

Name: Ife Thompson

Org: BILAM UK (Black Learning Achievement and Mental Health UK and UN Fellow)

Themes I will be discussing.

Date: 1st December Item 6: Thematic Discussion:

Session 2: a.) Systemic racism and police Violence a look at the who, what, when, where, why of the law enforcement violence that contributed to global protest in 2020, areas of symbolic or substantive change, or commitments to maintain a status quo that has been threatening for people of African descent

b.) Systemic Racism: Status Quo, Symbolic Commitments, Substantive Change a look at the who, what, when, where, why of the systemic racism that contributed to global protest in 2020, the areas of symbolic or substantive change, the ways in which institutions seek to restore a status quo rather than embrace racial justice or confront their own complicity with racial inequity and inequality.

Human Rights Concerns

international Human Rights Law (UDHR)

International human rights treaty obligations- ICERED, CRC, ICESCR

UK Issues

School Exclusions in the UK disproportionately affecting people of African Descent

UDHR Article 7. Right to not be discriminated against

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

- School exclusions continue to disproportionately affect Black children, since covid we have seen a rise in caseload of unlawful exclusions. Children being excluded for not wearing Masks. The UK government has not made mask wearing mandatory in schools.

Pru to Prison Pipeline that is affect Black Boys Disproportionately:

PRU-to-prison pipeline (PPP) is a UK-specific adaptation of the Schools to Prison Pipeline (SPP), a concept widely used by community activists in the US before being taken up by the US academy in the early 2000s. The original purpose behind the concept's use was twofold: to provide a concise description of the nexus between schools and prison, and provide an easy accessible narrative that explained the disproportionate punishment meted out to black and brown youth (compared to white youth) through detentions, suspensions and exclusions. It also drew attention to the deployment of practices in schools, such as the 'zero tolerance' policies, that treated the behaviours of young people as if they were criminal and required some 'rule of law'. - Jessica Perera IRR Report on Exclusions of the Black working class.

Statistics further show 63% of people in prison were temporarily excluded and 42% were permanently excluded.

JFK Law and 1 in 4 Child in Poverty Found: Children who have experienced exploitation will be more vulnerable to exclusion and may be disproportionately impacted by exclusion. Black children are not seen as vulnerable like their white counterparts and are all too often adultified, this is seen with zero tolerance approach from schools that affect our communities.

Standing Committee for Youth Justice (SCYJ) Report 2020 Found Across different age groups, BAME children are more likely to be placed in less welfare-based and more penal institutions than their white counterparts.

BAME Children discrimination throughout their time in custody. Black children in particular are often labelled and stereotyped as being gang-affiliated or more violent than white children

The use of force is more common on Black children than any other ethnicity in custody.'

UDHR Article 26. (1) Everyone has the right to education.

[The Office of the Children's Commissioner](#) has warned that schools are failing their Black pupils

In Damien M. Sojoyner's work on educational enclosure in black Los Angeles, he found that zero-tolerance policies were used in schools to address the 'problem of gangs' and the threat of the black criminal. He argues that 'early intervention' and 'prevention' programmes, though seemingly benign, actually do the work of profiling and monitoring black youth in schools. BLAM UK has found through our caseload a culture of believing a racist Policing system over young people. One young person was excluded for being charged by police for owning a knife even though the courts had not found him guilty the fact he was charged meant he automatically excluded.

UDHR Article 19- Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

The Equalities Minister's recent attack of CRT race theory and announcement that is teaching CRT as a contested fact is in fact a breach of UK's international legal obligations under ICERD. It is also Breach of Freedom of opinion and expression, she intercepted the law wrongly and faced little backlash from the government.

According to Justice, a law reform group there are "serious weaknesses" in a system that excludes, sometimes unlawfully, a disproportionate numbers of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (Send) and those from a minority background. Justice also state concerns that too many schools do not fully understand their legal duties and that the appeal process available to parents wishing to challenge an exclusion is inadequate.

ECHR has been found to be inadequate and incompetent in dealing with the human rights of Black People in the UK- Joint Committee found

- a recent report by the Parliamentary joint Human Rights Committee found the Equality and Human Rights Commission has failed to provide adequate leadership or be effective or gain the trust of British Black communities in both tackling racial inequality and protecting black people's human rights.

This Committee has long been concerned that the EHRC's powers in relation to human rights are not fit for purpose. This undermines its ability to protect Black people's rights more effectively

They have many independent government reports- Timpson Review, Lammy Review and the government have failed to act on any of them.

infringement of economic, social or cultural rights

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

Racism in the NHS leading to black people being over medicated and denied talking therapy support (We know that people of black African and Caribbean heritage are more likely than white British people to come into contact with mental health services through the criminal justice system, rather than via their GP or referral to talking therapies. Adults of black African and Caribbean heritage are more likely than any other ethnic group to be detained under the Mental Health Act) and (MHA detentions consistently shows higher levels of detention in black African and Caribbean people. The explanations given for these detentions are often based on stereotyped assumptions and not backed up by evidence, and may be driven by structures which are inherently biased against black African and Caribbean people)