

**MILITARY BRATS:
A Living Study in Race Relations**

**Donna Musil (info@bratsourjourneyhome.com)
Brats Without Borders**

Abstract

In 1948, President Harry Truman issued Executive Order 9981, desegregating the United States military. Much has been written about the Order's effect on soldiers; almost none about the powerful effect it has had on generations of military children, who began living in the same neighborhoods and attending the same schools, churches, and playgrounds – twenty years before the Civil Rights Movement exploded. Racist speech was also prohibited and defiant children were immediately reported to their parent's commanding officer, who could reprimand or demote their parent. How did this shape the racial attitudes and identity of military children? How have they benefitted and what have been the biggest challenges transitioning out of the military? How might their experiences provide a window into possible solutions for other areas torn by racial strife? These are just a few of the questions "Military Brats: A Living Study in Race Relations" will discuss.

Keywords: military brats, integration, experiment, generational

Welcome to VA Tech's 3rd Annual
Veterans in Society Conference

Panel 4: What is Veteran's Studies?

MILITARY BRATS:

A Living Study in Race Relations

Presenter:

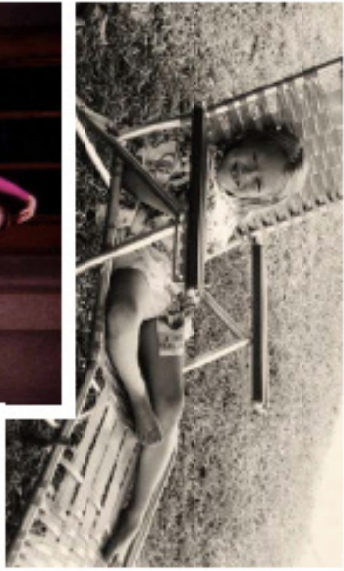
Donna Musil, JD, ABJ

**Executive Director, Brats Without Borders
Army Brat & Writer/Director, BRATS: Our Journey Home,
The First Documentary About Growing Up Military**

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Just Another Army Brat...



© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Executive Order 9981

EXECUTIVE ORDER

“... there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed forces without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.”



me as President
NOW, THE
© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Commander in Chief of the

DOD Schools Act Quickly



http://www.digitallibraries.com/html_ebooks/108146/20587/www.digitallibraries.com@20587-1-@20587-1-10.htm

READING CLASS IN MILITARY DEPENDENTS SCHOOL

Yokohama, Japan, 1955

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

“BRATS: Our Journey Home”

(BOJH_RaceClips1_102615_w)

Video Transcript, excerpts from *BRATS: Our Journey Home*,
written & directed by Donna Musil, narrated by Kris Kristofferson:

- o Morten Ender, Professor of Sociology, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, the United States Military Academy at West Point: *The military is the only place in American society where black people and Hispanic people routinely boss around white people.*
- o Valerie Anderson, Army Brat: *You were blue or you were green or you were khaki and you were American.*
- o General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, Army Brat: *I never looked at somebody as a black officer. I looked at them as an officer. I never looked at someone as a black soldier. I looked at them as a member of the Army, uh, and we were a team.*
- o Olga Ramos, Air Force Brat: *The other thing that is very unique, I think, to, to growing up on a military base is the fact that you don't have control over who your neighbors are. And it forced an integration in neighborhoods that really, even in the United States today, you don't see.*
- o George Junne, Chair, Africana Studies, University of Northern Colorado: *In the military, on those bases, when I was there, zero tolerance for race and racism. It didn't matter what you thought, you could not act on it. The soldiers could go out and have their little riots and do everything like that, but it better not be in the school system.*
- o Kris Kristofferson, Narrator: *This may be one of the reasons brats – forty percent of whom are minorities – routinely outscore their public school peers. Why three times as many of us get college degrees.*
- o George Junne: *I scored in the 97th percentile of the Scholastic Aptitude Test. It means only three percent of people in the United States did better than me that particular year.*
- o Kris Kristofferson, Narrator: *But only his military teacher in Germany told George's parents he was college material. His civilian teachers in New Jersey didn't seem to notice.*
- o George Junne: *They said I was a good student. I dressed well. You know, that's one of these kinds of things. You know, he might be black but he dresses real nice.*
- o Peter Grammer, Army Brat: *I'm sure on an individual basis there is prejudice, but on the whole there isn't. And I feel like when people from different backgrounds and races have to live together and work together on a daily basis to where they really get to know each other, they really understand that one group is not any less capable than another group and some of those prejudices start to, start to disappear.*

