



## LETTER OF SUPPORT

To Whom It May Concern:

THAT WHITE GIRL is my true life story.

I am truly lucky to be alive today. At 16 years old, I got down with the Rollin' 30 Crips. It took a while to get in because I was white and they thought I was a liability. But my best friend was Denver's top graffiti artist, had been bangin' for a while, and pulled massive weight. His juice helped me get in the door. Then I had to do the rest. The next couple of years I spent living two lives; school girl by day, gang-banger by night.

Until it all fell apart. The cops arrested the two people closest to me. The ones who showed me love when I had nothing to live for. I felt a huge, empty and painful void, and I was desperate to fill that void; I was desperate to feel whole. My life was a mess; full of self-destructive behaviors and bad decision-making. Many people I hung out with became addicts, or incarcerated or were killed. But, in reality, it wasn't *just* luck. It was privilege. Skin privilege. White privilege.

And that is what I have been working for since surviving my Crip days - to eradicate white privilege and racism. I am consciously walking in the world demanding justice. I'm not co-signing on bullsh-- from a racist joke or job discrimination. I'm speaking up whenever necessary. I'm engaging people in dialogue, provoking deep thought and mindset shifts of family, friends and co-workers. I'm creating and producing a film that speaks to all of this in a way that will draw young people in to action.

I have the right team at the table. I purposefully chose to work with Johnny Sanchez and Heidi Miami Marshall to tell my story. The essence of my story has to do with the conversation about race, and Johnny and Heidi are unafraid to tell that story. After working with them very closely for the past three years I have so much respect and love for them. Yes, love. They are championing my story in ways that take a special kind of partnership and trust. Trust, because along this journey there have been many who have wanted to take the story and glamorize ganglife and exploit the 'white girl in a black gang' theme without being thoughtful about the impact that would have. Johnny and Heidi are committed to sharing a story that is compelling and honestly capturing the heart of my journey—which is so much bigger than me joining the Rollin' 30 Crips—and they understand why we must stay true to that vision. They understand and are committed to making a film that moves humanity forward. This is why the **ONLY** writer/producer and director I choose to commit to is Johnny and Heidi.

This is the team that will make this film a success. And I couldn't be happier.

With respect and full support,  
JLove



### Letter from Prison

A letter to JLove from Jay

**Quote and Envelope Art by my ex-boyfriend in The Crips, Jay Mason, aka "Omar" in our film.**

“There are not many people I can talk about my true feelings with, so I’m afraid I must burden them with you. As they led me off the bus, I was acutely aware of the coldness of my new surroundings that I would call home for the next 16 years. As I was shuffled in with the other inmates, all of us feeling like animals, I began contemplating how I would maintain my sanity and stay alive. At that same moment, a fly perched itself proudly on my shoulder. With my hands and feet shackled with steel handcuffs, I remained powerless, unable to do the simplest of all tasks, like brushing off a fly. At that moment, I felt the little fly had conquered me, had conquered my manhood. And that, my friend, is the clearest way I can describe what it feels like to have your freedom taken from you. Pray for me.”

*A letter to JLove from Jay*

