



key ideas brainstorm for assignment

After researching how photography has affected key movements in the past, I have decided to look at key movements in 2020. This year has been massive for verbal justice in politics and fighting for reform and change in a very large range of issues - most of which have been around longer than just the majority of 2020. My interactive poster must be relevant to current events but I think the historical stuff I have researched is very important to the background and development of my project.

# KEY POLITICS IN 2020

## Extinction Rebellion

Extinction Rebellion is a global environmental movement with the goal of using non-violent civil disobedience to compel government action to avoid tipping points in the climate system. - [www.extinctionrebellion.org](http://www.extinctionrebellion.org)

On top of all political and environmental issues that have taken place in 2020, we are still tackling the issue of global warming. A massive movement since 2018 is the extinction rebellion group. This year ER held protests all over the world to remind the government that the problem of pollution and global warming is not going away - it's only getting worse.



# Black Lives Matter



The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement has been a massive part of 2020 politics. Since the movement began in late May, thousands of unjustified Black killings from officers have been brought to light. Although the fight for racial equality has been an ongoing matter, even throughout the last century - this year hit a peak of protests and new information that many parts of the world had never heard about. With many whites only starting to notice their privilege & disadvantage in society.

## SAVE our children

During lockdown, there was a lot of conspiracy going around about the possibility that Wayfair was selling missing American children in overseas cabinets. When I was reading up on this movement I found a website (<https://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com>) where a protest in Mansfield was documented by a journalist. I couldn't find that much information on the movement as it seemed to be removed under stopping child trafficking. But I did find an inspiring quote from a protester: "I hate sitting back and watching people do wrong. My mom always told me to stand up and do the right thing. Stand up and tell people they're doing wrong. If you are silent, you are on the side of the oppressor."

Save our children is a hashtag most famous from 2020. It originated after Wayfair listed a range of really expensive pieces under names of missing American children.



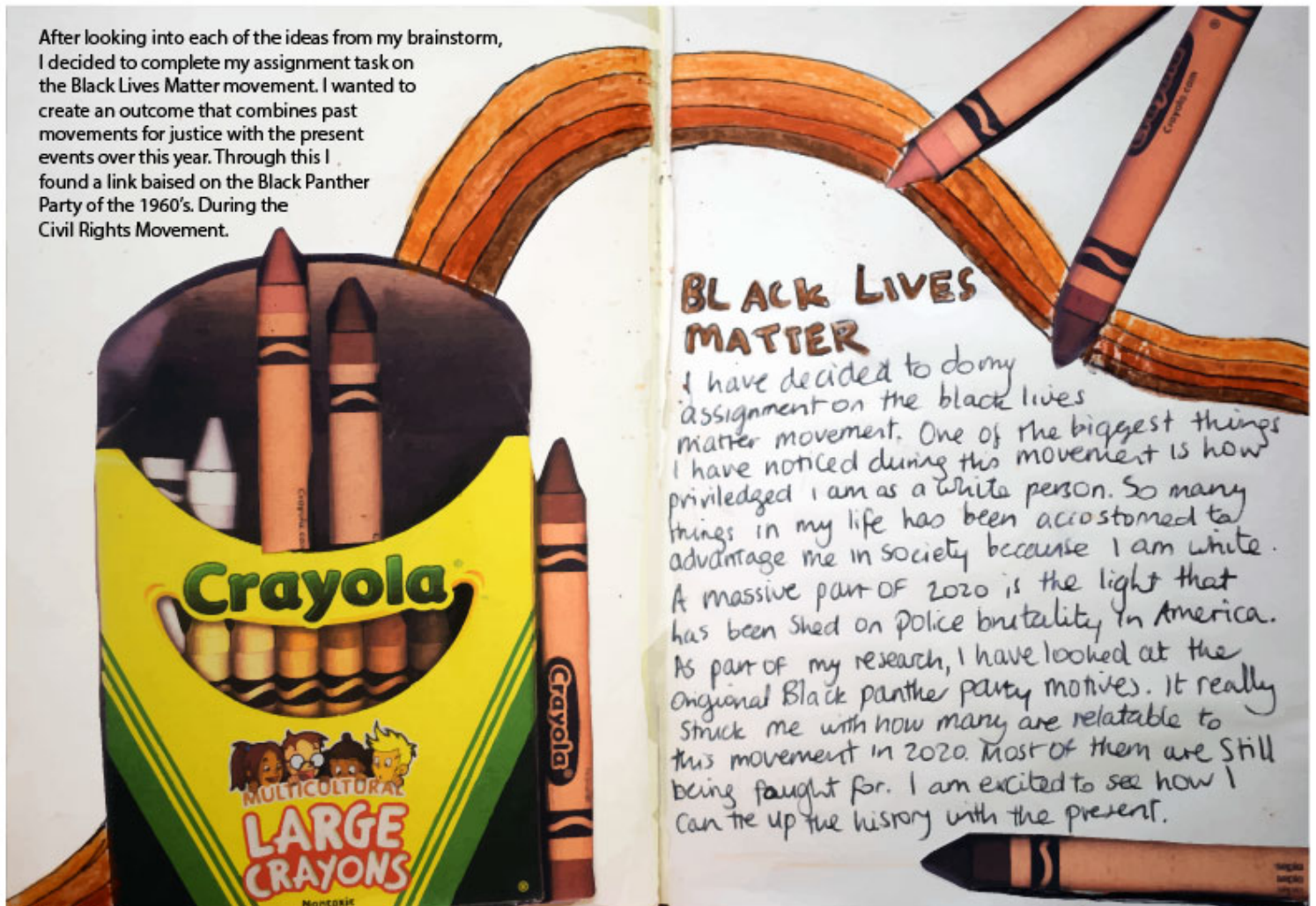
## Pro-democracy H.K.

