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Racial Profiling in Our Modern Day (Revision)

Imagine yourself taking a stroll to your local coffee shop and being abruptly ceased in the street by policemen and women all due to the way you look and carry yourself. Racial and ethnic profiling is an on-going conflict in which race or ethnicity is used as grounds to suspect a being of having committed a felony. While some support this form of police work, others such as myself find it to be conflicting and detrimental to our communities. Racial profiling is illegal and highly biased, it continues to destroy the trust citizens behold for police forces, and the results of this action can be ineffective.

Racial and ethnic profiling destroys the public's trust citizens hold for the criminal justice arena and results in conflict. While profiling can be effective at times, there are situations where accusations are mislead, and the victim of profiling is the utmost innocent. Because of false conviction based on physical identity, accused citizens may develop uneasy feelings towards the police department, "...people of color who are frequently questioned by police are likely to become either fearful or resentful" (Kops 63). Kops asserts how citizens of color that are wrongly accused may sooner or later grow bitter and unpleasant towards police agencies. The ignited feelings of ire will only naturally break the trust and admiration citizens have had for the men and women in blue. Hurt feelings may also turn into violence and, "...minority members of

a jury may feel hostile toward the entire legal system” (Kops 63). Kops reveals how accusations can create different effects upon different people such as violence and anger toward the legal system as a whole. Being accused may lead to loathness built inside a person, as well as lead to opposition. This not only leads to clashing feelings for the legal system, but may even result in protests and violent brawls between innocent citizens and the police force.

It is against the law for police forces to use racial and ethnic profiling in investigations and national security. Racial and ethnic profiling is against the 14th amendment that, “clearly states... ‘no state shall... deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws’” (Sen). Sen reveals this evidence to show how it is illegal for states to cross this law of equal protection for all. Inequality based upon race is an act of unfairness and does not exemplify equal status amongst divergent races and is even forbidden by law. According to the general law, S. 1670, it “... prohibits the use of racial profiling by federal, state, or local law enforcement officials” (Sen). Sen declares how S. 1670 forbids illegal profiling by any police force in the fifty states, numerous cities, towns, villages and any other subdivision of a country. This general law was not only passed to spread and enforce equality of all races and ethnicities, but to as well make sure police forces abide by this regulation. If police forces profile based upon these features, the accused person may testify, for it is a violation of the S. 1670 law.

The suspicion of crimes based upon race and ethnicity may result as ineffective. The times in which profiling backfires exemplify how drastic America is unwilling to be judge free, “...until justice is blind to color... until opportunity is unconcerned with the color of men’s skin, emancipation will be a proclamation, but not a fact” (Hunter 21). Hunter declares his belief to be known as when the time comes for the world to be carefree of skin color, equality and freedom

to grasp onto any lively opportunity in life by all persons is just a wish broadcasted around the globe, and is not yet a reality. If profiling is eliminated from America, there would be no uproar from affected victims and minorities of racism and injustice, and instead, there would be peace and love amongst racial groups and people who are of authority. Our past president Abraham Lincoln once declared, "all men were created equal". In this, these words of wisdom were spread to teach us that we, no matter what land our bloodline has been thriving from, no matter what race, skin type, and complexion makes of us, there is not a line dividing us from equal rights and fair treatment in our homeland, America.

While racial profiling has increased and worsened over the years, there seems to be no solution to solve this act of injustice. Although, many have formed mobs and petitions for the abolishment of racial profiling, it still occurs to this day. As laws have been passed for equality and the destruction of racial profiling, this conflict has increased over the years and is noticed around the globe much more commonly. Many believe to conquer racial profiling, we must change others beliefs and opinions towards races other than one's own. Unfortunately, forcing others to see eye to eye will not entirely abolish racial profiling. In fact, for the future, racial and ethnic profiling is only thought to worsen. Overall, there is no resolution for racial and ethnic profiling as the world turns biased more and more. Seen all around the fifty states and outside of the U.S., profiling exists every day. The longer this act of offense lives on, the longer it will be for this world to live in equality.

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Works Cited (**New- Revision**)

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Kops, Deborah. "Racial Profiling Is Bad for Relationships Between Minorities and Police."
RacialProfiling. New York: Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2007. Print.

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Reflection

The essay I chose to rewrite and revise was an argumentative/research paper on racial profiling in which I had to create a claim based whether I agree or disagree with racial profiling. This essay had been from my freshman year and as I read it, I realized there was much that my present day self would do differently with my current writing abilities. I first changed my introduction paragraph (specifically the first sentence) to be more enticing by reflecting imagery. I then changed the last sentence of my introduction because here, I set up how I will construct my essay into three body paragraphs/points. The points I originally had were written in a way that when spoken aloud, sounded a bit odd and awkward grammatically. After my intro, my original essay had an irrelevant short paragraph that fit nowhere in my list of points for my three body paragraphs. I had already described what racial profiling is in my introduction paragraph, and in my original essay, the following paragraph only reworded the definition to racial profiling. In my revision, I completely took out that unnecessary paragraph because I felt it confused the development of the essay. For my first body paragraph in my original essay, I didn't integrate the first quote well. However, I realized it wasn't just my first body paragraph that I had failed at integrating quotes, it was throughout my whole essay. The problem with this was that my sentences and the quotes didn't flow well. For my revision, I changed my sentences and added a comma before the integrated quotes and switched some words around to make it

sound smooth. As seen throughout my original essay as well, I hadn't added a couple sentences of commentary (expressing my original claim that racial profiling is unjust). The original essay is formatted as such: Sentence. Quote. Sentence. Quote. And so forth. There isn't two sets of commentary, one literal and one expressing my point of view. This made it look very choppy. As I revised it, I brought back the main focus of my opinion and added not only what the literal meaning of the quotes were, but also an in depth sentence about how it exemplifies my claim. My fifth paragraph in my original essay (I had a total of seven paragraphs in my original essay and eliminated two for my revision), stood unnecessary as well. In this body, I gave the counter argument of why some people feel racial profiling is a great method in the legal system. However, that was my only counter argument paragraph so it looked awkward having it be right in the middle. Also, I felt it took the focus of the paper away by not continuing on my pattern of my own claim. Onward with my revision, I tweaked a little of my fourth paragraph and took out some sentences that sounded repetitive or irrelevant, and added in some depth about Abraham Lincoln's wise words "All men are created equal". In the end, for my fifth paragraph (the conclusion), I kept it the same and didn't add or eliminate anything to it. On my old rubric, I had received a "4" in the conclusion column, and I personally felt I stayed on track/focus and ended my essay to my satisfaction.