

5.1 Black-on-Black Crime

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SPEAKERS

Jasmine Bradshaw

- J** Jasmine Bradshaw 00:00

You're listening to the First Name Basis podcast, Season Five, Episode 1: "What About Black-on-Black Crime?"
- J** Jasmine Bradshaw 00:13

Teaching our children to be inclusive and anti-racist starts with us within the sacred walls of our home. First Name Basis is designed to empower you with the confidence you need to be a leader in your family and a change maker in your community. Together, we will wrestle with hard questions and use the answers to create the world we want: a world that reflects our values of inclusion, compassion, and courage. I'm your host, Jasmine Bradshaw, and I am so excited to be on this journey with you.
- J** Jasmine Bradshaw 00:49

Hello, First Name Basis fam. I am so glad you are here. I had to re-record that because I actually forgot what I say. I guess it's been a quick minute since we've been together. Welcome to Season Five! I really am so glad that you are here. And today we are going to have such a good conversation. So let's dive in.
- J** Jasmine Bradshaw 01:14

Before we start, I have to give a trigger warning, of course, to all of my Black Indigenous People of Color: my brothers and sisters, my melanated people, just know that in this conversation, we're going to be talking about enslavement. We'll be talking about colonization. And I absolutely understand if this is not something that you can hold or carry today. Please know that I'm supporting you, and I want you to be in the best, most loving, healing place possible. So if you need to step away from this podcast, I totally understand.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 01:49

All right, so today we are going to be talking about how to respond to the question "What about Black-on-Black crime?" Now before we jump into that, I want to introduce myself, because I have a feeling since we are starting a new season that some of you might be new to me. Or you might be new to First Name Basis. So welcome! My name is Jasmine Bradshaw. I am a mom of two girls; one is four and the other is one. My sweet husband Carter and I live in Mesa, Arizona on the land of the Akimel O'odham people, and before that the Hohokam people. And the purpose of First Name Basis is to give you the tools you need to raise anti-racist kiddos and anti-racist familie, ut the thing is, we do that in two ways. So sometimes I do episodes where I tell you, "Here's how we talk to our kids. Here are the things that you can do in your home," and give you all of these parenting pointers when it comes to anti-racism. But this episode is going to be for you as an adult, because I also think that it's important that we build our foundation of anti-racism, so that we can be having these conversations in our communities, in our families, and modeling that for our children. So it's really twofold. Sometimes we're building the foundation; sometimes I'm giving you specific tools for your family, and they both work together to create a culture of anti-racism in your home. So today is going to be a foundation-building episode so that you know what to say when someone comes at you with "Well, what about Black-on-Black crime?" But if you are looking for a resource that you can use with your children today, you can go to firstnamebasis.org/racetalk and download our free Race Talk Roadmap. So the Race Talk Roadmap is your first three steps to talking to your kiddos about race, and we have a version that is for older children and a version that's for younger children, because of course, you know, developmentally, you're not going to start in the same place depending on how old your kiddos are. So the Race Talk Roadmap will give you ideas. It will give you prompts and links for how you can start this critical conversation with your children.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 04:03

Now, I always like to remind parents, if you have started this conversation, you are well along this road, it's important that you take a look at the Race Talk Roadmap as well, because we know that our kiddos, and not just our kiddos ourselves too, it takes seven times of hearing something before it sticks in our minds and in our hearts. So it might be time for a little refresher for you and your family. So go to firstnamebasis.org/racetalk to download your FREE Race Talk Roadmap. And of course I will be sure to link the Race Talk Roadmap in the show notes so you can go over there and click the link to get it sent straight to your email.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 04:45

All right. Today when we are talking about Black-on-Black crime, there are two phrases and words that I will be using that might be a little bit new to you. So I wanted to start off by getting on the same page when it comes to the vocabulary that we are using. I don't like using the phrase "low income." I'm sure you've heard that phrase a lot: low-income this, low-income that, low-income schools, low-income jobs. I don't love that phrase, because it really implies that the reason that people are living in poverty is because of their own doing, because they can't earn, when in reality, there are a lot of systemic issues that are at play that contribute to someone being impoverished. So instead of using the term "low income," I'm going to use two different terms. The first is under-resourced and the other is over-exploited.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 05:37

