

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

From: Felicity Landa <felicitylanda@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:01 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: comment on D-4, Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please read my comment into the record.

There is no question that systemic racism is alive and well, and thriving here in Santa Barbara. I support Black Lives Matter Santa Barbara.

We demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration - not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Thank you

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Sarah Henderson <shenderson689@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:01 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public comment for 6/11/20 meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Please have the following read into the record at the 6/11 county supervisors meeting.

I am writing in support of the demands made to the county by Black Lives Matter regarding reforms in the sheriff department. Sheriff Brown, your department currently takes nearly 36% of the proposed 2020/2021 fiscal year budget in the city of Goleta, and of your proposed 7.8 million you have a projected overtime cost of 8.2 million dollars. And yet each time a reform is proposed, you claim to be strapped for cash. You claim to protect and promote fairness, caring, and integrity, and yet once you are held accountable you simply ask for more funding, rather than reallocating the outrageous amounts you already pull from the county. I ask that you take a step back and work towards meeting these demands in the current budget, rather than simply using them as an opportunity to ask for even more funds.

Thank you,
Sarah Henderson

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Larry Bickford <larrybic@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:02 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Re: County Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I wish to submit the following public comment to be read into the record at the County Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System tomorrow, June 11, 2020:

I want to encourage you to move quickly to address the overlying issue by implementing concrete solutions, many of which have been communicated to the Board by community members directly impacted by racial injustices.

I believe we need to see changes immediately and understand that this is an issue which cannot be fixed overnight. But your efforts to begin to fix it can indeed happen overnight.

It was gratifying to see that Chad Stevens had the courage to make that immediate change with his restaurant, after our community did nothing for decades.

Now it would be awesome to see our county board of supervisors step to the plate and begin to be part of the solution to racial injustices. I know you can and expect you to.

Larry Bickford

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Miya Barnett <miya.barnett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:02 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Racial Equity Hearing

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I request these comments be included in the public record.

As an Assistant Professor and Clinical Psychologist, I feel compelled to speak. Research show that structural racism and discrimination is a source of trauma that impacts physical and mental health. These burdens are disproportionately carried by Black Americans and they are a problem in Santa Barbara. Data from our schools, police records, and jails show disparities for our Black residents. We must do better and follow the demands put forward by Black Lives Matter - Santa Barbara, including:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de-escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

--

Miya L. Barnett, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Licensed Clinical Psychologist (PSY28416)
Department of Counseling, Clinical, & School Psychology
University of California, Santa Barbara

<https://padreslab.weebly.com/>

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Diana Puente <puentediana@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Comment for SB County Supervisors Meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I would like my comment to be entered into the record for the June 10 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

White supremacy is alive and well in Santa Barbara County, as has been attested to repeatedly over the last few days and over decades and centuries by our Black, Indigenous and Brown communities.

As the Santa Barbara Independent reports, although “only around 1.3 percent of Santa Barbara’s population is black...when police get physical — with kicks, punches, baton-strikes, and take-downs, as well as other forms of muscle like tasers, pepper spray, and canines — 8.7 percent of the time, the target of their force is black.”

We also know that racism and white supremacy extend well beyond law enforcement and are embedded in our systems and institutions that impact every other aspect of Black lives.

The COVID-19 pandemic has sharply demonstrated the enormous and persistent inequalities and the continuing impact of racism across our society. It has prompted massive institutional and systemic changes and has also highlighted our ability to act individually and collectively.

Our communities responded to the new COVID-19 reality with incredible speed, innovation, and dedication of resources. In a matter of moments - days, weeks and months, we pivoted. We have now experienced collectively the knowledge that we can make tremendous, fundamental changes that we didn’t imagine or believe were possible.

Our local communities and government led the way then and must lead the way now. The pandemic of anti-Black racism is not new, it has existed for centuries, yet it continues to be an immediate, pervasive threat to our entire community and we must take action now. Unlike the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been shown a road map for protecting, supporting and healing our community, we must commit ourselves to the journey.

I stand with our Black community in speaking out against white supremacy and in favor of real racial equity throughout SB County and to demand transparency and accountability from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff.

