



DO THE RIGHT THING

TYRE NICHOLS





INTRODUCTION

Trigger Warning: If you need space or time away from the conversation of police brutality, please communicate with your teacher and take care of yourself.



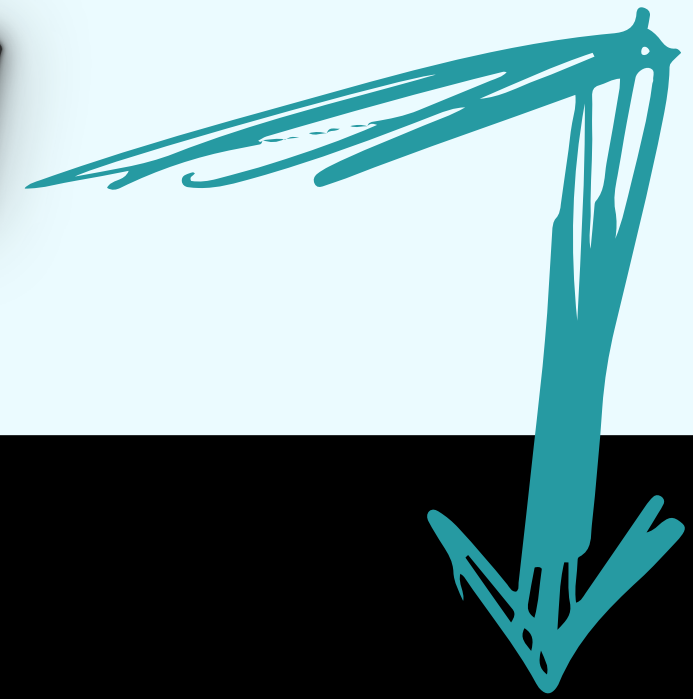
INTRODUCTION

- After the killing of George Floyd in 2020 and the global protests that followed, police killings of American citizens didn't decrease; they actually increased.
- Time after time, people of color and those without privilege are trying to balance the grief and trauma attached to senseless killings at the hands of police officers with the desire to be safe, uphold the law and to just be human.
- Tyre Nichols was a young boy murdered by police forces. We will be honoring his life through conversation and reflection today.

**Note: The fact that the 5 charged ex-officers shared the same ethnicity as Tyre is a deeper conversation about the impact of internalized oppression. This is a present issue, but not one that will be covered in this lesson.*



SEL CONNECTION



- **Social Awareness** by considering the events of Tyre Nichol's death and its relationship to various social injustices
- **Self Awareness** by tuning into your own thoughts, feelings and emotions regarding the death of Tyre Nichols.





ICEBREAKER

WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?





WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

Begin with a three-minute grounding meditation.



ICEBREAKER

TIMELINE

January 10

Tyre Nichols' death

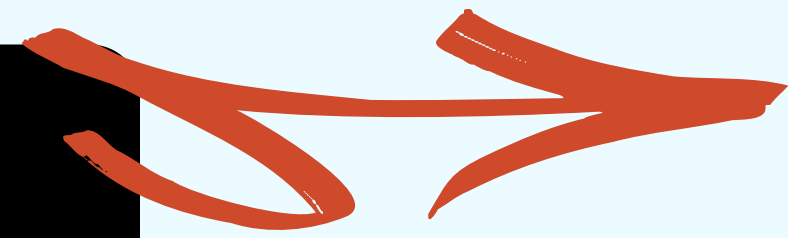
Nichols died three days after being detained by Memphis police.

WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

January 18

Federal investigations begin

Kevin G. Ritz, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, announced that the FBI and DOJ are investigating the incident.



ICEBREAKER

TIMELINE

January 20

Firing of Memphis police officers

The Memphis Police Department announced that it fired five police officers following an investigation into Nichols' death.

WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

January 23

Family describes body camera footage

The video footage of Nichols' interaction with five Memphis police officers was viewed by Nichols' family and attorneys. They described the video as "appalling," "deplorable," "heinous," "violent" and "troublesome on every level," according to Ben Crump, attorney for the Nichols family.



January 27

Body camera footage released, Shelby County deputies relieved from duty

Memphis officials released the footage of Nichols' confrontation with police. Four videos were shared to Vimeo by the city of Memphis including footage from three body worn cameras as well as a pole camera, amounting to about 67 minutes total.

January 26

Independent autopsy released, officers charged

A grand jury indicted five officers involved in the Nichols incident. They are in custody and have been charged with "second-degree murder, aggravated assault, aggravated kidnapping resulting in bodily injury, aggravated kidnapping involving the possession of a weapon, official misconduct through unauthorized exercise of power."