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Off-Base Was a Different Story



© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

"I can remember their faces looking at me on the school bus. Why are you on the school bus of all white people? Why are you going to that school that I can't go to? That I live nearby? Why are you allowed to go places we can't go?"

**Michelle Green, Air Force Brat,
Daughter of Tuskegee Airman**

“BRATS: Our Journey Home”

(BOJH_RaceClips2_102815_w)

Video Transcript, excerpts from *BRATS: Our Journey Home*,
written & directed by Donna Musil, narrated by Kris Kristofferson:

- o General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, Army Brat: *Well, you know, I'd have some people come in sometimes over in the Gulf War and say oh gosh, we got to solve this cultural problem. See, the Arabs think this way and we think that way and we've got to prove to them that we're right. And I thought, that was kind of cheeky when you consider that our culture at that time was 214 years old and theirs was 5000 years old, and we're going to tell them we're right and they're wrong?*
- o Laird Knight, Army Brat: *I pledge allegiance to every human being I ever run into anymore. I support everybody's rights, not just America's rights.*
- o George Junne, Army Brat, Chair, Department of Africana Studies, University of Northern Colorado: *One of the difficulties is that, not only is stereotyping coming from non-blacks, but also it's coming from blacks.*
- o Kris Kristofferson, Narrator: *When Michelle was in college, she was asked to give a speech at an important event.*
- o Michelle Green, Air Force Brat: *This was to be a big deal – to have a student deliver the keynote. And so I was a bit concerned about what do I talk about. What experiences would you like me to share? I'm kind of new to this. And she said, well, you know, tell them a little bit about your background, your growing up in a broken family and the inner city and the struggle you had to overcome, and academically what it took for you to achieve, and the hardship. And this is the kind of story she was looking for. And obviously this was not my story.*
- o Kris Kristofferson, Narrator: *This does not mean we're not proud of our cultural heritage or don't want to explore it.*
- o George Junne: *I'm not trying to avoid race. I'm a black male. And so I'm not trying to say it's not important, because there's a lot of history and culture that's very important, ... at least for me and my family. But that's not the primary thing of who George Junne is. It's who am I? Am I a good person? Do I treat people well?*
- o Olga Ramos, Air Force Brat: *I've absolutely been accused of acting white by different individuals that are part of different Hispanic communities. And I consider that an enormous insult to my character simply because you shouldn't have to act any way just because of your culture or your ethnicity or your race or any of that. You should just be exactly who it is that you are.*

Racist Speech Criminalized



Stateside military bases were “islands of integration in a sea of Jim Crow.”
— Sociologist Charles Moskos

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Decreased Intergenerational Racism

When I first went to Kaiserslautern High School, at noon time in the gym ... they had music that was playing. I'm sitting there eating my lunch... and I look up and there's this black guy and this white girl dancing. I said, 'Oh, my God!'

I got the doors lined up. I had a little pocket knife. Because when the stuff happens, I'm out of here... And the song went on, they danced, they sat down, and nothing happened.

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved. That was 1958. - George Junne



Brats of Color Outperform

EDUCATION

Why Are Students at Military Base Schools Out-Achieving Their Civilian Peers?

Kids educated on military bases regularly outscore kids educated in public schools on national assessment tests. Is the model replicable?

By [S.E. Smith / AlterNet](#)

December 12, 2011



If someone asked you to describe expected achievement scores in a student population where a) many have high personal debt with only a single parent at home; b) 40% of the school population is Latino or black; and c) students can expect to change schools between six and nine times as they move through primary and secondary school, "below average results" would probably come to mind. All c

assume, could contribute to difficulty with n setting students up for an uphill struggle in t

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

The New York Times

EDUCATION | ON EDUCATION

Military Children Stay a Step Ahead of Public School Students

By [MARGARET WUNDERLIP](#) DEC. 11, 2011

CAMP LEJUNES, N.C. — The results are from public tests the 2011 federal testing program known as NAEP, the National Assessment of Educational Progress. And once again, schools on the nation's military bases for fourth and sixth graders outperformed public schools on both reading and math tests for fourth and eighth graders.

