



Library podcast

Ava DuVernay's 13th Film Screening

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[00:00:31] C B S S cellblocks like slave ships set the cellblocks like slave ships cellblocks like slave ships.

[00:00:41] Everywhere I look I see the cell blocks like slave ships cell blocks like slave ships cell blocks like slave ships. Everywhere I look I see the cell blocks black slave ships with legitimating ration now supporting white supremacy cell blocks like slave ships policy and holidays celebrating slavery's architects with no attempt to reconcile its effects. So consider this. The consequence. The system is working perfectly as it's transforming from slave ships to cell blocks those deemed criminals get no votes get lynched with no ropes and they expect us to sit quietly on top of this. Hot stove. But check. I see the two holes in the system and see the suspect or the victim. If you got a conviction then it got to be mentioned. Despite if you write for the job description but you can't give white folk all the credit it ain't all they fault. We disconnected we have what we need to evolve. We got problems but don't want to solve and you might shed a tear for Tamir but never forget what a king is not here. So I made an investment a weapon. I'll be the fresh prince with a new Will Smith and Wesson. Living bare bases and pushing the places on the corner with a 38 body bag and with a little gravel he on the block reaching for the waist. Do you fight for your life or you fight for respect. Taking them chances can win you regret. Walk into club with a full loaded tech and you looking for trouble. You might end up dead but when a nigga got a gun he a threat. When a cracker gotta get he protects. That's a double standard on the Second Amendment. But two plus two got a full sentence and we live in this life like we live in the system don't matter whether you suspect or the victim.

[00:02:28] So you kill a BQ. Be real be real. That's a cold combination and the synergies ill you fill in me still need no appeal to appeal on strong enough space to make an enemy Neil my GRAVITY GIVES reality I'm pulling the pressure so you better take notes like I'm giving a lecture because I'm living like a villain civilian's favorite young Negro don't see that we some kings though suspicious skin on my people red dots on my dreadlocks only die with headshots like a photo I'm loco. Got no love for the po po because the system got debts to pay back since way back 1850 please recall the Fugitive Slave Act. That produced the police but they won't say that history books took the truth like way out of

context it's obvious that they hate us never claimed to be racist. Passing more legislation based on discrimination and in between the peacekeepers and the heat seekers straight flying bar from both sides. You know how beef lingers on your fingers even when you're trying to keep your hands clean. Pop pop pop pop. Then a man screams bodies bouncing on the floor like it's a dance theme. So whenever cops around begin antsy but never panic when Opposition attack and we don't take advantage of everything we demanded from Africa to Africa. Where did Mama Mecca. My people push you motor till it's over and we pack enough peace to every soldier trying to make it through a sentence probably given now to get a better preposition for every punctuation that would ever try to stop us. We can't keep the run on as we come in for these commies cop us to the courts. They shoot for the sport free to revolution coming through with no remorse. CBS says

[00:04:01] If you remember nothing else tonight is that slave ships graduated and evolved into what we know as the prison industrial complex. And hopefully this film. Is a great depiction and explanation of why that's true. Much love peace.

[00:04:17] Can we give it up one more time for real. Be free. So as you may not know is that after we have tonight's screening of overdue Rene's groundbreaking documentary 13 will be free. Also known as Gerald Davis and Dominic Davis. No one no relation but incredible community organizers will join us for an audience talkback. So we have a tight schedule for tonight. I want to start by introducing myself. My name is Davida Ingram and I'm the public engagement programs manager at the library tonight screening of 13th by overdue for name. It's the second installment of our criminal justice series and it's made possible by the Seattle Public Library Foundation. Please join the conversation via Twitter with the hashtag 13 SPL

[00:05:06] And tag us at SPL buzz. And also while we're at it please take a moment to silence her cell phones. We will be screening this film with close captions and it will be followed by a Q and A with again community activist Gerald Davis and Dominic Davis our garage closes at nine thirty tonight.

