

A A B U S E & A U T H O R I T Y

Essay 06 in a Series by Owen Earl



He was a pervert calling
from a payphone in Florida



the assistant manager
confiscated her clothes
and her cellphone.



Either not noticing, or
ignoring the major red flags,
she called her fiancé on the phone



The jury didn't find this
defense all that convincing



security footage
confirms there was not

Get naked.

no.



If he had just walked into the McDonald's unannounced and demanded that Louise do humiliating sexual acts there's no way she would have complied.

STOP



I burst into the office and
demand an end be put to
this situation immediately



I popped into my
local grocery store to
buy some coconut oil.



He had not slipped
on a wet floor



A group of boys who were all friends
and more popular than me surrounded
me in the gym after school



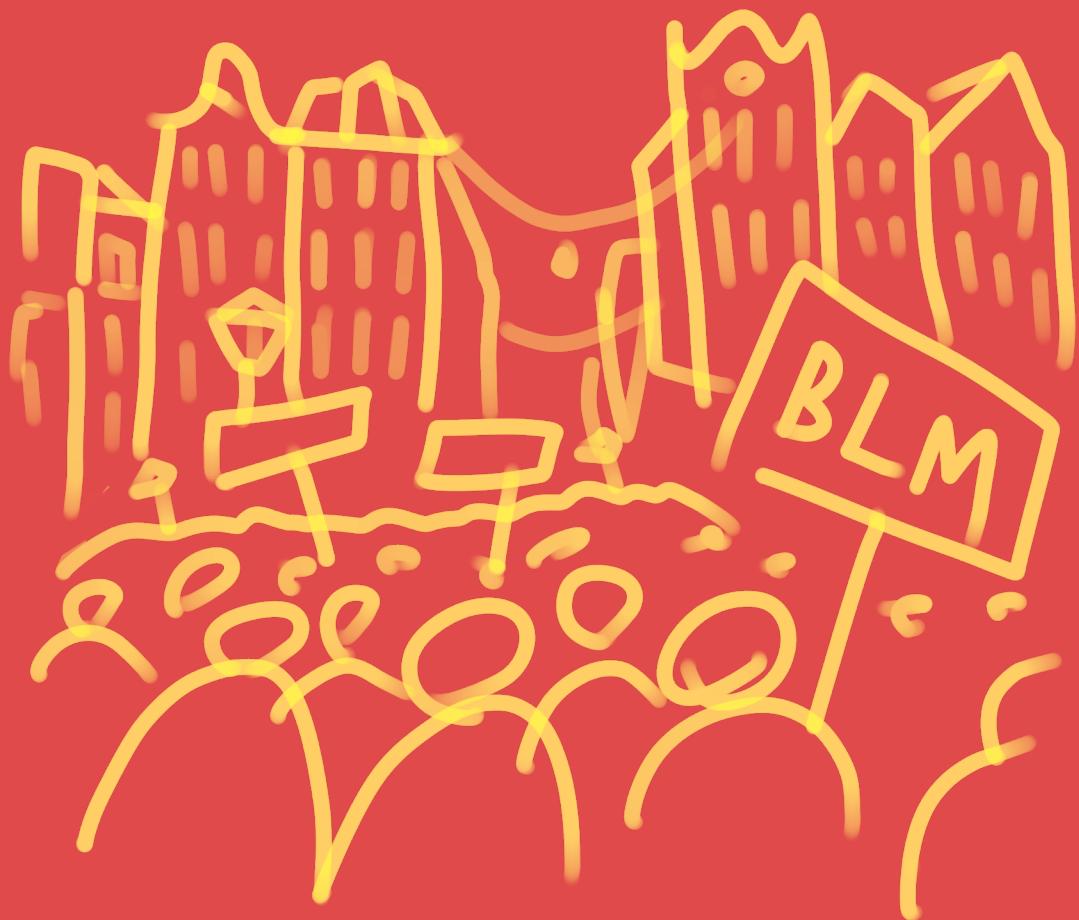
an editor had gone in with big scissors and
snip relegated the assault to the deleted
scenes section of the DVD extras.



