



## DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Elder begins the video by asking, “Is racism still a major problem in America?” How would you answer his question? Why? What evidence supports your answer?
- Mr. Elder informs us that, “...a 1958 Gallup poll found that only 4% of Americans approved of black-white marriages. Today that number is 87%.” What changed during that time? What factors do you think played a meaningful role in changing public acceptance of mixed-race marriage from largely disapproving to largely approving? Do you think that those same factors are still at work today? Why or why not?
- Mr. Elder rightly states that, “...you cannot have an honest discussion about police conduct without an honest discussion of black crime. Though blacks are 13% of the population, they commit 50% of the nation’s homicides, and almost always the victim is another black person, just as most white homicides are against other whites.” Considering that this is the case, why do you think that so many people buy into the perception that racism is such a pervasive problem when it clearly isn’t- at least in terms of homicides and police conduct?
- Further, we learn that, “...the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also found that blacks violate traffic laws at higher rates than whites – in every offense, whether it’s driving without a license, not wearing a seat belt, not using a child safety seat or speeding,” and that, “Three out of four black drivers admitted that they were stopped by police for a ‘legitimate reason.’ Blacks, compared to whites, were on average more likely to commit speeding or other traffic offenses. The Institute wrote, ‘Seatbelt usage is chronically lower among black drivers. If a law enforcement agency aggressively enforces seatbelt violations, police will stop more black drivers.’ The NIJ conclusion? These numerical disparities result from ‘differences in offending’ – in other words, not because of racism.” So if more blacks are being stopped and/or cited because they are simply committing more offenses, why do you think that a perception that blacks are being ‘targeted’ and ‘profiled,’ and the accompanying, underlying perception of racism, exists? If the problem is not racism, then what do you think is the real, root problem that needs to be addressed in regards to the relationship between the police and blacks?
- In addition to the obvious evidence of numerous blacks holding high positions in politics, academia, and the business world, and considering that, “...nearly twice as many black teens as white teens cited “failure to take advantage of available opportunities” as a bigger problem than racism,” and that America, “...has a better record of legal protection of minorities than any other society, white or black; [and] offers more opportunities to a greater number of black persons than any other society, including all those of Africa,” do you think that anyone can legitimately claim that racism is a growing problem in America? Why or why not? Do you think that anyone, including a sitting black president, can legitimately claim that racism is ‘in our DNA?’ Why or why not?

## EXTEND THE LEARNING:

### CASE STUDY: Race Wars

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article, “‘Race Wars’ Part 1: The Shocking Data on Black-on-Black Crime,” then answer the questions that follow.

- Of the approximately 8,000-9,000 African Americans murdered annually, what percentage of those homicides is perpetrated by other blacks? How does this statistic relate to claims of racism? What does this statistic reflect in terms of police brutality or racial profiling?
- The last subtitle in the article is, “Where is the outrage?” Why do you think that the hard facts regarding black on black violence are ignored by the ‘race hustlers’ that want to promote a narrative that doesn’t fit with the facts presented in this article? Why do you think that these groups want to promote the ‘America is Racist’ narrative rather than the “...hundreds of thousands of African Americans have been slaughtered at the hands of each other since the dawn of the Civil Rights movement,” narrative that is the truth? Do you think that groups such as #Blacklivesmatter should be focusing on black on black crime more? Why or why not?
- What role do you think the media plays in promoting a perception that America is racist? Do you think that intensely focusing on the few white cop on black murders rather than the overwhelming amount of black on black murders, especially in places like Chicago, helps the black community more than if they were to focus a majority of coverage on the ugly reality of the preponderance of black on black crime? Why or why not?