[00:05:27] I know we said that the film screening and conversation will go until 10:00. We are wrapping up a nine thirty so that means that after the film we'll have Jarell and Dominique come up to share some opening reflections. But I also wanted to to know that we do turn in talks. So in the Seattle Public Library we're built on community and what that means is we want to build community when we do our programs. So when we get ready to do the Q and A we'll ask you to talk to your neighbor about these three questions. How has over incarceration affected your local community after seeing this film what is your vision for criminal justice reform and what is something that you can do today and also tomorrow to help address over incarceration.

[00:06:14] Sound like a plan. So for now let's get ready to start our film screening and directly after the film. Q and A promise to veto. Ingram I'm happy to bring up Dominique Davis and derailed Davis who are two local community activists.

[00:06:31] My colleague day is going to read their bios but I also wanted to just as we settle into the Q and A. For us to take a moment to check in with our neighbors. We mentioned that we wanted to to

have a chance to think about how the film affected too. Also is there ways that you know that communities are organizing to respond to over incarceration so just take a moment to check in with your neighbor and then we'll get the mikes to Darrell and Dominique and they'll share their reflections about 13th and then we'll open up the floor for questions. The mikes are going to run from the back of the auditorium towards the front and then we'll close out for the evening. Thank you. So just take a moment to talk with your neighbor.

[00:07:15] All right everyone. My name is Dave Zang. I'm a librarian at the Seattle Public Library and I'm here to introduce our speakers for tonight Gerald Davis was recently named as one of 15 leaders under 30 to watch out for by South Seattle Emerald throughout all his community work. Darryl has had one main focus making a difference in the lives of youth as a performer. He goes by rail be free. Davis is an educator artist and community activist from the South Seattle. He wears many hats and is Rainier Beach community. He is a servant leader educator at Rainier Beach High School and also coaches basketball at three different elementary schools is also a published poet whose two favorite poets are Tupac and E. Cummings he organizes with Wall block Rainier Beach Action Coalition and Seattle's Peoples Party. Dominic Davis is a co-founder and CEO of Community passageways where he works to bring healing wholeness and hope to marginalized youth in schools prisons and communities. He sits on the King County Juvenile Justice Equity Steering Committee where he works with judges and attorneys to keep young people out of the school to prison pipeline. He also advises that our best Advisory Council to create long term solution strategies to support young black male achievement. He also serves on the mayor's Justice Advisory Committee the planning committee for the Mayor's Youth Opportunity Summit and the immigration Immigrant Family Institute. Community advocate Advisory Committee Dominique also enjoys being a coach and personal trainer in the community.

[00:09:05] That was our cue talking. Well as I've watched this documentary at least four times maybe five and every time I watch it it's still infuriates me. It makes me very angry. I see this personally through my lifetime. On a regular basis all I go down to the juvenile detention centers. I've been to prisons. I grew up in the streets. I watched all my friends go go to prison numerous amounts of times I've been harassed by the police I've been beaten up by the police. I've been robbed by the police. I've been through all this so I've lived it and now it's time to fight against it. So when we stood up and we see these politicians making these laws and we see this prison industrial complex ignore our black and brown people up like it was made to do. When we see these systems because it starts in the communities and in the schools and that's out that's where the system begins. But when we see these systems that are devastating US as a people and we sit back and we wait for these elected officials and these people that are making legislation we're waiting for them to make the change. And when we get frustrated. The only thing we can do is march. That's us. We've been doing that for a long time. Tired of marching and tired of protesting. It's time to stand up and fight back in the way we fight back as we break the system that exists where the people we are the people the system can't run without us letting it run.

[00:10:30] And as long as we keep thinking we're powerless we'll never break this system we've been made to believe that we have leaders and we have to rely on these leaders to make the changes.

When these leaders are the ones that perpetuate what we're seeing and until we realize that this system can't exist without us letting it exist and we start coming together as a people and start putting our feet on our mind our heart and soul into breaking that system we can make that system go away and we can make that system change.

