



**New Prices
Effective
May 1, 2010**

Martin Cleaning Service

**Carpet & Upholstery
Cleaning
Residential &
Commercial Services**
Minimum Service CHG.
\$45.00

A small distance/travel charge
may be applied

CARPET CLEANING
2 Cleaning Areas or
more \$30.00 Each Area

Pre-Spray Traffic Areas
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only)
\$40.00

Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area
(Hallway Extra)

**Stairs (12-16 stairs - With
Other Services): \$25.00**

Area/Oriental Rugs:

\$25.00 Minimum

Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool):
\$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area:

Additional \$10.00 each area
(Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$69.00

Loveseat: \$49.00

Sectional: \$109 - \$139

Chair or Recliner:

\$25 - \$49

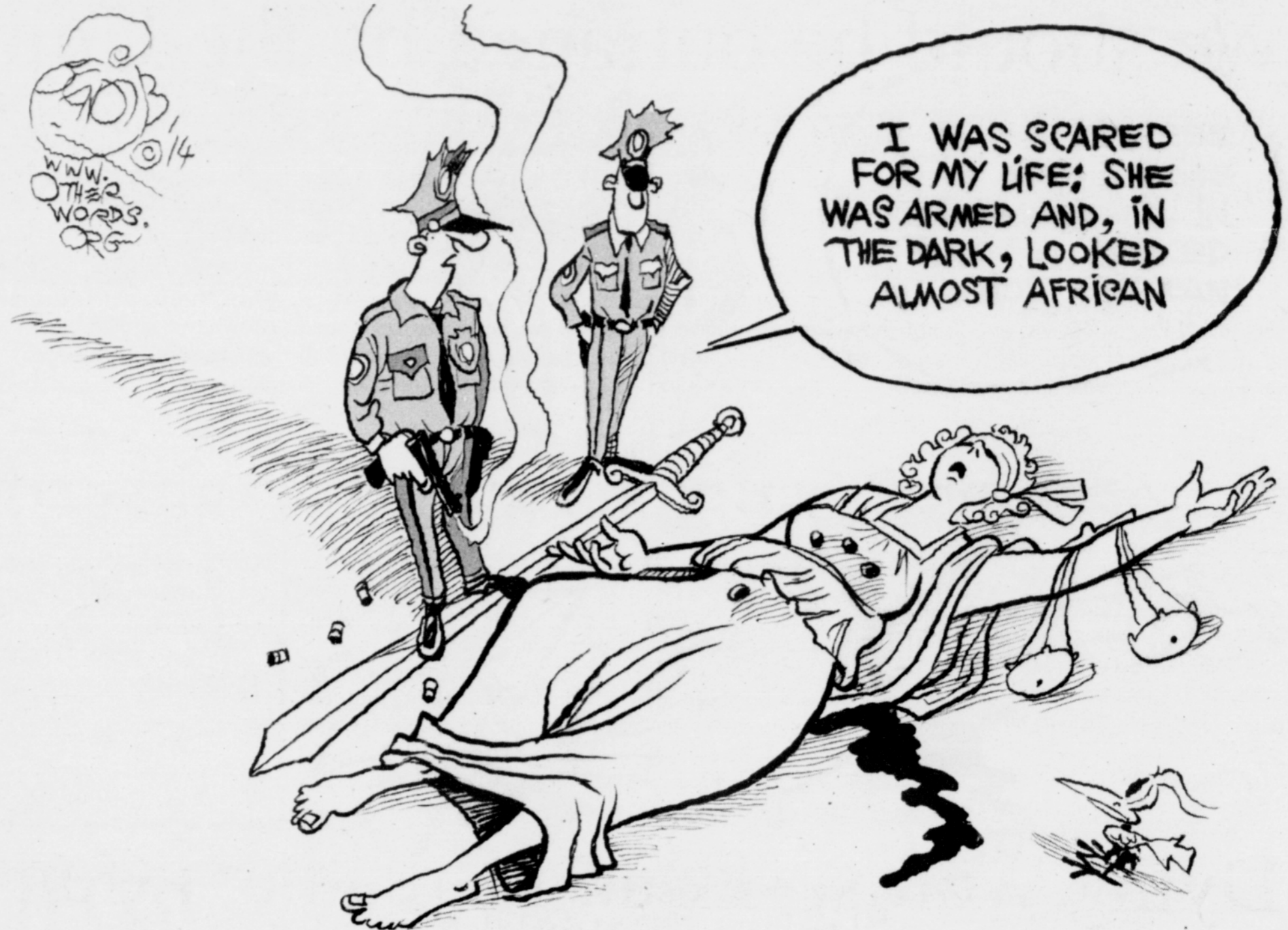
Throw Pillows (With
Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug
Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet
Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain
Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage
Services

