

Social Justice Watch 0829

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[The Progressive New Face of ‘Boys Will Be Boys’](#)

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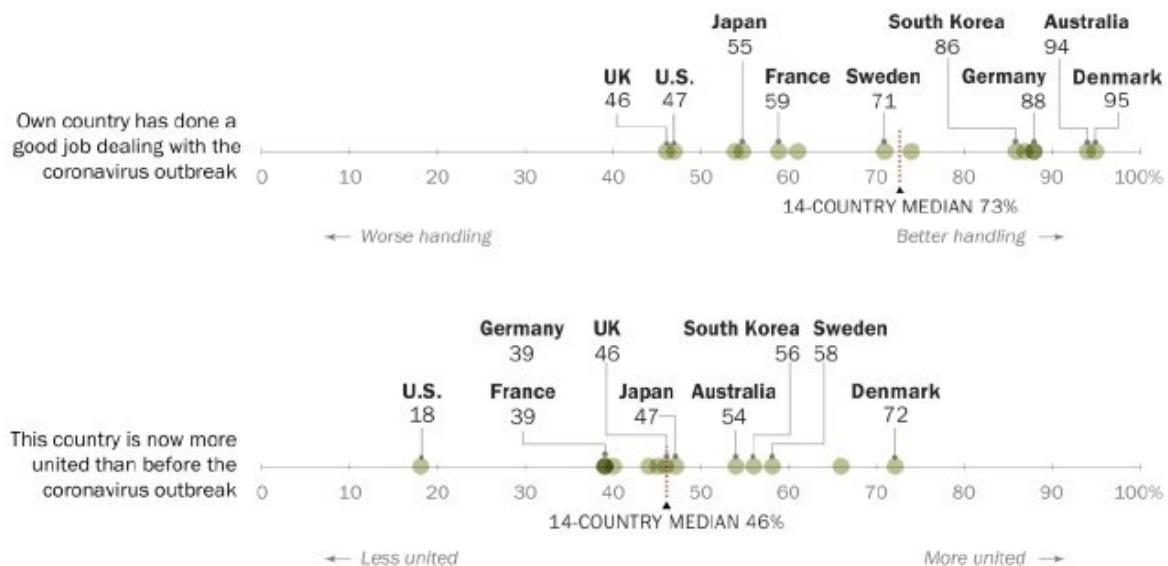
图集精选

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While many say their country's coronavirus response has been good, publics are divided over COVID-19's impact on national unity

% who say ...



Note: In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

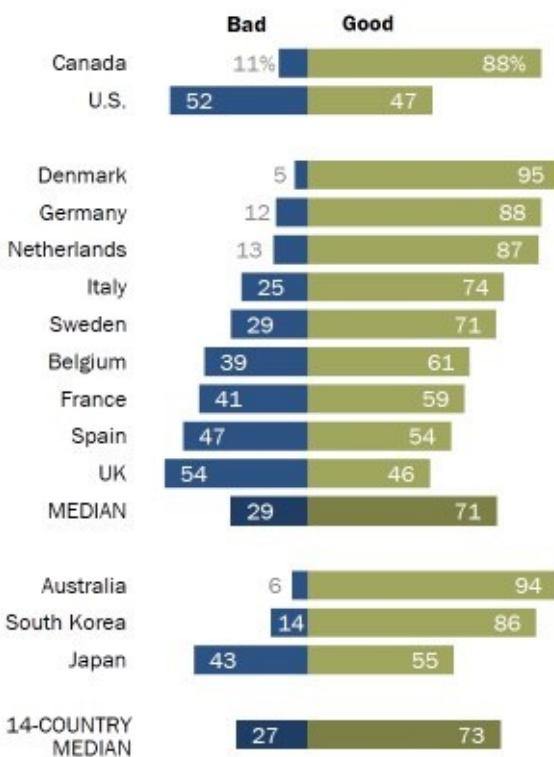
Source: Spring 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3 & Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

More think their country has handled COVID-19 well, with the exceptions of the U.S. and UK

% who say their own country has done a ___ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

