Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first and ask questions later (/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psychologist-openly-admits-he-trains-police-officers-to-shoot-first-and-ask-questions-later)

By Shaun King (/user/Shawn%20King)
2015/08/03
10:20

For years, to any observer of police brutality, the idea that officers were shooting people first and asking questions later was a foregone conclusion. Such a practice, while blatantly obvious, seemed too unethical, too harsh for police to ever admit. Well, here it is (http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/02/us/training-officers-to-shoot-first-and-he-will-answer-questions-later.html). All of the proof we ever needed. Not only are American police, from coast to coast, shooting first and asking questions later, they are being trained to do so in seminars by a psychologist who openly promises them that he’ll testify on their behalf if anything ever goes wrong. He’s already done it nearly 200 times.

Meet Dr. William J. Lewinski.

No matter what the circumstances are in a police shooting, he’s the guy departments lean on to say it was completely justified and unavoidable.
His conclusions are consistent: The officer acted appropriately, even when shooting an unarmed person. Even when shooting someone in the back. Even when witness testimony, forensic evidence or video footage contradicts the officer's story.

He has appeared as an expert witness in criminal trials, civil cases and disciplinary hearings, and before grand juries, where such testimony is given in secret and goes unchallenged. In addition, his company, the Force Science Institute, has trained tens of thousands of police officers about police shootings that might appear excessive.

It's actually big business. A quick scan of Dr. Lewinski's website (http://www.forcescience.org) has him teaching large workshops in Chicago, San Antonio, Orlando, and in other big cities across the country. Can't make it to his conferences, don't worry, he'll come to your department, and offer your officers a certificate on how they are basically allowed to shoot first and ask questions later. He charges $1,000 an hour for his testimony and is, unsurprisingly, willing to testify for hours on end.

Hell, his whole company is named Force Science Institute—as in the use of force by police. This business is so lucrative that it's all he does. Experts are denouncing his work as phony and dangerous, but police departments could care less.

An editor for The American Journal of Psychology called his work "pseudoscience." The Justice Department denounced his findings as "lacking in both foundation and reliability." Civil rights lawyers say he is selling dangerous ideas.

"People die because of this stuff," said John Burton, a California lawyer who specializes in police misconduct cases. "When they give these cops a pass, it just ripples through the system."

This is why we say "Black Lives Matter." Dr. Lewinski is basically training police to shoot before making a full assessment of the true threat. Because of this philosophy, it leans on the implicit bias within each and every officer. It's why officers in New York fired 41 shots at Amadou Diallo (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amadou.Diallo_shooting) when he was pulling out his wallet. It's why Officer Dante Servin blew Rekia Boyd's head off (http://www.dailykos.com/story/2015/04/21/1379169/-Terrible-verdict-in-Chicago-proves-that-white-imagination-of-a-black-threat-easily-sets-cops-free) when he saw her boyfriend pull out a cell phone.

It's why police officers killed 123 people in July (http://killedbypolice.net), a high for 2015.

It's despicable and the more it happens, the richer Dr. Lewinski gets. I had always suspected some type of profit motive was behind the wholesale killing of Americans by police. Now we don't need to speculate. After all, it's the job for the Force Science Institute to keep this practice growing.
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first...  

**Shaun King**  
Aug 03 · 10:20:07 AM  
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Tip Jar
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Recommended 431 times

**scorinaldi**  
Aug 03 · 10:30:30 AM  
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What to do about this? Thanks for the diary Shaun! I saw the article about this terrible human being as well.

Do you (or anyone else) have concrete suggestions for ways we can stop the rampant police killing of our citizens?
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Recommended 67 times

**xxdr zombiexx**  
Aug 03 · 10:37:35 AM  
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OCCUPY city/town hall meetings demand changes loudly.

Cities are the ones who actually tolerate this and let it go.

Cities are the ones who pay the fines and lawsuits: Cops don't pay a penny, are NEVER impacted by the consequences of their actions UNLESS there is video or, now, protests.

Cops HATE cameras and they really hate protests.

Ergo: more cameras and more protests.

These fucking moneys have to cool their shit and return to doing their jobs as they are written on their job descriptions.

There will be ZERO substantive changes without a real fight.

We have asked politely too many times to keep being polite.

Fucking LEARN, people. There's a pattern here. Cities WANT cops killing and terrorizing people - this is why the cities don't lift a finger to do anything about it.

