

Living Bridges Project Transcript
Ending the Secrecy - Excerpt: On Not Calling the Police

[Music]

VOICEOVER: The following audio is part of the Living Bridges Project, an anonymous story-collecting project documenting responses to child sexual abuse. For more, please visit LivingBridgesProject.com.

[Music]

STORYTELLER: I think one... I mean as a person who grew up poor, as a person of color [laughs] you just don't think about cops in that way. To me, police are not a safety net. It is more trouble. And I also thought about my entire family. What would that do to my entire family? And I don't believe in prison. I don't think that that would do any difference for my sister for her to be put in prison. If anything, what it would have done was remove her from my presence and I was able to do that without prison. I was able to ask for what I wanted and she – whether she got help or not through her addiction work – I didn't have to be a part of that. I didn't want to be a part of it. I really didn't care because I needed to take care of me. So, I think relationship to police is not a healthy – a good one. The prison industrial complex does not work. And it would have – it would have just crushed my family and my family was super important to me, so I didn't want to crush them. I just wanted to take care of this particular thing. It happened. I couldn't change that fact. What I could change was being around her, having any kind of connection or communication with her and having other people know that this is the reason why that this is – that I'm taking a stance on this.

[Music]

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