

COMPAS

When Do Inequalities Matter?

Columbus, OH

September 22, 2016



*How Mass Incarceration Matters:*  
Returning Citizens and Principled Transformations

Townsend Price-Spratlen  
Department of Sociology  
Ohio State University

This research was supported by a 2003 Centers for Disease Control (CDC) grant, and by 2009 and 2013 CJRC Seed Grants. I thank the CDC and CJRC for making these funds available. This research is also a product of the ongoing support of Reconstruction, Inc. and my research partnership with its Founder and Chair, Mr. William Goldsby. Our Philadelphia Research Team (Hakim Ali, Thomas Ford, Khalifa Shabbazz and Dr. Kristi Bryan) made valuable contributions. Thanks to all members of Reconstruction, Inc. past and present, and their organization and agency collaborators. Without their contributions, this research would not have been completed. Any and all errors rest with the author.



**Terence Crutcher**, 40, is one of at least 15 African-Americans to die during encounters with police since Kaepernick began protesting before NFL games in late August.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/colin-kaepernick-police-killings\\_us\\_57e14414e4b04a1497b69ba6](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/colin-kaepernick-police-killings_us_57e14414e4b04a1497b69ba6)

# My Time With You Today

\*

- Introduction; the conference question
- “History is a current event.”
- Where we are now
- Transformations, Reconstruction, Inc.
- A possible future

# THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

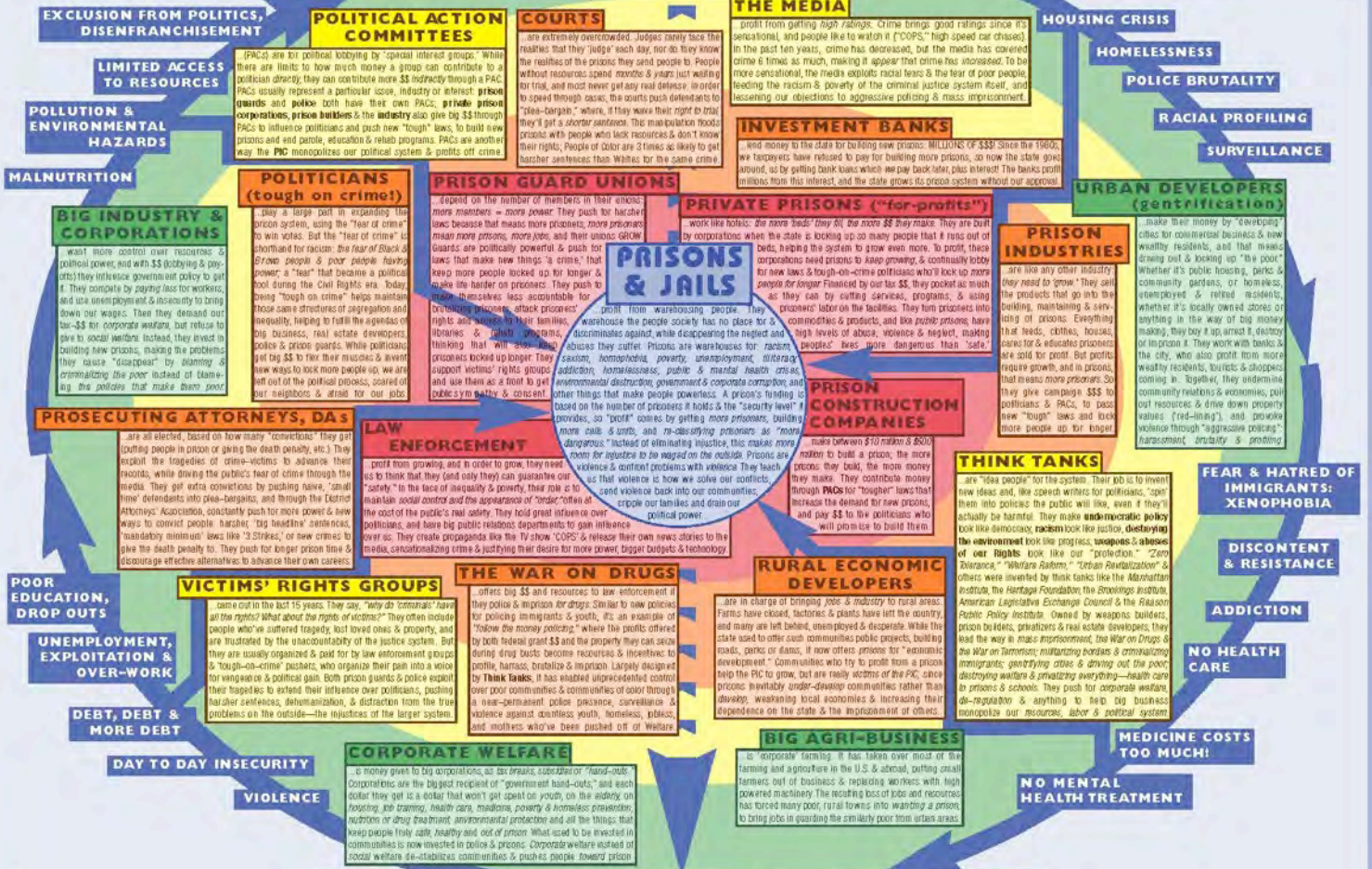
The PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX (the PIC) is the intersection of all the interests who help expand the prison system; conventionally, some conventionally but all for reasons other than our safety and justice. Most of them influence prison growth for reasons of their own profit: some profit in terms of

