# OTHER IMPUK

See a list of all lives taken by police brutality in resources below



### Tamir Rice

12yo shot in Cleveland, Ohio by Timoth Loehmann.

Tamir was throwing snowballs and playing with a toy pellet gun. Was shot within 2 seconds of Loehmann exiting his vehicle.



### Sandra Bland

28yo that died via hanging in police custody in Hempstead, TX Sandra was arrested after a routine traffic stop. Though her death was ruled suicide, there is evidence of foul play based on the events leading up to her death.





### Eric Garner

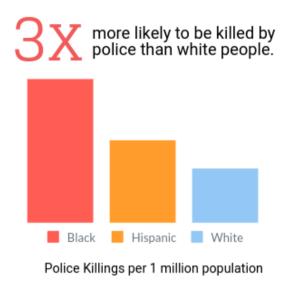
27yo that died via chokehold via Daniel Pantaleo in NYC

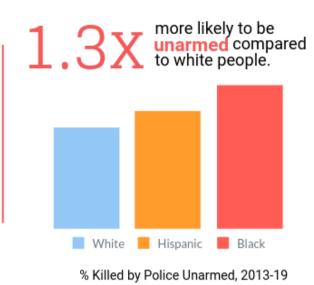
Eric was suspected of selling loose cigarettes that lead to a deadly confrontation. He died proclaiming "I cant breathe"



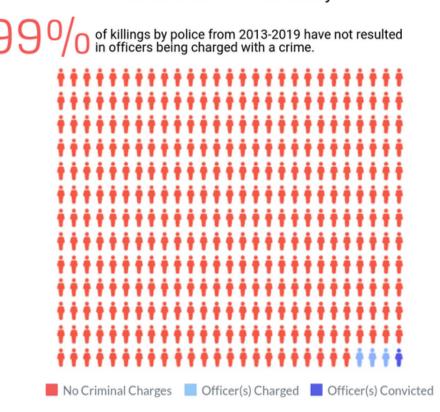
See more metrics in resources below

### Black people are most likely to be killed by police



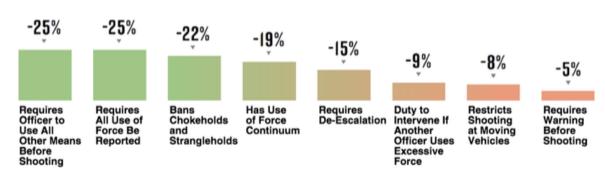


### There is no accountability



### There are proven solutions

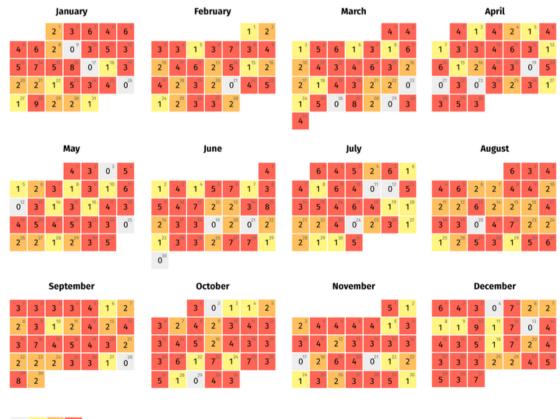
Police Departments that have adopted these use of force policies kill significantly fewer people. But few departments have adopted them.



Percent fewer police killings by police departments with each policy implemented

Source: useofforceproject.org

### There were only 27 days in 2019 where police did not kill someone.









### What is Black Lives Matter?

THE BLM MOVEMENT WAS FOUNDED IN 2013 AS A RESULT OF TRAYVON MARTIN'S MURDER.

THIS GLOBAL ORGANIZATION STRIVES TO "ERADICATE WHITE SUPREMACY AND BUILD LOCAL POWER TO INTERVENE IN VIOLENCE INFLICTED ON BLACK COMMUNITIES BY THE STATE AND VIGILANTES." (BLM.2020)

THROUGH EXPANSIVE PARTICIPATION, AFFIRMATION OF HUMANITY, AND PERSISTENT MESSAGING/ACTIVISM, THE BLM ORGANIZATION IS DESIGNED AROUND AN INCLUSIVE MOVEMENT FILLED WITH POC AND OUR ALLIES ALIKE.

