Hello, I am Valery Hernandez, a resident of Victorville, CA. I am truly concerned about the racist city we live in. Police brutality and racism is alive and well not only here but throughout the entire world - which is absolutely unacceptable. We MUST start having conversations about defunding the police not INCREASING their pay like the city has in the past year. How is it that the police force gets funded more than teachers and the education system? Why do teachers have to buy supplies for their students from their own pockets? Additionally, if more funding was put into the school system then maybe they’d also be able to teach history about racism and slavery a lot more accurately.

I would like to leave you all with a quote from the famous artist Banksy who spoke out about what is happening in the world. “People of colour are being failed by the system. The white system. Like a broken pipe flooding the apartment of the people living downstairs. The faulty system is making their life a misery, but it’s not their job to fix it. They can’t - no one will let them in the apartment upstairs. This is a white problem. And if white people don’t fix it, someone will have to come upstairs and kick the door in.” Thank you.