At the nation's base schools, 39 percent of fourth graders were tested as proficient in reading, compared with 32 percent of all public school students.

Even more impressive, the achievement gap between black and white students continues to be much smaller at military base schools and is shrinking faster than at public schools.

Military base schools outperforming public schools on tests—despite deemphasizing tests

MON DEC 12, 2011 AT 01:12 PM PST

by [Laura Clawson](#) for Daily Kos Labor

4 | 0 | 16 Comments / 10 New



standardized tests, which "are used as originall



Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

✓ Don't presume racism...

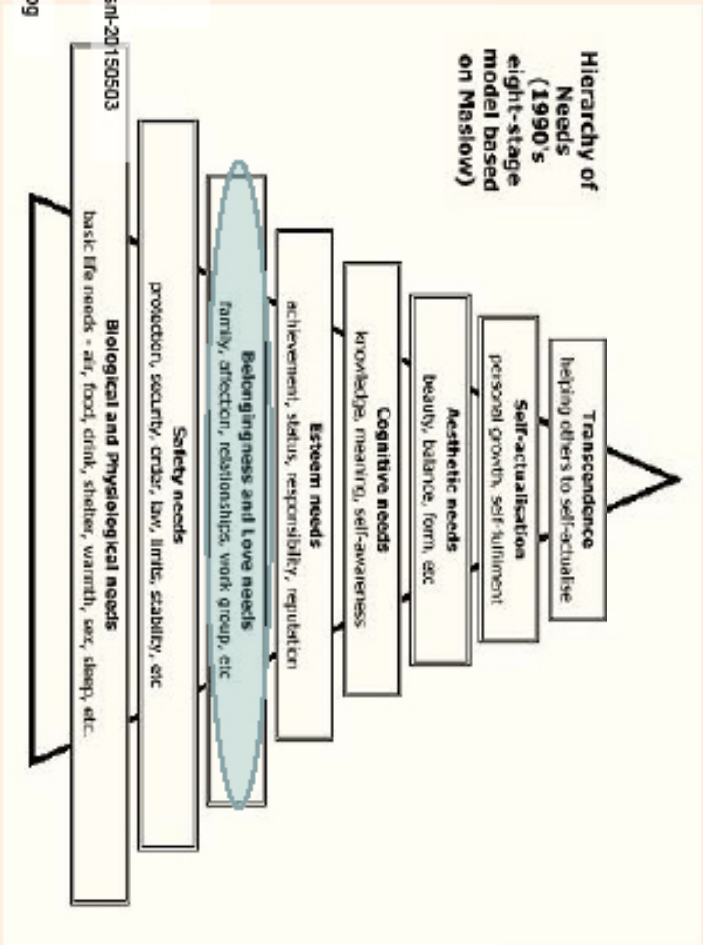
✓ Appreciate the bigger picture...

✓ Don't feel as limited by racial stereotypes...

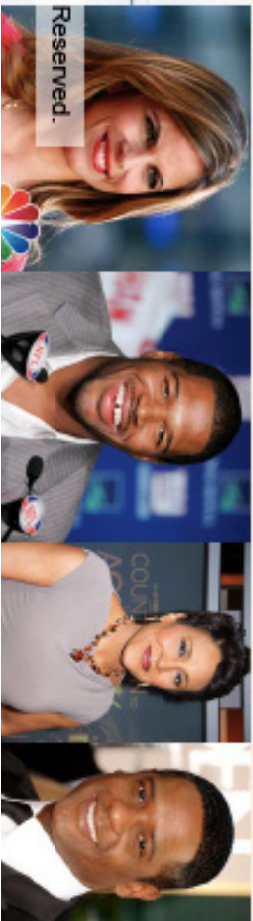
Belonging Issues



<http://simplymiddle.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/sad.jpg>
<http://communications.yale.edu/poynter/2013/02/05/charityne-hunter-gault>
http://www.cleveland.com/hv/index.ssf/2012/06/ann_cunry_makes_il_official_sl.html
<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/videos/wiz-khalifa-brings-missy-see-you-again-to-em-201150503>
<https://theliter.com/n/moralesnbc>
<http://nextimpulsesports.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/strahan.121110.210223.jpg>
<http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20602926,00.html>
<http://www.lmdb.com/name/nmd005516/>