Bodycams won't help. They won't stop clinging to technology to solve a human conduct issue. The cops CHEAT and LIE with these things and they don't save your life. Tey might allow an officer to get into trouble AFTER they kill and fuck you. But they won't prevent PIGGERY.

ARREST these motherfuckers and fucking try them and fucking jail them for decades ny the thousands.

They'll change then.

Not until.
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Recommended 105 times

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3 of 36

9/6/17, 11:31 AM
Remember, politeness has failed completely.

Frederick Douglass knew this, many years ago: “Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.”

-Douglass, F.

Who beat the crap out of an overseer.

1. Demand a citizen review board over police department.
2. Get yourself a seat on that board.
3. Find out if your city’s PD has hired “Dr” Lewinski or any Force Science-like organization.

and if so, Ask that the Chief of Police describe the lessons he learned from Dr. Lewinski and how he intends to apply them in the local department and upon the citizens the encounter.
I was referring to Frederick Douglass.

Recommended 3 times

I never heard that! Awesome!

Recommended 0 times

Power must be seized. It is never just turned over to the requester. It is never just surrendered.

Recommended 19 times

Power is a double-edged sword. Those who have it won't sharpen the edge of those who don't.

Don't look to the cops for change - they are merely foot-soldiers.

xxdr z is right about this one

Recommended 14 times

We have to look to ourselves, take it up with our counties, cities, states, and the nation. But start locally, because that's where the deaths are happening. Mere attitude or even great passion is not enough. It's going to take local political action above all.

Recommended 4 times

We're beyond politeness. NT

Recommended 2 times

You'll need an antidote for the pepper spray. They won't take kindly to people calling them into question.

Recommended 17 times

You'll need an antidote for the pepper spray. They won't take kindly to people calling them into question.

Recommended 17 times

Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first... https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psychologist...
Our hair will get messed up when we really try to make essential changes. Essential changes are directly prohibited because somebody wants shit just like it is. We want to change this, so there will be a fight. A really protected ugly fight, like we see in other countries who aren't going to take any more shit.

Cops need to be challenged, and protesters need to have what they need when cops do what cops do. Seriously. I've heard of different antidotes for pepper spray used by protesters. Hell, wear swim goggles if need be. Cops don't play fair, so why should we?

Because the consequences for you are much larger than the consequences for the cops.

Yes. I did just go there. Somebody HAD to.

I'm not sure I understand... Now that we are talking about Americans getting murdered by police, we're advocating standing our ground by any means necessary? But when we talk about Black Americans getting murdered that kind of talk is just advocating violence and will not be tolerated here on DK? No snark, seriously curious.... And yes, I know Shaun King wrote this piece....It's the responses that are stunning...

Careful... some idiot on this site hr'd me for way less than that.
Don'ts #2, calls to violence.
http://www.dailykos.com/
Also, stupid. Resistive force simply justifies greater oppressive force, and makes it acceptable to the general public. That is the basis of the provocateur strategy.
That's before even examining any moral questions.

Wear goggles, kevlar and a kevlar helmet When police see kevlar or suspect it, they fire "kevlar high". Everybody else calls it shooting people in the head.

Gas masks, shields, body armor... I would contribute to a GoFundMe to collect the funds to buy this shit for people close to the action and on the ground, as well as bail money, legal assistance, first aid assistance. You know, all the things we did for occupy. I'm guessing pictures of protesters showing what it takes to get some redress for grievances looks like in modern America might have some impact.

REMEMBER: The cops bring the violence. We don't so we're all good.

Not suggesting violence. I didn't say billy clubs, batons, tasers, and guns. I said gas masks and body armor. Why send people in to be mowed down and dispersed like sheep.
They see masks and armor. They’ll shoot you in the head and claim that the feared that you were armed. So, if you’re going to go in that far, bring firearms and lots of ammunition. I’m prohibited from participating in militia types of activities, but I can train people. At times having a clearance is a pain in the ass.

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No violence. Are you seriously advocating shooting police? I’m not sure how else to take bring firearms and lots of ammunition.

Even beyond my non-violence stance on this, the police bring military vehicles and the National Guard against unarmed protestors. What would be brought in and used if protestors were to shoot at them? How much social and political support for such protestors would remain after such an event? Should this comment get an HR for advocating violence?

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I cannot believe what I’m reading.... When one week ago, I was threatened with an HR because of my flippin’ sig line..... Today, are some here seriously advocating Takin’ it to The Man? Seriously?