2020 began with the pro-democracy protests of Hong Kong. I had originally forgotten about this movement because of how many other, more recent protests had happened. It was only when I went back over the time that I noticed how significant this had been. China and Hong Kong in specific had a very rocky start to 2020 when before the coronavirus pandemic hit this part of Asia.



sketchbook research page on my key theme ideas

After looking into each of the ideas from my brainstorm, I decided to complete my assignment task on the Black Lives Matter movement. I wanted to create an outcome that combines past movements for justice with the present events over this year. Through this I found a link based on the Black Panther Party of the 1960's. During the Civil Rights Movement.



## BLACK LIVES MATTER

I have decided to do my assignment on the black lives matter movement. One of the biggest things I have noticed during this movement is how privileged I am as a white person. So many things in my life has been accustomed to advantage me in society because I am white. A massive part of 2020 is the light that has been shed on police brutality in America. As part of my research, I have looked at the original Black panther party motives. It really struck me with how many are relatable to this movement in 2020. Most of them are still being fought for. I am excited to see how I can tie up the history with the present.

# CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Christopher Columbus is the Italian explorer credited for discovering America in 1492. However, it is thought that Vikings and various other native groups discovered this area first. These areas were also ~~not~~ densely populated.

When he discovered America for the first time, he kept a journal to state notes in. On one record he wrote "with fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want." "They would make fine servants" with this attitude he set up a colony of Spanish Settlers in Hispaniola (the 'newfound' land). From there more settlers came and plundered the new land for gold, taking slaves along the way. Columbus brought humans home to Spain to sell as slaves. 3,000,000 people died as a result of Christopher Columbus' discovery from 1494 to 1508.

Many people regard Christopher Columbus as ~~the~~ among the first to endorse slavery. This is because of how he treated and enslaved the natives in Hispaniola. The effects of how these natives were treated became deep rooted into the value of Native Americans and Black citizens in America. This was because of white Privilege and White Supremacy.

I decided to research Christopher Columbus because he is a massive part of the reason African Americans across the world have had to fight for their rights. The deep rooted advantage ~~&~~ towards whites comes from whites and their actions/attitudes towards these communities which were taken advantage of because of their lack of knowledge and power in comparison to the European 'settlers'.

Christopher Columbus will be a key part of the collage I end up creating.



(medium.com)

I started to question the ideas behind white privilege and where superiority began, and if this could be a lead for an outcome idea. This started to inspire some ideas for a final outcome.

# THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

The black panther party was an organisation founded in 1966 with the sole purpose to challenge police brutality against black citizens living in America.

Huey Newton and Bobby Seale set up the political party after they both met in Merritt College, Oakland.