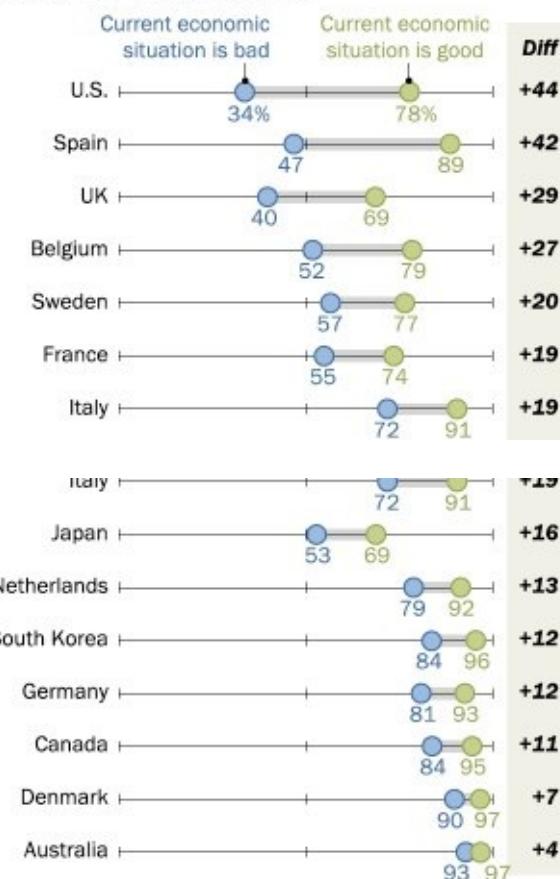
Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Economic confidence goes hand in hand with assessing national government's COVID-19 response

% who say their own country has done a **good job** dealing with the coronavirus outbreak, among those who say the ___ in their country



Note: All differences shown are statistically significant. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Coronavirus."

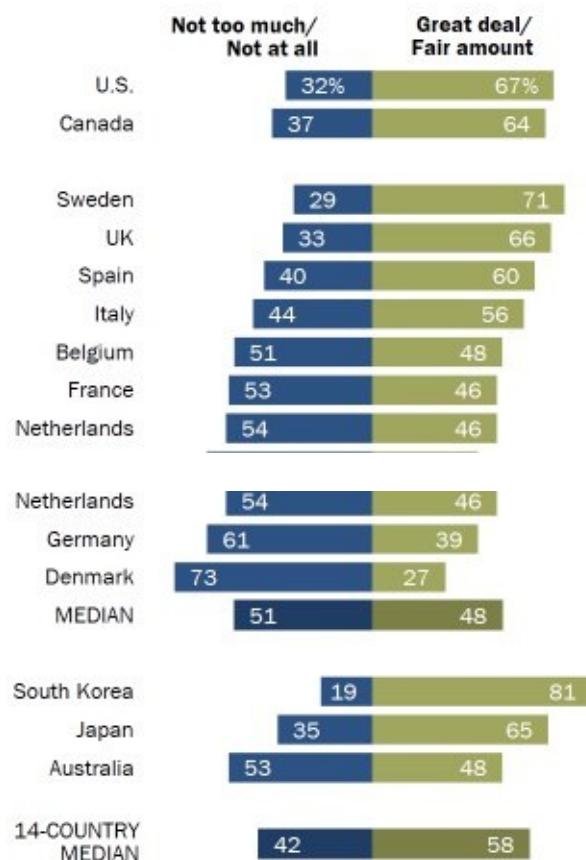
Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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Around the world, coronavirus has changed everyday life

% who say their life has changed ___ as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Coronavirus."

