

Gregg L. Cunningham, Executive Director

May 2015

Dear Pro-Life Supporter,

CBR has always been burdened by the fact that the abortion rate in the African-American community remains tragically high. Black women account for 36% of all abortions despite constituting only 11% of the female population. So when two black crime suspects recently lost their lives while resisting arrest in Missouri and New York, we decided to appropriate the resulting slogans “Don’t Shoot” and “I Can’t Breathe” to fight abortion. The intention of many of the black activists who coined these terms was to defame the police by alleging the fiction of pervasive harassment and excessive force by white officers. This is a shameful falsehood but we are refuting it, and using it to defend the unborn.

Black activists also popularized the over-arching term “Black Lives Matter.” But we co-opted that too with the pro-life slogan, “All Black Lives Matter – Born and Unborn.” We then made three photo signs based on this controversy. The first used a picture of police, guns drawn, properly apprehending a black suspect, with the caption “Don’t Shoot” on the left side of the sign, and a photo of an aborted baby with the caption “Don’t Abort” on the right side. The second depicts an officer using a lawful choke hold to subdue a black suspect with the caption “I Can’t Breathe” on the left of the sign and an aborted baby photo on the right, bearing the caption “Neither Can I.” The third sign bears a born black baby on the left and aborted baby body parts on the right with the caption “All Black Lives Matter.” These signs can be viewed at [AbortionNO.org](http://AbortionNO.org). They are designed primarily for African-American audiences.

CBR Board Member Rev. Clenard Childress, who pastors a black church in the Newark, New Jersey area, will display these new signs at schools with large black student enrollments, and outside black churches, and meetings of black community leaders. He says they are the most powerful tools he has ever had for redeeming a lie and using it to lead black viewers to the truth about abortion. Systematic police brutality is a myth, but Rev. Childress believes we need to engage black people where they are if we are going to convince them that abortion is the real threat to the black community. We should never lose sight, however, of the fact that real “excessive force” incidents do occur and that blacks are sometimes victimized by them. The *LA Times*, April 9, 2015, published a front-page story called “Video set one fatal police shooting apart.” It described a cell phone video which caught South Carolina police officer Michael Slager, who is white, fatally shooting Walter Scott, who is black and was unarmed, eight times in the back as he ran away. Slager was fired and charged with murder. His police chief said, “I have watched the video and I was sickened....”

Such atrocities are clearly not the norm but how frequently they occur can never be known until all officers wear body cameras. Evidence that the police are not the primary problem, however, can be found in the fact that a New York grand jury recently refused to indict Officer Daniel Panteleo in the death of suspect Eric Garner. A Missouri grand jury also declined to indict Officer Darren Wilson in the death of suspect Michael Brown (“Don’t Shoot”). *National Review*, February 9, 2015, “The mayor who slandered the police,” reported that Eric Garner was “a 350-pound asthmatic [who] went into cardiac arrest and died” while resisting arrest. The *Wall Street Journal*, March 9, 2015, “Ferguson, lies and statistics,” notes that the Missouri grand jury decision was based on the testimony of “some 60 witnesses” and that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) later issued a report which “demolishes the lie that [Michael] Brown was shot

in the back, along with the lie that he was surrendering to Mr. Wilson, hands in the air, when he was shot.” The *Journal* adds that the DOJ report also “confirms that [Michael] Brown physically assaulted the officer, who had good grounds to fear for his life.” Free and easy abortions teach black teens that violence is an acceptable means of getting what they want.

*The Weekly Standard*, March 30, 2015, reported a story titled “Justice is blind, the case of dueling DOJ reports on Ferguson, Missouri.” The article said the DOJ report exonerating Wilson was produced by the Civil Rights Division’s Criminal Section. This office is staffed by professional lawyers, not liberal hacks. The report condemning the Ferguson City government came out of the Special Litigation Section, an office staffed by liberal hacks, not professional lawyers. The analysis adds that “Attorney General Eric Holder was clearly not happy that his own agency had so resoundingly shredded the incendiary story of a pacific Michael Brown gunned down by a trigger-happy cop while trying to surrender.”

