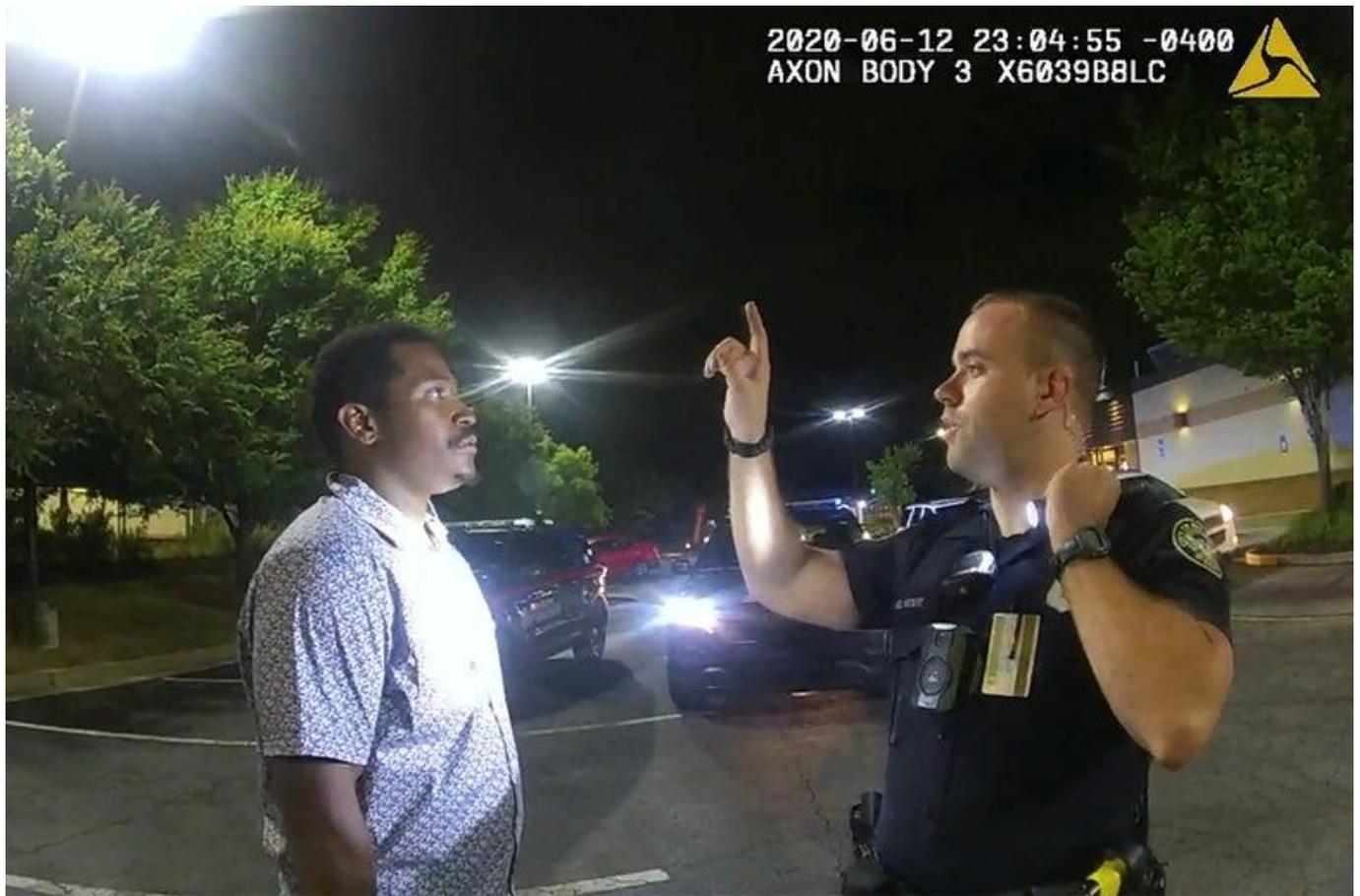


The Killing Of Rayshard Brooks Shows How Police “Reform” Is A Joke

Please make sure these dispatches reach as many readers as possible. Share with kin, friends and workmates and ask them to do likewise.

