

KENNEDY MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS:

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS:

SOCIAL JUSTICE

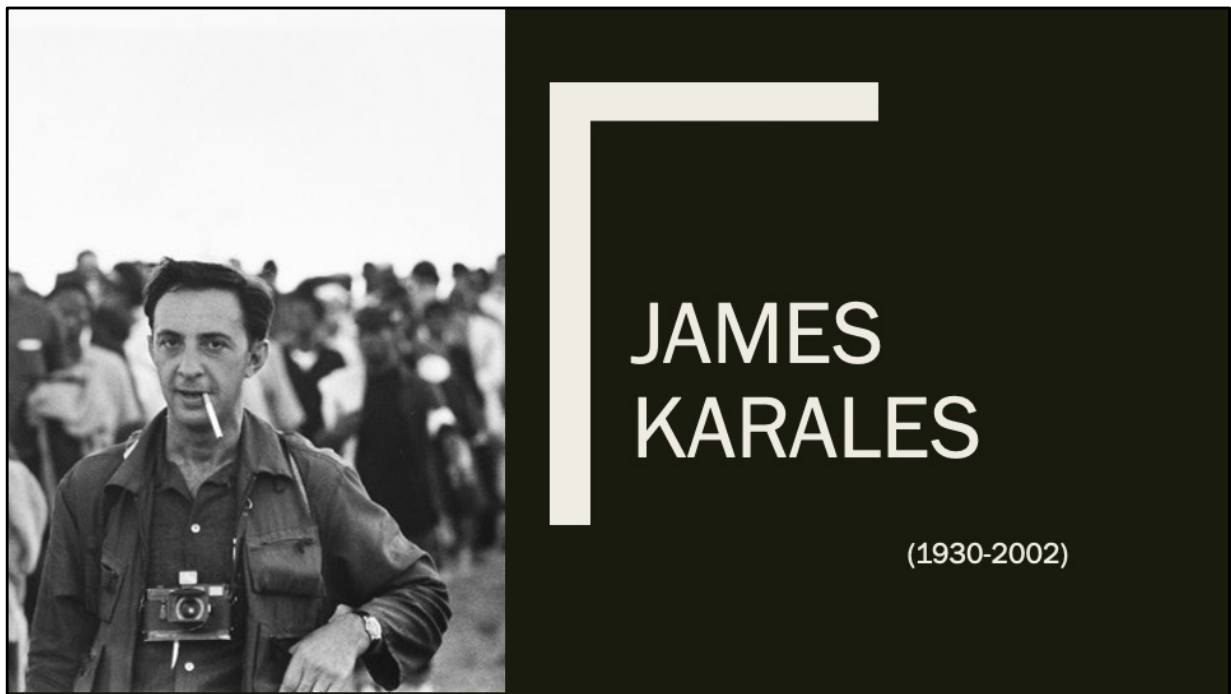


KENNEDY
Museum of Art



OhioArts
COUNCIL





James Karales was born in Canton, OH, the son of Greek immigrants. He graduated from Ohio University with a BFA in Photography in 1955 and obtained an assistantship with the great American photographer W. Eugene Smith. Karales was influenced by Smith's photographic work documenting the allied forces during World War II and gained skills as a master photographic printer under Smith's guidance.

By 1960, Karales was a staff photographer for *Look* magazine, where he worked for eleven years. This position provided him the opportunity to cover many historic events in American history, including the work of Martin Luther King, Jr., the civil rights movement, and the conflict in South Vietnam.

In 2004, the body of his work from 1956 to 1969 was given to the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library of Duke University in Durham, NC.

The Kennedy Museum of Art has 21 of his prints in the photography collection, including selections from a 1956 photo essay on Rendville, Ohio.

The three images by Karales that we will be looking at are apart of his civil rights movement work and more specifically the Selma to Montgomery March.

SOURCES

TEXT: Duke University Libraries. <http://library.duke.edu/exhibits/JamesKarales/>. (Last accessed November 12, 2010)

IMAGE: cropped detail: Photographer James Karales (right) and Sam Castan (not shown), Selma to Montgomery March for Voting Rights, 1965. From *Witness to History: Civil Rights Era Photographs by James Karales* exhibition at the Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston.

