

COMMUNITY HEARINGS ON THE REFORM  
OF THE L.A.P.D.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1991

FIRST A.M.E.  
2270 S. HARVARD BOULEVARD  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90018

THE PANEL:

THE CHAIRMAN:

GEOFFREY TAYLOR GIBBS, ESQ.  
200 SOUTH HOPE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
90071-2899

RACHEL YOUNG,  
PRESIDENT-ELECT  
LANGSTON BAR ASSN.

PAS. OLIVER BROWN,  
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

LEONARD JACKSON,  
MEMBER OF FIRST A.M.E.

REPORTER: CHERYL DENISE CANNADY  
CSR NO. 6536

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA; THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1991

8:05 P.M.

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MR. GIBBS: GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY. MY NAME IS JEFFREY GIBBS. I'M A BOARD MEMBER OF THE LANGSTON BAR ASSOCIATION. AS YOU KNOW, IN THE WAKE OF THE RODNEY KING BEATING, THERE ARE MANY INVESTIGATIONS OCCURRING IN THE CITY. MANY PANELS HAVE BEEN FORMED.

PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT IS THE MAYOR'S INDEPENDENT PANEL TO INVESTIGATE THE LONG-TERM REFORM OF THE L.A.P.D. THAT PANEL IS CHAIRED BY WARREN CHRISTOPHER, A VERY PROMINENT ATTORNEY IN TOWN WHO WAS DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER JIMMY CARTER AND DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL UNDER PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON.

THAT PANEL HAS A FULL STAFF AND FULL FUNDING, AND OVER THE NEXT TWO AND A HALF MONTHS OR SO IS GOING TO BE INVESTIGATING ALMOST EVERY PHASE OF THE L.A.P.D.'S OPERATION. THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE ON THAT PANEL, ARE ON LOS ANGELES, AND ARE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE GOING TO COME FORTH FROM THAT. WE HOPE THAT THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE POSITIVE, AND WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.

WE CAN'T ASSURE THAT, BUT OUR FEELING WAS THAT THIS COMMUNITY HAD TO HAVE A VOICE IN WHAT THAT

PANEL HEARD AND IN THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THEY WILL PUT FORTH. SO WE ARE HOLDING THREE HEARINGS THIS WEEK. IT'S ON A VERY RAPID TIMETABLE. THE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING OF THAT PANEL WILL BE NEXT WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M., AT THE SECURITY PACIFIC BUILDING. THAT IS 333 SOUTH HOPE STREET DOWNTOWN IN THE AUDITORIUM THERE.

WE HAVE HERE A COURT REPORTER WITH US, CHERYL CANNADY, FROM BARBARA DEMERY-GILLAM COURT REPORTERS. THERE WILL BE A TRANSCRIPT MADE OF THIS HEARING, AND WE'LL TURN IT INTO THE COMMISSION, SO THAT NO ONE CAN DOUBT WHAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT.

THE PROCEDURE THIS EVENING WILL BE THAT WE WANT TO INVITE EACH OF YOU TO COME AND TESTIFY FOR THREE MINUTES AT A TIME. THE PANEL MEMBERS IF THEY HAVE QUESTIONS WILL ASK YOU QUESTIONS.

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT, AGAIN, A TRANSCRIPT IS BEING MADE OF THIS HEARING. WE'D LIKE YOU TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF BY NAME, AGE IF YOU WISH AND OCCUPATION IF YOU WISH. HOWEVER, IF YOU DO NOT WANT THAT INFORMATION TO BE MADE A PART OF THE PUBLIC RECORD, YOU DO NOT NEED TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF.

AT THIS POINT, I'D LIKE TO HAVE ALL THE PANEL MEMBERS INTRODUCE THEMSELVES.

MS. YOUNG: I'M RACHEL YOUNG WITH THE  
LANGSTON BAR ASSOCIATION.

MR. JACKSON: LEONARD JACKSON WITH FIRST  
A.M.E. CHURCH.

MR. BROWN: I'M OLIVER BROWN, PASTOR OF THE  
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND REPRESENTING TWO OF  
MY OTHER COLLEAGUES, REVEREND DR. DUMAS HARSHAW OF THE  
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH AND THE REVEREND FATHER JEROME  
SMIT OF HOLY NAME, AND I ALSO COME REPRESENTING THE  
SOUTHWEST POLICE CLERGY COUNCIL.

MR. GIBBS: THESE HEARINGS ARE BEING  
CO-SPONSORED WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ANYONE HAS BEFORE  
WE BEGIN?

I GUESS THE ONE THING I'D LIKE TO SAY, I  
KNOW EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU COULD COME UP HERE AND  
TALK FOR MORE THAN THREE MINUTES, PROBABLY FOR 10  
MINUTES ABOUT AN INCIDENT OR INCIDENTS YOU HAD WITH THE  
POLICE. THAT'S IMPORTANT, BUT WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT IS  
YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE LONG-TERM REFORM OF THE  
L.A.P.D., WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM THE INCIDENTS AND  
HOW YOU HOPE MAYBE THE STRUCTURE AND THE PRACTICES AND  
PROCEEDINGS CAN BE CHANGED.

SOME OF THE TOPICS THAT WE'D LIKE YOU TO  
ADDRESS ARE THE ROLE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE, WHO SHOULD

HAVE THE POWER TO DISCIPLINE OR REMOVE THE CHIEF OF POLICE, THE USE OF SUSPECT PROFILES TO MAKE TRAFFIC STOPS BY THE L.A.P.D., THE USE OF -- THE GANG SWEEP PROGRAM, THE TRAINING, RECRUITMENT AND HIRING, PROMOTION PRACTICES OF THE L.A.P.D., AND I GUESS FINALLY WHETHER OR NOT A NEW CITIZEN COMPLAINT PROCEDURE INCLUDING PERHAPS A CITIZEN COMPLAINT BOARD IS NEEDED OR RECOMMENDED.

SO YOU'RE FREE TO COME AND ADDRESS ALL OF THOSE TOPICS, AND WITH THAT, WE'LL NOW BRING THE HEARING TO ORDER.

WHO WISHES TO STEP FORWARD FIRST. HOW ABOUT A MEMBER OF FIRST A.M.E. YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPEAK LIKE AN ATTORNEY OR A MINISTER. JUST COME UP AND SAY WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART OR ON YOUR MIND.

THANK YOU.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS MELVIN WILLIAMS, JR. I LIVE IN INGLEWOOD, AND I WOULD JUST LIKE TO ADDRESS THE TOPIC OF POLICE IN TERMS OF HIRING AND PROMOTION AND HOW FOLKS ARE HIRED IN THE DEPARTMENT, AND ONE SUGGESTION I WOULD LIKE TO IMPART IS TO WHATEVER DEGREE WE CAN MAKE AN IMPACT ON RETURNING OFFICERS TO THE BEAT OR GETTING OFFICERS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE NEIGHBORHOODS THEY PATROL RATHER THAN HAVING OFFICERS WHO COME IN FROM OTHER PARTS OF TOWN, AND, YOU KNOW,

BECAUSE A LOT OF THE OFFICERS IT SEEMS THAT PATROL MY NEIGHBORHOOD, AND I LIVE IN INGLEWOOD, DO NOT LIVE IN INGLEWOOD. THEY COME FROM EITHER THE VALLEY OR OTHER PARTS OF LOS ANGELES. THEREFORE, THEY DON'T HAVE ANY IMPRESSION OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE TYPE OF FEELING THERE IS, SUCH THAT THEIR IMPRESSIONS ARE ONLY THOSE WHICH THEY BRING WITH THEM AND WHATEVER STEREOTYPES GO ALONG WITH THAT.

SO TO WHATEVER DEGREE THERE ARE SUGGESTIONS MADE AS TO HIRING PRACTICES, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THERE BE SOME RETURN TO EITHER -- I DON'T KNOW IF I WANT TO SAY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO SAY HAVING PEOPLE WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE AREAS THAT THEY'RE GOING TO PATROL, AND NOT THAT THEY COME FROM SOME OTHER PART OF TOWN WITH SOME PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS AS TO HOW WE LIVE EITHER IN INGLEWOOD OR SOUTH CENTRAL L.A.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

WHO'S NEXT?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: GOOD EVENING. I AM SALLY WILLIAMS. I AM A TEACHER IN THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE IDEA OF WHAT OUR CHILDREN ARE HEARING, HOW THIS IS AFFECTING THE CHILDREN FIRST.

I HAVE A CHILD WHO ASKED ME "WELL, MRS.

WILLIAMS, WE'VE ALWAYS HEARD WE CALL THE POLICEMAN. NOW I'M AFRAID TO. I MIGHT GET BEAT UP LIKE THE CASE AT HAND, YOU KNOW."

SO I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT THE POLICEMEN GET A BETTER TRAINING AS TO HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE AND THINK ABOUT THE MODEL THEY ARE SHOWING AT THIS TIME, AND I THINK IF WE HAD A CHIEF WHO WOULD HAVE A MIND TO REALIZE THAT WHAT IS GOING ON IS AFFECTING THE CHILDREN.

MR. JACKSON: MRS. WILLIAMS, BEFORE YOU GO, DO YOU THINK IT WOULD HELP IF THE POLICE OFFICERS VISITED THE SCHOOL OR DID ANY TYPE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH WHERE THEY COULD SHOW THEIR INVOLVEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY OR OTHER SIDES OF THEM THAT ARE -- OTHER THAN WHAT'S PERCEIVED, YOU KNOW, WITH WHAT'S GOING ON?

MRS. WILLIAMS: I THINK THAT WOULD HELP QUITE A BIT, AND, OF COURSE, WE HAVE HAD VISITORS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BUT IN LIGHT OF WHAT'S GOING ON NOW, I REALLY THINK MORE OF THAT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.

MR. GIBBS: NEXT.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS MARY THOMPSON, AND I'M A DEPUTY WITH SENATOR DIANE WATSON. I DON'T KNOW IF I'M OUT OF PLACE OR NOT, BUT I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU SINCE THIS INCIDENT HAS HAPPENED, THIS IS ONE OF THE FIRST EVENINGS THAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO GO

HOME -- I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME YET, BUT GO TO A MEETING AND LEAVE BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK. IF NOT I WOULD BE AT THE OFFICE BECAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT WHICH IS THE REASON WHY I'M SPEAKING TO THIS GROUP.

THERE MUST BE REFORMS WITHIN OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT. I HAVE SEEN AND SPOKEN TO FAR TOO MANY PARENTS, PARTICULARLY OF YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN WHO HAVE BEEN BEATEN SEVERELY. I HAVE PICTURES IN MY OFFICE OF YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE VIRTUALLY DONE NOTHING.

ONE YOUNG MAN I GOT PICTURES IN THE MAIL ANONYMOUSLY BECAUSE HIS MOTHER WAS AFRAID FOR HIM TO BE SEEN. HE WAS BEATEN ON HIS WAY TO HIS MOTHER'S HOUSE IN CARSON. THOSE PICTURES SURFACED AGAIN IN THE SENTINEL THIS WEEK. HE WAS DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

I HAVE PICTURES OF ANOTHER YOUNG MAN WHO WAS OVER IN THE FOX HILLS MALL, AND I TOTALLY DESPISE CHILDREN HANGING AROUND MALLS. ANYWAY, I THINK IT'S A TERRIBLE HABIT TO FORM. HE WAS BEATEN SEVERELY, AND HIS FACE IS LIKE A PULP. HIS MOTHER SAID WHEN SHE GOT HIM OUT OF JAIL, THE BAIL WAS ONLY \$500, SO YOU KNOW WHAT THE FINE HAD TO BE.

WE HAVE OTHER INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT SHOW DERELICTION OF DUTY IN TERMS OF THE CHIEF. PEOPLE HAVE DONE THINGS THAT HE'S TAKEN VERY LIGHTLY, AND THEY'VE EITHER NOT BEEN REPRIMANDED OR, YOU



KNOW, NOTHING HAS VIRTUALLY HAPPENED TO THEM. THOSE KINDS OF PRACTICES MUST STOP BECAUSE THEY ARE TRUE THAT THESE THINGS ARE HAPPENING TO PEOPLE ON A DAILY BASIS.

