
"Police Brutality and Black Health: Setting the Agenda for Public Health Scholars” by Sirry Alang is about the differences between blacks and whites and how they are portrayed to society. It talks about the physical and mental illnesses comes along with it. “Blacks are significantly more likely to experience police brutality than are Whites, and whiteness affords protection against police use of force” (1). This is about the protection that one race has over another race. White people is the majority race in the United States while black is the minority which leads to whites feeling better than the minorities. Not everyone thinks that but there are certain people who think that. “Police killings increase Black-specific mortality rates. Even though only two percent of injuries from police interventions that require treatment in the emergency department or hospital result in death, Blacks are almost five times more likely than are Whites to have a police intervention-related injury.”(2) This is a statistical fact that people are more likely to be in danger with the police if they are black rather than white. This could be because of police overusing their power or it could be the fact that blacks act up but this statistical fact is used to show that police overuse their powers. “Police brutality affects individual and community health through its toll on productivity and on the economy” (4). Saying this is showing that race is an issue that is in police brutality and also getting help with health issues. It makes it harder for them to get the medial attention that they need when they do need it with their health.


"The Trauma Lens of Police Violence against Racial and Ethnic Minorities” by Thema Bryant-Davis is touching on the point that police violence comes from the racial and ethnicity that the person is. This is the major subject in police brutality which makes it the topic to talk about. “Psychological interpersonal trauma occurs when an individual has an experience that threatens his or her life or bodily integrity, which overwhelm his or her ability to cope by creating feelings of hopelessness or intense fear” (1). Once someone goes through something traumatizing it will stick with them forever which can make it why people are scared of police brutality. They don’t want to be traumatized throughout their life and remember that moment. “We conducted a review of the psychological literature by searching in the various databases such as PSYCHINFO utilizing police, police brutality, and police violence, along with the search terms race-based traumatic stress, racist-incident–based trauma, racism and trauma, intergenerational trauma, and complex trauma”( 5). They run tests on all police officers and victims in the instant that it happens to make sure they pass the test to see if they have any mental illness or sickness. This helps them get conformation that nobody was mentally ill when
making decisions they did. “Mistrust and fear instilled as a consequence of institutionalized police brutality may prevent racially marginalized communities from seeking assistance, which can increase a sense of isolation and dehumanization” (6). This is why some people are scared to do stuff or to be in the police presence because of the fact that once you hear bad things about people, you are always going to think bad things about them. That is mistrust and is something that is usual for people.


“Race and Police Brutality: The Importance of Media Framing” by Kim Fridkin is about how the media portrays the way society is treated by police officers. It includes how it is shown online. “The news media’s power to alter how people think about an issue or event occurs by influencing “the importance individuals attach to particular beliefs”” (3). This is said to show how the stories could be altered in order to be bias towards one side or another. This is told to be shown that in everyday life, in newspapers and shown on media, people can switch up a story in order to make it seem as if the police are in the right/wrong. It depends on their bias of the story. “Since police violence against minorities is viewed as an important problem by a large segment of the public, people are likely to have established attitudes about this issue” (4). This shows that police violence against younger kids happens more often and is a reason why it is such a huge topic because parents are scared for their kids and also millennials are more exposed to technology to record it happening and spread what happens online. People can be bias on this topic from what they see rather than not hearing someone’s other side of the story. “We rely on a multimethod logical approach to examine how media framing of an incident of possible police misconduct affects people’s views of the event and the participating actors” (6). This shows that we humans try to relay on media to show how people are treated by the police by seeing one side of the story. This may lead to picking sides on the topic. People could make stuff up because everything online is not true yet people are relying on this platform to learn more about police brutality and the way it is shown by the victims rather than the police. “To summarize, since the issue of police violence against minorities is viewed as an important issue to a large segment of the population, people are likely to have crystallized attitudes about this issue making it less susceptible to framing effects” (5). This goes along the times for my second quote about how parents are becoming more known about this situation because it is shown by kids and on social media. The attitudes of the people are coming from their factors in life if they have millennials to look after.


“When Protesting Police Violence Puts You in the Crosshairs” by Collier Meyerson is about how people are getting their word out about what is happening which is making police anger more about it because they are being portrayed as racist who overuse their powers against victims in their custody. “I carry [jail] with me like a backpack. Pretty much whenever I see a police, I [wonder]: Am I about to get in trouble for something that never happened?” (2). This is showing
the fear that people have against police because of the way that they treat other people. People are scared for their lives to do anything wrong because they do not want to be a victim of police brutality. “The psychological impact of violent police interactions doesn’t only hit while the protests are under way” (4). This is furthermore saying that this is a 24/7 issue and it is not only an issue when a police officer does it and people protest. It is always a problem to everybody to make sure they have a good long life and are not in danger. “I [thought that police] arrest people for bad stuff, but now it’s… do they really have a job?”(4). This is a quote from a young kid that is interviewed for this. He is wondering if police ever really do their job because of all the negative news on them not doing their job correctly. You hear all bad things about police and never good things about police.


“Race and Reaction: Divergent Views of Police Violence and Protest against” by Mora Reinka and Collin Wayne Leach is about how the police violence leads to protesting against the police and the citizens’ rights in the United States. “The circulation of images of these and similar incidents on the Internet and other media have served to publicize a succession of police violence against African Americans in unprecedented ways” (1). This is showing that the way that African Americans are portrayed different and are shown on social media as the ones who are harassed about what they do to them and how they are treated in society. They are shown as the only people who get harassed by police or the only ones that get involved with police brutality. “As social psychologists, our interest is in the ways in which everyday people in the United States react to apparent evidence of systemic racial bias, especially the sort of dramatic police killings of unarmed African Americans that has garnered so much public attention” (4). The way that they show that there is violence is by getting the public’s attention. They can use protesting or go on social media to get their point across. People have begun to record to show what happens to them when they do get pulled over by the police. “Black Americans oppose the illegal use of deadly force by police more strongly than do Whites” (5). This could be a cry for attention or could be because of racism. White people are not shown the same attention as blacks when they are pulled over which is why blacks feel like they are judged more than them.


“Elusive Justice in Baltimore: The Conviction of a White Policeman for Killing a Black Man in 1875” by Gordon H Shufelt is an article I chose to use to show that this has been happening since 1875 and even further back. “In July 1875 a Baltimore, Maryland, police officer rushed into the home of the Brown family, and clubbed and shot Daniel Brown, an unarmed black man” (1). This is the introduction to the article saying how an unarmed black man was shot by a police officer. The police officer came into their household and shot him when he was not armed. This was the stage where people were first coming to see the brutality between police officers and pedestrians. “The troubled relationship between African Americans and police forces has deep roots in U.S. history” (2). Everyone knows about racism and the issue between equal rights
between everyone but here it is taken to a whole other level. Killing someone and overusing your powers is unlawful and wrong but back then they didn’t have the technology that we have now to see the events that led up to it. “The fact that the armed, uniformed police force was a relatively new institution with a troubled history also increased the white community’s willingness to condemn oppressive law enforcement tactics” (25). This made white people feel empowered by this getting played off and not being charged with what he did. They felt some type of empowerment by hearing this which is why I think that it keeps increasing. This has been happening since before and really has no end to it unless we find a way.