



Girl Security Statement on Racism and National Security

At Girl Security, the reality of how race and identity shape our security experiences as well as our understanding of national security is central to our model. Through discourse, girls of color from Dallas to Chicago to Boston express candidly how their race impacts their personal security from childhood.

Anyone who says that systemic racism does not exist in law enforcement, the judicial system, healthcare, housing, education, and many other systems, has never availed themselves of the lessons of Black Americans' experiences throughout history to present, or the boundless analysis on systemic racism.

To deny that systemic racism exists deprives the "good" 99.9 percent of every system of the immense value of actual awareness, which would benefit one's personal and professional capacity, but also contribute to a deeper, collective understanding of how nearly imperceptible racism may sometimes be in policies, processes, and people, when it is not so visible or caught on camera.

We will continue to boost those working on these issues every day. We will continue to boost the voices of girls of color discussing how their security experiences shape their perceptions of national security in our programming. We will continue to forge a discourse around national security that begins with, "What does security mean to you?"