January 30

Officials announce 2 more officers relieved of duty, 3 Memphis FD members fired

Memphis police officer Preston Hemphill, an officer involved in the Tyre Nichols traffic stop, and one unidentified officer were relieved of duty during an ongoing investigation, according to Memphis police. Hemphill, who is white, and the other officer haven't been fired or charged, and were relieved of their duties on Jan. 8, according to the Memphis PD.





WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

- In your own words, what happened the night of Tyre Nichols' death?
- What questions do you still have about what happened?
- How is this tragedy similar or different from other forms of police brutality?
- How are all of the police officers involved in, or responsible, for what happened to Tyre Nichols?
- What are the facts of the night?



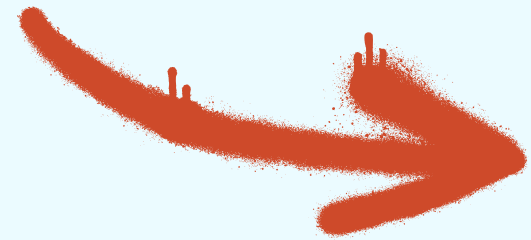
ICEBREAKER



WATCH A VIDEO

WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

Watch the video to learn more about Tyre Nichols.





WHO IS TYRE NICHOLS?

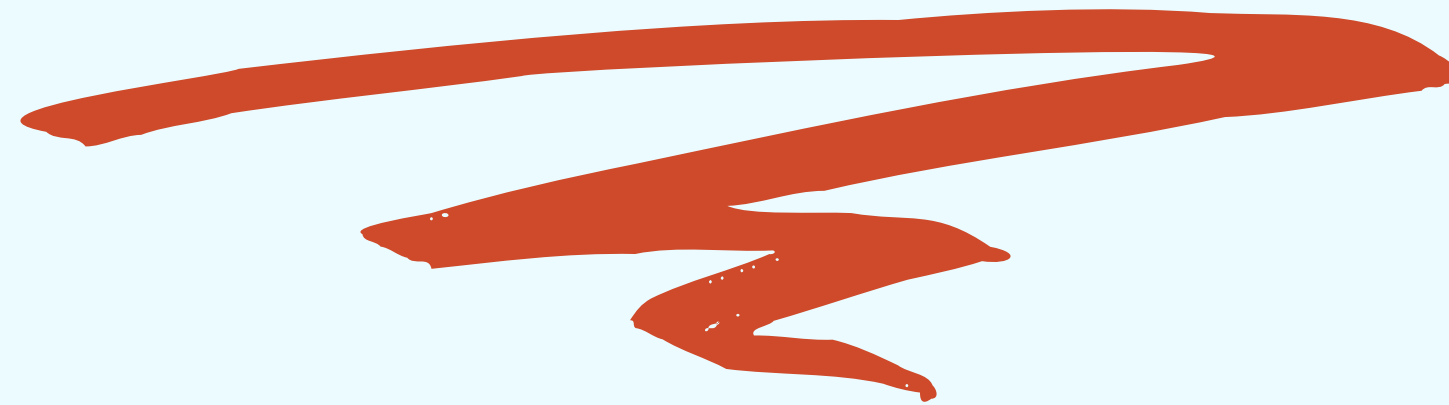
- Why is it important to see the full or whole human when discussing tragedies?
- How do you think Tyre's family and friends are feeling? Why is this important to consider?
- What else do you wonder about the life of Tyre Nichols?





LESSON PART ONE

QUOTE GALLERY WALK



QUOTE GALLERY WALK

1) Get a post-it, or piece of paper to write on, and grab a pencil or pen.

2) Walk around the room and read each quote. You will have 8 minutes.

3) Write a reaction, connection or response to each quote and stick them on the quote.

You can use the sentence stems to guide your response.

SENTENCE STEMS

- I feel _____ because _____.
- I wonder _____ because _____.
- This makes me think of _____ because _____.
- This connects to Tyre's death because _____.
- I think _____ because _____.
- A connection I can make is _____ because _____.
- I agree with _____ because _____.
- I disagree with _____ because _____.





QUOTE GALLERY WALK

- What did you think of the quotes?
- Which quotes stood out to you and why?
- What connections did you make between the quotes and the murder of Tyre Nichols?





QUOTE GALLERY WALK

- What is a common theme among all of the quotes?
- What have you realized about social justice?
- What are your thoughts on police brutality and why?
- What solutions do you propose to ensure police do not harm citizens?
- What emotions are you still feeling?
- How can you and your peers use your voice to speak up and out against police abusing their power?

