

1

00:00:01,740 --> 00:00:16,660

The following are my opinions and do not reflect the opinions or policies

2

00:00:16,680 --> 00:00:18,840

of any particular prosecutor's office.

3

00:00:18,860 --> 00:00:23,140

I am a prosecutor.

4

00:00:23,160 --> 00:00:24,640

I believe in law and order.

5

00:00:24,660 --> 00:00:29,100

I'm the adopted son of a police officer, a marine and a hairdresser.

6

00:00:29,120 --> 00:00:32,120

I believe in accountability

7

00:00:32,140 --> 00:00:36,080

and that we should all be safe in our communities.

8

00:00:36,100 --> 00:00:40,460

I love my job and the people that do it.

9

00:00:40,460 --> 00:00:45,150

I just think that it's our responsibility to do it better.

10

00:00:45,170 --> 00:00:47,270

By a show of hands,

11

00:00:47,290 --> 00:00:49,870

how many of you by the age of 25

12

00:00:49,890 --> 00:00:51,910

had either acted up in school,

13

00:00:51,930 --> 00:00:54,550

went somewhere you were specifically told to stay out of,

14

00:00:54,570 --> 00:00:59,740

or drank alcohol before your legal age?

15

00:00:59,760 --> 00:01:00,760

All right.

16

00:01:01,480 --> 00:01:03,720

How many of you shop-lifted,

17

00:01:03,740 --> 00:01:05,760

tried an illegal drug

18

00:01:05,780 --> 00:01:10,620

or got into a physical fight, yes, even with a sibling?

19

00:01:10,620 --> 00:01:21,750

Now, how many of you ever spent one day in jail for any of those decisions?

20

00:01:21,770 --> 00:01:24,830

How many of you sitting here today think that you are a danger to society

21

00:01:24,850 --> 00:01:28,130

or should be defined by those actions of youthful indiscretion?

22

00:01:28,150 --> 00:01:32,140

No.

23

00:01:32,160 --> 00:01:35,470

Point taken.

24

00:01:35,490 --> 00:01:37,590

When we talk about criminal justice reform,

25

00:01:37,610 --> 00:01:40,530

we often focus on a few things,

26

00:01:40,550 --> 00:01:44,730

and that's what I want to talk to you about today.

27

00:01:44,750 --> 00:01:47,150

But first, since you shared with me,

28

00:01:47,170 --> 00:01:49,150

I'm going to give you a confession on my part.

29

00:01:49,170 --> 00:01:50,750

In law school,

30

00:01:50,770 --> 00:01:52,670

to make money.

31

00:01:52,690 --> 00:01:54,550

I had no interest in being a public servant,

32

00:01:54,570 --> 00:01:56,470

I had no interest in the criminal law,

33

00:01:56,490 --> 00:01:59,870

and I definitely didn't think that I would ever be a prosecutor.

34

00:02:00,870 --> 00:02:02,950

At the end of my first year of law school,

35

00:02:02,970 --> 00:02:06,870

I got an internship in the Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court.

36

00:02:06,890 --> 00:02:10,390

I knew of Roxbury as an impoverished neighborhood in Boston,

37

00:02:10,410 --> 00:02:14,110

plagued by gun violence and drug crime.

38

00:02:15,850 --> 00:02:18,910

My life in my legal career changed.

39

00:02:18,910 --> 00:02:20,730

The first day of that internship.

40

00:02:21,930 --> 00:02:25,870

I walked into a courtroom and I saw an auditorium of people

41

00:02:25,890 --> 00:02:29,290

who one by one would approach the front of that courtroom

42

00:02:29,310 --> 00:02:32,290

to say two words and two words only, not guilty.

43

00:02:32,310 --> 00:02:36,080

They were predominantly black and brown.

44

00:02:36,100 --> 00:02:38,800

And then a judge, a defense attorney and a prosecutor

45

00:02:38,820 --> 00:02:42,240

would make life-altering decisions about that person without their input.

46

00:02:43,520 --> 00:02:47,180

They were predominantly white.

47

00:02:47,200 --> 00:02:50,260

As each person one by one approached the front of that courtroom,

48

00:02:50,300 --> 00:02:51,960

I couldn't stop but think,

49

00:02:51,980 --> 00:02:54,880

how did they get here? I wanted to know their stories.

50

00:02:55,760 --> 00:02:58,760

And as the prosecutor read the facts of each case,

51

00:02:59,720 --> 00:03:01,420

I was thinking to myself,

52

00:03:01,440 --> 00:03:03,140

we could have predicted that.

