

10/16/22

Dear Readers,

First and foremost, I'm sincerely hoping that this essay has found all my readers in the best of health and in the best of spirits. As for me, I've been faced with many unforgettable trials and tribulations within the past ten years that I've been incarcerated within the Florida Department of Corrections. But as rain doesn't break through a well built house, trials and tribulations doesn't break through a well grounded mind. Thus, I continue to face life head on no matter what the oppositions may be because what doesn't kill you, will only make you stronger emotionally, mentally, and spiritually, which is something I've learnt through personal life experiences. My trials and tribulations is actually what has made me decide to write this essay because I would like to shed some light on the corruption that's currently taking place within the Florida prison systems all throughout the state of Florida, mainly at Security housing units.

Now, before I dive into the depths of this essay, I'll first like to start by introducing myself. My name is Shaquon Johnson and I'm currently 28 years young, standing at 5'9" with a brown skin complexion that matches my brown eyes. I was born on 4/11/1994 back in the Virgin Islands (St. Croix) where I resided most of my entire life. I relocated to Orlando Florida in 2012 with the intentions of doing something positive with my life. But instead, I fell victim to the self destructive path of life, which led to me getting locked up at the age of 18 and sentenced to 15 years in prison for armed robbery. The good thing is that coming to prison has not only humbled me and brought me closer to God. But it has also opened my eyes to the reality of life and made me change my entire perspective on life. I can honestly say that I'll never return to the streets once I'm released from prison because the "street life" isn't worth the pain and suffering that comes with being in prison. In addition to that, since being incarcerated, I've wrote four novels so far that I plan to self publish pretty soon, which shows that coming to prison was actually a blessing in disguise. The only problem I've constantly been having is with prison officials and their corrupted ways. I've never witnessed or experience this much corruption in my entire life. I've not only been sexually and violently physically assaulted by prison officials. But I

was also attacked by another inmate on behalf of prison officials and for most of these incidents the nurses denied me medical attention in attempt to cover up for these issues. It even gotten to a point where I attempted to commit suicide on numerous occasions to escape from the oppression and the mental health staff members literally left me bleeding out inside of my cell from self inflicted injuries. If it wasn't for my wounds getting clogged up by blood, I would have probably bleed to death. I've reached out to the prison's administration on numerous occasions in regards to these issues I've been having and the Administration has done absolutely nothing because the Administration knows that prison officials are treating me this way out of retaliation for me being a prison activist here in the state of Florida. It has even gotten to a point where my family and my lawyers has been complaining that they have not been receiving my letters because the prison administration has been trying everything in their power to cut off my communication with the outside world to prevent me from further litigating against prison officials. I'm not even sure if this essay is going to reach you guys without prison officials intercepting it. But if it does, then I'm sincerely praying that my readers would assist me with shedding some light on the corruption that's currently taking place with the Florida prison system because this is not just happening to me. It's happening to inmates all through the state of Florida and the only way for this to stop is for the people of society to assist inmates with making the people of society more aware of what's really going on behind these prison gates because people deserves to be treated the way prison officials are currently treating us. I'm actually currently in the process of trying to lay the foundation of a non profit organization to assist inmates with litigating and exposing corrupted prison officials. The only problem I've been having is finding people in society to assist me with laying the foundation of this non profit organization, which is why I've decided to write this essay in hopes that my readers will reach out to me to assist me with this non profit organization because the corruption in the Florida prison system is only getting worst by the day.

For example, in the Florida prison system, there's something called "Property Destruction", which is when prison officials takes away all of an inmate's property for allegedly "misusing" it and leaves the inmate to sleep on the hard

Cold steel bunk in just a pair of boxers. The worst part about it all, is that prison officials are doing this to inmates even in the cold winter season and they're not doing this because an inmate ~~is~~ "misuses" his property. But simply to punish inmates and this is something I've experienced personally or witnessed on numerous occasions. I'm actually currently in the process of trying to find a lawyer to file a class action lawsuit in regards to this issue because most states has abolished the use of "property restriction" in prisons deeming it cruel and unusual treatment of an inmate, which proves that Florida prison officials shouldn't be treating us this way.

Another example, there's something called the "Cell Extraction Team", which is five officers dressed in riot gear who's sole purpose is to go inside of a cell and restrain an inmate that allegedly "refuses" to submit to handcuffs. However, in the Florida prison system, prison officials are simply using this as a tool to assault inmates by going into the inmate cell and brutally beating the inmate by kicking him, elbowing him, kneeling him, punching him with hand-cuffs around their knuckles, and even breaking their bones and once again I'm speaking from personal experiences. I'm also in the process of trying to find a lawyer to file a class action lawsuit in regards to this issue as well because the only way to stop this is by making the civil courts enforce that the "Cell Extraction Team" wear body cameras during these cell extractions.

Consequently, it was an absolute pleasure to have write this meaningful essay and I'm sincerely hoping that some of my readers will reach out to me because the two examples above are ~~not~~ nothing compared to what else prisoners are being faced with in the Florida prison system. I'm enclosing my contact information to the bottom of this essay for anyone wishing to reach out to me. Thank you for your attention in this matter and have a bless day!

Sincerely, Shaquan Johnson

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