Courtesy of the Estate of James Karales



Ideas to think about:

- Photojournalism aspect vs Fine Art Photography
- Cohesive body of work
- Time period and what it meant historically versus contemporarily
- Collective grouping of images coming from the same medium, format, material

SOURCES

TEXT: Marissa Stewart, Graduate Assistant, Kennedy Museum of Art (KMA)

IMAGES: Kennedy Museum of Art Collection all images by James Karales

-Top Left: "Reverend Dom Orsini"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

-Top Right: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

-Bottom: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965



"Reverend Dom Orsini"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

Father Orsini was born in Rome, N.Y., the youngest of six children, and he worked as a newspaper reporter and pharmaceutical salesman before entering the ministry. He graduated from Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Mass., in 1961 and served at two churches in Wyoming before becoming rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Bloomfield in 1963.

Father Orsini participated in Dr. King's civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. He earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Pittsburgh in 1970 and developed and directed a successful halfway house for youth offenders called "Grubstake" 1966-71, the first of its kind in the United States. He was called the "hoodlum priest" because of his work with troubled youth. He later moved to Philadelphia, where he continued in ministry and worked tough neighborhoods as a state probation and parole officer. Rev Orsini died Tuesday, April 25, 2006.

SOURCES

TEXT:

- Article from Pittsburg Post Gazette on Rev Orsini's obituary <https://www.post-gazette.com/news/obituaries/2006/05/05/Obituary-Dominic-T-Dom-Orsini-Hoodlum-priest-who-ran-local-halfway-house/stories/200605050185>
- The Palm Beach Post
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/palmbeachpost/obituary.aspx?n=dominic-t-orsini-dom&pid=17619252>

IMAGE: KMA Collections



"Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

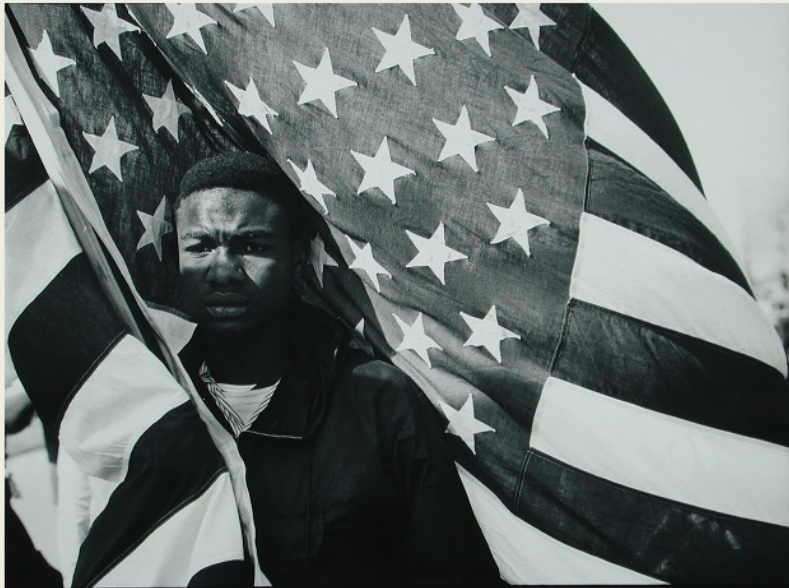
Protest art is the creative works produced by activists and social movements. It is a traditional means of communication, utilized by a cross section of collectives and the state to inform and persuade citizens. Protest art helps arouse base emotions in their audiences, and in return may increase the climate of tension and create new opportunities to dissent. Protest art acts as an important tool to forming social consciousness, creating networks, operating accessibly, and being cost-effective.

SOURCES

TEXT:

- Chaffee, Lyman (1993). *Political protest and street art: Popular tools for democratization in hispanic countries*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press
- <https://www.kcet.org/the-history-and-art-of-protest-posters>

