

Yusuhara a Home from Home: 6. Minneapolis, Minnesota May 25

Stephen Woodard

Not much has been happening in the last two months, so I decided to use this issue of the newsletter to reflect on current global issues. Recorded by a bystander and shared online, the world saw the murder of a man named George Floyd by the hands of a police officer. The video shared many times on social media then across traditional media enraged people around the world.

What came next were demonstrations and protests in cities and towns covering most of the US, followed by the participation of over 60 countries including Japan. Many of the demonstrations have been peaceful and respectful. People have been using the recent situation regarding the coronavirus lockdown to amass large groups of opposition. People are marching, chanting, carrying signs and calling on leaders to make positive change all in the name of equality.

Thinking about my time here in Japan, it's hard to know if racial discrimination is as prevalent as it is in other countries due to living in the countryside as opposed to a large city. That's not to say it doesn't exist but at least in my experience my exposure to it has been minimal. I truly hope this global movement will lead us to a better world, one where everyone feels safe and is treated equality.



Photo of a protest in the U.S.