IT DOESN'T MATTER ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE YOUNG MAN. SPECIFICALLY BLACK YOUNG MEN IN PARTICULAR, THOSE ARE THE ONES WHO ARE HARMED MOST OF ALL, BUT THE ISSUE OF POLICE BRUTALITY DOES NOT STOP WITH BLACK YOUNG MEN. I HAVE A PICTURE IN MY -- I HAVE A VIDEOTAPE THAT IS IN MY OFFICE WITH NUNCHAKUS BEING USED ON PEOPLE IN THE PRO-LIFE PEOPLE MOVEMENT, SO THOSE FEW INCIDENTS LET'S US KNOW THAT THERE MUST BE CHANGES, AND THAT CHANGE HAS TO BEGIN AT THE TOP BECAUSE IF THE TOP IS ALLOWED TO STAY, THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES. SO I'M WITH THE OTHER FOLK. GATES MUST GO.

MR. GIBBS THANK YOU.

THE HEARING IS SCHEDULED 'TIL 10 O'CLOCK. IF NONE OF THE REST OF YOU COME UP -- PLEASE, MA'AM, COME ON UP.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS LORRAINE HARRIS. I'M A RETIRED SCHOOL TEACHER, AND MY CONCERN IS PARTICULARLY AROUND TRAINING IN RELATION TO RACISM. I THINK WE CAN'T -- WE CAN'T JUST DISMISS THE EFFECT OF RACISM.

IT'S MY EXPERIENCE THAT SO OFTEN WHITE PEOPLE TEND TO THINK THEY BASICALLY KNOW MORE THAN BLACK

PEOPLE IN SO MANY WAYS. I MEAN MAYBE A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO SAY THAT IN PUBLIC, BUT IN SO MANY WAYS, I HAVE FOUND THIS TO BE THE CASE.

I THINK THE TRAINING IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO ADDRESS THIS VERY SERIOUSLY, AND I THINK THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE SOME KIND OF SPECIAL REVIEW BOARD THAT CHARGES OF RACISM AND ANY DEALINGS WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT COULD BE HANDLED PERHAPS AWAY FROM OTHER THINGS IN A WAY THAT WE DON'T JUST GET, YOU KNOW, JUST SAID -- SPOKEN TO IN A WAY THAT "OH, NO, YOU'RE IMAGINING THIS. YOU'RE SUPERSENSITIVE." THERE'S NOTHING IN TERMS OF BEING SUPERSENSITIVE ABOUT BEING TREATED DIFFERENTLY WHEN YOU'RE BLACK.

WE HAVE A LITTLE DAUGHTER WHO WHEN SHE WAS ABOUT 22, FIVE FEET FOUR, ABOUT 110 POUNDS WAS PUT DOWN ON THE GROUND, HANDCUFFS WITH A GUN TO HER HEAD BECAUSE SHE WAS DRIVING A "STOLEN CAR." OUR OWN CAR WHICH HAD BEEN STOLEN HAD BEEN REPORTED FOUND, BUT THEY NEVER CLEARED THE RECORD TO SHOW THAT IT HAD BEEN FOUND, SO SHE WAS TREATED LIKE THIS.

IT'S NOT JUST THE BLACK MAN, BUT I THINK THAT WE NEED TO FORCE THE POLICE TRAINING TO DEAL WITH RACISM AS A VERY SERIOUS ISSUE. I THINK IT SHOULD START WITH SOME KIND OF PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILE IN TERMS OF WHO THEY HIRE. I THINK IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE

COGNIZANCE OF ALL THE OFFICERS THAT THEY HIRE. I THINK THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE THAN MAYBE A THREE HOUR LECTURE ON DON'T BE RACIST. I THINK THEY SHOULD HAVE AN IN DEPTH COURSE ON JUST RACISM BECAUSE YOU GIVE SOMEBODY WITH A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH THESE KINDS OF FEELINGS OF SUPERIORITY A GUN AND AUTHORITY, AND YOU'RE JUST -- IT'S A PROBLEM READY TO EXPLODE.

SO MY THINKING IS TO IF THERE'S GOING TO BE SOME SHIFTING IN THE TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS, WE NEED TO INJECT RACISM AS A VERY SERIOUS ISSUE ALL THE TIME, NOT JUST IN RELATION TO RODNEY KING.

THE RACIST NAMES THEY USE, THE -- HOW SHALL I SAY? THE KIND OF SHEETS THEY USE PARAPHRASING WELFARE APPLICATIONS WHERE THEY SUBSTITUTE ALL THESE RACIST KINDS OF COMMENTS.

I MEAN I'VE LIVED A LONG TIME. I'VE SEEN A LOT OF THINGS, AND THIS IS NOTHING THAT THEY BROADCAST, BUT IF FROM THE CHIEF DOWN DIDN'T SAY THIS BEHAVIOR AS BEING ,OKAY, WE WOULDN'T HAVE A RODNEY KING BEATING, BUT WE ALSO WOULDN'T HAVE MY DAUGHTER BEING ON THE GROUND WEIGHING 110 POUNDS BEING INSULTED DRIVING HER OWN CAR BECAUSE OF THEIR MISTAKE, SO I JUST WISH TO REITERATE AGAIN, I THINK THE QUOTE "NEW" POLICE TRAINING PROGRAM SHOULD REALLY SERIOUSLY TEACH TOWARD RACISM. THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: MA'AM.

MRS. HARRIS: YES.

MR. GIBBS: DID YOUR DAUGHTER TALK WITH YOU ABOUT HOW SHE FELT AFTER THAT INCIDENT AND DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG IT STAYED WITH HER? HOW OLD IS SHE NOW?

MRS. HARRIS: SHE'S 24 NOW. THIS WAS A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO. SHE WAS HOT. SHE WAS HOT. THE OFFICER WHO STOPPED HER WAS A ROOKIE FEMALE OFFICER, AND ALL THE BACKUP OFFICERS THEY HAD AROUND WERE SUPPOSEDLY THERE TO PROTECT THE OFFICER FROM MY DAUGHTER.

I MEAN WE DON'T OWN A GUN IN OUR HOUSE. I DON'T KNOW THAT SHE'S EVER SEEN A GUN UP CLOSE, HAD ONE IN HER HAND, WHATEVER. SHE CERTAINLY IS NO THREAT TO ANYBODY, BUT THE OFFICER WHO DID THIS CALLED ME BEFORE MY DAUGHTER GOT HOME, SO WE DIDN'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAD HAPPENED. IT WAS QUITE A SURPRISE, AND I TOLD HER NOT KNOWING ALL THE FACTS THAT A GUN IN THE HAND OF A SCARED ROOKIE POLICEMAN COULD HAVE BEEN I'D HAVE A DEAD DAUGHTER, AND SHE AGREED WITH ME.

BUT THESE THINGS HAPPEN. AND I'M NOT SURE THAT THE LITTLE BLOND BLUE-EYED GIRL IN BRENTWOOD WOULD HAVE BEEN TREATED THE SAME WAY IF SHE WAS DRIVING HER OWN CAR, A CAR WHICH HER PARENTS OWNED FOR HER. THANK YOU.

MR. JACKSON: ANOTHER QUESTION. YOU SUGGESTED A SPECIAL REVIEW BOARD BE SET UP?

MRS. HARRIS: RIGHT.

MR. JACKSON: YOU'RE RECOMMENDING A REVIEW BOARD MADE UP OF PRIVATE CITIZENS OR POLICE OFFICERS OR A SPECIAL COMMISSION, WHAT?

MRS. HARRIS: I WOULD SAY NO, NOT POLICE OFFICERS BECAUSE THAT'S ASKING THE, YOU KNOW, THE CULPRIT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. I THINK RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS. BECAUSE I KNOW THE POLICE HAVE THEIR PROBLEMS, TOO. THEY GET CALLED A LOT OF THINGS AND WHATEVER, BUT I THINK A RESPONSIBLE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD WHO DOES HANDLE CHARGES OF RACISM AND LOOKS INTO IT AT LEAST UNTIL A POINT SOME YEARS DOWN THE ROAD THAT THIS KIND OF RACIST BEHAVIOR IS EXPUNGED FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE, BELIEVE ME, IT IS ALIVE AND WELL.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MR. JACKSON: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: WHO ELSE HAS SOME THOUGHTS ON THE L.A.P.D.?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS EUTWI (PHONETICALLY). I'M GOING BY THAT NAME BECAUSE THAT WAS THE NAME MY FATHER GAVE TO ME PERIOD. AND I'M JUST HERE TO SAY THAT THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO MR. KING WERE UNCALLED FOR 100 PERCENT.

I LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WHERE I LIVE ON THE OUTSIDE OF A BLACK SIDE. ONE SIDE IS ALL BLACK. ONE

SIDE IS ALL WHITE, AND IT'S NOW BECOMING HISPANIC AND KOREAN AND JAPANESE AND JUST A WHOLE FLAVOR OF CULTURE. I JUST HAPPEN TO BE A DRIVER FOR A BIG COMPANY THAT WEARS BROWN AND VERY PROUD TO BE IN THE SHIPPING BUSINESS, AND THIS PARTICULAR JOB THAT I HAVE HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET ALL TYPES OF PEOPLE IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA, IN THE BUSINESS ASPECT, AND WHAT HAPPENED TO ME AFTER COMING HOME FROM WORK LAST NIGHT WAS PRETTY SCARY.

GOING TO A MCDONALD'S ORDERING TWO HAMBURGERS AND TWO ORDERS OF FRIES AND TWO ICE WATERS, IT WAS, "I'M NOT GOING TO SERVE YOU NIGGERS" LAST NIGHT ON LA BREA BETWEEN OLYMPIC AND SAN VICENTE. I WAS SHOCKED. I TURNED, PUT -- TURNED OFF MY ENGINE, "WHAT DID YOU SAY? EXCUSE ME. I'D LIKE TO ORDER TWO HAMBURGERS, TWO ORDERS OF FRIES AND TWO DRINKS." "AND I'M NOT SERVING YOU TWO NIGGERS." POW. I GOT WHACKED BY A GUY AT MCDONALD'S.

FIRST THING I DID THIS MORNING WAS GET UP TO GO TO MY FATHER'S BARBER SHOP FOR THE PANEL HERE THAT SAID, HEY, COME TO -- I GOT A HAIRCUT -- COME TO THE PANEL OR COME TO THIS MEETING AND ADDRESS THIS ISSUE.

I WAS -- I WENT TO GO CALL 911. I PICKED UP THE PHONE AND CALLED 911. SOMEONE ELSE HAD ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE LAST NIGHT, AND ABOUT 13 POLICE

OFFICERS CAME OVER AND SURELY SAID "STAY RIGHT THERE, YOU KNOW. WE'RE GOING TO CHECK YOU. YOU HAVE A GUN. SOMEBODY SAYS YOU HAVE A GUN," AND I HAD NO GUN. I HAD "WE'RE GOING TO SEARCH YOU," THE WHOLE NINE YARDS.

IT WASN'T THE HEIMLICH MANEUVER. IT WASN'T THAT WHERE THEY TAKE YOU AND DO ALL THAT AND LOCK YOU UP, BUT I WAS TREATED PRETTY UNFAIR AS THE OTHER OFFICERS DROVE UP IN THE OTHER CARS SAYING THAT, "HEY, YOU WANT -- MY PARTNER OVER HERE SAYS THAT YOU'RE WALKING UP ON MY PARTNER. STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE."

"I'M NOT WALKING UP ON YOUR PARTNER, SIR. YOUR PARTNER IS STILL SITTING IN THE CAR OVER THERE. THEY DROVE UP AND YOU HOPPED OUT ON ME, AND NO ONE'S TALKING TO YOU, OFFICER BADGE NUMBER BLAH, BLAH, BLAH."

AND I HAD TO LET HIM KNOW I WASN'T GOING TO TAKE IT, BUT AM I GOING TO TURN AND WALK THIS WAY OR AM I GOING TO TURN AND WALK THIS WAY AND THESE GUYS EVERYWHERE? ONE GUY PULLS OUT A BIG HUGE STICK WEAPON, GUN, SHOTGUN, WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT ON ME, AND MY FRIEND AND I WAS JUST -- JUST STANDING THERE JUST READY TO GET SHOT OR SOMETHING BECAUSE I WAS NOT GOING TO TAKE IT, BUT I DIDN'T CURSE THEM. I SAID, "NO. YOU GUYS ARE WRONG. YOU ARE TAKING THIS REPORT. YOU'RE TRYING TO START A WHOLE OTHER ISSUE HERE BY CREATING A TEMPER WITH ME."

