

# Michael Groce

## Summary

Michael, the son of Cherry Groce, the woman shot by Police in 1985, while looking for him, sparking the Brixton riots, is a multi-award-winning poet, winner of the Cheltenham Literature Festival Poetry Slam, the first black man to do so and the MD of **Booted and Rooted Ltd**, a social enterprise, of which the company's core ethos is specialised in ABCD Methodology and Non-Violent Communication, Theory of Change and Restorative Justice. Dialogue by Design and Conceptual Poetry.

Michael has travelled throughout the country performing workshops with schools, libraries, community centres and youth clubs. He has worked with children of all ages, reciting, and creating poetry with them. Promoting his work and the value of his art not to just his life but to life in general. He is a popular performer with schools and corporate companies.

Michael has worked with television and radio, performed at conferences using the latest visual technology, the first poet ever to use a three-dimensional hologram (recorded in Wimbledon and beamed live to Brighton). He put poetry to music in a series of shows at the Asantewaa Centre, which included dancers and actors in the interpretation of his work. Played in festivals, concerts and clubs and worked with a variety of well-known artists. He has developed his stage presence and is now recognised as an amusing and entertaining master of ceremony.

In May 2018, Groce ran as the Green Party candidate in the Lambeth Council Elections where he stood in the Coldharbour ward. He polled 761 votes (15.3%) finishing the runner up in a fourth-place out of thirteen candidates. Later that year, Groce was selected as the Green Party candidate for the Coldharbour by-election where he again finished in second place with 31% of the vote (912 votes), with an increase of almost 16%.

### **Community activities involve:**

Brixton Neighbourhood Forum, Brixton Green, Loughborough Junction Action Group, National Careers, Jobcentre, England NHS, and Metropolitan Police, Plus, Forum for London Policy, Lambeth Working, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Fatherhood and the Centre for Social Justice

Topics Michael talks on:

- DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and Social Contract
- Crime and Community Safety
- Employment and Training
- Social Justice and Restorative Justice
- Asset Building Community Development (ABCD)
- Non-Violent Communication and Conceptual Poetry
- Theory of Change and Dialogue by Design
- Brixton, Black History and Brixton riots
- Personal Development and Business Enterprise
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, The Art of War, and the 7 Intelligences

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