

George Floyd



What happened to George Floyd?

George Floyd was a black African-American man who was killed by a police officer called Derek Chauvin.

Officers suspected George Floyd of using fake money and so they put him in handcuffs and held him down by kneeling on his neck for over nine minutes, including 3 minutes after George Floyd became unresponsive.

During that time, George Floyd kept saying that he couldn't breathe. Nevertheless, Chauvin and the other three officers at the scene ignored him which led to his tragic death.

What happened next to the police involved?

Chauvin was charged with third-degree murder/manslaughter.

Thomas Lane was not charged.

J.A Kueng was not charged.

Tou Thao was not charged.

All four were fired after the video sparked outrage.

Pause and discuss...

- *'Standing by, watching and doing nothing whilst a crime is taking place, is as bad as committing the crime.'*
- *Do you agree/disagree with the above statement? Why?*
- *Do you think that this is a fair punishment for the officers involved?*
- *Why/why not?*

What has happened since?

The charges against Chauvin were elevated to 2nd degree murder and the other three officers will also be charged with aiding and abetting murder. Do you think this is fair/unfair? Why?

This has been a result of the protests that have been happening around the globe.

Aiding and abetting murder: Helping someone to commit a crime.

Second degree murder is an unlawful killing without premeditated planning or reflection.

Pause and discuss...

Would things be different if the video was not recorded?

How?



Protests around the globe.



Why are people protesting?

The footage of the incident has sparked protest across the United States and the globe, with protestors saying that the George Floyd murder was another example of black people being targeted by authorities because of their race.

Demonstrators around the world have held peaceful protests, but there has also been violence, and the burning and robbing of stores by some people involved.

Police have used water cannons and tear gas, as well as firing rubber bullets into the protestors - a lot of people have been injured.

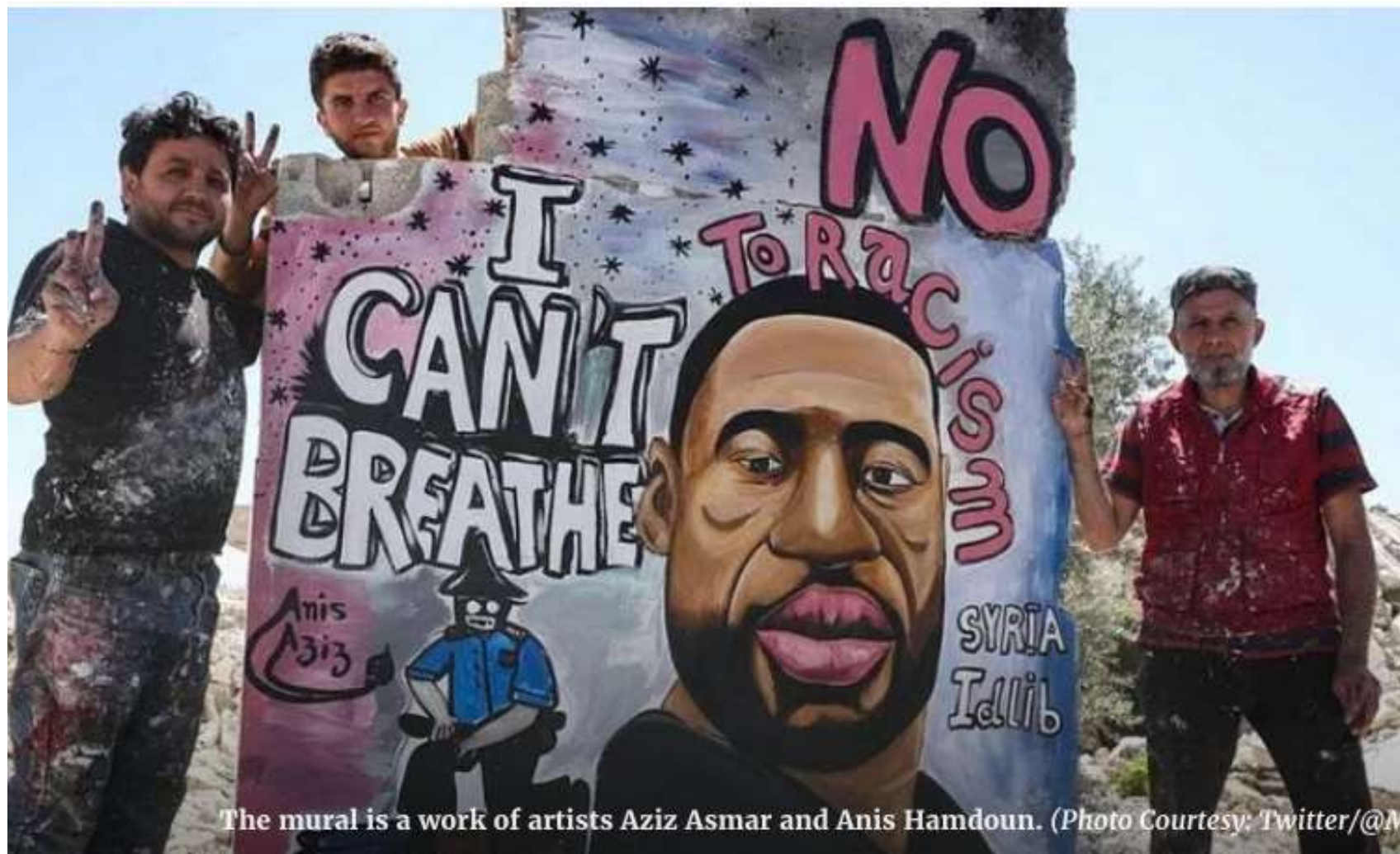
Pause and discuss...