# QUIZ

## IS AMERICA RACIST?

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- 1. In what year did 60% of Americans say they would never vote for a black president?**
  - a. 1885
  - b. 1947
  - c. 1960
  - d. 1978
  
- 2. Sociologists have traditionally viewed \_\_\_\_\_ as a benchmark for the ultimate stage of assimilation of a particular group into society.**
  - a. employment rates
  - b. multiracial marriage
  - c. homeownership
  - d. crime rates
  
- 3. You cannot have an honest discussion about police conduct without an honest discussion of \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - a. black crime
  - b. poverty levels
  - c. population density
  - d. political parties
  
- 4. Though blacks are \_\_\_\_\_ of the population, they commit \_\_\_\_\_ of the nation's homicides.**
  - a. 33%; 50%
  - b. 3%; 13%
  - c. 50%; 13%
  - d. 13%; 50%
  
- 5. America offers more opportunities to a greater number of black persons than any other society, including all of those of Africa.**
  - a. True
  - b. False



# QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2012/04/09/race-wars-part-1-the-shocking-data-on-black-on-black-crime/>

## ‘Race Wars’ Part 1: The Shocking Data on Black-on-Black Crime

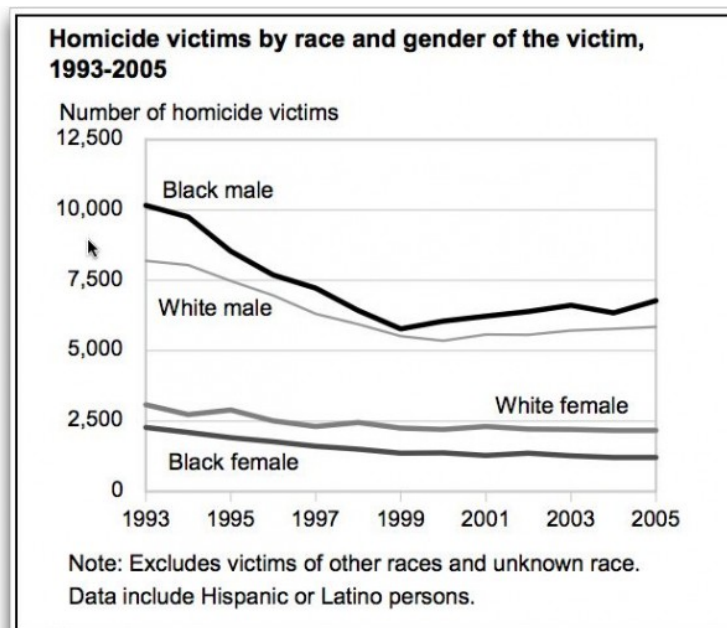
Apr. 9, 2012 9:40pm [Tiffany Gabbay](#)

Black-on-black crime is a sensitive subject in this increasingly polarized nation. While covered in academia and occasionally addressed by talking heads on television, some believe it rarely, if ever, receives the *type and depth* of attention it deserves. Instead, critics argue that this national tragedy is usually swept under the rug by powerful interest groups and individuals more concerned with elevating their own racially-driven agendas than addressing the real issues at hand. The Trayvon Martin case is only the most recent example of this grim hypocrisy.

Indeed, statistics support a very different narrative than the one usually offered by “race hustlers,” as Pastor C.L. Bryant calls them, who routinely portray an America where members of the black community are selectively targeted and brutalized by white racists.

A 2007 special report released by the [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#), reveals that approximately 8,000 — and, in certain years, as many as 9,000 African Americans are murdered annually in the United States. This chilling figure is accompanied by another equally sobering fact, that 93% of these murders are in fact perpetrated by other blacks. The analysis, supported by FBI records, finds that in 2005 alone, for example, African Americans accounted for 49% of all homicide victims in the US — again, almost exclusively at the hands of other African Americans.

To put these number in perspective, recall that over 6,400 U.S. service men and women have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan combined over the course of a decade-long war fought in those nations. During the Vietnam War, which lasted nearly 13 years, some 58,000 Americans were killed — nearly 13 percent of whom were African American.



Graph courtesy of the 2007 Department of Justice Report

Extrapolating black-on-black crime data reveals that, by comparison, approximately 100,000 African Americans have been killed on our own streets at the hands of other African Americans in roughly the same stretches of time. It is difficult to find anyone who would white-wash these mind-numbing statistics.

Equally as startling, the same study reveals African Americans were victims of an estimated 805,000 nonfatal violent crimes in just one year alone.

What's more, blacks comprise roughly 12.5 percent of the U.S. population.

