“If you see something, film something!”: Confronting “Systemic Injustice” in the 21st Century
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Introduction
- Slavery was constructed and slave codes (laws) governed during the 17th - 19th centuries. Slave states had slave codes.
- After the Emancipation Proclamation (1863) and the American Civil War (1861-1865), the Southern Black Codes replaced the social controls of slavery but continued to restrict freedom.

Research Question
Does police brutality exist because of the failure to remove systemic laws and critically examine the causes of injustice in history?

Background

Materials & Methods
- Racial Profiling is the discriminatory practice of targeting individuals under suspicion of crime based on skin color (race, ethnicity, religion or national origin)
- Disparate treatment by police of a White man carrying a gun versus a Black man
- There are more Blacks on death row for killing Whites than Whites killing Blacks
- Black defendants are 85.4% more likely to get charged with resisting arrest than white defendants (WNYC, 2015).

Slave Codes
- Targeted skin color and gender
- Prohibited slaves from carrying or using a gun, even in self-defense
- Gave death sentences to slaves accused of any crime against a White Person
- Prohibited slaves from congregating and traveling without permission
- Granted slaveholders the right to kill slaves who resisted, without fear of prosecution

Laws in the 21st Century

Conclusions

References