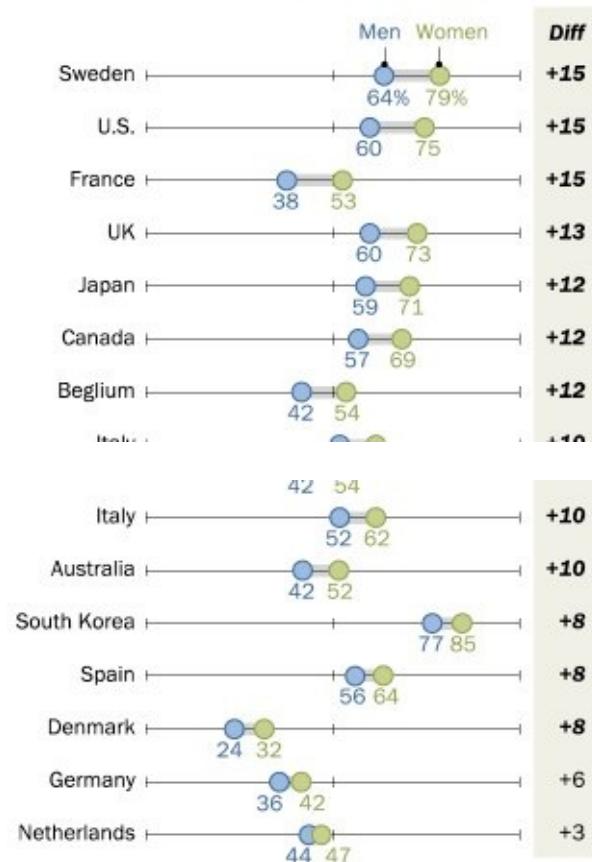
Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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Women more likely than men to say their lives have changed because of COVID-19

% of ___ who say their life has changed a great deal/fair amount as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Statistically significant differences in bold. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

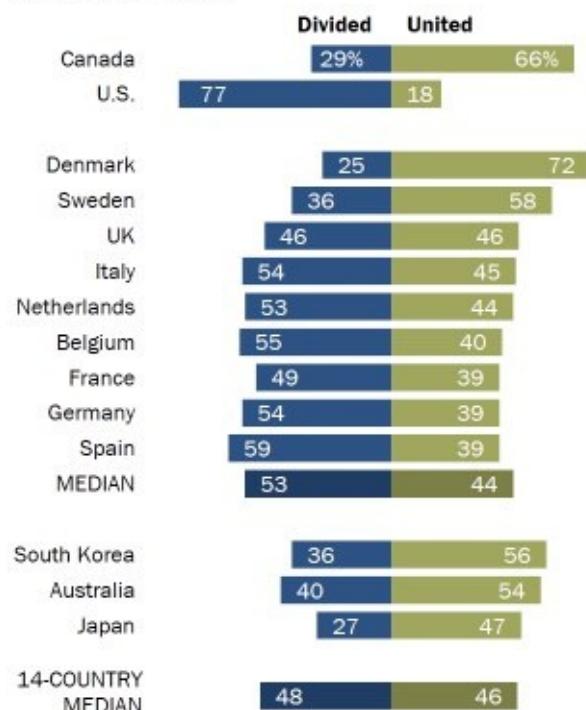
Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

*Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Americans stand out in belief that their country is more divided now than before coronavirus outbreak