[00:11:05] I know you sit back and think we can. I mean it's probably confused because you are how can we do that. That's exactly what I'm talking about.

[00:11:14] We've been brainwashed into believing we can't we can't break it. Community passes ways is trying to break it right down. And actually we've been doing a good job we've been pulling young brothers and sisters out of the system and building a new narrative for them. When a prosecutor only has a charge sitting in front of them and that's all they're looking at is a case a robbery case.

[00:11:35] This kid just goes out and robs them when all he sees on this paperwork is that this kid took a gun and put it in some guy's face and robbed that person well give us that kid.

[00:11:43] We take that kid. We get that kid in school. Get that kid a job. We take that kid to peacemaking a healing circles dealing with the trauma.

[00:11:51] We take that kid. We make that kid understand that the trauma they've been through. And then they develop their own story. And when they develop their own story of where they came from the trauma they've been through how they ended up in a criminal system and whether what they're doing now and they're able to go out and speak in places like this. We got to we've been a law schools we go to conferences we go to restorative justice events and our kids are speaking up kids are speaking at King County steering committee meetings and in city attorney meetings. And they're going and telling this story. And we put that story on paper. We put it in front of that prosecutor and that judge and say this is how that kid ended up doing this robbery.

[00:12:27] This kid went through this trauma abandonment abuse drug abuse watching his mom get beat dad in prison. And now look where he ended up. This is how he ended up like this. Now look what happened in the last six months since you've been working with us and on our team now he's going to school now he's working now he has a place to live. He hasn't did nothing but good because he just needed some guys. So now the prosecutor has a different narrative to go off off. The judge has a different narrative got to go off.

[00:12:57] But that's a result of community standing up and saying give us the kid give us or you we're not going to sit back and let the system eat them up. We'll take care of our kids. We don't need you to do it.

[00:13:08] Change can be made because there's people in the system that are working in the system that have a heart and an ear and want to do something different right now is a hot time.

[00:13:20] It's hot.

[00:13:21] It's the hot topic now is restorative justice peacemaking in healing alternative prosecutions. And they want to do something different. We need to take advantage of this moment and everybody needs to come together black white brown yellow care what color you are. We all need to come together and build an alliance and build an army of people that I'll start going into these courtrooms and taking people out. And giving them services and opportunity because what's pushing these kids into these positions is there's no opportunity and no hope. We've been stripped of everything pulled out of our country.

[00:13:54] Our language has been stripped from us our history has been stripped from us. We've been beaten abused and battered for hundreds and hundreds of years.

[00:14:01] We have to stand up. We have to fight back. We can't be weak. We all have to offer to where the strongest people are alive because we survive through this other races have been decimated that went through this process of slavery but we're still standing. We're still standing strong but we have to do now is come together and build an alliance and quit shooting at each other and every 28 hours let these white officers are killing us every 20. That was an officer killing a black man or a black woman or a black child every 28 hours but then we're also killing each other because of self-hatred because we've been brainwashed to believe that we are the enemy. How do we fix that.

[00:14:42] We've got to come together we have to fight back. We have to fight back as a unit with the plan to come into the system.

[00:14:52] But we need you to. Because if they just see black people standing up Oh God those black folks again. They go marching in protest. Always complaining but if they see black folks standing up with every other race creed no matter where you come from economically education wise wherever you come from it doesn't matter if we all come together stand it we can break this system.

[00:15:16] I want to say I'm honored to be here right now for ya to be one of the first voices out here and after seeing this film I don't mean to elevate my voice. And so with that said I just want to honor my brother and especially I want to honor the sisters in the room are the women it's men up here right now. But one of the main things that I want to address. Is how this influences women as well. And so in the film it is predominately focused on black and brown men. But the fact is is that the mass incarceration has largely affected young ladies. And I believe that Dr. Bryan Stevenson who is in this figure who was in this film has a figure where he says six hundred percent that the incarceration rates for young women have increased by 600 percent. And so I think one of the things that's missing in this film is it's relativity to young women because I think that's a huge issue as well to know that it's not only young men that are being locked up at extreme rates but also young ladies but then also the fact it's not just black folk. And that's one of the things that we've got to recognize. This ain't just a black issue. This ain't just a Latino issue. This ain't just a poor issue because it has has ripple effects in other elements of our society and that's my main thing that I want to push right now in my low two minutes is the fact that mass incarceration affects multiple facets of society in ways that we may not