cash—\$, others in terms of political power, control of resources & property, or good TV ratings. Some profit from the business of imprisonment, others from having people out of their way, "criminalized" and locked up. It's a system where profit is more

important than people; where people are split along the lines of race, gender & culture so that their resources, labor, wealth & power can be exploited & monopolized, and prisons make the damage done seem like it's a conspiracy? It doesn't have to be—each group's own interests are set up to grow the system.

## INFLUENCES ON PRISON GROWTH: (Key to chart)

- PRIMARY INFLUENCES:** The police & prison system itself. Those who profit directly from building and/or running prisons & getting more people locked up.
- SECONDARY INFLUENCES:** One step removed from prisons, supplying them with prisoners, services & goods. They profit indirectly by locking up more people.
- IDEOLOGICAL INFLUENCES:** Influence how we think about different groups of people, crime, poverty & prisons. They use "science" to divide, to blame, & to justify inequality.
- ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES:** Create the environment of inequality & violence that push a population toward prisons. They exploit, destroy and rob communities of progress and development.
- PROBLEMS CAUSED BY INEQUALITY:** The results of powerlessness, social control & the environmental influences on communities: prisons as the outside, problems that go unaddressed or get criminalized & fed into prisons.



This poster is a part of the CORRECTIONS DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

→ SEGREGATION, EXCLUSION FROM POLITICS, RESOURCES & POWER; DAILY VIOLENCE AGAINST PEOPLE OF COLOR, WOMEN, POOR COMMUNITIES, IMMIGRANT & QUEER COMMUNITIES, MARGINALIZED GROUPS

email: mail@correctionsproject.com  
http://correctionsproject.com

# When Do Inequalities Matter?

In every domain of the complex.

**ALL** of the time!

# Historical Foundations



*The Peculiar Institution*

*The Criminalization of the Black Body*

## NEGRO COCAINE "FIENDS" ARE A NEW SOUTHERN MENACE

By Edward Hamilton Wilson,  
In St. Louis.

**F**ew have seen more than have been reported since the discovery of the first "sniffing" in the South. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one.

The epidemic is now spreading in the South. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one. It is a disease which has been reported in a number of places in the United States, and is a very serious one.

**First Epidemic.**

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### Murder and Insanity Increasing Among Lower Class Blacks Because They Have Taken to "Sniffing" Since Deprived of Whisky by Prohibition.

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**Widespread.**

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Dr. Edward H. Williams

This is a portrait of Dr. Edward H. Williams, a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a suit and tie.

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**Why Do They do It?**

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**They had to live.**

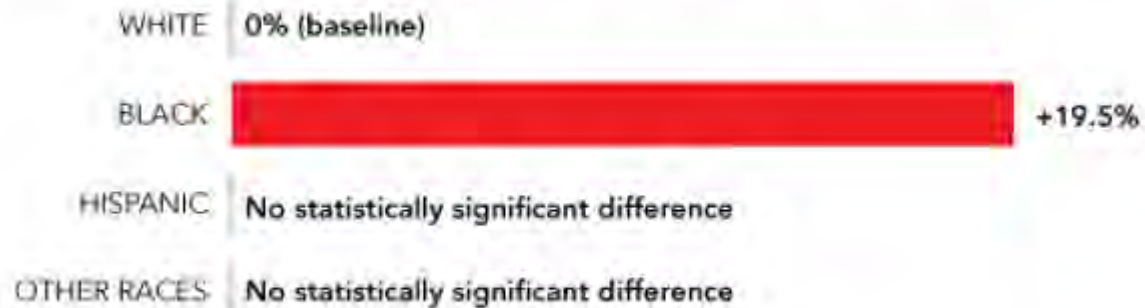
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# **Historical Criminalization:**

