

## **Milwaukee Public Schools- Student Discipline Committee “Lesson” Ideas**

**Topic:** Student Voice Comic

### **Overview for facilitator:**

Students will learn about Christian Cooper and how he used his experience with systemic racism and bias to create a comic for others to read to expand their understanding and effects of systemic racism. Students will have the opportunity to create their own short comic.

### **Materials Needed:**

Access to articles and “It’s a bird” comic for students and access to platforms to create a comic including Jamboard, Google Slides, paper/markers/pencils/etc.

### **Intro:**

Ask students if any of them have experienced being in a situation where someone has threatened to call the police on them to serve as a threat to leave an area or store or change their behavior?

Has anyone had a staff member at school threaten to fill out a referral, contact an administrator, or suspend them to serve as a threat to get them to leave an area or change their behavior?

### **Discussion/Activity:**

Watch this 3 minute video of the incident in Central Park involving Christian Cooper having the police called on him: <https://youtu.be/ODhNRyjJsl8>

What emotions and feelings come to you while watching this video?

Why is it so dangerous for someone to call the police on a Black man? What could be the consequences of the police arriving even if the individual is not breaking the law?

Have students read article about Christian Cooper creating his comic:

<https://www.comicsbeat.com/comics-christian-cooper-returns-to-comics/>

Have students [read the comic here](#).

Provide students time to create their own short comic about an experience they have had at school with discipline or a vision for their ideal school climate and discipline. Students can use [Google Slides](#), [Jamboard](#), another online tool, or create a comic with paper and pencils/markers and then upload a picture of their comic.

Extension:

<https://youtu.be/GCSYDnhs0Ik>

Do you agree with Christian Cooper’s current stance on the situation?

### **Next steps:**

What are any next steps or reflections from the students as a result of the session. These should be captured in the minutes.