intellectualize or identify until we create an analysis on it. OK so we talk about mass incarceration how does that affect the social structure of a family taking fathers away from the family that's affecting students. So when a kid goes to school they got a dad at home that's affecting that's affecting Mom. How many jobs you've got to work that's affecting the community. There is more and more one thing and one thing to say about the black community is that there's a lot of missing men.

[00:17:05] We're not dead as brothers said we're not dead but they're not in our communities. Why a lot of them are dead. They've been killed. They're locked up and as Carlie's Browder I would challenge all of you to go and watch the police brutal story. It's a session that talks about Cleve Browder the young man that was mentioned in the movie the mental trauma the emotional trauma of being incarcerated. How it affects you it puts you into a mentality that you have to live in survival. So then once you do get out. You still have that mentality in your head. And some more than others are able to overcome that. And there are programs in place that are meant to help divert that but a lot of our brothers and sisters are being incarcerated traumatized and then put back in the street and expected to become upstanding citizens without support. So when you go into the system and as we say you don't have to be doing much to be involved in the system. We talked about convict list leaving vagrancy people get in police brought it and do anything. They said that a majority of the people that are in Rikers Island right now. Majority of them are there simply because they can not post bail. So it's not because they're guilty as they do they'll sit behind me. He got up and walked out. Here's the thing is when we come up against these things that may make us uncomfortable or may throw us off a bit or may challenge our worldview we can't get up and walk away.

[00:18:31] We've got to stay and have the conversation because we have to approach everything as a student. I've seen this film four times. I still got three pages of notes that's that says more about my note taking than it does about any any of y'all. But the fact is when we're come up against when we have a preconceived notion or even a learned behavior a social conditioning when we meet something that challenges that social conditioning often times we are. Combative. We don't want to hear it but we've got to get ourselves out of that. And the reality is that most people especially in Seattle are disconnected from the trauma of mass incarceration. I will repeat that. Most people in Seattle people that live in suburbs people that live in wealthy neighborhoods wealthy cities are disconnected from the trauma that directly disconnected from the trauma of mass incarceration. But when you understand that there's a lot of people in your community being affected by this you learn how it affects you because oh those people that are walking down the street that that group of kids that smoking weed near my apartment complex maybe I should call the police on them because they're around too much. And so I just want to open. I'm glad that we're gonna be here to have this conversation.

[00:19:44] I'm looking forward to hear what some of the young women think in the room and how this affected them. But largely I want us to recognize that. Mass incarceration is not just about people being in prison. It's about affecting communities. It's about taking leaders out of communities is about breaking up families homelessness. It affects homelessness as well mental health. OK so there's multiple things that we need to consider when we talk about mass incarceration. Thank you all for listening.

[00:20:11] We're going to take one of the mikes from the front so that we can start opening the floor for Q and A. We probably have time for about five questions. If we're really good I am going to encourage you if you do get the mike. Please keep your question or comment brief under 30 seconds so we can get as many comments and and feel free to direct questions about local organizing towards the front.

[00:20:34] Thank you we have our first question. I don't have a question but I do have a comment.