Now, I've been using the term under-resourced for years, because I think it does a really good job of showing that there are some communities and some schools that have access to resources, that are given resources, and there are other communities and schools and places that have been under-resourced systemically by policy or by legislation. So we'll be using the term under-resourced community. But the other term, over-exploited, I actually just heard this one. I just learned it, and I am loving it. So I was listening to the Code Switch podcast, which if you've been here for any length of time, you know I'm obsessed with Code Switch. And they had an author on, her name is Derecka Purnell, and she just wrote a book called "Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom." And in this episode, it's called "Imagining a World Without Prisons or Police," (It was amazing. I will link that in the show notes, too; you have to listen to it.) So in this episode, she's talking about communities that are being over-policed, and one of the terms that she was using to describe these communities is over-exploited. And I just loved it, because I felt like that is such a good description of what is happening in so many of our under-resourced communities: they are being exploited for their labor, they're being exploited for the resources that they have. There's just so much exploitation going on. So between the terms, under-resourced and over-exploited, I feel like we have a much better picture of what's really happening in our communities. So instead of using the term low income, we will stick to under-resourced or over-exploited. Thank you so much for sticking with me, as we all get on the same page. I feel like that is so important for conversations like these. And maybe you can use that as a model. The next time you're having a conversation about race or racism with someone, make sure that you understand the vocabulary that's being used and you are in somewhat of agreement on the terms and what they mean.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 07:43

All right, let's get into it. So whether it's police, like in the case of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and countless others, or it's racist white vigilantes, like in the case of Ahmaud Arbery, when a white person murders a Black person and we try to call it like it is, racism, there is always someone waiting in the wings to say, "Well, what about Black-on-Black crime?" Oh, my. I don't know if there is anything that gets my blood boiling faster than someone saying, "Well, what about Black-on-Black crime?" It is so annoying. It is so frustrating. And a couple of weeks ago, when I asked you all what questions you had about this topic, your responses actually totally made me laugh, because it seems like we're on the same page; you are annoyed, too. Somebody said, "So is it wrong to smack them in the head when they say this?" Okay, y'all know I am not a proponent of violence. So when you feel like smacking somebody in the head for saying, "What about Black-on-Black crime, let's talk about what you can say instead. Someone else said, "I don't even know how to begin dissecting it without losing my cool." So I feel you. We are not smacking people in the head, and we are not losing our cool. We have a solid response to this question. And that's what we're going to talk about today.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 09:09

So in this episode, we will talk about three things. The first is as soon as someone says, "What about Black-on-Black crime?" we're going to talk about how you can respond. So what do you say in response to that? The second is the reason why the idea of Black-on-Black crime is a

say in response to that? The second is the reason why the idea of Black-on-Black crime is a myth. So I'm going to give you the research behind what's really going on in the communities and how you can help other people understand that Black-on-Black crime is actually not a thing. And the last thing that we'll go over today is helping the person that you're talking to understand why, when you are having a conversation about systemic racism, the response or the question, "What about Black-on-Black crime?" is actually extremely inappropriate and racist. So those are the three things we're going to cover today, and I hope by the end of this episode you will feel you're super confident. So the next time somebody says, "What about Black-on-Black crime?" you are like, "Yes, actually, let me tell you, because I know exactly how to have this conversation."

