Biophysical segregation leads to community attributes such as high poverty rates, high unemployment, lack of social safety nets, and a police culture that focuses on violence intervention leading to rules in use that further perpetuate and allow violence against black individuals. Historical factors and stereotypes, in addition to biased statistics, lead to police perceptions that justify lethal violence.

**Prisoner’s Dilemma**

Continual enticement toward defection by police (use of violent or lethal force) mixed with cooperation by black individuals leads to the “suckers payoff” due to severity of police defections.

**IAD Framework**

- Biophysical segregation leads to community attributes such as high poverty rates, high unemployment, lack of social safety nets, and a police culture that focuses on violence intervention leading to rules in use that further perpetuate and allow violence against black individuals.
- Historical factors and stereotypes, in addition to biased statistics, lead to police perceptions that justify lethal violence.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prisoner’s Dilemma of Lethal Force by Police officers toward Black Individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COOPERATE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stayingcoop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Individuals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1**

IAD Framework analysis of lethal force by police toward black individuals

**PROPOSED SOLUTION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Social movements such as Black Lives Matter (BLM) can elicit social change through cooperation by focusing on factors such as changing payoffs, reciprocity, costly sanctions, and communication (Anderies & Janssen, 2013, Axelrod, 2006).
- Costly sanctioning leads to better cooperation which results in a “change of payoffs” for officers. Centering outrage toward lack of police accountability and changing rules in use (qualified immunity) will eventually hold police accountable, thus changing payoffs. As the cost for lethal force increases for police officers, the cost of lethal force will outweigh the reward of the status quo.
- Unconditional cooperation has led to exploitation and violence, as seen in black communities. Acting out of recipocity is important to ensure police are held accountable for their actions when they don’t cooperate. Due to the high cost of cooperation, movements such as BLM should continue to “defect” from social contracts until police cooperate enough to build trust. If trust cannot be built, and police continue to use unjustified lethal force, then a new social contract, in this case, a new policing system is needed. The cost is too high to keep using the existing system.
- Communication becomes important when considering the cooperation between police and black individuals. Having deeper understanding about situations, in this case the variables discussed in the IAD model become important, so officers don’t enter an action situation with preconceived expectations of violence.
- Communication can also improve feeling of belonging and the ability to build trust which provides regularity for behaviors in which participants can make better predictions (Anderies & Janssen, 2013). Communication strengthens reciprocity in that both participants can enter the action situation trusting the other.

### CONCLUSIONS

The IAD framework has shown that biophysical conditions, community attributes, and rules in use can be utilized to analyze regularized behaviors in social situations. This analysis has shown various interactions that lead to negative outcomes at the hands of the police in black communities. Furthermore, utilization of the prisoner’s dilemma has illustrated how perceptions about black individuals lead to defection from officers resulting in disproportionate use of lethal force against black communities. Future avenues of cooperation were also explored in hopes that the black-led demonstrations can capitalize on changing attitudes and policies. Yet, until police departments start doing their part in communicating and listening to the communities they serve, black individuals will suffer the results of the “sucker’s payoffs”, in this case death, regardless of defection or cooperation.

**REFERENCES**


**METHOD(S)**

Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD) framework

- Analyzed use of lethal force by police toward black individuals through biophysical factors, community attributes, and common rules within an action arena.
- One benefit to the IAD framework is the ability to analyze “regularized social behaviors” with the ability to predict future behaviors (Anderies & Janssen, 2013, p. 17). See figure 1 for an illustration of how such exogenous variables interact with the action arena and produce certain outcomes through the IAD framework.

**Prisoner’s Dilemma**

- Used to determine recommendations to the problem of regularized lethal force against black individuals.
- This analysis was used to demonstrate how lethal force is used to control black populations and how this can change.

See Table 2 for one possible interpretation of the prisoner’s dilemma as applied to cooperation between police and black individuals.