# 

MYTH 1 BLM IS A HATE GROUP

MYTH 2 "KNEELING" IS A FORM OF HATE

MYTH 3
BEING COLORBLIND MEANS
YOU ARENT RACIST

A COMMON MISCONCEPTION OF THE BLM ORGANIZATION IS ITS NAMING. SOME VIEW THIS AS A HATE GROUP THAT IS TARGETING WHITE PEOPLE. THE NAME OF BLM DOES NOT INDICATE DISCRIMINATION OR BIAS AGAINST NON-BLACK LIVES BUT INSTEAD TO ORGANIZE AGAINST A SYSTEM THAT IS DESIGNED AROUND SYSTEMATIC OPPRESSION AND INJUSTICE FOR POC. NON-POC FIND THIS NAMING TO BE IMBALANCED AND THEREFORE HAVE COINED THE PHRASE "ALL LIVES MATTER" OR "BLUE LIVES MATTER" TO ATTEMPT TO 'EVEN THE PLAYING FIELD' BUT THESE TERMS ARE, IN ESSENCE, "RHETORICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF BACKLASH" THAT REPRESENT AND DECLARE COLORBLINDNESS. (SMITH. 2018)

COLIN KAEPERNICK IS AN REFORM ACTIVIST THAT TOOK A KNEE AS A PEACEFUL PROTEST DURING A PLAYOFF GAME IN 2016. SINCE THEN, HIS ACTION HAS BEEN SHAMED AND ASSUMED TO BE A HATE CRIME. AMERICA HAS AN INDECISIVE TENDENCY TO CLASSIFY WHAT SORT OF PEACEFUL PROTESTS ARE ACCEPTABLE VS WHAT AREN'T - GIVING ACTIVIST MINIMAL ROOM TO ADVOCATE THE CAUSE AT HAND. THOUGH CONTROVERSIAL, KAEPERNICK'S EFFORT IS TO <u>ACKNOWLEDGE THE OPPRESSION OF BLACK PEOPLE AND POC</u>. LEARN MORE ABOUT HIS ORGANIZATION AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE PROTESTS HERE.

SADLY, BEING COLORBLIND DOES NOT HAVE THE POSITIVE IMPACT YOU'D THINK.
INSTEAD, THIS PHRASING SUGGESTS A "REFUSAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE STATE
DOES NOT VALUE ALL LIVES IN THE SAME WAY. IT REDUCES THE PROBLEM OF RACISM TO
INDIVIDUAL PREJUDICE AND CASTS AFRICAN AMERICANS AS AGGRESSORS AGAINST A
COLORBLIND POST-CIVIL RIGHTS ORDER IN WHICH WHITE PEOPLE NO LONGER 'SEE
RACE'" (SMITH. 2019)

OFTEN TIMES, THESE SORT OF CONVERSATIONS BRING UP THE "WHAT CAN I DO?" QUESTION FROM ASPIRING ALLIES. YOUR INTEREST IN BEING ACTIVE IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT AND IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. BEING AN ALLY IS CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF REFORM AND SPREADING THE APPROPRIATE AWARENESS TO HELP CHANGE THE NARRATIVE AND FUTURE OF RACISM AND POLICE BRUTALITY.

TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN ALLY BELOW



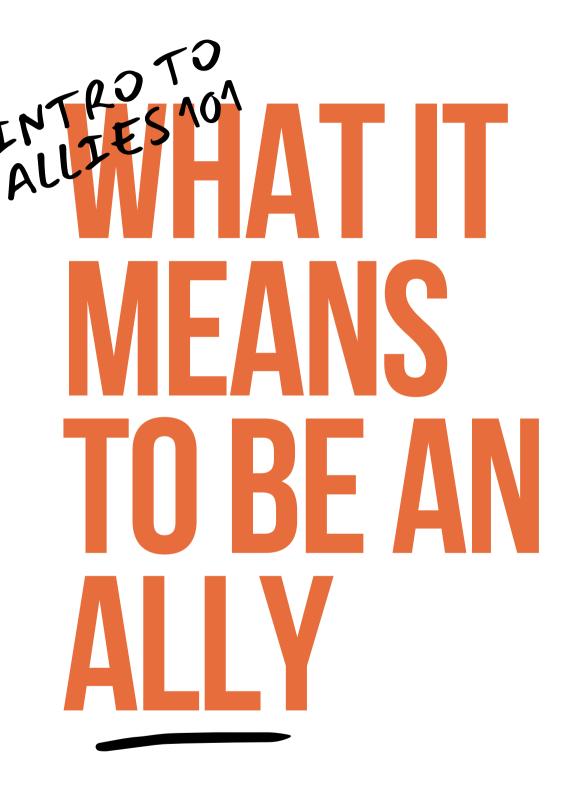
Take on the struggle as your own



Stand up, even when scared



Transfer benefits of your privilege to those who lack it



Acknowledge your pain but remember: the conversation is not about you.

DO BE OPEN TO LISTENING

DO BE AWARE OF YOUR IMPLICIT BIASES

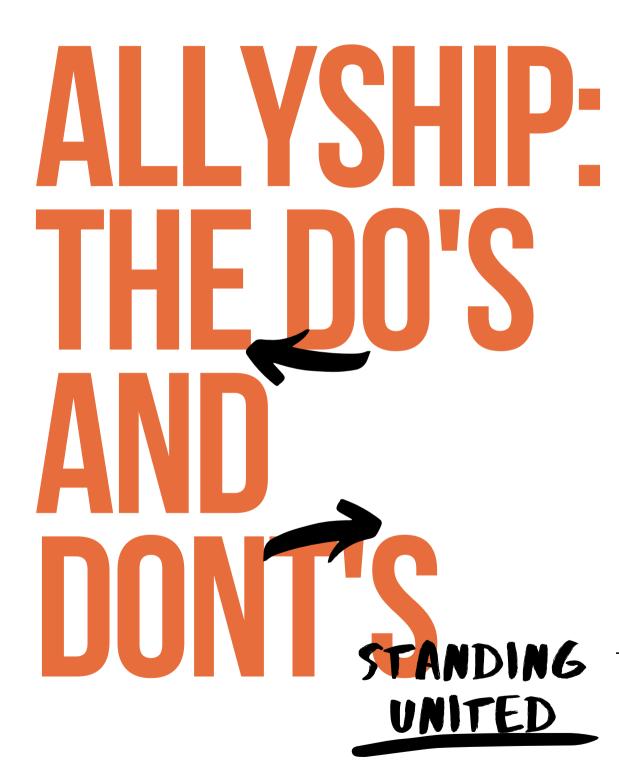
DO YOUR RESEARCH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE STRUGGLE IN WHICH YOU ARE PARTICIPATING

DO THE INNER WORK TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO ACKNOWLEDGE HOW YOU PARTICIPATE IN OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS

DO THE OUTER WORK AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO CHANGE THE OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS

DO AMPLIFY (ONLINE AND WHEN PHYSICALLY PRESENT) THE VOICES OF THOSE WITHOUT YOUR PRIVILEGE

DO LEARN HOW TO LISTEN AND ACCEPT CRITICISM WITH GRACE, EVEN IF IT'S UNCOMFORTABLE



DO NOT EXPECT TO BE TAUGHT OR SHOWN. TAKE IT
UPON YOURSELF TO USE THE TOOLS AROUND YOU TO
LEARN AND ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

DO NOT PARTICIPATE FOR THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE "OPPRESSION OLYMPICS" (YOU DON'T NEED TO COMPARE HOW YOUR STRUGGLE IS JUST AS BAD)

DO NOT BEHAVE AS THOUGH YOU KNOW BEST

DO NOT TAKE CREDIT FOR THE LABOR OF THOSE
WHO ARE MARGINALIZED AND DID THE WORK BEFORE
YOU STEPPED INTO THE PICTURE

DO NOT ASSUME THAT EVERY MEMBER OF AN UNDERINVESTED GROUP FEELS OPPRESSED

### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

### JOIN A COMMUNITY

There are a variety of communities - both internal to your company and external to the public - that are excellent ways to get exposure to issues pertaining to any given group. You can connect, participate, and learn from other members.

