THE IMPORTANCE OF BLACK LIVES MATTER

By:Priscilla Mac

All Lives matter *should* be true but it is a current lie that is why it’s important to emphasize that Black Lives Matter. I’m not sure that it would make some feel comfortable if it were neatly wrapped in a box and bow titled Black Lives Matter Too. Which is the problem. Why *does* it make some people feel uncomfortable? Those who operate in treating people fairly have the hardest time grasping this and it just means that they have a naïve interpretation of the world probably by having been sheltered and have developed a defense mechanism to cope with this. In their minds it’s, “Hey if 7 out of 7 billion people in the world are good then all people are good.” A clear mathematical imbalance.

To hear it said that white men are killed by cops more than black men is another mathematical imbalance statement. It’s like watching a baby hold onto something like a comfy blanket they had their entire lives and not prepared to be without.

If the roles were reversed and White people were being treated unfairly with a slavery background, minority stigma and were being killed by cops constantly I wouldn’t think twice to support their humanity but that’s what it’s really about. Humanity.

A human being seeing another human being and when you don’t quite see it that way you reach and stretch for reasons to justify a person’s hardships.

We would say things like, “Oh White people kill each other all the time why is it so important when a black cop does it? Well what was Billy doing? I heard he had a long jail record and several children. “These are the lengths we go through to justify death is an alarm that we have no respect for life. It is pure evil.

Please understand that the psychological effect is not the phrase itself but instead WHY we have to say it as a reminder at all. If you get stuck just by the existence of the words you will miss the point and get left behind because the movement is and has moved forward now covered on the 16th street of my hometown in Washington DC.

At the same token as an African American woman I want to say that this is in no way a racist movement. Like in any organization that is religious, political or military there are always the ones who deviate from the purpose and make the whole look bad. From working in news stations I could tell the embarrassment on co-workers faces when the homicides came through.

If there was a mass murder most likely a white male and the white collogues look straight ahead into the camera and read the teleprompter…….embarrassed.

If it was a local black male killed most likely it was a black male that killed him and yes,

I would look straight ahead, make the edits and be……embarrassed.

We are all embarrassed when people who look like us destroy the lives of others and behave more like animals. People who don’t represent our ethnic groups or a decent human being.

We all who have a heart and sense that God gave us, a pulse, feel our stomachs drop and the hairs behind our necks stand up when our own race flashes before the News headlines as a rapist, murderer, and other high crimes.

We all look at the TV and in our hearts we think the same thing. We desperately want the same thing. How many times have you looked at the News and thought, “Why can’t they just stop?”

That is the Trillion Dollar question. “Why can’t they just STOP?”

My friends if you are reading this in the comfort of your own space I want to answer that question for you with this article. When the ending of segregation took place there was no plan of transition for blacks and whites to coincide together. Prior to there had already been a dangerous tension between the two races that were being groomed to dislike the one another. I am a Millennial and I always tell my friends imagine living in a world where whites and blacks had been separated their entire existence and then all of a sudden you are to put your book bag on and go to school with children of another race that hate you.

Which class taught racial integration? None.

So the information that they have from their parents is what they know, trust, understand and that’s what kind of conversations they have to pass down to the next generation which is guess who? Generation X. If you come into contact with a Baby boomer who is not racist they are in fact exceptional. A baby boomer who is racist is a normal person shaped by their environment such as any form of life. So the reason why they can’t stop is because they can’t help it. It sounds rather hopeless but really it’s not. Right now we have the opportunity to re-shape those who are willing to update their ideologies. We have to stop trying to convince people that Black Lives Matter and use it as a survey to weed out people that will just have to be left behind. Blacks and whites alike. If they don’t get it by now they don’t want to nor can they comprehend it. So let’s move on.

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The Black Lives Movement has already demonstrated it is more powerful than any opposition. We have joined together with Caucasian, Asian, African, Latino and all Lives around the world to make this statement the giant that it is right now. Let’s do the right thing and respect each other, protest peacefully, and appreciate one another. Black people here in Washington D.C. were wrought with upset behind the death of George Floyd and when the protests came to a calm while in public for once in my life my black experience was that Black Lives Mattered.

My own people were more conscious of being kind to each other by intentionally supporting one another businesses, and we even look at each other in the eye totally different now.

For a long time I’ve been mistreated by my own race and for the first time which is who it matters to me the most I can see a different soul in the eyes of my people.

We have become the Black Lives that Matter to Black Lives.

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