

Dear Future President,

We have an issue that we need to address. This is an issue that has been going on for many years. As young diverse teenagers, we feel that, the criminal justice system affects us in many ways. The criminal justice system affects both us and our families. We feel that it is unfair, that certain races are rarely arrested for the same crimes than the other races and they are getting less sentences. We have factorial evidence that more black people and hispanics are arrested more than white people. Blacks and hispanics get longer sentences than white people even if they commit the same crime.

In English class we got to choose different topics about what we wanted to write about, our group chose criminal justice. We all were asked different questions, some questions were, What is criminal justice, Are sentences equal for offenders across age, gender, race and financial status and Is the criminal justice system unfair to certain races of people? Criminal justice is the study of crime and has many consequences. The system where crimes and criminals are put into custody, people that study criminal justice look deeper into the case.

There is a lot to talk about when it comes to sentences based on race, gender, and financial status. Also, rapper Tupac Shakur was arrested on November 18, 1993 on sexual assault charges and was sentenced to 1½-4½ years in prison. While Tupac a rich and famous African American male got that sentence. Former Stanford swimmer, Brock Turner was sentenced to 6 months in prison with sexually assaulting a half-conscious women and was released from jail three months early, this shows that prison sentences aren't fair for people of different race and social status.

Over time the public began to realize how unfair the sentences were and the way certain races were being treated. So they came together and formed the black lives matter movement to try and make a difference. Soon over time the authorities have seen the black lives matter movement as a terrorist group. This group shouldn't be known as a terrorist group because the black lives matter movement is trying to make a difference. In an article it states that BLM are using the same tactics as isis and other terrorist groups. Evidence that backs up this claim is from a police officer is ***"I think it's time the nation acknowledges that Black Lives Matter is a terrorist organization. They use the same tactics as ISIS and other terror groups. Their ideological movement has advocated for killing***

***police and now someone who supports them has done just that.”- (Austin Police Officer out of Utah)***

In our group we feel that the BLM should not be considered a terrorist group, they use peaceful protests, help from the community, and they're just trying to get a point across. An example of a peaceful protest was in a museum in the lower east side of Manhattan, a group of women dressed all in red danced, clapped and chanted ***'It's time to end the war on black people.'*** (***New York Times***) ,

<http://nicic.gov/library/029748>

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2015/08/race-and-criminal-justice>

<http://nicic.gov/library/029748>