

Ashley Tapia

FIQWS 10108 Composition

Prof. J.Poe & D. Crohn

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Topic & Research Proposal

Thesis Statement: How police brutality affects the justice system and the lives of families and society.

The prompt I'm choosing is number one because it's allowing me to choose any particular media franchise or serial narratives that deal with identity issues and "otherness". I will be choosing the show "Seven Seconds" and it's about Brenton Butler, a 15-year-old black boy cyclist. He dies in a hit-and-run accident that was caused by a white police officer who was behind the wheel of the vehicle. This makes Jersey City explode with racial tension. This crime drama explores the aftermath of the accident, which includes an attempted cover-up by the police department and an unpredictable trial. The assistant prosecutor KJ who was assigned to the case wants to prosecute the hit-and-run as a hate crime, in addition to a negligent homicide. The longer the case drags on without a resolution, the tenser the situation becomes. Which is normal because this family needs justice and the police officers who committed the crime and tried to cover it up need to face the consequences.

"Seven Seconds" is a brutal look at the politics of an American city and the public has responded in positive ways, meaning that this show has opened their eyes on the systematic racism that people of color face throughout the criminal justice system. I will be researching specific emotional and political themes that are displayed throughout the show, and use many resources that can also be related to this. The purpose of writing my future paper about this topic is because this is a very powerful issue and I want to shine a light on this and express my opinions and research that

come with facts that police brutality needs to be taken seriously and that they don't get the chance to walk away free and hide behind that badge.

Works Cited

Seven Seconds. Season 1, episode 1, Netflix.

McDonald, Terrence T., and Jersey Journal. "What Locals Are Saying about Netflix Drama 'Seven Seconds'." *NJ.com*, NJ.com, 2 Mar. 2018, www.nj.com/jjournal-news/index.ssf/2018/03/what_locals_are_saying_about_n.html.

"Netflix's 'Seven Seconds' Is A Brutal Look At The Politics Of An American City [Review]." *Okayplayer*, 23 Feb. 2018, www.okayplayer.com/originals/netflixs-seven-seconds-brutal-look-politics-review.html.

Margaret Cheatham Williams and Jocie Juritz, et al. "Police Brutality, Misconduct and Shootings." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 29 Oct. 2018, www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/police-brutality-misconduct-and-shootings.