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The Impact of the Black Lives Matter Movement on American Society: The Rebirth of African American Activism

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Dedication

I would like to dedicate this work

To the closest person to my heart, my first teacher, who encouraged me during the whole years of my studies, whom I am really proud of and very joyful to be his daughter, the source of wisdom, maybe you left us two months ago, but your soul is still with me, it makes me feel warm every time I felt afraid.

Thank you dad

To the star that's enlightens my life, to the greatest women who raised me on the good habits; to be amiable, respectful and making me the person I am today as well as helping me to make my dream comes true. Thanks to her prayers, I reached to such success and honor.

Thank you mum

This work is dedicated to my dear siblings and friends. Also all my teachers who taught me from the primary school to university.

Thank you

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Abstract

This abstract provides an overview of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, its aims and objectives, the methods employed, the findings, and a concluding remark regarding its sociopolitical impact and influence on policing reforms. The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement emerged as a response to ongoing social discrimination and police brutality faced by Black individuals in the United States, gaining significant national and international attention. The primary aim of the BLM movement is to advocate for social reform, equality, and an end to social discrimination and police violence against Black citizens. It seeks to raise awareness, mobilize communities, and press for changes in policing policies and practices. The BLM movement initially gained momentum through the use of social media platforms, particularly the hashtag #Black Lives Matter. It organized peaceful demonstrations, protests, and rallies across various states and countries to highlight the urgent need for systemic change. The BLM movement has sparked a considerable debate due to its controversial aspects, including episodes of violence, property damage, and clashes with law enforcement. However, it has also successfully influenced major police reforms, such as police department defunding and the implementation of laws aiming to address excessive use of force. While the Black Lives Matter movement has faced criticism for its destructive elements, it has undeniably played a significant role in driving public awareness and pushing for reforms in policing practices. The movement has highlighted the urgent need for social justice and equality, calling for continued efforts to address systemic racism and ensure fair treatment for all individuals, regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Key Words**BLACK LIVES MATTER, DISCRIMINATION, RACISM, POLICE VIOLENCE.**

List of Abbreviations

AAP	African American People
BLM	Black Lives Matter
BLMM	Black Lives Matters Movement
CRM	Civil Rights Movement
CRT	Critical race theory

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The American Civil Rights movement is one of the most significant events that left its mark and signature on the American history and society. It was a peaceful and long reform journey for ending the discrimination and injustice of the legal and social system against « black » people in America. The movement lasted for many years, inspired by « black » people's hope and their undying anticipation for a better tomorrow where they could live in peace and harmony with their white brothers and sisters without segregation and racial discrimination. Despite all the forms of injustice and even brutality that they endured on the hands of the white people, « black » people never demanded retaliation or to revenge their brothers and sisters who died as a result of segregation and discrimination, especially in the Southern states of the country. They kept asking and hoping for equality, harmony, and safety for their families. They only wanted a world where they could be safe leaving their homes, a place where their wives are respected and not violated, a place where their children can go to school or play in the park without any threat on their lives just because of the color of their skin. It is true that the demands of « black » people were most basic and fundamental, they could even be described as simple, however, it took long years of patience and many sacrifices in order for them to achieve just a fraction of what they ultimately dreamed and hoped for.

- Literature Review

More accurately, The term 'Civil Rights Movement' refers to the black movement that arose in the South of America during the 1950s, when vast numbers of black people got directly involved in the movement through economic boycotts, street marches, mass gatherings, thousands of people being imprisoned, and a variety of other disruptive techniques together known as nonviolent direct action (Morris 9). The system of segregation, which denied blacks their personal freedom that whites frequently enjoyed, exacerbated the economic and political subjugation. Thus, they were deprived from human's

most basic rights just because of the color of their skin (Morris 1). The three pillars of racial dominance—economic, political, and personal oppression—were reinforced by legislation and the iron hand of Southern administrations. Ironically, the segregation in the South was a point of strength for the blacks. When blacks, regardless of degree or income, were excluded from the whites' areas and obliged to live in close proximity and frequent the same social organizations, it fostered the establishment of black institutions and the formation of close-knit communities. As a result of segregation, the different skills and talents of people of all income and educational levels were concentrated inside the black community. Cooperation among the many black strata was an important collective survival resource.

Black people have always chosen to protest and defend their cause in a peaceful manner. Protesting is a tradition passed down through years by older relatives, black educational institutions, churches, and protest organizations (Morris 10). Thus, it could be concluded that protesting is the most frequently used strategy that black people used as a weapon in their battle for equality. Slave revolts, the Garvey movement, and the March on Washington Movement are solid examples of the blacks organized movements in which they marched to collectively protest about their rights. These marches were characterized with peace and the absence of violence. It is worthy to note that it is a challenging task to maintain order and prevent riots when there are a lot of people participating in a collective march.

Through the years, a number of similar organizations that advocate the civil rights of black people and seek to bring justice and equality to the black race in America have emerged as a continuing tradition of the CRM. One of which is the Black Lives Matter movement. According to Thomas Dominique, the BLM movement began in (2013), after the discharge of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, a shooting accident in the USA that caused a global controversy. Police brutality is one of the most

common forms of racism against the black communities as Thomas described (32). Thus, the BLM has grown into a prominent social reform movement that is organized to defend and advance the interests of Black communities and Black lives as an intellectual and political intervention. The movement gained momentum following the deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and Freddie Gray, all of whom were killed by police officers, and grew even more wild only recently with the murder of George Floyd in May 2020 in the USA on the hands of police officers once again (Silverstein).

There are many studies that examined the structure of the BLM movement, its foundation, its political course and its impact on the American society in terms of racism and social activism, in addition to other features and influences of the movement. Through a French article that has been translated by Mann, the researcher aimed at providing a clear definition of BLM, tracking its history, and revealing its global impact. The study showed that the BLM movement is a large-scale social movement in the USA with the primary goal of denouncing and eliminating racism in the country more broadly, not simply police violence against black people. It has also shown the origin of the term 'Black Lives Matter' which first started as a hashtag and a cry used in street marches and protests which promotes an antiracist political ideal that seeks to affirm the value of black lives, show support for those who are of African origin, and condemn the racism that these people must endure. The study has also explained how the movement was first created in 2013 as a reaction to the murder of a black citizen on the hands of a cruel racist white policeman with no judicial punishment, and how it turned into a transnational movement in the summer of 2020 on the hands of Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi and Patrisse Cullors after a similar crime was committed, but this time, the entire world witnessed the lenience of the American authorities with the white police department thanks to the movements' activism. The article also describes and highlights the reaction of different countries and states around the world towards the video that circulated the international media which shows the ugly crime of George Floyd's murder on the hand of the American white officer. This accident has turned the BLM into the largest social movement in

the history of the world due to the global reinforcement and support it received from different parts of the world where impressive protests were also held in other parts of the world, like Switzerland, South Korea, and Japan, who do not even have a strong anti-racist history..

Moreover, Nurse has adopted a criminological approach to address the issues of reparations and anti-Black racism in terms of inequality, discrimination, state and corporate crime and repairing harm in his book about the legacy of slavery. His research has highlighted the life of discrimination, violence, and inequality that black people still endure despite the success of the CRM and other peaceful organizations in their call for justice. It also discusses a highly sensitive issue which is the negative aspect of the criminal justice in the USA towards black people and how they neglect the abuses and crimes that are committed against them on the hands of white people. The book addresses and analyzes the fact that slavery was and still is a legally coded White supremacy which produces structural inequalities and a system of structural racism that has persisted into modern society.