Sincerely,
Diana Collins Puente

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Christine Faris <cfaris@antioch.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: comment for SB county board of supervisors meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear SB County Board of Supervisors:

I would like my comment to be read into the record. I have lived in Santa Barbara for the past 10 years and have been struck by the anti-blackness that runs rampant in this community. Racism in this community is truly insidious - when I first moved here from Los Angeles, I thought that maybe there just weren't any Black people in Santa Barbara. Over the years, as I've gotten to know Black community members, I have learned that Santa Barbara is not a friendly place for Black people. From microaggressions & discrimination, to straight up being accosted for existing as a Black person in this community, I've witnessed firsthand the ugliness that is harming our Black community members every day. I have also provided mental health services to Black students who struggle with depression because they are trying to manage the demands of being a student while coping with being the targets of daily discrimination. I am worried for the physical safety and mental health of my Black friends, clients, and colleagues. Santa Barbara has tried to erase Black people from this community and it's a shame that it took such extreme circumstances to address these issues. We are asking that you respond to the demands set forth by the Black Lives Matter movement with action so that we can take steps to cure the disease of anti-blackness in our community.

Best,

Christine Faris

Christine Faris, MA | Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate (PsyD) | Phone: (424) 744-0362
Antioch University, Santa Barbara

"I am human, and I think nothing of which is human is alien to me." - Terence

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Pratik Raghu <pratikraghu@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public comment to be read into the record

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I hope this email finds you well.

My name is Pratik Raghu, and I am a graduate student at the University of California, Santa Barbara. I am writing to express my support for the demands recently made of the City and County of Santa Barbara by Healing Justice: Black Lives Matter Santa Barbara and Juneteenth Santa Barbara. I would like my comment to be read into the record.

As a man of color living, studying, and working in Santa Barbara, I am all too aware of the pervasive presence of police in the community. I myself have been stopped while cycling through Goleta and questioned by a police officer as to the legality of my status in this country. I have been closely scrutinized by on-duty police officers to the point that I am wary of going on late-night runs by myself. Having worked closely with Black organizers, educators, and students in the four years I have spent here, I know that many others have had similar, if not far worse experiences, at the hands of local law enforcement. These incidents are symptomatic of a strong current of racism--specifically, white supremacy--that runs through Santa Barbara's culture, geography, and political economy.

Now more than ever, you, as County Supervisors, are called upon to take action to cultivate a County in which Black lives matter. I urge you to insist upon transparency and accountability from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff, to update use of force policies to center de-escalation, and to reduce jail admissions by redirecting people to community-based mental health and substance abuse treatment services. Furthermore, I implore you to create an independent civilian review board to guarantee oversight of the police.

I hope that you will do everything in your power to make the streets of Santa Barbara County well and truly safe for persons from marginalized and underrepresented backgrounds.

Sincerely,

Pratik Raghu

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Annina Gonzalez <aagonzalez14@pipeline.sbcc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:05 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Hearing on Racial Equity and Criminal Justice System

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Annina Gonzalez,

In relation to an uprising on current issues regarding racial injustice and demands for criminal justice reform I bring forward the demand to defund the prison system. A system built in order to maintain power over black folks and minorities is one that is outdated and unjust. In America the Prison system thrives off the use of violence and fear tactics with no true intention in preparing those incarcerated to reunite with their community in a productive way. The prison system is merely a modern way to uphold slavery through prison labor and incarceration.

In context to the issue of COVID-19, almost 1000 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the Lompoc prison, proving obvious issues of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions, does that itself not reflect the inhumane conditions in which prisoners have to survive through?

I demand that new resources centered on personal development, mental health support and rehabilitative tactics be implemented in Santa Barbara Counties justice system.

-Annina Gonzalez

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Kristine Ara <awakenedlife111@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:10 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: County Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I ask that my comment is read into the record.

We cannot be blind to the fact that racism and white supremacy exist in our community, and thus harm our Black community members. We cannot be blind to the fact that our policing needs major reform and restructure. One example, Meagan Hockaday, who grew up in Santa Barbara, was murdered by the police in Oxnard. Our Santa Barbara County Policing policies need to be deeply restructured. She did not need to be shot 4 times and killed. If our officers were properly trained to de-escalate, she could have been subdued without losing her life, leaving behind children. Police officers are supposed to be the professionals, why wasn't she instead tased? Why are our officers not trained across the board in other proper techniques and protocol to subdue threats?

We additionally know racism exists because as the Santa Barbara Independent reports that although, "only around 1.3 percent of Santa Barbara's population is Black...when police get physical — with kicks, punches, baton-strikes, and take-downs, as well as other forms of muscle like tasers, pepper spray, and canines — 8.7 percent of the time, the target of their force is Black."

