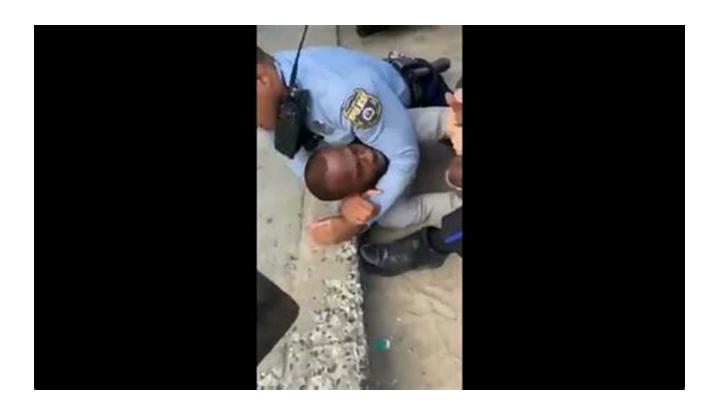
Chokehold Policing Black Men: A Paradigm That Must Be Changed



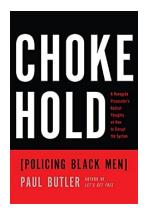
Chokehold policing has long been an issue plaguing black men in America, as they are disproportionately subjected to this harmful and potentially deadly tactic. In his book "Chokehold: Policing Black Men" renowned legal scholar and former federal prosecutor Paul Butler delves deep into this unjust practice and its implications for black communities across the nation.

In this article, we will explore the key insights highlighted by Paul Butler, shedding light on the urgent need for reform and emphasizing the importance of addressing systemic racism in our criminal justice system.

Chokehold: Policing Black Men

by Paul Butler (Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.7 out of 5



Language : English
File size : 4096 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 318 pages



The Disproportionate Impact on Black Men

One cannot deny the overwhelming evidence that chokehold policing disproportionately affects black men. The excessive use of force tactics, such as applying pressure to the neck or throat, are often employed by police officers as a means of control or detainment. However, these techniques have time and again resulted in tragic outcomes, with black men being the primary victims.

Butler's research highlights that this systemic issue stems from deeply ingrained biases, both conscious and unconscious, within law enforcement institutions. Implicit prejudices often lead to the perception of black men as threatening, which, in turn, justifies the use of excessive force against them. This perpetuates a vicious cycle of racial targeting and unjust treatment.

The Criminalization of Blackness

Another crucial aspect addressed in Butler's book is the criminalization of blackness. He argues that our criminal justice system has been designed to disproportionately target and punish black men, fueling a narrative that associates blackness with criminality.

The use of chokeholds serves as a symbolic representation of this deep-rooted racial bias. By subjecting black men to these tactics more frequently than any other group, law enforcement continues to perpetuate harmful stereotypes and create a climate of fear and distrust within black communities.

The Urgent Need for Policy Reform

Paul Butler's analysis serves as a clarion call for immediate policy reform within our criminal justice system. It is time to address chokehold policing as a symptom of the larger problem of systemic racism. Law enforcement agencies must actively work towards dismantling these biases and ensuring that their practices do not infringe upon the rights and lives of black men.

Butler proposes several comprehensive reform measures that can help break the cycle. These include enhanced police training on implicit bias, implementing stricter use of force guidelines, and holding officers accountable for their actions when excessive force is used.

Moving Towards Community-Oriented Policing

One approach that Butler suggests is to shift the focus of policing from an aggressive, confrontational model towards a community-oriented one. This involves fostering relationships and trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

By actively involving community members in the decision-making process and incorporating their perspectives, it becomes possible to develop strategies that are more effective, equitable, and respectful. This paradigm shift not only reduces the need for violent tactics but also has the potential to address the root causes of crime, leading to more substantial and lasting progress.

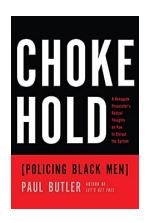
The Role of Public Awareness and Engagement

The fight against chokehold policing and systemic racism cannot be won solely through policy changes. Paul Butler emphasizes the importance of public awareness and engagement in bringing about meaningful transformation.

As citizens, we have the power to demand accountability from our elected officials and pressure them to institute necessary reforms. By staying informed, participating in peaceful protests, supporting organizations advocating for justice, and engaging in constructive conversations, we can collectively contribute to the dismantling of this harmful paradigm.

Paul Butler's "Chokehold: Policing Black Men" provides us with invaluable insights into the unjust treatment of black men in the criminal justice system. The long-standing issue of chokehold policing remains a beacon of the broader problem of systemic racism, demanding immediate attention and reform.

It is essential for society to acknowledge and confront these problems head-on, challenging the status quo and actively working towards a future where black men are not unfairly targeted and harmed by those entrusted to protect and serve.



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Finalist for the 2018 National Council on Crime & Delinquency's Media for a Just Society Awards

Nominated for the 49th NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work (Nonfiction)

A 2017 Washington Post Notable Book

A Kirkus Best Book of 2017

"Butler has hit his stride. This is a meditation, a sonnet, a legal brief, a poetry slam and a dissertation that represents the full bloom of his early thesis: The justice system does not work for blacks, particularly black men."

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-The New York Times Book Review

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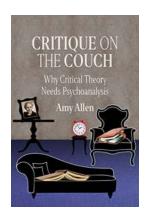
—The Times Literary Supplement (London)

With the eloquence of Ta-Nehisi Coates and the persuasive research of Michelle Alexander, a former federal prosecutor explains how the system really works, and how to disrupt it

Cops, politicians, and ordinary people are afraid of black men. The result is the Chokehold: laws and practices that treat every African American man like a thug. In this explosive new book, an African American former federal prosecutor shows that the system is working exactly the way it's supposed to. Black men are always under watch, and police violence is widespread—all with the support of judges and politicians.

In his no-holds-barred style, Butler, whose scholarship has been featured on 60 Minutes, uses new data to demonstrate that white men commit the majority of violent crime in the United States. For example, a white woman is ten times more likely to be raped by a white male acquaintance than be the victim of a violent crime perpetrated by a black man. Butler also frankly discusses the problem of black on black violence and how to keep communities safer—without relying as much on police.

Chokehold powerfully demonstrates why current efforts to reform law enforcement will not create lasting change. Butler's controversial recommendations about how to crash the system, and when it's better for a black man to plead guilty—even if he's innocent—are sure to be game-changers in the national debate about policing, criminal justice, and race relations.



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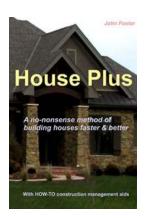
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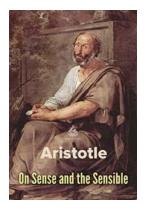
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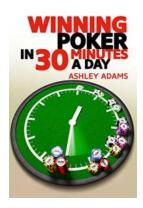
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