International news story:

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Discussion (5 minutes)

- What do you know about Black Lives Matter?
- What perceptions do you have about the organization?
- Do you think that Black Lives Matter is helping the African-American community or harming it?

Summary

Black Lives Matter is an international activist movement, originating in the African-American community, that campaigns against violence and systemic racism towards black people. BLM regularly holds protests speaking out against police killings of black people, and broader issues such as racial profiling, police brutality, and racial inequality in the United States criminal justice system

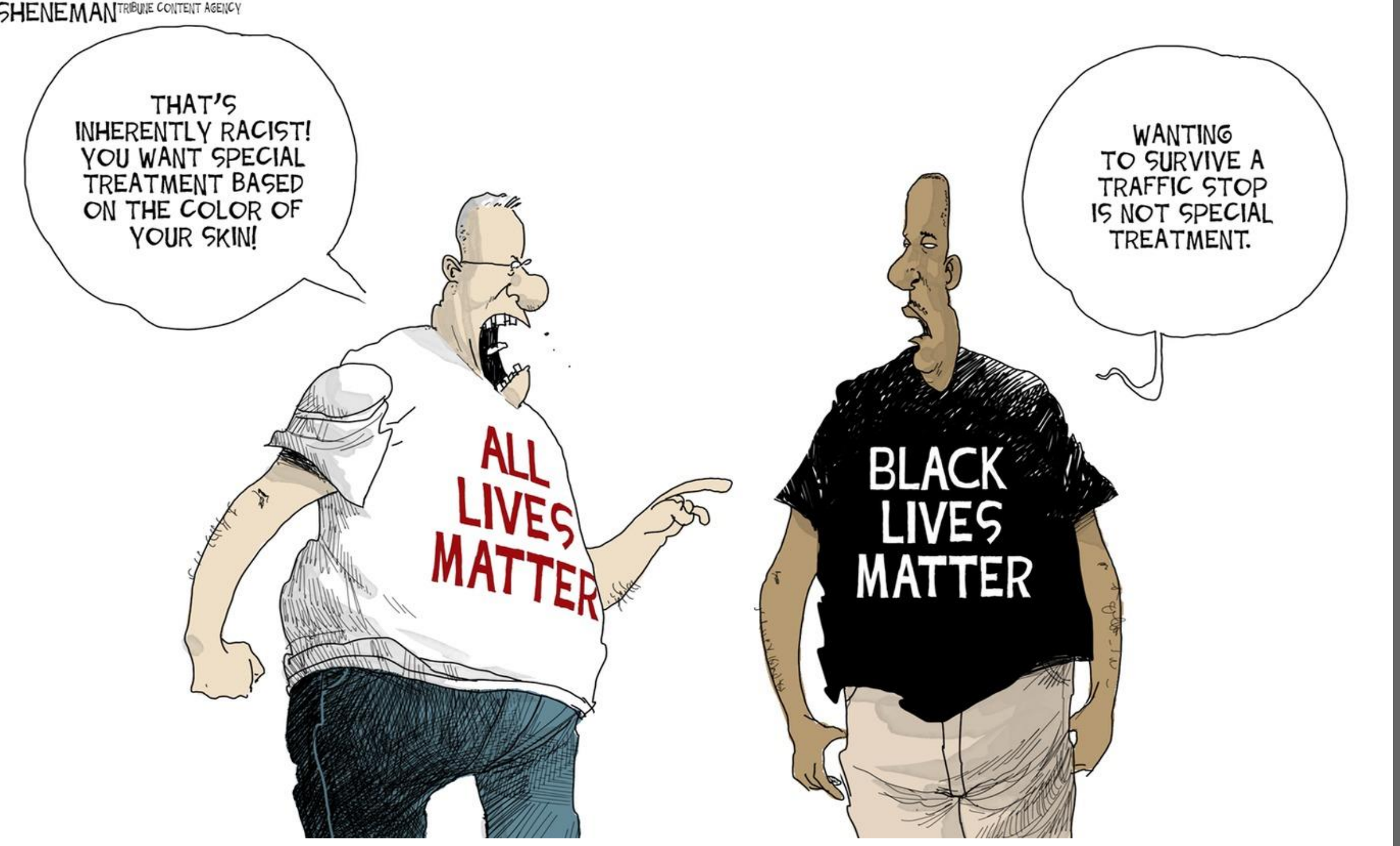
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMedqlxbFfM
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1IopsKY0dY