Caitlin Johnstone



A black man named Rayshard Brooks was recently killed by an Atlanta police officer who [shot him in the back](#) while he was attempting to run away.

Video footage from [the police bodycam](#) and [a nearby witness](#) makes it clear that Brooks resisted arrest after failing a breathalyzer test when police approached him sleeping in his car at a Wendy's parking lot, punching an officer and taking a taser the police had attempted to use on him before trying to flee the scene. [Video footage from the parking lot](#) makes it clear that Brooks was running away, and, without ceasing to run, pointed the taser at police behind him, at which point he was shot twice in the back by an officer [named Garrett Rolfe](#).

New video released by the GBI shows the moment [#Atlanta](#) police shot and killed [#RayshardBrooks](#) in the parking lot of a Wendy's. Police say Rayshard Brooks grabbed a taser and pointed it at police before an officer fired shots. pic.twitter.com/8DEe0dtyqF

– Courtney Bryant (@CourtneyDBryant) [June 13, 2020](#)

There is no rational defense of this shooting. If someone is running away from you with a short-range weapon, it is literally impossible for them to pose an imminent threat to you. Just allowing Brooks to run out of the range of the taser, as he was already trying to do, would have nullified any potential threat to either of the two officers on the scene, because it would have been literally impossible for Brooks to tase them while continuing to run in the direction he was running.

This indisputable and self-evident fact hasn't stopped people from bleating moronic police apologia in my social media notifications since the shooting occurred.

- They claim Brooks could have tased an officer and taken his gun (again, let Brooks take himself out of taser range and there's exactly zero risk of this happening).
- They claim they couldn't just let a "dangerous" criminal run around with a police weapon (it's a taser; you can buy them at Walmart. What's he going to do? Go on a mass tasing rampage?).
- They claim the cop had to execute Brooks because he posed a "danger to society" (it is not a cop's job to act as judge, jury and executioner in determining whether someone poses a general threat to society; that's what the courts are for).
- They claim if you punch a cop you deserve whatever you get (believing, because they are authority-worshipping

bootlickers, that a cop being punched is worse than a civilian being killed by gunfire).

- They claim if you don't follow police instructions then of course you're at risk of being killed (yes, police doing inexcusably brutal things is the problem that people are trying to address here).

Even leaving aside any debate about policing as it exists in America today, there was absolutely no excuse for Rolfe's behavior. They had all of Brooks' information. They had his car. They knew where he lives. They could have followed him in their car and called for backup. They could have gone in with backup to arrest him later.

But Rolfe decided to kill. After watching all these protests against police brutality raging throughout his country since the murder of George Floyd, after being confronted with with all the public outrage about police killing black men day after day in news headline after news headline, after his society forced him to contemplate police violence and his role in it, Garrett Rolfe still decided to kill. After all that, he watched a black man running away from him, posing no threat to him whatsoever, and he decided to kill.

The fact that cops are so thoroughly inoculated against public demand that they change their behavior makes a complete farce of the decoy police "reform" agenda that establishment narrative managers have been actively trying to corral the current protest movement into to kill their support for police abolishment.

Let me pick up on what [@staceyabrams](#) just said. [#DefundThePolice](#) slogan is being used to divide us. She called for transformation of police, that's much stronger than just reform but not distracting like defunding. [#TransformThePolice](#) is appealing to most people & sounds

strong.

– Cenk Uygur (@cenkuygur) [June 14, 2020](#)

There's a feud going on in America's new protest movement right now between those who wish to abolish, defund, dismantle, and/or disarm the police, and those who want to "reform" or "transform" the police. The former are actually pushing for a revolutionary change which actually pushes back against abusive power structures and calls for the creation of a radically different social paradigm, while the latter wants to keep policing institutions in their [irredeemably corrupt state](#) and add more funding for "de-escalation" training seminars where grown adults are told not to commit gratuitous acts of violence.

