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African American History Calendar

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Social Justice

The United States was built on the vision of freedom, however, the U.S. is the one that decides who gets that freedom. Social justice is the equal opportunity and commitment to meet the needs of all people regardless of their race, gender, or economic wealth. However, there has not been much social justice in America. In the past year, America has reached its peak in addressing the factors of social inequality. The murder of George Floyd, an African American man who was killed by a white police officer for attempting to use a counterfeit twenty-dollar bill, sparked a fight for change in the hearts of all activists around the world. People want to see a change in the system that places people of color at the bottom level of society. Social justice is generational wealth and equality for families who have been deprived of it for years. A balance of opportunities, justice, and power needs to be put in place, regardless of race, sexuality, legal status, and wealth.

The lack of social justice throughout American history has affected minorities in many devastating ways. Slavery has set all minorities back hundreds of years. Even after all the wars and laws to prevent segregation and xenophobia, it is still present, and it is seen and talked about every day on the news and social media. Without an equal opportunity to access wealth, minorities will never obtain social justice. Minorities are stuck in the past where they are looked down upon and robbed of the opportunities that are given to the white men and women in America. Being able to rid the U.S of systematic redlining will create more opportunities for

wealth in minority communities. Redlining is the discriminatory practice that puts financial opportunities out of reach for selective residents based on their race. This can affect the types of jobs and education that is offered to minorities. With redlining, depression will continue to impact heavily minority populated areas.

The topic of social justice and making a change for the minority community has always sparked something in me to make a difference in society. As an African American, I grew up around poverty and injustice. The first action I did to fight for social injustice in my community was self-reflection. I took a good look at myself and asked myself if I want to see a change in my life. Doing nothing is just tolerating and accepting unfair treatment. As my History teacher preaches, “permitting is promoting.” I like to advocate on the issue of social justice with my voice, I educated myself and used my own experiences to inform others what it means to be a minority in America. To tackle the issues of systematic racism and xenophobia, my local city held a rally protesting police brutality and honoring the victims. People are tired of seeing minorities be killed and harassed because of race and ethnicity every day. Going forward, we must treat each other like the human beings that we are.