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Youth program
National Health care - |
Occupying military
Criminal atrocities of the Army

Good Evening Sisters and Brothers,

I've been asked to talk to you ^{about} ~~about~~ the role of the Police in the Community. When I thought about this question, I asked, myself, "what do I know about the role of the Police in the community?" I guess, when some people think of the Police, they think of a law enforcing body that serves the community, by protecting and safeguarding it from dangerous. However, from what I've ~~observed~~, observed, experienced, and studied of the practice^s of the Police here in New York, as well as the federal, and state police they are all, but the guardian protectors^o of community welfare. Armed, deadly, and dangerous is what lingers in my head. I can argue of what their role ought to be, ^{But} I rather testify to how they are law violators, and disrupter of community order, rather than keepers of law and order. The daily harassment, intimidation, and destruction of black life is as real to the African American and Latino communities as, brushing our teeth or going to the bathroom.

Historically, decisions have been made about us as a people without any consultation from us. This trend of denying us basic human rights, ^{is} still real today as it was centuries ago. Color is still the crucial variable and the foundation of racist and political oppression against people of color. The brutality, abuse, and intimidatin of Blacks and Latinos by these racist "would-be" law enforcer are upheld by the courts. I'm willing to bet that there is rarely a household in our community that has not in some way been touched by this continuous wave of aggression.

On several occasions I have witnessed and filed civilian complaints of police brutality against certain police officers. On one such occasion, I witnessed the harass and intimidation^{ment} of two teenage black males. For questioning the behavior of the officers, I was arrested and detained at a precinct for hours supposedly for obstruction of justice, disorderly conduct, and some other clumped up charges. After months of going back and forth to court, these charges were dropped and the case dismissed. Nevertheless, the fact that the police use unnesscary force in arresting the two youths in question for suposely jumping the turnstile went unnoticed.

On another occasion I witnessed the brutal beating of a young Black male by a police officer. A white vendor has accused the man of stealing his shoulder bag or something of that nature; the police came. They proceeded to interrogate the Black man, with little investigation, and no proof to substainuate the accusation (no stolen prosperity was fund^{Found on} in the Black man) one of the officer took his fist and bashed the man up side his head. I got the officer badge number, ~~and~~ his name, and filed a civilina complaint. ^Again, after months of going before the civilian review board the case against the officer was dismissed because I was informed that there was no evident to support my charges, and that the victim in question could not be found.

Several months ago, my younger son, who attends St. Johns University and at the time was working at the Post office in Flushing Queens, was on his way to work ^{about} 11:30 one evening. He was stopped and held at gun ^{Point} ~~pointed~~ by several police officer

for ^{no} apparent reason, other than he was a young black male who
they felt should not be on the streets at that time of night. He
was searched, interrogated, and after some intimidation, they
let him go. This incident immediately reminded me of another time
when my oldest
was coming home from work about two in the morning. He was
running to get out of a pour down of rain. He too was stopped and
held at gun point and detained because supposedly he fitted the
description of a would be robber.

It is a known fact that these type of incidents happen
almost every second of the day in our communities. And as I speak
to you now, you can rest assure that some Black or latino youth,
some black, or latino man or woman, is being harassed, beaten,
or intimidated. So we see the role of the police in our
communities in great contrast to the law enforcement agent ^{it claims}
~~defined~~. They are law maker as well as the law breakers. The
question is, How can you as young people contribute to combating
this wave of aggression? How do ^{we} ~~you~~ stop existing as victims and
take some amount of control over what happen in ^{our} ~~your~~ lives and
the people? How do ^{we} ~~you~~ begin to right the wrongs, demand and
fight for some very basic human rights?

As Black ^o youth you cannot continue to allow yourselves to fall
victim, to the atmosphere ~~of~~ intimidation created by the armed
force who has invaded our community.

As targets of Government Repression

Black Panther Women as Political Prisoners,

*Afeni Shakur and Joan Bird/ New York 21

*Erica Huggins and two other Panther women Jailed in May of 1969 in Conn. Two Sister/ pregnant/ child taken away/ mother labeled unfit.

Black Panther Women as Mother

Women as Leaders/ Many women served as defense ministers/or deputy defense ministers of various chapters and branches throughout the country.

EXAMPLES: White Plains branch started by two women

Brooklyn branch basically ran by women

Future projection:

*Personally, I am convinced that there is to be progress in advancing the struggle for liberation in this country, that this will happen when the womenfolk take the lead. I am not alone in this conviction.

Black Panther women taking the lead to advance the struggle.

Poems

Other People View of us.

Macho Image of women

Women as Warriors

Women being *suicidal* women and
mothers -

Poems