53

00:03:04,060 --> 00:03:05,760

That seemed so preventable.

54

00:03:07,500 --> 00:03:09,720

Not because I was an expert in criminal law,

55

00:03:09,740 --> 00:03:13,480

but because it was common sense.

56

00:03:13,500 --> 00:03:15,100

Over the course of the internship,

57

00:03:15,120 --> 00:03:17,180

I began to recognize people in the auditorium,

58

00:03:17,200 --> 00:03:19,420

not because they were criminal masterminds,

59

00:03:19,440 --> 00:03:21,060

but because they were coming to us for help

60

00:03:21,080 --> 00:03:23,520

and we were sending them out without any.

61

00:03:25,790 --> 00:03:26,830

My second year of law school,

62

00:03:26,850 --> 00:03:28,730

I worked as a paralegal for a defense attorney,

63

00:03:28,750 --> 00:03:31,910

and in that experience, I met many young men accused of murder.

64

00:03:32,630 --> 00:03:36,550

Even in our worst, I saw human stories.

65

00:03:36,570 --> 00:03:39,490

And they all contained childhood trauma,

66

00:03:39,510 --> 00:03:43,470

victimization, poverty, loss, disengagement from school,

67

00:03:43,490 --> 00:03:46,330

early interaction with the police and the criminal justice system,

68

00:03:46,350 --> 00:03:48,310

all leading to a seat in a courtroom.

69

00:03:49,310 --> 00:03:52,310

Those convicted of murder were condemned to die in prison,

70

00:03:52,330 --> 00:03:55,010

and it was during those meetings with those men

71

00:03:55,030 --> 00:03:58,210

that I couldn't fathom why we would spend so much money

72

00:03:58,230 --> 00:04:01,010

to keep this one person in jail for the next 80 years,

73

00:04:01,030 --> 00:04:02,810

and we could have reinvested it upfront,

74

00:04:02,830 --> 00:04:06,090

perhaps preventing the whole thing from happening in the first place.

75

00:04:06,110 --> 00:04:13,020

My third year of law school,

76

00:04:13,040 --> 00:04:16,220

I defended people accused of small street crimes,

77

00:04:16,240 --> 00:04:17,940

mostly mentally ill, mostly homeless,

78

00:04:17,960 --> 00:04:20,500

mostly drug addicted, all in need of help.

79

00:04:23,160 --> 00:04:24,800

They would come to us,

80

00:04:24,820 --> 00:04:27,300

and we would send them away without that help.

81

00:04:28,500 --> 00:04:31,540

They were in need of our assistance,

82

00:04:32,580 --> 00:04:36,840

but we weren't giving them any.

83

00:04:36,860 --> 00:04:40,000

Prosecuted, adjudged and defended

84

00:04:40,020 --> 00:04:42,960

by people who knew nothing about them.

85

00:04:44,460 --> 00:04:48,360

The staggering inefficiency is what drove me to criminal justice work.

86

00:04:48,380 --> 00:04:51,160

The unfairness of it all made me want to be a defender.

87

00:04:52,160 --> 00:04:54,860

The power dynamic that I came to understand

88

00:04:55,860 --> 00:04:59,140

made me become a prosecutor.

89

00:04:59,160 --> 00:05:01,940

I don't want to spend a lot of time talking about the problem.

90

00:05:01,960 --> 00:05:04,500

We know that the criminal justice system needs reform.

91

00:05:04,520 --> 00:05:07,940

We know that there are 2.3 million people in American jails and prisons

92

00:05:07,960 --> 00:05:10,420

making us the most incarcerated nation on the planet.

93

00:05:10,440 --> 00:05:14,020

We know that there's another 7 million people on probation or parole.

94

00:05:14,040 --> 00:05:16,260

We know that the criminal justice system

95

00:05:16,280 --> 00:05:18,020

disproportionately affects people of color,

96

00:05:18,040 --> 00:05:19,640

particularly poor people of color,

97

00:05:19,660 --> 00:05:22,420

and we know that there are system failures happening everywhere

98

00:05:22,440 --> 00:05:24,820

in our courtrooms, but what we do not discuss

99

00:05:24,840 --> 00:05:27,920

is how ill-equipped our prosecutors are to receive them.

100

00:05:29,140 --> 00:05:31,060

When we talk about criminal justice reform,

101

00:05:31,080 --> 00:05:33,460

we as a society focus on three things.

