

With liberty and justice

by *Deja Nycole*

I pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of White Supremacy. And to the Republic for which it stands. A racist nation. Under God? Divisible. With Liberty and Justice for some.

Over the course of the past four years, hundreds of African Americans have been murdered at the hands of the police. CD's, blown out tail lights, failed turn signals, toy guns, a black hoodie with Skittles and an Arizona; what more will you find an excuse to lay down our lives to say it wasn't because of the color of our skin?

This needs to stop.

You're concerned with protecting yourself from ISIS but they've left you alone. They see the evils in your eyes and the destruction in your soul. The real terrorists are already here in America. They are homegrown— our neighbors. Local "heroes" shielded by the badge, making it legal for them to kill and destroy. Not all cops are bad but it's the racist individuals that swore to protect our nation and are using their power against the minorities. Their main target? The African-American community.

Why is it that an African-American male who was selling CDs was shot to death after being tackled to the ground without resisting, when a white male who senselessly killed nine African-American church members in Charleston was arrested, fed Burger King and granted prolonged court hearings? Yes, two different scenarios but if he were white he wouldn't have been shot and if he were black he would've been killed immediately.

Why is it that this generation cares so much that a gorilla lost his life but when a black male or female is killed you turn a blind eye? Was it "just a matter of time"? The media is quick to pull up criminal records of a black man to "justify" his death but will diagnose a white man with mental illness justifying his actions with no background check.

This nation is nothing more than a double standard. The black community is constantly losing our sons, brothers and fathers unjustly to the system and yet we get mocked that we are fatherless. Do not tell us you love us when the only time you love us is when you benefit from our talents, inventions and entertainment.

America fails to remember whose blood, sweat and tears this nation is built upon. It tries to set boundaries to silence us. Twenty-eight days is not enough, but don't think we have forgotten the oppression because it is still here. "Give me liberty or give me

death." How much longer must we keep dying in these streets because Liberty and Justice is not granted?

YOU WILL PUT RESPECT ON OUR NAMES.
YOU WILL GIVE US THE JUSTICE WE DESERVE.

Peaceful protests and riots have been tried to no avail. It is time we start fighting back with education. They fear the educated African-American because he is the most powerful human being. Get out the streets and get in these books. We must become the lawyers, doctors, officers and politicians that WE DESERVE. Stop settling for less. If we want the change WE have to make it. Change starts with the individual. We must impact our communities from the inside before we can move the world.

The storm has come and we must Prepare. Forgive, so that hatred does not consume you. Stand for what you believe. Pray that these trials will soon end and believe that God always makes a way.

Under God, there will be Liberty and Justice for all.