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Today there are many more officers shot and killed. It occurred to me that the people or minorities that are so often targeted by police with either undue brutality or death, have begun to see them as the enemy altogether. If you figure a wrong move, just being in public, or throwing a rock will get you killed by police, you might be tempted to preempt that behavior with some violence of your own. Yes, there are cops who deplore that behavior. If they come forward they are putting themselves, their families and their livelihoods on the line. Odds are good that it will do nothing more. Far too many do approve of it but those who could speak up...
are coerced into keeping quiet. The best way to prevent that is for authorities to listen and compromise with protesters. Until then we may well be headed for the point that Ward1 is describing. Nothing can be gained by it.

In 2013, the FBI found 27 officers died as a result of a felonious assault. This is the last year full stats are available. The FBI count is the gold standard of these stats.

I was admittedly basing my 'opinion' on an article about the rise in police deaths perpetrated by suspects or others. Should have not posted as I cannot remember where it was and needed a citation. If I find it, I'll post the link. DKOS is good to hold us to the standard of citing our sources. It should be exactly that way. My point, however, remains the same. It seems we are being forced toward one warring faction against another with neither of them being totally legitimate. Do we see a similarity here with second and third world countries? Very disturbing.

Often at DKos things get silly. All this appears to have stemmed from MY observation that cops bring the violence. All too often when one tries to encourage protest and occupation somebody IMMEDIATELY starts WHINING about 'violence'. We are allowed to protest and occupy - COPS are the ones bringing the violence and we cannot let that get in the way. We are being oppressed simply by fearing police violence if we do something LEGAL. Daily Kos is a very silly place only marginally based on a true story.

I think it should be HF'ed it seems a pretty clear implication to me. The commenter can always clarify their remarks if that's not what was meant.
Lily O Lady

Aug 03 · 12:02:59 PM (comments/1408341/57133800#comment_57133800)

No violence, ever! Just self-care. Even designate "field medics" if need be.

Words In Action

Aug 03 · 12:21:41 PM (comments/1408341/57134033#comment_57134033)

Ironically, the NRA would probably be the one thing standing in the way of them outlawing protective gear like gas masks...

Wzrd1

Aug 03 · 01:33:34 PM (comments/1408341/57134866#comment_57134866)

Gas masks are filter masks. Very, very like paint mask filters. Hazardous materials that some work with also use an identical activated carbon filter. So, ban a gas mask, ban paint respirators, firefighters masks, CDC "space suits", hazmat response suits, etc. BTW, the NRA does back public access to "gas masks" (the military call them chemical protective masks, or pro-masks). They also back civilian access to body armor.

mojo11

Aug 03 · 04:29:35 PM (comments/1408341/57136948#comment_57136948)

Except most paint filter masks exclude the eye and skin protection that a true protective mask has. CS stings like a bitch on your skin. As I'm sure you know.

malasangre

Aug 03 · 08:31:56 PM (comments/1408341/57139345#comment_57139345)

between goggles, a good respirator, hoodie, bandana, gloves, batting helmet, steel toed boots, shin guards you'll be fine. A small buckler is very helpful. The right size potato gun will fire tennis balls with a smoke mixture of sugar and saltpeter melted together. They can't hit you if they can't see you. For extra fun get them to charge you and roll out some boxes of marbles or ball bearings. They don't see peaceful protest any less than rebellion. Non-violence doesn't work with fascists.

mojo11

Aug 03 · 09:01:17 PM (comments/1408341/57139574#comment_57139574)

Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first...
Might wanna be careful with that potato gun

A friend of mine built one out of a length of PVC pipe with a Y-connector at one end. The end was sealed off, and the "Y" had a screw in cap. He drilled a hole in the side and screwed in the igniter from a gas grill. After muzzle loading a potato, he'd take off the screw cap, spray a 4-second blast of Aflatoxin hairs spray into the chamber, seal it back up and hit the igniter button. It would launch a potato a good quarter mile, made a helluva boom but it wasn't accurate worth a shit. He only fired "live" spuds when he could launch over Falls Lake. But it was an impressive piece of work and probably cost under $20 to build. Still, I wouldn't recommend using it in a crowd. And the problem is always going to be causing a panic among your own people with stuff like this. Not to mention, the other side is going to be armed to the teeth with the real deal. Superior numbers or not, that's going to be a one-sided battle.

