

Hi, I'm Crystal Bernard, and I'm a proud social justice warrior. As a young child, my nickname was 'Mouth Almighty'. And I think that is still a very accurate description of me. I was always willing to talk and get to know people. And my favorite question was why? But why? Luckily, it proved to me what being Black or a Black child in America was before society could define it for me.

It taught me that we don't all fit in a box and in fact that box is created in somebody else's image and we don't have to accept that. And I really appreciated the insight it gave me because I almost credit my empathy and moral compass to it just because... I know that judging people based on their appearance has always been proven incorrect.

I want to see people of color being able to freely, outrageously, colorfully express themselves without fear of backlash. I want to see education. I want to see organic intellectualism. I want to see knowledge of self, knowledge of community, knowledge of society, global knowledge. I want to see my people be seen how I see them, in the eyes of others. I want to see camaraderie, I want to see liberation. I want to see us end up on the right side of things, and on the right side of history. Without that motive and without that drive... I'm not sure how I would be, or where I would be.