**The body and Groups/Peoples of Color**



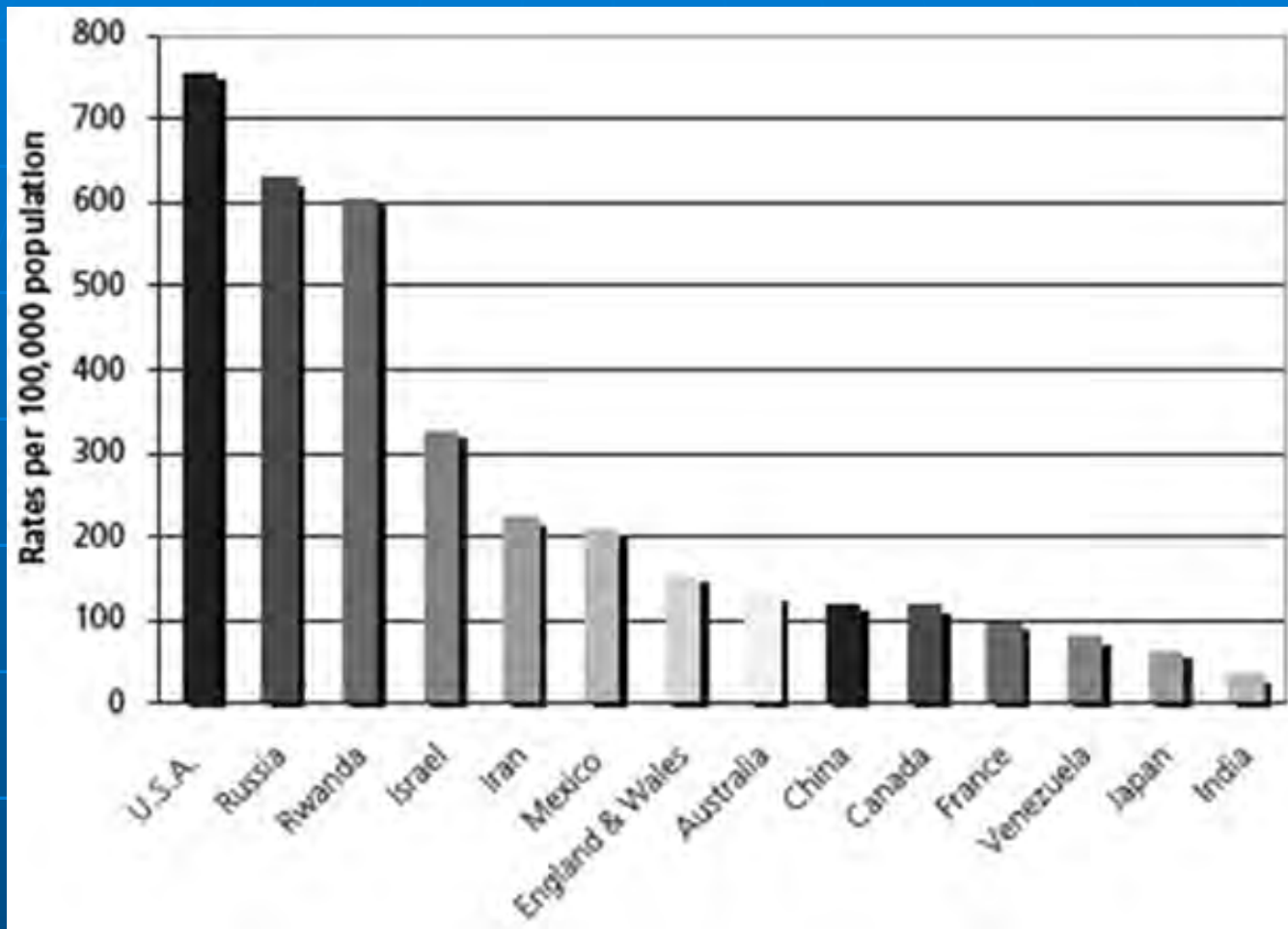
Percent difference in sentence lengths for white males versus males of other races, December 11, 2007 through September 30, 2011



Source: United States Sentencing Commission

THE HUFFINGTON POST

**12) Black men receive prison sentences 19.5 percent longer than those of white men who committed similar crimes, [a 2013 report by the U.S. Sentencing Commission](#) found.**



