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RACE AND POLICING IN MODERN AMERICA

Tell the Tale

Chapter Two describes the stop-and-frisk practices of police departments in New York City. Imagine you live in a city with a large stop-and-frisk program. Write 200 words about what it's like to live in the city and walk down the street. What would it be like to live in this same city if your skin color was different?

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Surprise Me

Chapter Two discusses a number of different policies and practices in the criminal justice system that are carried out in racist ways. After reading this book, what two or three facts about the criminal justice system did you find most surprising? Why did you find each fact surprising?

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RACE AND POLICING IN MODERN AMERICA

Why Do I Care?

You may or may not have had many interactions with police officers. And your school or town may or may not have a history of police violence. Either way, you can think about the effect of policing on your community. How does law enforcement affect your life? Has anyone you know had an encounter with the police? How might your life be different if you lived in a community where you either had many more or many fewer interactions with police?

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Another View

This book talks about what critics refer to as the school-to-prison pipeline. As you know, every source is different. Ask a librarian or another adult to help you find another source about this concept. Write a short essay comparing and contrasting the new source's point of view with that of this book's authors. What is the point of view of each author? How are they similar and why? How are they different and why?

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You Are There

Chapter Four describes the Minneapolis City Council's desire to change policing. Imagine that you've been asked to give a recommendation to the Minneapolis City Council. Write a letter to the council describing what changes to policing and the community you would recommend. Be sure to include evidence to support your recommendation.