Pamela ifill
Waterbury public schools employee and caring group home worker
Waterbury resident 10yrs +

So I am a hardworking individual who cares about her community and works towards helping her community. There have been too many times where I was treated as a criminal by police simply for existing.

Growing up as a teenager going to wilby Id walk through fulton park with friends. Numerous times we would be stopped, asked questions, and accused of stealing by police. Simply for walking by!!!!!!

Other times in high school, i'd witness our officer accuse latino friends of being a fight just because they matched a description. Although we came from the opposite side of school. That officer didnt care, he just assumed based off of race

Other times, in response calls dealing with my schizophrenic mom police made jokes about me having to go to foster care

Finally, as a adult caring for others, I came home from a naugatuck area at the home I workes at. Sat in my car to relax. Suddenly an angry officer yells at me instructs me to roll down my window. As the window down im greeted with yelling, accused of stealing all while he hold his hand on his gun. Without taking his hand off his gun, he calls 3 cars for back up. Im scared afraid I will be shot as I continued to get yelled at even though I am compiling. The officer checks things out, finds out im not a theif, yells at me to leave and thatd he watch me to make sure I go

I cried on the car on my way home

I watch and read the news everyday, learning more people are shot to death during a stop by police. I remember that night when I was unsure if I'd get shot and feeling afraid. Nobody should have feel that by the very same people who swore to protect us. We should not have to hear story and story of police hurting people without repercussions. Police brutality needs to end

Sincerely,
A afro-latina women who contributes to CT everyday and pays taxes

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android