



The Revision

Some of the inspiring individuals in writing the revision are Colin Kaepernick, Kim & Kanye West, Jada & Will Smith, La La & Carmelo Anthony, LeBron James, Nike, Dwayne Wade, and so many others.

Jumping right in, coming from the streets and as a convicted felon I strongly believe my personal experiences past and present can assist in a process to reduce recidivism numbers, strengthen and help repair community relations, and help rebirth the scarred perceptions that looms like a dark cloud over law enforcement and judicial officers.

A makeover toward equality is long overdue in my proud America.

To avoid chaos and mayhem law enforcement and judicial structure are required elements.

However if law enforcement's means and methods resemble or mimic the mayhem and chaos they allege to police then the law enforcement's perceptions are no better nor different than the mayhem and chaos they allege to police.

Are all law enforcement bad or deserving of the dark cloud looming over the badge and the profession? Absolutely not.

Speaking from an urban perspective the realities of double standards of policing, constitutional & civil right protections, due process, law applications, etc. has been very harmful. The perceptions throughout the U.S and beyond of the mentioned are scarred.

The content of the revision is not intended to add fuel to an out-of-control fire that has participated in destroying millions of lives and burning zillions of acres across the world.

The content of the revision is intended to assist in strengthening community relations in areas not limited to the following:

1. Readdressing solution vehicles.

Starting with revisiting the professional requirements of becoming a member of law enforcement or a judicial officer.

Specifically revisiting the ethical and moral criteria of maintaining the responsibilities and integrity consistent with the languages of the oaths taken to become a member of law enforcement, an attorney, or judicial officer.

Although many feel the mentioned professions are all one of the same, the oaths taken alleges to protect and or preserve justice, the courts, the integrity of the profession, constitutional & civil protection, and more.

However to the public the perceptions of both law and the judicial communities is that law applications differ for them compared to the average citizen.





Therefore the oaths taken appears to be more procedural in joining fraternities that are arguably no different than those they allege to protect and serve against.

2. Revising the criteria and lengths of academy training.

Training currently consists of approximately 12 to 14 weeks that arguably cannot properly or adequately prepare a young or experienced adult to deal with a society that has been perpetuating double standards for hundreds and possibly thousands of years.

Keeping in mind all the anger and resentments that derive from it.

3. Revising the protocols that monitor the job short and long terms stress levels and or PTSD-type symptoms.

What we must understand is that it does not take participating in a military war as I and countless veterans have during wartime to have PTSD.

The same activities and events that cause PTSD during wartime happen daily on the cold streets throughout the world.

PTSD is a problem with millions of people that have gone on undetected.

Ask yourself medically and socially have we as a people thoroughly addressed this perspective.

PTSD from the daily travels of law enforcements warrants this approach.

4. Revising the mental evaluation and reevaluation processes of law enforcement and judicial officers.

These requirements and processes should be continuously monitored by an independent outside entity with a board-type setting.

5. Continual promotions to encourage the public patience and understanding of the daily commitments and sacrifices made by law enforcement.

The point of this is unmeasurable because in the urban communities once you become a police officer besides your family and closest friends in most cases you are not trusted for various reasons that have long graduated police corruption.

Some may question why and that would be great question.

There are no simple answers, however because perceptions and opinions will vary let's keep the following in mind:

a. In the U.S. it takes college education and too much debt to obtain countless degrees to allegedly excel.

Keeping in mind the number of graduates that can't find work in their respective fields or have experienced being deemed over or under-educated in their fields are staggering.





However it takes no mandated college or community-related internships, an alleged clean record, and several months of academy training for the inexperienced or experienced regardless the age or emotional state to receive a firearm and a badge to allegedly police.

There is something extremely wrong with that picture.

b. The traumatic situations officers are unexpectedly put in daily.

Be it personal issues, public safety concerns, witnessing death daily, and all the other traumatic situations are placed in daily cannot and should not affect their abilities to remain unbiased on a call by call or case by case basis regardless the situations or similarities, cases, or calls.

The mentioned is extremely important.

Law enforcement and judicial officers' consistencies must remain in line with their oaths taken to become a police officer, judicial officer, justice, or servant of the court.

How do we deal with the human element that exists within this problem?

Undoubtedly many sectors of society have become bias [although the biasness may differ], like many sectors of law enforcement and the judicial community.

Neither side can achieve any of their goals without the other.

c. Police officers in uniform participating within the community every day.

in life it is the little things that count so I applaud all of you officers that participate and encourage the youth by actively interacting with them be it pick-up games, etc. during your patrol shifts if your time allows.

