A Tale of Two Crises: America and the American Black: A Perspective

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ABSTRACT

After more than 250 years of slavery, 90 years of Jim Crow practices, 60 years of separate but equal public policies, 35 years of sanctioned educational and housing redlining segregation, and the current national climate where the American Black is questioning do their lives matter, in light of the Bible study murders of 9 in church at Charleston and the police killings of Freddie Gray, Levar Jones, Tamir Rice, Michael Brown, John Crawford, Eric Garner, Renisha McBride, Jordan Davis, Trayvon Martin and Oscar Grant, all within the last two years. From an economic standpoint, Black families, regardless of income, are significantly less wealthy than similar white families, as reported by the Pew Research Center, which estimates that white households are worth roughly 20 times as much as Black households.

This perspective will comment on the current state of race relations in America and will put forth the case that America’s solution to constructively addressing racism, its original sin, is by implementing a comprehensive diversity public policy.