What happened to George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, Meagan Hockaday and all the others is the outcome of racism and white supremacy being ignored until it literally murders someone. It is also the outcome of a policing system that needs extreme reform.

The truth is, Black community members are being suffocated by racism and white supremacy every day and it's affecting their mental, physical, and emotional health. It is not enough to condemn blatant acts of racism. We must make our institutions anti-racist.

Therefore, we demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de-escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration
- Reallocate funds/duties to professionals more equipped to handle situations that police are solely asked to attend to. Shift more funding to mental health care, affordable housing (an atrocity in SB), education, and other social programs.
- Require on-going continuing education programs for police so they are equipped to better handle escalated situations.

Thank you for your time,

Kindly,
Kristine

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Morgan Fredricks <morganfredricks@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:21 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment - SB County Board of Supervisors Meeting 6/11/2020

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Comment on item D-4: Hearing on Racial Equality and the Criminal Justice System **I would like my comment read into the record**

I have been a resident of Santa Barbara for 9 years and it is clear to me that so many people here believe the dangers of racism and white supremacy are not present in our city. Just Monday I heard Sheriff Bill Brown say in the Goleta City Council meeting that it's "unfair" that our local police force be judged by the actions of police officers "thousands of miles away."

While the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmuad Arbery have brought this ongoing fight to the forefront, do not doubt that we are calling out the SB Police Dept and Sheriffs Office on their own actions. The Santa Barbara Independent reports that although "only 1.3 percent of Santa Barbara's population is black...when police get physical - with kicks, punches, baton-strikes, and take-downs, as well as other forms of muscle like tasers, pepper spray, and canines - 8.7 percent of the time, the target of their force is Black." And yet Sheriff Brown will on public record say that we don't have these problems in our police force. This denial is an act of violence against our Black community. It must stop.

In solidarity, I demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth celebration this and every year moving forward
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on deescalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Thank you,

Morgan Fredricks

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Erika Albert <ealbert1988@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:18 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: County Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Too many people in Santa Barbara County believe the dangers of racism and white supremacy are things that happen elsewhere, not in our community. We know racism and white supremacy exist in our community because of the daily experiences of Black community members. I know because of the treatment of Will Smith when he was a city council member of Santa Maria. The microaggressions from other council members were always calling him "too loud" and "mad," "unruly" and other words emphasizing the angry black male stereotype. He is a caring man who went door to door to citizens home, something not done before and not done again until Gloria Soto, showing citizens he cared I am upset as someone raised on Public Education in Santa Barbara county to have never learned about Juneteenth until my Late 20's. And that includes my college education I received at Hancock, Antioch and multiple cultural diversity trainings done by Santa Barbara county as required yearly as an LMFT. We need to do better! The county and its education requirements need to do better for its citizens! Why is Santa Maria the largest city but has the lowest literacy rates and receives less funding than Santa Barbara?

Therefore, we demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de-escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Sincerely,

Erika Albert

LMFT #96677 Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

I know this is too late but it never hurts to try.

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Hannah Kagan-Moore <hannah.kagan.moore@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 7:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Hearing on Racial Equity comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

If possible, I would like the following comment to be read on record at tomorrow's hearing on racial equity and the criminal justice system:

Across the country, we are seeing people rise up in record numbers against systemic racism and police brutality. Santa Barbara's leadership has a historic opportunity to be among cities leading the nation, at the forefront of this most recent wave of the American Civil Rights Movement. I urge you to take it.

Widespread calls are happening all over the country to defund the police. Our communities need our financial support now more than ever in the wake of COVID-19; we need adequate healthcare, long-term housing for our unhoused community, and culturally-competent education for our children. What I am overwhelmingly hearing from other residents of Santa Barbara--and the view I myself hold--is that the money we spend on police actively harms our communities. Turn that harm into good; defund Santa Barbara PD.

Sincerely,

Hannah Kagan-Moore
she/her/hers or they/them/theirs
University of California--Santa Barbara
Graduate Student, History of Art and Architecture

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Mary O'Connor <mary123oconnor@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 7:31 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: D-4, Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Santa Barbara has the opportunity and responsibility to show with **REAL ACTION** that a largely White city can lead by example how to function better. White supremacy is how a place like Santa Barbara exists - in a bubble. This city should be trying to treat people better and uplift the community in a grassroots way. Crime keeps going down but the police budget keeps going up. This is unacceptable, not just as a taxpayer but as someone who believes there is no excuse for government sanctioned violence against civilians.

