

# Justice – versus – Injustice

## Justice is the Cornerstone of Civilization. Without it Civilization shall Die

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On the evening of February 26, 2012, Trayvon Martin, a 17 year old child, returning to his father's home - located in the Twin Lakes Housing Community, Sanford, Florida,- from a nearby convenience store, was visually accosted by and subsequently fatally shot by George Zimmerman. In his report to the Sanford Police – non-emergency number - Zimmerman stated that he observed an unknown male “just walking around looking about”. Zimmerman further stated. “This guy looks like he is up to no good or he is on drugs or something.” On the recording to the police, Zimmerman is heard saying “these assholes, they always get away.” The dispatcher asked Zimmerman if he was following Trayvon. Zimmerman answered yes at which time the dispatcher told him, “We don't need you to do that.” Zimmerman responded, “Okay.” Nevertheless, upon ending his call with the police, a violent encounter took place between Zimmerman and Martin which ended when Zimmerman fatally shot Martin – 70 yards from the rear door of Martin's father's townhouse where Martin was staying with his Father.

Zimmerman was found not guilty of second-degree murder in the fatal shooting of 17 year-old Trayvon Martin.

In an interview with ABC's Robin Roberts, Maddy, a 36-year old woman of Puerto Rican descent and Juror B29 on the Zimmerman's case, said:

“It's hard for me to sleep, it's hard for me to eat because I feel I was forcefully included in Trayvon Martin's death.”

The only minority on the all-female jury in the Trayvon Martin case says George Zimmerman “got away with murder” when he fatally shot the black 17 year old – the announcement ‘devastated’ Martin's mother.” “For myself, he's guilty because the evidence shows he's guilty,” the juror said.

Did the jury verdict in the Trayvon Martin murder trial constitute justice or injustice? That question will be with us for some time. Does the denial of the basic human rights of any person – whether that person is of African, Asian; and/or European Cultures – constitute justice or injustice? These are not academic questions. In order for the basic human rights of mankind to be maintained; and for civilization to survive, each person must not only demand HIS/HER RIGHTS – AS WELL AS THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS – BUT EACH PERSON MUST BE ABLE AND WILLING TO STAND UP AND FIGHT

FOR THOSE RIGHTS. VIGILANT IS THE PRICE OF FREEDOM.

As you study the Trayvon Martin murder trial one picture stands out very clearly, namely:

“WHAT CONSTITUTES LEGAL SELF-DEFENSE?

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Once that question is answered, the next question is was the instructions from the Judge

clear and complete? How is Florida’s Law of “Self-Defense” interpreted and understood? The facts as shown were:

1/ Zimmerman pursued Trayvon.

2/ Zimmerman was the “initial aggressor.”

2/ Trayvon responded in “self-defense” to Zimmerman’s aggression.

3/ Trayvon subdued his aggressor, Zimmerman.

4/ Zimmerman retaliated by the use of deadly force.

DOES ZIMMERMAN’S ACTIONS –USE OF DEADLY FORCE IN A SITUATION THAT HE CREATED CONSTITUTE “SELF DEFENSE?”

THE NEXT QUESTION, NAMELY, WHY WAS ZIMMERMAN CARRYING A GUN? IF HE WERE “LICENSED TO CARRY A CONCEALED WEAPON” DID HE FOLLOW THE REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CARRYING OF A CONCEALED WEAPON?

Does there appear to be something wrong with this picture? Are we telling our children,

especially those who are considered “little bullies” that they are at liberty to taunt, harass, yes, and even assault our other children? And if our children defend themselves they will be suspended from school – if not worse by the System?

THIS PICTURE DOES NOT LOOK GOOD FOR FUTURE EDIFICATION OF OUR CHILDREN

As can be seen, the violation of the rights of one of us opens the door for the violations of the rights of all of us.

TOGETHER WE STAND – DIVIDED WE FALL.

As so eloquently stated in the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America (Adopted by Congress on July 4, 1776) each person is ENTITLED TO: LIFE, LIBERTY; AND, THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

These are not cliques, these are BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated:

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE.

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When just one of us is denied OUR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, WE ALL SUFFER FOR IF THESE RIGHTS CAN AND ARE TAKEN FROM ONE OF US THE OPPRESSOR /THE VIOLATOR WILL SEEK TO TAKE IT FROM THE REST OF US.

AGAIN REMEMBER:

“VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF FREEDOM”