

BLAK LIVES MATTER INTERGENERATIONALLY

BLAK LIVES MATTER

We are not all equal when we do not all start at the same point with the same opportunities

BLAK LIVES MATTER

Invasion of this land

Death and destruction of our people

Murdered - massacred

Culture stripped away

Children stripped from our arms

My people being pushed to the margins

Systems in place to suppress

Systems built on the oppression of my people

Systems built on the destruction of my family. My community.

Systems that said we are NOT human

Trauma caused by the systems in place

& I lay in the womb holding onto this

Without being born I hold onto this

TRAUMA

passed down to me....

I hold onto without even yet being born

Without even entering this world I have started the race

started 10 steps behind YOU

BLAK LIVES MATTER

As a Blak baby I have become a statistic for the systems that make up this world

As a Blak baby I am called monkey

As a Blak baby my cry is my weapon to be heard

As a Blak baby I fall victim to a system

As a Blak baby I am called an old soul

As a Blak baby I am a weight held to my mother

As a Blak baby the statics suggest I am more likely to be in touch with Child Protection

a system that suppressed my voice before I was even born

As a Blak baby the statics suggest I am more likely to have seen the police before I am one;

the system that suppresses my family

But little did you know

As a Blak baby I am strong in Spirit

As a Blak baby I am connected to my parents in a way that no systems would understand

As a Blak baby I enhance a deep sense of belonging which involves a spiritual emotional element to the land and environment

As a Blak baby I sense belonging whilst being wrapped in my mother's and father's arms

As a Blak baby I continue my songlines

As a Blak baby I am the next footprint in this earth

As a Blak baby I am emerging

OUR LIVES MATTER

I am on the race

Still

10 steps behind YOU

As a Blak child I start school 10 steps behind you
As a Blak child I sit at school; a system that was brought in to breed out our culture
As a Blak child I sit at school in a system that doesn't acknowledge my ancestors

As a Blak child I sit at school whilst the teacher tells me I am wrong when I share my culture

As a Blak child I sit at school whilst I get teased for being me

Teased for being Aboriginal

As a Blak child I stand for my people and get pushed to the corner my voice suppressed
again from the system

Trauma shown through my actions

Trauma that was passed on and trauma I now face

As a Blak child the statistics suggest I am more likely to be in contact with the Criminal
Justice system – another form of suppression

As a Blak child I am more likely to be racially profiled

As a Blak child the statistics suggest I am likely to know of someone who has committed
suicide

As a Blak child the statistics suggest I am likely to grow up and see family violence first-hand

As a Blak child the statistics suggest I am likely to grow up with one parent

As a Blak child the statistics suggest I am likely to know of someone who has been
incarcerated

But little did you know

As a Blak child I bring a strong aroma that allows me to remain focused in unity and strength

As a Blak child I am now adapting to my passage of life

As a Blak child I don't need your system – I need your courage

Courage to understand you aren't always right

As a Blak child I am not your trophy to take out during NAIDOC week

As a Blak child your system was built on oppression so when you come to help
Sit.

LISTEN.

BLAK LIVES MATTER

Still on this race I remain 10 steps behind YOU

As a Blak teen I sit in knowledge of two worlds

Struggling to know how to walk between them

Media not depicting our people but sharing the negativity

Systems put in place continue to suppress as they aren't willing to change

Laws put in place to suppress our voice

Police push us in a corner to listen – my voice falls silent as it echoes in the cell

traumatised by their cold hands, fighting the internal fears that they instilled in me after
hearing the stories of my elders

As a Blak teen the statics suggest I will not finish school

As a Blak teen the statistics suggest I will start a family early

As a Blak teen I am constantly questioning my identity as I walk in two Worlds and attempt
to seek acceptance

But little do you know

As a Blak teen I understand the strength of education because story telling has been in my
culture for generations

As a Blak teen I know I am more than the stereotypes I hear

As a Blak teen I dream of a future; one without systemic racism and oppression of my people

I dream of a future where I service the community that has lifted me up
My Aboriginal community

As a Blak teen I am more than the systems and statistics portrayed in the media
BLAK LIVES MATTER

10 steps behind you I continue to embed footprints in this earth with purpose
As a Blak woman I sit uncomfortable when I am made to remain quiet on issues that affect my people in order to walk in the world of the oppressor

As a Blak woman I sit traumatized by the systems of oppression and daily feel the consequences of this

As a Blak woman the statistics suggest Child Protection will be involved in my family.

As a Black woman trauma has not only been inherited, developed, caused; it is likely to be inherited again

As a Blak woman I question the police/ laws and systems put in to silence our people and we are again suppressed

Suppressed through silence, through the labels

Angry

lak

woman

As a Blak woman I speak passionately when suppressed as my voice has remained dim for generations and face consequences for this

Little do you know

As a Blak woman I dream I am a survivor and have embraced my journey

As a Blak woman I now work harder to break the cycle of trauma for the generations after me

As a Blak woman I understand the importance of standing back up despite how many times you have been pushed down

As a Blak woman I remain calm in my own waters

So when you ask me

What does resilience mean to you... you understand

So when you ask me

Why are you an angry Blak woman.... You understand

So when you ask why do we need to know about Aboriginal history in order to move forward... you understand

So when you ask me how the system of oppression is based upon system racism... now you understand

So when you ask me why do Aboriginal lives matter.... You understand

You understand the systems of oppression that has been intergenerationally passed down

You understand the power behind our voice is due to the trauma of being silenced

You understand that for years our lives haven't mattered at the same race as yours as we

STILL

remain 10 steps behind you

BLAK LIVES MATTER INTERGENERATIONALLY