% who say their country is now more ___ than before the coronavirus outbreak



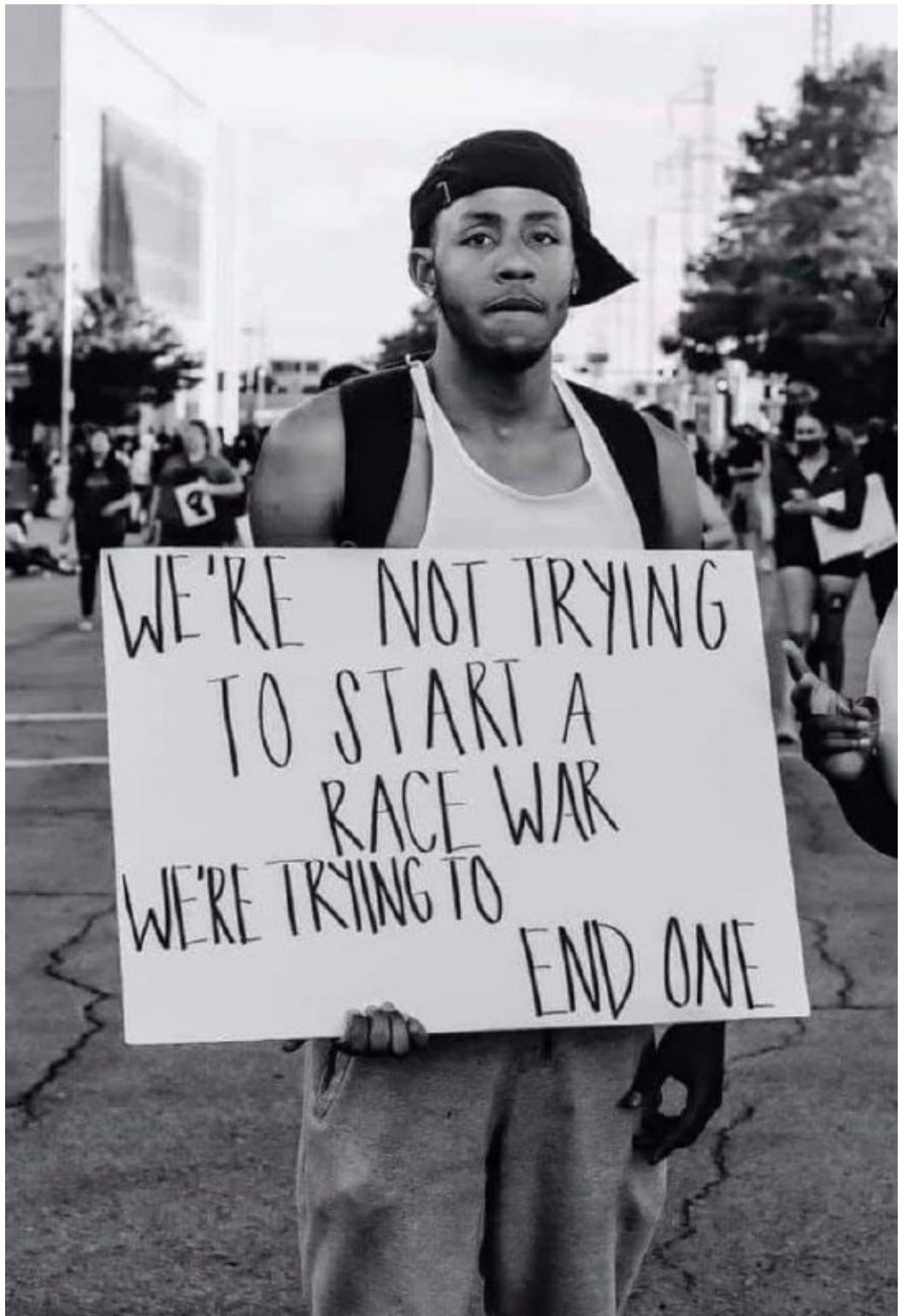
Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

COVID-19 Response Approved by Most in 14 Nations with Advanced Economies | Pew Research Center [source](#)



SOME DISABILITIES LOOK LIKE THIS



SOME LOOK LIKE THIS





Andrew Lawrence
@ndrew_lawrence



Wow, weird how the same people who said they wanted "peaceful protests" are now Very Upset at NBA players for protesting in literally the most peaceful way possible

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telegra.ph/The-Progressive-New-Face-of-Boys-Will-Be-Boys-08-27-2

Telegraph

The Progressive New Face of ‘Boys Will Be Boys’

Nineteen-year-old Aaron Coleman is a dishwasher and soon, possibly, a left-wing state legislator. He just won an underdog primary campaign in Kansas, campaigning on issues like Medicare for All and the Green New Deal, and unseated a seven-term, anti-abortion...

The Federal Elections Commission is supposed to monitor campaign spending, but thanks to the Senate they’re kinda sitting 2020 out. [source](#)

Andrew Yang:

I just spoke to Jacob Blake Sr.

His son is conscious.

His first question after he woke up was "Daddy, why did they shoot me so many times?"

He wept to his father.

He has restraints on even though he can't move his legs. [source](#)

Why you should care about the Hatch Act [source](#)

telegra.ph/This-Is-Silicon-Valley-08-27

Telegraph

This Is Silicon Valley

I am privileged to live in Silicon Valley. I was born here, I grew up here, and now I work here as a product manager at Google. The weather is lovely, the crime rate is low, and the schools are well funded. The adults have cushy jobs and the kids have endless...

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/stories-46199347>

BBC News

How you can stop the spread of fake news

Five top tips from professional fact checker Maarten Schenk

<https://mappingpoliceviolence.org/>

Mapping Police Violence

America's most comprehensive database of killings by police. Learn the facts about police brutality and how to address it.

