



KEY TERMS: lie justice testify
cause truth

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DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Towards the beginning of the video, Mr. Prager points out that, "...it [society] cannot survive contempt for truth – whether inside or outside a courtroom. If people testify falsely in a courtroom, there can be no justice." What does that mean, exactly? What is 'contempt for truth?' How does truth and justice contribute towards making civilization?
- Later, Mr. Prager reminds us that, "...in the macro, or societal, realm, truth is even more important than compassion or kindness. Virtually all the great societal evils, such as African slavery, Nazism and Communism, have been based on lies." What were the lies that slavery and Nazism were based on? What is so important about the consequences of a society, or aspect of a society, valuing a lie instead of truth?
- Mr. Prager supports this important point, explaining that, "Mass evil is committed not because a vast number of people seek to be cruel, but because they are fed lies that convince them that what is evil is actually good." Why is this type of deception so insidious? What factors and mechanisms make it possible to actually convince so many that some evil concept or thing is good?
- Mr. Prager further explains by stating, "...one big obstacle to truth-telling is that believers in causes, including good causes, that don't place truth as a central value, will be very tempted to lie on behalf of their cause." Global warming is one example of this- what are some others? How do you think a good person can reconcile supporting a cause they believe to be good with knowingly lying and deceiving to promote it?
- Mr. Prager underscores the point by asking, "Why is lying on behalf of good causes destructive? Because if we don't know what's true, how and where do we know how to properly allocate society's limited resources? And in the worst cases, it distorts society's priorities, and therefore does great harm." What exactly does Mr. Prager mean by 'distorts society's priorities?' In what ways can this be harmful, especially on a mass scale? What do you think could be done to mitigate such evil and its consequences? Explain.

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Black Lives Matter

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Black Lives Matter’s numbers are bogus,” then answer the questions that follow.

- What is Black Lives Matter? What are the claims made by supporters of this cause, even supporters in other organizations such as Rise Up October? Which group is 20 times deadlier to black New Yorkers than the NYPD? Do you think that these Black Lives Matter supporters even genuinely understand the real problems that they are attempting to bring awareness to? Why or why not? What are the real problems that the Black Lives Matter movement is a reflection of?
- What are the real and serious consequences of spreading such false information? Do you think that these supporters are breaking the Ninth Commandment? Why or why not?
- Why do you think that these people are so misguided? What would you suggest that they do to more effectively promote their cause, in addition to not lying?



QUIZ

DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS

1. Which of the following great societal evils was based on lies?
 - a. Nazism
 - b. Communism
 - c. African slavery
 - d. All of the above

2. Ibn Ezra and Brevard Childs agreed that the Ninth Commandment was_____.
 - a. only concerned with false testimony in court
 - b. about truth-telling generally
 - c. the most important of the Ten Commandments
 - d. only applicable to a specific group of people

3. What is the most important value in the societal realm?
 - a. Goodness
 - b. Kindness
 - c. Truth
 - d. Gratitude

4. What does “Pravda” mean?
 - a. Investigation
 - b. Newspaper
 - c. Truth
 - d. Brave

5. It is okay to lie when it’s being done on behalf of a good cause.
 - a. True
 - b. False



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://nypost.com/2015/11/06/black-lives-matters-numbers-are-bogus/>

Black Lives Matter's numbers are bogus

By [Deroy Murdock](#)

November 6, 2015 | 7:20pm



Black Lives Matter protesters in Manhattan in January. Photo: David McGlynn

If the Black Lives Matter crowd is correct, bloodthirsty, racist cops are blasting black men like clay pigeons at a shooting range. The pace of this alleged slaughter is breathtaking.

“Every 28 hours, a black person is murdered by police,” Black Lives Matter activist Chernobiko told Fox News Channel’s Megyn Kelly. “It feels like we’re in a war.”

If true, killer cops are rubbing out some 313 innocent, law-abiding blacks annually.

Rise Up October asserts that there are “over 1,000 people a year killed by police.”

Wrong! And more than doubly so.

University of Toledo criminologist Dr. Richard R. Johnson examined the latest data from the FBI and Centers for Disease Control.

From 2003 through 2012, law-enforcement officers killed an average of 429 people per year in “legal interventions.” These include a relatively small number of innocent people killed by cops and many more who died due to reasonable use of force.

When a bank robber thrusts a loaded Glock into a teller’s neck, that’s a really good time for the police to kill him.

Anti-police protesters chant the well-known names of several black males who lately have died at the hands of cops: Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Freddie Gray, Tamir Rice and Walter Scott.

Some cops (such as Darren Wilson, who shot Michael Brown) have been exonerated, even by Obama’s Justice Department. Others face trial — such as Officer Michael Slager, who shot Walter Scott in the back in North Charleston, SC, and the three white and three black Baltimore cops in whose custody Freddie Gray died.

What this controversy sorely needs is a strong dose of facts. Actual crime data reveal that this movement is based on mythology.

Thanks to the Ferguson Effect, blistering anti-law-enforcement rhetoric and sometimes fatal attacks on police have made cops timid, if not terrified. The result? A murder explosion that, ironically, is killing the very black people whom Black Lives Matter claims to champion. Year to date, homicides are up 8.3 percent in New York, 19.2 percent in Chicago, 51.5 percent in St. Louis and 52.5 percent in Baltimore.

On average, 4,472 black men were killed by other black men annually between Jan. 1, 2009, and Dec. 31, 2012, according to the FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Reports. Using FBI and CDC statistics, Professor Johnson calculates that 112 black men, on average, suffered both justified and unjustified police-involved deaths annually during this period.

This equals 2.5 percent of these 4,472 yearly deaths. For every black man — criminal or innocent — killed by a cop, 40 black men were murdered by other black men. The, at most, 2.5 percent of the problem generates relentless rage. And, yet, it is rude-to-racist to mention 97.5 percent of the problem.

As America’s largest police force, one would expect the NYPD to be a major player in this alleged mass murder of innocent blacks.

Wrong again!

The supposedly trigger-happy, bigoted NYPD killed a whopping eight people last year, according to its meticulous, 73-page “2014 Annual Firearms Discharge Report.” Of these, four were black. All of them were armed with cutting instruments (scissors, a hatchet, a boxcutter and a knife) and wielded them when they fatally were shot.

Rather than NYPD gunfire, the high-profile Eric Garner case involved a police chokehold that may have given the overweight Garner a lethal coronary.

Still, these five deaths (at least four of them justified) total last year's NYPD "genocide" against black men. They equal 4.95 percent of Gotham's 101 black-on-black murders in 2014. Other blacks are 20 times deadlier to black New Yorkers than is the NYPD.

Yes, some police are overzealous, twitchy-fingered and — surely — racist. NYPD Officer James Francatore's heavy-handed takedown of tennis player James Blake outside a Manhattan hotel in September confirms that some cops need leashes.

But the notion that America's cops simply are gunning down innocent black people is one of today's biggest and deadliest lies.

Deroy Murdock is a Manhattan-based Fox News contributor.