

DIVERS-CITY?  
Documentary Script

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[0:00] *Female reporter's voice*

Businesses on fire, looting and violence - reminders of another troubled moment in Milwaukee's history.

[0:08] *Male reporter's voice*

Now, if you take a look at this intersection over here, it was just blocked for the past 10-15 minutes by dozens of protesters.

[0:16] *Steve Chamraz*

Milwaukee has been named the worst place to live for African-Americans. Segregation, unemployment and education: just three of the areas where the survey says this city falls short.

[0:25] *Gloomy music begins*

[0:46] *Dayna Samuels*

Here is the thing, Milwaukee sucks and it is really, really racist and really, really bad. I hate this place so much (*Laughs mirthlessly*). It's so bad. It is divisive, it is so segregated. Like, it's not just race, it's not just socioeconomic status; it's everything!

[1:08] *Chanting*

Show your faces!

[1:12] *Chanting*

No more Nazi (unintelligible)

[1:22] *Dayna Samuels*

It does not seem like culturally, this place values intersectional views of the world or unconventional views of the world. This culture is not open to learning.

[1:35] *Ominous piano music begins*

[1:36] *Donald Trump*

Ladies and gentlemen, I am officially running for president of the United States and we are going to make our country great again.

[1:57] *Nathan Breu*

Since Trump has been elected, it seems that there has been more hateful rhetoric that's been floated around campus. That hateful (speech) is more acceptable.

[2:07] *Julien Phifer*

So I'm just scrolling through the Wi-Fi, trying to find my Wi-Fi and it said, "N\*\*\*\*rs IQ are lower or dumb," you know — it was something crazy. Man, I was heated. Like, you know, it wasn't that deep but it was like, who on that here? It just felt, like I said it just felt disrespectful. And then I was thinking that, I know my professor saw this because the Wi-Fi was down. So it was like, everybody was scrolling through so everybody seen it. And I feel like he could have announced it or done something about it, but he didn't really do anything or say anything. He didn't bring it to attention or anything.

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[2:51] *Dayna Samuels*

In Milwaukee, I have been asked, 'Where are my horns?' I tell people I'm a vegan and they're like, 'Well, what about on Passover when you eat matzo?' And I'm like, 'matzo's vegan.' And they're like, 'But isn't there children's blood in it?' And I'm like, 'No, there's not baby blood in my matzo, it's water and flour.' And people are like, 'Oh, well aren't you rich?' And I'm like, 'No, I'm actually pretty poor.' And they're like, 'Oh, you're just stingy.' I get called 'kike dyke' and I'm like, that's Jew-fag-do, thank you.

[3:20] *Donald Trump*

A lot of people are coming in because they want to take advantage of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and we're going to have to really see. They had a great chance; the Democrats blew it. They had a great, great chance but we'll have to take a look.

[3:32] *Andrea Reyes*

I was undocumented for 18 years of life. Because like I said before, I left my country and came to America so I was given the DACA, which is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. So before that, I wasn't eligible to go to college. So I was able to get the DACA and I was able to go to higher education; something that no one in my family had before.

[4:11] *Andrea Reyes*

I think it's terrifying. I have to walk around with a card. You know, if someone stops me, they can, you know (ask), 'Where's your identification?' Why should anyone have to feel that way? Like they're targeted or like they don't belong here? This is literally where I grew up, where I have all my memories. I came here when I was 5. Everything that I lived was here; this is my home.

[4:39] *Dayna Samuels*

People are very blatantly like, 'Yeah, but Black people are different, Latino people are different, Muslim people are different, immigrants are different.' And I'm like, Oh my God, do you not understand that if you were not an indigenous American, you're an immigrant to this place.

[4:57] *Nathan Breu*

I'm stuck between both worlds. Because of the policies that the government has issued upon the indigenous people, we have to prove our lineage. And in order to prove your lineage, it has to be a concrete bloodline and it has to be acceptable to them.

[5:15] *Ominous piano music ends*

[5:15] *Donald Trump*

I'd like to know how many of these people are even Indians to begin with. Because I've looked at them and I have to tell you something, they don't look like Indians to me. And I've told a couple of them who came into my office, I said, 'I believe I have more Indian blood in my veins than you have, and you have none.'

[5:35] *Moody music begins*

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[5:37] *Police recording of George Zimmerman's recording to the 911 operator*

(Zimmerman) We've had some break-ins in my neighborhood and there's this real suspicious guy. It's Retreat View Circle, the best address I can give you is 111 Retreat View Circle. This guy looks like he's up to no good or he's on drugs or something. It's raining and he's just walking around looking about.

(911 operator) - Ok, and this guy, is he white, black or Hispanic?

(Zimmerman) - He looks black.

[6:05] *Julien Phifer*

On the news I heard, you know, about black men. It's a lot of shooting going on. Police are killing black men; that's one of the top stories that I hear all the time. That's mainly all I hear, is talking about a black male on the news. All I hear. Pretty much, nothing, nothing positive.

[6:35] *Donald Trump*

What do you have to lose? You're living in poverty. Your schools are no good. You have no jobs. Fifty-eight percent of your youth is unemployed. What the hell do you have to lose?

[7:02] *Stephen Colbert (imitating President Trump's voice as he reads one of his tweets)*

'Our military must be focused on decisive and overwhelming, dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot-dot victory and cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail. Thank you.' Thank you? F\*\*\* you.

(Audience applauds)

[7:28] *Dayna Samuels*

Being trans means the second that I start living my own truth, I have my autonomy taken away and I have my narrative and my life co-opted to be part of this big agenda. People have the right to kill me if they're scared. In most states in the U.S., the 'trans scared defense' is a thing. If I come out to someone as trans and they are so scared that they murder me, it's legal.

[7:53] *Moody music ends*

[7:53] *Nathan Breu*

Our whole political structure needs to be revamped for it to do any good to anybody. The way this country was founded and is run is skewed. We need to put it back — the power — into the people and let the people's voice be heard.

[8:13] *Upbeat techno music plays*

*Interviewees introduce themselves in their languages:*

[8:48] *Julien Phifer (English)*

My name is Julien Phifer, I'm 24 and I'm from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

[8:59] *Andrea Reyes – (translated from Spanish)*

My name is Andrea Reyes and I'm from De Pere, Wisconsin.

[9:08] *Nathan Breu – (translated from Ojibwe)*

My name is Nathan, I'm Anishanaabe, my dad is from Lac Du Flambeau (and) I live in Milwaukee.

[9:23] *Dayna Samuels – (translated from Hebrew)*

My name is Dayna Samuels, I'm 24-years-old and I'm from Ventura, California.