The human elements and interactions are always better than just running the youth away.

(1) We have to let children be children, (2) have fun with them, and [3] stay mindful of a child who may be trying to find his or her way because of various internal family issues.

At the time of this writing there are 1.1 to 1.2 state and federal law enforcement officers throughout America. Approximately 120,000 of that number are federal agents.

What are the requirements to become a police officer in most cities? The answer varies per city, agency, and or department.

However police officers' educational requirements range from a high school diploma to a college education. The minimum requirements are usually a high school diploma.

In all fairness increasing numbers of police departments are starting to require applicants to complete 1 to 2 years of college work or have an associate's degree.

Educational wise a bachelor's degree is the minimum requirement for federal agent jobs. In addition knowing how to speak foreign languages are considered a big plus.





IN RECENT & DISTANT HISTORY

The number of African American males killed by police officers neighbors 1,500 and counting as of September 2016.

That number increases when you include all other races. The unnecessary loss of their lives carries the same importance.

In fact more Caucasians are killed by police officers than any other race because they make up approximately 70% of the U.S population.

However African Americans are 5 times likely to be killed because we make up approximately 15% of the U.S. population.

The percentage points made are extremely important, however just as important all lives matter regardless your race or culture.

The trees of law enforcement, defense & prosecuting attorneys, our judicial system, policing, and the double standards abroad should be equally judged as they judge.

Policing is policing no matter if it's your home, your peers, headquarters, the community, or the streets.

As good police officers you cannot participate or turn a blind eye to social injustice issues, equality issues, amongst so many other levels of misconduct.

You cannot continue to ignore active corruption amongst you or your peers and then go out in the community and police on a different standard.

As the public we are tired of being tired.

As individuals, entities, a community, and law enforcement collectively in so many ways we are all responsible for today's chaos and mayhem. Opinions will vary relevant but the writing is clearly on the wall.

As individuals and or professionals regardless our fields, ranks, or professions it is our collective responsibility to continuously birth processes of equality and change for all of mankind especially for our youth.

Attempt to digest this picture. Since 2005 there have been 13 police officers convicted of murder or manslaughter.

As of the writing of this piece one of the last two officers convicted of murder [of Patricia Cook], or manslaughter in 2013 was Daniel Harmon - Wright in Culpepe, Virginia.

In 2015 of all the unarmed African American men killed by police how many of those police officers were convicted for killing unarmed African American men? The answer is zero.

The charges filed against police officers, their fraternities, their children, etc. do not get legally approached, investigated, charges pursued, judged, or prosecuted like the rest of society.





In a time when we should be taking our mask off and grinding for equality, change, and a host of other things, greed and power continue to be the propelling factors.

Under these conditions humility, equality, and selflessness don't stand a chance.

I'm not boasting or anything but as a convicted felon I have been a part of the recidivism statistics for almost 20-plus years.

Grinding right or wrong there are millions like me and more unlike me who've witnessed, experienced, lived through, and survived injustices via the hands of law enforcement and or our judicial system.

Like any other problem in life we have to approach the situation with a focus and determination for solutions, forgiveness, humility, and peace.

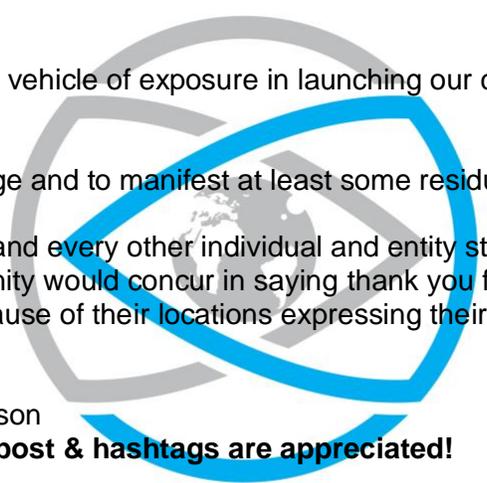
Undoubtedly social media is a viable vehicle of exposure in launching our campaigns so our thought processes can be heard if only we share.

Why? To assist the process of change and to manifest at least some residue of equality.

I'm sure Colin Kaepernick, Me Too, and every other individual and entity striving towards social justice, change, and equality for all of humanity would concur in saying thank you for the support in addressing the messages, not the messengers because of their locations expressing their messages.

Written (09/30/16) by Clifton A. Jackson

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