Similarly, Thomas, in his study about the BLM as a resisting force to systematic anti-black violence, has portrayed the movement as an influential social reshape that took a stand against a long-standing system of racism and injustice which was integrated into the social backbone of the American society. The study highlighted the main characteristics of the movement, and its impact on global activism in different countries and regions that seek to make a change in the social structure of the global communities.

The BLM movement has had a significant impact on American society, bringing issues of racial injustice and police brutality to the forefront of national conversation. The movement has inspired protests, policy changes, and calls for reform in law enforcement and criminal justice systems across the country. It has become a prominent force in American society, sparking conversations and actions around racial justice and police brutality. This movement has reignited African American activism, providing a platform for the voices of those who

have been marginalized and oppressed for centuries.

As it could be observed, a large amount of the research conducted in relation to the BLM movement seeks to highlight the positive aspects of its activities and manifestations. However, there is an ugly side of this peaceful movement which is characterized for so many years for being a weapon to defend black people's lives and rights. A side that turned the movement into a destructive weapon that aims at creating chaos and dividing society instead.

Therefore, the main purpose behind conducting the current study is to shed light on the Black Lives Matter that was initially created to defend the African Americans' rights in the USA and how later it turned into a monster that aimed at dividing society and demolish its foundation.

The aim of the study is to be reached through answering the following research questions:

- How has the Black Lives Matter movement impacted public discourse and attitudes towards race and racism in the United States?
- How did the Black Lives Matter movement turn from a peaceful seeking-justice movement into a destructive weapon that aims at dividing society?
- What are the implications of the Black Lives Matter movement for the future of African American activism and social justice in the United States?

The methodology employed in this research involved a comprehensive analysis of secondary data sources and the utilization of content analysis to examine the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and its sociopolitical impact on policing reforms.

Secondary Data Sources: Secondary data sources, including academic analyses, think tank reports, news articles, opinion pieces, and policy documents, were collected and reviewed. These sources provided a wealth of information on the BLM movement, its historical context, objectives, strategies, and societal impact.

Content Analysis: Content analysis was applied to the collected secondary data sources. This involved a systematic and rigorous examination of the textual content to identify recurring themes, key arguments, and patterns within the discourse surrounding the BLM movement and its influence on policing reforms. The analysis focused on understanding the movement's goals, strategies, and the societal response it generated.

By utilizing secondary data sources and applying content analysis, this research aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the BLM movement and its sociopolitical impact on policing reforms. The rigorous analysis of textual content allowed for the identification of key themes and patterns within the discourse, contributing to a deeper understanding of the movement's objectives, strategies, and societal implications.

Application of Critical Race Theory: The theoretical framework of Critical Race Theory was applied to analyze and interpret the primary and secondary data sources. The principles of CRT, such as the recognition of systemic racism, the intersectionality of race and other social identities, and the critique of colorblindness, guided the analysis of the BLM movement's objectives, strategies, and societal impact. CRT provided a lens through which to understand how racial dynamics shape social structures and power relations, and to critically examine the role of the BLM movement in challenging and reshaping these dynamics.

The significance of the study lays in the demonstration of the dynamic or the way from which a peaceful and legitimate liberation organization that calls for peace and justice could change with the mindset of its members into a cruel and unjust movement that calls for

destruction and corruption. It is true that Black people have endured and still endure racial discrimination in the USA and their claim for equality and dignity is a legitimate claim that is acknowledged worldwide. However, this acknowledgement is not a justification for the movement's destructive approach and retaliation tactics that seek to harm and divide the American society.

The study is divided into three main chapters to offer the information necessary to answer the research main questions. The first chapter outlines the background of the BLMM, its establishment with demonstrating its main goals and objectives. The second chapter sheds light on the transformation of the movement from a righteous cause into a destructive weapon that threatens the stability and safety of the American society. The final chapter highlights the implications of the Black Lives Matter movement for the future of African American activism and social justice in the United States.

It is important to acknowledge certain limitations of this research. The analysis relied solely on secondary data sources, which may have inherent biases or limitations. The findings are contingent upon the quality and availability of the selected sources, and more recent developments may not be fully captured. The subjective nature of content analysis introduces potential interpretation bias, which was mitigated through careful methodology and triangulation of multiple sources.

Chapter One: The Impact of Black Lives Matter movement on Public Discourse and Attitudes towards Racism in the USA

- Introduction

The American Civil Rights movement is one of the most significant events that left its mark and signature on the American history and society. It was a peaceful and long reform journey for ending the discrimination and injustice of the legal and social system against « black » people in America. The movement lasted for many years, inspired by « black » people's hope and their undying anticipation for a better tomorrow where they could live in peace and harmony with their white brothers and sisters without segregation and racial discrimination. Despite all the forms of injustice and even brutality that they endured on the hands of the white people, « black » people never demanded retaliation or to revenge their brothers and sisters who died as a result of segregation and discrimination, especially in the Southern states of the country. They kept asking and hoping for equality, harmony, and safety for their families. They only wanted a world where they could be safe leaving their homes, a place where their wives are respected and not violated, a place where their children can go to school or play in the park without any threat on their lives just because of the color of their skin. It is true that the demands of « black » people were most basic and

fundamental, they could even be described as simple, however, it took long years of patience and many sacrifices in order for them to achieve just a fraction of what they ultimately dreamed and hoped for.

After many years of patient struggle and endless endurance, the black reached to a point in the American society where it could be said that they have won their peaceful war and achieved a social status in the US through making radical changes in the social construction of the country's communities and the political constitution. Black people were able to alter some of the major unfair practices of the states, including segregation in education and public spaces, the inequality in employment salaries between blacks and whites and many other limitations that were imposed on black people just for the color of their skin.

Having a history that is marked by the brutality of the white race towards the black people and the discriminatory legal practices that gave the white citizens the power and the legibility to abuse, under-value and even harm black people, have made the US offer compromises as a remedy for the ugly treatment that the black race endured in their own lands. USA today claims to be a strong advocate for colorblindness which it considers as one of its powerful mottos of the US government.

- **1. Color Blindness**

According to Siscoe (2016), colorblind ideology is the perfect solution to inequality. The US adopted this approach to demonstrate the end of racism and discrimination of both the American society and the American authorities. Siscoe (2016) America today considers itself as a post-racial nation that does not take the color of skin into consideration when making national decisions that concern the well-being and the overall state of the country. This also means that black people are no longer excluded from the major decisions like they used to be in the past, such as the right to vote.

Moreover, Apfelbaum, et al (2012) state that the idea behind color blindness is that racial group membership and racial distinctions should not be taken into consideration while making decisions, forming impressions, or when major actions are taken in the country. The reasoning for the idea that color blindness can stop prejudice and discrimination is simple: A person or organization cannot act racially discriminatory if they are not even aware of race. Hence, the element of color skin is removed from the social equation as a symbol of anti-racism and discrimination in the US.

More importantly, decisive laws enacted during the civil rights struggle pushed color blindness to the fore of legal discussions about race. However, in recent years, color blindness has come to stand in for the legal standard by which acts of prejudice are assessed, as demonstrated by the idea that no kind of racial discrimination is allowed in a society that is legally equitable (Apfelbaum, et al, 2012). Thus, it is confirmed that colorblindness is a legal liberty that is established by the US constitution to ensure blacks' rights in contributing to the political and social affairs of the country.

