OKC Bombing Essay

Tragedy is the foundation of any society, it strikes and breaks people down, only to have them rise again. Disasters are what inspire people to change. This was proven on April 19, 1995. That fateful day came with a shocking realization: no one was safe. After that day, people were afraid to leave their homes, terrified of the evil that hid under human skin. People would eventually adapt to their new world, but they would never fully recover their trust in humanity.

Now it is the year 2020, twenty-five years after the Oklahoma City Bombing, and people are more afraid than ever. Every day more news floods the TV, updating everyone on the latest shooting, bombing, and terrorist attacks. People operate on a constant fear that someone is out to get them. Children hurry to see if the door is locked, more afraid of monsters that look human than the ones under their bed. Guns are stashed in cars and pants, the phrase “just in case” imprinted in people’s heads. Twenty years ago people used to leave their doors unlocked, and they looked at strangers with a smile, not narrowed eyes. These are just a few of the ways society has changed for the worse.

Every problem has a solution, but some problems have easier solutions. The solution to the distrust between people can be solved, but only if people allow themselves to feel for others. After the numerous attacks against innocent people, it is only natural that people would put up walls to defend themselves, but while those walls may keep them safe they also keep them isolated. When people isolate themselves, they began to stop caring, they ignore the lost tourist and homeless stranger, convincing themselves that it is safer that way. No one bothers to learn
the homeless stranger’s story in an attempt to save themselves, and that is killing society. If people were only braver, they may learn that not every hand asking for a penny is a bad one. While this world is certainly not perfect, and it is true that bad people do exist, if no one tries to seek a solution, the problem will only progress. Every kind hand can make a difference, because if people don’t choose to do the right thing, then they are doing the wrong one.

Communities are built on the foundation of the people in them. Communities are formed all the time, each time by a group of people brought together by different situations. One example of a community formed occurred on April 19, 1995. After the horrific explosion, people came together, each searching to give and receive comfort. People who had never met were suddenly bonded together, their entire lives were changed in an instance. They likely felt terrified and alone, surrounded by damage that threatened to swallow them, and at that moment, people came together. They carried each other out of the rubble and they banded together in an attempt to rebuild their lives, and eventually they did. People overcame their obstacles together, fearful but willing to trust anyways. Everyone should aspire to be like those survivors, they are a great example of what it means to be a community.

The world has changed drastically since 1995, some changes good and some bad, but it is not too late to start rebuilding. People must learn to live safely but without fear, because without connections, people will survive without ever truly living.