

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation
From: The Youth of First United Methodist Church of Portland

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

The Youth Group of First United Methodist Church is a group of 7-12th graders who meet weekly on Sunday and have been in conversation about police brutality and social/racial justice. After reading *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas, students have learned of the injustice of young people, especially People of Color.

We are writing to encourage your support of SB 418; prohibiting the use of deceit, trickery, or artifice during the law enforcement interviews of youth.

Children are taught at a young age to respect and trust adult authority figures especially including police. When police use their authority against young people, there is a profound betrayal of that trust and increases the likelihood that youth will confess to acts that they did not commit. There have been instances of police asking students, without their legal guardian present, for information and the student answers the questions only to have that information used against them resulting in arrest.

We encourage Oregon to do better for young people and stop the use of trickery, deceit, and artifice.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Alicia McConnell
Interim Children and Youth Leader at First United Methodist Church of Portland

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11th Grade Student

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