- **2. Overview on the Black Lives Matter movement**

It should be first stated that there are many limitations to the execution of the colorblindness act that has been established by the US authorities to end discrimination and racism in the American society on real grounds. Some argue that it is impossible to eliminate the factor of skin color when regarding an American citizen. Apfelbaum, et al (2012) confirm that the color of kin is the first thing that people notice which makes it an impossible task to treat a black individual on the basis that he is an individual from another race. Thus, it is a vital part of their identity that cannot be separated or overlooked by anyone. This point brings into discussion a very significant fact that is mostly observed in the American social construction. Black people are still discriminated and face social racism despite the current era of globalization and advancement that encourage individualism and liberty.

As a reaction to the social racism that is practiced against black people in today's world, the Black Lives Matter Movement was founded. Siscoe (2016) explains the conditions of the emergence of this movement as follows. Following the death of Trayvon Martin, the Black Lives Matter Movement developed, and it did so again after the death of Michael Brown. These two young men were black, unarmed, and shot to death by white police officers who were tried and found not guilty in court. Thus, the main aim behind this movement was to protest the police injustice and the lenience of the American court with the killers who were legally and unjustifiably cleared from their crimes just because the victims were of black race. This clearly proves the social racism that is still rooted in both the American society and its constitution.

Chen and Fellow (2021) state that the BLM started initially as a hashtag on Twitter as a reaction to the police's brutality that was published on social media when a short video portraying the abuse was posted online by one of the witnesses of the accident. Mann extends that Black Lives Matter (2022) is an antiracist political ideology that attempts to emphasize the value of black lives, demonstrate solidarity for individuals who are of African descent, and denounce the racism that these people must experience. It first started as a hashtag and a call to action used in street marches and protests.

Mann (2022) also narrates how the movement was first created in 2013 as a reaction to the murder of a black citizen by a cruel racist white policeman without judicial punishment, the entire world witnessed the leniency of the American authorities with the white police department because of Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi, and Patrisse Cullors who promoted the activism of this movement on the media and contributed to voicing the issues of Black people in America to the entire world by the summer of (2020).

Similarly, Chen and Fellow (2021) narrate that following the conviction of George Zimmerman for killing black teenager Trayvon Martin in 2012, the social media hashtag

#black lives matter generated an online campaign to combat systematic racism. The Black Lives Matter movement persisted in 2014 under the leadership of three black women, Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi, calling for justice for Dontre Hamilton, Eric Garner, John Crawford III, Michael Brown, Ezell Ford, Laquan McDonald, Akai Gurley, Tamir Rice, Antonio Martin, Jerame Reid, and numerous others who were killed by police officers and the governments covered for their crimes just because the victims were African American citizens. The following murder on (2020) had more impact on the course of the movement because it was witnessed by people from all over the world which gave the movement more sound and momentum. Chen and Fellow (2021) recounts that a phony¹ \$20 bill led to the arrest of George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man from Minneapolis, on May 25, (2020). Soon after, Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes while Floyd begged authorities and onlookers to help him breathe, as captured in bystander footage. A video was taken by this bystander and posted on social media, where it attracted millions of viewers in a short period of time. The accident coincided with the Covid-19 global pandemic and the confinement period when people from all different parts of the worlds were related through social media to be updated on the latest global news.

The Supreme Court position towards the crimes of the white officers only exacerbated the situations and allowed the white aggression of the white police to cumulate. The murder of Floyd did not stop the police abuse or the whites' crimes in the US, it rather led to sequencing a string of heinous crimes against Black people, including the murders of Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor (Chen and Fellow, 2021). This means that white officials realized that they have the law on their side and nothing can stop them from practicing their racist tendency on real life grounds. They can kill ad abuse black people and no one is to punish them and judge them for their crimes. This view was an urgent factor that called for

an immediate action to voice this dangerous brutality to the world through media. People should see how black people are treated in the US due to the color of their skin in order to find solutions to the cumulative problem that is causing life-threatening consequences for black people from both gender types and different age categories.

To sum up, Black Lives Matter (BLM) is an international social movement that was founded in the US in (2013) with the goal of combating racism and anti-Black violence, particularly when it takes the form of police brutality (Black Lives Matter, 2023). It is a movement that opposes the unjust killings of Black people by police (Black people in the United States are much more likely to be killed by police than White people) and calls for society to value Black lives and humanity equally to White lives. It is a social call for reshaping the American ideology that is based on race and discrimination, calling also for major reforms that aim at improving the poor life conditions and reduce the daily threats of Black people in their daily life.

- **3. Goals of the Black Lives Matter Movement**

In a society where black lives are routinely and consciously targeted for extermination, the BLM seeks to be a political and ideological intervention (Siscoe, 2016). Rebuilding the Black liberation struggle is its main objective of this movement that aims at resurrecting the black American history of the CRM that liberated the black race from slavery and ended legal racism and discrimination. This time, the BLM movement is an extended form of protest that aims at eradicating another form of discrimination in the 21st century which is social racism. The Black Lives Matter Movement seeks to break America's "us versus them" attitude in order to fully free black lives from oppression.

It is well acknowledge that racism in America is a historical legacy rather than a developed phenomenon. It started with the colonialism era when black African Americans were imported to the America colonies to serve the white citizens. After the declaration of

independence however, and the prohibition of the act of slavery in the states, the American society could not cope with the social equality that was imposed by the constitutional laws of the country. Despite that rights that black people gained to obtain over the years through their struggle in the CRM and political activism, the American society still witnessed racial discrimination towards the black race and those individual still suffer to gain their rights and identity in this country. They still endure violence and harassments, without mentioning the life threatening acts that racist white members of the society use to intimidate and harm black citizens. This indicates the challenging goals that the BLM movement launched as its main aims to achieve. Eliminating a long-lasting legacy that has been passed through generations and generations is a challenging and draining task that needs a long period of time and tremendous patience.

The movement called for equality and for stopping the police violence that turned into a repeated patter in the US. The officials would abuse and even kill black people and then they are released and cleared without judicial judgment. Black people started to fear for their lives since the white authorities found the freedom to apply their own rules and stand unaccounted for their crimes. They knew that chaos would erupt and they have to do something to stop it. One of the major demands that the movement included is calling for more accountability of law enforcement and the reallocation of police funding (Chen & Fellow, 2021). They wanted the government to punish the abusers and violators of the American constitutional laws so that the white policemen are held back from committing more crimes and killing more black innocent citizens in the country.

- **4. Impact of Black Lives Matter movement on Public Discourse**

In a discussion about public discourse and its importance in the course of the social movements and the political reactions or behaviors, Dunivin, et al (2022) state that researchers that examine how protests end out concentrate on establishing an agenda for

the setting of the movement. Allies in the media, the government, and the commercial sector may create laws that institutionalize a movement's objectives once protests and direct action have brought attention to them. Because of this, social movement researchers in sociology, political science, and the study of mass communication have looked into the relationship between divisive political activity and public speech. This indicates the importance of public discourse and its role in achieving a movement's goals if it was highlighted enough and have sufficient public acknowledgement. Put more simply, the public protests and mass marches could lead to significant political changes in any country to please the people and prevent riots. Dunivin, et al (2022) presented the CRM as an example in which the escalating number of protesters in the country during the 19's pushed the government into passing many amendments that allow black people a number of rights and liberties which were denied to them before, including the right to vote.

In fact, the results of the second police homicide where was killed, the murder was arrested and convicted with murder by the American authorities. This proves the theory that associates the public discourse with the political decisions of the state or the country. It is stated that the accident of George Floyd in (2020) where he was brutally killed by the white policeman was shared on social media and the media coverage of the murder magnified the public attention and helped in spreading the cause of police brutality in the USA. Large marches were organized in different states to call for justice. In response to calls for increased police accountability, Chauvin (the white police officer) was found guilty of murder in 2021. It was a rare instance of police brutality that ended in a conviction (Black Lives Matter, 2023).

