

## HOW MANY OF US ARE AFFECTED DAILY?

## WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY:

"THE FACT IS WHY WE HAVE THIS VERY COMFORTABLE COLLOQUIAL DEBATE ABOUT IT, WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT AND I GO OUT IN THE STREET I GET BEHIND THE WHEEL OF MY CAR, THE MOST DANGEROUS MOMENT I EVER HAVE IN MY LIFE IS WHEN A POLICE OFFICER PULLS ME OVER. EVERY BLACK MAN IN AMERICA KNOWS THAT WHEN THAT HAPPENS THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY HIS LIFE MAY ACTUALLY COME TO AND END AND IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN."  
- WENDELL PIERCE ON BILL MAHER

I WAS STANDING IN TIMES SQUARE. I WAS HANDING OUT FREE AMERICAN FLAGS TO EVERYONE. ALL OF A SUDDEN, WHAM, A NIGHTSTICK CRACKS ME IN THE BACK OF THE SKULL AS I LAY BLEEDING, I LOOK UP AND SEE FOUR -- NO, SIX -- NO, TWELVE COPS STANDING AROUND ME.

"GIVE ME YOUR ID NOW, YOU F\*\*\*ING MAGGOT," SAID THE ONE WHO APPEARED TO BE THE LEADER.

"SOMEONE STOLE MY WALLET AS I WAS HANDING OUT THESE AMERICAN FLAGS, KIND SIR," I RESPONDED.

WHAM ANOTHER NIGHTSTICK, THIS TIME ACROSS THE BRIDGE OF MY NOSE. I TRIED TO TAKE OUT MY CELL PHONE TO RECORD IT, BUT THEN TWENTY-FOUR MORE NYPD OFFICERS SHOWED UP INSTANTLY AND KNOCKED THE PHONE OUT OF MY HAND.

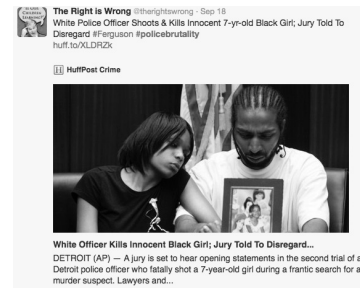
"NOW YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL AND WE'RE GOING TO HANG YOU UPSIDE DOWN ON MEATHOOKS BY YOUR NIPPLES," ONE OF THEM SAID. AND THEY DID. I WAS KEPT FOR TWO WEEKS IN AN UNDERGROUND CELL AND REFUSED FOOD OR MEDICAL ATTENTION. THE WORST PART IS THAT I TRIED TO FILM IT, BUT 36 COPS PREVENTED ME FROM DOING SO.

-EDDIE NOVACK (22 YRS OLD)

BECAUSE THE POLICE USE BRUTALITY, THEIR APPEARANCE ALONE CREATES NIGHTMARES.

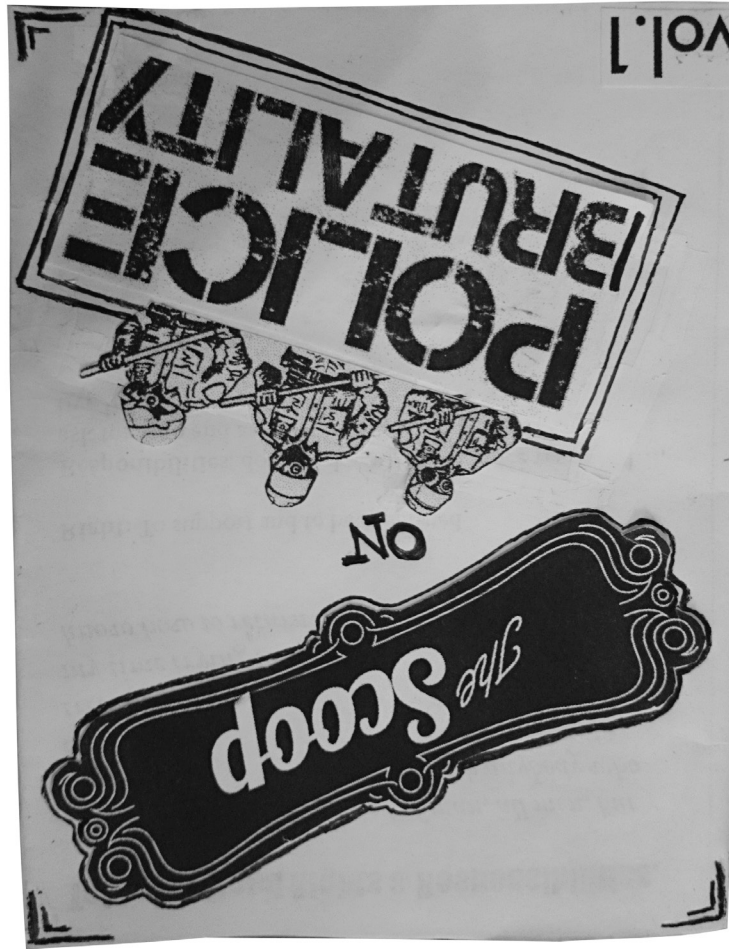
-KATHY TRAN (16 YRS OLD)

