

The Consent of the Governed
(color drawing)

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I originally drew this Piggy Portrait in June, 2020, inspired by both the George Floyd anti-police protests and by Gay Pride month. It seemed important to me to emphasize the abusiveness of cops in general (as opposed to the idea that skin color is most often the basis of police brutality), and ~~also~~^{also} how police abuse goes far, far beyond incidents of choking and strangling.

My intent was never to detract from cop murders, nor to devalue the experience of black people and other ethnic groups who certainly do face disproportionate harassment and injury from pigs in wildly, sickeningly overpoliced communities. I do wish to draw attention, however, to the fact that once a person is on a cop's radar, he or she is at great risk of all sorts of violence, including economic and sexual, to say nothing of the emotional violence that characterizes almost every single interaction between the public and the police. I'd also hope that people receive the message that while many communities are tragically "overpoliced", that term is risky to use, as it may imply that other communities can be "underpoliced" or, perhaps, policed just right. Cops are like cancer, though — the presence of any, anywhere, is too much.

IF you like this drawing and the values it represents, please take a look at my other, similar work, titled "Due Process", posted Dec. 14, 2019 on this blog. Leave a comment!

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