It is also worth noting that the modern form of the CRM which is the BLMM could cause more influential effects if it was monitored wisely and strategically due to its use of social media platforms that could significantly contribute to the increase in public discourse and in

the prevalence of the movement and its rightful demands on a national and international scale.

- **5. Public Attitudes towards Racism in the USA**

In a statistical analysis presented by Dunivin, et al (2022), data collected from Google books database and from Wikipedia page visit data (in addition to data from social media platforms) were analyzed for a wide range of antiracist terms that are used in the early stages of the BLMM and in recent stages of it in (2022). These terms include desegregation, diversity, multiculturalism, white supremacy, mass incarceration, systematic racism, voting rights. The findings of this analysis revealed that people have started to dramatically change the way they discussed race and racism before the rise of the movement. They also indicate that the movement demands have started to attract significant numbers of supporters in early (2005). Hence, the BLM movement caused a significant increase in the terms used by the public on social media (Dunivin, et al, 2022).

In accord, Chen and Fellow (2021) explain that movements of civil resistance frequently rely on the interaction of supportive media to sway public opinion. Such as the case with the BLMM which relied heavily on the sympathy and the support of the public opinion to gain momentum and acknowledgement from the political authorities. In the fight for justice, movements must gather as Chen and Fellow (2021) claim, enough people, support, and resources to break the rigidity of existing institutions because significant reforms are rarely begun from inside the power structure without persistent pressure. Thus, this pressure is necessary to disrupt the order of the unfair established laws and attract the attention of the authorities of the public's displeasure with the current conditions of the country.

In fact, the BLM gained significant support and sympathy from national and international societies that empathized with the homicides of white officials in America and the mistreatment of the black people after seeing the evidence with their own eyes.

According to a survey that was conducted in the US by Monmouth University a week after George Floyd's murder to explore citizens' opinions of the problem of racism in the country, 1) 76% of Americans considered racism and discrimination "a big problem", 2) 78% of Americans agree that outrage driving protests is fully or somewhat justified, and 3) the majority of Americans believed that "police are more likely to use excessive force with a black person than a white person in similar situations (as cited in Chen and Fellow, 2021). This shows and confirms the racial discrimination of the America society and it also denies that practice of 'colorblindness' that was discussed at the beginning of the chapter I which America claims to be an anti-racist community that ignores color in decision making processes. Color was and still is the forefront criterion with which an America citizen is viewed, assessed and treated in the USA. The color of the skin is what determines how that individual is treated and regarded.

The BLMM started in the USA but it extended to other areas of the world until it turned into a global issue that involves members and activists from all over the globe. Not only did George Floyd's death spark the widespread Black Lives Matter demonstrations in the United States. It prompted protests against the ill effects of racism and police brutality in other nations as well (Saric, 2021). Saric (2021) reports the largest international mass protests that followed the death of George Floyd in support for Black people's rights and in an effort to voice the racism issue in the USA to the entire world. In France, she reports that BLM demonstrations were sparked by both American events and high-profile domestic cases that raised awareness of abusive police practices, such as those involving Adama Traoré and Cedric Chouviat. It is true that the mass demonstrations put pressure on the French government, it did not however lead to significant changes, it only contributed to creating online platforms to record police abuse and a free hotline to report these accidents.

Moreover, Australian Black Lives Matter demonstrations brought attention to how the police there target Aboriginal² people. Racism in Australia is most pronounced for this social category than any other one in the country (Saric, 2021). This category involves the native inhabitants of the country who occupied the lands before the colonies. The BLMM encouraged them to go out on the streets and call for justice for Black people in America and for equality in their own country.

In England on the other hand, the mass demonstrations across the UK that were in support for the Black people in the US and to demand for an end for the social racism and police brutality resulted in positive outcomes. According to Saric (2021), the protests helped to support the BLMM in the US, however, it did not reflect major modifications in the UK which is claimed to be an anti-racist country for the nation's minorities.

- **Conclusion**

Black Lives Matter is a social movement that calls for social change in terms of providing equality and ending social discrimination and police brutality in the USA. It started as a simple hashtag as a reaction of the death of George Floyd who caught killed by a white police officer, the discharge of the latter and his release by the US authorities is what provoked the outrage of the public, especially that the abuse or the murder was video-taped and shared on social media platforms. The movement gained momentum both nationally and internationally where demonstrations were organized in different states in the country, in addition to similar protests across different other countries in the world, including France, Australia and the UK. The use of media as a powerful means to reveal the unfair treatment of Black citizens on the hands of the police to people has significantly contributed to the spread of the movement and making an international issue. It has also won the positive side of the public and their support for the cause of racial discrimination in America.

Chapter Two: The Transformation of the Black Lives Matter Movement from a Peaceful Seeking-Justice Movement into a Destructive Weapon

Introduction

As seen in the previous chapter, the BLM is an extended phase of the CRM that started in the 19s as a peaceful quest for ending social racism and discrimination in the USA. It is a new form of struggle for black people who aspire to improve their social status and transform their life conditions in the 21st century. It is also seen that this new form of social movement has been founded or initiated on the online social platforms and used media as its main weapon to voice the demands of inequalities of black people in the American society and other international social contexts. Nummi, et al (2019) agree that the BLM is a continuant circle of the traditional CRM but it is innovative in its own terms. Thus, it is rooted to old time struggle and demand for social freedom and political equality, but it also uses modern strategies to voice the concerns of the Black society and make an impact on the international social context, surpassing the national one and reaching other global communities. The use of social media is regarded as a strategic political technique that the BLM activities employed to spread their cause and raise people awareness across the globe of the unjust practices and behaviors towards black communities in the states. The goal behind this strategy is to show the real picture of how black people are truly treated in the US unlike the false image that the national media-stream illustrates.

It is true that the BLM has been initiated as a reaction to the brutal homicide of the black citizens and their murder on the hands of white police officers, but it tackles an ancient cause in the US that reshaped the American history and formed a significant turning point in its national constitution. It has been shown in the previous chapter the noble goals of this movement and its aim in achieving equality and ending racial discrimination. The present chapter however demonstrates how this movement with its righteous cause turned into a

destructive weapon that threatens the stability and safety of the American society.

1. The True Impact of Black Lives Matter Movement

Since 2013, Black Lives Matter has grown to be a significant social movement in the United States, with the main goal of denouncing and eliminating systematic racism in the country as well as police violence against black people (Célestine, et al, 2022). Police violence was an opening that is used to shed light on a long history of racial discrimination towards black people even after the American constitution has granted them the right to be equal with white citizens and color blindness was established in the US as its main decision-making policy. The latter insists on ignoring skin color and treating all America citizens with equal measures in different life contexts and domains, such as education, business and social events. The addressing of these policies in the legal system of the country however did not make the anticipated social impact that black people hoped for. The American society still view them as an outcast or inferiors to their race, thus, they cannot be equal and the same. This paved the way for the continuation of the racial discrimination cycle and the abuse system that is still applied in the states.