## AWARENESS IS THE GREATEST AGENT OF CHANGE: #policebrutality on social media



ONE MAN'S STORY...  
by Travis Jensen, November 2013

THIS IS MY FRIEND D'PARIS WILLIAMS, A.K.A. "DJ," THE YOUNGER COUSIN OF A CLOSE FRIEND OF MINE. DJ IS 21, EMPLOYER, ATTENDS CLASSES AT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO, AND JUST RECENTLY WAS TAKEN UP INTEREST IN PHOTOGRAPHY. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, WHILE RIDING HIS BICYCLE HOME FROM THE MAKE A WISH FOUNDATION'S "BAT KID" HAPPENINGS, DJ WAS CONFRONTED BY TWO UNDERCOVER POLICE OFFICERS IN AN UNMARKED VEHICLE AT THE VALENCIA GARDENS APARTMENTS IN THE CITY'S MISSION DISTRICT. APPARENTLY, THE OFFICERS SAID SOMETHING TO DJ ABOUT RIDING HIS BICYCLE ON THE SIDEWALK AS HE WAS PULLING UP TO HIS HOME IN THE COMPLEX. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THE OFFICERS IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES OR NOT, BUT DJ PROCEEDED TO GET OUT OF THEIR CAR, CARS DJ FROM BEHIND AS HE WAS ENTERING THE HOME AND BEAT HIM FOR NO APPARENT REASON. A POLICE SEARCH UNCOVERED A CUPCAKE AND JUICE THAT DJ HAD JUST PURCHASED FROM THE CONE STORE. NOBODY HAS SPOKEN TO DJ SINCE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AS HE WAS IMMEDIATELY TAKEN TO S.F. GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT, AND THEN TO THE 850 BRYANT POLICE STATION. SO FAR, IT APPEARS NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN MADE AGAINST DJ EITHER. THERE IS BUILDING VIDEO SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE OF DJ'S CONFRONTATION W/ POLICE BUT IT THAT HAS YET TO BE RELEASED BY HOUSING AUTHORITY. FURTHERMORE, THREE RESIDENTS CAME TO DJ'S AID WHEN THEY SAW OFFICERS BEATING HIM UP, ONLY TO FIND THEMSELVES ALSO UNDER ATTACK BY OFFICERS. BY THIS TIME, UNIFORMED BACKUP HAD ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, INCLUDING DJ, A TOTAL OF FOUR INDIVIDUALS WERE BEATEN AND ARRESTED BY OFFICERS.



THIS ZINE WAS PRODUCED BY YOUTHLINE, AND IT APPEARED AS PART OF A COLLABORATIVELY CREATED ALTRA EXHIBITION VISIONS AT TWILIGHT: DIA DE LOS MUERTOS 2014 AT SOMARKS CULTURAL CENTER.

YOUTHLINE BELIEVES THAT YOUNG PEOPLE CAN DO ANYTHING WITH THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF TRAINING AND SUPPORT. WE'RE A PROGRAM RUN BY YOUTH FOR YOUTH WHOSE MISSION IS TO PROVIDE RESOURCES, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT TO YOUTH AND THEIR ALLIES. WE CONSIST OF AN INFORMATION CRISIS AND SUPPORT HOTLINE, LIVE TELEVISION SHOW, LIVE ONLINE SHOW, AND AN UPCOMING ZINE.

WE AIM TO CIRCULATE VOICES OF YOUTH THROUGH OUR MEDIA, AND DISCUSS ISSUES THAT YOUTH ARE INTERESTED IN FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATING AND OPENING UP TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION.