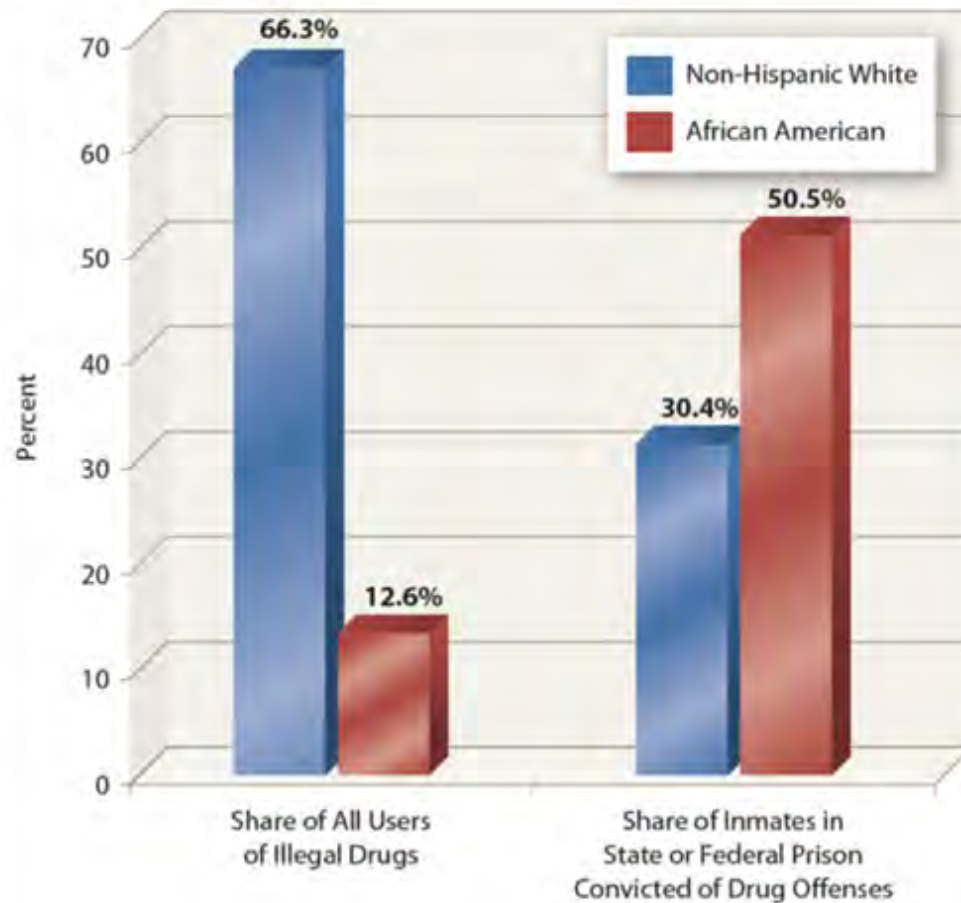
International Center for Prison Studies (2010)

# LAND OF THE FREE\*



**\*The US has 5% of the world population  
and 25% of the world's prisoners.**

**ACRONYM TV**  
with Dennis Lehane, J. Edgar Hoover, & J. Edgar Hoover



Sources: U.S. Department of Justice (2011) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2012)

U.S. Department of Justice (2011) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2012)

Share of Inmates in State or Federal Prison Convicted of Drug Offenses

Share of All Users of Illegal Drugs

**Now?**

**In Need of Transformation(s)**

# America Is Finally Closing Prisons. Now What Do We Do With Them?

Emily Badger Dec 06, 2012



Two years ago, the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics announced a small data point marking an inglorious milestone: **In 2009, America's prison population declined for the first time in decades...** dating all the way back to 1972, America had been in the business of constantly imprisoning more and more people.



*Transformative Reentry in the Era of Mass Incarceration*

Townsend Price-Spratlen & William Goldsby

# Reconstruction, Inc.

## Philadelphia, PA



- ❖ Founded on the Sacred Circle
  - Of, by, for returning citizens, their families, others
  - Ancient African/First Nation Cultural Traditions
  - Prioritizing shared respect, reciprocity, consensus



# Social Context, Neighborhood Comparisons

## Reconstruction's Neighborhood

### Reconstruction's

### Neighborhood

### Philadelphia

African American	94.2	41.2
Bachelor's Degree	3.5	10.3
Poverty (100% lvl.)	38.6	22.2
Agg. Assaults	11.5/1000	6.7/1000
Narcotics Arrests	16.0/1000	8.5/1000



# Three Pillars – Capacity Building Curriculum

- ❑ “Can specific programs affect levels of social integration among released persons enough to affect the quality of life for them and their family and to reduce their criminal involvement?”

(Lynch 2006:410)

- ❑ **Principled Transformation**

- Pillar 1 – Leadership Dev.
- Pillar 2 – Situation Management
- Pillar 3 – Support Group Dev.

## *Appendix*

### **Reconstruction Community Capacity-building Curriculum (6/2009)**

Reconstruction's curriculum is designed for individuals, families, and community groups in and outside of institutions. We believe that each human being is sacred and is valuable to themselves, the family, the community, and to society. Each of us needs to be critical thinkers, be good decision makers, and give principled leadership to our family and eventually change the world. This curriculum has three pillars, is interactive, and transformative.

