

Brittany Battle Timestamps

- 1:30- Can you explain the Occupy Winston-Salem Movement and what that is like?
 - On day 5
 - meeting/doing programming for 5-6 hours a day for this, very hot outside while occupying, lots of moving parts
- 3:31- Can you speak more to the fluidity of the everyday?
 - You never know when people will show up and want a statement or when organizations will come, etc.
 - Can schedule but people come at different times
 - Lunches and dinners, counter-protestors, vigil
- 5:16- What are the intersections between the experience of protesting right now and public health concerns (COVID-19)?
 - very cautious about COVID- require and always have extra masks, always have hand sanitizer, wipe things down constantly, outside
 - Definitely still a concern, especially as a black woman → very diligent and intentional about everything they do
 - Willing to take the risk of COVID-19 to protect themselves from other racially-charged violence
- 8:13- Is this particular occupation in response to the John Neville killing in a Forsyth County jail?
 - Yes, in direct response to that and the responses to protests following that event
 - She was arrested on July 8th and was injured while she was being arrested among others
- 9:35- Can you talk about your experience being arrested and your interaction with the police officer?
 - Lots of pictures from the event
 - She was not impeding traffic and was dealt with disproportionate aggression
 - Police had an LRAD machine on the scene→ can cause permanent hearing damage, very violent tool used to stop protests
- 12:10- And there hasn't been any action by the county to hold people responsible for John Neville's death responsible?

- Yes- charges against 5 officers but this just happened and he was killed in December 2019
- 13:24- Why is this case, which happened in December, just now coming to light?
 - The public didn't know- it wasn't announced by the sheriff's office or the DA when it happened
 - Gruesome- hogtied for 45 minutes, said he couldn't breathe → very similar to George Floyd case
- 14:51- Do you think that protests in Winston-Salem have changed since the discourse can now be centered around Winston-Salem?
 - Now → 20 community members have been arrested for protesting, relationships between protestors and the police/sheriff are much more strained now
 - Felt the need to kick up the protests because their nightly ones were not being heard
 - Occupying downtown to educate people about his case and bring attention to it
- 17:39- Is there a significant police presence now at the occupation?
 - No- not posted there but do drive by in marked and unmarked vehicles
 - Always assume that they're being watched
- 18:30- Can you speak about the programming and education that happens during the day?
 - The movement is multi-dimensional
 - Need education so that people really understand how the systems operate
 - Bring in people from lots of different organizations to talk about specific topics- food insecurity, mental health, meditation
 - She is a part of the Triad Abolition Project
- 21:28- Can you describe the work of the Triad Abolition Project more?
 - Formed a month and a half ago from this interview date
 - Project that is working to disseminate resources about abolition/ research
 - Main group doing research and organization around John Neville's case- doing press releases, giving accurate information to media sources
 - Also The Unity Coalition- new organization, focused on connecting organization to resources

- 24:00- I've seen a lot of grassroots organizations come up in the past couple of months- do you think that this makes information about these issues more available and communicable?
 - Important for a successful movement- more accessible to the people
 - ACLU good on a national level, but not as accessible to the everyday person in the everyday community
 - Building strong communities through the occupation → will sustain community work after the occupation is over
- 27:26- These occupations are centered around the death of John Neville, but they also bring to light and bring attention to other injustices that are in our everyday systems.
 - All of the systems are tied together and all are biased → it runs deep
- 29:30- It's currently day 5- where do you see this occupation going, and are there certain demands you're looking to elicit from the county?
 - Found online: questions about John Neville's death + demands to drop charges against protestors that were arrested + changes to policy that led to his death
- 31:05- What is the long-term vision of the Triad Abolition Project?
 - Abolishing the carceral state - recognize it may not happen in their lifetime but pushing for steps in that direction → defunding the police and funding the communities instead
- 32:24- Is there anything that's important that you would like to share?
 - Urged to read the press releases so you can understand the timeline and the facts around John Neville's case
- **good images of her protesting from the Winston-Salem journal- look for them and get permission from the photographers**