the fact that a twelve-year-old boy would have a sword



to me the picture looked
like a woman kissing a snake



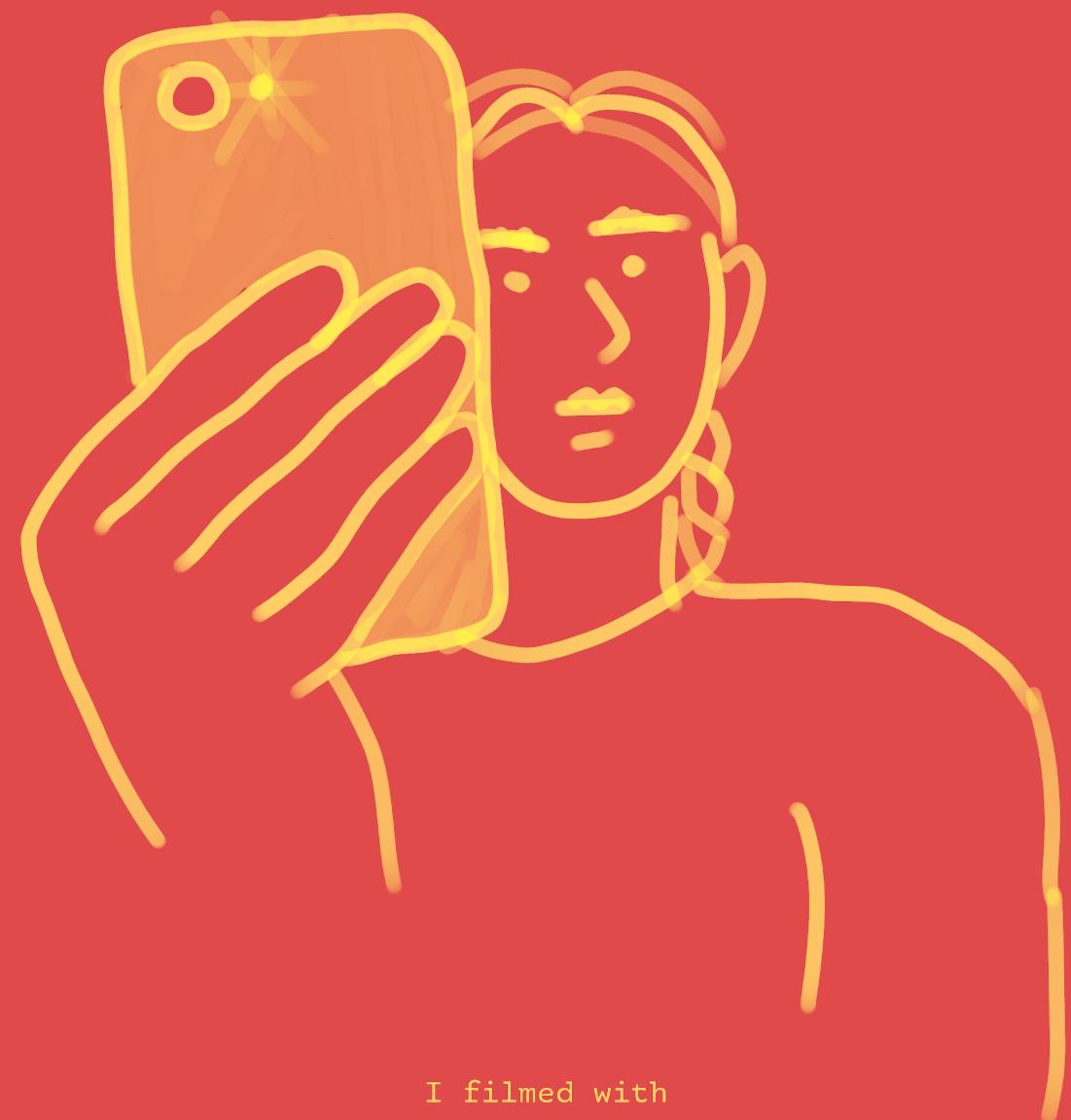
I attended Black Lives Matter
protests in Amsterdam with
thousands of other people



