

Monday  
[Restorative Justice](#), [Empathy](#) & [Loving Engagement](#)

### **Before You Begin**

- Get familiar with the requests made by the Defund the Police activists.

- [What does Defund the Police Mean and Does it have Merit \(Brookings\)](#)
- [Defund the Police Made Headlines. What does it look like now? \(CBS News\)](#)

*"Defund the police" means reallocating or redirecting funding away from the police department to other government agencies funded by the local municipality. (Brookings)*

*"I think at the core of the defunding movement is the idea that we want to take money out of city and local budgets that has traditionally been devoted to paying for police services, and to redirect it [to] better housing for low-income people, better schools, better mental health treatments," Harvard Law professor John Goldberg told CBSN Originals. (CBS News)*

- Make sense of the Mapping Police Violence Website before you share with the Students. [Mapping Police Violence Website](#)

### **Content/Goal**

Students Will: Use current statistical data to determine whether black people are being treated fairly by American law enforcement.

Know that there are a variety of solutions and actions people can take to solve this problem.

### **Standards**

**JU.6-8.11.** I relate to people as individuals and not representatives of groups, and I can name some common stereotypes I observe people using.

**JU.6-8.12.** I can recognize and describe unfairness and injustice in many forms including attitudes, speech, behaviors, practices and law.

**Action 20 AC.6-8.20** I will work with friends, family and community members to make our world fairer for everyone, and we will plan and coordinate our actions in order to achieve our goals.

## Materials

### [Mapping Police Violence Website](#)

Newsela Link: [HERE](#) If the link does not work, please log in to Newsela (Accessed in Clever) and search for the article name. You can assign it to your class and adjust reading levels as you wish.

The PDF for the article can be found [here](#) if necessary. This copy is not as clean as using the e-platform but is being provided as a back up.

## Vocabulary

Defund the Police- spending less on policing, and more on things such as housing and education.

## Learning Plan

Before you begin, please tell the kids that this lesson is about police violence against Black people. Tell the kids that this police violence against Black people is not okay and there are many multiracial groups that are demanding for the police departments to be defunded.

The demonstrators would like less money to be spent on policing and more money to be spent on community resources.

Remind the students that they are in a safe space and tell them to let you know if they need your support.

Please center the thoughts and feelings of the students.

**Give the kids a few seconds to process what you said before you begin.**

Now, tell the students that they will visit an interactive website about policing. While they study the site, the kids should determine whether Black people are treated fairly by American law enforcement.

After five minutes guide a discussion with the students. Please post the questions so the students can see them as they navigate the website.

### **Discussion Questions**

What do the statistics tell us about police violence ?

Why did the author choose to show the information this way?

What questions do you have about the data?

How is policing of Black people in America connected to the Defund the Police Movement?

What can we do about the data?

Next, validate the thoughts of the children and prepare the students to read When Protesters say, “ Defund the Police,” What does it mean?

**Before they read the article, share the following facts from the data.** Teacher: Sadly, we know that Black people are three times more likely to be killed by police than white people.

- 8 of the 100 largest city police departments kill black men at higher rates than the US murder rate.
- 99% of killings by police from 2013-2019 have not resulted in officers being charged with a crime.
- Black people are 1.3 times more likely to be unarmed when killed by police officers compared to White people.

Next, please ask the kids to read When Protesters say, “ Defund the Police,” What does it mean?

After, they read the article, ask the kids to write their thoughts about defunding the police. This is a journal entry that does not need to be shared with the class.

After, the kids finish journaling close the lesson by saying, There is no excuse for police violence. There are ways to hold police officers and police departments accountable. If you witness police violence, work with your guardians and community members and work to make Evanston a fairer place for Black people.

**Exit Slip/Project/Performance- Journal Entry - What do you think about defunding the police? Why do you feel that way?**