



AFRICAN  
AMERICAN  
POLICY  
FORUM

## On The African American Policy Forum's **#SayHerName Campaign**

### ABOUT

Founded in 1996, the African American Policy Forum (AAPF) is an innovative think tank that convenes academics, activists and policymakers to promote efforts to dismantle structural inequality. Following the police killings of Eric Garner and Michael Brown in 2014, AAPF joined thousands of other protestors and advocacy groups to protest anti-Black police brutality. Marching under a banner with the names of Black women who were killed by police, the group began chanting, "Say! Her! Name!," giving rise to the #SayHerName movement that's since taken over the nation.



"Because Black women and girls do not fit the most accessible frames of anti-Black police violence, it is difficult to tell stories about their lost lives that people recognize and remember. By working with the families of slain Black women, AAPF's #SayHerName campaign resists Black women's invisibility by telling their stories."

— *Kimberlé Crenshaw*

*(Co-founder and Executive Director, the African American Policy Forum)*

Black women  
and girls as young as

7

and as old as

93

have been killed by the  
police, though we rarely hear  
their names.

Knowing this -- and better understanding their identity -- is not only respectful, but also a way to elevate their stories and portray the staggering circumstances that make Black women disproportionately victimized by police violence. To combat this and illuminate the plight that these women face, we need to know who they are, how they lived, and why they suffered at the hands of police.

Including Black women and girls in police violence and gender violence discourses sends the powerful message that all Black lives matter. If our collective outrage around cases of police violence is meant to serve as a warning to the state that its agents cannot kill without consequence, our silence around the cases of Black women and girls sends the message that certain deaths do not merit repercussions. Please join us in our efforts to advance a gender-inclusive narrative in the movement for Black lives.

You can find more materials on #SayHerName at AAPF's website, [aapf.org](http://aapf.org).  
You can also follow us on our social channels on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).