[00:20:41] When I see how over incarceration affects my community and I've lived in several different places but I feel as if like I have to be a mother to a lot not have to be I want to be I have to be I want to be because some because we're not stepping up as people like we're not even looking at our youth as if they're children. It's almost like there is a generation of people who have sold our soul to maybe technology or party and or whatever it is you do with your life and we've let many systems not just the. Criminal system but the education system and the health care system come in and rape and rob us and our children of

[00:21:35] Of things that we just deserve as being human and one with the education system our children first need to be taught the truth about our history because there is a lie being told to our children from the moment they step into the education system and how can you be a productive member of society if the only leaders and rulers you have to look up to don't have faces that look like yours and every face to to see that look like yours is a face that has been traumatized or abused or crumpled over and so I've always pushed for mandatory black history and whatever other racial toward mandatory history and your culture is will because you don't know where you're going if you don't know where you came from. And we're never going to get a fair shake as black people about the truth about who we are and therefore why people find a job we want to know the truth about why does my race hate so much. Why do we go around and do these things to all these people of color at that what does this mean.

[00:22:44] I would want to know why the other question.

[00:22:47] After seeing me I am I am going to ask if we could wrap it up because we have to get to an audience. But you're on a roll and obviously I'm not going to stop right there.

[00:22:56] So this is one of the first. My first time attending an event like this. I mean it was great to know what the community goes through. I mean a person like me can only imagine. I mean I've never experienced racism firsthand to see this it was like a little overwhelming. But from what I understand is like the way the media portrays these issues like a community in general it paints the entire community with a broad brush. I mean so and and this message goes across Lake over the world. I mean I'm not an American so I come from India. And if you see the media propagates this message that OK America has this problem that criminals and most of them are from a certain community. So it sends out the message that Okay you have a lot of bad apples from this community. So I guess we should you know try not to paint each community like each community gets dearer diarrhea. The

same thing going on with Asians at African-Americans with all sorts of people. So I think this is a right step in the right direction to you know kind of folk show a showcase like that. We have people from all sorts of backgrounds and it was nice knowing that even anyone from any background can grow up to be a productive citizen of society if they're given an opportunity. So I thought this was a great step in the right direction.

[00:24:20] What is the best way you think that we could get a Washington State Parole Board. How can we get sentences commuted more so how can we get public policymakers more in touch very in touch with the people that are making policies out because they are very disconnected.

[00:24:37] That's an amazing question sir. I think that we should start by getting policymakers to actually see the faces of these people that they're making policies about and for right they said that President Obama was the first sitting president in the history of the United States to actually visit a prison.

[00:24:57] Right.

[00:24:58] And when you're able to be literally disconnected and that's the passive power segregation when you live in segregated communities you don't have to see the people that you're stepping on for your lifestyle to persist. And so I think that we should start by these policy makers need to be visiting the places that they're setting policy for they need to visit the juvenile detention centers. They need to visit the prisons and have conversations with people in communities. Right. The first time that a prosecutor sees someone they're prosecuting likely is at the time of prosecution a lot of times that black and brown men are having conversations with police officers is when we're right here.

[00:25:38] Right. Other than that we're not having we're not in community. We're not talking we're not seeing you right. We're not speaking with each other you don't know me. And so I think it starts of relationship at least there at this point.

[00:25:50] You know I think it's a few steps to start trying to change the minds of policymakers. Right. There's no first there's not one step that's just gonna get straight and cut to the core. Right. We've got a baby steps we got to get there. So I think starting with getting these people in the same place the same room before they're in the system to have a relationship building.

[00:26:12] I think that could be a good start.

[00:26:14] It could be policy. Like I said I'm not parole boards. People that are calling the shots I've lost faith in them so I'm not worried about what they're going to change. I'm worried about what we can change. Right. That's number one. Number two one of the things that have been incredible that I've seen happen and seen some really some hearts and minds really change is when I do peacemaking and healing circles with juveniles that were in juvenile detention or prison or or ex prisoners that been locked up for most of your life sitting in circles with judges and prosecutors and we and we've done three day circles eight hours a day and those men end up hugging each other in

tears. Right now all the sudden they've been humanized to each other. You're no longer just an image to me a case number to me or labeled as an ex fill in our economy. Now you're Johnny and Johnny. I know the trauma you've been through.

[00:27:13] But to him I'm a judge and I've been through some trauma to them in real life.

