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Regrinding "Officer cleared in S.F. Fatality (Oct19): Vivian Ho's article about San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon's decision that there was not sufficient evidence to file charges against the police officer, Sgt. Justin Erb, who fatally shot Jessica Williams, opened with info that Williams was homeless and on drugs at the time of the incident, suggesting that her criminality and lifestyle somehow contributed to her own death.

She was also only 29 years old, and her alleged crime was, at best, stealing a car. That's not a capital offense and not the police officer's job to punish. If he had to shoot something, why not the tires of the car?

Better yet, couldn't he have rounded up backup for himself and warnings regarding where she was headed, had she even left the parking space she was in; which she didn't, because she died before that happened. My now 38 year old white son had some criminal history in his 20s, including vehicular involvement with the police that I shudder to think would likely have turned fatal were he to have been Black.

He's now a hard-working, law-abiding, tax-paying contributor to his community because he had a chance to grow up and get help. Jessica Williams didn't.