J Jasmine Bradshaw 10:11

All right, so the first thing: how do we respond? Now, you've probably heard me say this before if you've listened to any of my other episodes, but if you are a Black or Indigenous Person of Color, I need you to remember that your responsibility here is to protect yourself and to protect your peace. You really do not owe anyone your emotional labor. So whatever you choose to do to protect yourself and protect your peace is the right answer. So if you are a Black or Indigenous Person of Color, of course you can walk away. You can silently give them a little stink eye. I know that sounds silly, but it definitely helps. Sometimes, that silent look that you give people helps them understand that you're not messing around, and that what they said was totally inappropriate. Or you can engage if you'd like. And that is what the rest of this episode is about. So if you are white, or you hold white privilege, and you're striving to be anti-racist, your responsibility here is to help teach others what you know. So I know it might be frustrating. I know you might feel like you want to let them have it, but your real responsibility is to see what you can do to help other people come along on this anti-racist journey with you. So your anger, even though I understand where it comes from, is not necessarily the best response to this situation. Some people need compassionate guidance, and some people need stern guidance. But helping people understand what you know and where we're going together is really your responsibility if you are a white person, or a person who holds white privilege.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 11:53

One thing that I want you to remember as you're thinking about how to respond and what to say to this question is that this question is really a tactic that's used to deflect from the conversation that you were originally trying to have. So you have two options here. The first is that you can bring it back to the conversation topic that you started with. And you can offer to answer the Black-on-Black crime question after you have the original conversation. So in her book, "So You Want to Talk About Race," Ijeoma Oluo says to restate your intention for the conversation. So this would sound something like saying, "I'm talking about issues of systemic racism. We can discuss your question after our intended conversation," and then you wait for their response to see if that's something that they agree to. The second option that you have is to explain that you would love to help them understand why their question about Black-on-Black crime is inappropriate or racist as long as they understand that you will finish your original conversation at some point. So it doesn't have to be today. But maybe you choose the time in the future, when you're going to have this original conversation together.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 13:09

Jasmine Bradshaw 13:05

Here's the funny thing. I'll let you in on a little secret: if you do stop to explain the whole Black-on-Black crime thing, it will just take you right back to the original conversation, because all roads lead to systemic racism. So if you end up on this Black-on-Black crime detour, it really won't be that hard to get back on to the conversation that you started with, because systemic racism is the reason for police brutality. Systemic racism is the reason for white vigilantes murdering people in the street. Systemic racism is the reason for, quote unquote, Black-on-Black crime. So all roads lead to systemic racism. So if you have that conversation, you're bound to wind up where you started anyway.

Jasmine Bradshaw 13:52

All right, so those are your options when it comes to responding depending on if you are a Black Indigenous Person of Color, or if you are a person who holds white privilege. Now let's dive into what you can actually say. What does the research show about Black-on-Black crime? Well, the research shows that someone's likelihood to commit a violent crime doesn't actually have anything to do with their race. It is all about economic circumstances. So poor white people commit violent crime at about the same rate as poor Black people. There was a study done in 2014 by the Justice Department, and it says that poor white people commit violent crime at a rate of 46.4%. And poor Black people commit violent crime at a rate of 43.4%. So those are about the same, and that's why at the beginning, I was saying Black-on-Black crime is not really a thing, because we don't call it white-on-white crime. We just call it crime, and that's what it is. Crime is crime is crime. So we have people in under-resourced white communities committing crimes at about the same rate as people who are in over-exploited Black communities.

Jasmine Bradshaw 15:03

The other thing that's important for you to understand is that most crime happens between people who know each other. So it's really the people that we live around. And since we live in a segregated society, because we're still dealing with the consequences of redlining and all of those different things, Black people commit crimes against other Black people, and white people commit crimes against other white people, because that's who you live next to. One of my favorite articles that I found when doing research for this episode is called "Why We Never Talk About Black-on-Black Crime: An Answer to White America's Most Pressing Question." It's by Michael Harriot. He's a writer for The Root, and he is so funny and so smart. I read almost everything he puts out. He's brilliant, and I want to read you a little excerpt from the article. It says, quote, "According to the FBI's uniform crime-reporting data for 2016, 90.1 percent of Black victims of homicide were killed by other Blacks, while 83.5 percent of whites were killed by other whites. While no life is inconsequential, the statistical evidence shows that—just as for Blacks when it comes to Black-on-Black crime—whites are mostly victimized by other whites, with the vast majority of white murders committed by whites. This is because most victims of crime personally know their assailants. And while this is a truth across racial boundaries, no one ever talks about 'white-on-white crime.' Furthermore, the Bureau of Justice Statistics' arrest data analysis tool shows that less than 1 percent of Blacks overall (about 2 percent of Black men) commit a violent crime in any given year. This means, factoring in interracial violent offenses, 99 percent of Black men do not commit Black-on-Black crime." End quote. So what I'm hoping you got from that excerpt is the understanding that white people commit crimes against other white people and Black people commit crimes against other Black