**SEE CURRENT FLYER
FOR ADDITIONAL
PRICES & SERVICES
Call for Appointment
(503) 281-3949**

OPINION



Ferguson Anger comes Entirely from Valid Place

Most whites don't
know what black
folks face

BY JILL RICHARDSON

Shortly before Michael Brown's fateful encounter with Ferguson cop Darren Wilson, I was appointed as a teaching assistant in a class on race and ethnicity. I'm white. I didn't go to grad school to study race — I studied agriculture.

I wish I could say that I've obtained a whirlwind education on race in the United States. But that's not true. If anything, I've gained a deeper appreciation of my blind spots. I probably boast a more diverse group of friends than many of the folks I grew up with. But like the majority of white people, my social networks are still almost entirely white.

I could tell you the names of every single black kid in my grade in my childhood elementary school because there weren't that many. At the time, I thought they were having the same social and educational experience that I was. I was wrong.

I recently reconnected with an African-American from my fourth grade class. Our teacher, he told me, was racist. "What?" I responded.

I mean, I was there. But I remember

nothing. It was something I didn't even think about as a kid.

What I do know is this: Whenever I had a run-in with a teacher — or anyone else for that matter — I never had to wonder if they treated me that way because I was white. Not so for my black classmates.

I've never had acquaintances come up and touch my hair as if they're petting a dog. I've never had someone say something like, "You're so cool, I don't even consider you white!" or "You're pretty, for a white girl."

People of color hear statements like these all the time.

When I screw up, I don't have to worry that I'm representing all white people and ruining things for all of us. When I get pulled over by a cop, I never wonder if it's because I'm white.

And, what's more, I never even have to think about this stuff. I can even claim I'm "colorblind" because we live in a "post-racial" America.

As an adult, I'm frequently shocked by how different my black friends' experience of America is from mine. One friend told me that when she dresses in the morning, she consciously attempts to look "non-threatening" to white people.

Other friends worry about the safety of their teenage sons.

What do you do when your 13-year-old is six feet tall, and you see the police looking at him as if he might be up to something? How

do you explain to your rambunctious, innocent nine-year-old that he can't wear the hoods on his hoodies, just in case?

It's hard to buy into the "post-racial" lie when you fear that a not-so-colorblind cop might shoot your kid.

Being white doesn't give me a free pass in life. As a white person with a medical disability that impacts every day of my life, I struggle plenty. But my experience — any white person's experience — of America doesn't match what people of color experience.

If this makes you uneasy, there are a few small steps you can take to promote change.

First, admit your ignorance and withhold judgment. White folks don't know what black folks are going through. How on earth can we judge the outpouring of anger in Ferguson right now?

True, burning down a strip mall won't help anything. But with a legal system deeply biased against African Americans, white Americans need to understand that this anger comes from an entirely valid place — one that most whites simply don't understand on their own.

Second, reach out. Make friends. Get to know someone who doesn't look like you.

In fact, get to know many people who don't look like you. Because the first step toward bridging the gap between the races in America is forging friendships.

Jill Richardson is a columnist for OtherWords.