

# Peace At War

We are slowly tearing apart the world with gun violence and so many homeless people on the street, struggling to find food, feeling as though no one loves them. It's up to our generation to make awareness of what is needed to get back on track.

You may ask why I care so much about these horrible situations. My brother, Chaz Black was killed due to gun violence. In 2012, he was shot one time in the heart. My family was stricken with grief. My parents could have given up after this happening, they could have stopped working leaving us with no food, shelter and clothes, leaving us with nothing but sadness. But they decided not to give up. Instead they fought through the pain and sadness and stayed strong. Not everyone has the support system my family and I have, but with the right connections and help, others will be able to realize that they too can work through grief. My mother always says "you don't get over grief, you get through it."

I am only fourteen years old, changing the world would be difficult, but not impossible. With a couple of friends we can help by doing community service. In Lexington Kentucky we have food drives, clothing drives, programs for the youth and more. With our leadership and helping hands, our small steps can turn to big ones. I want to build more shelters for the homeless and treatment centers for people in pain whether it be physically or mentally. It has been proven that once you start something it has a "domino affect" resulting in our generation working together as one. No matter what race you are, we can come together and make a difference in others lives.

Here in Lexington there are many community opportunities to make a difference. We have the Salvation Army; during holiday break, I served thanksgiving dinner with my family. My dad volunteers at the Dunbar Recreation center as a coach for youth basketball. This gives under privileged children an opportunity to play basketball and stay out of trouble. These little things seem like small steps but it's also one giant step towards making others successful.

I want to leave this world knowing that everyone can get along with each other, no matter your race. Making a way for more shelters and places for people to get help, Along with willing volunteers that can change people's lives. If we get out of our own way, then we can help each other, the Lord will soon bless us with greatness, unity and strength. Homeless people will lessen and gun violence will stop. I am willing to make a change and live though Christ, our savior.