102

00:05:33,480 --> 00:05:36,460

We complain, we tweet, we protest about the police,

103

00:05:36,480 --> 00:05:38,700

about sentencing laws, about our prison.

104

00:05:40,020 --> 00:05:46,300

We rarely, if ever, talk about the prosecutor.

105

00:05:46,320 --> 00:05:48,720

In the fall of 2009,

106

00:05:48,740 --> 00:05:51,740

a young man was arrested by the Boston Police Department.

107

00:05:51,760 --> 00:05:52,960

He was 18 years old.

108

00:05:52,960 --> 00:05:56,660

He was African-American, and he was a senior at a local public school.

109

00:05:56,680 --> 00:05:58,560

He had a site set on college,

110

00:05:58,580 --> 00:06:00,700

but his part-time, minimum-wage job

111

00:06:00,720 --> 00:06:04,660

wasn't providing the financial opportunity he needed to enroll in school.

112

00:06:04,680 --> 00:06:08,380

In a series of bad decisions, he stole 30 laptops from the store

113

00:06:08,400 --> 00:06:10,360

and sold them on the internet.

114

00:06:10,380 --> 00:06:13,320

This led to his arrest and a criminal complaint

115

00:06:13,340 --> 00:06:16,140

of 30 felony charges.

116

00:06:17,640 --> 00:06:20,700

The potential jail time he faced is what stressed Christopher out the most,

117

00:06:20,700 --> 00:06:23,280

but what he had little understanding of

118

00:06:23,300 --> 00:06:28,240

was the impact a criminal record would have on his future.

119

00:06:28,260 --> 00:06:31,420

I was standing in arraignments that day when Christopher's case came across my desk,

120

00:06:31,440 --> 00:06:33,820

and at the risk of sounding dramatic in that moment,

121

00:06:33,840 --> 00:06:36,220

I had Christopher's life in my hands.

122

00:06:37,440 --> 00:06:39,780

I was 29 years old, a brand-new prosecutor,

123

00:06:39,800 --> 00:06:43,180

and I had little appreciation for the decisions that I would make

124

00:06:43,200 --> 00:06:45,400

would impact Christopher's life.

125

00:06:46,860 --> 00:06:48,660

Christopher's case was a serious one,

126

00:06:48,680 --> 00:06:50,460

and needed to be dealt with as such,

127

00:06:50,460 --> 00:06:53,340

and think that branding him a felon for the rest of his life

128

00:06:53,360 --> 00:06:54,800

was the right answer.

129

00:06:56,380 --> 00:06:58,320

For the most part, prosecutors step onto the job

130

00:06:58,340 --> 00:07:00,840

with little appreciation of the impact of our decisions,

131

00:07:00,860 --> 00:07:02,640

regardless of our intent.

132

00:07:02,660 --> 00:07:04,180

Despite our broad discretion,

133

00:07:04,200 --> 00:07:07,400

we learned to avoid risk at all costs,

134

00:07:07,420 --> 00:07:10,440

rendering our discretion basically useless.

135

00:07:11,940 --> 00:07:14,320

History has conditioned us to believe that somehow

136

00:07:14,340 --> 00:07:17,080

the criminal justice system brings about accountability

137

00:07:17,100 --> 00:07:19,940

and improves public safety, despite evidence to the contrary.

138

00:07:21,080 --> 00:07:24,640

We're judged internally and externally by our convictions and our trial wins,

139

00:07:24,660 --> 00:07:28,280

so prosecutors aren't really incentivized to be creative

140

00:07:28,300 --> 00:07:30,320

at our case positions, dispositions,

141

00:07:30,340 --> 00:07:33,360

or to take risks on people we might not otherwise.

142

00:07:34,620 --> 00:07:36,120

We stick to an outdated method,

143

00:07:36,140 --> 00:07:39,280

counterproductive to achieving the very goal that we all want,

144

00:07:39,300 --> 00:07:41,160

and that's safer, communities.

145

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,620

Most prosecutors standing in my space would have arraigned Christopher.

146

00:07:46,900 --> 00:07:50,220

They have little appreciation for what we can do.

147

00:07:50,220 --> 00:07:53,500

Arraigning Christopher would give him a criminal record,

148

00:07:54,400 --> 00:07:56,980

making it harder for him to get a job,

149

00:07:57,000 --> 00:08:04,010

setting in motion a cycle that defines the failing criminal justice system today.

