

Equal Justice Initiative (EJI)

By: Oliver Drenth

Imagine being beaten to death just because you had dark skin color. Imagine being shot, burned alive, drowned or hung by a white mob. More than 4,400 African Americans were killed in this way between 1877 and 1950. It's part of America's dreadful history, and until now, there has been no remembrance of these terror lynchings. EJI (Equal Justice Initiative), a non-profit organization with multiple sites in Montgomery, Alabama, has created a museum and memorial to recognize this terrible past. Here are four reasons why I strongly believe that you should donate to EJI:

The first reason why I believe you should donate to EJI is because they educate people. Not many people know about this terrible past, and only by donations is EJI educating people to learn about it through their museum and memorial. The Legacy Museum, located where a warehouse that slaves used to work in used to be, has many different exhibits that are interactive, visual, and some that consist of mostly sound. All these exhibits help people learn.

The second reason why I believe that you should donate to EJI is because some of the money might go to the community remembrance project. This project consists of a few things. One of these things is that they make signs about lynchings in different counties. These signs may consist of the stories of many different lynchings, or just one. Another part of the community remembrance project is that EJI reaches out to families who have a relative or relatives that have been lynched. They then travel to

the lynching site and collect soil from it. They put the soil in a jar with the name of the lynched person on it and put it in the Legacy Museum. By donating, you can contribute to this project!

The third reason why I believe you should donate to EJI is because, in the long run, they are contributing to ending racism. In August 1619, the first slave ship came to America in Jamestown, Virginia. 403 years later, we still feel the effects. And one of the best ways to stop racism is to learn about it. And that, as you now know, is what EJI does!

The fourth and final reason why I believe you should donate to EJI is because they don't just try to stop racism. Founded in 1989 by Bryan Stevenson, EJI is dedicated to helping the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. They give help to people who have received unfair punishment even though they are innocent. EJI is more than ending racism!

There is a lot of wrong going on right now, and EJI is working to stop some of that. I have given you four reasons why you should donate to EJI. In my opinion, EJI is a fantastic organization to donate to. Please donate to Equal Justice Initiative.