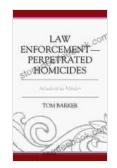
## Law Enforcement Perpetrated Homicides: A Deeper Dive into a Troubling Issue

Law enforcement officers play a critical role in our society, responsible for maintaining public safety and upholding the law. However, in recent years, there has been a growing concern over the number of homicides committed by law enforcement officers.



Law Enforcement–Perpetrated Homicides: Accidents to Murder (Policing Perspectives and Challenges in the Twenty-First Century) by Tom Barker

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This article will provide an in-depth analysis of law enforcement perpetrated homicides, examining the data, the causes, and the consequences. We will also discuss the steps that can be taken to reduce the number of these tragic events.

#### The Data

According to the Mapping Police Violence project, there were 1,125 people killed by police in the United States in 2022. This number is down from 1,176 in 2021, but it is still significantly higher than the number of people killed by police in other developed countries.

The data shows that Black people are disproportionately impacted by police violence. In 2022, Black people made up 26% of the population of the United States, but they accounted for 33% of the people killed by police.

The data also shows that people with mental illness are more likely to be killed by police. In 2022, people with mental illness made up 25% of the people killed by police.

#### The Causes

There are a number of factors that can contribute to law enforcement perpetrated homicides. These factors include:

- Implicit bias: Implicit bias is a type of unconscious bias that can lead to discrimination against certain groups of people. Implicit bias can lead to police officers being more likely to use force against Black people and people with mental illness.
- Lack of training: Police officers often receive inadequate training on how to deal with people with mental illness. This lack of training can lead to police officers using excessive force when they are confronted by someone with mental illness.
- **Use of force policies:** The use of force policies of police departments can also contribute to law enforcement perpetrated homicides. Some

use of force policies allow police officers to use deadly force in situations where it is not necessary.

#### **The Consequences**

Law enforcement perpetrated homicides have a number of negative consequences, including:

- Loss of life: The most obvious consequence of law enforcement perpetrated homicide is the loss of life. Every year, hundreds of people are killed by police officers in the United States.
- **Erosion of trust:** Law enforcement perpetrated homicides can erode trust between the police and the communities they serve. When people feel that they are not safe from the police, they are less likely to cooperate with the police and to report crimes.
- Increased violence: Law enforcement perpetrated homicides can lead to increased violence. When people feel that they are not being treated fairly by the police, they are more likely to take matters into their own hands.

#### **The Solutions**

There are a number of steps that can be taken to reduce the number of law enforcement perpetrated homicides. These steps include:

- Implicit bias training: Implicit bias training can help police officers to identify and overcome their implicit biases. This training can help to reduce the number of incidents of police brutality.
- Increased training: Police officers should receive more training on how to deal with people with mental illness. This training should

include de-escalation techniques and how to recognize the signs of mental illness.

 Reform of use of force policies: Use of force policies should be reformed to limit the use of deadly force. Deadly force should only be used when it is absolutely necessary.

Law enforcement perpetrated homicides are a serious problem in the United States. These homicides have a number of negative consequences, including the loss of life, the erosion of trust, and the increase in violence.

There are a number of steps that can be taken to reduce the number of law enforcement perpetrated homicides. These steps include implicit bias training, increased training, and the reform of use of force policies.

We all have a role to play in reducing the number of law enforcement perpetrated homicides. We can start by educating ourselves about this issue and by speaking out against police brutality.

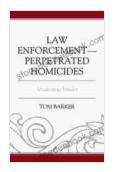
We can also support organizations that are working to reduce police violence. These organizations are working to train police officers, to reform use of force policies, and to hold police officers accountable for misconduct.

Together, we can create a safer and more just society for everyone.

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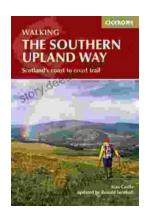
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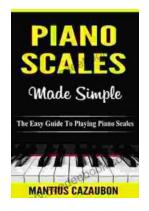
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