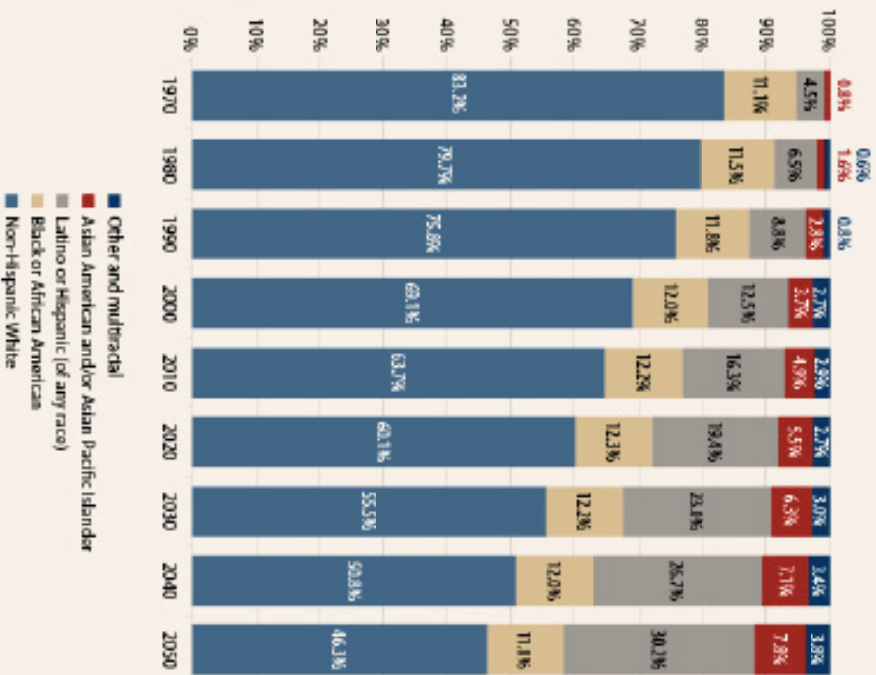
© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



It Matters



The racial and ethnic composition of the United States, 1970–2050



Sources: Data for 1970 and 1980 from Statistical Abstract of the United States; Data for 1990, 2000, and 2010 from the U.S. Census Bureau; Data for 2020 through 2050 from the U.S. Census Bureau Population Projections by Race and Ethnicity (2008).

A New Framework



This ...

<http://hocrames.com/2011/09/children-heart-organization-holds-promise-of-peace-for-palestinians-and-israelis/>



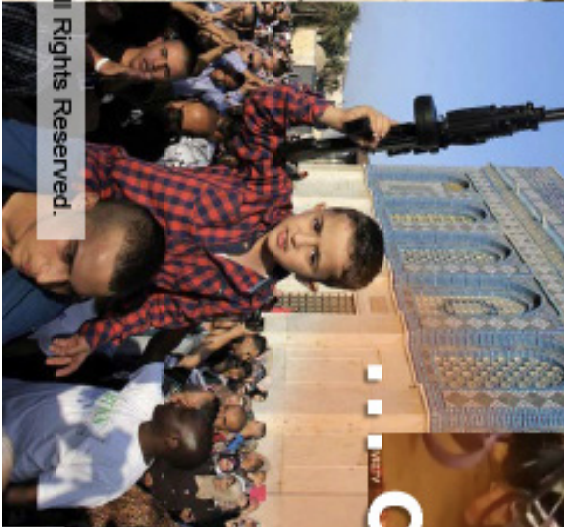
http://www.ruffindorpost.com/luccas-bentop/peace-israelis-palestinians-humans_id_5628536.html