Both Newton and Seale were against

"pioneer day" (when the first group of Mormons settled in Salt Lake City)

In protest and for the education of the students, they set up the Negro History fact group.

With this they offered a chance for students to be educated on Black History.

When the party was created in 1966, they decided to set out a list of 'views and political objections' now known as The black panther party 10 point program:

1. we want freedom. we want the power to determine the destiny of our black community

2. we want full employment for our people

3. we want to end the robbery by the white man of our black community

4. we want decent housing, fit for shelter of human beings

5. we want education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society. we want education that reaches us our true history and our role in the present day society.

6. we want all black men to be exempt from military service

7. we want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of black people

8. we want freedom for all black men held in Federal, State, County and city prisons and jails

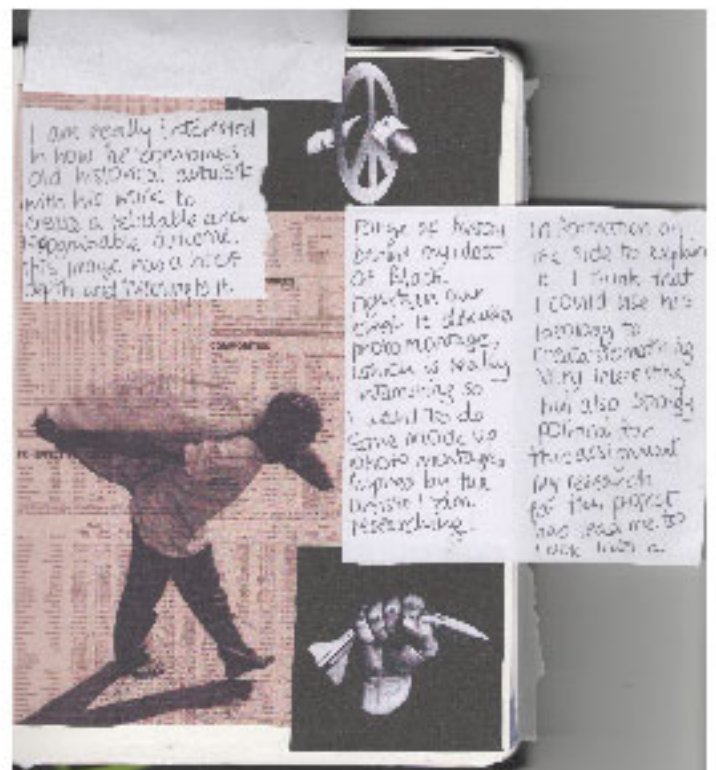
9. we want all black people when brought to trial to be ~~heard~~ trials in court by a jury of their peer group or people from their black communities, as defined by the constitution of the United States

10. we want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice and peace.

(Although this is a historical list of wishes, it's interesting how many of these are still being fought for internationally by black people. This year has educated a lot of people on how long and hard this battle has been)

(Information from history.com?)





Artist research to support a final idea outcome

# INFLUENCES FOR MY FINAL OUTCOME



"I have a dream"

Martin Luther King's 1963 speech I have a dream is arguably the most influential speech of all time - especially during the year it was made. A lot of the phrases he used in this speech still ring clear

in the Black Lives Matter movement so I want to use these as a push to create really political, strong outcome ideas - before I go on to create a final piece.

"CRIPPLED BY THE MANACLES OF SEGREGATION AND CHAINS OF SEGREGATION"

"THE WHIRLWINDS OF REVOLT WILL CONTINUE TO SHAKE THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR NATION UNTIL THE BRIGHT DAY OF JUSTICE EMERGES."

## IMAGERY FROM PAST + PRESENT RIGHTS MOVEMENTS

I would like to combine the hand from the BLM movement and the panther from the black panther party as well as an quote from the rules as a part of my inspiration.

(In specific I find Rule 7 very interesting) - and very relevant to today



## ARTISTS WHO ARE INSPIRING ME



I started some research on artists who use montage as part of the making criteria suggests that montage is important to this project. When I was researching I found a range of artists who combined collage and political themes such as Hannah Hoch,



I decided to take a page in my sketchbook to write up on the artists, research and imagery that were inspiring my ideas for the final outcome of my protest poster.

## CARMEN WINANT



Carmen Winant's artwork is based off a collection of 'found imagery' that comes together to make a group of 'like photos'.