IMAGE: KMA Collections

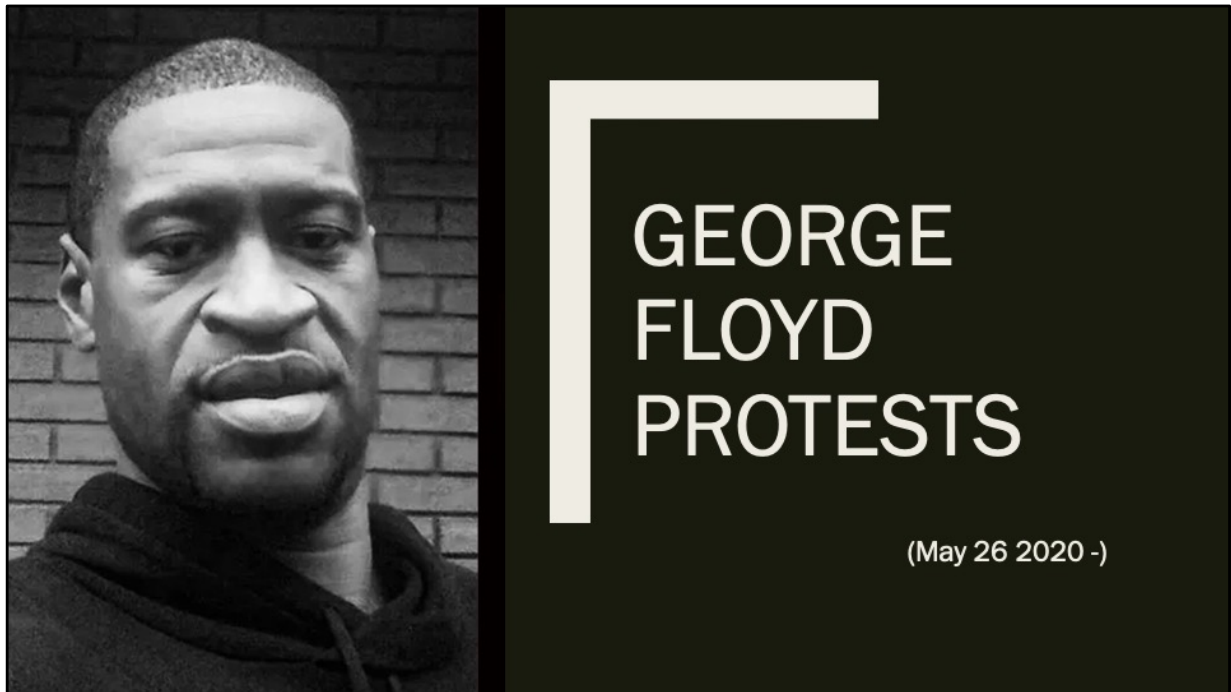


"Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

The American Flag: The stripes represent the original 13 Colonies and the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The colors of the flag are symbolic as well; red symbolizes hardiness and valor, white symbolizes purity and innocence, and blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice.

SOURCES

TEXT: <https://www.pbs.org/a-capitol-fourth/history/old-glory/>



The George Floyd protests are an ongoing series of police brutality protests that began in Minneapolis in the United States on May 26, 2020. The civil unrest and protests began as part of international responses to the killing of George Floyd, a 46-year-old African-American man who was killed during an arrest after a Minneapolis Police Department officer knelt on Floyd's neck for eight minutes as three other officers looked on and prevented passers-by from intervening. Local protests began in the Minneapolis–Saint Paul metropolitan area of Minnesota before quickly spreading nationwide to over 2,000 cities and towns in over 60 countries in support of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. Polls in summer 2020 estimated that between 15 million and 26 million people had participated at some point in the demonstrations in the United States, making the protests the largest in U.S. history.