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/stories/shows/day-in-pics-july-28-2014/palestinian-children-hold-toy-guns-during-a-protest-in-jerusalem/slideshow/39165647.cms>



<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2372133/Joeseph-Craciuloiu-photos-black-white-kids-hugging-goes-viral-Treyvon-Martin-verdict.html>

© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

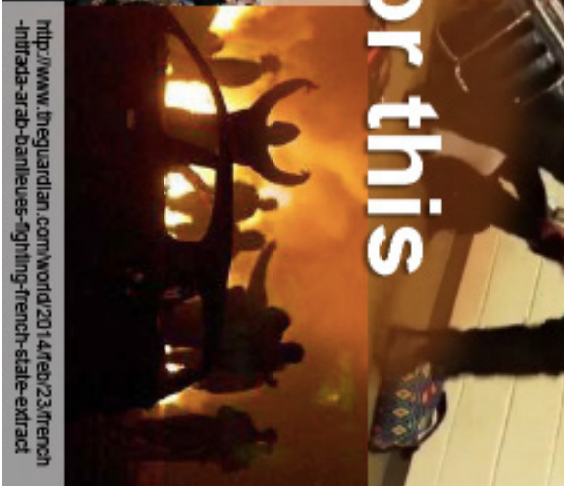


... or this



<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/palestinian-statehood-feels-israelis-new-coalition-government-will-bury-the-possibility-of-a-two-10233858.html>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/short-says-third-video-shows-south-carolina-student-punching-officer-9452481>



<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/feb/23/french-intrada-arab-banlieues-fighting-french-state-extract>

Major General Oliver W. Dillard



© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Nickname(s)

"Ollie"

Born

September 28, 1926
Margaret, Alabama, U.S.

Died

June 16, 2015
Canton, Michigan, U.S.

Allegiance

United States of America

Service/branch

United States Army
1945-1980

Years of service

Major General

Rank

First United States Army

Commands held

- 2nd Armored Division
- 24th Infantry Regiment
- 4th Infantry Division
- MACV

Battles/Wars

- World War II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War

Awards

- Distinguished Service Medal (2)
- Silver Star
- Legion of Merit (3)
- Bronze Star (2) with "V" Device
- Purple Heart
- Air Medal
- Army Commendation Medal (2)
- Combat Infantry Badge
- 2nd Award

Brats Without Borders thanks...
Virginia Tech and all the Attendees at the
3rd Annual Veterans in Society Conference...!



Donna Musil, JD, ABJ
Executive Director, Brats Without Borders
Writer-Director, *BRATS: Our Journey Home*,
Our Own Private Battlefield

www.USAbrat.org
donna@USAbrat.org
+1.855.USA.BRAT (872-2728)



© 2015 Donna Musil/Brats Without Borders, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

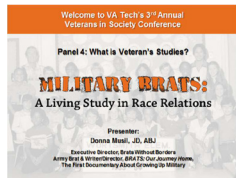
MILITARY BRATS: A Living Study in Race Relations

Presented by Donna Musil, ED, BWB

For the 3rd Annual Veterans in Society Conference - VA Tech (11/12-14/15)

Fri, 11/13, Panel 4: What is Veterans Studies? (1:40-3:10 pm, 15 minutes)

#1 – Intro Thanks



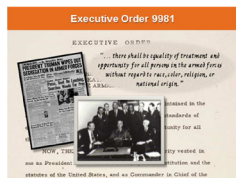
- Thank you – Jim Dubinsky, Marcia Davitt, Heidi Nobles, everyone at VA Tech – for inviting me to participate in another Veterans in Society Conference. It’s an honor to be here again.
- I will be talking today about a group of people who have been ignored in most discussions about race/diversity: Military Brats. They shouldn’t be. I believe they are a “Grand Experiment” in race relations. An experiment in which they inadvertently participated, and a beacon of hope for us all ... if we’d just pay attention.