#### **The Curriculum Concept**

**Pillar I. The Leadership Development** entails understanding the principles and practices of four themes: from alienation to building community, from arrested development to self-determination, from co-dependency to reciprocity, and from individualism to collectivism. This pillar enhances the ability to recognize behaviors that keep one from transforming. It enhances economic and political awareness as well as builds potential to make necessary personal, economic, and political analysis.

**Pillar II. Situation Management** builds on the previous pillar and shows how to understand the differences between crises, ongoing drama, dysfunctional family versus crises within the family. This pillar helps with interpersonal and group conflicts, and identifies existing skills as well as develops new problem-solving skills. An individual's ability to effectively participate and coordinate Emergency Response Systems is heightened.

**Pillar III. Support Group Development** trains how to create and facilitate support groups and systems. Members learn how to build personal and group working agendas that address any needs of the participants, and develop the skills that produce principled solutions to the various issues.

Reconstruction recognizes the phenomenon of intellectual licensing as well as the need to promote faith and collective wellness. To that end, the above concepts do not include style of facilitation, suggested text, activity protocol, nor does it include coalition building. It is simply a series of concepts to be tailored to specific groups with specific missions.

*The art of development is  
changing ourselves to change the world and  
uniting the many to defeat the few.*

# Vision Statement



## ❖ Capacity Building

- “Regardless of one’s past...we value each voice being informed by equal access to education, legal rights, health care, and comprehensive political participation.
- We recognize the excellence in every human being and facilitate a process where our members along with members of allied organizations, value their own potential.
- When this is true, that person is prevented from becoming a commodity to be auctioned off by the Prison Industrial Complex.”

# Ch. 8 – Reciprocity, Best Practices

## ❑ A former felon member

“...It’s truly amazing to me, the selflessness of the participating individuals of Reconstruction. I haven’t run across anything [else] like that, Townsend. The ability to pull together and assist in any way possible. To just give...If Reconstruction put in any time or effort with an individual, they only ask that that individual come back and do something likewise that was given to them...for the next person coming through the doors.”

– Deion Morrison, longtime affiliate

# Policies, Possibilities?

\*

- Decriminalization, drug diversions
- Closure of private prisons!
- Reentry begins at entry
- National HIRE Network
- Ending school-to-prison pipeline
- and...

# PICTURING



art by Bianca Diaz

A WORLD  
**WITHOUT**  
PRISONS

**Now?**

Dialogues like this one,  
Enriching a more equitable present

**Thank You!**

**Our Ongoing Dialogue...**







# What Reconstruction, Inc. Does

## *Within, Transition, Ongoing*

- **Within Prison**: Curriculum for transformation
  - Therapeutic community; indivs., families, communities
  - Systemic awareness
- **In Transition**: Embracing tensions; agent of change
  - Former felons as asset
  - Program affiliation, each-one, teach-one
- **Ongoing**: Civic engagements
  - Youth empowerment, prevention
  - Land, skill-building

# The Three Programs

## ❖ *Community Capacity Building Programs*

### *Alumni Ex-Offenders Association (AEA)*

- Returning citizens, family, others
- Fellowship and feedback, emotional intelligence

### *Fight for Lifers (FFL)*

- Lifers, family, others
- Advocacy, leadership, mentoring

### *L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Education, Advocacy, Development)*

- Emotional intelligence
- Fellowship and feedback, therapeutic community

**Corporate  
Profits per  
Prisoner**

**CORRECTIONS CORPORATION OF AMERICA**

Total Profits in 2015: \$222 million

**GEO GROUP**

Total Profits in 2015: \$139 million



Source: In the Public Interest analysis of CCA's and GEO Group's 10-K forms.



# My Time Today

*C*

• *F*

• *B*

• *I*

• *F*

• *C*

• *P*

# Schwarzenegger Seeks Shift From Prisons to Schools

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER

Published: January 6, 2010



SACRAMENTO — “The priorities have become out of whack over the years,” the governor told lawmakers.

“I mean, think about it, 30 years ago, 10 percent of the general fund went to higher education, and 3 percent went to prisons. Today, almost 11 percent goes to prisons, and only 7.5 percent goes to higher education.”

“What does it say about any state that focuses more on prison uniforms than on caps and gowns?” he continued. “It simply is not healthy.”



# My Community Interests

Mixed Periods, Mixed Methods

## Time Focus

Method

Historical

Contemporary

Focus

Place Utility,  
Great Migration  
(U.S. urban system)

Neigh. Disorder  
and Res. Stability  
(Columbus neighs.)

Quantitative

Qualitative

Social  
Gospel,  
Justice  
Narratives  
(Historiography)

Capacity  
Building,  
Reconstruc-  
tion, Inc.

Faith, Youth  
Well-being,  
Service, Hip  
Hop  
(CoCHY)

Faith,  
Health  
Disparity  
(D.O.P.E.  
Ministries)

# Real Community

“...A real community (is) one that does not forget its past (i.e., retelling its story) embodied in [its] meaning(s)...