Therefore, we demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration - not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Mary O'Connor

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Joan McKay <joanmckay@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 7:39 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: for June 11th meeting, item D-4

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

For BOS meeting June 11, 2020 – item D-4, Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System

I know this is late so I'll cut to the chase and hope you can add my voice by reading this into the record or just adding my name.

I support these Demands made by local organizations in Santa Barbara including Black Lives Matter:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de-escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Santa Barbara is not immune to the dangers of racism and white supremacy. It's not enough to condemn acts of racism. We must begin to remake our institutions and retrain those running and participating in them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joie McKay
1721 Lasuen Rd. (1st district)
SB 93103
805/966-3733
joanmckay@cox.net

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Addi Zerrenner <addizerrenner13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 8:10 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Being a white female, born and raised in Santa Barbara, I have been living in a bubble all of my life. Yes, I knew racism still existed, but was never fully aware of how prevalent racism is in the community I have called "home" for 24 years.

After taking some time to educate myself, I have learned that the dangers of racism and white supremacy happen daily in Santa Barbara county. Hearing the stories of various black Santa Barbara county members, I can no longer be silent. It is for this reason I request that my statements be read into the record. Because of the racial injustices,

We demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration – not just this year but every year
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Thank you,
Addi Zerrenner

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Gregory Azbell <gregory.azbell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 9:29 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment for 6/11 SB County Board of Supervisors Meeting

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I want my comment read into the record for today's SB County board of Supervisors Meeting. For too long, Santa Barbara has been a "bubble" where locals and tourists alike believe that racism and white supremacy are things that happen elsewhere, not in our "Paradise". We know that this is simply incorrect. Santa Barbara, like the rest of the United States, was built on the backs of Black people and People of Color. We know that racism and white supremacy exist in our community because of the daily experiences of Black community members. We know they exist because Meagan Hockaday, who grew up in Santa Barbara, was murdered by the police in Oxnard. We know racism exists because, as the Santa Barbara Independent reports, police physicality is disproportionately targeted toward Black people.

The tragic deaths of Meagan Hockaday, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and countless others are the outcome of racism and white supremacy being ignored until it literally murders someone. Black community members are suffocated by racism and white supremacy daily. It affects their mental, physical, and emotional health. It is not enough to condemn blatant acts of racism. We must make our institutions anti-racist.

Therefore, we demand:

- Institutional and financial support for an annual Juneteenth Celebration
- The Sheriff update its Use of Force policy to center on de escalation
- End isolation/quarantine for inmates attending court or contacting their lawyers
- The District Attorney implement diversion programs and pursue alternatives to incarceration

Sincerely,

Gregory Azbell
(323) 680-3567

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Claire Mitchell <clairekmitchell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:08 PM
To: sbcob; Williams, Das
Subject: Public Comment for June 11 Hearing

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, I know I am a few hours late, but I would appreciate having the following read into the record at tomorrow's meeting. It is less than 250 words. Thank you very much.

My name is Claire Mitchell and I am a local attorney and a resident of District 2.

I write to echo what I know you have heard this week (and before) from leaders of various community groups and grassroots organizers that have dedicated decades to a tireless fight to eliminate structural racism and police brutality against non-white individuals.

It is my sincere hope that you will begin tackling the following action items:

1. Work with City Councils in Santa Barbara County to create a City/County Advisory Group(s) (comprised of diverse community voices) dedicated to police oversight and charged with facilitating a review/overhaul of the Sheriff Department's and local police departments' policies, procedures, and training to ensure those policies and procedures promote public safety and prevent abusive police practices.
2. In connection with task #1, work with the County's district attorneys to prioritize rehabilitation, mental health services, drug treatment, and job training over jail/prison sentences and criminal convictions for low-level offenses.
3. Reallocate County funds that are currently dedicated to arming and increasing police presence. Re-direct these funds instead to community service providers that are equipped to non-violently and effectively decrease and respond to homelessness, domestic violence, and mental health issues.
4. Commit to review and reform/implement common-sense limits on police use of force.

This is just a starting point. I, like many other community members, am eager to help Santa Barbara County take a permanent and institutionalized stand against structural racism and police brutality.

Thank you.

