

Blacks in U.S. Suffer Oppression and Institutional Racism



Detroit, October 11 (RHC)-- The fatal shooting of an unarmed Black teen by a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, as well as the "criminalization" of African-Americans in that area, illustrates a national pattern of "oppression" and "institutional racism" against Black communities, a political commentator in Detroit says.

The video surveillance and eyewitness accounts of the shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson shows that the officer should be indicted, said Abayomi Azikiwe, the editor of the Pan-African News Wire.

"One element in this crisis is the criminalization of the people in Ferguson," Azikiwe said, explaining that more than half of the Black population in Ferguson has an outstanding arrest warrant. "This is a clear illustration of the national oppression, the national discrimination and institutional racism exercised by St. Louis County, by the state of Missouri."

During a recent meeting of the St. Louis County Council in Clayton, Missouri, a group of protesters demanded the immediate arrest of Darren Wilson, the white police officer who killed Michael Brown in a Ferguson street in August.

During the meeting, several activists likened Wilson and other law enforcement officials to "war criminals." "You are ISIS to Black people," one activist told council members, referring to the Takfiri terrorist organization also known as ISIL that has been wreaking havoc in Syria and Iraq after taking control of several regions in the two neighboring countries.

According to several witnesses, Brown held up his arms in surrender before he was repeatedly shot on August 9th. His death triggered weeks of protests and clashes between police and demonstrators in Ferguson.

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