



# The Marshall Project

Opening Statement

August 14, 2017

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PICK OF THE NEWS



**When a white person kills a black man in America, the killer often faces no legal consequences.** A new Marshall Project examination of 400,000 homicides committed by civilians between 1980 and 2014 reveals glaring racial disparities that persist “across different cities, different ages, different weapons and different relationships between killer and victim.” The killing of blacks by whites is disproportionately considered “justifiable” under

the law. In collaboration with The New York Times, Anna Flagg and Daniel Lathrop have our story. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**After Charlottesville.** Both the FBI and the Justice Department have begun investigations into Saturday's deadly protests. [POLITICO](#) The sound of fist into flesh. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) Police stood by passively for hours. [PROPUBLICA](#) Gov. defends police work. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) Suspect a Nazi-sympathizer. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#) **More:** About that GOP legislation that shields drivers who run over protesters. [U.S. NEWS](#) **Related commentary:** The alt-right chickens come home to roost. [NATIONAL REVIEW](#) Why won't Trump denounce white supremacists? [WEEKLY STANDARD](#) The Battle of Charlottesville. [THE NEW YORKER](#) Who we are. [POLITICO](#) On the futility of hate. [SLATE](#) Suddenly the far right doesn't seem so far. [THE ATLANTIC](#)

**Injury to insult: prisoners as revenue generators.** Everyone gains financially from prison video-visitation except inmates and their loved ones. The companies signing lucrative contracts with jail and prison officials gain. So do their investors. Corrections officials like it because it reduces costs, creates new revenue streams, and allows them to deploy staff differently. For prisoners, though, the new technology is the worst of all worlds. They don't get to see family members in person and those family members have to pay above-market rates for the calls. [THE ATLANTIC](#)

**A few good men (and women).** The Border Patrol is so desperate for new agents that it spent millions conducting polygraph tests on candidates who were manifestly unqualified for the job, a new federal review concluded. How unqualified? From the report: "For example, applicants admitted to illegal drug use, drug smuggling, human trafficking, and to having close personal relationships with people who commit these crimes." CBP officials say it will take 18 months to implement some of the reforms needed to halt the practice. [DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY](#)

**The boy who lived.** Latee Smith, 15, is a victim of Chicago’s unremitting gun violence. At first he wanted revenge against those who had shot him in the hip. But instead he’s chosen a different path, maneuvering through the city’s dangerous streets while working a summer job. He doesn’t see his work as a pathway to a brighter future, as city officials suggest. Instead, Smith sees it as a way to stay safe for at least 20 hours a week during another deadly summer.

[THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

N/S/E/W

It’s been exactly 40 years since the David Berkowitz, the so-called “Son of Sam” serial killer in **New York**, was captured. Berkowitz, now 64, seems at ease with his grim past. [CBS NEWS](#)

Mental health care centers in **Maine** now routinely call the police — 911— on their own patients, passing off those they are unable or unwilling to treat.

[BANGOR DAILY NEWS](#)

Cause or correlation? Baton Rouge, **Louisiana**, is seeing a spike in homicide rates at a time when it’s struggling to find enough cops to patrol its streets. [THE](#)

[ADVOCATE](#)

Another suicide by a mentally ill prisoner in **Arizona**, another round of questions about why corrections officers didn’t do more to prevent the death.

[PHOENIX NEW TIMES](#) **Related:** And now new questions about how quickly Corizon pays its bills. [KJZZ](#)

Welcome to Canon City, **Colorado**, a prison town where folks aren't necessarily in sync with the new "law-and-order" tone in Washington. [THE ECONOMIST](#)

COMMENTARY

**The NRA isn't interested in winning.** It's interested in fighting. How the association manipulates gun owners and the media. [THE NEW YORKER](#)

**Jeff Sessions is putting ideology over solutions in his battle with Chicago.** The city's gun violence is bad enough without the feds pretending immigrants are to blame. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

**The exploitation of Kate Steinle.** Her murder by an undocumented immigration provided the Trump campaign with a convenient storyline. Too bad much of it just isn't true. [SLATE](#) **Related:** On the link (or lack thereof) between terrorism and immigrants. [LAWFARE](#)

**The case against California's "sanctuary state" bill.** Gov. Jerry Brown says yes, protect productive residents, documented or not, but don't extend sanctuary to criminals. [LOS ANGELES TIMES](#)

**It starts with the chokehold.** "If police patrolled white areas as they do poor black neighborhoods, there would be a revolution." [THE GUARDIAN](#) **Related:** We should treat police shootings like plane crashes. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) It doesn't matter how polite the police are if they are implementing racially disparate policies. [CATO INSTITUTE](#)

ETC .

**Sentence of the Day:** In which a former jail official in Oklahoma is given a four-year federal sentence for refusing in 2013 to allow a diabetic prisoner to get the medicine he needed. The prisoner died. [JUSTICE DEPARTMENT](#) **Context:** A rare indictment; an even rarer sentence. [HUFFINGTON POST](#)

**Alternative Facts of the Day:** President Trump is trying to blame Barack Obama for the opioid epidemic. Here's why that doesn't wash. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

**History of the Day:** It's been 20 years since New York police officers brutalized Abner Louima. What's changed, and hasn't, since then? [WNYC](#)

**Correspondence of the Day:** A mother's letters to her son in prison, a teenager sentenced as an adult, helped the boy survive. Upon his release he created an App that helps inmates stay in touch with their families. [NPR](#)

**Poll of the Day:** Crime victims don't appear to support the "tough-on-crime" policies of the Trump administration, a new survey suggests. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

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