150

00:08:04,030 --> 00:08:05,850

With a criminal record and without a job,

151

00:08:05,870 --> 00:08:08,470

Christopher would be unable to find employment,

152

00:08:08,490 --> 00:08:10,550

education, or stable housing.

153

00:08:10,570 --> 00:08:12,670

Without those protective factors in his life,

154

00:08:12,690 --> 00:08:15,810

Christopher would be more likely to commit furthermore serious crime.

155

00:08:15,830 --> 00:08:19,230

The more contact Christopher had with the criminal justice system,

156

00:08:19,230 --> 00:08:23,010

he would return again and again and again,

157

00:08:23,910 --> 00:08:26,830

all at tremendous social cost to his children,

158

00:08:26,850 --> 00:08:28,530

to his family, and to his peers,

159

00:08:28,550 --> 00:08:32,490

and ladies and gentlemen, it is a terrible public safety outcome

160

00:08:32,510 --> 00:08:36,510

for the rest of us.

161

00:08:36,530 --> 00:08:38,830

When I came out of law school,

162

00:08:38,850 --> 00:08:41,510

I did the same thing as everybody else.

163

00:08:41,530 --> 00:08:43,970

I came out as a prosecutor, expected to do justice,

164

00:08:43,990 --> 00:08:45,990

but I never learned what justice was in my classes.

165

00:08:46,010 --> 00:08:47,010

None of us do.

166

00:08:48,170 --> 00:08:50,980

None of us do.

167

00:08:50,980 --> 00:08:53,600

And yet, prosecutors are the most powerful actors

168

00:08:53,620 --> 00:08:55,360

in the criminal justice system.

169

00:08:56,260 --> 00:08:58,020

Our power is virtually boundless.

170

00:08:58,040 --> 00:09:00,840

In most cases, not the judge, not the police, not the legislature,

171

00:09:00,860 --> 00:09:03,060

not the mayor, not the governor, not the president

172

00:09:03,080 --> 00:09:07,000

can tell us how to prosecute our cases.

173

00:09:07,020 --> 00:09:09,500

The decision to arraign Christopher and give him a criminal record

174

00:09:09,520 --> 00:09:11,160

was exclusively mine.

175

00:09:12,360 --> 00:09:14,940

I would choose whether to prosecute him for 30 felonies,

176

00:09:14,960 --> 00:09:18,180

for one felony, for a misdemeanor, or at all.

177

00:09:18,200 --> 00:09:21,300

I would choose whether to leverage Christopher into a plea deal

178

00:09:21,300 --> 00:09:24,380

for trial, and ultimately, I'd be in a position to ask for Christopher

179

00:09:24,400 --> 00:09:25,800

to go to jail.

180

00:09:27,940 --> 00:09:31,440

These are decisions that prosecutors make every day unfettered,

181

00:09:32,600 --> 00:09:35,440

and we are unaware and untrained

182

00:09:35,460 --> 00:09:38,160

of the grave consequences of those decisions.

183

00:09:40,530 --> 00:09:42,130

One night, this past summer,

184

00:09:42,150 --> 00:09:46,710

I was at a small gathering of professional men of color from around the city,

185

00:09:46,730 --> 00:09:50,070

and as I stood there, stuffing free finger sandwiches into my mouth

186

00:09:50,090 --> 00:09:51,790

as you do as a public servant,

187

00:09:51,790 --> 00:09:57,130

I noticed across the room a young man waving and smiling at me

188

00:09:57,150 --> 00:09:58,410

and approaching me,

189

00:09:59,510 --> 00:10:02,610

and I recognized him, but I couldn't place from where.

190

00:10:02,630 --> 00:10:06,210

And before I knew it, this young man was hugging me

191

00:10:07,130 --> 00:10:09,740

and thanking me.

192

00:10:09,760 --> 00:10:12,120

You cared about me, and you changed my life.

193

00:10:13,380 --> 00:10:14,620

It was Christopher.

194

00:10:15,880 --> 00:10:17,380

See, I never arraigneded Christopher.

195

00:10:17,400 --> 00:10:18,900

He never faced a judge or a jail.

196

00:10:18,920 --> 00:10:21,120

He never had a criminal record.

197

00:10:21,140 --> 00:10:22,840

Instead, I worked with Christopher.

198

00:10:22,860 --> 00:10:25,620

First, I'm being accountable for his actions,

199

00:10:25,640 --> 00:10:28,540

and then putting him in a position where he wouldn't reoffend.

