

Good afternoon. I'd like to begin by thanking Representative Jim Jordan and his staff for the opportunity to speak today on a topic central to my life work and mission. Diversity and the media.

My name is Jason Whitlock. I'm a sports journalist-turned-media entrepreneur. I'm a partner and content creator at [Outkick.com](https://www.outkick.com), a media platform with the mission of creating a fearless culture in support of sports, masculinity and free speech.

Before taking an ownership stake at Outkick in June, I was a well-known sports columnist at the Kansas City Star, and a personality and host at ESPN and Fox Sports. My written work has also been published at Playboy Magazine, the Huffington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and at [FoxNews.com](https://www.foxnews.com).

In the last decade, I was involved in a journalism project, ESPN's The Undefeated, and a television project, Fox Sports' talk show Speak For Yourself, designed to elevate, develop and support black content creators.

Today's topic is not an issue I've paid lip service to. I've lived it -- as a journalist and as someone charged with ensuring its success. My point of view is diverse, objective and fearless.

I'm humbled and honored to have a voice worthy of being heard before this audience at this time in American history.

Thomas Jefferson rightly argued in 1787 that he would rather have newspapers without government than government without newspapers. Jefferson made clear in our Declaration of Independence that he believed in the power of self-evident truth, and he knew that journalism was a primary tool to make truth self-evident.

A journalistic search for truth forced America to deal with the founding principle Jefferson spelled out in the Declaration of Independence. All men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights.

Today across this country we hear protestors, rioters and anarchists in our streets chanting No Justice No Peace. They say they are doing this on behalf of black lives. They have aligned justice with the threat of violence.

Justice's true ally is truth, not war. Truth precedes Justice. No Truth No Justice. The racial justice that so many people say they're clamoring for

cannot be won absent of truth. The healthy, strengthening diversity that so many people say they want reflected in the media cannot be built on false narratives and outright lies.

We are here today to discuss diversity and its ability to make our union more perfect.

We can't get there without first discussing our abandonment of truth. No Truth No Justice.

What is standing in the way of truth and therefore standing in the way of healing and holistic diversity?

Big Tech and Silicon Valley's hijacking of journalism. Google, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube made race-clickbait the gold standard of American journalism. They are the stewards of Fake News.

When I graduated from Ball State University in 1990, the journalism industry catered to New York liberalism. Thirty years later the industry caters to Northern California radicalism and groupthink.

Going viral is the goal of journalism today. Producing work that triggers algorithms that lead to likes, retweets and follows is the mandate enforced by media executives.

Social media has transformed the mainstream media, turning seekers of truth into seekers of influence. It's had the same impact on athletes. They are no longer role models. They're influence peddlers. LeBron James, a basketball prodigy with more than 80 million social media followers, has more influence over news coverage than any single journalist. He is our Walter Cronkite.

Colin Kaepernick and athletes across professional sports have forced the NFL and NBA to promote the false narrative that there is a pandemic of police brutality sweeping America's black communities.

Facts do not support this narrative.

I say that having lost a cousin that I helped raise to what me and my family believe was an abuse of force by law enforcement in 2012. The outrage and pain that so many claim they feel over Breonna Taylor's tragic death in Louisville and George Floyd's death in Minneapolis I know firsthand.

The picture on this button is my cousin Anton Butler. Indianapolis sheriffs tasered him to death in the rain. There will be no justice for my cousin or anyone until the American media refocuses on a search for truth.

And the truth is, as it relates to the mainstream media, the diversity we're lacking right now isn't racial.

We lack the resolve to follow the truth wherever it leads. Big Tech eliminated the search for truth. Big Tech installed athletes, celebrities and rigged algorithms as journalists.

The media has always leaned left. It's the disregard for truth that is killing America.

No truth no justice.