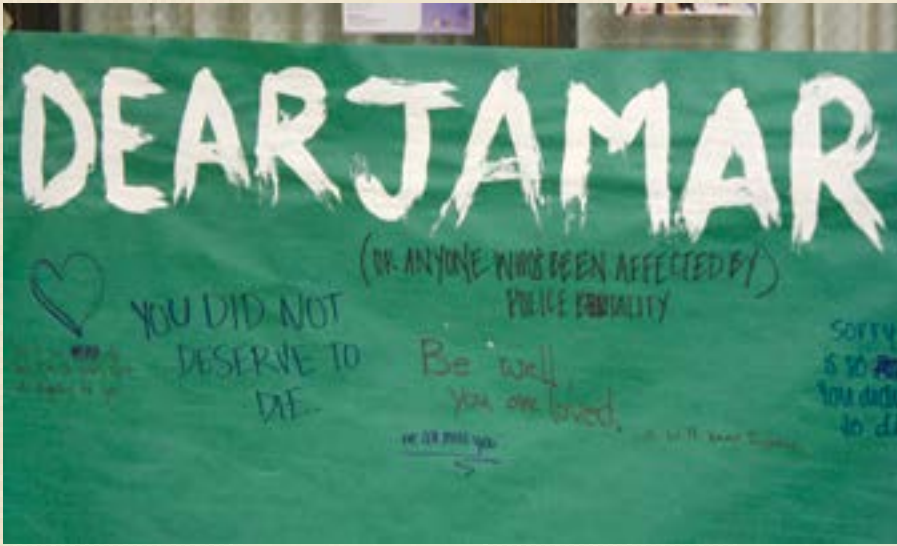


Reporting by Eva Shellabarger and Anna Kleven



*"I think everything that's been going on, all the injustice, it's everywhere. It hurts me to my very core that people believe that it's OK, that the cops are just doing their jobs,"-Quinn Williams, freshman*



*"My uncle went to jail and died in jail for a crime he didn't do." -Miles Jamison, senior*



Senior Kyheim Mua volunteered her thoughts during the discussion portion of the sit-in. Photo: Livia Lund.

*"Was it justified? Is it ever justified?"-Kyheim Mua, Sophomore*

Students from SUSOSH (Stand Up Speak Out South High) organized a sit-in Tuesday, April 5th during seventh hour to respond to the non-indictment of the police officers involved in the shooting of Jamar Clark. They first gathered in the hallway across from the main office, sitting down side by side while singing, "The day's gonna come when I will march no more."

SUSOSH leaders brought the group of students into the commons, where they sat down on the ground. Senior Betty Mfalingundi led the group in 61 seconds of silence, to represent the 61 second-long police encounter that led to Jamar Clark's death. After the silent moment, Mfalingundi responded, "That was beautiful. Thank you."

The sit-in allowed a large group of the school to come together in a way that they wouldn't have been able to in their seventh hour classes. As students sat down one by one in the commons, they conscientiously involved themselves in a discussion about race. One of SUSOSH's goals is to involve every student in discussions about race, although they may feel uncomfortable about it.

"I feel that things won't change unless we keep doing these things. What we're doing today is a change in the positive direction. Since we are marching around the school more people are involved," said Dominique Tapplin, a senior who participated in the sit in.

The discussion gave students the chance to speak to a large percentage of the school about their feelings surrounding the outcome of the case. "I feel confident in South and in

*"But while my sister aint equal, & my brother cant, hand in hand with my family, we will fill these streets."- Jayanthi Kyle*

SUSOSH after hearing what everyone said," said Quinn Williams, a freshman who took part in the sit in. "I know I'm not the only one who has these thoughts," she added.

Though some students believed that teachers were not permitted to talk about the Jamar Clark case, teachers were actually sent an email advising them to "refrain from offering personal beliefs" on the situation.



Seniors Betty Mfalindungi and Kyheim Mua led students in the song "Hand in Hand," written by local gospel singer Jayanthi Kyle. The song has become a protest anthem from Black Lives Matter.

Reporting done by: Anna Kleven, Eva Shellabarger, and Livia Lund