Why do you think the protests have turned violent?









The mural is a work of artists Aziz Asmar and Anis Hamdoun. (Photo Courtesy: Twitter/@M

Black Lives Matter



Black Lives Matter

BLM is an international human rights movement which campaigns against the violence and systematic racism towards black people.

BLM was founded in 2013 after George Zimmerman shot and murdered Trayvon Martin, who was 17 at the time.

Zimmerman called the police and told them that Martin was behaving 'suspiciously' before confronting him and shooting him. Zimmerman was put on trial and found not guilty.

Blackout Tuesday

The idea was to fill Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with black squares, freeing up the time usually dedicated to social media for people to educate themselves on the Black Lives Matter movement.

Alexis French tells us about Blackout Tuesday and why he has been involved.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52893017>

Support for George Floyd around
the world

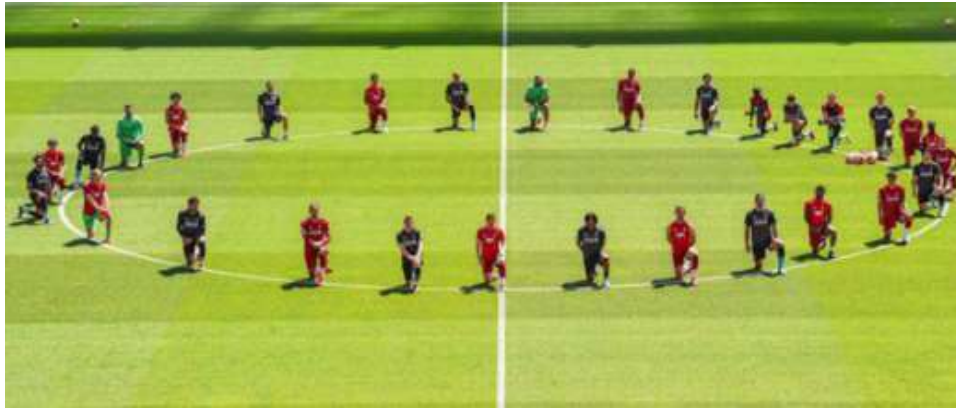
Marcus Thuram knelt after scoring in Borussia Mönchengladbach's win over Union Berlin



Sancho showed support for George Floyd



Premier league clubs kneel to show support.



What can we do?

Show your solidarity

Join a **peaceful** protest.

Sign a petition

https://www.change.org/p/mayor-jacob-frey-justice-for-george-floyd?utm_source=brand_us&utm_medium=media&use_react=false

Educate yourself on the history of institutional racism

<https://blog.usejournal.com/31-childrens-books-to-support-conversations-on-race-racism-and-resistance-9dbabc28360e>



Resources

Resources for Preparing a Positive Classroom Environment:

- [Difficult Conversations - A Self Assessment](#): a tool to reflect on your own vulnerabilities, strengths, and needs.
- [Responding to Strong Emotions](#): another tool to think about how you can create emotional safety in your classroom.
- [Teaching About Controversial of Difficult Issues](#): guidelines from the Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility.
- [Teaching Young Children about Race](#): a guide for parents and teachers.
- [Begin Within](#): a guide to help build confidence and prepare for conversations about race and racism.

Resources for Learning About Black Lives Matter:

- [Black Lives Matter](#) official website
- [How a Hashtag Defined a Movement](#): video featuring the founders of #BlackLivesMatter
- [Black Lives Matter on The New Civil Rights Movement](#): video brief from AJ+
- [Need to Know - Teaching Black Lives Matter in School](#): WXXI Rochester video piece
- [TED - An Interview with the Founders of Black Lives Matter](#)

