

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Columbia Student Groups Invite Community to Join them at Ferguson Solidarity Rally and Town Hall

Rally: Monday, Sept. 15, 6:30pm
Where: Butler Lawn, Columbia University

Town Hall: Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:30 pm
Where: Columbia Law School, Room 104

The New York community is invited to attend both events which are open to the public.

The rally, titled “He Was No Angel”: The Re-Valuing of Black Life is organized by Columbia students to stand in solidarity with the sustained resistance in Ferguson and to reject the historically overzealous response to community protest by increasingly militarized police. We seek to bring awareness to issues of racism, fear, and police brutality that result in the devaluation and loss of black life. Attendees are invited to participate in a candlelight vigil and moment of silence for the many named and unnamed victims of racialized police brutality. Guests are encouraged to bring candles.

The town hall, titled “Now What? The Role of Millenials in the Aftermath of Ferguson” is aimed at discussing and identifying constructive ways the community can act on the issues raised by the death of Mike Brown and subsequent Ferguson protest which would lead to substantive change. This issue has been very emotional for people so we aim to facilitate dialogue where we not only hear from key stakeholder groups but also outline action steps that address these prominent issues. Keeping with the themes of change and agency, the Town Hall will be very interactive and action-oriented.

Events are organized and sponsored by the following organizations:

The Columbia Black Law School Association, The Harvard Black Alumni Society of New York, Columbia Students Against Mass Incarceration, Columbia School of Social Work Black Caucus, Columbia School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) Students of Color, The Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity-Omicron Chapter, and concerned community members and Columbia University scholars.

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- Student Speaker from the Columbia group Students Against Mass Incarceration
- Loren Cobbs, Organizer
- Columbia students and local citizens present at the event

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