people, because it has everything to do with who you live around and your economic circumstances. And one of the responses that I got in the question box that I posted on Instagram was someone said, "I blew my white dad's mind when I asked him if he knew the stats on white-on-white crime." I love that response. I love those conversation interrupters, those questions that help people really see the error of their ways.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 17:36

One of the biggest things that I felt like Michael Harriot pointed out in his article is that for the most part, Black men are not violent criminals. You can meet a lot of Black people before you would run into someone who has committed a violent crime, because most Black people don't commit violent offenses. The other thing I want to note is that in this article, he says the word "Blacks." He uses that term a lot. And that is not something that you should be using as a white person. Black people can absolutely say that, but white people should make sure you're saying "Black people" or "the Black community." Just stay away from the term "Blacks," because we just don't like it. We don't like it when you say that.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 18:19

So from now on, when someone comes at you with what about Black-on-Black crime, you now know the two reasons why Black-on-Black crime is not a thing. Crime happens in economically under-resourced or over-exploited communities no matter what your race is. And Black people are more likely to commit crimes against other Black people, white people are more likely to commit crimes against other white people, because crime happens between people who know each other, and we live in a segregated society. So for the most part, Black people know other Black people, and white people know other white people. Here's the thing, y'all. The question shouldn't be, "What about Black-on-Black crime?" The question should be, "Why are Black people so much more likely to live in poverty and under-resourced and over-exploited communities? Why is this happening?"

J Jasmine Bradshaw 19:13

Another article that I turned to during the research for this episode is called "Black-on-Black Crime' Is a Dangerous Myth" by Jameelah Nasheed, and I will link that one in the show notes as well. And in this article, she says, quote, "The fact that the poverty rate for Black Americans (20.8% in 2018) is more than twice the poverty rate for white Americans (8.1%) it's obvious that anyone who truly cares about lowering the crime rate in the U.S. would spend their time and resources working to eradicate poverty." End quote. So why do so many Black people live in these under-resourced and over-exploited communities? Well, this is a question that would truly need to be answered in a series of episodes. But the short answer is that there are many laws and policies that have systematically disadvantaged Black people and kept them from building wealth. I'm thinking job discrimination, housing discrimination, discrimination within the education system, the list goes on and on. And if this is something that you're confused about, or you'd like to learn a little bit more about, I have two resources for you that I will link in the show notes. The first is my episode from Season Three, it's Episode 29 and it's called "Critical Race Theory in Schools." And this is where I help you understand what Critical Race Theory is, and the fact that not all laws are created equally and not all laws

are administered equally. So just because we are all under the same law doesn't mean it affects us all in the same way. The other resource that I will point you to is a report from the Center for American Progress, and it was published in 2018. It's called "Systemic Inequality: How America's Structural Racism Helped Create the Black-White Wealth Gap." It gives an amazing overview of the wealth gap that we are seeing, how it's growing and where it came from. Now, I need you to understand that it's not just the laws that we currently have that are contributing to this inequity and contributing to so many Black people living in under-resourced communities. It's the fact that when Black people start making advancements, when the Black community starts to build wealth, white people go into a fit of rage, and they literally burn it to the ground. So I'm sure you've heard of the Tulsa Race Massacre, which is when white supremacists destroyed the city of Tulsa and all of the wealth that the Black people there had been building. They had banks, they had schools, they had an entire community that they had built up, and the white community was so angry. They didn't think that these Black people deserved all of the wealth and the comfortable life that they had built for themselves, so they literally burned it down and destroyed all of the progress that they had made. There's an amazing Code Switch episode about this. It's called "Tulsa 100 Years Later." I'll link that in the show notes. But the thing you need to understand is that Tulsa is not an isolated incident; something very similar happened in Florida in 1923. It's called the Rosewood Massacre. And I will link an article about that in the show notes as well. It happened on January 1, 1923. And that's actually the title of the article. So when white people are seeing Black people accumulating wealth, they destroy it, whether it be through violence or through policy, which has very similar outcomes to the violence. I mean, sometimes white people don't even realize that they're doing it. I read an article recently that talked about how if you're Black, it's really important that when you move, you take all your photos off the wall, you take all of your art out of your house, basically anything that might give your appraiser the idea that you're Black, because the same or similar houses have appraised for different amounts depending on whether the appraiser, the white appraiser, knew if the family who was living there was Black or not. So these are things that are unconscious biases that are manifesting themselves as systemic racism.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 23:35