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The Progressive New Face of ‘Boys Will Be Boys’

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Aaron Coleman for Kansas/Facebook

Nineteen-year-old Aaron Coleman is a dishwasher and soon, possibly, a left-wing state legislator. He just won an underdog primary campaign in Kansas, campaigning on issues like Medicare for All and the Green New Deal, and unseated a seven-term, anti-abortion incumbent in a heavily blue district. Up to this point, his story seems to mirror those of young leftists who took on Establishment candidates and won. But his victory isn't exactly a cause for

progressive celebration: When Coleman was 12, he tried to ruin a girl's life. "He got one of my nudes and blackmailed me with it and told me if I didn't send him more he would (send) it to all of my friends and family," his victim told the *Kansas City Star* several days after the primary results began to come in. "And when I didn't send him more, he sent it to everyone I knew." Two more women say he harassed them brutally while they were teenagers. One attempted suicide.

And Coleman hasn't exactly been the portrait of penitence. "I've moved on," he recently told a relative of the woman who tried to take her own life. When his past behavior first made the news two weeks ago, he issued a blanket apology, telling the *Star*, "I made serious mistakes in middle school and I deeply regret and apologize for them." This week, he said he would drop out of the race, only to take it back days later, in a lengthy, defensive statement in which he decried the press for "putting what I did in *middle school*" — outraged emphasis his own — "under that kind of national microscope." It remains unclear whether Coleman has offered a direct or meaningful apology to the women he hurt. From a fawning profile in the Intercept, we learn that he has "reached out to his victims ... to make amends." What does "reaching out" mean in this context? The Intercept piece doesn't specify, but it does note that none of his victims have responded to him. An accompanying interview doesn't offer any clarity. Coleman says all three women have him blocked on social media. He notes that his cell-phone number is public, and that they could call him if they wanted.

The initial outrage over Coleman's behavior set off a debate. To some, his critics were overly harsh, evidence that we live in a culture where no one can ever escape their youthful mistakes. Glenn Greenwald, who both published the Intercept piece and interviewed Coleman, wrote that his story "raises profound and important questions whether adults should be judged by the actions they undertook when they were a child, particularly when they have apologized and expressed remorse." This argument found traction on Twitter, where a handful of liberals and leftists expressed disbelief that someone so progressive should be "canceled" forever for something he did when he was just a kid. The writer Thomas Chatterton Williams called the backlash "horrific and intolerant." The Intercept's Ryan Grim tweeted, incredulously, "Wait, he did this stuff when he was 12? And we're just done with him forever?"

Only Coleman didn't just do "this stuff" — calculated, misogynistic harassment — when he was 12 and 14 years old. After he found his online defenders, the full extent of his violent contempt for women grew clearer. In the past few days,

new victims have come forward with claims of their own: Coleman's recent ex-girlfriend, Taylor Passow, told Grim that Coleman choked and slapped her last year. In a more thoroughly reported piece for Medium, Jessica Valenti revealed that Coleman threatened to kill Passow if she ever got pregnant and told her that he hoped she got abducted and raped. Another woman, a young pro-choice activist, told Valenti that Coleman badgered her repeatedly over Twitter after she told him to stop campaigning on her abortion story without her permission.

But even before these stories came out, his earliest victims said that Coleman didn't belong in the state House. "I just don't think he needs to be in a powerful position, considering what he's done to girls," one told the New York Times last week. In interviews with the *Star*, they expressed the same sentiment: We don't trust him with power. He abused it when he had it last.

So why did anyone look at Coleman and immediately conclude the world owes him a second chance? To some, the saga functioned as a case study in restorative justice, an alternative to the court system that emphasizes healing over punishment, bringing victims and perpetrators to seek restitution. The story hit at just the right moment. The left is winning elections again; meanwhile, protests over police brutality are pushing prison abolition into the mainstream. Growing out of all this desperation is a conviction: We must remake the world into something more humane. This means, at the same time, that people are trying on a progressive ideology for the first time. That political evolution is uncomfortable, especially for young white men like Coleman, who must unlearn racial and gender supremacy. But Coleman's defenders oversimplified the facts of his case, and exposed a blind spot the width of an ocean: They preemptively forgave someone who hadn't demonstrated any meaningful effort to take responsibility for his actions. This isn't what restorative justice looks like. Instead, it more closely resembles a familiar and worn-out argument defending any promising man accused of misconduct: *Why should we ruin his life over this?*

Coleman had years to make amends, but admits he only tried doing so after his misconduct became public. A mere week ago, he attacked critics for caring about "the opera show" while he focused on "working-class Kansans." And when he (temporarily) decided to withdraw, he complained, in a since-deleted tweet, that feminism was threatened by "Donatists," a reference to a medieval heresy which held that clergy must be totally pure. Cancel culture, in other words. In the statement he released to announce his intention to keep running for

office, he said he had an obligation to lead by example. “I will change the material conditions in my district, my opponent will not.”

