

# **Social Justice Watch 0911**

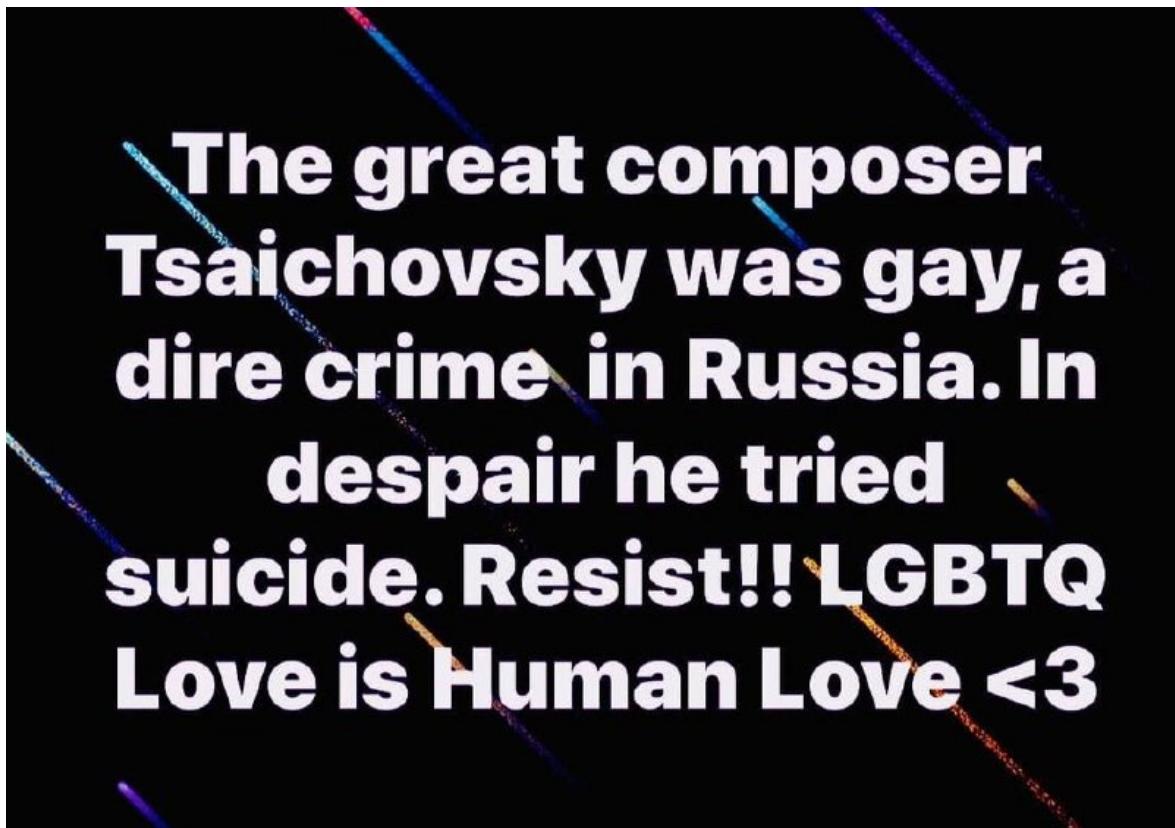
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S O Y O U W A N T T O T A L K A B O U T

# mental illness & police



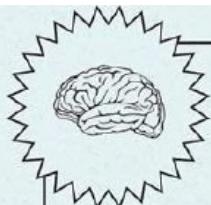
people with *untreated*  
mental illness are

**16X**

*more likely* to be killed  
during an encounter  
with the police.

@SOYOUWANTTOTALKABOUT

SOURCE: TREATMENTADOCACYCENTER.ORG

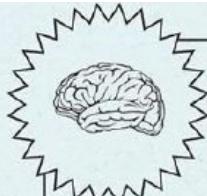


## *Police officers are not trained to be social workers or crisis counselors.*

A survey conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum found that officers received an average of **8 hours total** dedicated to "Crisis Intervention Training".

Meanwhile, new recruits spend roughly **60 hours** learning how to use guns.

Police are trained to respond to all situations with **force first**; meaning their primary go-to is to force compliance. Someone in the midst of a crisis may not have the awareness or ability to comply leading to unnecessary and deadly consequences. Anywhere from **50-75%** of people killed every year in the United States have a mental illness.

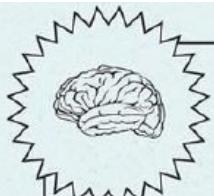


## Daniel Prude

In March, Daniel Prude was exhibiting signs of a mental health crisis. His brother called an ambulance in the hopes that Mr. Prude would be hospitalized, but he was sent back home after three hours without a diagnosis. Later, when Daniel ran out of the house barely clothed into the Rochester night, his brother, Joe Prude, again called on the authorities for help, but this time it was to the police.

Officers arrived and handcuffed Daniel without incident as he sat in the street barely clothed in freezing temperatures. Daniel spit on the street, prompting officers to put a mesh hood over his head. When officers placed the "spit sock" on him, Daniel became agitated and tried to stand up. Officers immediately pinned him to the ground while he pleaded with them that he couldn't breathe. They mocked him as he died.