The *Los Angeles Times*, March 6, 2015, “On Selma’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Obama will look to the future,” quotes Joshua Rothman, a University of Alabama history professor who directs the Summersell Center for the Study of the South which promotes the victimhood lie that every pathology which afflicts the black community is the fault of the white community. “‘The school-to-prison pipeline, police brutality, sentencing -- every single one of those has racial bias built into them structurally,’ Rothman said.” The government, the press, and the universities all teach “white privilege,” and this fantasy, which is the real school-to-prison pipeline, provokes black grievance and an exaggerated sense of entitlement. Mr. Rothman, however, does restate one obvious but important truth: “The ‘Black Lives Matter’ movement is the current civil rights movement. . . .” Pro-lifers can lament the fable (who said black lives *don’t* matter?) or we can take advantage of it, as did the Apostle Paul in Athens as described in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Acts. Verse 16 says, “He was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols.” Paul could have tried to start conversations by attacking these pagan deities, but instead he engaged the people where he found them to be spiritually. He said, “Men of Athens, I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown God. Now what you worship as something unknown, I am going to proclaim to you.”

Paul begins a dialogue by noting that his audience cares about things of the spirit. He doesn’t say their idols are real. He merely notes their existence. He then diplomatically points them toward real spiritual truth. Paul opens with what his audience thought was important, but once he had everyone’s attention, he moved to what he wanted to discuss. We do the same. We start our discussion by acknowledging our target group, the African-American community, is concerned with matters of social justice. We don’t say their slogans are valid. But we do divert their attention from police to abortion, an injustice far more ubiquitous than police brutality and one which blacks are committing against their own community. The phrases “Black Lives Matter” and “Don’t Shoot” and “I Can’t Breathe” have become virtual brands whose influence has been elevated to an iconic status which many see as nearly sacred. These slogans, however, weren’t trademarked or copyrighted before we got them onto our signs. By adding the words “pictures” and “photos” and “video” to these “civil rights” search terms, we can attract social media visitors who would never Google “abortion.” Hundreds of millions of dollars in free advertising has already been invested in popularizing these terms, and we have lawfully pirated them in what might fairly be hailed as the guerrilla marketing coup of the age. Babies who would have died will now be spared.

To understand the near impossibility of our signs worsening public perception of police tactics, one need look no further than an article headlined “Survey exposes racial divide in public perception of Ferguson crisis,” which appeared on the STLToday.com news website, September 15, 2014. It reported that 71% of St. Louis County blacks wanted Officer Wilson arrested and charged with a crime. 71% of whites disagreed. The overwhelming public support for the police isn’t going to be diminished merely because we place “civil rights” captions over arrest photos. Black opinion on abortion, however, is for more malleable.

We have seen the power of abortion photos, and we are willing to use non-judgmental arrest photos to get more eyes on the horror of abortion.

Some may have feared that the Apostle Paul might be misunderstood as implying the legitimacy of pagan idols. Paul, however, was apparently willing to take that risk in pursuit of the more important goal of saving souls. We are following Paul's example. Paul would go on to dispel myths about idolatry, and we will be equally critical of false accusations regarding police oppression of blacks. But our first priority is saving babies' lives. Lest there be any doubt of our condemnation of the lies on which the "Black Lives Matter" slogans rest, however, we state this emphatically on our website beside our "All Black Lives Matter" signs.

DOJ's Criminal Division had the integrity to exonerate Officer Wilson, but Attorney General Eric Holder could count on his corrupt "Special Litigation" lynch mob to dummy-up bogus allegations against the City of Ferguson. Ferguson's worst offense? The city used moving traffic violations to generate revenue! The truth is that municipalities all over the country have abused speed traps as profit centers for decades. *Land Line Magazine*, November 20, 2014, reported a story on the New Jersey state legislature headlined "O'Scanlon, Dancer bills target ticket quotas, speed traps." Reason.com published a July 24, 2013 article titled "Cop fired for speaking out against ticket and arrest quotas" in Auburn, Alabama.

The most outrageous example of the ticketing abuse which provoked legislative intervention occurred in Waldo, Florida, where in one year, seven police officers wrote 12,000 speeding tickets and collected \$400,000. CarAndDriver.com, February, 2009, featured a story called "More tickets in hard times." It revealed that in the metro Detroit area, "the number of moving traffic violations issued has increased by at least 50 percent in 18 communities since 2002 -- and 11 of those municipalities have seen ticketing increases of 90 percent or more." So if lots of municipalities are doing what Ferguson was doing, why pick on Ferguson? Because the population is largely black and city government is largely white. That anomaly advances the Obama narrative that whites abuse blacks. Eric Holder gives Waldo, Florida, speed trappers a pass because the population and municipal officials are mostly white. Why did he ignore the Detroit ticket bandits? Because both the population and the municipal officials are largely black. So in Obamaland, vehicle code corruption is inconsequential if white authorities victimize white motorists, or black cops shake down black commuters: But white cops stopping black drivers? Pure evil! If Ferguson is 67% black, of course blacks will get more tickets.