While fatalities persist in every major metropolitan area across the nation, there are of course certain cities most impacted by violent crime. Take Cincinnati, for example, where, after the fatal shooting of a young black man by a white police officer in 2001, a wave of riots ensued. Since that time, Cincinnati has set the record for the number of murders carried out each year, with a persistent violent crime rate at a staggering 88 percent.

The now all-too-familiar statistics reveal that black males are killed far more often than any other demographic: "The vast majority of people being murdered are African American in the City of Cincinnati," said Hamilton County Prosecutor, Joe Deters in [an interview](#).

"The vast majority. Well outside the 40 percent of the population it should be. In 2009, the City of Cincinnati did not have a single white victim of a homicide. (That) tells me that we have a subset in the underclass of Cincinnati which is committing a lot of violent crime and they tend to be black. And the reality is, you almost always commit murder within your racial classifications. So when we've got a young black man up in the coroners office, it's almost always a result of another young black man shooting him."

That same year, 2009, no white men were killed in Cincinnati, but 44 black males and 11 females were the victims of homicide in the city.

## **Chicago**

One city that has perennially come under fire for racially charged violence is Chicago. In just the span of three days alone — March 16th-19th of this year — 41 people, mostly African-American, were shot and killed in Chicago. Ten were killed in President Obama's former neighborhood. Incredibly, these atrocities on our very own streets barely received a turn of the head by activists, nor did they receive any media coverage.

In response to President Obama's decision to raise the profile of the Trayvon Martin case, T. Willard Fair, president of the Urban League of Greater Miami, recently told [The Daily Caller](#) that the "the outrage should be about us killing each other, about black-on-black crime."

He asked rhetorically, "Wouldn't you think to have 41 people shot [in Chicago] between Friday morning and Monday morning would be much more newsworthy and deserve much more outrage?"

More than [500 people](#) under the age of 21 were killed in Chicago in 2008. This figure fell only slightly in 2009 and 2010 and, of course, does not represent the many others who have been shot or injured as a result of these attacks. Records reveal that nearly 80 percent of youth homicides occurred in 22 black or Latino communities on Chicago's South and West sides.

In just the first three months of 2012, 109 people have already been murdered in the city of Chicago. So rampant are the killings in fact, that crime in the President's adopted hometown was even the focus of an April 5th report featured on [The O'Reilly Factor](#):

In the poignant words of one man interviewed for the segment, "We've got to stop referring to people as African-American, Hispanic-American."

**“These are American kids and they are being slaughtered by other American kids.”**

### **An epidemic**

According to recent studies, Illinois isn't the only state in the Midwest to see a marked rise in the number of African-American homicide victims over the course of just the past few years. A study conducted by the Washington D.C. based Violence Policy Center revealed that for the third time in the past five years, [Missouri](#) is vying for Cincinnati's role, leading the nation in black on black violent crime.

Perhaps surprisingly, [Wisconsin](#), too, is ranked as one of the top ten states with the highest percentage of black murder victims. Spanning the rest of the country, the other nine states found to have the highest murder rates among African-Americans include Michigan, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Indiana, Tennessee, Missouri, California and Nevada.

### **Where is the outrage?**

Recently, The Blaze featured a report on [Rep. Corrine Brown](#), who, after professing in an interview to care about “all the children” who fall victim to murder, could not remember the name of a little girl from her district who was murdered and then dumped into a Georgia landfill. While Brown fumbled to find the words, she ultimately could not recall Somer Thompson's name. She did, however, have much to say about racial profiling and how Trayvon Martin was selectively targeted for his race. For some reason, Brown and others who have followed suit in this case have failed to address or acknowledge the epidemic of murders occurring within their very own communities.

But Brown is not alone. Not by any stretch. Which begs the questions: where is the outrage from prominent members of the African-American community? Where are the words of condemnation and sorrow from Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, or Rev. Al Sharpton, over the fact that members of their own communities are summarily executing each other? Critics believe that acknowledging the unfortunate, irrefutable statistical truth negates the left's narrative about a black community selectively exploited and targeted by white racists. Some might also argue that fanning the flames of racial discontent, especially in an election year, serves a useful and powerful campaign purpose.

Thus far, hundreds of thousands of African Americans have been slaughtered at the hands of each other since the dawn of the Civil Rights movement. Is *this* the realization of Dr. King's Community of Man?