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Common essay, question 3.

### Racism Still Exist in America

Racism has existed since the beginning of the civil rights movement through today. One of the earliest signs of racism in America would be slavery in 1600s. Africans came to America against their will to be used as a source of cheap labor for white farmers and plantation owners. They lived to serve the white man and had no rights. There are people who deny that racism still exist, they are convinced that is something that was left behind us, it is not. The issue of racial equality is an obstacle that all Americans need to overpower and the only way this can be stopped is to speak up and find solutions. Martin Luther King once stated "Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away" this is a quote from a letter that King wrote in 1963 from Birmingham jail to Clergyman. He made this statement to create a picture against racial prejudice and to give people hope for a future free of darkness. These days, racism is expressed in many places, many ways, and in many institutions. In America, racism has been evident on shooting of unarmed black people, Blacks being pulled over more than white drivers and African Americans being far more likely to be arrested on petty crimes than white people.

Police shooting and killing unarmed Blacks is one of the evidences that racism still exist in our society. George Floyd a 46-year-old African American man was killed on May 25, 2020 by police in Minneapolis, Minnesota while being arrested for allegedly using a counterfeit bill. The police officer knelt on Floyd's neck for several minutes while he repeatedly said that he couldn't breathe but the police couldn't relax his knee and eventually he died. Ahmaud Arbery was an unarmed 25-year-old African- American man who was pursued and fatally shot by armed whites while he was jogging near Brunswick in Glynn county, Georgia on February 23, 2020. Also, Breonna Taylor a 26-year-old African-American emergency medical technician, was fatally shot by Louisville Metro police Department officers Jonathan Mattingly, Brett Hankison, and Myles Cosgrove on March 13, 2020.

The video of George Floyd's death at the hands of police in Minneapolis which triggered protests around the world is one of the evidences that racial prejudice still exists in our society. It brought renewed attention to the high-profile deaths of black Americans during the past decade and ongoing concerns about systemic racism in the criminal justice system. Years of frustrations from police officers continued mistreatment and shooting of black people converged to cause a perfect storm of rage that exploded all over America which lead people to protest in almost every state. For every high-profile story of a police officer killing an unarmed black person or tear-gassing peaceful protesters, there are many allegations of police misconduct that we don't hear about like excessive use of force to mistreat the prisoners.

Racism continues to disproportionately segregate communities of color from access to opportunity and upward mobility by making it more difficult for people of color

to secure quality education, jobs, housing, and healthcare. The way president Donald Trump has been handling issues negatively has made racism more transparent. According to Pew Research Center, about six-in-ten Americans (58%) say race relations in the U.S. are bad, and of those, few see them improving. Some 56% think the president has made race relations worse; just 15% say he has tried but failed to make progress on this issue. Young kids do not know racism but they learn it from what the adults are saying and what they are doing since in these days, it has become more common for people to express racist views and not even realize.

In addition, more than 20 million Americans are stopped each year for traffic violations, making this one of the most common ways in which the public interacts with the police. According to Pierson and Simoiu on a study done on nature human behavior shows that nearly 100 million traffic stops by police departments nationwide found that black drivers were far more likely to be pulled over than white drivers, But, interestingly, the difference becomes smaller at night, when it's harder for police to see the race of the driver. Police disproportionately stop African American drivers and disproportionately search them after stopping them even though they tend to find less contraband. This is because of the stereotype and the picture that the society has created and put on the black people.

African Americans are more likely to be arrested for petty crimes. A study on the scale of misdemeanor justice in 2018 shows that the black arrest rate was at least twice as high as that for whites for disorderly conduct, simple assault, theft, drug possession, and vandalism. Discrimination continues today in often less overt ways for example,

white rates of drug use are similar across racial and ethnic groups but black people are arrested and sentenced on drug charges at much higher rates than white people.

In Conclusion, it is important to put a stop to this issue, people need to realize that there is a way for us as a community to be united without worrying what race we are. The efforts to ameliorate the problem of fatal police violence must move beyond the individual level and consider the interaction between law enforcement officers and the neighborhoods that they serve. We should view and treat each other as brothers and sisters and not discriminate others because of their skin color. Racial hatred can lead to assassination of leaders, sufferings, and loss of lives but when people join together to protect not just those who share skin color but those who share humanity and compassion, we can put out the fires of racism and the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away.

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