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Sample for Win without War

The Tales of Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter founded in 2013, made by three outstanding Black Women, known as Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi. This organization made to respond to the highly controversial murder case that included George Zimmerman & Trayvon Martin. Massive support gained from twitter following #BlackLivesMatter after the case of Trayvon Martin, and Zimmerman. Black Lives Matter built to be an ideological and political construct to intervene in the negative systematic agendas made to belittle Black lives. Black Lives Matter can also be considered a liberation group for Black People, giving Black people the freedom and space to reach their goals while having to deal with the oppressive system set in place to hinder their growth.

The battle for equality is still ongoing; the list of names of Black People who lost their lives to injustice is still growing to this day. In 2014, after innocent civilian Mike Brown lost his life to the hands of police brutality in Ferguson, Missouri, Black Lives Matter traveled to St.Louis to contribute their support for the case of injustice making headlines at the time. Black Lives Matter was able to round up 600 attendants to assist the rallies happening in Ferguson. Members called it the Black Lives Matter Ride.BLM members continued to raise rallies in their hometowns, and the BLM community ultimately set their hearts on bringing change to the country.

BLM continued to develop within 18 different cities; members were even more ready to take action to end the state to state violence against Black people after giving immense support to the rallies that happened in Ferguson, Missouri. The movement grew even more following the deaths of Sandra Bland, Tamir Rice, Walter Scott, and others that fell to violations of power. However, even though BLM has gained a great deal of support amongst this timeline, it has gained significant criticism.

Onlookers have described BLM as "anti-police" and "anti-white". These responses to the movement started to form after seeing the looting of stores and unpeaceful approaches made by people who claim it was for BLM. This type of criticism came from Right Wing supporters, but there are also negative comments from activists who attended movements back in the 1960s. The 1960 Activists support BLM's idea, admiring the courage the young activists have for this cause; however, they profoundly disagree with their approach to rallies. Some say that comparing these modern-day rallies to the ones with Martin Luther King, the peaceful attitude is lost, and BLM intends to reject using approaches like that. In the 1960s, protests against segregation and police brutality were accomplished with honor, and dignity whereas now looters and vandals join BLM cloaked as protestors but have a completely different agenda from BLM.

BLM reached another turning point following the death of George Floyd, George Floyd died by having an officer placing his knee on his neck, cutting off his way to breath. This act took place in Minneapolis, MN; After video footage released to the public through multiple social media outlets such as Twitter and Instagram, protestors took to the streets and began massive rallies all around Minneapolis. The protests took place in Minneapolis were far from peaceful, and looters and vandals found another opportunity to cause havoc in BLM's name. Nevertheless, BLM saw rallies take place all over in every state in America. Protestors screaming for justice for the individuals who lost their lives, and social media assisted in giving BLM a bigger platform to protest. Big Name companies such as Ben & Jerry and Nike also gave their support for BLM. Companies also made the date June 19th a paid holiday in response to the recent wave of support that BLM has gained.

In 2020, BLM is growing and growing, and members are doing everything to spread the phrase Black Lives Matter, members painted in front of Trump Towers "Black Lives Matter" to raise awareness. During BLM rallies, members began to remove statues of people who supported white supremacy, such as massive slave owners, Confederate generals, and even Christopher Columbus. Some states have responded well to the forceful removal of these statues with replacement statues of freedom fighters for BLM, for example, removing the statue of Edward Colston replaced with BLM protestor Jen Reid. Still, the battle against the systematic injustice towards Black people is getting fiercer, and some might say even more dangerous. However, BLM will not back down until proper reparations are given.