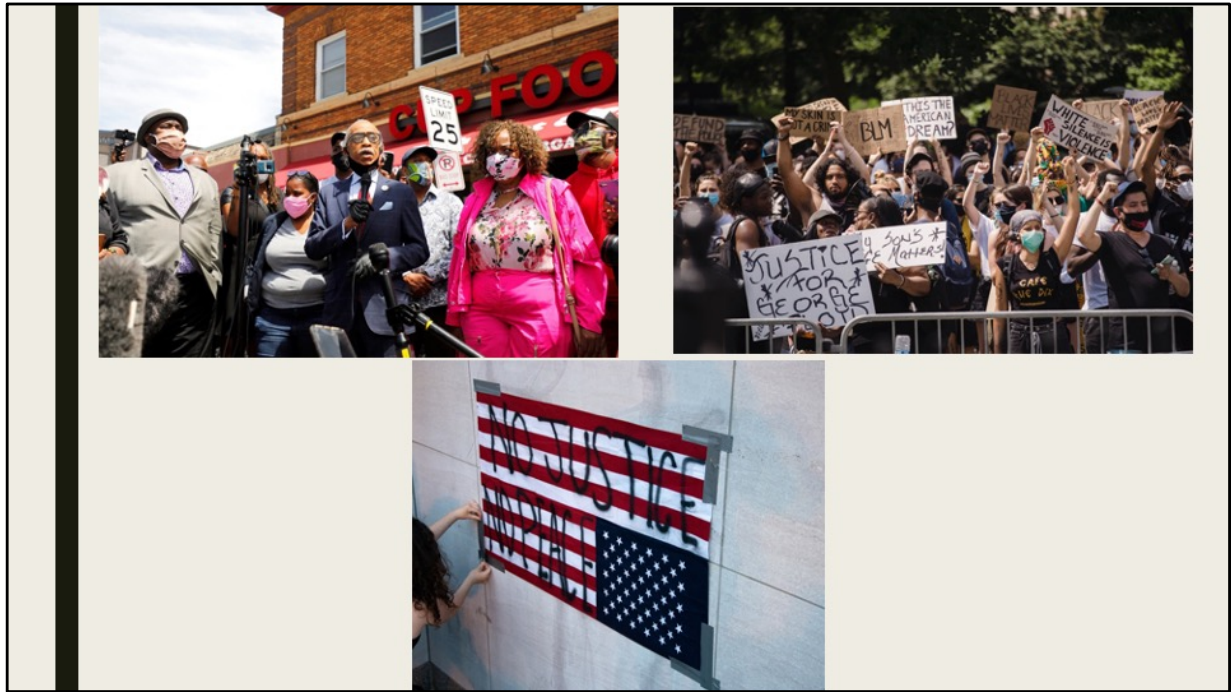
George Floyd was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in 1973 and had 4 siblings. Floyd grew up in Houston, Texas, playing football and basketball throughout high school and college. He was a hip hop artist and served as a mentor in his religious community. Residing in the nearby suburb of St. Louis Park, he also worked as a truck driver and bouncer.

SOURCES

TEXT:

- <https://web.archive.org/web/20200602235547/https://www.nytimes.com/article/george-floyd-protests-timeline.html>
- <https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-06-18/derek-chauvin-had-knee-george-floyd-neck-746-rather-than-846>
- <https://apnews.com/article/d39cf4e1460fa14f0e339d85f21ad3c2>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/jun/07/george-floyd-protests-enter-third-week>

IMAGE: sourced from google images



Ideas to think about:

- Self curation by viewer/consumer, how does meaning change when you are the curator of content
- This grouping of images does not come from a singular cohesive body of work, is that important?
- Time period 2020, think about similar issues still being a problem in society and what has changed?
- Color photography

SOURCES

TEXT: Marissa Stewart, Graduate Assistant, KMA

IMAGES:

	-Top Right:	Adam Bettcher/ Reuters "Untitled" 2020
Matters	-Top Left:	Image from photo hosting site Pexels.com by username: Life "Untitled" 2020 https://www.pexels.com/photo/crowd-of-protesters-holding-signs-4614165/
	-Bottom:	Koshu Kunii "Untitled" 2020



Adam Bettcher/ Reuters
"Untitled"
2020

Civil Rights leader Reverend Al Sharpton and Gwen Carr, mother of Eric Garner, lead a prayer at the site where African-American man George Floyd was fatally injured by police. Eric Garner died in 2014 after a New York City Police Department (NYPD) officer, put him in a prohibited chokehold while arresting him.