#2 – Just Another Army Brat



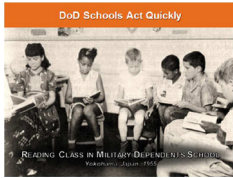
- I’m one of those brats. I spent the first sixteen years of my life moving twelve times across three continents. In 1976, when I was sixteen, my father died of service-related illnesses. Two weeks later, we moved to Columbus, Georgia, where I spent my senior year in a public school which had only been integrated for five years. You could feel the tension in the halls.
- Twenty years later, I reunited with classmates from a Department of Defense school in Taegu, Korea. Although we physically looked like Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow Coalition, I noticed that our experiences, insecurities, even our accents were like the cookie-cutter houses in which grew up. That’s when it occurred to me that Military Brats were a living study in race relations, but no one seemed to notice.

#3 – Executive Order 9981



- On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman signed Executive Order 9981, abolishing segregation in the Armed Forces. This was essentially eighty years after the Civil War, three years after World War II, and twenty years before the Civil Rights Movement.

#4 – DoD Schools Act Quickly



- As expected, there was a lot of resistance – from Congress, the country, even the military. But in less than three years, all on-base DoD schools were integrated. Military children began living in the same neighborhoods, and going to the same schools, churches, and playgrounds. Here are few clips regarding race relations from the first feature-length documentary about growing up military, *BRATS: Our Journey Home*.
- **Video Transcript, excerpts from *BRATS: Our Journey Home*, written & directed by Donna Musil, narrated by Kris Kristofferson:**
 - **Morten Ender**, Professor of Sociology, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, the United States Military Academy at West Point: *The military is the only place in American society where black people and Hispanic people routinely boss around white people.*
 - **Valerie Anderson**, Army Brat: *You were blue or you were green or you were khaki and you were American.*
 - **General H. Norman Schwarzkopf**, Army Brat: *I never looked at somebody as a black officer. I looked at them as an officer. I never looked at someone as a black soldier. I looked at them as a member of the Army, uh, and we were a team.*
 - **Olga Ramos**, Air Force Brat: *The other thing that is very unique, I think, to, to growing up on a military base is the fact that you don't have control over who your neighbors are. And it forced an integration in neighborhoods that really, even in the United States today, you don't see.*
 - **George Junne**, Chair, Africana Studies, University of Northern Colorado: *In the military, on those bases, when I was there, zero tolerance for race and racism. It didn't matter what you thought, you could not act on it. The soldiers could go out and have their little riots and do everything like that, but it better not be in the school system.*
 - **Kris Kristofferson**, Narrator: *This may be one of the reasons brats – forty percent of whom are minorities – routinely outscore their public school peers. Why three times as many of us get college degrees.*
 - **George Junne**: *I scored in the 97th percentile of the Scholastic Aptitude Test. It means only three percent of people in the United States did better than me that particular year.*
 - **Kris Kristofferson**, Narrator: *But only his military teacher in Germany told George's parents he was college material. His civilian teachers in New Jersey didn't seem to notice.*
 - **George Junne**: *They said I was a good student. I dressed well. You know, that's one of these kinds of things. You know, he might be black but he dresses real nice.*
 - **Peter Grammer**, Army Brat: *I'm sure on an individual basis there is prejudice, but on the whole there isn't. And I feel like when people from different backgrounds and races have to live together and work together on a daily basis to where they really get to know each other, they really understand that one group is not any less capable than another group and some of those prejudices start to, start to disappear.*

#5 – Off-Base Was A Different Story

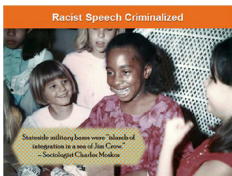


- Off-base was a different story. And it still is, in many respects. But Truman's Executive Order only applied to federal schools. At the time, there were approximately thirty thousand military brats going to segregated off-base schools.