[00:27:18] So now I'm tapping into my own trauma and realizing the only difference between me as a judge or a prosecutor and the person is sitting across from me is the fact that they had way less opportunities and and way less resources and but I could have ended up just like them if I was in their shoes.

[00:27:36] All right. I know that sounds like something that would take forever to change the hearts and minds and the perspectives of a lot of judges and prosecutors. But we got to start somewhere right. And if we can start right now start planting those seeds right now because I could bring some judges and prosecutors in here right now that says we're tired of locking people up and I mean it's hurting them which you don't really think about. You don't think a judge is hurting from locking somebody up or a prosecutor is hurting from locking somebody up. But we have literally planted those seeds and built those relationships where now when they see those kids come into the courtroom there's some empathy there. And that's what we got to start doing. And if we can blow this up and make it bigger which we're in the process of working on now. But as we blow this up and make it bigger long after I'm gone it could probably be huge. We're working on a new way of doing court a new punitive system well not the punitive system but a community system a community court is what we're working on right now and the prosecutors and the judges and D.A. are at the table with us and they're talking about this with us. Right. So instead of this kid getting charged with this gun first time gun charge he's got his first offense getting caught with a gun he's probably holding it to protect himself or some because he's in some crazy areas. But at the end of the day that kid shouldn't get put in jail or prison that kid comes to the community court in a community court takes him through the process of healing building the healing circles we'll sit down with the prosecutor and the judge and in the end the parents in his youth and we start you know what does this kid he was this kid been doing what does this kid need to be successful let's build a support team around him and let's make sure we push this kid in the right direction all they need is the right people in their ear.

[00:29:19] Ashley those kids that just left one of those kids had four felonies and was Get ready to be charged as an adult. It's 17 year old 16 years old. He's now 17. He was on his way to adult prison but because of the work he was doing with us and because we were able to build a different narrative and able to bring him in front of the top prosecutors in King County and have him tell his story those charges are gone you know felonies he's not going to prison he's going to school he has a job he's being responsible and he has a team of mentors. That's one of my mentors that's one of my mentors. And that's one of my mentors right there. I've got guys everywhere I go I've got teams that I'm built no army it has to start somewhere. So like I said I'm not worried about them. Them making the change. I'm worried about changing them.

[00:30:07] And then breaking the system.

[00:30:08] So you're good. You have to excuse my ignorance on this but I understand that SBT has been under investigation from the Justice Department for excessive violence abuse for excessive force and force. And so I was I heard Andre Taylor in the press conference because the prosecuting attorney did not stem it or not do not prosecute the shooting officer. Not convicting. Yeah. So that's why I'm saying. Excuse my ignorance in this because I'm you know I just hear this stuff I don't really understand what's completely going on. So maybe you can talk about what the Justice Department has decided on as far as PD what they're doing about the law about the malice law and the malice looks I go to the not there's time meetings on Wednesday. So I know Andre's trying to change the law. But if you can maybe go on about what the Justice Department has said for speedy and their use of force.

[00:30:59] So what he's referring to is that within I want to say so I say it's a referendum. It says that in order to convict a police officer as being a homicide versus you know being an active in the line of work you have to prove malice and malicious intent. And that's what's kept a lot of these officers that I've shot young men that are unarmed downwards kept them on the street and without getting fired. Is the fact that you have to prove in a court of law most malicious intent.

[00:31:30] So you have to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that this officer with intention wanted to murder this person and had no connection to his his job once the police officer says that they felt threatened malice goes out the door and it will never be talked about again. So brother Andre Taylor who is a young man Shea Taylor who was shot in 2016 by police officers stories just absolute lies as the media put out. They posted his criminal past criminal record the very day that they posted the information about the shooting which they are not able to do right. That's illegal you don't post criminal information to try to legitimate why police officers extra judiciously killed somebody. OK. His brother Andre Taylor started an organization not this time which is seeking to get that statement taken out. So I believe that the question was just what is CPD and the judicial system just what what's going on with him right now and yeah. So that conversation is still being had. Two weeks ago three weeks ago brother Andre Taylor came and spoke at Rainier Beach High School on the same day after he got the announcement that they are not going to be convicting the murder of Shay Taylor which if you look at the evidence in the case like it proves that he was just killed. Right. And so there's a lot of the lot happening a lot of organizing being done around it. There's been two hundred and ten million dollars being put out for a new youth prison I saw on 12th and spruce.