200

00:10:29,620 --> 00:10:32,660

We recovered 75% of the computers that he sold

201

00:10:32,680 --> 00:10:35,680

and gave them back to Best Buy and came up with a financial plan

202

00:10:35,700 --> 00:10:37,960

to repay for the computers we couldn't recover.

203

00:10:37,980 --> 00:10:39,740

Christopher did community service.

204

00:10:39,760 --> 00:10:42,720

He wrote an essay reflecting on how this case could impact his future

205

00:10:42,740 --> 00:10:44,400

and that of the community.

206

00:10:44,420 --> 00:10:46,980

He applied to college, he obtained financial aid,

207

00:10:47,000 --> 00:10:49,480

and he went on to graduate from a four-year school.

208

00:10:50,140 --> 00:10:57,520

After we finished hugging,

209

00:10:57,560 --> 00:11:00,220

I looked at his name tag to learn that Christopher

210

00:11:00,240 --> 00:11:02,740

was a manager of a large bank in Boston.

211

00:11:02,760 --> 00:11:05,880

Christopher had accomplished, oh, making a lot more money than me.

212

00:11:05,900 --> 00:11:09,740

I had accomplished all of this in the six years

213

00:11:09,760 --> 00:11:12,000

since I had first seen him in Roxbury Court.

214

00:11:12,880 --> 00:11:16,700

I can't take credit for Christopher's journey to success,

215

00:11:16,720 --> 00:11:19,580

but I certainly did my part to keep him on the path.

216

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:24,620

There are thousands of Christopher's out there,

217

00:11:24,640 --> 00:11:26,220

some locked in our jails and prisons.

218

00:11:26,220 --> 00:11:30,900

We need thousands of prosecutors to recognize that and to protect them.

219

00:11:32,500 --> 00:11:36,440

And employed Christopher is better for public safety than a condemned one.

220

00:11:36,460 --> 00:11:39,060

It's a bigger win for all of us.

221

00:11:40,460 --> 00:11:43,100

In retrospect, the decision not to throw the book at Christopher

222

00:11:43,120 --> 00:11:44,520

makes perfect sense.

223

00:11:44,540 --> 00:11:46,660

When I saw him that first day in Roxbury Court,

224

00:11:46,680 --> 00:11:48,680

I didn't see a criminal standing there.

225

00:11:48,700 --> 00:11:51,620

I saw myself, a young person in need of intervention.

226

00:11:51,640 --> 00:11:55,940

As an individual caught selling a large quantity of drugs in my late teens,

227

00:11:55,980 --> 00:11:58,880

I knew firsthand the power of opportunity

228

00:11:58,900 --> 00:12:04,320

as opposed to the wrath of the criminal justice system,

229

00:12:04,340 --> 00:12:08,220

along the way with the help of my guidance of my district attorney,

230

00:12:08,240 --> 00:12:11,220

my supervisor and judges,

231

00:12:11,240 --> 00:12:15,100

I learned the power of the prosecutor to change lives

232

00:12:15,120 --> 00:12:18,460

instead of ruining them.

233

00:12:18,480 --> 00:12:20,280

And that's how we do it in Boston.

234

00:12:21,200 --> 00:12:23,700

We helped a woman who was arrested for stealing groceries

235

00:12:23,720 --> 00:12:25,160

to feed her kids get a job.

236

00:12:26,360 --> 00:12:29,560

Instead of putting an abused teenager in adult jail

237

00:12:29,580 --> 00:12:30,840

for punching another teenager,

238

00:12:30,860 --> 00:12:34,240

we secured mental health treatment and community supervision.

239

00:12:34,260 --> 00:12:36,880

A runaway girl who was arrested for prostituting

240

00:12:36,900 --> 00:12:40,800

to survive on the streets needed a safe place to live and grow,

241

00:12:40,820 --> 00:12:42,860

something we could help her with.

242

00:12:42,880 --> 00:12:46,140

I even helped a young man who was so afraid of the older gang kids

243

00:12:46,160 --> 00:12:49,000

showing up after school that one morning, instead of a lunchbox,

244

00:12:49,020 --> 00:12:53,400

into his backpack, he put a loaded nine millimeter.

245

00:12:53,420 --> 00:12:55,920

We would spend our time that we would normally take

246

00:12:55,940 --> 00:12:59,440

prepping our cases from months and months for trial down the road

247

00:12:59,440 --> 00:13:03,320

by coming up with real solutions to the problems as they presented.

248

00:13:04,680 --> 00:13:06,820

Which is the better way to spend our time?

249

00:13:07,920 --> 00:13:10,640

How would you prefer your prosecutors to spend theirs?