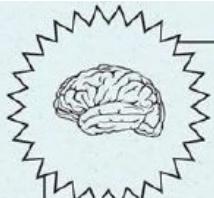
*"I placed a phone call for my brother to get help, not to get lynched." - Joe Prude*



# In America, mental illness is treated as a *crime*.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, **40%** of adults who experience serious mental illnesses will come into contact with the criminal justice system at some point in their lives.

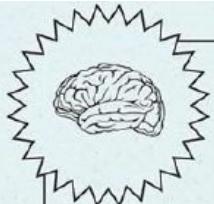
The *vast majority* of these individuals are charged with minor misdemeanor and low level felony offenses that are a *direct result* of their psychiatric illnesses.



# In America, mental illness is treated as a *crime*.

Jails and prisons in the U.S. currently hold more people with serious mental illnesses - **365,000** individuals - than hospitals. They remain in jail **4 - 8 times** longer than people without mental illnesses charged with the exact same crime, cost **7X** more than other inmates in jail, are less likely to make bail and *more likely* to gain new charges while incarcerated.

After leaving jail, many no longer have access to needed healthcare and benefits. A criminal record often makes it difficult for individuals to get a job or obtain housing. Many individuals - especially without access to mental health services and support - wind up homeless, in emergency rooms and often re-arrested. At least **83%** of jail inmates with a mental illness **did not** have access to needed treatment.



# We must create alternatives for mental health crises that do not involve law enforcement.

*For example:* mobile crisis response units.

One of the most promising alternatives to policing mental health crises is a program called *Cahoots*, a collaboration between local police and a community service called the White Bird Clinic that operates in both Eugene and Springfield, Oregon.

In these cities, police officers aren't dispatched to handle every single 911 call. Instead, about 20% of calls - often those involving the homeless, addicted, intoxicated, or mentally ill - are routed to a separate team of specialists extensively trained in mental health counseling, social work, and crisis deescalation. **The Cahoots model can easily be scaled to other locations across the country.**



# *Questions to ask yourself before calling the police:*

*If you need to respond to the situation:*

Can I handle this on my own? Is this something I could try to talk-out with the person?

*If you need back up:*

Is there a friend, neighbor, or someone else whom I could call to help me before I call the police?

*If you need professional help:*

Can we use mediation to talk through what's happening or is there an emergency response hotline I could call?

If I call the police do I understand how involving the police could impact me and the other person?

If police are present will they make the situation better or worse?



Bill

@Billablog

If you're a man upset at being lumped in with rapists, attackers and general arseholes just because of your gender, maybe take it up with the men who give us a bad name instead of women who have to be on guard 24/7 because of them.

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Rape  
is a  
MEN'S  
issue

@valeriyaurz



**90%**  
of sexually assaulted  
**women**  
were assaulted by a  
**man**

@valeriyallrs

**93%**  
**of assaulted**  
**men and boys**  
**are also assaulted by**  
**men**

@valeriyawrs



men perpetrarte  
**78% of all**  
sexual assaults

@valeriyaurs

<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/posts/193487055479814>

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just to be clear, you can be trans and still wear clothing traditionally associated with your birth-assigned gender. you can be a boy and wear a dress. you can be a girl and don "boyish" clothes. clothing ≠ gender. if a cis guy wears makeup and a skirt, it doesn't make him any less a man. the same goes for trans people. it's transphobic to hold transgender people to a higher standard for their gender expression than cis people. trans women don't owe you hyper-femininity. trans men don't owe you extreme masculinity. to say otherwise is bigoted and gross. just wear what makes you happy and leave people alone.



groovyfunnightmare [Follow](#)

If you hold trans men/women to different masculinity/femininity standards than you do their cis counterparts, you aren't really seeing them as their gender.

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On a cigarette break outside their small business in Ozaukee County, Tina Arthur and Marcella Frank told me they plan to vote for Trump again because they are deeply alarmed by “the cabal.” They’ve heard “numerous reports” that the COVID-19 tents set up in New York and California were actually for children who had been rescued from underground sex-trafficking tunnels.

Arthur and Frank explained they’re not followers of QAnon. Frank says she spends most of her free time researching child sex trafficking, while Arthur adds that she often finds this information on the Russian-owned search engine Yandex. Frank’s eyes fill with tears as she describes what she’s found: children who are being raped and tortured so that “the cabal” can “extract their blood and drink it.” She says Trump has seized the blood on the black market as part of his fight against the cabal. “I think if Biden wins, the world is over, basically,” adds Arthur. “I would honestly try to leave the country. And if that wasn’t an option, I would probably take my children and sit in the garage and turn my car on and it would be over.”

But to voters like Kelly Ferro, the mass delusion seems more like a mass awakening. Trump “is revealing these things,” she says serenely, gesturing with her turquoise-tipped fingernails. Americans’ “eyes are being opened to the darkness that was once hidden.”