AND I JUST WOULD SUGGEST THE PANEL HERE TODAY, THE COMMITTEE LIKE MISS HARRIS SAID COULD BE FORMED WITHOUT THE POLICE BEING A PART OF IT. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE THE -- I WOULD SAY MEMBERS OF CERTAIN -- LIKE THE WILSHIRE COMMUNITY POLICE COUNCIL HAS A POLICE COUNCIL THAT YOU CAN WRITE LETTERS TO, AND THERE'S SO MANY PROGRAMS AROUND, BUT THESE DOOR-TO-DOOR LETTERS THAT WE GET FROM SHOPPING AT ALPHA BETA AND VONS AND GET YOUR LOCAL DOMINO'S AND STUFF, WHY DON'T WE JUST OUR LOCAL BLACK BUSINESSES, KOREAN BUSINESSES, WHITE BUSINESSES GET TOGETHER AND SAY, "OKAY. LET'S ALL PITCH IN \$10, \$5, AND GET SOME COPIES MADE AT 'IT'S A SNAP' OR 'PIP,' AND LET'S LET THE COMMUNITY KNOW ONCE A MONTH, OKAY, THIS IS WHAT IS GOING ON."

MR. GIBBS: OKAY. DON'T LET ME CUT YOU OFF. IT'S THREE MINUTES, BUT --

MR. EUTWI: I DON'T WANT TO TAKE TOO MUCH MORE TIME, BUT I JUST WANT TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE THAT IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, THE LADY POLICE OFFICERS HAVE THEIR OWN CARS, AND THEY ARE PULLING OVER PEOPLE, AND THEY'RE PROFESSIONAL AND NICE AND COURTEOUS, AND THERE'S A LOT OF BLACK SOLO POLICEWOMEN OUT THERE AND WITH THE L.A.P.D. AND SHERIFF'S AND ALL THE OTHER ONES.

I SEE THEM -- WHEN I SEE A MAN, I'M EXPECTING TO SEE A ROLE MODEL MALE OUT THERE. WHETHER



THEIR HAIR IS NAPPY, NOT CLEAN CUT OR SOMETHING OR JUST IN A -- WHEREVER THEY HAVE IT, I'M EXPECTING TO SEE SOMEBODY THAT'S TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS, AND JUST PUSHING FOR BIGGER AND BRIGHTER PEOPLE HERE.

ESPECIALLY WITH ALL THE IMMIGRANTS COMING IN, AND THE BROKEN DIALECTS THAT EVERYONE DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH HERE. I MEAN I MIGHT BE USING RUN ON'S MYSELF, BUT I'M IN COLLEGE, AND I'M GOING TO LEARN HOW TO CHANGE THAT, AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

MR. BROWN: CAN I ASK A QUESTION OF HIM, PLEASE?

MR. GIBBS: SURE.

MR. BROWN: I DIDN'T QUITE UNDERSTAND. WERE YOU IN YOUR UNIFORM? I KNOW YOU DIDN'T MENTION YOUR COMPANY, BUT I BELIEVE YOU ALL HAVE UNIFORMS?

MR. EUTWI: YES.

MR. BROWN: ARE YOU IN UNIFORM?

MR. EUTWI: NO, I'M NOT. WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE COMPANY IN UNIFORM.

MR. BROWN: OH, YOU'RE NOT?

MR. EUTWI: I WAS WEARING A LEATHER JACKET.

MR. BROWN: NO. I JUST WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU WERE IN -- I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER YOU HAD PARKED YOUR VEHICLE OR YOUR COMPANY VEHICLE AND/OR WHETHER YOU HAD DRIVEN UP IN YOUR COMPANY VEHICLE?

MR. EUTWI: THEY CLOSED THE WALK THROUGH WHEN I WENT IN, AND WE HAD TO DRIVE THROUGH THE -- WE WENT TO THE WINDOW AND SAID, OH, OKAY, WE'LL JUST GO THROUGH THE DRIVE THROUGH. ACTUALLY I WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT WENT IN TO ORDER, AND I SAID I'LL JUST GET BACK IN MY CAR AND DRIVE.

HE WAS IN A HURRY WHOEVER HE WAS, AND I DON'T KNOW. HE MUST HAVE HAD A BAD DAY OR SOMETHING, BUT I KNOW I'M A NIGGER. I'M BLACK, BUT I'M NOT -- I MEAN I'M NOT GOING TO GO AROUND EVERYBODY ELSE AND SAY, "OKAY. NICE SEEING YOU, SIR. HEY, NIGGER, TAKE IT EASY."

WHEN I GO INTO BUSINESS OF THE COMMUNITY BUSINESS LOCALLY, I'M NOT GOING TO GO TO SOMEONE'S HOUSE AND OKAY, HEY, YOU KNOW, NIGGER THIS, NIGGER THAT. I'M NOT -- I'M GOING TO BE THERE, AND I'M GOING TO ACT APPROPRIATELY. THAT IS ONE MESSAGE I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE.

MR. BROWN: I THINK YOU'RE AN EXAMPLE OF BEING WHAT WE READ ABOUT, THE ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND YOU ARE THAT, AND WE ARE THAT, AND WHETHER YOU'RE IN UNIFORM OR NOT, WHETHER YOU ARE JAMAAL WILKES IN A NICE SUIT, IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER. IT APPEARS THAT THERE'S A DOUBLE STANDARD, ONE FOR WHITES AND ONE FOR BLACKS AND THAT THEY CONTINUE TO KEEP TREATING US ANY WHICH WAY

THEY WANT TO.

MR. EUTWI: THAT'S SCARY.

MR. BROWN: IT REALLY IS. IT REALLY IS BECAUSE I WAS SCARED FOR YOU AS YOU WERE SHARING IT WITH ME BECAUSE IT COULD HAPPEN TO ANY ONE OF US, YOU KNOW.

MR. EUTWI: TODAY I JUST FELT GLAD TO BE ALIVE.

MR. BROWN: I APPRECIATE THAT.

MR. JACKSON: LET ME ASK YOU ONE OTHER QUESTION. WERE CHARGES FILED AGAINST YOU LAST NIGHT?

MR. EUTWI: NO. I WENT TO MY LAWYER TODAY, AND I JUST WROTE DOWN EVERYTHING THAT I COULD ABOUT THE INCIDENT.

MR. JACKSON: IN OTHER WORDS, WAS THE SITUATION RESOLVED THERE?

MR. EUTWI: NO. WHAT HAPPENED -- ACTUALLY, NO. I WAS TOLD -- I STILL WANTED TO GET MY TWO HAMBURGERS AND MY TWO FRIES AND MY ICE WATERS, AND THE LADY TOLD ME "NO. YOU STEP ON MY PROPERTY, YOU'RE GOING TO GET -- YOU'RE GOING TO BE TRESPASSING ON THE PROPERTY," AND THEN THE POLICE OFFICER SUGGESTED DON'T EVER EAT AT MC DONALD'S AGAIN, ESPECIALLY THAT ONE BECAUSE THEY'LL SPIT IN YOUR FOOD AND THEY'LL DROP IT ON THE FLOOR AND STEP ON IT, AND I WAS -- I MEAN THESE ARE QUOTES. I'M TELLING IT LIKE IT IS, AND I JUST WENT TO

ANOTHER MC DONALD'S AND GOT TWO BURGERS AND TWO FRIES  
AND NO PROBLEM.

MR. BROWN: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MS. YOUNG: THANK YOU.

MR. JACKSON: THANKS.

MR. GIBBS: DOES ANYONE ELSE WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT THIS EVENING?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: I WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO  
THE YOUNG MAN THAT JUST MADE HIS REPORT THAT I WOULD  
LIKE TO HAVE THAT REPORT TO TAKE TO THE NEXT MEETING OF  
THE WILSHIRE POLICE COUNCIL. I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF  
THE WILSHIRE POLICE COUNCIL SINCE 1971 WHEN THEY FIRST  
ORGANIZED IT.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT AS A FORMER FOSTER  
MOTHER FOR 10 YEARS, PROBATION DEPARTMENT OF LOS ANGELES  
COUNTY, AGE 10 THROUGH 20, I AM STANDING HERE TONIGHT  
ALL IN ONE PIECE. I DID NOT OWN A GUN. I DIDN'T HAVE  
ANY WEAPONS WHATSOEVER, STING RAY, WHATSOEVER.

WHEN THE COUNTY GAVE ME YOUNG MEN FOR 10  
YEARS OUT OF JUVENILE HALL, THEY RANGED FROM SHOPLIFTING  
TO MURDER, AND I CAN'T SEE WHERE IT'S NECESSARY THAT WE  
HAVE TO USE ALL OF THIS AMMUNITION AND DETER AND THINGS  
THAT THEY HAVE TO HAVE WHEN THESE YOUNG MEN OR OFFICERS  
ARE THERE TO PROTECT AND SERVE, AND I FEEL LIKE OUR

CHIEF IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTION WHICH I TOLD HIM HALLOWEEN NIGHT AT THE HALLOWEEN PARTY AT WILSHIRE STATION.

AT THAT TIME, THIS HADN'T HAPPENED, BUT I WAS ASKING HIM WHY DID HE SAY THAT DRUG USERS SHOULD BE SHOT, AND I'M WONDERING IF HE SAID IT, WHY HE SAID THAT BECAUSE HIS OWN SON IS ON DRUGS AND HE HAVEN'T SHOT HIM YET, AND SO, THEREFORE, AND HE DOESN'T HAVE CONTROL OF HIM.

WE HAVE A LOT OF DRUG USERS THAT HAS BEEN HERE SOMETIME IN THE PAST, BUT THEY HAVE HAPPENED TO TURN OUT TO BE SOME OF OUR GOOD CITIZENS AS OF TODAY, SO, THEREFORE, IF WE HAD SHOT THEM ALL, I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE FROM THE DRUG ADDICTION TO A GOOD CITIZEN.

I HAVE HERE A STORY THAT I'M VERY -- I SAT IN COURT ABOUT, AND I WOULD LIKE TO JUST SHARE IT WITH YOU. IT'S NOT THAT LONG, BUT THERE WAS SOME YOUNG MEN, TWO YOUNG MEN CAME TO CALIFORNIA FROM OHIO. ONE WAS FROM COLUMBUS. THE OTHER ONE WAS FROM CINCINNATI. THEY CAME HERE TO FIND WORK FOR THEMSELVES. ONE OF THE YOUNG MEN STUMBLED INTO TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH ON A WEDNESDAY EVENING WHERE THEY WERE HAVING PRAYER SERVICES, AND HE JOINED OUR CHURCH. I'M A MEMBER OF TRINITY.

SO WHEN HE DID, HE WAS VERY HAPPY TO HAVE A

CHURCH HOME BECAUSE HE HAD NO FAMILY. HE HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP IN AN ORPHAN HOME, AND HE WENT TO CHURCH THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY. WELL, ABOUT A COUPLE OF SUNDAYS AFTER THAT, I HADN'T MET HIM, BUT HE CAME TO THE ROSTRUM -- I MEAN TO THE MICROPHONE, AND HE SAID, "I AM IN THE HOTEL AND I'M LOOKING FOR WORK, AND I ALSO NEED SOMEWHERE TO LIVE, SO IF ANY OF YOU HAVE A PLACE OR SOMETHING THAT I CAN DO AT YOUR HOME FOR CHANGE OF PLACE TO LIVE OR YOU KNOW OF A JOB WHERE I CAN FIND, I'LL BE GLAD BECAUSE I HAVE TO GET OUT OF THIS HOTEL BY TOMORROW AT 12 O'CLOCK."

SO AT THAT TIME WHEN HE CAME, ALL OF MY FOSTER CHILDREN JUST ABOUT WAS GROWN. THEY WERE OUT, AND I DASHED DOWN AND I SAID, "OH, WELL, I'VE TAKEN CARE OF SO MANY OTHERS, I'M SURE THERE WAS MUCH WORSE THAT IT WON'T HURT TO TAKE ONE MORE ON." AND SO SURE ENOUGH, I TOLD HIM I WOULD BE THERE AT THE HOTEL AT 12 O'CLOCK THE NEXT DAY WHEN HIS TIME WAS UP ON A MONDAY AND PICK HIM UP AND TAKE HIM TO LOOK FOR A JOB SINCE HE WAS NEW IN THE CITY, SO I DID.