250

00:13:11,880 --> 00:13:15,540

Why are we spending \$80 billion on a prison industry

251

00:13:15,560 --> 00:13:18,080

that we know is failing when we could take that money

252

00:13:18,100 --> 00:13:20,300

and reallocate it into education,

253

00:13:20,320 --> 00:13:22,940

into mental health treatment, into substance abuse treatment,

254

00:13:22,960 --> 00:13:26,220

into community investments so we can develop our neighborhoods?

255

00:13:26,240 --> 00:13:35,110

So why should this matter to you?

256

00:13:35,110 --> 00:13:38,230

Well, one, we're spending a lot of money.

257

00:13:39,290 --> 00:13:40,290

Our money.

258

00:13:41,030 --> 00:13:44,890

It costs \$109,000 in some states to lock up a teenager for a year

259

00:13:44,910 --> 00:13:49,530

with a 60 percent chance that that person will return to the very same system.

260

00:13:49,550 --> 00:13:52,950

That is a terrible return on investment.

261

00:13:54,710 --> 00:13:56,910

Number two, it's the right thing to do.

262

00:13:56,930 --> 00:13:59,870

If prosecutors were a part of creating the problem,

263

00:13:59,890 --> 00:14:02,130

it's incumbent on us to create a solution,

264

00:14:02,150 --> 00:14:03,810

and we can do that using other disciplines

265

00:14:03,810 --> 00:14:06,790

that have already done the data and research for us.

266

00:14:06,810 --> 00:14:10,550

And number three, your voice and your vote can make that happen.

267

00:14:10,570 --> 00:14:12,930

The next time there's a local district attorney's election

268

00:14:12,950 --> 00:14:15,190

and your jurisdiction asks candidates these questions.

269

00:14:15,210 --> 00:14:19,210

One, what are you doing to make me and my neighbors safer?

270

00:14:19,230 --> 00:14:21,690

Two, what data are you collecting

271

00:14:21,710 --> 00:14:25,570

and what are you training your prosecutors to make sure that it's working?

272

00:14:25,590 --> 00:14:28,590

And number three, if it's not working for everybody,

273

00:14:28,610 --> 00:14:30,450

what are you doing to fix it?

274

00:14:30,530 --> 00:14:34,150

If they can't answer the questions, they shouldn't be doing the job.

275

00:14:35,490 --> 00:14:38,650

Each one of you that raised your hand at the beginning of this talk

276

00:14:38,670 --> 00:14:40,330

is a living, breathing example

277

00:14:40,350 --> 00:14:44,990

of the power of opportunity, of intervention, of support and of love.

278

00:14:45,870 --> 00:14:48,510

While each of you may have faced your own brand of discipline

279

00:14:48,530 --> 00:14:50,830

for whatever malfeasances you committed,

280

00:14:50,850 --> 00:14:54,510

barely any of you needed a day in jail to make you the people that you are today

281

00:14:54,530 --> 00:14:56,830

some of the greatest minds on the planet.

282

00:14:57,730 --> 00:14:59,570

Every day, thousands of times a day,

283

00:14:59,590 --> 00:15:02,630

prosecutors around the United States will power so great

284

00:15:02,650 --> 00:15:05,610

that it can bring about catastrophe as quickly as it can bring about

285

00:15:05,630 --> 00:15:11,510

opportunity, intervention, support and yes, even love.

286

00:15:12,770 --> 00:15:15,590

Those qualities are the hallmarks of a strong community

287

00:15:15,610 --> 00:15:17,290

and a strong community is a safe one.

288

00:15:17,310 --> 00:15:18,710

If our communities are broken,

289

00:15:18,730 --> 00:15:21,190

don't let the lawyers that you elect fix them with outdated,

290

00:15:21,210 --> 00:15:23,010

inefficient and expensive methods.

291

00:15:23,030 --> 00:15:26,650

Demand more, vote for the prosecutor that is helping people stay out of jail,

292

00:15:26,650 --> 00:15:27,890

not putting them in.

293

00:15:27,910 --> 00:15:31,070

Demand better, you deserve it, your children deserve it,

294

00:15:31,090 --> 00:15:33,270

the people who are tied up in the system deserve it,

295

00:15:33,290 --> 00:15:36,830

most of all, the people that we are sworn to protect and do justice for,

296

00:15:36,850 --> 00:15:40,210

demand it, we must, we must do better.

297

00:15:40,790 --> 00:15:41,790

Thank you.