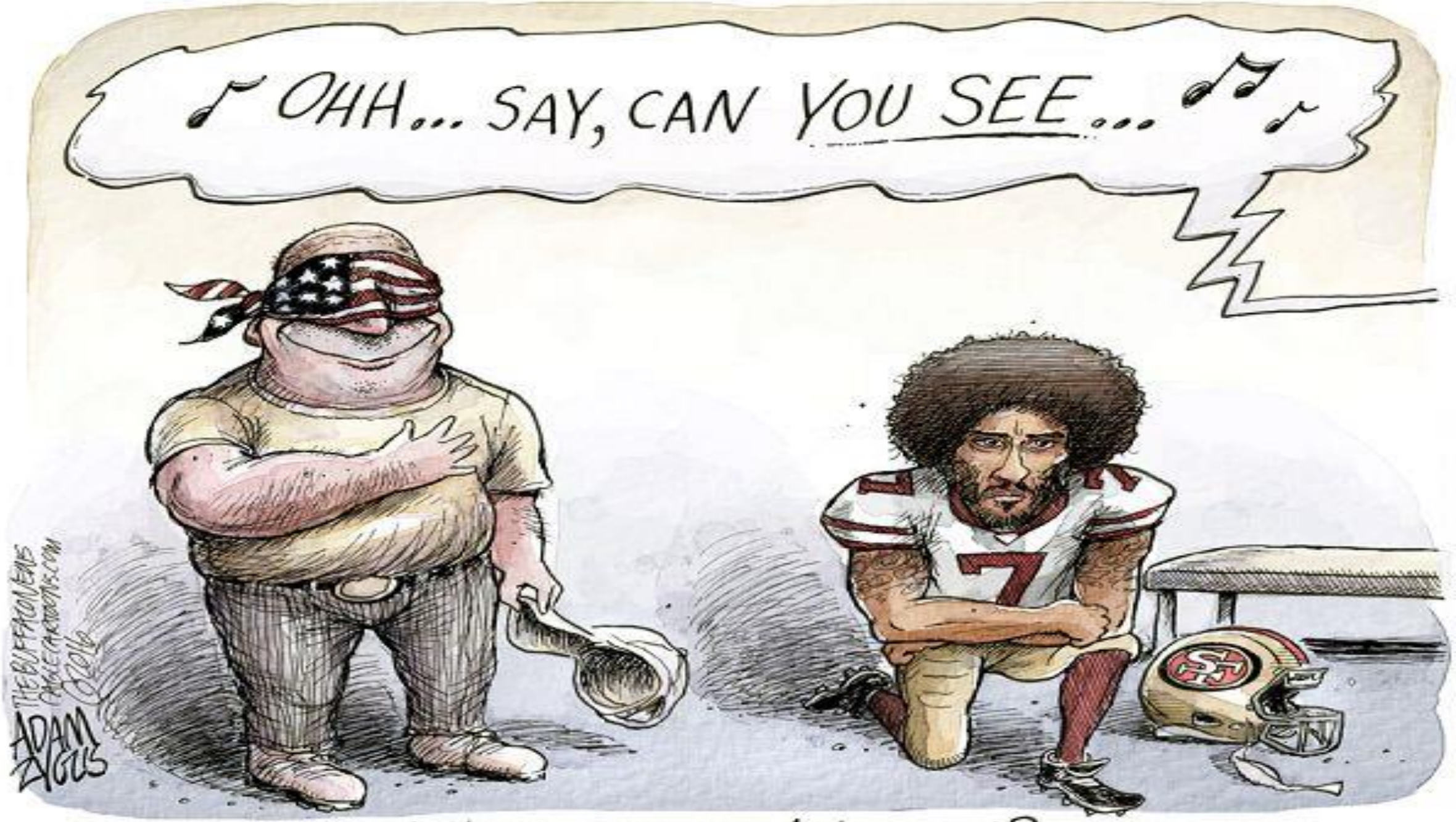
Development

- My story has had many types and levels of development throughout the course of the semester. Two of my stories were about the murder of African American men, one of whom was a member of the BLM community, and both victims have been added to the long list of victims being referenced in modern media. Another of my stories touched upon the civil movements the group has achieved, one talks about the impact of the Black Panther movie, and the most impactful would be the fraudulent Facebook page which accumulated $100,000, resulting in CEO Mark Zuckerberg testifying under oath and getting grilled by lawmakers, continuing fallout from the Cambridge Analytica data scandal and the platform's issues with fake news and Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Political Cartoons (5 minute discussion)

- When looking at my political cartoons, I looked specifically at BLM issues that either previously or presently presented conflicting opinions by societal standards as they were the most fun to look at, seeing the creators use of irony, labeling, symbolism, etc.
- The political cartoons I choses were ones that resulted from the conflict of opposing ideologies. The first that I looked at was the one involving the BLM movement vs the ALM movement and the misconceptions that are faced with either group. I also looked at a cartoon regarding the kneeling of football players during the playing of the national anthem during games and the conflict that arose over which idea was more American.
- What do you think about the messages these political cartoons are sending? What do you think the creators opinion is or what opinion is he trying to represent?

