Z60.5/(En)Coded

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their children wear our jerseys
    [they race adjust our brains]\(^1\)
you think we need attitude adjustment
you settle for statistical adjustment\(^2\)
you can’t control for justice
you can’t control our edges
our knees (their knees)
    [they race adjust our lungs]\(^3\)–\(^6\)
your hips (their hips)
your fists
your mouths
your lips on their daughters
their daughters on TikTok
their sons on signs, glocks
their silence __________
our matter
our matters
our mattering
    [they race adjust our pain]\(^7\)–\(^9\)
you can’t control our anger
you think they know our rage
you settle
they: settler
they: eyes
our streets
our parks
our schools
our playgrounds
our grounds
our play
our joy unfiltered
    [they race adjust our blood]\(^9\)–\(^14\)
your names they don’t pronounce
you squiggly red line our names
you redlined our streets
you raced to scrub our names
from rivers
from mountains
from lakes
from stars
from murals
    [they race adjust our homes]\(^15\)–\(^17\)
you search to find our magic
you glow
you radiance
you say they do not see
you look right through us
    [they race adjust our bones]\(^18\)
your hands held the compass
the maps
the pens

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“Rope” is a technical term for a type of data structure, usually a (binary) “tree” data structure...Go figure.

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