I PICKED HIM UP IN HOLLYWOOD AT THE HOTEL AND TOOK HIM TO CULVER CITY TO THE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, AND HE WAS VERY HAPPY BECAUSE THE CITY WAS SO HUGE, AND HE JUST DIDN'T KNOW WHICH WAY TO GO, AND HE FILLED OUT APPLICATIONS THERE. THE NEXT DAY I DIDN'T TAKE HIM. I

LEFT HIM AT MY HOUSE, AND HE WAS FIXING EVERYTHING HE  
COULD FIND IN THE PLUMBING DEPARTMENT THAT WAS WRONG.

SO THE NEXT DAY I PICKED HIM UP, AND I SAID  
OKAY. WE GOING TO THE AIRPORT AREA. SO I TOOK THIS  
YOUNG MAN TO AIRPORT BOULEVARD AND CENTURY, AND I SAY,  
"I'M GOING TO DROP YOU HERE, AND I WANT YOU TO GO ALL  
AROUND THIS CIRCLE BECAUSE SO MANY AIRLINES HAVE  
EMPLOYMENT OFFICES HERE. NOW YOU JUST CHECK THEM OUT,  
AND IF YOU GET LOST, CALL ME, AND I'LL COME BACK AND GET  
YOU."

SO IN ABOUT TWO HOURS, HE CALL ME. HE  
SAID, "GUESS WHAT? I JUST GOT A JOB WITH THE AIRPORT  
POST OFFICE AS A CHEF COOK." NOW, HE HAD AN EXPERIENCE  
WITH THIS, AND HE SAYS, "AND I'M JUST SO HAPPY ABOUT  
IT." NOW, THAT'S THE FIRST PLACE HE STOPPED THERE TO  
THE LEFT. AND SO THEN HE TOLD ME HE HAD TO GO TO WORK.  
HE WAS GOING TO WORK AND HE DID. HE WENT TO WORK.

AND THE OTHER YOUNG MAN THAT CAME FROM  
CINCINNATI, HE GOT A JOB WITH ABC TELEVISION AS A  
SECURITY OFFICER, SO ANYWAY -- I'M GONNA SOON FINISH,  
BUT ANYWAY COMING DOWN TO THE PROBLEM ABOUT POLICE  
BRUTALITY, THESE TWO YOUNG MEN AFTER THEY HAD THAT JOB  
WAS JOGGING UP THE STREETS TO SEE HOLLYWOOD BECAUSE THEY  
WERE BOTH EMPLOYED ON A SATURDAY, AND AS THEY WENT UP  
MC CADDEN RIGHT IN FRONT OF SIZZLER'S THERE OFF OF

HIGHLAND AVENUE THERE, MC CADDEN, THEY STOPPED FOR THE TRAFFIC TO CLEAR AND THEY WERE IN THEIR JOGGING SUITS.

THE POLICE APPEARED, AND THEY STOPPED THEM AND THEY CHECKED THEM, AND THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THEM, AND THEY SAID SO ONE OF THE OFFICERS WENT TO HIS CAR. HE OPENED UP THE TRUNK OF THE CAR. HE BROUGHT OUT TWO BROWN PAPER BAGS AND HE SAY, "YOU SEE THIS?" HE SAYS, "YES." THEY SAID, "YES."

HE SAID, "THIS IS YOURS." HE SAID, "WHAT IS THAT?" THEY SAID, "WHAT IS IT?"

"THIS IS YOURS." THEY SAID, "WHAT IS IT?" THEY SAYS, "WELL, ANYWAY, WE'RE TAKING YOU IN."

SO THEY TOOK THE TWO YOUNG MEN FROM THAT CORNER TO THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE STATION AND BOOKED THEM IN AS HAVING SOME HASHISH OR WHATEVER IT WAS IN A BAG AND SOME MARIJUANA.

SO ABC TELEVISION COMPANY, THEY FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS IN JAIL THERE. THEY HAD JUST CHECKED HIS RECORD THAT IT WAS VERY GOOD BEFORE THEY TURNED HIM -- BEFORE THEY HIRED HIM AS A SECURITY OFFICER, AND THEY GOT THE OTHER YOUNG MAN OUT FROM CINCINNATI.

THIS OTHER YOUNG MAN FROM COLUMBUS, HE HAD A SMALL RECORD IN THE PAST AS A TEENAGER. HE STOLE A CAR, SO THIS OFFICER JUST ADDED SO MUCH MORE TO THIS, AND THEY DETAINED HIM, AND SENT HIM ALL THE WAY BACK TO



NOT COLUMBUS, BUT THEY SENT HIM TO RAYBROOK WHERE THEY HAD THE RECORDS OR SOMETHING TO BE CLEARED, AND HE WAS BACK THERE.

AND WHILE HE WAS BACK THERE WAITING TO BE -- FOR THE HEARING, HE HAD A PHYSICAL BREAKDOWN, PHYSICAL JUST BECAUSE OF ALL THIS HAPPENING TO HIM. HE LOST HIS JOB AND ALL THAT. SO IN THE MEANTIME, HE WAITED FOR THE HEARING, AND HE HAD THIS BREAKDOWN.

SO WHEN IT DID COME TO PASS THAT THEY HAD THE HEARING, I HAD ALREADY WRITTEN TO THE JUDGE. HE HAD GIVEN ME ALL OF THESE PEOPLE NAMES, THE JUDGE, THE LAWYER, THE SOCIAL WORKER, AND THE WATCH COMMANDER. I HAD WRITTEN TO THEM ALL, AND THEY HAD MY PHONE NUMBER, SO AFTER IT WAS OVER, THEY FOUND HIM NOT GUILTY OF ANY OF THAT, BUT THEY HAD WRECKED HIS HEALTH.

MR. GIBBS: THAT'S EIGHT MINUTES, MA'AM.  
WHAT IS THE ONE CHANGE YOU'D LIKE TO SEE?

UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: THE CHANGE, THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE, I WOULD LIKE FOR POLICE OFFICERS TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE AND TO SEE THAT WE GET OUR CIVIL RIGHTS, OUR HUMAN RIGHTS AND OUR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS, AND THAT IF THEY ARE EMPLOYED AND ARE PAID BY THE TAXPAYERS, I FEEL LIKE SINCE THEY ARE RECEIVING THE SALARIES FROM THE TAXPAYERS, THEY SHOULD BE GLAD TO PROTECT OUR CITIZENS AND SEE THAT OUR YOUNG

PEOPLE ARE NOT HARASSED, ARE LIED ON, EITHER JUST USE ALL TYPE OF PHONY WORDS AND LIARS TO GET THEM ENTRAPPED, SO I THINK THAT SHOULD DO IT.

BUT I DO SAY THE YOUNG MAN CAME BACK, HE WAS ON SSI TO GO TO SCHOOL. HE WENT TO CITY COLLEGE, AND HE WAS THERE TAKING LAW, SO BUT HE ALSO GOT BEAT UP AGAIN ON CITY COLLEGE. THIS, MR. GIBBS, FROM THAT, AFTER THEY SENT HIM BACK BECAUSE HE WAS RUSHING TO CLASS. HE WAS A STUDENT. HE HAD SPECIAL AWARDS, AND HE CAME UP ON THE COUNSELOR. SHE SAID WE'RE LOOKING FOR A SPANISH PERSON, AND HE SAYS I'M NOT ONE. AND SHE CHECKED HIM AND COULD SEE HE WAS NOT, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, HE WAS RUSHING BECAUSE HE WAS GOING TO BE LATE FOR HIS CLASS, AND THEY BEAT HIM UP RIGHT ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS.

HE LATER HAD A MENTAL BREAKDOWN. HE ASKED FOR HELP. THERE'S NO HELP, AND POLICE CHECKED AND SAID -- THEY CALLED ME, AND THEY SAID THEY DIDN'T HAVE A BED AT UNIT 3 AT THE DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL THERE. WE HAVE OUR COUNTY, AND HE WAS LEFT ON THE STREETS. SO FINALLY HE RAN ACROSS -- HE'S -- HE LOST HIS MIND.

SO FINALLY HE WENT DOWN THE STREETS THERE AT WILSHIRE AND LA BREA. HIS MIND FLIPPED. HE SAW A MAN STANDING THERE, AND HE THOUGHT HE WAS A SPY. HE BEAT HIM UP WITH HIS BARE HANDS, AND HE WAS TAKEN TO

JAIL AND PUT IN THE COUNTY JAIL, AND SO HE HAD A LAWYER AND SO ON, PUBLIC DEFENDER, BUT I THOUGHT THE LAWYER -- OKAY.

MR. GIBBS: IS HE OKAY NOW?

UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: NO.

MR. GIBBS: HE'S IN PRISON NOW?

UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: HE'S IN PRISON. I KEPT UP WITH THAT, AND THE JUDGE SEEMS LIKE SHE'S GOING TO GIVE HIM AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO -- THE PSYCHIATRIST WAS THERE THAT EVALUATED HIM. HE SAID HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL, AND HE -- THEY HAD FOUND ONE THAT WOULD TAKE HIM FOR TWO YEARS, AND I THOUGHT THAT'S WHERE HE WAS GOING TO GO WHEN IT WAS OVER, BUT WHEN I GOT THE VERDICT, HE WAS SENT TO CHINO FOR SEVEN YEARS. HE WAS A MENTAL PATIENT. HE NEEDED HELP, AND HE HAD BEEN HARRASSED AND DENIED OPPORTUNITIES BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT CAUSED HIM ALL THE PROBLEMS.

MR. GIBBS: OKAY. WELL, WE HOPE HE GETS THE HELP THAT HE NEEDS.

UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: WE HOPE SO, TOO. WE'LL TRY AND I WILL SEND THIS UP AND CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THIS, BUT THERE ARE MANY OTHER THINGS, AND I WOULD LIKE TO AS I SAID TAKE HIS REPORT BECAUSE PLUS I DO TRY TO DO WHAT I CAN IN THE WILSHIRE POLICE COUNCIL

MEETING TO HELP GET THIS GOING, AND SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'M SORRY IF I TOOK UP TOO MUCH OF YOUR TIME.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MS. YOUNG: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: ANY OTHER STATEMENTS THIS EVENING?

YOUNG LADY IN THE BLUE, YOU'RE LEANING FORWARD. I USED TO DO THAT IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

YES, YOU. DON'T LOOK AROUND. WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME MAKE A STATEMENT?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS WENDY JAMES, AND I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO A LOT OF WHAT IS BEING SAID UP HERE TONIGHT, AND I HAVE TO SAY THAT I AGREE WITH MOST OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID. I THINK ASKING THE DRAGON TO POLICE ITSELF IS GOING TO BE A DIFFICULT SITUATION.

SOMEONE SAID ONCE THAT THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS VIGILANCE, AND IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, WE'VE BEEN, LET'S SAY, LESS VIGILANT THAN WE WERE, SAY, IN THE SIXTIES, AND I FEEL FOR THAT REASON BECAUSE WE SEEM TO BECOME ANESTHETIZED BY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PROGRESS THAT WE FAIL TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON SO TO SPEAK, AND THAT ALLOWED OTHER PEOPLE IN OTHER AREAS OR THE POWERS THAT BE SO TO SPEAK TO TAKE ACTIONS AGAINST THEM OR THAT WERE TO OUR DETRIMENT.

THE STORIES ABOUT POLICE ABUSE COULD GO ON AND ON AND ON. WE COULD BE HERE ALL NIGHT. I THINK THE BOTTOM LINE IS ESPECIALLY BEING YOUNG IN LOS ANGELES, I WAS BORN HERE AND I WAS RAISED HERE. THE POINT IS THAT THE POLICE HAVE A LICENSE TO TAKE BLACK LIFE WITH IMPUGNITY. AS A TEENAGER I KNEW THIS. AS A CHILD I KNEW THIS, AND I KNOW IT NOW AS AN ADULT.

I WORK IN L.A. UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND I SEE IT EVERYDAY. THEY HAVE A LICENSE TO TAKE OUR LIVES, AND LIKE I SAID, THEY DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER FOR IT ONE IOTA. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IS WHERE ARE ALL THE WHITE LIBERALS WHO WERE PROTESTING AGAINST THE WAR NOW?