I think it's really interesting how Winant decides to incorporate subtle forms of colour. This reminds me of the use of old coming together to work with the new. As I plan to use a variety of old history and recent history, this is really interesting.

The blue reminds me of cyanotype prints so I will try to experiment with this methodology.



Carmen Winant's artwork really inspired me to look into layering images and seeing what the outcome could be.

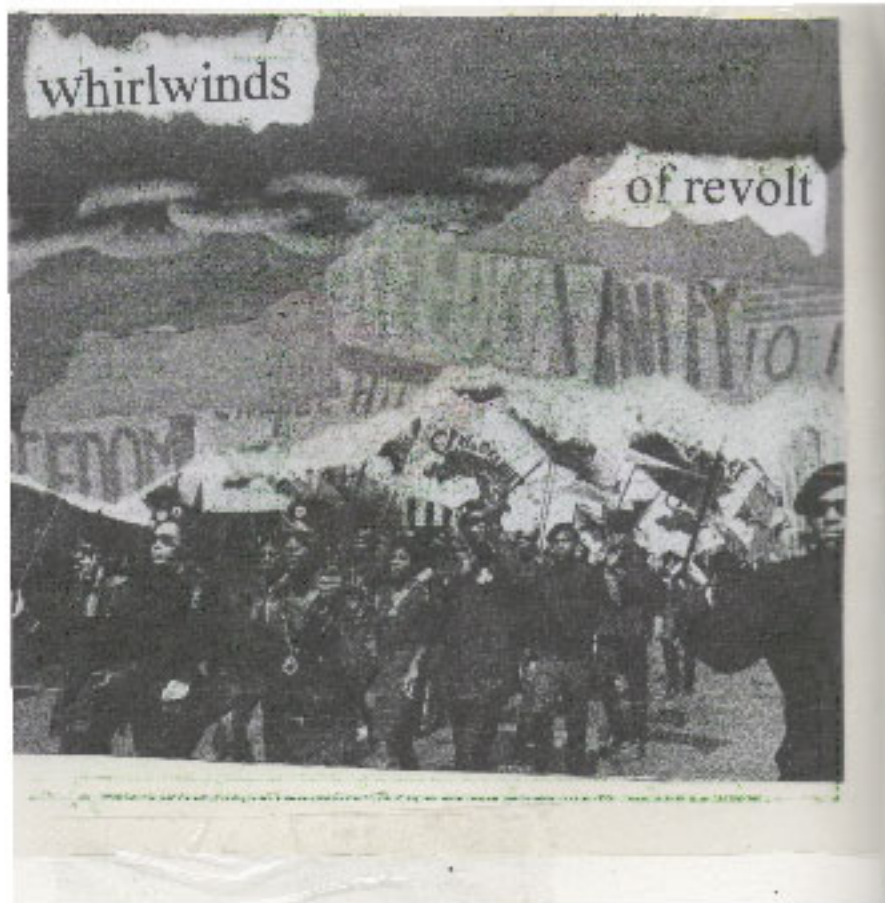
As I looked back through my sketchbook and reflective journal I decided that I would like to make a trial outcome from the research that I had done on Christopher Columbus.

I decided to use found imagery as Carmen Winant had done. But I wanted to use manipulation and photomontage as Hannah Hoch does as a form of reimagining the original painting of Columbus. The words I layered on top were actually from Martin Luther's 'I have a dream' speech. However the history of the image with the power of the words worked really well. I created this trial physically with prints from my printer rather than on photoshop. This was so that I could use different materials. The layer on top of the montage is ink on acetate. As I bought the wrong type of acetate for my printer model, the ink lay on the surface and made an interesting effect.

I liked the outcome of the Christopher Colombus piece, but i think it was very bland and I knew I could create a much better final outcome. Inspired by the semiotics lectures, I decided to look into making my work even less obvious, so that the viewer would really have to look into the poster to understand the commucated message.

I chose a different phrase in Martin Luther King's I have a dream and decided to create imagery for the words 'Bright day of justice'. To me, this phrase is full of hope and excitement for the day when all humans are equal and free from racial discrimination. Seeing this sentace reminds protesters what they're fighting for.

I used my own imagery for this outcome as I wanted to create a personal response to what Martin Luther King was saying. This is what I had created. It is a very subtle protest poster, but I do really like it. I think there is still room for improvement.



