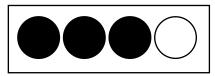
New Jersey is no exception: Racism and police violence happen here

1) NJ police target Black people and Black communities



Only 1 in 7 New Jerseyans are Black.

Use of force



But statewide, police are 3x more likely to use force against a Black person than a white person.

2) It's not just a few bad apples

New Jersey fails to monitor trends to flag officers who use excessive amounts of force. Here's how many officers would have been flagged under NYPD standards:

Newark	374 flagged		out of 1,088		34%
Jersey City	249		out of 832		30%
Atlantic City	216	0	ut of 320		67.5%
New Brunswick	73	o	ut of 142		51%
Asbury Park	84	out of	86		98%

At these rates, **all police officers are complicit** in a statewide problem of excessive use of force, towhich Black people are disproportionately subject.

3) The answer is abolish and rebudget

This is why modern-day abolitionists support disbanding police departments and replacing them with new public services that provide real public safety and public health:

Invest in public education, healthcare, and housing to target the root of crime: poverty Unarmed first responders for mental health crisis calls Special support services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault Get police out of public schools— get counselors, books, nurses, and stipends for students Establish a new agency to handle violent crime

So how can I help?

Feelings of guilt, anger, sadness, or denial are common responses to understanding one's own complicity in something bad. How can you transform these feelings into a positive action that fights the problem at hand? The answer is to own your feelings and do something about it. Use your voice, your financial resources, and your capacity to educate others.

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