Training seminars which, it turns out, Officer Garrett Rolfe had just completed.

"According to the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, Rolfe had recently received use of force training," [reports](#) Atlanta news outlet AJC. "On April 24, he took a nine-hour course on de-escalation options, his record shows. And on Jan. 9, Rolfe was trained on the use of deadly force at the DeKalb County police academy."

And yet you've got fauxgressive establishment narrative managers like Cenk Uygur [promoting the reform agenda](#) and calling calls to defund the police "distracting".

I [wrote the other day](#) that "if these protests end it won't be because tyrants in the Republican Party like Donald Trump and Tom Cotton succeeded in making the case for beating them into silence with the US military. It will be because liberal manipulators succeeded in co-opting and stagnating its momentum." This is exactly the sort of thing I was talking

about.

.@NYGovCuomo suggests protesters pack it up, in light of new reforms: "People are still out protesting. You don't need to protest. You won. You won. You accomplished your goal. Society says, you're right. The police need systemic reform."

– Spectrum News NY1 (@NY1) [June 13, 2020](#)

People who claim these protests are the result of some kind of psyop often cite the fact that they're being supported by establishment liberals, mainstream media, and giant corporations, but this misses a very important distinction in the dynamic that is at play here. While it is true that these institutions have been expressing general support for the demonstrations and the idea that black lives matter, what absolutely none of them have been doing is supporting the defunding or abolishment of America's police force. None of the empire's ruling elites support this.

The reason you are seeing manipulation and attempts at co-option in this new movement is because that is exactly what's happening. But it isn't what's *driving* the enthusiasm behind the demonstrations. Rather, you are seeing an attempted hijacking of an actual revolutionary agenda that actually challenges actual power institutions (including increasingly common attempts to manipulate the narrative by claiming demands to defund and abolish are actually just calls for reform).

The widespread call to abolish America's police state, an [integral part of the glue](#) which holds the US-centralized empire together, is revolutionary. It is not an exaggeration

to say it's as interesting and exciting as seeing a mainstream call to end US imperialism, and it is just as threatening to establishment power structures. The call for "reform", in contrast, is just more milquetoast, Obamaesque fauxgressive verbiage designed to stagnate a real revolutionary change movement. It is as interesting and as threatening to establishment power structures as saying the US should push regime change [in Syria rather than Iran](#).

Police abolishment advocates are pushing for something which would require the complete reconfiguration of power in society to accomplish, where the prison industrial complex and the war on drugs are ended and what we think of as policing can for example be mostly replaced by something more akin to social work. Police "reform" proponents are advancing a decoy agenda which people [have been distracted by for generations](#) while the police force has become increasingly militarized behind a veil of meaningless verbiage about community outreach and training programs.

It's not just that Biden doesn't want to defund the police, per his spox, its that he believes cops just don't have enough resources for reform. Would be laughable if it wasn't so dire. <https://t.co/3lbnj00BML> pic.twitter.com/yCKf2iwQP9

– austin walker (@austin_walker) [June 8, 2020](#)

This is where the real revolutionary energy is at in America right now, so it's no wonder establishment manipulators are doing everything they can to co-opt it into something innocuous which won't disturb actual power structures in the slightest. Obama made a whole political career out of telling leftwardly inclined Americans that they're getting what they want without actually giving it to them, and now we've got

Democratic Party princeling Andrew Cuomo telling New York protesters “You don’t need to protest. You won. You won. You accomplished your goal. Society says, you’re right. The police need systemic reform.”

It’s textbook liberal manipulation used to steer the revolutionary zeitgeist into an impotent conceptual tar pit for another few years while the prison bars are reinforced.

As I explained a while back in my article [“How To Tell Real News From Useless Narrative Fluff”](#), you can tell what’s really going on by watching where the money is going, where the weapons are going, where the resources are going and where the people are going. You can see in these demands for dismantling the police state a bunch of people moving around demanding to drastically change all four of these things, and you can see from the liberal narrative managers an agenda to prevent any of those four things from actually changing. And if they win out, you will be able to watch the people, police, weapons and resources continue moving in more or less the exact same way they’ve been moving.

