

GapBuster feels it is important for students to be aware of ongoing issues within the country. This week students were engaged in discussions on real world topics such as the police killings of unarmed black men throughout the country, and the shootings of the police officers in Dallas.

The students had the opportunity to watch and examine videos of the current situations and come up with possible solutions. They viewed that not only innocent civilian being killed, but also the police officers themselves.

The question that was asked was: What have you done or what are you doing to be a part of the solution that bridges the gap between police and the communities that they serve?

We are excited that some of the officers from the College Park Police Department were able to come and join the discussion. The students were able to engage with the police officers and see first hand how they are regular people just like them and their duty is to serve and protect them. The students engaged in discussions with each other and came up with the following solutions:

- Being positive towards the police.
- Having community meetings with a police officer.
- Police officers should be held at the same standards as the public they serve.
- The NAACP and other organizations can help black people and police get together.
- A police officer should know the community they're serving so they could have a better understanding of themselves.
- Police officers should treat ALL the races the same or equally.
- If we change our actions and words, we can change the way people see us.
- Do not disobey the police officers. Do what they ask you to do.
- Put your hands where the police can see them.
- Show ID and do not refuse anything they want to do.
- Stay out of legal trouble as best as possible.
- Cooperate with the police officers.
- Be more respectful towards the police.
- Don't act unusual if the police approach you.

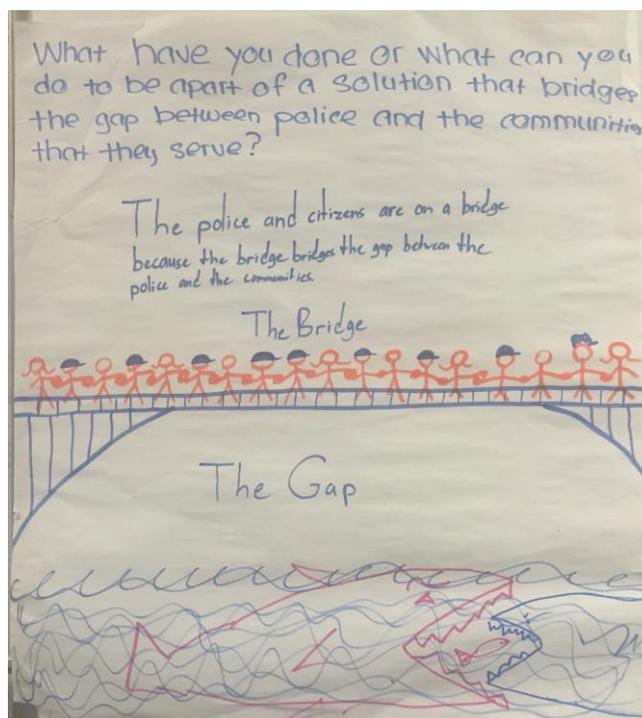


Figure 1: Student drawing

***Thoughts and comments from our youth
- no editing or altering their words -***