Comments to the Author
This manuscript makes a solid contribution to the literature, examining whether discrimination plays a role in the disproportionate police killing of Black/Brown individuals. Overall, the literature review can be reorganized to strengthen the manuscript's argument. Specifically, Blalock's theory, measurement choices, and some conceptual points can be clarified to facilitate a better understanding of the argument.

It would be helpful for readers if the manuscript more explicitly relates how Blalock's theory is traditionally measured and how it is being tested in this study. The manuscript mentions in several places that it is partially testing a couple of concepts - but it would be helpful to directly make those linkages. Related, the connection to the size of the minority population and their economic power should be clearly stated. I realize it is assumed in Blalock's theory but restating throughout, would help.

The connection of Klan activity seems noteworthy. However, in some places again the connection to discrimination or racism should be explicit. For instance, are police departments one of the structures that are racist? Or are the actions of officers a result of being embedded in racialized structures?

Additionally, throughout the manuscript the authors make comparisons between how race scholars approach this problem versus the criminological approach. I suggest tackling these differences head-on somewhere in the manuscript, including highlighting why the comparison between the the two disciplinary approaches are important.

The prior studies section may be more powerful if reframed/retitled about the complexities of measuring deaths by police.

When referring to Black people, communities, populations, eetc. capitalize the "B"
This is a relatively new addition to appropriate writing but APA <https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/bias-free-language/racial-ethnic-minorities> and the Associated Press <https://www.apstylebook.com/race-related-coverage>

Related to above, be clear about why you separate Black deaths and Latinx deaths from people of color. This also flows awkwardly in the abstract. Reconsider the terms you use for collective racial minorities.