COMMUNITY, RACE AND POLICING

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020 | 7–8:30 PM

Join us and share your ideas on Alexandria policing in an interactive, virtual town hall

Watch on Facebook Live at https://www.facebook.com/ACTforAlexandria
Partipate in Q&A via www.Slido.com #policing
In memory of civil rights leaders: Congressperson John Lewis and Reverend CT Vivian
Today’s Program

Moderators: Chris Lewis and Matt Harris

• Historical Context:
  Dr. Brian Williams, Associate Professor of Public Policy, University of Virginia

• The National Dialogue:
  Lynda Garcia, Policing Campaign Director, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

• Alexandria Resolution & Community Review Boards:
  Burke Brownfeld, Director of Global Security & Safety / Visa Incorporated
PARTICIPATE IN TODAY’S TOWN HALL

1. Share your comments in the Zoom chat or Facebook Live comments.
2. Submit your questions via Slido.
3. Participate in the poll at the end of the program.
SHARE YOUR COMMENTS ON ZOOM

Comment here:
SHARE YOUR COMMENTS ON SLIDO

1. Open a new browser
2. Go to Slido.com
3. Type in today’s event code: #policing
SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON SLIDO

1. Ask questions
2. Upvote questions for the panelists to answer.
PARTICIPATE IN THE SLIDO POLL

Respond to poll at the end of the program:
Who I Am

• Associate Professor of Public Policy
  – Public Administration & Public Management

• Applied Researcher
  – Public Engagement in Governance
  – Reimagining and Redesigning
    • Police policies and practices
  – Co-creation and Co-Production
    • Public safety, public order, and community wellbeing

• Proponent of “power with” not “power over”
  – Shared sense of responsibility
The Evolution of US Policing:
A Historical Overview

• Informal beginnings
  – Use of volunteers with night watch system (Boston in the 1636, NY in 1658 and Philadelphia in 1700)
  – From night watches to day watches
    • Philadelphia in 1833 and New York in 1844

• Formal establishments
  – 1838 Boston established first US police force
  – 1845 (NYC) 1851 (Albany, NY and Chicago); 1853 (NOLA and Cincinnati); 1855 (PHI)
  – 1880s in all major cities
The Evolution of US Policing: A Historical Overview

- Financial support – from private to public $$$
- From political puppets to professional actors
- Common Ground
  - Enforcers of laws
  - *Social Construction of Target Populations*
    - Socially constructed stigmatized populations;
    - *Public perceptions* -> *social constructions*-> *political constructions* -> *policing/professional practices* -> *reinforce public perceptions*
  - Orientation to support the status quo
The Evolution of US Policing: A Historical Overview

• Common ground...
  – Policing as a way to protect profits...

• But, with regional differences
  – in the Northeast in cities like Boston, shipping interest
  – Industrial areas of the NE/MW
    • Strike breaking / strike busters
  – In the South slavery via slave patrols
    • Slave patrols as precursors of PDs and LEOs
      – Protection of profits at the expense of people
Evolution of Policing: A Visual Depiction

Reactive (political/informal)

Proactive (professional/formal)
Will Our Past Serve As Prologue?
Should We Look Back to Plan Ahead?

“The police at all times should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police…”

~ Sir Robert Peel, 1829 ~
Should we embrace and leverage this co-active moment and movement?

Reactive (political/informal)  Proactive (professional/formal)  Coactive? (community-oriented/communal?)
Sources

Thanks!

Brian N. Williams, PhD
bnw9q@virginia.edu
Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy
University of Virginia
PO Box 400893
235 McCormack Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903
The Leadership Conference
New Era of Public Safety
What does DEFUND the police mean?
What does ABOLISH the police mean?
Data Collection and Transparency
You can’t fix what you can’t measure. Police departments should collect and publish data.

Body-Worn Cameras
BWC are an important accountability tool if used properly but departments must have strict policies that regulate their use.

Community Review Boards
Law enforcement and the public may have very different ideas about officer misconduct and residents should have a say in policy and discipline.
Some places to start looking

- Advocacy toolkit: https://toolkit.civilrightspolicing.org/
Resources

- Alexandria City Council resolution from June: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/police/info/ResolutionNo2950CondemningRacism.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/police/info/ResolutionNo2950CondemningRacism.pdf)


- The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, Policing Toolkit: [https://toolkit.civilrightspolicing.org/](https://toolkit.civilrightspolicing.org/)

Upcoming programs

- **Race Relations in Alexandria: Looking Back and Moving Forward**
  Thursday, August 13 at 7 pm
  - Matt Harris, Chair, Alexandria Human Rights Commission
  For nearly 20 years, Matt Harris has served on the Human Rights Commission, which sets policy on human rights in the city. Join him as he discusses his experiences on the commission, his personal observations on race relations in Alexandria, and thoughts on how to knit our community together through meaningful action.
  Visit alexlibraryva.org to register for this free program.