

Is This What Life Comes To?

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The Black Lives Matter movement started as a hashtag in 2013, because a man with the name of George Zimmerman shot an African American teen walking home from a convenience store. George was the neighborhood watch coordinator for his community that was gated. Trayvon Martin was the boy who got shot trying to go visit with some relatives. When George went to court he said the shooting was out of self defense and got put on trial, once they found out that Trayvon was not guilty George immediately got put in jail for murder. People should treat black people equal as other races because there's too much police violence, people assume black people are criminals, and people automatically judge because of their skin color.

To start off 2020 we had a lot of problems with society, but there was a killing that spiked 2020 and went to disaster. A black male named George floyed was killed by Derik Chauvin. George Floyd went to a convenience store just to buy some things and the clerk thought that Floyd had used a counterfeit 20 dollar bill. Derik came to the store and got into an altercation then shoved Floyed on the ground and laid his knee on Floyds neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. Floyd was brought to the hospital by ambulance and they couldn't save him. Derik is

serving 23 years in jail for murder and the other 3 police officers where fired.

After the video was posted, the media went insane. There were protests every day, they were looting stores, the police had tear gas and were shooting rubber bullets but the bullets aren't full rubber. It's a metal ball with rubber around it so people brought masks and shields to prepare for the protests.

Leaders in power can have a positive or negative effect on how our society advances. People like Donald Trump fueled racism instead of calling our nation to think and believe in equality. As individuals we need to stand up to any false belief regarding racism. The thought that whenever someone sees a black person they automatically think that he's doing something bad or criminal. People are listening to their fear and need to change what they believe about black people. When Barack Obama was president, he led the country without any scandals and his leadership was full of integrity, intelligence, equality and care for all.

Our education system mainly studies the stories of white men, we need to hear the stories of black men and women and other races to be able to understand one another, we need diversity in the human story. If we have

diversity in our stories then out of that will come understanding and hopefully passion and equality. This is one way a faulty belief system can change.

To conclude, all that has been said, the fight and battle for human equality is centuries old. One of the world's greatest presidents Abraham Lincoln, he was a pioneer in government to change the faulty belief system that whites are superior and all other races are beneath them. Transformation needs to occur in the minds of everyone in humanity, that we are all equal and united by being a part of the human race. One of Martin Luther King's quotes states: " Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." (Martin Luther King Jr). This is a very personal issue for me, I was born from a white Canadian mother and a black African father, the color of my skin does not determine my greatness. My mother has taught me that my greatness comes from my character, my kindness and how I stand up for others and serve humanity. Dr. King's quote challenges us to use love rather than hate to conquer racism.