In justice we trust

Justice is a very crucial idea for society in theory however occasionally becomes slightly ambiguous in practice. Human beings are not perfect and are bound to make mistakes, with studies estimating that 10,000 innocent people per year are falsely convicted. How do we know however, what is just and what is not if imperfect humans are the highest power enforcing the system? Identities by W. D. Valgardson is a short story that depicts a possible tragedy as such, in which a man through circumstances finds himself asking for directions in a rough neighborhood and meets his fate when a nervous cop arrives. This short story gives insight into the uncertainty of an act of justice from both perspectives of a cop and citizen. Because humans can only perform as much as their brains are capable, the law enforcement system is to blame rather than the people who employ it. To begin, the faults in the police system work in the same way that doctors have faults in terms of time with patients, or giving prescriptions simply because their health care system requires them to follow their rules, or that fast food is of low quality because the system makes their employees feel as though they’re not special or hard workers or give any proper preparations to their food. Cops are trained to be biased towards people, even if it is with the interest of supporting correct statistics of likely criminals, they are told from the moment they begin their job to be unjust towards certain people. “He [the officer] has been trained, who is inexperienced, who is nervous because of the neighborhood, who is suspicious because of the car and because he has been trained to see an unshaven man in blue jeans as a potential thief.” The cop from identities had been told from a corrupt higher power that is the law enforcement system from the beginning of his job to act a certain way. Therefore, even if it was not the right thing to shoot the man, the cop was justified because his police system trained him and brainwashed him into believing this is the correct option. Neither the man’s actions nor the cop’s outcome are to blame being part of a flawed marionette of a justice system.