But misogyny is a material problem, and it does matter to the working class. Sexual harassment and misconduct are two leading motivations for women to organize at work. Activists with the Fight for \$15 and a Union have demanded gender justice alongside the right to organize and a living wage. They do so because they know, intimately, that misogyny is the bedrock upon which so many injustices are based. Why should any woman believe that Coleman understands this, or even cares enough to do something about it? He says he’s pro-choice now — though he wasn’t two years ago, when he ran for governor — and that, he and his defenders say, is a good enough reason to give him a chance. After all, do women really want an anti-abortion Democrat to keep that seat?

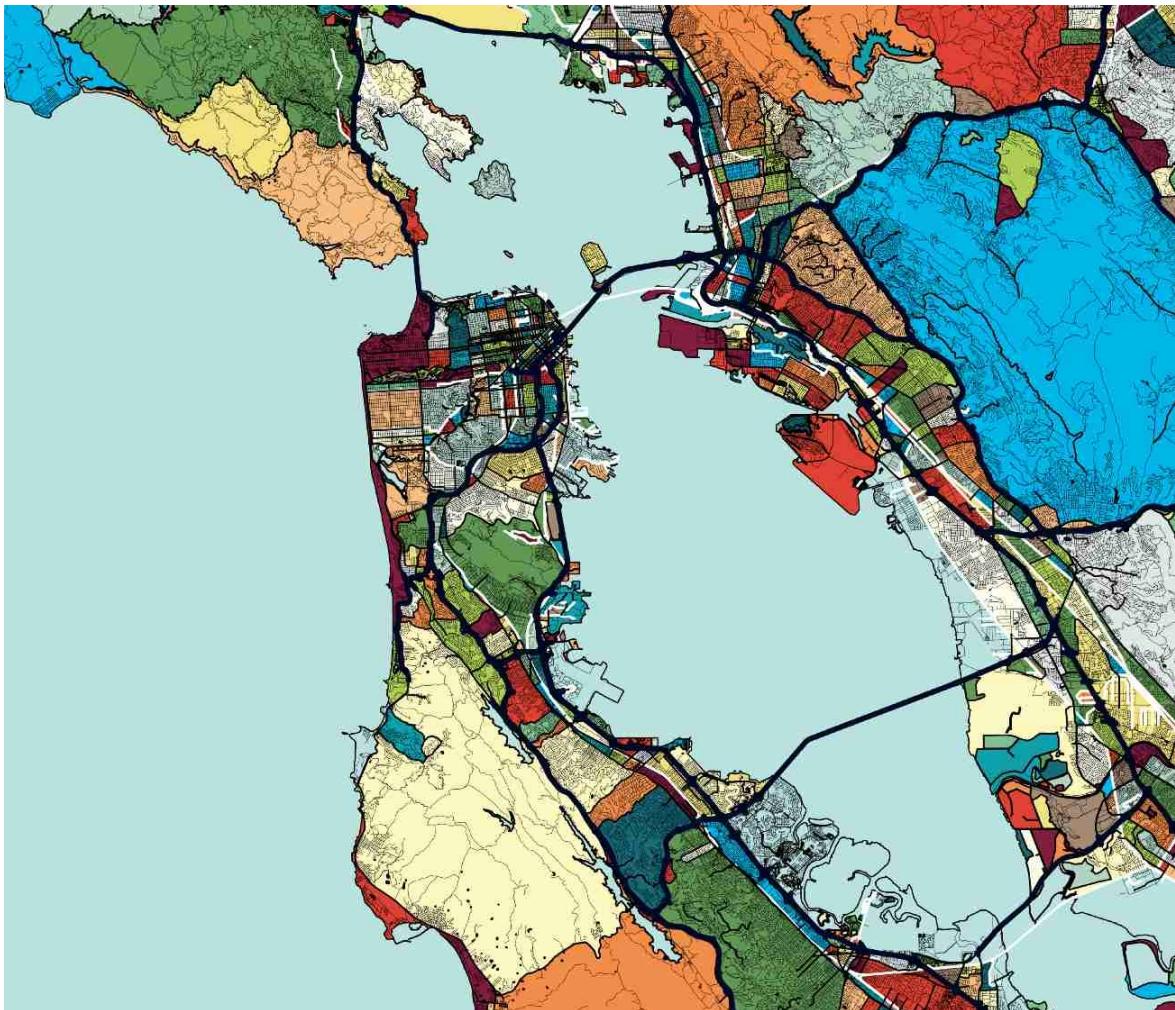
People can change and yes, the left should embrace restorative justice. But restoration is a process. It can take years, and it produces evidence. Coleman never provided anything more substantial than words. If he withdrew — this time for good — and began the slow, difficult work required to bring healing to his victims, maybe he’ll become the person his apologists wanted him to be. But right now, that day looks far off. He’s promised “new solutions” to “old problems,” but there’s nothing new here: *Pick this bad man, or this other bad man will take away your right to abortion.* This isn’t material change, it’s the same old bullshit.