They’re trying to replace a real revolutionary impulse with useless narrative fluff. They have learned that it is much easier to neuter such impulses with empty agreement and a bunch of insubstantial words than to tell them no and stomp them down. Hopefully, the people have learned this too.

[post-views]

• FINIS •



Thanks for reading! The best way to get around the internet censors and make sure you see the stuff I publish is to subscribe to the mailing list for my [website](#), which will get you an email notification for everything I publish. My work is [entirely reader-supported](#), so if you enjoyed this piece please consider sharing it around, liking me on [Facebook](#), following my antics on [Twitter](#), checking out my podcast on either [Youtube](#), [soundcloud](#), [Apple podcasts](#) or [Spotify](#), following me on [Steemit](#), throwing some money into my hat on [Patreon](#) or [Paypal](#), purchasing some of my [sweet merchandise](#), buying my new book [Rogue Nation: Psychonautical Adventures With Caitlin Johnstone](#), or my previous book [Woke: A Field Guide for Utopia Preppers](#). For more info on who I am, where I stand, and what I'm trying to do with this platform, [click here](#). Everyone, racist platforms excluded, [has my permission](#) to republish or use any part of this work (or anything else I've written) in any way they like free of charge.



Bitcoin donations:1Ac7PCQXoQoLA9Sh8fhAgiU3PHA2EX5Zm2

This is a dispatch from our ongoing series by Caitlin Johnstone



ABOUT THE AUTHOR Caitlin Johnstone is a brave journalist, political junkie, relentless feminist, champion of the 99 percent. And a powerful counter-propaganda tactician.

NOTE

^1000Careerist lackeys serving the elites control the American press.

Ever pushing for war and inequality, covering up the oligarchy's crimes...

They are in reality shameless disinformers.

No wonder the world is in such terrible disarray.



[This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License.](#)

[post-views]

NOTE: ALL CAPTIONS AND PULL QUOTES BY THE EDITORS, NOT THE AUTHORS.



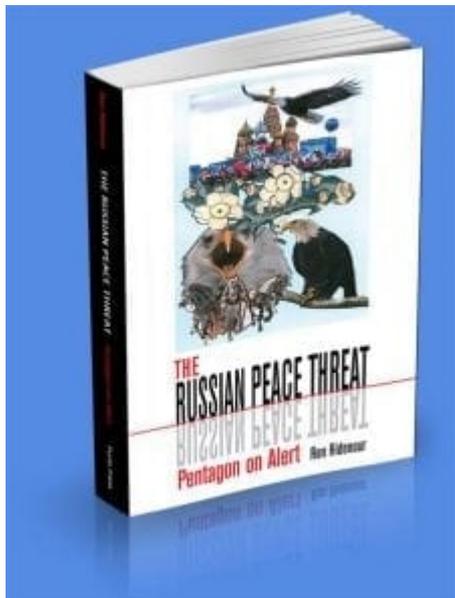
Radical journalists and alternative sites like this give you the information you need to defend yourself.
Support them! Please donate today!

CLICK HERE



Be sure to get the most unique history of the Russo-American conflict now spanning almost a century!

The book that every American should read. [su_panel background="#e8fbfb" border="1px solid #170101" shadow="8px 1px 2px #eeeeee" radius="24"]



Nuclear Armageddon or peace? That is *the* question.

And here's the book that answers it.

How did we come to be in this horrid pickle? Join the discussion! Read Ron Ridenour's provocative bestseller **The Russian Peace Threat**, the most scathing and irrefutable exposé of US foreign

policy and its malignant obsession with the elimination of Russia as a countervailing force in world affairs. Buy it today direct from us. You don't have to patronize **Amazon**. Just click on the bar below.

[Get the definitive history of the Russo-American conflict today!](#)

[/su_panel]