Role of the Media

Over the past few years, the BLM movement has attempted to increase public awareness of the problem of perceived discrimination against African Americans by American law enforcement. It has attracted both public and government's attention towards the brutal treatment of the police forces to black people (Iorio, 2017). Highlighting this negative aspect of the American police department could have a bad influence on the national America security system, and the government cannot overlook this aspect if it was spread on an international scale. The prosecution and conviction of Chauvin (the white police officer who killed Floyd) is a strong evidence of the government's reaction to the media coverage of white Americans' abuse and harassment of black people. The conviction of a white official

for a crime that he committed against an AA is a rare event in the USA, but with the social media coverage of the event after the video that recorded the murder went viral on social media platforms and the case turned into an international public opinion matter, the American government could not overlook the case like it used to in the past, and a severe measurement had to be taken in order to pacify the public and maintain the picture of the American constitution.

Hence, this accident reveals the important role of the media in changing political or in this case, legal policies in a particular country. Thus, the media is a key factor in shaping, forming, and reflecting public opinion in any democratic country (Dash, 2009). Its role lies in its ability to spread information to the public discourse and influence their perceptions and perspectives in particular social issues. In terms of the BLMM, the media was used to gain public sympathy and affinity with the cause and encourage the government to take strict legal measures to protect AA's lives and reduce the threat of the white people in the states.

2. Role of the Movement in Encouraging Violence against Police Forces

However, there is an extensive criticism on the movement by different sides and sources. One of the most prevalent critiques of the BLM movement is that it damages relations between African Americans and the police and encourages violence in minority areas (Iorio, 2017). It means that involving the media and depicting the American police department as an aggressive force could increase or maximize policemen's resentment and hostility toward black people and push them to abuse them more frequently and more thoroughly. Hence, instead of stopping the phenomenon, the movement could cause opposite consequences and lead to harming more black people in the American community through the confrontational approach of the movement towards white oppressors.

Moreover, the movement is often condemned for being a violent ideology that encourages physical attacks on police officers, calls for the disruption of innocent citizens'

daily lives by obstructing traffic on major thoroughfares, shutting down businesses, interfering with political candidate events, and possibly unwittingly aiding in the genocide of Black people by strongly supporting the right of women to end their pregnancies, or the abortion liberty in other words (Braxton, 2016). It is true that the BLM movement is a continuation of the CRM, however, it does not follow the same peaceful approach in organizing marches and manifestations to demand their rights in equality. The BLMM followed a rather more aggressive approach or ideology to claim their rights. According to, BLM has been chanted by some people and groups who have used rhetoric that encourages violence against law officers. The Movement rightfully condemns anyone who advocates harming police officers because police officers' lives are important too.

Hence, the movement encourages violent confrontation with the police forces to stop their abuse of Black people, it disrupts the peaceful life style of citizens through the riots and loud street marches, in addition to the involvement of the movement in national events such as the elections and major business transaction to prevent the smooth conducting of business, as it further involves other sub-demands such as the right to abortion for women. Thus, it could be said that this modern movement lacks the discipline and organization of the traditional CRM which leads to lack of control on its members who are driven by their resentment and negative repressed feelings of anger. This channeled anger affects citizens' lives in America and reduces the movement's legitimacy in its main goals and objectives. As evidence, the 2020 BLM riots were recorded as the worst violent manifestations to occur in the United States (The BLM Effect, 2021). The riots lasted for 100 days in the American streets causing millions of property damage and wounding large numbers of police officers.

3. Role of the Movement in Encouraging Social and Moral Corruption

Moreover, the movement purposefully includes people who frequently appear to be on the periphery of the Black community, such as disabled African Americans and those who

are gay, lesbian, or bisexual (Braxton, 2016). Thus, calling attention to this movement means highlighting the negative aspects of modern homosexuality that defy the norms of traditional society and seeks to normalize these behaviors in daily life contexts. Therefore, granting these social minorities the right to practice their traditions and manifest their sexuality on public could have a serious detrimental effect on societies, it could encourage the young generation to embrace this life style and demolish the traditional foundation of the American family unit, its social norms and practices. In other words, it would encourage negative morals.

4. Role of Black People Image in Earning Respect

Dr. Ben Carson contributes the negative image of the BAA society in the overall American social landscape to the self-inflicted wounds that Black people suffer from in their own homes and families (as cited in Braxton, 2016). Thus, he does not relate the bad morals of the black individuals to their involvement with the movement. On the contrary, he presents other external factors that generate this bad behavior and negative attitudes of black individuals, including their growing helplessness due to poor life conditions, low rates of employment due to their lack of modern skills in the workplace environment, and the increasing rates of abortion that are caused by the increased sexual activities of black people at young ages. He also tracks the causes for their lack of skills to the failing educational systems that do not teach young generations the appropriate way to learn and develop.

More importantly, he blames the American entertainment industry that portrays black men as gangsters and black women as sexual objects that are only suitable for fulfilling sexual needs (as cited in Braxton, 2016). This negative image of Black members of society plays a major role in undermining their respectability and increasing their chances to be viewed as outlaws who are likely to make felonies and crimes, thus, they should better be stopped before inflicting damage. It is actually witnessed through movies, songs and even

video games that Blacks often demonstrate violent reactions and behaviors that require authority interference. Thus, the negative image of this social group is used as a justification for police force that is used as a natural reaction towards threatening individuals of society.

5. Role of the Movement in Increasing Public Fear and Anger

The prevalence of the BLMM and its activism on social media platform helped in illustrating graphic images of the violence that the victims endured and the brutality that they suffered from on the hands of the white abusers. Thus, people from different races and social backgrounds, including Black people, were able to see with their own eyes the depiction of racism and its manifestation on real life grounds, how this social illness drives people to behave in a violent manner that blinds their sight and make them commit unnatural hideous actions to relief their repressed anger towards the other race. Witnessing this kind of accidents and behaviors makes any living creature afraid for his own life and safety if he was a member of the oppressed community. In a national survey conducted by Yale University with nearly 5,000 young people across the United States, it was revealed that black respondents reported noticeably greater levels of anxiety and rage throughout their interaction and involvement with the protests of the BLMM (Hathaway, 2021). Rage and anger are only expected since they are protesting for their rights in equality and demanding for police reforms that could limit or reduce the authorities' attacks on their race, in addition to their feelings of anger and frustration for the murdered victims who died without a justifiable reason. Black people have always had a sort of brotherly solidarity that makes them cooperate with each other for their shared history of being discriminated and violated by the white authorities in their own country. Thus, losing a member of their society is similar to losing one of their family members.

Feelings of fear and anxiety on the other hand are more related to their vision of the real extent of white people's amount of anger and hatred towards Black members. After

witnessing how far the police forces can go with their violence and cause death to the abused victims, Black activists feared for their safety in the country knowing that any one of their race is most likely to be the next victim of police harassment and lose his or her life. A study conducted by (Bor at al., 2018) proved that witnessing unarmed Black Americans being killed by racist police officers have a detrimental effect on the mental health of other Black adults living in the same state or overseas (as cited in Brown, et al, 2022). Thus, the BLMM that mainly used media as its main tool to broadcast the killing accidents on the internet contributes to increasing Black citizens stress and anxiety, fearing for their life and for those whom they love.

Moreover, studies indicate that persistent exposure to racism and prejudice, such as the murders by police in the summer of 2020, can cause racial/ethnic minority to become more vigilant (Brown, et al, 2022). This implies that people who feel oppressed just because they belong to the discriminated social group develop a sense of constant alertness in order to be always on guard and alert to any surrounding threat. It also means that they always expect the negative thing in their life to happen, waiting for the life-threatening accident or event that would put them face to face with a racist citizen who could have the power to hurt them. Thus, the BLMM increased Black people's alertness and maximized their expectations of encountering racist situations and contexts in their daily life encounters.