All right, so moving along in the conversation, the first thing you're going to do is help them understand that Black-on-Black crime is actually a myth. The second thing you're going to do is help them see that the real question they should be asking is why so many Black people live in under-resourced and over-exploited communities. And the third thing we're going to do is help them see that Black people are talking about crime in their neighborhoods. Black people want to live in a safe, comfortable neighborhood, just like anyone else would want to live in a safe and comfortable neighborhood. And all of the articles that I read when I was doing research for this episode, they made the point that Black people are talking about the crime that's happening in their neighborhoods all the time. And they listed off tons of different organizations and activists that are working to combat the violence that is happening in Black neighborhoods. Here's what Michael Harriot had to say in his article. He said, quote, "The reality is in neighborhoods and cities across America, there are countless organizations, activists, and movements dedicated to curbing violence in Black communities. The number of quote 'stop the violence' marches dwarfs the demonstrations against police brutality. Unity rallies and peace picnics happen every day. Scared Straight programs for at-risk youth, gang counseling, neighborhood watches, intervention specialists, youth counselors, and too many other people and groups to name all lead the charge against crime and violence. End quote. So basically what he's saying here is we talk about it all the time. You're just not there to hear it because

you don't know what goes on in Black neighborhoods, because you don't live by Black people. So the idea that Black people don't care about crime when it is a Black person committing a violent crime against another Black person, is also a myth.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 25:29

It's also important to note that Black people are much more likely to support stricter gun laws than white people are. In the article by Jameela Nasheed she said, quote, "Additionally, in a 2015, Pew Research Center poll, Black people supported stricter gun laws at a higher rate than white people. And in a 2018 Pew survey, when asked if gun violence is a very big problem in the United States, 82% of Black people said yes, compared with 47% of white people. End quote. So this notion that Black people who live in over-exploited communities don't care about the violence that goes on in their neighborhoods, it's just a lie.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 26:09

The last thing I want to note is that Black people and white people who do the same things or commit the same crimes are not treated the same way. Black movement has really been criminalized since the time of Black Codes after enslavement. And it's important to understand that Black communities are over-policed. So the police are always there asking people to turn out their pockets, asking people to search their cars. And then after Black people are arrested, they're being convicted at a higher rate than white people are, and their sentences are longer than the sentences of white people who have committed the same crimes. And this is something that I talk all about in the Critical Race Theory in schools episode that is linked in the show notes.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 26:58

So I hope that my explanation and statistics give you what you need to answer this question when somebody says, "What about Black-on-Black crime?" I hope you know exactly what to say. And after you help dispel the myth for them, the last thing I want you to do is help them reflect. After you cover the "what," dive into the "why" behind their question. So why did they ask that question? When you are trying to have a question about fill-in-the-blank, when you're trying to have a question about police brutality, when you're trying to have a question about white vigilantes murdering people in the street, why did they feel the need to bring up this idea of, quote unquote, Black-on-Black crime? You need to help them see that their question was really inappropriate. If it were me, I would say something like, "I'm wondering why you chose to ask that question when I started the conversation about state violence, or something like the reality is that Black people are more than three times as likely as white people to be killed by police. So I'm wondering why you feel like your question about Black crime rates is relevant to this conversation." So it's not just about the question that they asked, it's about why they asked this question, and helping them see that saying "What about Black-on-Black crime" is entirely inappropriate and racist when you're trying to have a conversation about systemic racism.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 28:28