IT SEEMS THAT WE TEND TO FIGHT BATTLES FOR EVERYBODY'S LIBERTY, AND WE FIGHT THEM ALONE. WE'RE NOT JUST FIGHTING FOR OUR OWN LIBERTY, BUT WHEN THE BLACK MOVEMENT GOT STARTED IN THE SIXTIES, WE WERE FIGHTING FOR WHAT WE FELT WAS OUR DUE RIGHTS AS HUMAN BEINGS, AND OUT OF THAT CAME BROWN POWER AND THE AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT AND SEVERAL OTHER MOVEMENTS, AND WE HAD ALL THESE FACTIONS THAT WERE -- THAT HAD LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCES AGAINST THE WHITE SUPREMIST GOVERNMENT, AND IT SEEMS THAT EVERYTHING WENT IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

I THINK WE MIGHT NEED TO GO IN THE DIRECTION OF THE RAINBOW COALITION. WE NEED TO BAND

TOGETHER WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES. WE NEED TO TURN THE FIRE UP AND WE NEED TO KEEP IT UP, AND WE NEED SOME KIND OF COMMISSION THAT'S NOT GOING TO PULL ANY PUNCHES, THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE BOUGHT, THAT'S GOING TO BE AND STAY IN OUR CORNER, AND EVERY TIME AN OFFICER NO MATTER WHAT COLOR, WHAT CREED COMES OUT AND MAKES A STATEMENT AGAINST ANYONE REGARDING THEIR RELIGION, THEIR COLOR, CAST OR WHATEVER, THAT SHOWS CLEARLY THAT HE'S OUT OF LINE OR SHE'S OUT OF LINE AS A POLICE OFFICER, THAT GROUP NEEDS TO MAKE IT HEARD.

WE NEED TO TAKE THE MEDIA TO TASK. EVERY TIME I SEE AN ARTICLE ON CRACK BABIES, IT'S ALWAYS FULL OF BLACK WOMEN AND CHILDREN. I'M TIRED OF IT AS THOUGH WE WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO WERE ON THIS PARTICULAR DRUG. THAT IS NOT TRUE. I KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT IS NOT TRUE.

I FEEL THAT THE MEDIA DOES A LOT TO PROPAGATE THIS NEW FEELING OF RACISM AND RESENTMENT IN THE EUROPEAN AMERICAN AND NOT ONLY THEM, BUT IN OTHER AREAS IN OTHER COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE A FEELING OF HOSTILITY AGAINST BLACK PEOPLE. THEY DO NOT -- OTHER PEOPLE IN AMERICA NEED TO KNOW AFRICAN HISTORY. THEY NEED TO KNOW AFRO AMERICAN HISTORY. THEY NEED TO KNOW OUR CONTRIBUTIONS. IT'S PART OF -- THEIR HISTORY IS NOT MADE UP OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WHITE AMERICANS ONLY.

IT IS MADE UP OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY ALL AMERICANS OF EVERY COLOR, AND THAT IS NOT WHAT YOU GET IN THE SCHOOLS.

MR. GIBBS: I HAVE TO BRING YOU BACK A LITTLE BACK TOWARDS THE L.A.P.D. NOW.

MS. JAMES: OKAY.

MR. GIBBS: BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOUT AT FIVE MINUTES.

DO YOU HAVE ANY FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE L.A.P.D.?

MS. JAMES: I THINK WE NEED TO THINK CAREFULLY. IF WE'RE GOING TO START SOME KIND OF COMMISSION, WE NEED TO -- OR GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING TO, LET'S SAY, A CITIZEN'S COMMISSION THAT ARE GOING TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS TO THE POLICE, THAT WE NEED TO GIVE IT SOME VERY DEEP THOUGHT, AND WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT HOW MUCH POWER THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE. WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO? ARE THEY GOING TO SIT AND GRIPE AND COMPLAIN? ARE THEY GOING TO BECOME A PART OF THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY OF LOS ANGELES? WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN HERE?

BECAUSE RIGHT NOW I SEE A CHIEF OF POLICE WHO'S DOING WHATEVER HE WANTS TO DO, AND AUTHORITY AND THIS FEELING STARTS AT THE TOP, AND BY TURNING HIS EYES AWAY, HE'S CONDONING EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON.

I'VE BEEN AT GUNPOINT MYSELF FOR NO REASON

AS I'M SURE MOST BLACK PEOPLE MY AGE AND YOUNGER HAVE,  
AND IT'S GETTING WORSE, AND BEFORE MORE OF US DIE, WE  
NEED TO STOP IT. THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MS. YOUNG: THANK YOU.

MR. JACKSON: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: ANY OTHER STATEMENTS THIS  
EVENING?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: I HAVE A STATEMENT.  
I'M BERNAL DAVIS, AND I WOULD LIKE -- I HAVE A VERY  
SIMPLE REQUEST, AND THAT REQUEST IS THAT THERE BE SOME  
SORT OF LIMITATION AS TO THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS AT A  
PARTICULAR SCENE IN RELATIONSHIP TO WHAT THAT SCENE MAY  
REQUIRE.

THE YOUNG MAN MADE A COMMENT THAT THERE  
WERE 13 OFFICERS THAT APPEARED AT WHATEVER THE INCIDENT  
WAS LAST NIGHT. TO ME THAT APPEARS TO BE A GROSS AMOUNT  
OF OVERKILL.

SOMEHOW SOMEONE IN AUTHORITY SHOULD BE ABLE  
TO ESTABLISH SOME REASONABLE RATIO OF HOW MANY OFFICERS  
WOULD APPEAR AT A PARTICULAR CRIME SCENE AND NO MORE.  
I UNDERSTAND THAT IN THE RODNEY KING INCIDENT, THERE  
WERE ABOUT 28 OFFICERS OF VARIOUS POLICE AUTHORITIES,  
AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT KING MAY HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF  
DOING, BUT WHATEVER HE WAS DOING, IT DIDN'T REQUIRE 28



OFFICERS.

THAT IS MY REQUEST THAT SOMETHING SOMEHOW BE DONE ABOUT THAT. THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED I FEEL.

MR. GIBBS: THAT'S A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION. I KNOW THAT'S ONE THAT WE'LL TAKE TO THE COMMISSION. THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER STATEMENTS? OKAY.

I'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE PART -- THIS IS PART OF THE SAME EFFORT ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION. THERE WILL BE A CANDIDATE'S FORUM SATURDAY, MAY 4TH AT TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH FEATURING CANDIDATES, THE RUN-OFF CANDIDATES FROM THE 6TH DISTRICT: RUTH GALANTER, MARY LEE GRAY; 8TH DISTRICT, MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND ROD WRIGHT; AND THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT #1, BARBARA BOUDREAUX AND STERLING DELONE.

THAT'S SATURDAY, MAY 4TH FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED AT TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, AND THE FLYERS ARE UP HERE.

I WANT TO -- ON BEHALF OF LANGSTON AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, I THANK ALL OF YOU FOR TURNING OUT TONIGHT. IT WAS NOT SO MUCH YOUR NUMBERS BUT THE COMMENTS WE GOT TONIGHT, THE COMMENTS WE GOT MONDAY.

ONE OF THE COMMENTS WE GOT MONDAY I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU. I THINK IT WAS A YOUNG MAN WHO CAME

AND SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE POLICE SHOULD HAVE CARDS, I.D. CARDS, AND THAT EVERY TIME THEY STOPPED YOU WITH THEIR PHOTOS AND THEIR BADGE NUMBER AND THAT EVERY TIME THEY STOPPED YOU BEFORE THEY WROTE YOUR TICKET OR HAD ANY INTERACTION WITH YOU -- OBVIOUSLY THIS WOULD NOT APPLY TO A VIOLENT FELONY-TYPE ARREST, BUT FOR A TRAFFIC STOP OR ANYTHING ELSE, THEY WOULD HAND YOU THEIR I.D. CARD WITH THEIR BADGE NUMBER AND THEIR PHOTO SO YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO ASK FOR IT AND THAT THEY WOULD BE ON NOTICE THAT YOU KNEW WHO THEY WERE AND YOU COULD REPORT THAT INTERACTION.

I THINK THAT IS A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION. I DON'T WANT YOU REPEATING IT AROUND TOWN BECAUSE PART OF WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS HAVE SOME SURPRISE AND PRESENT THESE THINGS TO THE COMMISSION, BUT THAT'S THE KIND OF THING THAT WE HOPE TO GET OUT OF THESE HEARINGS.

SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE: I WAS -- I'M KIND OF SHY. IT TOOK ME A MOMENT TO GET WARMED UP. COULD I MAKE A COMMENT, PLEASE?

MR. GIBBS: PLEASE.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS VIOLA JONES, AND I'M A PARALEGAL STUDENT AT WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY I'M A MOTHER AND A NATIVE

OF LOS ANGELES AND I'M HERE. A COUPLE OF ISSUES THAT I FEEL IS RELEVANT, RELATIVE TO WHAT WE'RE DISCUSSING.

I FEEL THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A CITIZEN'S REVIEW BOARD, AND I FEEL ALSO THAT THIS COMMISSION SHOULD INVESTIGATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY. THERE ARE POCKETS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS THAT ARE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE CITY. I LIVE IN ONE OF THEM.

I'M A BLOCK AND A HALF OUTSIDE OF L.A. CITY PROPER. THEREFORE, WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH L.A. COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, AND IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, THERE'S BEEN TWO INCIDENTS WHICH HAVE AFFECTED MY FAMILY PERSONALLY. ONE JUST A LITTLE OVER THREE YEARS AGO WHEN MY SON WAS 15. WE HAD A ROBBERY, NOT A ROBBERY. A GRAND THEFT THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AT OUR HOME. WHEN WE ARRIVED BACK HOME, I CALLED THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. WE HAD A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHO HAD PERPETRATED THIS CRIME, AND WE WERE WAITING FOR THEM TO COME AND MAKE A POLICE REPORT SO WE COULD MOVE ON FURTHER.

IT TOOK AN HOUR AND A HALF, TWO HOURS FOR THEM TO COME. IT WAS ON A SUNDAY LATE AFTERNOON. BY THE TIME THAT THEY DID ARRIVE, IT HAD STARTED TO GET DARK, AND I HAD SENT MY SON WHO WAS 15 AT THE TIME WHO HAD A LEARNER'S PERMIT TO GO OUTSIDE AND LOCK UP MY CAR, CLOSE THE SUNROOF.

AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CAR DID COME UP, AND I HAD TO WALK OUT ON THE PORCH AND SAID, "WELL, YOU KNOW, PLEASE COME IN." I'M WAVING TO THEM PLEASE COME IN SO THEY COULD TAKE THIS REPORT. UNFORTUNATELY THEY PROCEEDED TO JAM MY SON IN MY DRIVEWAY ATTEMPTING TO OPEN MY CAR, TURN ON THE CAR AND CLOSE THE SUNROOF, AND I WAS VERY ADAMANT ABOUT THE FACT THAT, HEY, THAT'S NOT THE PERPETRATOR OF THE CRIME. WOULD YOU COME AND MAKE THE REPORT.

TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, WITH THE LIGHTS SHINING ON HIM AND, YOU KNOW, MAKING HIM PUT HIS HANDS ON HIS HEAD AND SPREAD AND SO MUCH AND SO IN MY DRIVEWAY ON MY PROPERTY, YOU KNOW, THEY WOULD NOT LEAVE THIS YOUNG BLACK MAN ALONE. AND IT GOT TO THE POINT WHERE THEY DREW A GUN ON ME BECAUSE I WAS INSISTING THAT THEY DO WHAT THEY WERE CALLED TO DO AND LEAVE MY SON ALONE.

I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO BE ANOTHER EULA LOVE, OKAY. NOW, I ENDED UP HAVING TO CALL THE WATCH COMMANDER, HAVE THEM SEND OUT ANOTHER CAR TO INSIST THAT A REPORT BE TAKEN, AND I AM VERY UPSET ABOUT THAT. I HAD TO GO THROUGH A WHOLE BUNCH OF CHANGES WITH THE LIAISON AT KENNETH HAHN'S OFFICE AND SO ON AND SO FORTH TO GET A POLICE REPORT FILED.

