

Jenny Mason

From: Elisha Johnson <elisha.johnson@jessup.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 11:38 PM
To: Jason Ross
Subject: Black Lives Matter, Pandering does not

As a young Black man, I would like to say that I am disappointed with KHTK's decision to pander to "race" politics. I say "race" politics because it is the assumption that any one person or entity utilizing the term "Black" is a representation of millions of people around the world, and within the local community, based on loosely genetic relations and some shared history. BLM does not represent me or my family.

I personally have no problem with Grant Napier's statement. I have much more of a problem with Demarcus Cousins threatening harm to the mother of his child. I have much more of a problem with Mike Bibby sexually harassing a co-worker. I have much more of a problem with a young Black woman being shot dead by her black boyfriend point blank here in Sacramento last year, yet your station did not mention it or any of the other issues. LeBron James did not mention it. Doug Christie did not mention it. Instagram and movie celebrities did not mention it.

There was no use of your platform to speak against domestic violence in the Black community when she was murdered. There was no platform used to speak against Black on Black violence which kills thousands of young women, men, and children each year. Has Doug Christie had a conversation with his son about being a thousand times more likely to be shot by another Black man rather than a cop?

The Black community has many self-inflicted issues which we need to address and solve before moving on to "national" news headlines. This is the opinion of a Black man who has friends who have been shot, paralyzed, and killed due to violence within our community. There was no march for any of them. There was no march for the woman who was killed last year (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxiOKqUvwk#action=share>). But now that the limelight is on, instagrammers, athletes, and celebrities alike want to show "solidarity"?

If our goal is to rid ourselves of the stereotype of "savage", then what sense does it make to ignore the violence we cause upon each other, yet protest for the very few in comparison incidents in which violence is inflicted upon us externally?

Once we as a people stop being the number one cause of death for young Black men, maybe then we can worry about having a talk to our sons about the "big racist monster cops".

As a Black man, I do not need nor want your pandering. I am a human. I am a man. Pandering is for pets.

To end this email on a sports topic--who killed Zac Randolph's brother? Did Doug Christie have a talk to his son about that? Did LeBron tweet about that?

Let us take care of our internal problems before casting blame and focus externally. Who will respect us if we refuse to show the world that we respect ourselves?

KHTK, mind your business, and stop with the "race" politics. All lives matter. Every single one!

P.S.

More white men are killed by cops each year than Black men....go figure!