Still, I wouldn't recommend using it in a crowd. And the problem is always going to be causing a panic among your own people with stuff like this. Not to mention, the other side is going to be armed to the teeth with the real deal. Superior numbers or not, that's going to be a one-sided battle.

The bigger the block the better. Oh take your mouth guard...
I don't think you understand. Cops would take any kind of defensive wear as proof that you are planning to do something that would result in your being attacked by police. Case in point, a few years ago, during the G-20 in Toronto, a fellow decided that he would wrap his arms and legs in cardboard, in case he got wailed on by the local storm troopers. Sure enough, they arrested him for taking those measures. They would see wearing goggles or body armor the same way. It is perverse.

I wonder if all the cities that have had to spend millions because of this ridiculous advice could bring a class action against him, since it is his training that is resulting in these astronomical judgments.

Yah, the law monitors that kind of stuff (not guns, just the mayhem stuff). Don't be an easy target for preemptive investigation or 'pre-crime' if you prefer. Face it, you're watched whether you intend to act or not.

Qui custodiet ipsos custodes?

Time to sue the Police Unions. Take the only money that counts to LEO.

Interesting idea. Or for one union leader to realize there's a moral high ground and the unions aren't on it.

Frederick Douglass said it best nearly 200 years ago:

> "If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

Police like everyone else... will just need to deal with a bit of community enforced responsibility.

I don't care about hurt feelings (in this case), I don't like testalying and I don't like people who enable the behavior.
Policing is a hard job and structural reform will make it much easier for everyone involved.

Recommended 1 time

kaliope (user/kaliope)  sdb zombiexx
Aug 04 · 12:18:23 AM (comments/1408341/57141062#comment_57141062)

Bodycams won't help? I disagree, all due respect I think bodycams won't CURE or STOP the problem. But they'll help. And in fact they're already helping. And the more videos from wherever source we find, the more we can take meaningful political action, especially locally, in city police departments and in county sheriff's offices.

But I share your outrage, dr zom, and I commend your passionate statement to others.

And Shaun: T&R'd, bookmarked for community edu.

Recommended 4 times

cod zombiexx (user/cod zombiexx)  kaliope
Aug 04 · 07:14:19 AM (comments/1408341/57141984#comment_57141984)

Bodycams will do no more than dash cams and dashcams serve mostly to prosecute a cop - MAYBE - AFTER they have fucked you up, beat you, tased you, kicked you.

We need PROTECTION from these motherfuckers, not recordings of our being killed.

Recommended 2 times

kaliope (user/kaliope)  sdb zombiexx
Aug 04 · 07:15:27 PM (comments/1408341/57150084#comment_57150084)

Without meaningful political action on our part, to put a stop to this atrocious system, nothing will change. Cams of any sort are merely tools, not results. And we DO need protection from these motherfuckers, and political action must be taken, and to get political action rolling, those videos are extremely important, critical perhaps, to getting political folks educated and willing to change laws, including making illegal the extremely self-protective police union rules (some have even been made into law here in CA).

Recommended 0 times

PatMcDowell (user/PatMcDowell)  sdb zombiexx
Aug 04 · 01:45:31 AM (comments/1408341/57141436#comment_57141436)

We need a federal law to drug test every law enforcement officer using lethal force. It isn't a coincidence they all have thick necks and shaved heads (hiding steroid-induced male pattern baldness).

If we can test baseball players, why not police?

Recommended 3 times

babalu (user/babalu)  sdb zombiexx
Aug 04 · 06:06:28 AM (comments/1408341/57141848#comment_57141848)

Stop "tactical" shooting training Complicated set ups have armed police shoot reflexively at ANY MOVEMENT in a window or between buildings.

Great way to SHOOT HOSTAGES!

Great training to instantly shoot a kid on a playground with a BB gun!

This encourages RANDOM GUN-FIRE SPRAYING OF THE AREA. This is not INFORMED shooting!

This is RANDOM AND WANTON DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN LIFE!!

Mr. brilliant psychologist has found a way to get paid coming and going: First, teach over-shooting is OK and then return to "testify" that's the training he gave them.

Recommended 2 times
Just wait until one of his trainees loses a massive civil suit or some government pays out big bucks under a settlement. Unless his course is backed up by massive data, he just might find himself the last person standing as the game of financial musical chairs gets played out. He's been protected because dead civilians haven't had the power to accuse their killers, but ubiquitous body-cams are starting to offer that peak into the blue world necessary to secure judgements. The police departments who mistakenly engaged this guy are going to start looking for a scapegoat on why their officers kill civilians unhesitatingly and he's as good a defendant as they come.