- In 1954, of course, the Supreme Court ruled school segregation was unconstitutional in *Brown v. Bd of Education of Topeka*. But like my senior high school in Columbus, Georgia, many cities refused to comply. Michelle Green, the daughter of a Tuskegee Airman, was living on an Air Force base in Biloxi, Mississippi, in the mid-sixties. She and her sisters were the only African-American kids going to an off-base Catholic school. She had to ride a military school bus through poverty-stricken neighborhoods. As you can imagine, it was quite confusing. In fact, many brats have had difficulty interacting with civilian America about racial issues – as children and as adults. Here are some more clips from the *BRATS* film.
- **Video Transcript, excerpts from *BRATS: Our Journey Home*, written & directed by Donna Musil, narrated by Kris Kristofferson:**
 - **General H. Norman Schwarzkopf**, Army Brat: *Well, you know, I'd have some people come in sometimes over in the Gulf War and say oh gosh, we got to solve this cultural problem. See, the Arabs think this way and we think that way and we've got to prove to them that we're right. And I thought, that was kind of cheeky when you consider that our culture at that time was 214 years old and theirs was 5000 years old, and we're going to tell them we're right and they're wrong?*
 - **Laird Knight**, Army Brat: *I pledge allegiance to every human being I ever run into anymore. I support everybody's rights, not just America's rights.*
 - **George Junne**, Army Brat, Chair, Department of Africana Studies, University of Northern Colorado: *One of the difficulties is that, not only is stereotyping coming from non-blacks, but also it's coming from blacks.*
 - **Kris Kristofferson**, Narrator: *When Michelle was in college, she was asked to give a speech at an important event.*
 - **Michelle Green**, Air Force Brat: *This was to be a big deal – to have a student deliver the keynote. And so I was a bit concerned about what do I talk about. What experiences would you like me to share? I'm kind of new to this. And she said, well, you know, tell them a little bit about your background, your growing up in a broken family and the inner city and the struggle you had to overcome, and academically what it took for you to achieve, and the hardship. And this is the kind of story she was looking for. And obviously this was not my story.*
 - **Kris Kristofferson**, Narrator: *This does not mean we're not proud of our cultural heritage or don't want to explore it.*
 - **George Junne**: *I'm not trying to avoid race. I'm a black male. And so I'm not trying to say it's not important, because there's a lot of history and culture that's very important, ... at least for me and my family. But that's not the primary thing of who George Junne is. It's who am I? Am I a good person? Do I treat people well?*
 - **Olga Ramos**, Air Force Brat: *I've absolutely been accused of acting white by different individuals that are part of different Hispanic communities. And I consider that an enormous insult to my character simply because you shouldn't have to act any way just because of your culture or your ethnicity or your race or any of that. You should just be exactly who it is that you are.*

#6 – Racist Speech Criminalized



- One of main challenges replicating this Grand Experiment is the First Amendment – freedom of speech – which military families don't really have. On base, racist speech is criminalized. If a military teen is heard using racial epithets, it's reported both to his parents and their commanding officer. So most brats, including myself, grew up rarely hearing racist speech or experiencing racial divisions.

- This is a tough one. It goes to the heart of our democracy. But this experiment – and in other place like Germany after World War II – has shown that improving race relations may require some kind of speech restrictions.

#7 – Decrease Intergenerational Racism



- In my opinion, the most significant outcomes of this Grand Experiment is that, with the right combination of the carrot and the stick – it looks like we may be able to decrease intergenerational racism in one generation.
- Why do I say that? Because this open view about race among military children has persisted, even while new families come into the system and bring their prejudices right along with them.

- Most presume that if a child is born with racist parents, the odds that that child will also become racist are high. But because on-base military families can't choose where they live or voice their bigotries in public, our research shows that it doesn't take long before the children begin siding more with their peers than their parents – even when their parents are privately racist. This extends to interracial dating, as well.

#8 – Brats of Color Outperform



- The second most significant outcome of this Grand Experiment, in my opinion, is how well military brats of color have been succeeding, educationally. For years, military kids have been outperforming their civilian peers. Regardless of their parents' educational and financial background. Regardless of being raised by single parents. And seemingly in spite of multiple moves, deployments, and combat-related trauma.

- Some believe this is due to the military's emphasis on education. Others think DoD teachers are superior. I think Truman's Executive Order leveled the playing field and lifted the yoke of racism as much as any piece of legislation can. I think these children truly feel judged by the content of their character, rather than the color of their skin, and perform accordingly. Hopefully, one day Brats Without Borders can get the support we need to scientifically test this theory.

