

## BLACK LIVES MATTER

Just as the fight for civil rights didn't begin in the 1950's and 60's, it also didn't end there. The Black Lives Matter (**BLM**) movement began after the 2013 acquittal of George Zimmerman, who was accused of murdering an unarmed black teenager named Trayvon Martin. The movement gained force in 2014 after the shooting of another unarmed black teenager, Michael Brown, by a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri didn't result in an indictment against the police officer. The movement addressed systemic racism, police brutality, and other concerns of African Americans, such as racial inequality in the criminal justice system. BLM now has at least 40 international, decentralized chapters. Local groups don't have to get "official" sanctioning for their tactics, but they do have to undergo training before using "BLM" in their group's name. In this way, the BLM movement can be said to encompass an expansive agenda, based on principles of racial justice.