Sue him. Sue the departments and the cities/towns involved. Bring this DESPICABLE money-grubber and his so-called consultancy out into the sunlight where everyone can take a good look. Although perhaps a psychologist (as opposed to a psychiatrist (MD)) has no medical duty to “first do no harm”, although the APA Code of Ethics (http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/) appears to include that (at least as a “striving”). Another thing that strikes me...the 100% predetermined conclusion. A supposedly-unbiased expert witness who has never seen an instance of unjustified shooting? That boggles my mind (other than against an underfunded, overmatched, harried, or worse (http://articles.latimes.com/2000/jul/15/news/mn-53250) public defender).

Another sad but great find, Shaun--thank you!

Relentless publicity is another tactic that can get results, cf Cecil RIP.

I like this idea best. Lawsuits can backfire and cost those pressing it their house or more.
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first.

Alas, true. But he's losing ground. I think. n/t

This is not a bad idea. It is how the whole recovered memories/satanic ritual abuse scam got shut down. A couple of big malpractice suits and the whole thing died.

Granted, the context is different but the fake science is similar and the consequences are equally and more damaging.

This is not a bad idea. It is how the whole recovered memories/satanic ritual abuse scam got shut down. A couple of big malpractice suits and the whole thing died.

Recommended 22 times

Glad you mentioned that creepy business

There ought to be some kind of accreditation required for police trainers? Like for CLA credits in legal education?

Recommended 6 times

Governments have ALREADY paid out large settlements, but as far as I know, nobody's gone after THIS yutz so far. Hell, I never even heard of him until now.

Recommended 6 times

Use his own words against him...

Collect material from his seminars to show that he is already a pro-violence apologist.

Study his testimony in other cases to find the holes to tear him apart.

Use his own "data" against him. Figures can lie and liars can figure.

Introduce the esteemed journals of his own profession that debunk his entire position.

IANAL but I could probably put together an effective rebuttal to anything he says.

He has willingly dipped his hands in the blood of the victims of police violence and there should be no holds barred attacking him.

Recommended 12 times

His rock has been turned over

The Times article should end his career as an expert witness.

The training stuff should slow down too. He's 70; that would have probably happened anyhow.

There will be dozens more to take his place.

Recommended 12 times

Will be? You can be sure that if there's a dollar to be made from it, there already are others just like him.

Recommended 4 times
Federal Cases? I saw the article yesterday and read a couple of paragraphs. I was sickened. I scanned and did not see references to testimony in federal courts. I doubt he would be allowed to testify in federal court due to strict standards that are required to satisfy a Daubert challenge. My guess is this guy would not do well in state and local civil cases because a competent lawyer would impeach his testimony by questioning that follows the logic of a Daubert challenge. Prosecutors could do the same in criminal cases but apparently they do not.

One of my first thoughts when I saw the article was that Shaun would address it. It sickens me that anyone believes that it is okay to shoot someone that complies with an officer's request.

I was going to suggest going to APA but there is backlash about the anti-torture reforms:
http://www.theguardian.com/...

Seems odd that the American Psychological Association would meet in Canada (Toronto).

licensing is generally by the state, not APA so I'd probably try a professional complaint in whatever state he's licensed in. I think that's what's happening to the shrinks who have been assisting the government in torture at Guantanamo and Bagram and elsewhere.

I believe ALL licensing is by the state. The APA is not a licensing board as far as I know.

It's not a licensing board. It's a professional organization which has no legal power over psychologists. Dr. Lewis is most likely not a member.

Call the White House. Ask them to direct Dept of Homeland Security & DOJ to stop funding programs at these police departments until they provide re-training for officers in how to de-escalate situations and avoid violence. They can also do an agency audit to ensure none of the funding or training they're providing promotes this kind of crap. It's very easy for these agencies to use federal funding to remove incentives for bad policing. Just as easy to help them better train officers and incentivize community policing. They don't even need Congress to agree.
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Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot firs... https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psycholog...
Probably more immediate change at least. But I hope both of us are wrong.

Recommended 1 time

Cockroaches. Shine the Light. Expose him. Expose the cities and the departments that utilize this POS.

