

Lised Banegas

Interview

Interviewer: Today we have two special guests with us. Two journalists with great stories to talk to us about. Please welcome Lee Brown and Radley Balko.

Lee Brown/Radley Balko: Hello. Thanks for having us.

Interviewer: Our pleasure. Here are some questions I've been meaning to ask you about your career and about a report you guys have recently done.

Lee Brown/Radley Balko: Ok go ahead.

Interviewer: This one goes to Lee Brown, what was it like writing "Cop resigns after video shows him slamming 11-year-old girl onto ground" for you?

Lee Brown (nypost.com): This article was very tough to write because it's very hard and sad to see police brutality happen to young girls. The girl may have done something incorrect but it was not for the police to treat her that way. It's hard to see police act this way not only to adults but to children. I want to show the world, how police are using too much power to stop something from happening.

Interviewer: It must have been a long process and a difficult topic to write about.

Lee Brown (Nypost.com): It was!

Interviewer: What type of topics do you mostly write about?

Lee Brown (Nypost.com): The type of topics I write about varies. I write about everything I find interesting, everything that happens in the world. I want to open people's eyes. This is my passion, to write articles about what's happening in the world.

Interviewer: I agree with you because people need to see what's happening in the world that they live in today.

Lee Brown: Exactly!

Interviewer: This question goes to both of you, What factors do you think contribute to police brutality, racism or power?

Lee Brown: Wow! That's a good question to think about. Well I say power contributes to police brutality because police officers think they have the power to use violence against anyone even if they ended up being innocent. Like in the article I wrote, the police officer had all the power in his hands and used it against the little girl. Violence should never be the answer.

Radley Balko: I agree with you but I also say racism contributes to police brutality because In the article that I wrote there were many cases where racism was the main reason people were being caught by the police. For example, I gathered the information that black drivers are more likely to get pulled over rather than white drivers and getting treated with less respect than white people. Racism and power contribute to police brutality.

Interviewer: Radley Balko, how did you gather all the information you have in your article?

Radley Balko: It was a lot of investigating, I used peer reviewed studies that don't require a lot of statistical analysis. I asked people to email me information they find so then I can see if its accurate and add it to my paper. I used a lot of help from people.

Interviewer: Very impressive what you had to do to gather your information. One last question for Radley Balko and Lee Brown to finish it up? I'm pretty sure you both heard the case about Eric Garner. How do you guys feel about this case?

Lee Brown: I have heard of that case, that it was all over the news. I felt unhappy and mad because the police officers treated him very brutally. They were hurting him, they were choking him and he couldn't breathe and they didn't stop.

Radley Balko: I agree with Brown, I have also heard that case and it breaks my heart to see how police act against citizens. They should have stopped when he was saying he couldn't breathe. This is an act of police brutality and this should be illegal.

Lee Brown: Police brutality is everywhere and we should do something to stop it.

Radley Balko: It needs to stop.

Interviewer: I agree as well because police brutality is now seen everywhere and it should stop. Well that's all the questions for today. Thank you for coming. It was a pleasure to have you guys here. A round of applause for Lee Brown and Radley Balko

Radley Balko/Lee Brown: Anytime and thank you for having us!

References

- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/opinions/wp/2018/09/18/theres-overwhelming-evidence-that-the-criminal-justice-system-is-racist-heres-the-proof/>
- <https://nypost.com/2019/10/23/cop-resigns-after-video-shows-him-slamming-11-year-old-girl-onto-ground/>