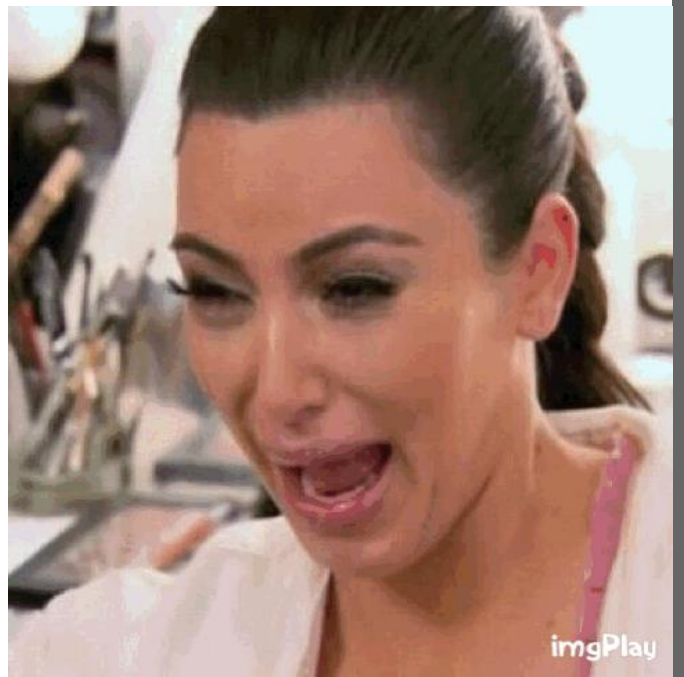

SHENEMAN TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY
THAT'S INHERENTLY RACIST! YOU WANT SPECIAL TREATMENT BASED ON THE COLOR OF YOUR SKIN!
ALL LIVES MATTER
BLACK LIVES MATTER
WANTING TO SURVIVE A TRAFFIC STOP IS NOT SPECIAL TREATMENT.



WHICH *Is more* AMERICAN?

Visuals (Question)

- Visuals can have a major impact on our perception and understanding of articles, they can add conflict or context and they make the story overall more relatable.
- When I was picking my articles, I liked to specifically look at visuals seeing as BLM is such an emotional and political movement and pictures and videos can help to clarify or aid others in their understanding of such a large societal issue. Personally, seeing some of the pictures featured really impacted me, as I could never understand the adversities, the racial discrimination and hatred that African American communities are faced with on a daily basis.
- How do visuals influence you as a reader?



JUSTICE
OR
ELSE

END WHITE SUPREMACY! FUCK OFF NAZI SCUM!
DONT SHOOT
STAND UP
BLACK LIVES MATTER
#DisabledLivesMatter!
BLACK LIVES MATTER
UTAH CHAPTER

Word Choice

- Throughout the duration of this course, my articles haven't exactly displayed strong characteristics of word choice, which is an incredibly important aspect of writing as finding words that captures meaning and conveys that meaning to readers is essential.
- Personally, I'm a sucker for strong word choice, I love the imagery that it presents in my mind when I'm absorbing the information, and I adore the poetic fluency that flows when I'm reading, rather than simple words that lead to choppy and simplistically boring sentences. But there are times where the word choice becomes almost too strong and it makes it harder for the average reader to comprehend what the writer is trying to say.

Word Choice
The Life and Death of a Black Lives Matter Activist

- In clarity of retrospection
- Racial reckoning
- Arid politeness
- One sharply discordant note
- A free radical, ricocheting his indignation
- A complex, vexing, and to his opponents and some portion of his admirers, an exasperating figure
- In the pejorative sense of the term
- A secessionist demonstrator
- The adversary of justice
- He possessed a restless intelligence
- A corrupted racial status quo

Social Media (mini-discussion)

- Any large social movement is shaped by the technology available to it and tailors its goals, tactics, and rhetoric to the media of its time.
- Black Lives Matter began on Twitter as a hashtag in response to the murder of Trayvon Martin, but in the following years, BLM has far surpassed just being a social media hashtag, but has transcended into communal groups fighting for the justice they rightly deserve.
- Do you think that social media is an enabler or deterent for such groups? Would you be more inclined to support a movement such as BLM because of its social media presence or would it deter you?

The Negative Impacts of Social Media

- In April of 2018, a fraudulent Black Lives Matter page on Facebook run by a white Australian man amassed 700,000 followers and $100,000 in donations before it was shut down by the company.
- Such negative results from social media can really impact peoples beliefs and support in organizations, and knowing that such platforms don't have precautions or watchlists for such problems as this, puts a bad association with the group.

Country of Origin

- All of my stories are centered in the United States (except for one regarding the Black Panther film fundraiser), so I definitely think that this being their country of origin does add a bias in the reporting as racial discrimination is most prominent in the States compared to other countries. There is also a mixed reaction to the racial issues occurring presently, so bias is incorporated in the reporting based on the opinion the reporter possesses and the news outlet being broadcasted. Such outlets as CNN are more inclined to support such issues as they are more liberal, while others such as FOX are more likely to side with organizations such as All Lives Matter as they are more democratic.

Reflection

- If I had the chance to reevaluate this story all over again, I would definitely have focused on different aspects of the story other than what I chose to look at, I would have probably looked at a more consistent theme, such as murder, or police brutality or discrimination instead of a cultivation of all of the topics as I think that it would have made looking at the topic as a whole easier. As fun as it was to choose whatever topic that came up related to Black Lives Matter, I also would have focused on looking at more stories that took place outside the United States and Canada to get more perspective on the topic and to make it a bit more diverse. Overall, I was satisfied with what I did discover and analyze as it gave me more of a worldly view of what Black Lives Matter is to the African American communities rather than my own community.