After creating a more gentle final outcome I decided to try creating a piece that was more political. I used Martin Luther King's words again and experimented with black and white imagery.

I think it looks quite obvious, and I think the quote away from the sentence it belongs to almost puts a bad image on the protests, despite a large proportion of them being peaceful. I really want my final poster to have an element of softness to it, so that I'm not just shouting a message at the viewer. I also think that the words used on the last outcome were so much nicer and related in a much more optimistic way towards the end of racial inequality.

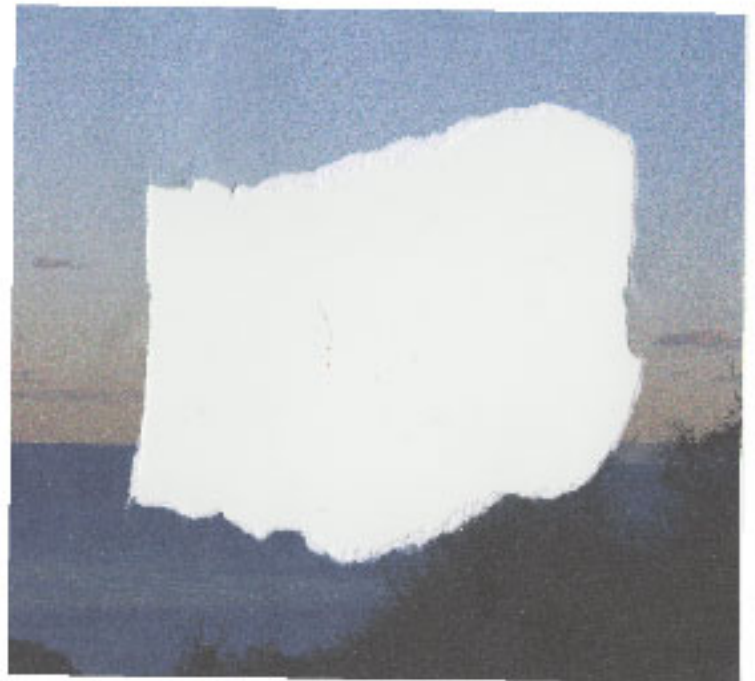
I continued to mess around with inks on the acitate but I have decided that it is too messy and i would like my final outcome to be layered through photoshop instead.

I decided that I wanted to keep with the sunset that I had created in the second trial I made. I printed out an image and decided it might be interesting to use different stages of the sunset. Inspired by Hannah Hoch's montaging, and Caman Winnant's use of layering photos, I created a hole in my image so that i could put the photo from my third trial behind. It created a frame for the photo of the Black Panther Party and the colours from the sea complemented the sand on the bottom half of the image.

I scanned this in to my computer so that I would have a digital copy.



Next I printed an image of the sunset soon after the first image was taken. i ripped a hole in this one too and scanned it to get another digital image.



This was the final image i printed. It is of the last stage of the sunset the night i took these images. I decided to manipulate it as well, through creating a frame for the moon with the ripped paper from the first image. I scanned this in too. Using Photoshop, I edited the opacity of these images. Placing this image upside down to have the hill on the top of my poster/GIF to signify a dark sky. This is a metaphor for the situation in regards to the Black Lives Matter movement at the moment. The beach at the bottom signifies freedom and peace.





Start of GIF



End of GIF

This was my final outcome. It is a blend of all artist the research I have done, as well as background knowledge from the original Civil Right's Movement. I was able to create a GIF that is soft and means a lot more than what it might at first seem. There is an asthetic element but the viewer must look deeper into it to understand fully what I would like to tell them.

Using the words of Martin Luther King allowed me to dream my own reality of what it will be like when the the 'Bright day of justice' comes. This is reflected through the pastel and calming colour pallette I used. I wanted the words to reflect with the background.

However, it was important that the GIF started with a black and white image of the Black Panther Party because they were a massive part of my research and their party aims really resonate with the police brutality that has really been brought to light this year.

I am very happy with my finished GIF, I think that it is very relevant to the message I am trying to convey and the background knowledge behind it is very interesting as well.

**SH\*T IS  
F\*CKED UP  
AND  
BULLSH\*T**

