

Name:

Institution:

Course:

Date:

### **Assignment Proposal- Defunding the Police**

#### **Proposed Critical Inquiry Question**

Recently, after the death of George Floyd and other black people killed by the police, the slogan “defund the police” has gained momentum from the “Black Lives Matter” who are protesting for justice (Jean 2). The widespread reconvening public outcry demands that the police should be defunded and the money redirected or transferred to other crucial agencies within the local municipalities (Miah 4). The critical inquiry question is what does defund the police mean, where has it been done, and how effective is it. First, defunding the police does not mean to get rid of the police but rather reducing police budgets and using that money to financial crucial and oft-neglected areas like education, unemployment, homelessness, public health and youth service.

#### **Why Interested in the Topic?**

Defunding the police is a good inquiry question since it leads to more good questions and rethinking the effectiveness of the police force especially in black neighborhoods. The proponents of defunding the police argues that, police reforms, body cameras and training does not prevent violence and police brutality to minority races. The proposal is to redirect the funds to other good course since the amount of money the US spends on policing is staggering with little impacts. The police spends more than \$115 billion which is bigger and dwarves those for education, housing and other crucial services (Jean 5). However, the effectiveness of defunding the police is questionable since it could lead to an increase in crime since police departments will lack finance for training, hiring and other programs that

ensure safety of the people. On the other hand, defunding the police has been applied by European countries which have provided resources and employment to the people which in turn reduces crime on its own. In America, the huge budget on police department is not yielding results since police departments across the country consistently have low rates of solving crimes especially if the victim is black.

### **Lessons from the Research**

From the research, I hope to learn the meaning of defunding the police and its effectiveness in reducing police brutality and violence among African Americans and other minority races. Defund the police could work since it has worked in European nations such as Sweden, England and Scotland and have boosted other key services in the government such as employment, proper housing, education and other social amenities. I hope to learn more from the research both the pros and cons of the Black Lives Matter's slogan defund the police in resolving police brutality and violence. Defunding the police is a bold step that need to be taken in order to protect lives and keep everyone safe against any form of discrimination.

### **Criteria of a good inquiry Question**

Based on the readings and research, the inquiry question on what defunding the police means, where has it been done and its effectiveness is a good inquiry question since it begs more question and forces people to think objectively. The recently protests in the United States led by the Black Lives Matter to demand justice for the killing of George Floyd and other minority people make the topic a social problem that require proper evaluation. Nations such as Sweden and Scotland have defunded the police and boosted important services such as education and employment. The inquiry question makes me think about something in a way I never considered before and invites both deep thinking and deep feelings on police brutality and violence.

## Works Cited

Jean, Tyra. "Black Lives Matter: Police Brutality in the Era of COVID-19." (2020).

Miah, Malik. "United States: Black lives matter movement demands defund, dismantle, reimagine police." *Green Left Weekly* 1268 (2020): 12.