



What You Need to Know About Demonstrations

Past

- Acknowledging the past pain
- Acknowledging social rage
 - Acknowledging the reality of racism
 - Poverty
 - Inequality
 - Unemployment
- Happening during the pandemic

History

- 1865: Founding of the KKK
- 1919: 27 separate race riots
- 1955: Rosa Parks
- 1965: Watts (suburb of Los Angeles)
 - 34 deaths in 6 days
- 1991: Rodney King
 - 45 deaths
 - 1 billion dollars in damage
- Today: Organizations like KKK and Neo-Nazis still exist



Psychology of Riots

- Hurts the reputation of a community
- Ineffective way to get a voice heard
- Contagious mob mentality
- Can take a life of its own
- High costs of property and lives

Protesting vs. Rioting vs. Looting

Protesting

- Safely speaking out
- Empathizing
- Keeping people safe
- Working with police
- Can be an effective change-agent

Rioting

- Purpose-driven but not productive
- Destroys property
- Potential injury
- Against all society and neighbors

Looting

- Purely driven by selfish purposes
- Destroys property
- Potential injury
- Increases risk of racism
- Against all society and neighbors
- Foments hatred rather than change

Peaceful Demonstrators

- Dr. Martin Luther King
- Rosa Parks
- Gandhi
- Harvey Milk
- Princess Diana

How to Talk to Your Children

- Talk about the issues
- Talk about the difference between protesting and rioting
- Talk to them about walking away
- Talk to them about listening to the non-violent voices
- Talk to them about our responsibility to make America better

Lessons Learned

- Birmingham Crusade of 1963
 - Shows what teenage children can accomplish
- TV shows
 - Interracial relationships
 - Gay marriages
- Athletes
 - Jackie Robinson
 - Hank Aaron
- Politicians

Quotes

“The limitation of riots, moral questions aside, is that they cannot win and their participants know it.” Rioting invites defeat, he said, and while it offers an emotional catharsis, that catharsis “must be followed by a sense of futility.”

-- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Hate: It has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet.

-- Maya Angelou

Thank You

Please contact your Employee Assistance Program with any questions