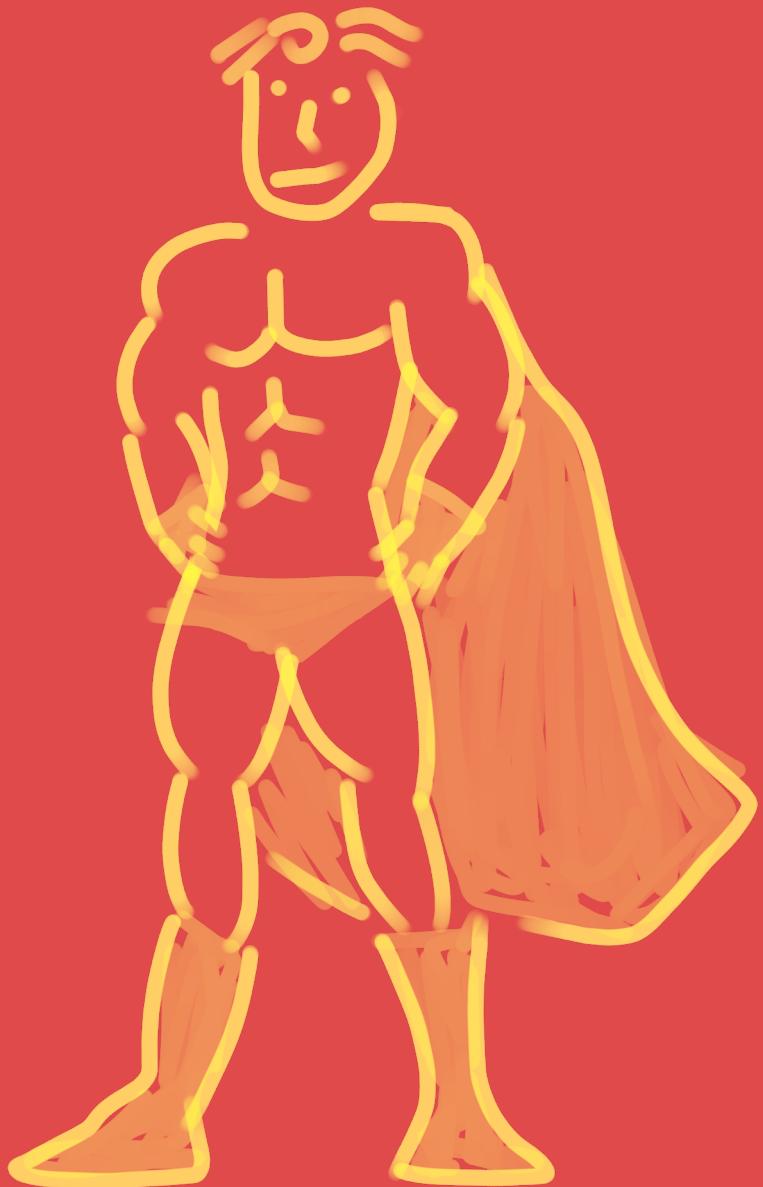
Months earlier an older
man pushed me forward at
that same grocery store