Expose the cops. Keep shining the light people. The word is finally getting out... that police are abusing, beating and killing people at will with little or no accountability.

Recommended 1 time

Here is The American Journal of Psychology Contact Page (http://www.jstor.org/action/showContactSupportForm)

It's a start.

Recommended 22 times

Because... The plaintiffs in the case are usually poor people without the best attorneys.

Recommended 9 times

A personal injury firm will take on cases for a share of any judgment, no upfront money needed - and this is exactly the sort of case that could make a firm's reputation.

Recommended 12 times

They may not be able to pay the best attorneys up front, but there are numerous civil rights legal funds that can. Talk to Southern Poverty Law Center, NAACP, ACLU, National Urban League, and many others.

And really hot attorneys are available on a contingency basis for class actions this big.

Recommended 4 times

We need a congressional investigation of police shootings and the so-called standards that justify them. It wasn't too long ago that the courts had to order cops to stop shooting fleeing suspects who represented no threat. There has to be strong federal guidelines and a grand jury convened to investigate every police shooting. The average citizen is not going to walk away from a murder charge because his friends and colleagues say he was justified. The same should go for the police. And we cannot let the police or their paid "experts" determine what constitutes a justifiable shooting.

Recommended 16 times

We need a congressional investigation of police shootings and the so-called standards that justify them. It wasn't too long ago that the courts had to order cops to stop shooting fleeing suspects who represented no threat. There has to be strong federal guidelines and a grand jury convened to investigate every police shooting. The average citizen is not going to walk away from a murder charge because his friends and colleagues say he was justified. The same should go for the police. And we cannot let the police or their paid "experts" determine what constitutes a justifiable shooting.
Grand juries. I wonder if Lewinsky has testified at grand jury hearings and if not, how much of his theory has been presented by prosecutors. And how can we find out.

This “expert testimony” explains the unbelievable grand jury and jury decisions that exonerated cops. I don’t have confidence in effectiveness of congressional investigations but there must be some ways to stop this guy!

Perhaps the ACLU could lead on this. You need alternative expert testimony to refute another expert’s testimony. There are so many problems with the criminal justice system that it really needs a complete overhaul. The word reasonable needs to be removed and replaced with specifics because the cops’ definition of reasonable is usually anything but. The Guardian did a report last year on a “black site” used by the Chicago Police Department to interrogate suspects. The Chicago Tribune did a follow-up story (http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-homan-square-chicago-police-met-20150227-story.html#page=1) that essentially stated the problem was systemic. The police are out of control and abuse is rampant. I don’t see the situation improving unless Congress is willing to step in and force changes. If body cams aren’t enough to force police officers to exercise restraint, we have some serious issues with just what the police feel they are permitted to do.

Class action suit is probably the most effective means of stopping not only him, but the copycats who are or will be following his lead. Hit him where it REALLY hurts.

No, it doesn’t; it depends on the prosecutor. Unless there are witnesses or evidence that contradict his account. And therein lies the difference between a civilian invoking SYG and a cop.

Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first... https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psycholog...
In most grand juries, there is no one to challenge the "expert witness" or his credentials.

And grand juries are where the cops go free n/t

Nobody is there to challenge ANYTHING.

It's pretty much a dog and pony show where the prosecutor presents the state's evidence, calls the state's witnesses and the defense -- and USUALLY the defendant -- are left out of the picture (unless the defendant is crazy enough to testify -- without benefit of counsel, mind you).

The GJ is not a trial, and a finding of no true bill of indictment is not an acquittal.

But in these cop shooting cases, if the DA has already decided not to prefer charges (which he usually has) he'll make a show of a GJ, they'll return no indictment, and everybody lives happily ever after -- except the dead guy of course.

I'm guessing it the lack of standards for "expert witnesses" who make their living testifying to whatever the defendants' attorneys need to win their case.

Bill Dog, my guess is that part of why he's... able to BS juries so well is the appalling level of general ignorance about psychology, etc.

I served on a jury one time; we wound up a hung jury, and the poor SOB on trial had to go back to jail until the county decided what to do next. Ten of my fellow jurors were focused on what they were doing and tried very sincerely to decide based on the evidence. We didn't duck into and out of the jury room without hard discussion, and sending back some questions. We decided that the state simply didn't have the evidence, and we speculated that the truth was almost the opposite of what had been presented by the prosecution. However, that wasn't part of our verdict: we were just voting not guilty.