After yoga in the morning, Ferro says, she often spends hours watching videos, immersing herself in a world she believes is bringing her ever closer to the truth. “You can’t stop, because it’s so addicting to have this knowledge of what kind of world we’re living in,” she says. “We’re living in an alternate reality.”

As a sociological phenomenon the diffusion of these beliefs is fascinating … a moral panic, perhaps bound up with the rapidly shifting landscape around sex and gender, radically supercharged by FB and YouTube. From a civic perspective, of course, it’s absolutely frightening. [link source](#)

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## WHY IT'S WRONG

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### Why didn't she report it TO SAY: then?

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- **It is the survivor's choice if and when to report, because being comfortable with talking about the abuse can take a long time.**
- **Many survivors don't report because the ones that do are often not believed, victim-blamed, or ignored by officials and society.**
- **It is used to shift blame to the victim, instead of the abuser & broken systems.**
- **It is just an excuse we use so we don't have to address the assault.**

## WHY IT'S WRONG

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### What you can do instead:

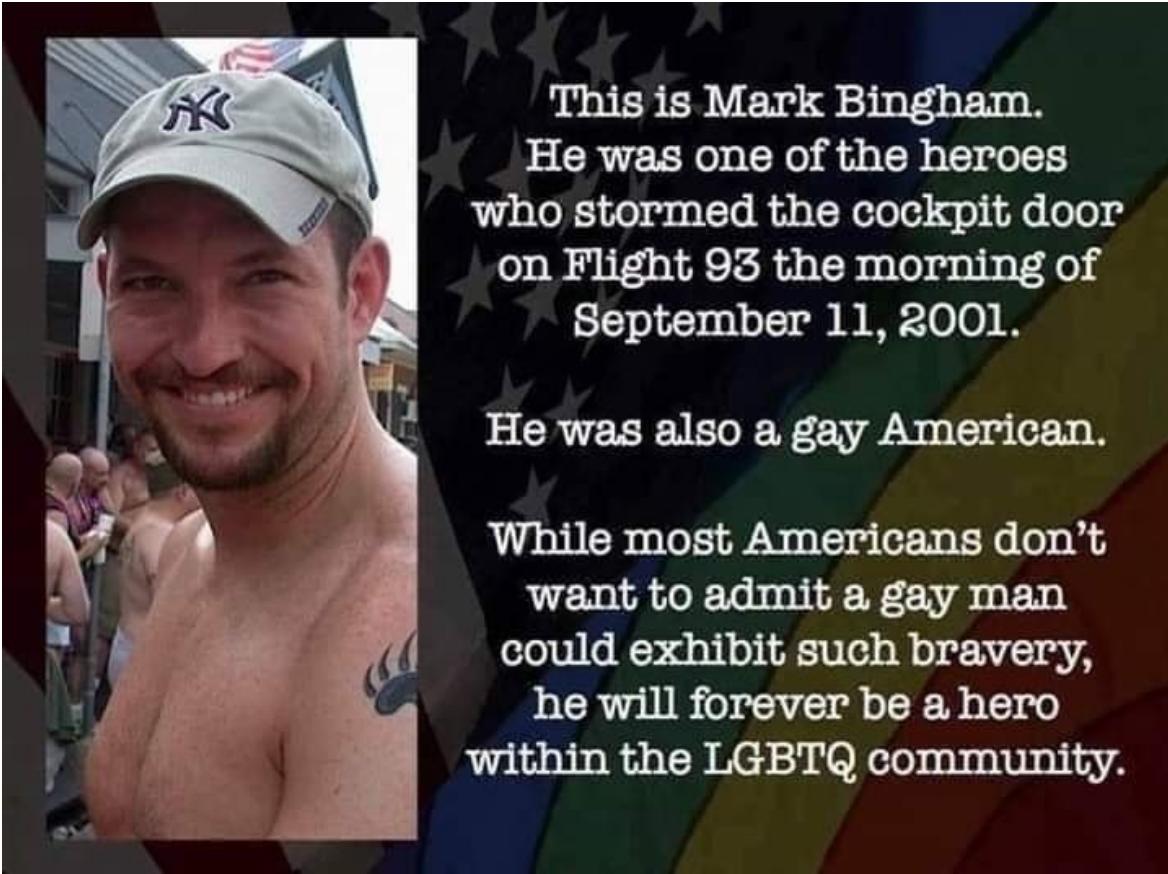
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-  **Realise that it is our institutions' and society's fault that survivors don't report their abuse.**
-  **Don't compare a survivor's experience with another's to 'make them feel better.'**
-  **Believe survivors when they come forward , and don't ask them questions like 'Are you sure it happened like that?'**
-  **Understand that assault is just as bad, even after several years.**

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<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/posts/193627135465806>

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This is Mark Bingham.  
He was one of the heroes  
who stormed the cockpit door  
on Flight 93 the morning of  
September 11, 2001.

He was also a gay American.

While most Americans don't  
want to admit a gay man  
could exhibit such bravery,  
he will forever be a hero  
within the LGBTQ community.

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