Now I want to tell you a little story about when I was a teacher. I used to teach second grade

Now, I want to tell you a little story about when I was a teacher. I used to teach second grade, and I felt like when I was teaching, the rug is where it all comes out. So you know, in the classroom, the teacher has the rug, and you've got your little teacher chair, and you call the students over to have a lesson on the rug. Everyone is kind of snuggled together, you're learning about something really important. And kids would say what I thought were the most random and wild things when we were on the rug. I remember one time we were talking about the life cycle of a butterfly, and one of my students raised his hand to tell me that he had heard that a boy fell into a gorilla cage at the zoo. And I was like, "Dude, what does that have to do with the butterfly lifecycle? Why are you talking about that?" At first, I was so frustrated because that did not seem relevant to what we were talking about at all. But then I took a minute, and I dug in a little deeper and I was really able to connect the dots. So he explained to me when I asked him, he told me that he remembered that a few days before I told the class that at the end of our butterfly unit, we'd be going on a field trip to see the butterflies, which was true. We were going to go on a field trip to this amazing place. (If you're here in Arizona, it's called Butterfly Wonderland. You have to go there. It's so great. This little butterfly sanctuary where they could see the lifecycle for themselves, right?) So I had told them a few days before that once we're done with the butterflies, we're going on a field trip, and it made him think of a field trip he took to the zoo the year before. So at the very end of the year, when he was a first grader, they went to the zoo and on the way to the zoo, his teacher had told them that they had to be super careful. And they had to be super safe when they were at the zoo or they could end up like this boy who fell into the gorilla cage. I'm sure you remember the story of Harambe and the little boy who fell into Harambe's cage and it was all the drama. So this sweet little second grader is thinking about Harambe and this little boy while I'm trying to teach them about the butterfly lifecycle. So it seemed totally random, but it really was a connected situation for him, because that was the last time he went on a field trip. And maybe he was feeling a little bit anxious about the field trip that we had coming up.

J

Jasmine Bradshaw 30:46

So why am I telling you this? You're like, "Okay, Jasmine, what is this story about?" When you are talking about police brutality, and someone brings up Black-on-Black crime, it's not random. There's a connection there. So you're talking about the butterfly lifecycle, they're bringing up a boy falling into a gorilla cage. It's the same thing. You're talking about police brutality, and they're bringing up Black-on-Black crime. It is so not random. So I've found that the most simple way to help people see that the Black-on-Black crime argument is racist is to explain that they have two options. And this is something that my husband came up with, and I was like, "You are brilliant." So there are two options. Number one, either you believe that there's a reason why Black people are more likely to live in over-exploited under-resourced neighborhoods and that reason is systemic racism. So that's one option. You believe systemic racism is real, and you believe we need to do something about it. The second option is that you believe that Black people are just more likely to be violent criminals, which is racist. And so either you believe in systemic racism and think we should do something, or you believe in the racist idea that Black people are more likely to be violent. I found that there aren't a lot of people who will openly admit that they believe the racist idea that Black people are more likely to be violent. But even if they're not saying that's what they believe, there are a lot of white people who think this, and it's not surprising that lots of white people believe that Black people are more prone to violence, because there's an untrue story that has been told both formally and informally since enslavement.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 32:33