SOURCES

TEXT: Article from NBC News <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/rev-al-sharpton-gwen-carr-call-arrest-officers-involved-george-n1217101>



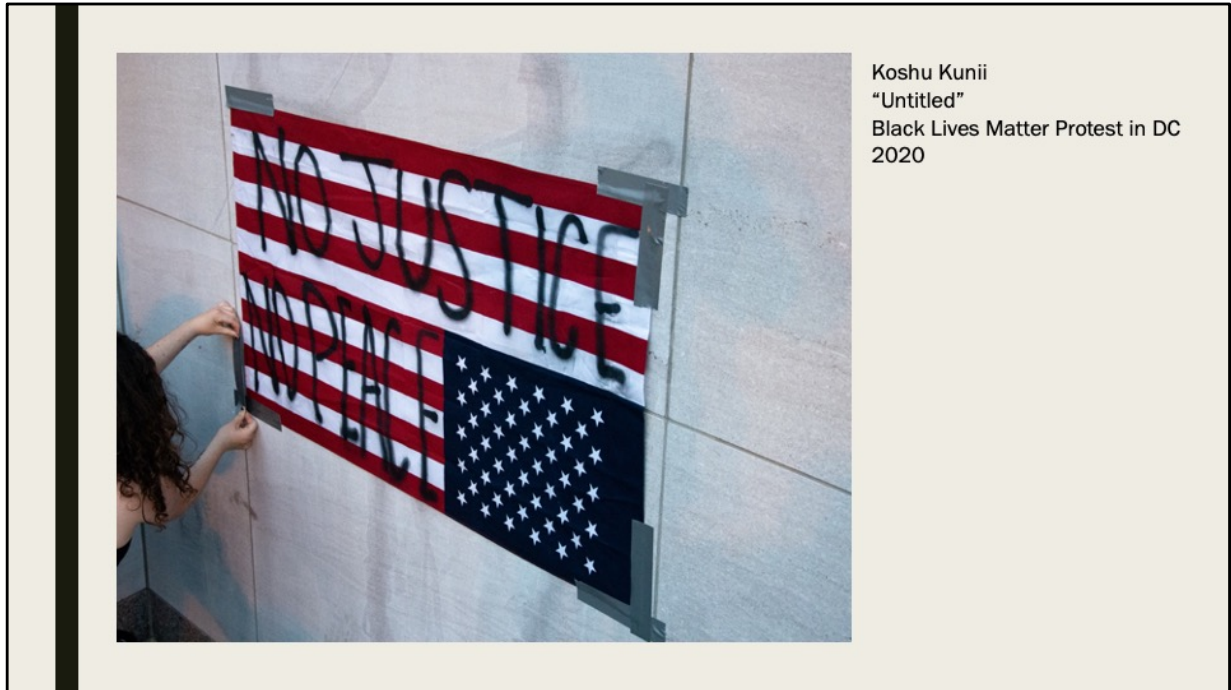
Image from photo hosting site Pexels.com by username: Life Matters

"Untitled"
2020

Social movements produce such works as the signs, banners, posters, and other printed materials used to convey a particular cause or message. Often such art is used as part of demonstrations or acts of civil disobedience. These works tend to be ephemeral, characterized by their portability and disposability, and are frequently not authored or owned by any one person. The various peace symbols, and the raised fist, are two examples that highlight the democratic ownership of these signs.

SOURCES

TEXT: Protest art https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protest_art



[The U.S. Defense Department says](#) the flag should only be flown upside down “to convey a sign of distress or great danger.”

SOURCES

TEXT: US Defense Department

<https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Features/story/Article/1892936/dos-and-donts-for-displaying-old-glory/>

COMPARE AND CONTRAST





Ideas to think about:

