

My Two Cent's Worth

By: Joseph Andalina

And the answer is?

To the continuing carnage in Chicago and the never-ending issue that it's the cops' fault because there is no trust in the community. That, however, seems to be just a talking point of the race baiters, cop haters, and the news media that really don't like you, either.

Actually you can add the prosecutors to that list. Nothing I have seen from them can change my jaded mind.

It's not just a Chicago problem, although everything is obviously exacerbated in this city. Yes, there are a few bad cops in our profession (as in any profession). Policing is a microcosm of society but to continue to blame police for the never-ending violence is ridiculous.

And police involved in violent confrontations would be minimized if people comply, don't carry or use unlicensed weapons, don't commit crimes, or run.

Running, just like with bears and mountain lions, can capture the interest of any cop on the street. You are trained to pursue and that you should do, despite the activists and press now suggesting that you allow people to run away. Fat chance.

I think most people who are honest are not buying into racist police, white privilege, or the temperature for the violence. Media types are just desperate and keep salivating over the same old talking points that "fake news" provides.

Yes, it's poverty, degrading neighborhoods, lack of opportunity, and other ills of society. But that means it's okay to shoot a 17-year old girl in the face, an 11-year old on a bike, or a 62-year old trying to sleep?

More cops, more prosecutions, higher bonds, jail time, and tough policing backed by politicians can go a long way to minimizing the carnage.

Blaming race, whiteness, or the heat is dumb. Local aldermen have recently suggested the fault of parents, and the need for watchful parents and the lack of religion as culprits in the violence. About time.

There is no major economic plan says another. And others say drugs and blood money, not getting the education people need, and no hope since the government is giving up on them. More liberal dribble.

Really, it's the government? I guess Ronald Reagan was right, eh?

Others, including JB Pritzker, blame Rauner. Hey, I don't like Rauner, but I find it hard to believe he is at fault. This has been a problem long before Rauner became governor.

And then there is a "values" problem that causes an allocation of resources, like to Lollapalooza instead of to endangered communities.

So in my limited brain capacity and years giving wisdom to the cop world, I would say it all comes down to this. People are scared to come forward. Unless we make the arrests, the prosecutors make the bonds high and the judges keep the bad guys in jail, folks just won't come forward.

Police can't protect witnesses and can do nothing to secure their safety, short of putting someone in a witness protection program, which is not happening on a local level. Order of Protections are useless, too.

So unless you can keep these assholes in jail, nothing will change. They kill because they are assholes. That's what assholes do, despite all hand wringing and meetings and opinions on the cause.

And unless the system will guarantee a witness' safety, they will not come forward because they know the next bullet will be for them.

Vita é bella.