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This Is Silicon Valley

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Credit: shoushu/DigitalVision Vectors/Getty

I am privileged to live in Silicon Valley. I was born here, I grew up here, and now I work here as a product manager at Google. The weather is lovely, the crime rate is low, and the schools are well funded. The adults have cushy jobs and the kids have endless resources. People feast on \$15 sushirritos and \$6 Blue Bottle coffees. The streets are filled with Teslas and self-driving cars.

It's a place of opportunity. Many new graduates, myself included, are making six-figure salaries straight out of college, plus equity, bonuses, and benefits on top of that. I get unlimited free food at work — three full meals a day and as many snacks as I want in between. There's a place to do laundry and get a haircut. There's even a bowling alley and a bouldering wall.

This is Silicon Valley. Who wouldn't want to live here?

When I was in eighth grade, over a six-month period four students at a nearby school committed suicide by jumping in front of the Caltrain. During my sophomore year of high school, a schoolmate I used to walk with to the library took her own life. In my senior year, every single one of my peers had a college counselor. Some paid up to \$400 an hour for counselors to edit their essays, and I witnessed other students paying to have their essays literally written for them. My classmates cried over getting an A- on a test, cried over getting fewer than 100 likes on their profile pictures, and cried over not getting into Harvard. (I admit, I cried over that one, too.) They pulled multiple all-nighters every week to survive their seven AP classes and seven after-school activities, starved themselves to fit in with the “popular kids,” stole money from their parents to buy brand name clothing, and developed harrowing mental health disorders that still persist today, years after high school graduation.

This is Silicon Valley.

During my four years of high school, there were a total of three black students and around a dozen Latinx students in my school of 1,300 kids. On my floor at work, at a company that puts so many resources into diversity and inclusion, there are no black or Latinx engineers. In 2017, of all tech hires at Google, 2 percent were black, 3 percent were Latinx, and 25 percent were female. Upper management statistics are worse, and numbers throughout the Valley are just as depressing.

The lack of diversity doesn’t stop at work — it permeates every aspect of life. Everyone wears Patagonia and North Face, everyone has AirPods hanging from their ears, and everyone goes to Lake Tahoe on weekends. And everyone talks about the same things: startups, blockchain, machine learning, and startups with blockchain and machine learning.

This is Silicon Valley.

In my liberal arts college, conversations varied dramatically, from British literature to public policy to moral philosophy to socioeconomic inequality. Compare this to my product management program filled with new grads, where even social conversations revolve around tech — whether it’s spilling the hottest gossip on the new VP, plotting how to get “double promoted” from a Level 3 to a Level 5 product manager in exactly 22 months, or debriefing where the top angel investors get drinks on Thursday nights. (And yes, Silicon Valley has an

alcohol and drug problem, too). Attempts to hold discussions about social issues are often met with bored faces and are quickly terminated. For example, a friend in the program and I have brought up climate change on many occasions, since it's an issue we're particularly passionate about. We've mentioned the worsening air quality in light of the Camp Fire that devastated more than 150,000 acres of Northern California, lamented the fact that Google still uses plastic water bottles and straws, and encouraged others to donate to environmental organizations during our company's giving week. Each time, we were met with silence.