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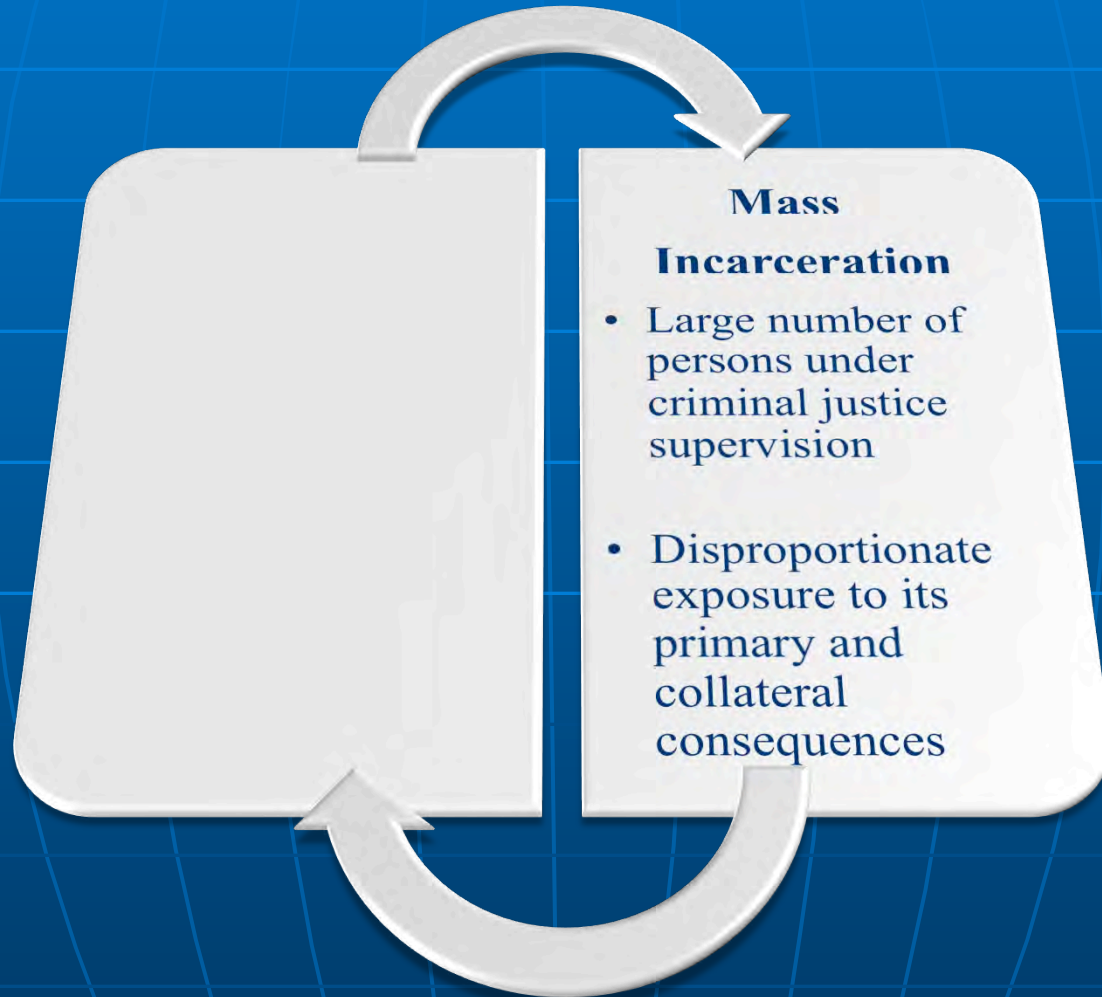
# Real Community

“...A real community (is) one that does not forget its past (i.e., retelling its story) embodied in [its] meaning(s)...The communities of memory that tie us to the past also turn us toward the future as communities of hope. They carry a context of meaning that can allow us to connect our aspirations for ourselves and those closest to us with the aspirations of a larger whole and see our own efforts as being, in part, contributions to a common good” (Bellah et al. 1985:153).