#9 – Other Benefits



- All this living together... not constantly hearing racist speech... moving internationally... seems to have changed the way military brats look at the world. They don't presume racism as quickly, even when people *are* being racist! They appreciate the bigger picture, especially if they've lived overseas. They've seen all kinds of people living in poverty. They've been outsiders for reasons other than race. They feel less limited by racial expectations and stereotypes.

- As one non-brat said in Mary Edwards Wertsch's book, *Military Brats: Legacies of Childhood Inside the Fortress*, minority brats seem to have a "different tape playing" in their heads; a tape full of positive feelings and self-esteem that is less daunted by racism.

#10 – Belonging Issues



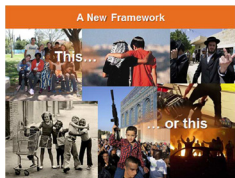
- Of course, it's not all happy and rosy. There are bigoted brats, but they do seem to be the minority. The biggest challenge – for all brats – seems to be "fitting in" racially if and when they leave the military. Often, they don't – with their civilian friends, their extended family, sometimes even their own parents (especially if those parents didn't grow up military themselves).
- This can make a brat feel very alone – and for good reason. According to Abraham Maslow, "belonging" is the third most important human need. Only food and safety are more important. A human being actually needs belonging more than they need self-esteem. And lack of belonging can lead to depression, drugs, even suicide.
- What's frustrating is that brats in power don't raise awareness of these issues. I'm not sure why. Perhaps, because of all the moves, we don't know how to build community. Perhaps some don't know the Military Brat Culture exists. The military doesn't teach it. Non-military-brat parents don't teach it. Some groups purporting to support military children actually seem to advocate against it. Maybe some of these powerful brats feel their success is due more to their specialness than their military brat background. Who knows? Whatever the reason, we don't support each other in the way I wish we would. Maybe in time, that will change. I hope so.

#11 – It Matters



- Why does all this matter? It's obvious. Racism, xenophobia, fear of the unknown... is killing people. Another reality we might want to heed is this: demographics are shifting and people have long memories. But most of all, I think it matters because racism is a huge waste of human potential. We need *all* children to be the best they can be, regardless of their race, creed, or color.

#12 – A New Framework



- We need a new framework for fighting racism. It's ironic, an institution formed to kill is also teaching people how to get along. I think Truman's Executive Order 9981 is teaching lessons we're not hearing. I remember listening to a French minister on *Charlie Rose* discussing the Muslim teenagers who set fires across Paris a few years ago. The more he talked, the more I realized they were TCKs, Third Culture Kids. Like brats, they didn't fit. They were caught between worlds. They were trying to find a place to belong.

- What if we took this military model and transferred it to Jerusalem? Built a neighborhood and filled it with half Palestinians and half Israelis. Gave every family a house and a job. And like military bases, had one school, one playground, and one church, where different services were held at different times. Impose two conditions. One, no racist speech. Two, they're assigned a house. If they break the rules, they lose that house. How long do you think it would take for those children in those families to start thinking differently than their parents?
- Perhaps I'm being idealistic. Perhaps I'm being naïve. Perhaps. But considering the state this world is in – isn't it worth a shot?

#13 – Major General Oliver Dillard



- I'd like to dedicate this presentation to the late Major General Oliver W. Dillard, who died last earlier this year in June at eighty-eight years old. Major Dillard was the fifth African-American general in the United States Army, where he served for thirty-four years. General Dillard was a combat veteran in both Korea and Vietnam, and served in both the segregated and integrated armies. He had a lot to say about this topic. He and family will be featured in my new documentary, *Truman's Kids*.
- I wish he could be here with us today. His daughter, Diane, is here, along with Lora Beldon, Director of the Military Kid Art Project. We're all working together on the first Military BRAT Art Camp, with Virginia Tech's Jim Dubinsky and Heidi Nobles.

#14 – Thank You



- Thank you for listening. I'm in the early stages of making a documentary about this subject, *Truman's Kids*. If like to help or join our efforts, please let me know. Thank you!