### CHECK IN

If you have friends/colleagues of color, check in on them during intense times such as these. This can provide an opportunity for you to learn about their experiences and hear first hand of the impact it has.

### DONATE

With protests comes arrests. If you are unable to participate in protests, find a credible cause to donate to. These donations go towards legal fees, bail, nonprofit support and advocacy, etc.

### GETACTIVE

Look up local coalitions in your area to find out the latest info on upcoming protests, livestreams, etc. If you want to be on the front line, this is a great starting point!

Remember, the do's and dont's of being a valued ally!

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

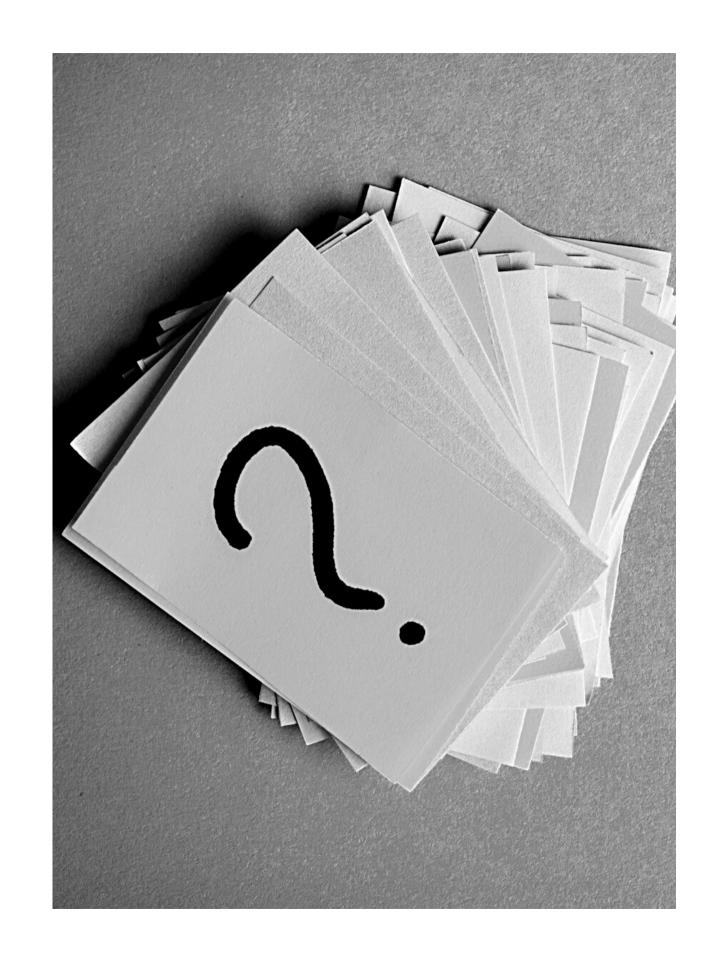
## RESOURCES/

VISIT MY LINKEDIN PAGE FOR RESOURCE LIST



## ANY QUESTIONS?

Feel free to msg me via Linked In



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

I AM A TPGM FOR GOOGLE CLOUD WITH A PASSION FOR ENABLING AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE. OVER THE LAST 6 YEARS OF MY CAREER IN TECH, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO ACT ON MY PASSION THROUGH COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES.

OBLIGATION TO SPREAD AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION AND RESOURCE POOLING.

I HOPE THIS DECK PROVIDED ENOUGH TO GET YOU STARTED IN YOUR QUEST TO LEARN AND SUPPORT!

FEEL FREE TO CONNECT WITH ME: LINKEDIN.COM/IN/JENAEB