Let me give you an example that I found in that article, "'Black-on-Black Crime' is a Dangerous Myth." Jameelah Nasheed says, quote, "Race traits and tendencies of the American Negro was the first nationwide compilation of racial crime data, published in 1896. This report by Frederick Hoffman was, quote, 'arguably the most influential race and crime study of the first half of the 20th century,' end quote, according to Khalil Gibran Mohamad, Professor of History, Race and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School. In the report, Hoffman wrote, quote, 'Given the same conditions of life for two races, the one of Aryan descent will prove the superior solely on account of its ancient inheritance of virtue and transmitted qualities, which are determining factors in the struggle for race supremacy,' End quote. He also presented statistics about prisoners races, with the crimes they were convicted of, writing, quote, 'The colored male only too often leads the life of a vagrant,' end quote, and that the Black race had a, quote, 'greater tendency to crime and pauperism than the whites.' End quote. This pivotal text, which was presented as a specific study, used the language of white supremacy and explicitly stated that violence and crime are within the nature of Black people." End quote. So I know that was a lot of quotes and end quotes and quotes within quotes. But the gist of it is there are actual publications that have been passed down for generations saying that Black people are just more likely to be violent criminals than white people are, simply because they're Black. So if you come up against this, you can ask someone very directly, "Do you believe that systemic racism is a real issue that we need to work to fix? Or do you believe that Black people are just more likely to commit crimes?" The answer that they give you to this question will really help guide your conversation from there because it will help you see "Okay, what is it that I need to help them understand?" If they admit to the racist line of thinking you can help them unpack that to create something that is a little more anti-racist. And if they admit that systemic racism is real, and they think it's something that needs fixing, then you can talk about how you're going to act together moving forward to tackle this issue of systemic racism that is facing all of us.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 35:14

The last quote that I want to share comes from that same article by Jameela Nasheed. She said something that I've been thinking about for the last couple of weeks since I first read it, she said, quote, "White supremacists will justify colonization, slavery, and the Confederacy, all while saying Black people are an inherently more violent race." End quote. When I read that, it just stopped me in my tracks, because I don't think she's trying to say that white people are more violent than Black people, or vice versa. I think what she's trying to help us understand is that most white people haven't been taught to see those things as violence. The colonization, the slavery, the Confederacy—these things are all still hurting our communities. And there are obviously lots of white people who agree that slavery was violent and wrong, but many think that we should be over it by now. I can't tell you how many times I've heard someone say, "Oh, when are you going to get over this? Or when are we going to move past this?" Well, I'll move past it once the effects are no longer hurting myself, my children, my community, all the people around us. So yes, there are some white people who agree that slavery was violent and wrong and bad, but it's not as often that white people see colonization, or the Confederacy, as the violent white supremacy that it is.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 36:43

So I feel like to end this episode, I would really love to leave you with a point of reflection: what

So I feel like, to end this episode, I would really love to leave you with a point of reflection. What do you classify as violent crime? And does your classification change when the perpetrator changes, like in the case of police violence? Are you more willing to turn a blind eye to violent crime when the person who is committing the crime is someone who you think should be trusted, or someone who looks like you if you're a white person? Alright, y'all, I hope that you feel like that was helpful. I hope you have all the stats and all of the reasoning you need to answer this superdeeduper annoying question of "What about Black-on-Black crime?" I think you're ready. I know, you can do this, and I'm so excited to hear how it goes. Next time you answer that question, don't forget, you can pick up your free Race Talk Roadmap at firstnamebasis.org/racetalk. The link is in the show notes. Simply enter your email and it will be sent right to you. And definitely come join the conversation on Instagram at [firstname.basis](https://www.instagram.com/firstname.basis), because we will be talking about this all week long.

J Jasmine Bradshaw 37:57

My friends, thank you for being here. I hope you can feel how much I believe in you, and how deeply I know that when we work together, we can make real change in our communities. Any of the books, podcasts, or articles that I reference will be linked in the show notes. If you are looking for more detailed notes, be sure to head over to our Patreon community. On our Patreon site, I provide all of the outlines that I use to make the episodes and everything is linked there. So you don't have to take furious notes while you are listening. And don't forget to join us over on Instagram at [firstname.basis](https://www.instagram.com/firstname.basis). If you're interested in partnering with First Name Basis or doing some kind of collaboration, please email us at hello@firstnamebasis.org. All right, have a great week my friends, and I will talk to you again soon.