[00:32:53] You can drive by anytime and see that they're building right now which in 2015 the city council had a vote for a resolution that we would move our city towards no more youth detention. OK. A year and a half later they're still pulling two hundred and ten million dollars up and currently building a new facility that doesn't look like a move towards no youth detention. Does it. I just wanted to place a plug for what brother was saying about restorative justice. I ran a beach high school and all high schools. The punitive system within within schools is very similar to the punitive system in our societies where in get three suspensions a lot of times people are getting kicked out of school. And the way that the security guards and the administration treat students is very similar to the way corrections officers and police officers treats the society members for the things that render Beach

we're trying to get rid of is detention suspension and expulsion through restorative justice conversations. And so through having a conversation where you identify the trauma and the harm being done instead of punishing someone because we've proven that suspension doesn't keep kids from getting suspended I got suspended multiple times being suspended didn't keep me from getting suspended. Right. So it's just it's an outdated system that doesn't work. And when you learn that things don't work you got to try new things. Right. And I think that that's where the system is currently at. Where we're saying hey

[00:34:15] Proof proof proof that shit don't work. It's continually harming our communities. You need to try something different. Here's an idea. Now whether they take it or leave it will depend completely upon their integrity. I don't have much faith in that.

[00:34:32] What was powerful is that we're doing the young lady that just lived. I was trying to get her stay she. I'm training her to do peacemaking and healing circles. Right now I'm in a camp Phoenix Academy alternative school in Kent Lake and couple other Kent schools and a couple of Seattle schools are calling me to come to the table some Tacoma schools to call me because what we're doing is just like this brother said the restorative justice piece we're doing is peace making and healing circles in the schools I'm telling them.

[00:34:54] Give me your highest at risk you give me your your top 10 highest at risk youth. Most absences the most referrals the most expulsion suspension every day I give me those kids and we're taking those kids and we put them in so and we're dealing with their trauma. We're taking them through a process of healing and then we're bringing those teachers that had the most problems with because it's always the same handful of teachers in every school that's kicking those kids out and throwing them all those kids that give you the same names over and over again.

[00:35:19] And we deal with the teachers and take them through a training on their own take them to some human circles have them deal with their trauma and we bring them all together. And we've been able bringing in that system right there was just in the last when we did two weeks ago up in the kit Phoenix Academy and it was about 10 young brothers and about seven teachers and we got together and within an hour everybody in that room was in tears in an hour.

[00:35:39] And everybody was hugging each other. And within an hour it was so much trauma in that room. Everybody right.

[00:35:47] These students are having enough problems outside the community just to make it the school's hard just to get up and get into. Walk through the building is hard to the young men have witnessed their best friends get killed within the last couple months. Was there watching your friends die and then I got to get up and come to school every day with that trauma when they were coming to school at a friend's every day. And now they lost him Don. You know how hard it is as a 16 year old no kind of trauma that is. And for some reason they're acting up in class. So we got to kick them out. But the teachers didn't know. I just wanna say thank you everybody for coming. This is the kind of things that these things we have to do. Watch these kind of the hard questions. It's time for us to start

talking and having hard core conversations and not be politically correct about it. I need to know how you feel about black folks and black folks need to tell you how they feel about you and why we think that about you. And then let's talk about where those thoughts come from and how we develop those thoughts and then let's talk about how we get through them and heal them because we're never gonna to deal with them if we keep sitting up having surface conversations.

[00:36:49] Thank you. Last Comments from Darryl. I got to say peace y'all get home safely. This podcast was presented by the Seattle Public Library and Foundation and made possible by your contributions to the Seattle Public Library Foundation. Thanks for listening.