looking at me stupidly and
handing me my receipt



I filmed with
my phone camera

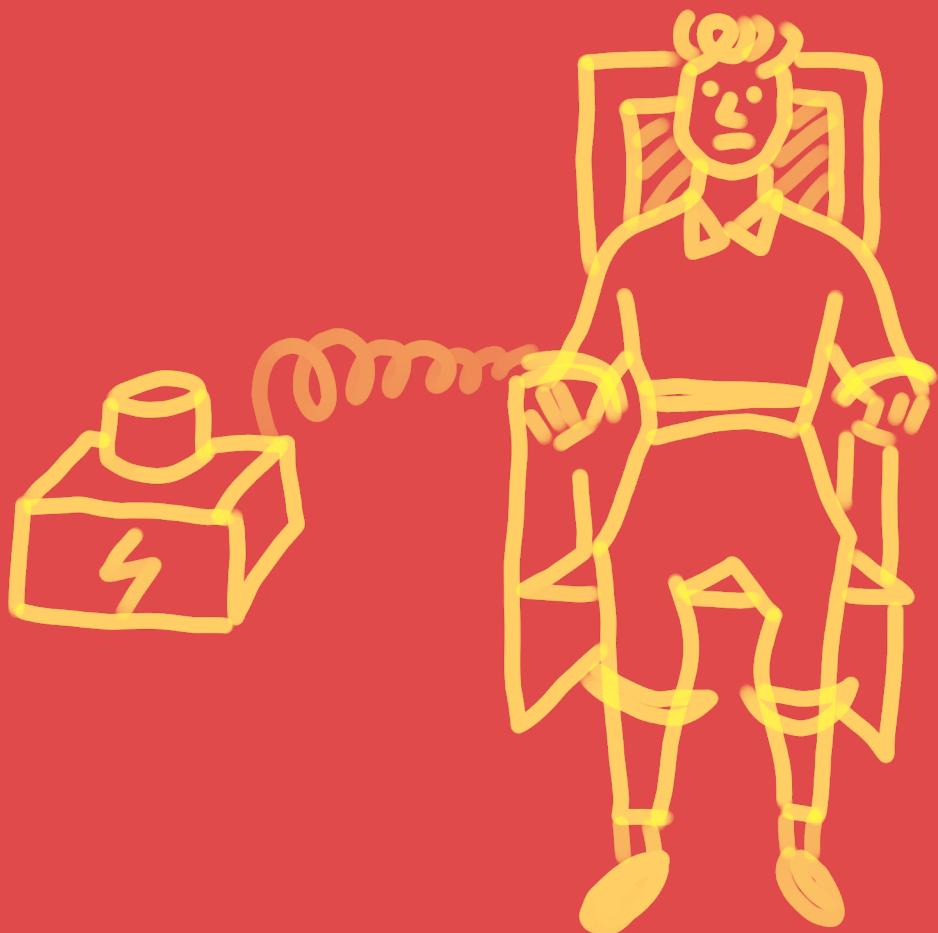


a hero who steps in to
prevent wrong, harm, and
injustice from happening

News COP SITS ON NECK



it looked exactly like
what I'd seen in the news



he asked participants in the study to press a button that would send an electric shock to a guy strapped to a chair



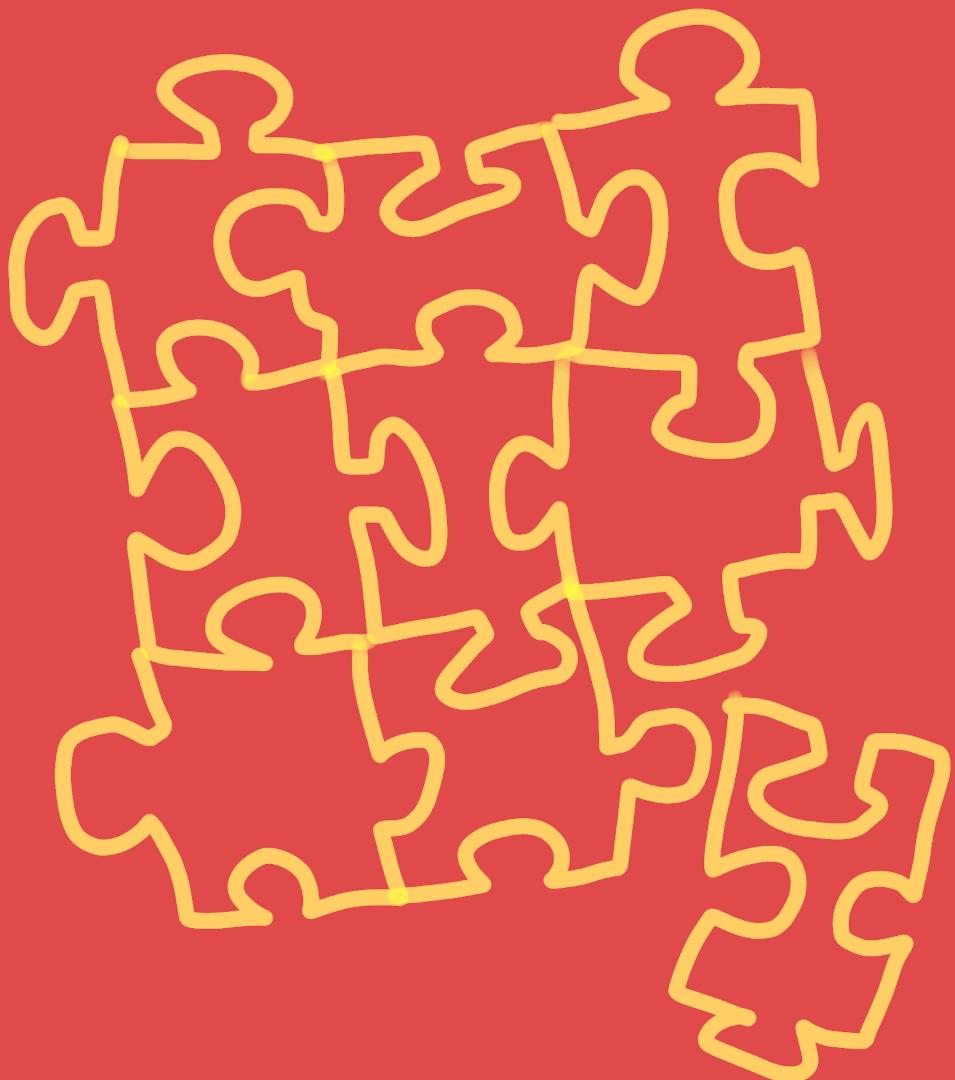
we'd shock ourselves into a
state of unconsciousness if a
person in a lab-coat told us to



I would most likely say
"no problem officer"
and start stripping



if they ask to see my
receipt I show it to them



As humans, we have this
beautiful instinct to
seek out coherence.



EXIT



She wanted to leave, she
could have left, she didn't,
that makes no sense



we're going to have to
embrace sometimes things
not making any sense