NOW, JUST A LITTLE OVER SIX MONTHS AGO, I BELIEVE IT WAS SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, I ONLY HAVE ONE SON

AND MY NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR'S SON WHO WAS APPROACHING 21 -- HE'S THE SAME AGE AS MY DAUGHTER, AND WE'VE BEEN NEIGHBORS FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS -- HAD JUST RETURNED HOME FROM A TWO-YEAR STINT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN GERMANY. HE HAD JUST BEEN HOME A COUPLE OF DAYS. HE HAD BOUGHT A NEW CAR, AND HE AND MY SON WERE GETTING READY TO LEAVE TO GO TO THE MALL TO SHOP OR SOMETHING.

BACKING OUT OF HIS DRIVEWAY, HE WAS STOPPED BY AN L.A. COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT OFFICER, AND THEY PROCEEDED TO JAM THEM, GET THEM OUT THE CAR, HEY, LET'S GO THROUGH ALL THIS OTHER STUFF, AND I HAPPENED TO LOOK OUT MY WINDOW AND WENT OUTSIDE, AND I APPROACHED THE OFFICER, AND I TOLD MY SON AND MY NEIGHBOR'S SON JUST BE COOL BECAUSE WHATEVER GOES DOWN, I'M GOING TO BE A WITNESS TO IT.

SO WHEN THEY FINALLY GOT THROUGH GOING THROUGH ALL WHAT THEY WERE GOING THROUGH -- NOW, THIS IS AN -- MY SON HAD JUST TURNED 18, COLLEGE STUDENT. HERE'S A YOUNG MAN WHO WITH HIM HAD JUST GIVEN TWO YEARS OF HIS LIFE TO SERVE THIS COUNTRY AND WAS ON A LIST GETTING READY TO POSSIBLY GO BACK TO THE PERSIAN GULF. AFTER THEY WERE JAMMED, AND I FEEL UNNECESSARILY, THEY WERE, YOU KNOW -- THEY FINALLY LET THEM GO, AND I ASKED THE OFFICER, AND I ASKED HIM WHY DID HE BOTHER HIM, WHY WHEN HE'S PULLING OUT OF HIS OWN DRIVEWAY. I MEAN WE'RE

NOT TALKING GANG BANGERS. WE'RE NOT TALKING, YOU KNOW, DRUG USERS OR ANYTHING. WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THESE YOUNG MEN. WHY DID HE STOP THEM? THEY HAD NOT COMMITTED ANY CRIME. THEY HAD NO PROBABLE CAUSE TO BOTHER THEM WHATSOEVER.

WELL, YOU SEE, NOW THIS WAS PROBABLY ABOUT FIVE OR SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING. IT WAS BECAUSE THEY HAD HAD A ROBBERY SOMETIME EARLY THAT MORNING, AND THAT THEY MIGHT POSSIBLY FIT, YOU KNOW, THESE SUSPECTS.

I'M JUST BOTHERED BY THINGS LIKE THAT THAT HAPPEN. I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT ENCOMPASSES ALL OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY BECAUSE THERE ARE -- YOU CAN GO THREE BLOCKS AND BE IN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA. I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT, YOU KNOW, THEY ALL KNOW.

ONE OTHER THING IF I MAY. THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE "LOS ANGELES TIMES" ON APRIL 12TH REGARDING THE POLICE OFFICERS AND WHEN THEY GET INTO THIS LITTLE HASSLE IN TERMS OF POLICE BRUTALITY, THEY, YOU KNOW, GO INTO A STRESS LEAVE, AND IT MENTIONED A PARTICULAR OFFICER. THEY HAVE NAMED HIM BY THE NAME OF NORMAN NELSON WHO I BELIEVE IS GETTING SOMETHING LIKE \$20,000 A YEAR AS HIS STRESS PENSION.

AND I WENT MYSELF TODAY DOWN TO THE ARCHIVE SECTION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TO LOOK AT A CASE TO BE SURE BECAUSE I HAD READ A LOT ABOUT A

CASE THAT HAD TOOK PLACE STARTING, I THINK, IN LIKE LATE 1978, EARLY 1979, THAT REVOLVED AROUND THE INCIDENT WHERE A YOUNG BLACK WOMAN WAS RAPED BY SEVERAL POLICE OFFICERS, AND THIS PARTICULAR OFFICER WAS ONE OF THEM. IT'S A PART OF PUBLIC RECORD.

MR. GIBBS: WHAT WAS HIS NAME AGAIN?

MS. JONES: NORMAN NELSON.

I HAVE PROBLEMS AS A TAXPAYER WHEN I AM PAYING TAXES FOR SOMEONE TO PROTECT AND SERVE ME AND AT THE SAME TIME THEY VICTIMIZE ME. THAT'S THE FIRST PROBLEM, BUT MY SECOND PROBLEM IS THAT MY TAXES ALSO GO TO SUPPORT THEM AND THEY, YOU KNOW, GET IT TAX FREE, OKAY. I REALLY HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THAT.

AND I THINK THAT THE STRATEGY OF, YOU KNOW, IF THERE'S SO MUCH STRESS THAT THESE OFFICERS ARE ENDURING FIRST OF ALL -- THERE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST PERSONS THAT SPOKE HAD SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A PSYCHOLOGICAL MAKEUP OR WHATEVER SHOULD BE DONE BEFOREHAND, BUT IF THEY'RE SO STRESSED, THEN WHY ARE THEY NOT OUT ON STRESS LEAVE BEFORE INCIDENTS LIKE MR. KING'S HAPPEN? THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MR. BROWN: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: DO WE HAVE ANYONE ELSE?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS LINDA

WILLIAMS, AND I AM A TEACHER WITH L.A. UNIFIED SCHOOLS. I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE FACT THAT WE AS CITIZENS CANNOT RID THE CITY OF WHAT A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BELIEVE IS AN INCOMPETENT CHIEF.

AS A TAXPAYER, I FEEL I'M NOT GETTING MY MONEY'S WORTH WHEN A CHIEF CAN MAKE IRRESPONSIBLE STATEMENTS ABOUT MINORITIES IN THE CITY. IN VIEW OF THIS, I FEEL THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FORM A REVIEW BOARD OR A -- JUST A BODY OF CITIZENS ALONG WITH THE MAYOR WHO HAS THE POWER TO HIRE AND FIRE THE CHIEF IF THE CHIEF IS FOUND GUILTY OF MISCONDUCT OR JUST NEGLIGENT IN HIS DUTIES. THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MS. JONES: I GOT SO INVOLVED EMOTIONALLY WITH WHAT I SAID BEFORE THAT I FORGOT. MY SON WHO IS NOW 18 HAD ASKED ME BECAUSE HE'S ON HIS WAY OUT OF TOWN ON AN AIRPLANE TONIGHT HAD ASKED ME IF I WOULD POSSIBLY MAKE A SUGGESTION, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY RELEVANT.

WHEN WE THINK IN TERMS OF CREATING COMMISSIONS AND CITIZEN REVIEW BOARDS, I THINK THAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEERS BECAUSE WE HAVE A -- YOU KNOW, OUR YOUNG TEENAGE YOUNG BLACK MEN AND WOMEN ARE CONSTANTLY ASSAULTED, YOU KNOW, VERBALLY OR WHATEVER. ANY TIME THEY STOP THEM, EVERYBODY'S GOT TO LAY DOWN, OKAY.



AND HE HAD SAID, "MOM, YOU KNOW, IT REALLY WOULD BE GOOD IF WE DID SOMETHING IN TERMS OF A POLICE REVIEW BOARD AND INCORPORATE IN IT THAT AT LEAST ONE OR TWO MEMBERS OF THAT CITIZEN'S REVIEW BOARD WOULD HAVE TO BE PART OF THAT PEER GROUP."

WE WANT THEM TO BE OUR LEADERS FOR TOMORROW, BUT WE DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT TODAY. AND WE HAVE A LOT MORE THAT ARE NOT GANG BANGERS AND NOT, YOU KNOW, DRUGGIES AND WHAT HAVE YOU, AND I THINK WE NEED TO ADDRESS THEIR NEEDS AND LET THEM HAVE SOME INPUT IN WHAT WE DO IN TERMS OF A COMMISSION OR REVIEW BOARD. THANK YOU.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MY NAME IS ROSTINE CALHOUN, AND I'M A MUSICIAN, AND PERSONALLY I FIND IT AMAZING THAT PEOPLE ARE SO UP IN ARMS OVER THE RODNEY KING ISSUE IN THE SENSE THAT I GREW UP IN WATTS. I LIVED IN WATTS, COMPTON. I'VE LIVED IN WHAT MOST OF US REFER TO AS THE 'HOOD. THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME. NOT ONLY IN THE PHYSICAL SENSE, BUT I THINK WE LIVING IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY, IT'S LIKE INSTITUTIONALIZED TERRORISM, YOU KNOW.

I'M PERSONALLY TIRED OF GETTING STOPPED BY THE POLICE AND BASICALLY -- I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A RACIST THING OR JUST MORE OF A RACIST THING AND A POWER TRIP, YOU KNOW. IT'S LIKE THEY WANT TO CASTRATE YOU ON

THE STREETS, YOU KNOW. IT'S LIKE "GET DOWN, BOY. LAY DOWN."

I'VE HAD GUNS PUT TO MY HEAD. I'VE BEEN CALLED A NIGGER AND A BLACK WHATEVER. YOU KNOW, I'M NOT GOING TO GO INTO DETAIL, BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, AND IT'S GOT TO STOP. IT'S GOT TO STOP, AND IT DOES -- WE DO NEED SOME TYPE OF COMMISSION BECAUSE I THINK THAT THE TERRORISM BEGINS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT ITSELF BECAUSE MOST OF THESE POLICE THAT STOP YOU -- AND I'M NOT SAYING THAT THEY'RE ALL TERRIBLE BECAUSE I'VE MET SOME WHO SEEM LIKE PRETTY FAIR, DECENT POLICEMAN. I CAN THINK OF THE TIMES I'VE MET SOME OF THEM THAT WERE OKAY.

THAT'S A PROBLEM BECAUSE I MEAN ON THE WHOLE, LIKE THE YOUNG LADY SAID, WE'RE PAYING TAXES, AND WE'RE FINANCING THESE PEOPLE TO PROTECT US, AND MOST OF US ARE BEING TERRORIZED, YOU KNOW. A LOT OF BROTHERS, YOU KNOW, YOU DRIVING DOWN THE STREET, YOU KNOW, YOU SEE A POLICEMAN IT'S LIKE "OH, MAN." IT'S LIKE INSTANTLY YOU'RE THINKING "OH, MAN, AM I OKAY? IS EVERYTHING COOL?"

IT'S NOT "HOW YOU DOING, OFFICER THOMPSON? I'LL SEE YOU AT THE POLICEMEN'S BALL." ARE THEY GOING TO COME DOWN ON ME? ARE THEY GOING TO KILL ME? I WAKE UP EVERYDAY KNOWING THAT I MIGHT HAVE TO DIE TODAY.

IT'S LIKE IF NOT AT THE HANDS OF THE CRIPS, AT THE HANDS OF THE POLICE AND BOTH OF THEM ARE JUST AS TERRIFYING, BOTH OF THEM.

BUT LIKE SOMEBODY ELSE STATED, HEY, THEY GOT THE POWER TO TAKE BLACK LIFE WITH IMPUGNITY, YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S THE WAY THEY DEAL WITH YOU A LOT OF TIMES.

I THINK IN THEIR TRAINING PRACTICES, AND SOMEBODY MENTIONED THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING THAT THEY GO THROUGH, HEY, IT'S TIME TO PULL THE SHEETS OUT THE CLOSET, YOU KNOW. WE NEED TO GO BACK, YOU KNOW, FURTHER THAN, OKAY, YOU KNOW, WELL, HE WENT TO THIS SCHOOL. WE NEED TO FIND OUT REALLY WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE MINDS OF THESE PEOPLE THAT WHOEVER IS HIRING BECAUSE SOMETHING'S WRONG, YOU KNOW.

AND RACISM IS NOT GENETIC. IT'S TAUGHT, YOU KNOW. RACISM IS A LEARNED THING, SO IT'S STARTING SOMEWHERE IN THEIR FAMILIES AND IN THEIR PSYCHOLOGICAL MAKEUP WITH THEIR EXPERIENCES. THEY'RE GETTING THIS FROM SOMEWHERE, AND HOW SO MANY OF THEM ARE GETTING INTO THIS POLICE DEPARTMENT, SOMETHING'S WRONG AND SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE. THANK YOU.