6. Role of the Movement in Increasing Crime Rates

It is well established by now that the BLMM was founded to oppose police enforcement and demand for legal penalties to punish them for their crimes against AAP. The advance of the movement and the popularity it gained from the public and even late president Obama led to the emergence of the anti-cop movement. From its name, it could be concluded that it is a public reaction to the behaviors and actions of the American police department. The U.S. Department of Justice and many mayors' offices around the nation soon became infected

with an aggressive mistrust of the police, which in turn faced scathing criticism, widespread animosity from the general public, and increasing scrutiny (The BLM Effect, 2021). As a result, some police officers reduced proactive law enforcement out of fear for their jobs while other officers were prevented from executing their jobs. Once law enforcement left, violent crime increased. Hence, the widespread of the movement and its extensive popularity on social media that made it gain millions of supporters from different nations made the police officers afraid of even doing their jobs. They knew that the government is under the pressure of the public opinion, and it could sacrifice the American police department to avoid ruining the general image of the American security system. Thus, they refrained from applying the law on the American streets and started to overlook crimes and felonies to reserve their occupations. Hence, instead of achieving equality between races, the BLMM contributed to increasing crime rates in the USA and corrupting the legal system of the country for fear of public scrutiny.

Conclusion

The BLMM was a random group that was created on social media platforms after the murder of a Black citizen on the hand of a white police officer after he was arrested and choked to death in the streets of the US. The movement started as an emergency call to attract public attention towards the abusive and life-threatening practices of the whites against AAP in the states and the leniency of the American government with this phenomenon, releasing the criminals instead of punishing them and putting a stop to their discriminative brutal actions. Not all young Black people are always free from misbehavior or breaking the law. However, no one should be tried, convicted, and executed on the streets, even if they may have committed felonies, the movement thus calls for granting blacks the right to be arrested and prosecuted in front of the judge to decide their punishment like any other white citizen in the country, not just killing them on the streets.

The movement has started as a righteous social association that claims for racial equality and police reforms to reduce the violence against AAP in the states. However, with its increased popularity, it turned into damaging and destructive movement that threatens the stability of security of the American society. The chapter showed that the BLMM contributes to spreading violence and economic corruption through encouraging police attacks, disruptive riots that involves damaging both public and private properties and wounding police officers whose job is to maintain law and order in the streets. The movement also showed to affect the traditional familial unit through spreading homosexual ideas and concepts in the society and encouraging moral corruption. Furthermore, the extensive circulation of the movement's discourse and events on social media proved to increase public fear and anxiety in terms of making Black citizens from different nations fear for their life and anticipate life-threatening encounters in their daily life. More importantly, the widespread of the movement and its influence on international public discourse contributed to increasing crime rates in the USA where the police forces refrained from doing their jobs for fear of being judged or dismissed from their positions.

Thus, it could be concluded that the BLMM is a double-faced coin, it is perceived as innocent movement that seeks to establish racial equality and end discrimination in the USA, however, its impact is far from innocent since it causes several detrimental consequences on the stability of the America society, its traditions and its solidarity.

Chapter Three: The Implications of the Black Lives Matter Movement for the Future of African American Activism and social justice in the United States

Introduction

The New York Times stated on July 3, 2020 that Black Lives Matter was likely the largest social movement in US history, and with good reason (Célestine, et al, 2022). Manifestations and marches were organized in different countries of the world to support the American BLM movement and magnify its impact. Even countries that are neutral and have no political interest in the movement goals or anti-racist traditions witnessed large protests and manifestations in the name of the social racism and brutal discrimination in the US. The movement turned in a short period of time into an international case of public opinion and a controversial issue that called for the involvement and activism of global communities. This was mainly due to the role of the media in spreading the case and showing the entire world the inner state of the country where BP were being unjustifiably judged and punished just for the color of their skin. The public rage put a significant amount of pressure on the American government which appeared in a negative image for being lenient with its laws and allowing its white citizens to commit racial crimes against Black communities without being held responsible for their actions. The fact that the entire world witnessed the brutality of the American police force through several accidents and encounters with Black citizens turned the case from an internal matter into an international issue, calling for the interference of the human rights organizations and associations that could not tolerate the existence of such abusive treatments that were only witnessed during times of slavery in the past in the 21st century. Thus, the present chapter highlights the judicial policies that the American constitution adopted to handle the consequences of the BLMM and pacify the international wave of rage towards the American social racism and discrimination to the Black race in the USA and the social reforms that were established to protect Black lives and reduce the threat on their safety and security.

1. The Movements' Demands for Social Justice

According to Roberts (2018), the BLM has always been and still is a movement that seeks social justice and human rights instead of political reform and judicial change. The main goal of BLM has been to fight for a fundamental restructuring of society where Black people are free from systematic dehumanization, rather than changing particular legislation. However, there is no denying that the movement has had a demonstrable impact on the political and legal landscape of the country. As discussed before, the movement shed light on the unfair legal system that does not support the rights of Black people in the American society. The attention of the global media made the government adhere to modifying some of its legislative laws to improve the damaged image of the national security system of the country.

Similarly, Célestine, et al (2022) agree that BLM has been a well-known social movement in the US since 2013, with the main goal of denouncing and eliminating systematic racism in the country as well as police violence against black people. Thus, the main goal of the movement was to abolish racial discrimination against Black people from the American society. They knew that it was the most important unit of daily life that needs reform and not the judicial system itself. The CRM has been successful in changing the American constitutional laws by granting Black citizens basic rights which they were previously denied in the country, such as the right to vote and to learn. It was classified as a historic achievement that gained Blacks' their dignity and earned them a respectful social status in the American society. However, this was not the case in reality, the announcement of their rights in law did not change how white people regard them in daily life encounters. Black people were still subjected to social discrimination and racism for the years that followed the legendary victory of the CRM in gaining their rights and demands. Therefore, the BLM focused on society as the main source of change because they knew that it was the most influential aspect if they wanted to make a change.

2. The Global Network of the Movement

It is true that the BLM movement started as a random hashtag on social media platforms. However, in a matter of few years, it turned into a structured and organized movement that was led by a number of Black activists in different parts of the country. By 2014, the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation, founded the year before by the movement's three founders, Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi, and Patrisse Cullors had explicitly adopted the goal of internationalizing the US movement through a network that, despite recent tensions that have divided it, still included people from all over the world (Célestine, et al, 2022). These networks include different parts and countries such as the UK and Canada.

Moreover, US BLMM activists developed practical and political ties with Palestinian protest organizations in 2015 through the hashtag #Palestine2Ferguson (Célestine, et al, 2022). It also promoted initiatives in Kenya on behalf of Ugandan LGBTQIA+ refugees, and demonstrated their solidarity for young Nigerians protesting police violence. All these actions contributed to supporting the movement on an international scale and gaining recognition by international organizations and countries so that it could grow its influence and impact in the USA.

Thus, globalizing the movement and making it a matter of public opinion has helped in the recognition of the movement and its legitimacy, even though that the movement has a hideous side of it that threatens the stability of the American society and the safety of innocent citizens since it encourages the violence ideology in gaining its rights like it was demonstrated through the previous chapter, it still gained the sympathy of the global community and its support. The movement has evoked a general consensus condemning racism, racial discrimination and police violence against Black people in the USA (Célestine, et al, 2022).

3. Implications of the Movement on the National Police Department in America

Black Lives Matter demonstrations in the middle of the decade brought attention to police brutality, exposing the glaring disparity between races in interactions with law enforcement, and sparking a wave of reforms for the police department in the USA (Fhelps, et al, 2021). The use of social platforms to demonstrate the brutal practices of the police department and officers towards Black people on the streets of the US has exposed the hidden secrets of the security system and its crimes in the country. It also shed light on the government's lenience with the abusers just because they are members of the legal system. This has provoked a global rage around the world which put pressure on the government to make major police reforms to rectify the situation and please the public to maintain the descent image of the American national security.

