

The social disparities in Brazil, when it comes to race, can be as large as its own geographic size. It is notorious that the institutional racism and meritocracy, most of times, silence the racial situation, excluding black people from basic opportunities to thrive and develop their professional and social skills.

For instance, in areas where there is more poverty and a lack of public resources, black people are the majority; on the other hand, white people occupy the high-class places and postcards. The right to good health care, the access to good schools and to public security without suppression of human rights is a privilege to the white-rich neighborhoods where the black and indigenous people are the minority.

One of the biggest problems of the racial debate in Brazil is that the decision makers of public policies are always addressing racial issues as only a social-economic problem; disregarding the simple fact that the Brazilian society is still struggling to overcome the slavery time, and its remaining sores. Historically, white people have always been in charge of the political scenario, of the media and in positions of leadership in the public and private sectors.

Right to decent work and justice are historical issues of my community. Afro-Brazilians are still struggling to have basic human rights and to be acceptable as ordinary citizens on a daily basis. The reason why the Afro-Brazilians don't have jobs or justice is due to a stereotype built by a racist historical model that considers people of color inferior.

The Brazilian black movement have been succeeding in their efforts to fight against racism and the lack of representativeness. Against the odds, we are bursting through the barricades through culture and black pride, connecting with other black people around the world, sharing our ordinary injustices, as well as spreading the truth that our lives do matter and we are way much stronger when united.

Sincerely,  
Emerson Caetano.