

“They Can’t Kill Us All”

A Social Justice Lecture Book Discussion

UMKC Libraries' Safe and Respectful Environment

The UMKC Libraries are dedicated to providing a safe and respectful environment.

Individuals will not be allowed to disrupt the safe and respectful environment.

The library staff decides if a situation is a disruption.

This policy is located on the [UMKC Libraries' website](#).

Some Ground Rules for Communicating Respectfully

The University of Michigan Center for Research on Learning and Teaching offers [some rules](#) for fostering a civil and respectful discussion on difficult topics:

- Listen respectfully, without interruption
- Respect one another's views
- Criticize ideas, not individuals
- Commit to learning, not debating - comment in order to share, not persuade
- Avoid blame, speculation and inflammatory language
- Everyone is entitled to a chance to speak and share if they want to
- Avoid social group generalizations and do not ask individuals to speak for their (perceived) social group

Michael Brown - Ferguson, Missouri

The killing of Michael Brown on August 9, 2014 led to both peaceful and violent protests that brought national media attention to issues of race and policing.

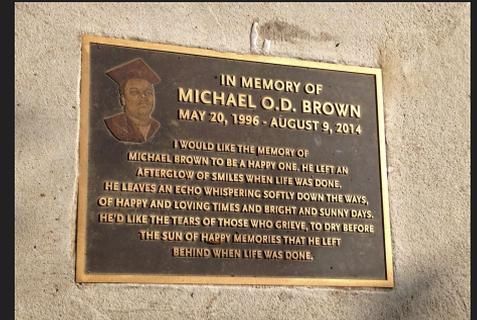
“As protests propelled by tweets and hashtags spread under the banner of Black Lives Matter and with cell phone and body camera video shining new light on the way police interact with minority communities, America was forced to consider that not everyone marching in the streets could be wrong.” - Wesley Lowery



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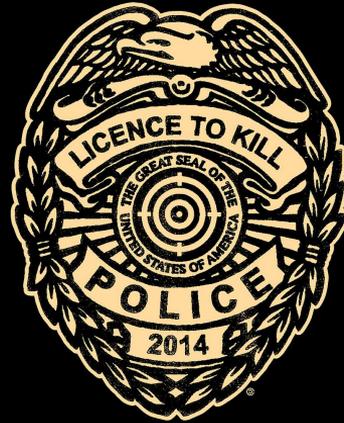


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Tamir Rice - Cleveland, Ohio

On November 22, 2014, Tamir Rice was shot and killed by police while playing with a toy gun. He died on November 23.

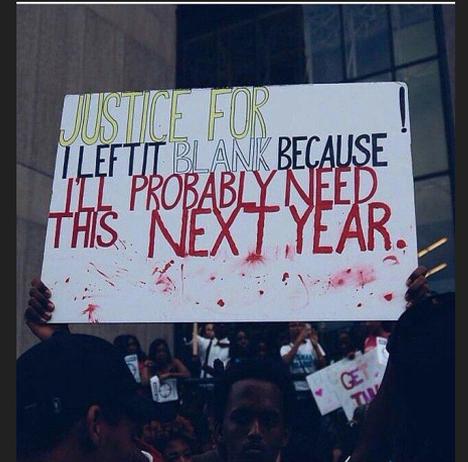
**“Oh my God
- they shot a little boy.”**



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Walter Scott - North Charleston, South Carolina

On April 4, 2015 Walter Scott was fatally shot while resisting arrest. Scott had been stopped for a broken brake light on his car.

A bystander captured video of Scott's shooting and its aftermath, and the conduct of Officer Michael Schlager led to his indictment on murder charges. The 5-week trial ended in a hung jury.

In June 2015, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley signed police body camera legislation into law.



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Public Domain USCG photo of Walter Scott on [Wikimedia Commons](#)

Freddie Gray - Baltimore, Maryland

On April 12, 2015 Freddie Gray was forcibly arrested after a short chase.

Police dragged a screaming Gray into a transport van. The officers made 4 stops prior to reaching the West District police station a half hour later, by which point Gray was losing consciousness. He was in a coma by the time he arrived at a local trauma center, and died on April 19.



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USAF photo by SSgt Kenny Holston at [US DoD Visual Information Awards Program](#)

Emmanuel African American Methodist Episcopal Church - Charleston, South Carolina

On June 17, 2015, Clementa Pinckney, Cynthia Hurd, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Susie Jackson, Myra Thompson, Tywanza Sanders, Ethel Lance, and Daniel Simmons - church members attending a prayer meeting - were killed by a 21-year old white supremacist.



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University of Missouri

On November 3, 2015, in response to the failure of administration to acknowledge and act on racial issues, grade student Jonathan Butler begins a hunger strike seeking the resignation of UM System President Tim Wolfe.

As concern grew for Butler, members of Concerned Student 1950 meet with members of the University of Missouri football team, who announce November 8 that they will not practice or play until issues are addressed.

The UM System President resigned November 9, 2015.



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