--
Claire Mitchell
626-497-6677
clairekmitchell@gmail.com

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Paulina Conn <pconnt43@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:14 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Sherriff, Incarceration, Police Training, Unions, Community Expectations, Justice

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please prohibit use of force by all police personnel.

There has to be fundamental change in policing, incarceration, law enforcement training, union power.

I use the word "police" to mean all community law enforcement including sheriffs and CHP.

Community expectations are for liberty and justice for all.

We should not be afraid of the police but most of us are because they can arrest us for arguing with them or as they would call it "resisting arrest" when we might think we are just explaining our view and are cooperating. It is their word against ours and they win.

The police are not taught the importance of liberty and justice for all.

They are taught to take away liberty and way too often they take away justice too.

Police training needs to be totally reformed. It has to have classes and emphasis in social work and empathy and deescalation of anger and fear.

All police behavior has to be transparent to all of society. There can be no closed personnel files.

Behavior standards have to be high. Any misstep and they get fired. Society can not afford giving them a second chance in this job anywhere. They have to find a job in which they are better suited.

Police have to be taught that all life is precious and every human being has to be treated with dignity.

There is no room for power hungry, angry people in law enforcement or in jail supervision.

We need many fewer police and more mediators.

There is no need for use of force. Police Chief Acevedo of Huston Tx. said it correctly. The police officers are afraid. They have to recognize this fear in themselves and not take it out on the victim.

With a change in the way police are educated they would have less fear. The general public would fear the police less too. That alone will eliminate the tendency to violence (each claiming self-defense).

The victim is innocent until a judge or jury proves them guilty.

Police only have the power to arrest, not judge. George Floyd and way too many other individuals of all colors and of varying demographics are **judged** by the police.

Should the community be afraid of the police? I would bet that most law abiding people ARE afraid of the police.

There is a hardness and callousness that has been bred into the police culture. This has to change.

People are generally not bad. People make mistakes. But they are usually calmable when talked with calmly and with empathy or with an attempt to understand.

I had no idea that the Unions are the ones that have negotiated immunity for the wrong doing of police officers.

How could any Board of Supervisors or any City Council allow such a power grab away from social justice? The community has been incensed by how police officers are acquitted all the time. Even the George Floyd murderer is only being charged for 2nd degree murder /manslaughter when it should be first degree murder. How would an ordinary person be charged with a George Floyd style murder and how about three ordinary accomplices?

Please begin a conversation and ACTION on changing police training.

Please begin a conversation and ACTION on when jail time is appropriate and for what really dreadful offenses. We put way too many people in jail for flimsy reasons.

We waste so much human potential and waste so much money on punishing people who need a job, an education, medical care or just a fair chance in life.

It is time to take power and money away from police and jails and give those funds to child care, teachers, humane housing, health care.

Jobs have to have a living wage. Equal pay for equal work regardless of who does it. Banks have to loan fairly to all. Government entities have to behave equally to all clients.

PLEASE start the shift away from all our racist and other demeaning activities and into creating institutions that treat all people with the dignity and respect they deserve.

The rich are not better than the poor. Whites are not better than people of other colors.

People world wide are demanding equal dignity and fairness for all. That means equal opportunity and equal treatment for all.

Sincerely,

Paulina Conn
2612 Foothill Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
805 682-5183

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Jessica S <jeswens@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:54 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Hearing on Racial Equity and the Criminal Justice System

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Members of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I stand in solidarity with the demands put forward by Black Lives Matter SB and Juneteenth. Any and all abuse of power, white supremacy, racism and police brutality within the SBCSD must end now. We demand transparency and accountability from the SB county Sheriff. The funds being used for the Sheriff and SBPD must be reallocated to support the Black and underserved communities in Santa Barbara. We will not stand to see a \$140 million dollar police station or a \$1.86 million dollar Santa Maria jail be built in our community while our schools are being steadily defunded and teachers can't afford to live here. The Sheriff's use-of-force policy must be updated to avoid any force and center around de-escalation. We want alternatives to incarceration, an end to the school to prison pipeline, a civilian review board for the police, and a resolution condemning police brutality and declaring racism a public health emergency. Members of the Santa Barbara community CAN NOT be targeted by Sheriff and SBPD based on the color of their skin any longer. The racial inequality happening in our city is over. We demand swift policy change, racial justice and a complete end to racism and in our community.

Thank you.

Jessica Herman