Before discussing the reforms however, the state of the American constitution and police department code of law should be taken into consideration first. Williams and Murphy (1990) have explained in their article how that the fact that the American legal system was required to uphold slavery, segregation, and discrimination for the majority of the nation's history set a precedent for police behavior and attitudes toward minority communities that has lasted to the present day. The notion that minorities have less civil rights, that the job of the police is to keep them in check, and that the police have little obligation to protect them from crime in their areas are all examples of this traditional and fundamental mindset of the Police forces in the USA. It is an undeniable fact that the American government outlined legal legislations in its law system that permits and even supports racism towards the nation's minorities, mainly Black communities as part of the American history. Thus, the common mindset or the prevailing perception of the white security system in the country is to be cautious of these minorities and control them to maintain the peace and order in the American streets. This concept could be also linked to the previously discussed point in the second chapter, stating that the Black society reflects an aggressive and negative image of Black citizens in America due to the role of the entertainment industry. They are often

portrayed as violent and aggressive individuals who cause problems and create chaos in society. Thus the police regard this group of citizens as a threat to the people and thus, they should be stopped by any means that they see necessary.

With the increasing interest in the BLMM and the issue that it brought to light, an extensive research was conducted to investigate the case of Black lives murders in police arrests in different states of the USA. One of which is the study conducted by Harvard Chan School of Public Health in (2020), the findings revealed that Black people were three times more likely than white people to be killed by police among the more than 5,400 police-related deaths between (2013) and (2017) (as cited in Bria, 2021). Moreover, using data from 27 states in (2014-2015), Northeastern University and Harvard University published a study which revealed that Black individuals die in police-related shootings at a rate that is two times higher than that of White people (as cited in Bria, 2021). This shows the severe impact of the unjust police system and the threat that officers pose on Black citizens.

The main call for the BLMM after the death of George Floyd was the defunding of the police department. It means to stop providing funds and financial support from the government to the police department in all the states of America. Some protesters during the 2020 demonstrations called for the removal of police departments and the complete reallocation of department funding to social services, such as healthcare, public housing, and public schools, other defunding proponents advocated for budget cuts for the police rather than their outright elimination (Bria, 2021). The money from the partial defunding would be reinvested by these champions in social programs like the ones listed above. They think that reinvesting will reduce crime more effectively than giving the police ever-increasing amounts of money each year.

As a result, in December 2020, the council reduced \$8 million or 4.5 percent from the funding allocated to the police department and re-oriented this amount of funding to other

city services, like mental health department (Bria, 2021). Moreover, 13 cities had cut their police expenditures by August (2020) and \$150 million was cut from Los Angeles' \$3 billion police budget, Seattle also cut their budget for the police by 20%. However, no city had totally stopped funding its police departments by (2021). This shows the success of the movement in achieving the main goal which it was created for; reducing the power and authority of the American police department.

Furthermore, the movement has also created a public rage and resentment wave towards the police force of the USA security system. The media and liberal politicians, particularly the late President Obama, supported the anti-cop movement. Police were subjected to harsh criticism, pervasive public hostility, and rising scrutiny (The BLM Effect, 2021). In response to pleas for mercy and out of fear for their careers, some police officers scaled up proactive law enforcement, while others were actually barred from doing their jobs. Violent crime skyrocketed as soon as police enforcement disappeared from the American streets.

The second main demand of activists of the BLMM is to force the criminals from the American police department to take responsibility for their crimes and receive a legal punishment. The majority of American activists from different races were favor of reforms that would increase officer accountability and penalize them for misconduct (Bria, 2021). As a result, several bills at the federal level were introduced in response to concerns about police behavior in (2020), and the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act was approved by House Democrats in (2020) and again in (2021) (Bria, 2021). This act states that every police officer should be charged and executed in case of committing racial bias or excessive force with Black citizens. In addition, a number of states has passed their own local acts hat ensure radical police reforms that could maintain Black lives in the society and preserve their civil rights, these acts as presented as follows (as cited in Bria, 2021. p. 9):

- Seattle, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., banned police use of chokeholds on suspects.
- Mayors from Chicago, Cincinnati, and Tampa, as well as police chiefs from Baltimore, Columbia (South Carolina), and Phoenix formed the Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group to recommend reforms to police departments.
- School boards in Seattle, Minneapolis, Denver, and Portland (Oregon) discontinued use of police resource officers in schools. They instead now use private security.
- Dallas police now have a “duty to intervene” and stop officers from using excessive force.

Thus, it could be observed that these reforms in different states of the country aim at preserving Blacks’ rights in equal treatment by the local police forces in scenes of arrest. The prohibition of chokeholds and similar killing weapons is an effective precaution to prevent policemen from causing a killing damage to the victims in case they could not control themselves. The establishment of local police groups that aim at controlling and recommending reforms to police departments is another beneficial strategy to maintain the order of the departments and control the cases of violence that could happen in the streets. Thus, these measurements showed both the success of the movement in voicing the concerns of Black people in the American society and the attention that the government paid to this issue in order to establish solutions to the problem and maintain the law and order in the country. With the growing interest of the global media in the cause, and the scrutiny of the public, making reforms was an obligatory procedure to pacify the people and preserve the image of the national security system.

4. Implications of the Movement on the Future of African American Activism

The BLMM is considered as a legendary social reform movement because it was able to achieve a significant global status in a short period of time. It was the first movement in history that could reach all parts of the world in a matter of approximately five to eight

years. The greatest impact of this movement on American history occurred during the events that led to the establishment of new political reforms and social norms, which reached their peak in (2020) (Mosaffa & Nazifpour, 2021).

In fact, there are several anti-racism organizations that were founded in the US to advocate Black people's rights in social equality and liberties. The most well-known ones include the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the Black Panther Party (BPP). The latter was described by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover as the United States' single greatest internal security threat (as cited in Williams, 2008). All these movements or organizations were founded in different settings of the country under different circumstances but with the same common goal, which is to end racial discrimination, systematic police violence and advocate Black people's rights in the American society.

Moreover, these movements were founded before the BLMM but they could not achieve the same impact that the latter accomplished. One of the main obstacles that prevented these movements from developing and increasing their impact and volume was the lack of financial resources and political support (Bester & Jean, 2012). These factors impose limitations to the advancement of any organization and preventing it from voicing its issues to the large population and public.

Thus, it could be concluded that the strategy that the BLMM adopted and was missing in the previous organizations in America was the use of social media as the main means of voicing the issue of justice inequality and police abuse of the Black people in the US. The use of internet as the primary resource for the movement is an effective strategy for gaining supporters online and turning the movement into a case of international public opinion.

Moreover, the BLMM has also contributed to the advancement of other social anti-racism organizations and turned them into its allies (Black Lives Matter: From Protests to

Lasting Change, n.d). With the attention of the global media and their focus on the social structure of the American society, more particularly, the treatment of Black people in the USA by the government and the people, these organizations have more opportunities to voice their issues to the world and gain public support for the hope of political and social reform.