But one jerk had his mind made up in advance, despite the oath he took as a juror, and he simply wouldn't budge.

An exhausting look at some of the seamier sides of human nature, not least in the jury room. Glad I did it, but I don't want to repeat the experience. But along the way, I could not help noticing how much pseudo-science TV-show-garnered "psychology" was used on both sides of the various arguments.

Yeah, pre-conceived notions are the hardest to debunk to those holding them. The whole thing about pseudo-science is...... wait foooor iittt........ it's not science!

Oh, there may be a little bit involved somewhere, but, no one in the actual field takes it at all seriously. I hope.

"TV-show-garnered 'psychology'" made me laugh, but when people are talking about how someones life may be impacted, well, professional science based and backed by peer review is, as they say, the whole truth.

It seems like a trial is gameshowesque(?).
"If you can parse out what the stuffed shirts mean you get a keep out of jail free card!!! Johnny tell them how that works!!!"

Recommended 1 time

Maybe the APA can go after him... Revoke his license and credentials... They seem now willing to censure the torture Docs almost 2 decades after the fact

Recommended 17 times

I don’t mind trying to stop this in multiple ways. The APA way may be slow and may require them to be approached by their own members rather than the "lay public" but it doesn't hurt to let them know they're now having more and critical attention paid to them.

Recommended 4 times

APA is not a licensing body. They have no legal power do anything.

Recommended 0 times

Best thing to do with these so called "Doctors" is to pull their license.

Recommended 19 times

Who to Complain To? American Psych Torture Assn?

Recommended 19 times

No, that would be directed back to the Police Dept

Recommended 4 times

He's licensed at the state level (somewhere) Otherwise he couldn't testify as an expert witness.

I'm sure it's in some wingnut state where they won't pull his license, although it might be worth pursuing.

Rand Fucking Paul. Half-assed ophthalmologist, self-licensed, or some shit like that.

Wingnuts HATE science and such and like to make shit up.

Ph.D. Psychology: Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, Ohio (1988).

Concentration: Police Psychology


Internship: “Behavioral Science Unit,” Tucson Police Department

Here is a fun one...

Appointed by New York Governor David Paterson to be an advisor/consultant to the New York State Police-On-Police Shootings Task Force focusing on Trends in Fatal Mistaken Identity, 2009-2010

Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot firs...
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first...  

northern spy  
Aug 04 · 11:12:33 AM  
*Calm in the Face of Death*? WTF. Hardly consistent with the approach he advocates.  
Unless “Maximizing Performance” to him means maximizing the body count.  
Recommended 0 times

Alumbrados  
Aug 03 · 07:56:30 PM  
Recommended 0 times

Raggedy Ann  
Aug 03 · 10:39:20 AM  
Never, ever use your actual brain in any situation when you can shoot first and get away with murder. What is it, a game to these people? He's making millions on the premise that murder is a fine way to operate a PD in America. That's the kind of people we need influencing the already militarized minds of police.  
Social media needs to get on this guy in a big way - expose him for all he's worth. His humanity is completely absent.  
Recommended 39 times

xxdr zombiexx  
Aug 03 · 10:42:55 AM  
He is reinforcing the INFALLIBILITY of cops  
Cops are dumber than cantaloupes and yet they are infallible.  
They never shoot anybody who is not guilty....of SOMETHING.  
We can figure out what that was after they're dead and all the evidence has been tampered with in a half-assed manner.  
It is the glorification of the Police State.  
I think they are going to reap quite an ugly crop from their insistence on killing everything that moves.  
I'll be here saying "toldja you should have cooled your shit".  
Recommended 33 times

Raggedy Ann  
Aug 03 · 11:23:16 AM  
He is extra scummy because he is encouraging otherwise innocent cops to dirty their hands needlessly and wrongly.  
He convinces them to commit murder.  
That's Charles Manson shit right there.  
Recommended 19 times

Raggedy Ann  
Aug 03 · 11:29:07 AM  
Recommended 18 times

Words In Action  
Aug 03 · 11:29:07 AM
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot firs... https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psycholog...
NYT made some mistakes, it's true. Still the best newspaper in the USA.

Recommended 1 time

Maybe so, but I read GuardianUK.