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## WHO IS AFFECTED BY POLICE BRUTALITY?

THE SHORT ANSWER TO THE QUESTION OF WHO IS AFFECTED BY POLICE BRUTALITY IS "EVERYONE." WHETHER YOU ARE THE PRIMARY VICTIM OF POLICE BRUTALITY, WITNESS THE BRUTALITY FIRSTHAND, OR HEAR ABOUT IT ON THE NEWS OR THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE, YOU ARE A VICTIM OF POLICE BRUTALITY. THIS SERIOUS CRIME IS IMPORTANT TO DEAL WITH HARSHLY AND SWIFTLY.

## HOW DOES THIS AFFECT YOU?

THE ONLY THING THAT KEEPS PEOPLE FROM OVERRUNNING POLICE IN OUR SOCIETY IS THE RESPECT THAT WE HAVE CHOSEN TO GIVE POLICE. WHEN POLICE OFFICERS ABUSE THEIR AUTHORITY, THE PEOPLE STOP RESPECTING THAT AUTHORITY, AND THE RESULT IS AN UNALTERABLE DISRUPTION IN POWER STRUCTURE. DISRUPTIONS IN POWER STRUCTURES ALWAYS RESULT IN COMPROMISED SAFETY FOR BOTH POLICE AND POPULACE. AS A RESULT CRIMINALS ACT MORE BOLDLY AND WITH LESS FEAR OF CONSEQUENCES. THIS LEADS TO MORE SHOOTOUTS AND MORE CAR CHASES, WHICH OPENS THE DOOR TO INNOCENT PEOPLE DYING OR SUFFERING WOUNDS AS THE RESULT OF EITHER BULLETS FLYING OR CARS CRASHING INTO THEM.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP BRING CHANGE?

- 1. PROTESTS**  
POLICE STATIONS, CITY HALL AND OTHER GOVERNMENT VENUES MUST BE PROTESTED AGAINST AND MARCHED ON AFTER EVERY INCIDENT OF POLICE BRUTALITY.
- 2. RECORD THE POLICE**  
WE MUST USE OUR CAMERAS EVERY TIME POLICE HARASS US TO CATCH THEM IN THE ACT. THEN WE CAN USE THE INTERNET AND THE VIRAL MEDIA TO EXPOSE THESE ACTIONS WORLDWIDE. IN THEIR HEYDAY, THE BLACK PANTHERS WOULD DO THIS. THEY HAD A POLICE WATCH AND WOULD FOLLOW THE POLICE WITH A CAMERA AND RECORD THEIR ACTIONS. NOW THAT CAMERAS ARE SO CHEAP AND PEOPLE HAVE CAMERAS ON THEIR PHONES, IT IS A LOT EASIER TO HOLD THE POLICE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS.
- 3. VOTE OUT POLITICIANS WHO CONDONE POLICE BRUTALITY**  
POLITICIANS WHO DO NOT ADDRESS ISSUES LIKE POLICE BRUTALITY MUST BE VOTED OUT OF OFFICE. RAPPERS SHOULD BE SPENDING A LOT LESS TIME GLAMORIZING BLACK ON BLACK CRIME AND DISSING EACH OTHER, AND MORE TIME DOCUMENTING POLICE BRUTALITY. AFRICAN AMERICAN ENTERTAINERS AND ACTIVISTS HAVE A STRONG VOICE IN AMERICA AND THEY MUST ALSO USE THAT VOICE TO FIGHT THE PROBLEMS IN OUR COMMUNITY.
- 4. ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE WITH COPS**  
WE MUST USE MODERATE POLICE ORGANIZATIONS TO WORK WITH THE POLICE TO STOP POLICE BRUTALITY. GROUPS LIKE 100 BLACKS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT HAVE DONE A LOT TO COMBAT POLICE BRUTALITY AND PEOPLE SHOULD WORK WITH THEM AS AN INTERMEDIARY TO DEAL WITH COMMUNITY ISSUES WITH THE POLICE.
- 5. TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE POLICE**  
WE NEED TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AS WELL. THE BEST WAY TO HURT POLICE BRUTALITY IS BY HITTING THEM IN THE POCKET. IF THE POLICE KEEP ON GETTING SUED FOR BRUTALITY THEY'LL BE FORCED TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE. EVERY INCIDENT OF POLICE BRUTALITY SHOULD BE REPORTED TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MEDIA.