# A Relationship



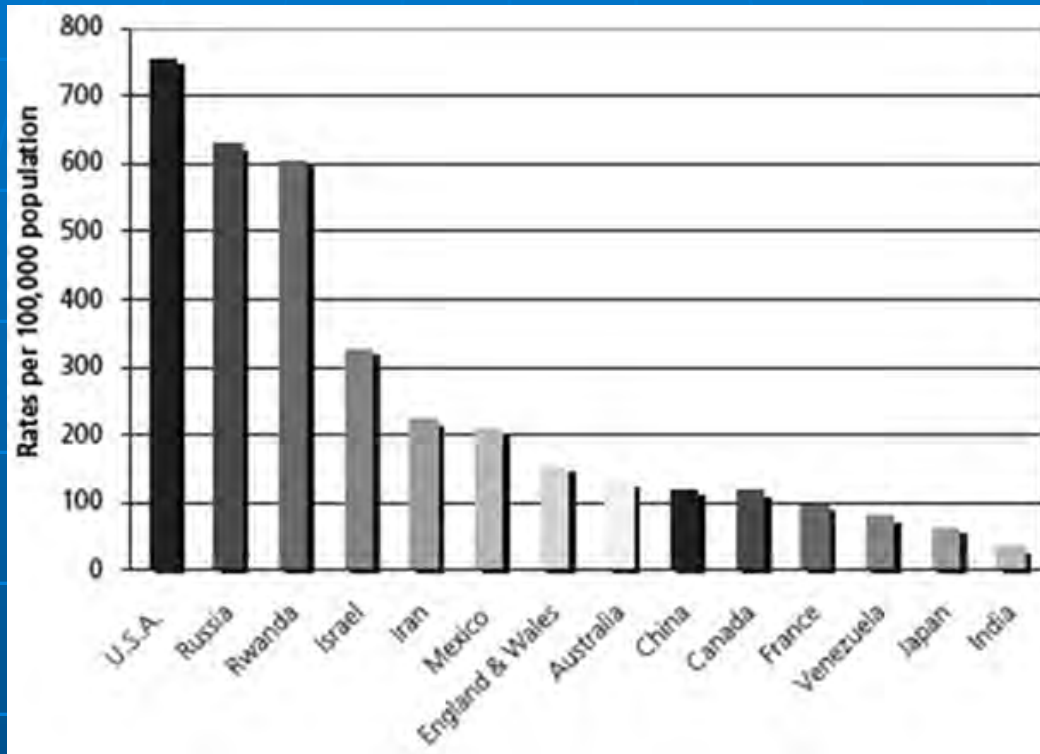
# A Relationship



# A Relationship Between Them







International Center for Prison Studies (2010)

# LAND OF THE FREE\*



**\*The US has 5% of the world population  
and 25% of the world's prisoners.**

**ACRONYM TV**  
with Dennis Lehane, J. Edgar Hoover, &...

# What it is

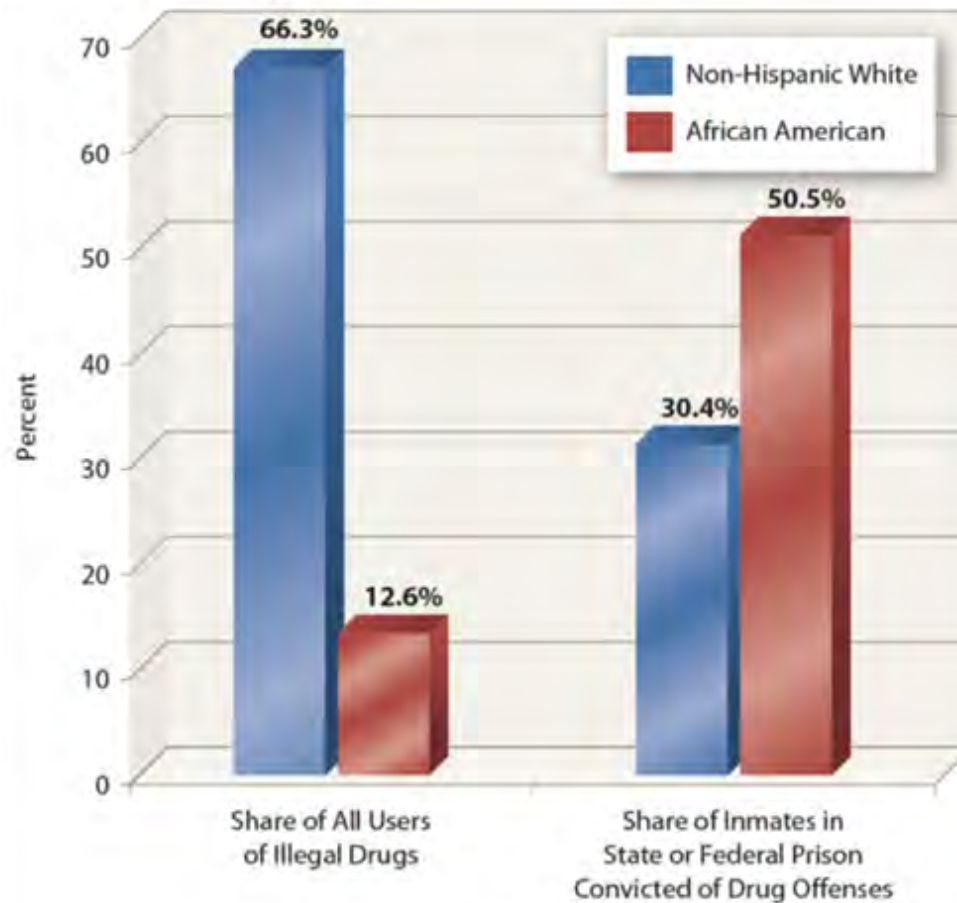
## ❑ Mass incarceration

- “refers not only to the criminal justice system but also to the larger web of laws, rules, policies, and customs that control those labeled criminals **BOTH IN AND OUT OF PRISON.**”

