

#BLACK LIVES MATTER

BY ANDRE ANTHONY



Post that started it all

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**



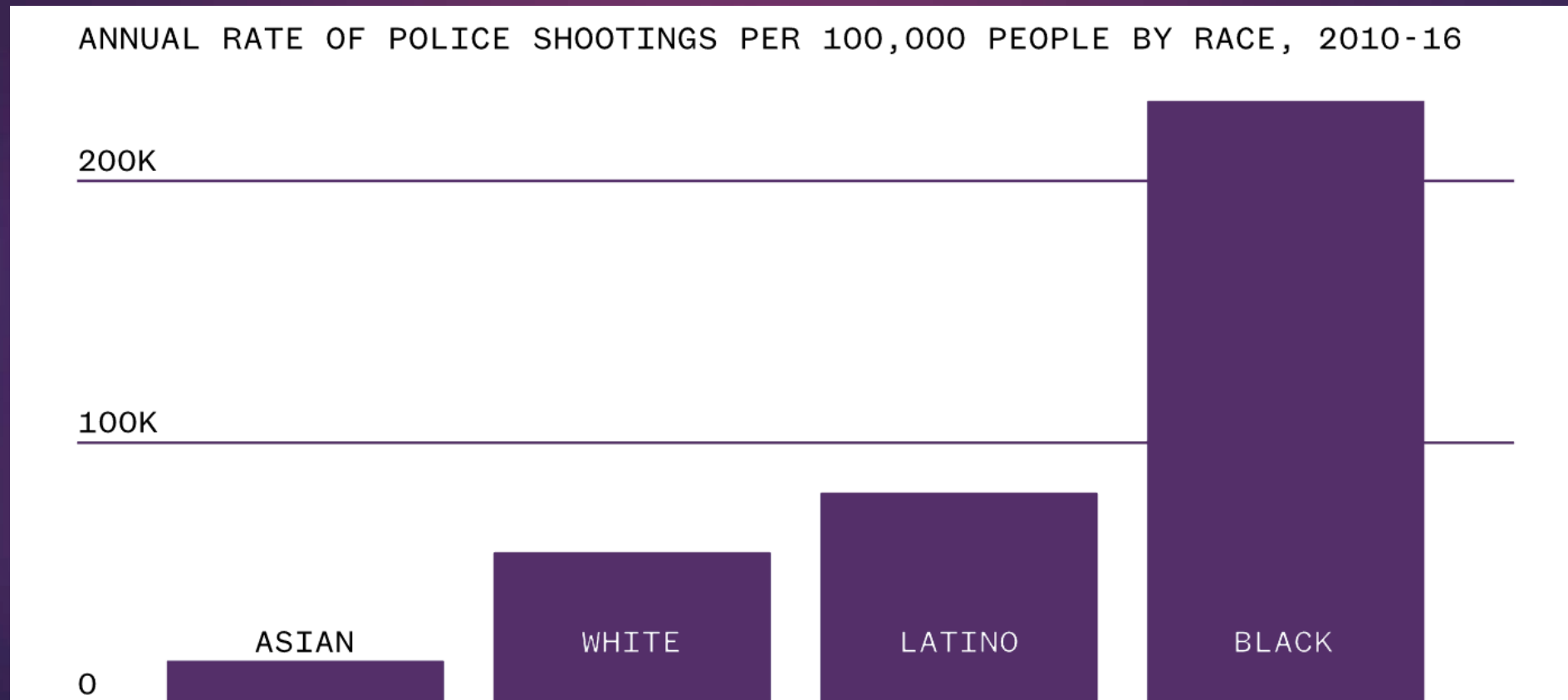
- ▶ Following George Zimmerman's acquittal on July 2013, activist and writer Alicia Garza wrote on Facebook: *"Black people. I love you. I love us. Our lives matter, Black Lives Matter."*
- ▶ "Black Lives Matter is a phrase and an ideology in a world where black people systematically do not matter. We are absolutely shifting what is, what could be. And so Black Lives Matter is about a consciousness of a people – black folks first and foremost, because 'black lives matter' was about an affirmation of our own dignity, of our own lives. And then beyond that, it was a demand to the greater public, to the mainstream, to those who are in power who are maintaining the status quo."



- ▶ Trayvon Martin died on February 26th, 2012 reminding Alicia Garza of her younger brother whom she realized could have easily been him. She also knew law enforcement and the criminal justice system was not going to address this issue. She believes it is unacceptable for unarmed black young men to be killed without consequence. THAT is why #BlackLivesMatter - to discuss why black lives are undervalued.

Don't All lives Matter?

- Yes. However, racism and police brutality are major issues in the black community. The purpose is to spotlight us to raise awareness.



Blacks are more like to be killed by police

- ▶ We live in a society in which black lives are systematically oppressed, survive off low wages, incarcerated, underemployed or unemployed. But most importantly, blacks live in a society where police encounters often turn deadly, usually without repercussions.

3X more like to be killed by police than white people



■ Black ■ White

30% of black were unarmed in 2015 compared to 21% white victims



■ Unarmed (30%) ■ Armed (70%)

HANDS UP



DON'T SHOOT

What you can do

- ▶ Be an advocate for social justice & diversity
- ▶ Become a leader and role model
- ▶ Impact your community to raise awareness
- ▶ Promote equality
- ▶ Support the LGBTQ community
- ▶ Protest violence and gun laws
- ▶ Vote

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