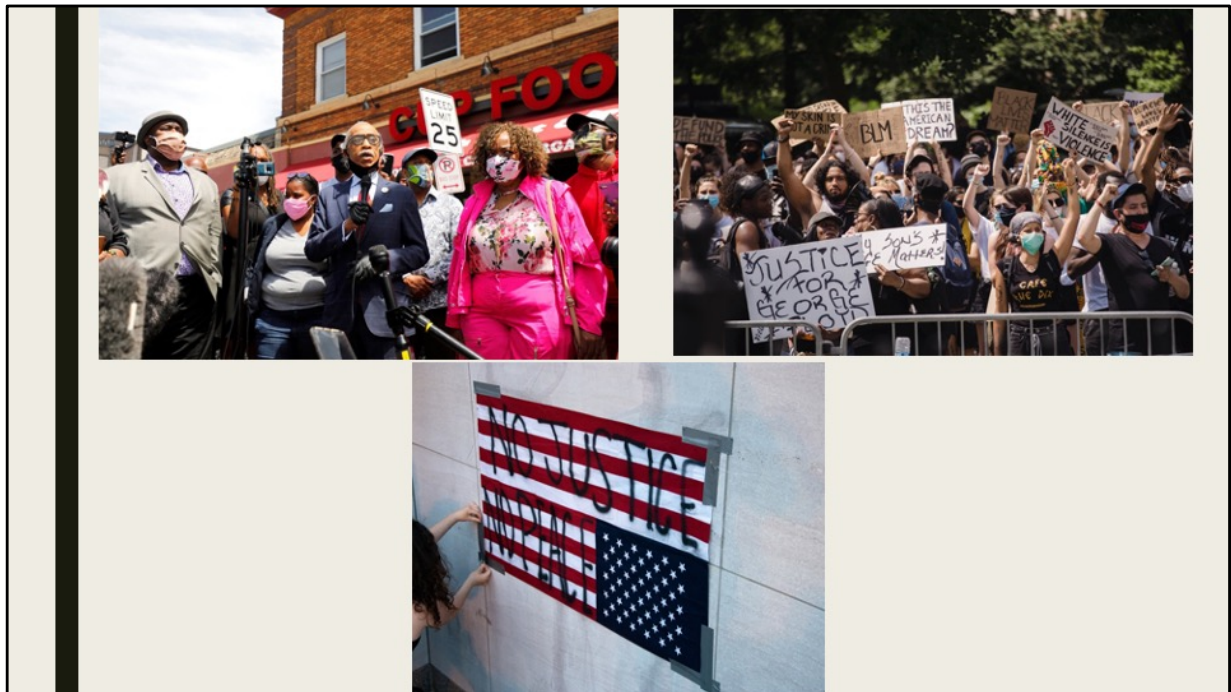
- What were the goals on documenting the march to Selma?
- How does each individual photograph work by itself and then how do they work together?
- Cohesive body of work
- Time period/era
- Photographic medium being used (in this case analog photography)

SOURCES

TEXT: Marissa Stewart Graduate Assistant, KMA

IMAGES:

- Top Left: "Reverend Dom Orsini"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965
- Top Right: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965
- Bottom: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965



Ideas to think about:

- Can these images work as a cohesive body of work? Is there power in documenting protests? How does color photography play into feeling?
- Peaceful vs Nonpeaceful

SOURCES

TEXT: Marissa Stewart, Graduate Assistant, KMA

IMAGES:

	-Top Right:	Adam Bettcher/ Reuters "Untitled" 2020
Matters	-Top Left:	Image from photo hosting site Pexels.com by username: Life "Untitled" 2020 https://www.pexels.com/photo/crowd-of-protesters-holding-signs-4614165/
	-Bottom:	Koshu Kunii "Untitled" Black Lives Matter Protest in DC 2020



Ideas to think about/question prompts:

- How does religion play into social justice?

SOURCES

IMAGES:

-Left: Reverend Dom Orsini"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965

-Right: Adam Bettcher/ Reuters
"Untitled"
2020



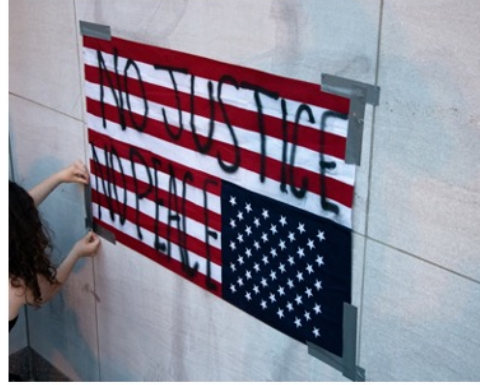
Ideas to think about/question prompts:

- Protest art?
- Power in the collective voice?
- Power of documentation?

SOURCES

IMAGES:

- Left: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965
- Right: Image from photo hosting site Pexels.com by username: Life Matters
"Untitled"
2020
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/crowd-of-protesters-holding-signs-4614165/>



Ideas to think about/question prompts:

- American flag symbol? Past vs present?
- Patriotism?
- Representation?

SOURCES

IMAGES:

- Left: "Untitled"
Selma to Montgomery March
1965
- Right: Koshu Kunii
"Untitled"
Black Lives Matter Protest in DC
2020



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

Check out more Kennedy Museum of Art
programs at <https://www.ohio.edu/museum>