MS. YOUNG: DO YOU THINK IT WOULD HELP, FOR EXAMPLE, IF -- THERE WAS A STATEMENT MADE EARLIER IN TERMS OF PEOPLE HAVING SOME UNDERSTANDING OF THE

COMMUNITY, BUT LET'S PUT THAT A STEP FARTHER.

WOULD IT HELP IF RACIAL CONSIDERATIONS WERE MADE IN THE ASSIGNMENT OF POLICE OFFICERS IF THERE WERE BLACK OFFICERS IN BLACK COMMUNITIES? DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

MR. CALHOUN: OH, MOST DEFINITELY. I THINK -- BECAUSE COMING UP, YOU KNOW, AS A SMALL CHILD, IT WAS ALWAYS A THING ABOUT THE MAN, YOU KNOW. YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT SAYING. EVERYONE KNOWS WHO THE MAN IS. IT AIN'T NO BLACK MAN. IT'S A WHITE MAN, AND HE'S COMING DOWN ON YOU, YOU KNOW, WHETHER YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING OR NOT, YOU KNOW.

AND SO THAT WHOLE PSYCHE AMONGST A LOT OF BROTHERS THAT, YOU KNOW -- AND BROTHERS DON'T TALK ABOUT IT A LOT BECAUSE IT'S HUMILIATING, YOU KNOW. IT'S A VERY HUMILIATING THING. YOU THINK ABOUT IT LIKE, OH, MAN, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO.

I MEAN YOU COME UP IN SCHOOL AND STUFF. YOU COME UP AGAINST OTHER HUMAN BEINGS THAT ARE ALREADY BASICALLY YOUR PEERS AND ON YOUR LEVEL, WHATEVER. I MEAN YOU FIGURE YOU MIGHT HAVE TO FIGHT THEM OR WHATEVER AND YOU MAINTAIN YOUR MASCULINITY, BUT HERE IT IS YOU'VE GOT A SITUATION WHERE THIS PERSON CAN COME UP AGAINST YOU AND YOU DON'T HAVE NO WAY TO RETALIATE. YOU HAVE NO RECOURSE BUT TO GET DOWN, ASSUME THE POSITION.

HOW MANY KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS? EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT ASSUME THE POSITION MEAN. I MEAN EVERYBODY BLACK KNOWS IT PRETTY MUCH. IT'S TIME FOR IT TO STOP. IT'S CRAZY. IT'S PSYCHOLOGICAL TERRORISM. IT'S TIME FOR IT TO STOP. THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: YOU GAVE SOME VERY POWER TESTIMONY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: I'D LIKE TO SAY ABOUT THE POLICE LIVING IN THE AREA THAT THEY PATROL, I THINK THAT IF THE POLICE DID LIVE IN THE AREA AND THEY DID PATROL THE AREAS THAT THEY LIVED IN, THEY WOULD BE UNDER MORE RIDICULE WERE THEY TO DO SOME OF THE THINGS THAT THEY'RE, YOU KNOW, ABLE TO DO NOW NOT LIVING IN THE AREAS THAT THEY LIVE IN.

ALSO I THINK THAT IN TERMS OF THE SUSPECT SHEETS THAT THEY HAVE IN THE CARS, IT SEEMS THAT EVERYBODY THAT I'VE TALKED TO OR EVEN HEARD TONIGHT SAY THAT, YOU KNOW, THE FAMOUS PHRASE YOU FIT THE DESCRIPTION. I THINK THAT THE DESCRIPTIONS THAT THEY PUT OUT SHOULD BE MORE SPECIFIC SO THAT THEY DON'T ENCOMPASS SOMEBODY WHOSE HEIGHT IS BETWEEN FIVE FIVE AND SIX FEET, BROWN SKIN WITH A MUSTACHE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 35.

THAT'S MY FATHER. THAT'S, YOU KNOW, SEVERAL FRIENDS THAT I HAVE, AND WHETHER IT'S MALE OR

FEMALE, THAT COULD EVEN BE ME WITHOUT THE MUSTACHE, SO I THINK THAT THEY SHOULD WHEN THEY PUT OUT THE DESCRIPTIONS, THEY SHOULD DO SOMETHING WHERE IT'S MORE SPECIFIC SO THAT IT DOESN'T ENCOMPASS ANY AND EVERYBODY THAT'S, YOU KNOW, A YOUNG BLACK MALE, YOU KNOW, BECAUSE A LOT OF TIMES IT'S JUST DISCRIMINATORY.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: I THINK THIS IS REAL NICE FOR US TO BE ABLE TO GET TOGETHER AND DISCUSS THE VARIOUS ISSUES LIKE WE'RE DOING HERE, BUT WHEN WE REALLY LOOK AT WHAT IS GOING ON, WHAT IS BEING SAID AND DONE, HOW BIG OF AN EFFECT IS IT REALLY GOING TO HAVE?

THE PROBLEM IS THAT AS LONG AS THE SYSTEM IS SET UP AS IT IS WHERE WE HAVE A POLICE CHIEF WHO CAN FEEL COMFORTABLE DOING WHATEVER HE WANTS TO DO REALIZING THAT NOBODY CAN TOUCH HIM, REALIZING THAT THERE IS A POLICE COMMISSION SET UP TO SUPPOSEDLY WATCH OVER HIM OR TO POSE SOME KIND OF A WATCH OVER HIM, AND WHENEVER THE POLICE COMMISSION DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING, HE CAN THREATEN TO SUE AND HAVE THE CITY COUNCIL THEN OVERRULE THE POLICE COMMISSION, WHAT DO YOU HAVE? YOU HAVE NO CONTROL.

THAT'S WHAT HAS PEOPLE UPSET IS THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO CONTROL. THIS MAN IS IN OFFICE. HE CAN FEEL COMFORTABLE DOING WHATEVER HE WANTS AND HE DOES IT. HE DOES NOT ENFORCE, AND HE DOES NOT ENCOURAGE THE

POLICE OFFICERS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF COMRADERIE WITH THE CITIZENS. WHEN THE POLICE ARE OUT THERE BRUTALLY BEATING THE PEOPLE, THEY'RE DOING IT BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE BACKING OF THEIR SUPERVISOR, THEIR CHIEF.

IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE ANYTHING CHANGE, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO START FROM THE TOP. WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE WAY THAT THE CITY CHARTER IS WRITTEN. WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE, AND GATES HAS TO GO. THANK YOU.

MR. BROWN: THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: BROTHER, HOW DO YOU FEEL THAT THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT HAS DEALT WITH THIS CRISIS?

MR. CLAY: IT HAS DEALT WITH IT AS BEST AS IT CAN RIGHT NOW UNDER THE SITUATION THE WAY IT'S SET UP, BUT LIKE I SAID, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENED. WHEN THE POLICE COMMISSION VOTED TO HAVE GATES GO ON LEAVE AND EVEN BEFORE THEY COULD PUT THAT -- ACTUALLY PUT THAT INTO MOTION, THE CITY COUNCIL HAS ALREADY VOTED AND DECIDED, HEY, WE'RE GOING TO OVERRULE IT.

I MEAN GATES HAD NOT -- HE HAD NOT FILED SUIT YET. HE HAD NOT TAKEN ACTION BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL HAD ALREADY SAID, HEY, LOOK, HAD MADE THEIR DECISION AND VOTED ON IT AND DECIDED WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO. WHAT CAN YOU DO? THE MAN IS UNTOUCHABLE. HE

CAN DO WHATEVER HE WANTS.

SEE, THAT'S WHY HE FEELS COMFORTABLE GOING ON TV SAYING MEXICANS ARE LAZY OR ALL THE RIDICULOUS THINGS THAT HE SAYS. HE'S UNTOUCHABLE. HE KNOWS IT, SO HE CAN GET OUT AND ACT ANY KIND OF WAY HE WANTS.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MR. CLAY: YOU'RE WELCOME.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: GOOD EVENING. MY QUESTION TO THE BOARD IS PIGGYBACKING ON WHAT BROTHER CLAY HAS JUST MENTIONED.

FOR CHIEF DARRYL GATES TO BE SUSPENDED BY THE COMMISSION FOR A 60-DAY PERIOD AND TURN AROUND AND FILE A LAWSUIT WHERE HE'S THREATENING TODAY I HEARD A SEVEN FIGURE LAWSUIT AGAINST WHOM, THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES? WE'RE THE PEOPLE THAT HIS DEPARTMENT IS PROTECTING. WE'RE ALSO THE VERY PEOPLE WHO ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT THE WAY HIS DEPARTMENT IS ACTING UNSUPERVISING THE STREETS TOWARDS US. HE'S GOING TO TURN AROUND AND SUE US FOR WHAT?

AND SECONDARILY, HOW CAN HE GET INTO COURT SO FAST TO TAKE ON THESE ACTIONS WHEREAS YOU CAN KILL AN INDIVIDUAL HERE AND IT TAKES YOU NUMEROUS DAYS TO GET INTO COURT. YOU CAN BE ACCUSED OF A CRIME THAT YOU DID NOT COMMIT AND SIT IN JAIL WAITING TO GO TO COURT. BUT HE'S IN JAIL IN A MATTER OF WHAT, TWO DAYS, ONE DAY FROM



THE TIME HE WAS SUSPENDED BY THE COMMISSION TO BE BACK IN COURT -- I MEAN BACK ON HIS JOB, WHAT, TWO DAYS LATER.

NOW THEY'RE GOING TO SUE US FOR \$7 MILLION, YOU KNOW. THEY'RE TAXING US ENOUGH. I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT CITY GOVERNMENT, BUT I KNOW THERE'S SERIOUSLY SOMETHING GOING WRONG HERE, AND HOPEFULLY THIS BOARD AND OTHER COMMISSIONS LIKE YOURSELVES CAN DO SOMETHING AND REALLY LOOK INTO THE SITUATION. THANKS.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS MARK WITLOCK. MY CONCERN IS BEING SINGLED OUT AS A BLACK MAN WHEN I DON'T THINK THE SAME TREATMENT IS GIVEN TO OTHER CULTURES AND OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS IN THIS CITY.

AS A BLACK MAN IN THIS COUNTRY, I AM SIX PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, BUT YET IN STILL IN THE PRISON SYSTEM, I AM 48 PERCENT OF THAT POPULATION. THAT SEEMS TO BE A GREAT DEAL OF DISPARITY BETWEEN THOSE TWO NUMBERS.

I AS A BLACK MAN IN THIS COUNTRY, I HAVE BEEN PULLED OVER NUMEROUS AMOUNT OF TIMES SIMPLY BECAUSE I DRIVE A BMW AND I FIT A DESCRIPTION, A DESCRIPTION THAT I DON'T NECESSARILY BELIEVE IS A TRUE DESCRIPTION OF ALL BLACK MEN IN THIS COUNTRY.

I FEEL AS IF THE POLICE IN SOUTH CENTRAL

LOS ANGELES DO NOT REPRESENT THE POPULATION SAMPLING.  
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY WHITE POLICE OFFICERS IN SOUTH  
CENTRAL LOS ANGELES WHEN THE MAJORITY OF SOUTH CENTRAL  
LOS ANGELES IS BLACK?

IF I HAD TO ASK FOR THIS BOARD TO MAKE A  
RECOMMENDATION, I THINK THAT THE HIRING PRACTICES NEED  
TO FIT THE POPULATION SAMPLING. I BELIEVE THAT WHAT  
HAPPENED TO RODNEY KING IS NOT AN ABERRATION BUT A  
POPULATION SAMPLING WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

I PERSONALLY KNOW OF SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE FALLEN VICTIM TO THE BATON, AND THOSE CASES WERE  
NOT VIDEOTAPED AND PROBABLY CASES THAT ARE HAPPENING  
TONIGHT, TOMORROW NIGHT AND THE NIGHT AFTER THAT AND  
THERE FORWARD WILL NOT BE VIDEOTAPED.

I BELIEVE THAT I WILL GET BETTER TREATMENT  
BY A POLICE OFFICER WHO HAS THE SAME CULTURAL GROUPS AS  
I BECAUSE HE UNDERSTANDS WHAT I'VE GONE THROUGH AS A  
BLACK MAN IN THIS COUNTRY, AND I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THE  
WHITE OFFICER REALLY UNDERSTANDS THAT WHEN YOU PULL ME  
OVER, I FEAR YOU BECAUSE THE PICTURES OF BIRMINGHAM  
ALABAMA, THE PICTURES OF SLAVES HANGING ON THE TREES  
WE'RE NOT OF MY PEOPLE WHIPPING ME, BUT IT WAS A WHITE  
MAN THAT WHIPPED ME, AND I BELIEVE THAT YOU DON'T HAVE  
MY BEST INTERESTS IN MIND WHEN YOU PULL ME OVER. I'M  
ALREADY GUILTY.

