

**Social Science Department  
Grades 6-8  
Current Events Reflection**

**We continue to hope for reduced anxiety, safety and healthiness for you and your family. As the school year starts winding down and so many current events are swirling all around us, it might be a good time to break from studying history and address some of those current issues surrounding us that will surely be in the history books of future students. Will virtual learning (VL) will be the norm when your kids go to school one day?**

**DIRECTIONS:**

Respond to as many of the prompts or questions below in any format or length that you feel is the best way for you to express yourself (artwork, poetry, short-answer responses, etc.). You don't have to respond to all of them, just those that resonate with you for whatever reason. It does not even have to be something from below, it could be any topic that you'd like to speak about and maybe discuss.

**Have you been following the news?**

**What is your reaction to the events that have taken place this past week?**

- Mr. Floyd's death while in police custody.
- *The protests that have erupted in at least 75 cities across the United States, including Brockton.*
- Reactions by politicians and the media.
- Use of force at the protests by the police.
- *Or any other aspect of this news, which continues to break.*

**George Floyd died in Minneapolis.**

- Why do you think protests have spread to so many other cities?
- Have you participated in any of the protests?
- Do you know anyone who has?
- *How do these protests, and the movement to protest police violence, connect to your life and community?*

**All of this is playing out during a pandemic that has kept much of the nation at home for months, numerous job losses, and the public divided on politics and culture.**

- *What role do you think these three factors — the **coronavirus**, the **unemployment rate**, and the **nation's political divisions** — are playing in the protests and violence?*

*Please remember to reach out to your teachers, guidance counselors, adjustment counselors, or school administration if you are having overwhelming feelings regarding everything that is happening. We are here to help and guide you through this difficult time. Stay safe and healthy!*