Money comes from changing a button from green to blue.

In Silicon Valley, few people find things like climate change important enough to talk about at length, and even fewer find it important enough to work on. It's not where the money is at. It's not where "success" is at. And it's certainly not where the industry is at. Instead, money comes from changing a button from green to blue, from making yet another food delivery app, and from getting more clicks on ads. That's just how the Valley and the tech industry are set up. As Jeffrey Hammerbacher, a former Facebook executive, told Bloomberg, "The best minds of my generation are thinking about how to make people click ads."

This is Silicon Valley.

Houses are being sold for up to \$2,800 per square foot. Gentrification and homelessness in the San Francisco Bay Area are so bad that they have their own Wikipedia pages. And it's not just in the city, and it's not just "uneducated people." In December 2018, 4,300 students at San Jose State University — over 13 percent of the student body — reported experiencing homelessness over the past year. Income inequality levels, in both San Francisco and San Jose, rank among the 10 worst cities in the nation and the gap between the poor and the rich continues to increase.

In 2018, San Francisco passed Proposition C, a measure aimed at fighting homelessness by raising taxes on big businesses. Executives from Salesforce and Cisco supported the measure, while companies like Square, Stripe, and Lyft pushed back against the tax due to the way it would be collected.

Who wouldn't want to live here?

One could argue that some companies in Silicon Valley do care about the poor.

Many companies have annual holiday giving campaigns. At Google, employees are allocated \$400 to give to an approved organization, like a food bank or a homeless shelter. But while Silicon Valley employees may donate to these causes, they also complain about the tent camps in the city “ruining the view,” and they complain about the very people they claim to care about. Over 2,200 complaints have been filed, in the last decade, about homeless people on San Francisco’s Hyde Street alone, and reports suggest that some homeless people are even harassed in an attempt to drive them out.

This is Silicon Valley.

It's my everything. It's where my parents live. It's where my high school friends have returned and where my college friends have moved. It's where I first fell in love and where I first had my heart broken.

It's also where classmates stole my homework and cheated off of my tests. It's where I watched parents threaten teachers for giving their children a B+ and watched teachers threaten tutoring centers for handing out copies of past exams. It's where friends cut themselves, drugged themselves, and even killed themselves. It's where acquaintances tried to sabotage my relationships, my grades, and my career.

It's where everything is about networking. It's where everyone wants something from you, and you never know when someone will betray you because they want something from someone else more.

It's my everything. But Silicon Valley is no longer my home.

Silicon Valley is no longer my home. I feel myself being influenced by the tech bubble. I feel myself shifting my focus to money and career trajectory rather than serving those in need locally and worldwide, and I see myself being applauded and fitting in because of it. I feel myself becoming part of the machine. Living here, I reflect on my high school experiences and am filled with misery and anger. The mental health crisis among Silicon Valley high schoolers is getting worse. I think about the negative impacts of social media on mental health that my friends and I suffered in high school and how ironic it is that those same friends now work at Facebook.

I've been told that in every shitty situation there are three options: you can ignore the situation, you can try to improve it, or you can leave. Ignoring it is an

option, but it doesn't lead to any positive change. Trying to improve the situation is a good idea when you feel there is hope that you can make it better. And leaving is good when you don't think things will change and you don't know what to do.

I don't know what to do. Since moving back, my depression has returned after a four-year hiatus, paired with anxiety, a growing disappointment in humanity, and an influx of fake, self-serving, status-seeking "friends" and acquaintances.

So, I'm leaving. But I do hope to come back someday.

I hope to come back to a different Silicon Valley. One that takes care of the mental health of its students. One that doesn't just strive for diversity, but embraces and celebrates and exemplifies it, not only in the people, but also in their lifestyles and conversations and interests. One where people recognize that their picture-perfect lives come at a cost to others, and one where they strive to help those that they hurt.

Most importantly, I hope to return to a Silicon Valley where people care about others and want to work on things that actually improve our world, even if it doesn't generate clicks.

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