SO DUE PROCESS IS NOT REALLY FOR ME AS A BLACK MAN IN THIS COUNTRY. AND UNFORTUNATELY, THE STATISTICS BEAR IT OUT, SO IF A RECOMMENDATION HAS TO BE MADE, LET US LOOK AT THE HIRING PRACTICES.

IF I'M A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE AND I CAN COME IN AND MAKE 30,000 PLUS SIMPLY BECAUSE I SERVED IN THE MILITARY OR I HAVE THE ABILITY TO LOOK AT YOU AND SAY, "I THINK YOU'RE GUILTY, SO I'MMA WHOOP YOU UPSIDE YOUR HEAD, BOY," AND THAT'S MY QUALIFICATIONS FOR BEING HIRED, THEN I THINK THAT'S A PROBLEM. THANK YOU.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU:

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: HELLO. HOW'S EVERYBODY DOING. MY NAME IS RONALD GILLIAM, AND I'M NEW TO L.A. I'VE BEEN IN L.A. FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS, AND I SPENT EIGHT YEARS IN THE NAVY. I CAME TO TALK TO THE BOARD HERE ABOUT THE RODNEY KING INCIDENT, AND ONE OF THE THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER IS THAT I THINK WE NEED TO START WITH NOT ONLY JUST THE KING INCIDENT, BUT WE HAVE TO START WITH OURSELVES. WE HAVE TO LOOK AT OURSELVES FIRST BECAUSE THIS IS NOT THE FIRST INCIDENT THAT HAPPENED.

I THINK ONE SOLUTION THAT WE FIRST GOT TO START WITH IS JUST LIKE THE I.D. CARD IS A VERY GOOD IDEA, BUT THE PROBLEM IS THERE'S GOOD AND BAD IN EVERYBODY. THE THING YOU'VE GOT TO START WITH, WE'VE

GOT TO THE START WITH THE VOTE. WE'VE GOT TO HAVE THE JUDGES IN THERE SO THAT IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE THE POLICEMAN GOT A BLUE UNIFORM ON AND IT'S HIS WORD AGAINST MY WORD. WE'VE GOT TO HAVE JUDGES IN THERE THAT'S GOING TO BE FAIR, AND THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO GET THEM IN THERE IS BY THE VOTE, AND WITH EVERYTHING ELSE, WE JUST GOT TO START WITH THAT, AND EVEN THE HIRING PRACTICES AND EVERYTHING ELSE THAT WE'RE DOING, YOU KNOW, WE'VE JUST GOT TO START WITH US.

I MEAN WE'VE GOT DO LIKE MY FAVORITE PHRASE SAYS, YOU'VE GOT TO NIP IT IN THE BUD. IF YOU HAVE A POLICE OFFICER THAT STOPS YOU, TAKE THEIR BADGE NUMBER DOWN, WRITE THE CAR NUMBER DOWN, LICENSE PLATES AND REPORT IT BECAUSE IT WILL WORK.

BECAUSE I WORKED FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MYSELF AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND I KNOW. I'VE BEEN PULLED OVER MYSELF, AND I HAD A GUN ON AND BADGE AND EVERYTHING ELSE. TRUST ME, I KNOW THE STEREOTYPE THEY'VE GOT US IN, BUT IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE, AND WE'VE GOT TO START WHERE Y'ALL STARTING RIGHT HERE IN YOUR COMMUNITY ROOM, AND WE'VE GOT TO START WITH OURSELF AND VOTE FIRST.

WE'VE GOT TO GET ALL THOSE FOLKS OUT THERE THAT ARE OLD, THAT ARE HANDICAP, THAT ARE WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE THAT ARE CONCERNED AND GET THEM REGISTERED

AND START WITH THE VOTE AND GET A GOOD MAYOR THAT'S GOING TO TAKE A STAND RIGHT THEN AND THERE AND GET A GOOD POLICE CHIEF BECAUSE THEY WORK FOR US. WE DON'T WORK FOR THEM, AND THAT'S WHERE WE'VE GOT TO START AT. IT STARTS WITH THE VOTE, AND THAT'S ONE OF THE MAIN KEYS THAT WE NEED TO FOCUS ON.

EVERYBODY'S GOT PROBLEMS AND STORIES AND COMPLAINTS AND EVERYTHING ELSE, BUT WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT. WE'VE GOT TO GET SOME ACTION. IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE. IT'S TIME FOR IT NOW. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER STATEMENTS THIS EVENING?

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: LIKE THE LADY HERE, I'M KIND OF BASHFUL, TOO, AND SHY. I JUST WANTED -- MY NAME IS GEORGIA YARBROUGH, AND I JUST WANT TO TALK ABOUT, YOU KNOW, THE INCIDENT WHEN I WAS A CHILD.

I WAS 12 YEARS OLD, AND I SEEN A POLICE OFFICER BEAT A 15 YEAR OLD BOY UP, AND THIS BOY COME FROM -- WE HAD ALL WENT TO THE MOVIES. SO WE STOPPED AT THE -- IT'S ABOUT 11:00 SOMETHING, 10:00 SOMETHING AT NIGHT. WE STOPPED IN THE LIQUOR STORE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AT THE CORNER, YOU KNOW, LIQUOR STORE. THEY KNOW US BECAUSE WE WERE NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN. AND HE ALSO WAS, YOU KNOW, NEIGHBORHOOD CHILD. HE'S ABOUT

15.

WE HAD ALL STOPPED IN THERE, AND HE HIT HIM -- HE DIDN'T WANT TO COME IN THE STORE, SO HE STAYED OUT THERE. HE STOOD ON THE OUTSIDE, YOU KNOW, WAITING FOR US TO COME OUT. AND POLICE PASSED BY, AND THEY SEEN US IN THE STORE, SO ONE OF THEM GOT OUT THE CAR. HE CAME OVER TO IN THE STORE, AND HE WAS TALKING WITH US, AND THE GUY IN THE STORE KNEW US, SO HE, YOU KNOW, VERIFIED THAT WE WERE, YOU KNOW, NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN, AND WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING.

ANYWAY THE BOY THAT WAS STANDING OUTSIDE OF THE DOOR, HE LOOKED AROUND TO SEE IF WE WERE READY TO COME OUT AND TO SEE WHAT WAS HOLDING US UP. IT WAS POLICE TALKING WITH US HOLDING US UP. AND HE SAID, "YOU'RE NOT READY YET?" AND THE POLICE LOOKED AROUND AND SEEN HIM, AND HE SAID, "HEY, YOU, GO OVER THERE TO TALK WITH MY PARTNER."

SO THE BOY, YOU KNOW, HE WAS COOPERATING WITH HIM, SO HE WALKED ACROSS THE STREET AND HE HAD A LITTLE, YOU KNOW, A LITTLE KIND OF, YOU KNOW, THE WAY BLACKS WALK, THE WAY BLACK BOYS WALK. WE CALL IT HIP WALK OR WHATEVER. HE WALKED ACROSS THE STREET, AND BY THE TIME HE GOT ACROSS THE STREET, HE WALKED -- THE CAR WAS PARKED HERE. HE WALKED AROUND THE CAR, AND THIS OTHER POLICEMAN WAS IN THE CAR, WHITE. BOTH OF THEM

WERE WHITE.

HE JUMPED OUT AND HE STARTED BEATING THE BOY UP BEFORE HE EVEN GOT OVER THERE TO EVEN TALK WITH HIM. HE BEAT THAT BOY AND HE BEAT HIM AND HE BEAT HIM. HE BEAT HIM SO BAD, I MEAN IT HURTED US. ONE OF THE GIRLS, CHILDREN THAT WERE WITH US THEY, YOU KNOW, WE RAN. WE KNEW WHERE HIS MOTHER LIVED. WE RAN DOWN THERE AND TELL HIS MOTHER ABOUT IT.

HIS MOTHER WAS HEAVYSET. SHE RAN. SHE WAS TRYING TO HURRY TO SEE ABOUT HER SON, YOU KNOW. BY THE TIME SHE GOT THERE AND, YOU KNOW, ALL OUT OF BREATH, THEY BEATING THE BOY, BEAT HIM OUT FOR NOTHING. HE HADN'T DID ANYTHING. THEY THREW HIM IN THE CAR, HANDCUFFED HIM, THREW HIM IN THE CAR, SLAMMED THE DOOR ON HIS HEAD, YOU KNOW, AND TOOK HIS MOTHER TO JAIL FOR DISTURBING THE PEACE.

THAT'S ALL I HAD TO SAY. I DON'T HAVE ANY RESPECT FOR THEM. I DIDN'T HAVE ANY RESPECT SINCE THEN, AND I WAS A LITTLE GIRL.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: MAY I ASK A QUESTION?

MR. GIBBS: YES.

MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: IS IT POSSIBLE THAT WE COULD HAVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO INTEGRATE THE POLICE IN THE CARS? I THINK THEY WOULD RESPECT IF YOU HAVE ONE

BLACK AND ONE WHITE IN THERE. IT WOULD BE -- THEY WOULD NOT CARRY ON AS BAD IF THEY WOULD BE PARTNERS IN THE CARS, AND THAT WOULD HELP QUITE A BIT.

AND ONE OTHER THING, THERE'S AN INCIDENT GOING ON NOW THAT SHOULD BE CHECKED. AT 109TH AND WILMINGTON, THERE'S A POLICEMAN THAT OWNS A LIQUOR STORE THERE OR HIS SON, AND IN THE BACK IS A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN HIDE. THEY DRIVE UP AND THEY GO IN THE BACK OF THIS LIQUOR STORE AND THEY DRINK THERE. THEY DRINK ALCOHOL BACK UP IN THERE.

IT'S KIND OF HID FROM THE STREET, BUT WHEN THEY COME OUT, THEY COME OUT WITH THE ALCOHOL IN THEM AND THEY BEAT UP OUR CITIZENS. WE HAVE WITNESSES THAT HAS SEEN THIS TO HAPPEN, AND THE PEOPLE IN THAT AREA ARE REALLY TOO AFRAID TO MAKE ANY TYPE OF COMPLAINT, BUT IT IS A POLICE OFFICER THAT OWN THAT LIQUOR STORE AT 109TH AND WILMINGTON, AND IT SHOULD BE CHECKED.

MR. GIBBS: THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER STATEMENTS THIS EVENING?

WELL, THANK YOU THEN. I'LL BRING THIS HEARING TO A CLOSE, AND BROTHER JACKSON WILL YOU CLOSE US?

MR. JACKSON: WILL YOU DO THE HONOR FOR ME?

MR. BROWN: SURE.

(WHEREUPON THE HEARING WAS CLOSED IN A WORD



OF PRAYER BY PASTOR BROWN AND ADJOURNED AT 9:20  
P.M.)

-000-

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, CHERYL DENISE CANNADY, A NOTARY PUBLIC IN  
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
DO HEREBY CERTIFY;

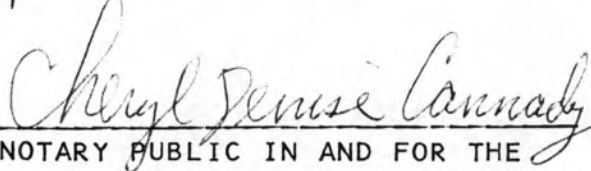
THAT ON April 25, 1991 I DID REPORT IN  
STENOGRAPH WRITING ALL OF THE TESTIMONY AND PROCEEDINGS  
IN THE FOREGOING HEARING.

THAT SAID PROCEEDINGS WERE THEREAFTER REDUCED TO  
TYPEWRITING UNDER MY DIRECTION.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A FULL,  
TRUE AND CORRECT TRANSCRIPT OF SAID TESTIMONY AND  
PROCEEDING.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I AM NEITHER COUNSEL FOR  
NOR RELATED TO ANY PARTY TO SAID ACTION, NOR IN ANYWISE  
INTERESTED IN THE OUTCOME THEREOF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY  
NAME THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF April, 1991.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE  
OF CALIFORNIA