Black attorney Larry Elder posted a column on FreeRepublic.com, March 12, 2015, titled "The farcical Ferguson report," which referred to a 2013 DOJ report by the National Institute of Justice which found that "Blacks compared to whites, were on average more likely to commit speeding or other traffic offenses." Is it sexism that police arrest vastly more men than women? Is it ageism when police arrest hugely more young people than elderly?

A March 4, 2015 *Los Angeles Times* piece headlined "Ferguson police violated blacks' rights," alleges that Ferguson blacks "were far more likely to be the subject of arrest warrants" than whites. So what? A 2010 report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) (WashingtonPost.com, November 25, 2015, "Giuliani's claim that 93 percent of black murder victims are killed by other blacks") notes that for homicides alone, the "black offending rate (34.4 per 100,000) was almost eight times higher than whites (4.5 per 100,000)...." More black crime will, of course, produce more black arrests. If, as is often policy, police patrol the highest crime neighborhoods the most heavily, and those neighborhoods are predominantly black, stops and arrests will largely involve black residents. Should suspects be given a pass because they're black? Of course not - whether the arresting officers are white or black. As a matter of fact, the latest controversy related to a black man dying in police custody occurred in Baltimore where the mayor, police chief, and most city council members are black -- and three of the six arresting officers are black! The competing perspective is that the AP reported on May 11, 2015 that between 2012 and 2015, there were 2,600 detainees refused

admission by Baltimore jail officials because of the severity of injuries sustained during their arrests and transport to the jail.

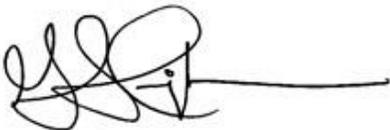
On April 6, *The Orange County Register* published a front-page feature titled “Octogenarian jewel thief recounts” as a classic case-in-point. The article describes Doris Payne as an “African American woman” who “has become a media darling” because she has “a feisty spirit and a resilient attitude.” How feisty and resilient? She defiantly declares, “I have no remorse,” and that “I never took anything I regretted. I had a good look at it and decided this is what I want. And I kept it.” She is also a racist: “I can cause the white people to forget.” How? She has a “special skill” and she can “blend into the scenery.” To ensure that her lawlessness becomes an inspiration to young blacks like Eric Garner and Michael Brown, Ms. Payne was featured in a 2013 documentary, dozens of television shows and news stories and “a biography is scheduled to come out next year.” She ends by repeating, “I have no shame.” When the liberal media shamelessly trumpets the political cause of a person, it matters not if they are breaking the law. CBR, on the other hand, champions the rights of preborn children to be born.

Public opinion on Ferguson kinds of issues is so deeply divided and firmly entrenched in this country that a few CBR signs won’t convince many viewers that cops are less principled than they suspected, but they will convince large numbers that abortion is more savage than they could ever have imagined. The safe course would have been for CBR to have distanced itself from this controversy. We couldn’t play it safe, however, and keep a clear conscience. Thankfully, the police are rightly popular and powerful. They have unions with attorneys, lobbyists and public relations experts. They can take care of themselves. The babies, however, are invisible, and utterly defenseless. They have only us.

But with so few people in the pro-life movement fighting abortion in the black community, CBR is determined to support Pastor Childress and his courageous church. We need your help to buy him the signs he will take into high crime neighborhoods which have even higher abortion rates. We also need your help to fund the costs of hosting Pastor Childress’ “Black Genocide” website which is always up and always saving lives. Pastor Childress is one of the most gifted preachers I have ever heard deliver a sermon. His career could have taken a very different path had he followed the example of so many black pastors and sold out to the pro-abortion Democrat party. He could have obtained great personal wealth and professional success. Instead, he and his church have stood with us during our campus sign displays, patiently engaging black students. He also regularly displays our signs outside meetings of the NAACP and other pro-abortion leaders. He has faithfully stood with us, and I am asking you to faithfully help us stand with him.

Hebrews 11: 24-25 says, “By faith, Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated, along with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.” Pastor Childress will be embarrassed that I would compare him to Moses, but no one has done more to lead his people out of the bondage of abortion. We all need to honor and support that kind of leadership.

Lord bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregg Cunningham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gregg Cunningham  
Executive Director

**P.S. Please consider an extra \$25 contribution to fund our Christian college outreach. We will never mobilize the church against abortion until we improve the way we train our future pastors.**