Recommended 2 times

So do I read The Guardian, US and UK. ;)

Recommended 1 time

The concept of The Fourth Estate is dead. The Press -- and all media since newsreel -- earned that revered status by fulfilling their duty to keep us informed so we make informed choices, as you know. The major papers, NYT and WaPo, have effed up, purposefully misconstrued, sat on, etc. too many stories vital to our nation's health. They've lost my trust, Pulitzers aside, because they are such influential voices that when they lie or withhold, it ripples worldwide and makes us look like propagandized fools.

Recommended 4 times

I really can't help noticing Look at all those white men.

Recommended 8 times

They're everywhere! ;) Have you seen all of them in Congress? This has got to change. It must change.

Recommended 4 times

A herd? A flock? a MURDER? an Unpleasantness? What do we call a gathering of these kinds of white males?

Recommended 7 times

https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot fis...
Actually, one of them is white and mentally ill. Over 50% of victims of police shootings are against the mentally ill. I'm not sure why so many Kossacks are determined to ignore that fact. Shaun has diaried it here. I guess it's easier to reduce things to one note, and there appears to be limited sympathy for the severely mentally ill here.

The issue of intersectionality is huge, but to suggest that there aren't multiple issues at play here is not based in fact. Mentally ill POC are basically dead men walking, and, as last week's Black Kos pointed out, victims of racism are more likely to become mentally ill. So it's a vicious cycle that you'd think progressives would care to address, but somehow folks would rather be reductive. It's not either/or. POC are viewed as animals by the police; the mentally ill are viewed as animals by the police; and POC who are mentally ill are fucked.

I have some disagreements with C.S. Lewis. But, I find a lot of truth in his quote:

"Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end for they do so with the approval of their own conscience. They may be more likely to go to Heaven yet at the same time likelier to make a Hell of earth. This very kindness stings with intolerable insult. To be "cured" against one's will and cured of states which we may not regard as disease is to be put on a level of those who have not yet reached the age of reason or those who never will; to be classed with infants, imbeciles, and domestic animals."
...training by and large has been part of the problem, not part of the solution. We are forced to try to accomplish too much in too little training time. Because of limited range time, firearms instructors are forced to heavily emphasize a lot of shooting in order to build that important proficiency. This results in a disproportionate amount of time spent with scenarios in which officers need to pull the trigger. This, in turn, creates an emphasis on a 'muzzle-heavy' approach and the over-emphasis on the handgun as a problem-solving tool.

Research that Lewinski has known about for 10 years.

From the same article

Dr. Bill Lewinski, executive director of the Force Science Research Center at Minnesota State University-Mankato, says that by pursuing "important and different kinds of questions," Aveni has produced "valuable new insights into officer-involved shootings." His findings are expected to provide "a cutting-edge demographic foundation" for upcoming research projects at FSRC that hopefully will result in "profound changes in law enforcement training in the future."
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot firs... https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psycholog...
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot first...  
https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/8/3/1408341/-Psychologist...
It seems to me...

Shoot first ask questions later... (7+ / 0-)

...doesn’t even work for occupation forces. If you do this you will inspire a resistance movement.

This is what is happening now. We the people are NOT accepting the status quo. NOT accepting “I feared for my life.” NOT letting things happen without a video record to rebut Officer Friendly Shootfirst’s testimony. NOT letting the names of those lost to police brutality vanish to obscurity.

We are NOT.

And they teach them to shoot to kill

Go for the head or the heart. Are there any woundings? Not that I have heard.

I attended a local Sandra Bland Memorial vigil yesterday. Brought home to me in a real way as one young African-American woman after another stood before the group to testify at how painful this is, how they fear for all of those they love. Police brutality has made their world a war zone. You are not safe in public, in your car or even in your home.

This is reality.

It’s a cat-rat farm! A perpetual motion machine of death. Sadly, it looks like it itself will be hard to kill.

another reason to hate psychologists giving aid and comfort to murderers and torturers

It’s not ALL psychologists...not by a long shot.

We really need psychologists to weed out the bad cops. If the police want to pay psychologists, pay them to interview job applicants and review officers in the field for potential problems. This needs to be done regularly and not just after an incident. If there is any doubt about an officer's judgment, he/she needs to be dismissed, placed on leave, or given another assignment that doesn’t involve life and death decisions.

Doctors have to undergo constant assessment, at least as long as they are in training as residents, to assure that they meet performance and personal stability standards in their practice. Policemen also deal in life and death situations and should be trained as rigorously as doctors
Psychologist openly admits he trains police officers to shoot firs...