Conclusion

As a conclusion, it could be said that the BLMM is a powerful and influential social movement that has been able to voice the issue of systematic police violence against Black people and make a global impact on the view of social racism and discrimination in the USA. Despite the fact that it is a destructive movement that adopted the violent ideology to reach its aim through creating chaos and encourage police-violence, it has nevertheless been able to change the social and political norms of the racist-American society. It has been able to force the establishment of major police reforms such as the defunding of the American police department and the imposing of new laws that prevent police-officers from using weapons or excessive power with Black citizens. Moreover, it has also been able to change the public anti-racism activism in the USA by providing support and acknowledgement to other Black organizations in the country.

General Conclusion

Black Lives Matter is a social movement that calls for social reform in terms of providing equality and ending social discrimination and police brutality in the USA. It started as a simple hashtag as a reaction of the death of George Floyd who was arrested and killed on scene on the hands of a white police officer, the discharge of the latter and his release by the US authorities is what provoked the outrage of the public, especially that the abuse or the murder was video-taped and shared on social media platforms. The movement gained momentum both nationally and internationally where demonstrations were organized in

different states in the country, in addition to similar protests across different other countries in the world, including France, Australia and the UK. The use of media as a powerful means to reveal the unfair treatment of Black citizens on the hands of the police to people has significantly contributed to the spread of the movement and making an international issue. It has also won the positive side of the public and their support for the cause of racial discrimination in America.

However, with its increased popularity, it turned into damaging and destructive movement that threatens the stability of security of the American society. The BLMM contributed to spreading violence and economic corruption through encouraging police attacks, disruptive riots that involves damaging both public and private properties and wounding police officers whose job is to maintain law and order in the streets. The movement also showed to affect the traditional familial unit through spreading homosexual ideas and concepts in the society and encouraging moral corruption. Furthermore, the extensive circulation of the movement's discourse and events on social media proved to increase public fear and anxiety in terms of making Black citizens from different nations fear for their life and anticipate life-threatening encounters in their daily life. More importantly, the widespread of the movement and its influence on international public discourse contributed to increasing crime rates in the USA where the police forces refrained from doing their jobs for fear of being judged or dismissed from their positions. As a conclusion, it could be said that the BLMM is a powerful and influential social movement that has been able to voice the issue of systematic police violence against Black people and make a global impact on the view of social racism and discrimination in the USA. Despite the fact that it is a destructive movement that adopted the violent ideology to reach its aim through creating chaos and encourage police-violence, it has nevertheless been able to change the social and political norms of the racist-American society. It has been able to force the establishment of major police reforms such as the defunding of the American police department and the

imposing of new laws that prevent police-officers from using weapons or excessive power with Black citizens. Moreover, it has also been able to change the public anti-racism activism in the USA by providing support and acknowledgement to other Black organizations in the country.

In order to gain a deeper understanding of the black lives matter movement and its different impacts on society, further studies are warranted to explore various aspects and dimensions of the significant social justice movement. by conducting detailed research, scholars can contribute valuable insights that enhance our knowledge and inform future policies and actions. This dissertation recommends several options for further study that can shed light on the movement's long-term impact, its intersectionality and inclusivity, localized effect, media representations, international perspectives, community perspectives, and the influence on public opinion and attitudes. These areas of research offer opportunities to delve into the complexities and differences surrounding the movement, thus fostering a more comprehensive understanding of its goals, strategies, outcomes, and implications for addressing systemic racism, promoting social justice, and achieving meaningful change.

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Résumé

Ce résumé donne un aperçu du mouvement Black Lives Matter (BLM), de ses buts et objectifs, des méthodes employées, des résultats et d'une remarque finale concernant son impact sociopolitique et son influence sur les réformes du maintien de l'ordre. Le mouvement Black Lives Matter (BLM) est né en réponse à la discrimination sociale et aux brutalités policières dont sont victimes les Noirs aux États-Unis, et a suscité un vif intérêt au niveau national et international. L'objectif premier du mouvement BLM est de plaider en faveur d'une réforme sociale, de l'égalité et de la fin de la discrimination sociale et des violences policières à l'encontre des citoyens noirs. Il cherche à sensibiliser, à mobiliser les communautés et à faire pression pour que les politiques et les pratiques policières soient modifiées. Le mouvement BLM a d'abord pris de l'ampleur grâce à l'utilisation des plateformes de médias sociaux, en particulier le hashtag #BlackLivesMatter. Il a organisé des manifestations pacifiques, des protestations et des rassemblements dans divers États et pays pour souligner l'urgence d'un changement systémique. Le mouvement BLM a suscité un débat considérable en raison de ses aspects controversés, notamment des épisodes de violence, des dommages matériels et des affrontements avec les forces de l'ordre. Cependant, il a également réussi à influencer des réformes policières majeures, telles que la suppression du financement des services de police et la mise en œuvre de lois visant à lutter contre l'usage excessif de la force. Bien que le mouvement "Black Lives Matter" ait été critiqué pour ses éléments destructeurs, il a indéniablement joué un rôle important dans la sensibilisation de l'opinion publique et dans la promotion de réformes des pratiques policières. Le mouvement a mis en évidence le besoin urgent de justice sociale et d'égalité, appelant à poursuivre les efforts pour lutter contre le racisme systémique et garantir un traitement équitable à tous les individus, indépendamment de leur race ou de leur appartenance ethnique.

Mots Clés

BLACK LIVES MATTER, DISCRIMINATION, RACISME, VIOLENCES POLICIÈRES.

ملخص

يقدم هذا الملخص لمحة عامة عن حركة (Black Lives Matter (BLM وأهدافها وغاياتها والأساليب المستخدمة والنتائج والملاحظة النهائية فيما يتعلق بتأثيرها الاجتماعي والسياسي وتأثيرها على إصلاحات الشرطة. ولدت حركة Black Lives Matter (BLM ردًا على التمييز الاجتماعي ووحشية الشرطة ضد السود في الولايات المتحدة، وأثارت اهتمامًا كبيرًا على الصعيدين الوطني والدولي. الهدف الأساسي لحركة BLM هو الدعوة إلى الإصلاح الاجتماعي والمساواة وإنهاء التمييز الاجتماعي ووحشية الشرطة ضد المواطنين السود. وهي تسعى إلى زيادة الوعي وتعبئة المجتمعات والضغط من أجل إحداث تغييرات في سياسات وممارسات الشرطة. اكتسبت حركة BLM زخمًا لأول مرة من خلال استخدام منصات وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي، ولا سيما علامة التصنيف #BlackLivesMatter. وقد نظم مظاهرات واحتجاجات وتجمعات سلمية في دول ودول مختلفة للتأكيد على الضرورة الملحة للتغيير المنهجي. أثارت حركة BLM جدلاً كبيرًا بسبب جوانبها المثيرة للجدل، بما في ذلك حلقات العنف وتدمير الممتلكات والاشتباكات مع سلطات إنفاذ القانون. ومع ذلك، فقد نجح أيضًا في التأثير على إصلاحات الشرطة الرئيسية، مثل إلغاء تمويل أقسام الشرطة وتنفيذ القوانين لمعالجة الاستخدام المفرط للقوة. على الرغم من أن حركة "حياة السود مهمة" قد تعرضت لانتقادات بسبب عناصرها المدمرة، إلا أنها لعبت بلا شك دورًا مهمًا في زيادة الوعي العام وتعزيز الإصلاحات في ممارسات الشرطة. وسلطت الحركة الضوء على الحاجة الملحة لتحقيق العدالة الاجتماعية والمساواة، ودعت إلى مواصلة الجهود للتصدي للعنصرية المنهجية وضمان المعاملة العادلة لجميع الأفراد، بغض النظر عن العرق أو العرق.

الكلمات الدالة

الحياة السوداء مهمة، والتمييز، والعنصرية، وعنف الشرطة.