## ❑ Why both (in and out)?

- “Once released, former prisoners enter a hidden underworld of legalized discrimination and permanent social exclusion” (Alexander 2010:13).





Sources: U.S. Department of Justice (2011) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2012)

U.S. Department of Justice (2011) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2012)

Share of Inmates in State or Federal Prison Convicted of Drug Offenses

Share of All Users of Illegal Drugs

# Race Disparities Vary by Place

## ❑ Closer to Home

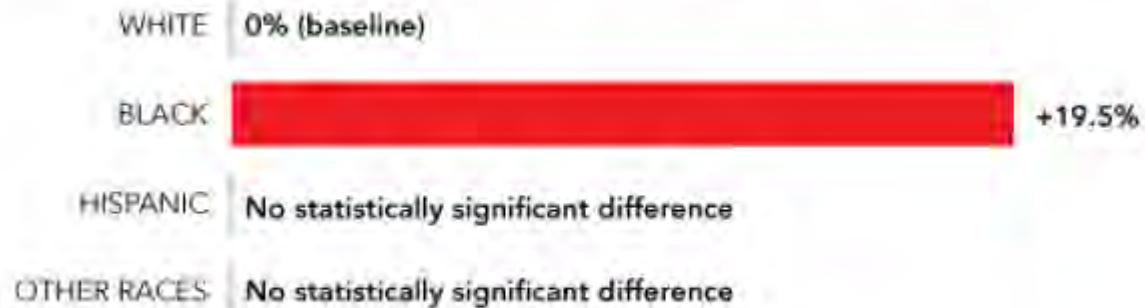
- U.S. – African American rate 7 times White rate
- **Considering the Local**
- Considering county and crime/substance
- Racial rate disparities magnified exponentially

### Racial disparity

Here's a list of the top 10 counties in the nearly 200 surveyed by the Justice Policy Institute and the ratio at which they incarcerated blacks to whites for drug offenses:

COUNTY	ARREST RATIO
Forsyth County, NC	164 to 1
<b>Onondaga County</b>	<b>99 to 1</b>
Dane County, WI	97 to 1
Kane County, IL	67 to 1
Westmoreland County, PA	66 to 1
Albany County, NY	58 to 1
Cook County, IL	58 to 1
Morris County, NJ	49 to 1
Chester County, PA	44 to 1
Washtenaw County, MI	42 to 1

Percent difference in sentence lengths for white males versus males of other races, December 11, 2007 through September 30, 2011



Source: United States Sentencing Commission

THE HUFFINGTON POST

**12) Black men receive prison sentences 19.5 percent longer than those of white men who committed similar crimes, [a 2013 report by the U.S. Sentencing Commission](#) found.**



## Michigan Study Shows Incarceration Can Cause Illness in Loved Ones

Loaded on MARCH 15, 2010 by [Gary Hunter](#) published in Prison Legal News [March, 2010](#), page 20  
Filed under: [Crime/Demographics](#), [Statistics/Trends](#). Location: [Michigan](#).

A study, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and released in December 2008, concludes that “Incarceration may not only affect those individuals incarcerated, but also those family members and friends left behind in the community.”

Share:



In a unique approach to the study of the disparity of physical illness between blacks and whites, Daniel J. Kruger PhD and E. Hill DeLoney, MA attempted to establish a correlation between the higher incidence of physical illness in the black community and the higher rate of incarceration within the same group.

In their own words, “We hypothesized that the incarceration of individuals close to survey respondents would correspond with greater adversity in physical and mental health outcomes. Differential incarceration rates for Blacks and Whites may be a contributing factor to health disparities.”

# Flint still tops in nation for violent crime but officials see signs of hope



Ryan Garza/The Flint Journal Damita Richard, of Flint, stands next to a memorial for her son, Darryl Richard, 21, who was killed in a triple shooting in November near Mackin Road and Chevrolet Avenue. Damita Richard said the fact that her son's killer hasn't been found has left her depressed and narannid

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## 2016 RIO OLYMPICS



### Full coverage from the Summer Olympic Games

- See who has medaled for the USA



By Dominic Adams | [dadams5@mlive.com](mailto:dadams5@mlive.com)

[Follow on Twitter](#)

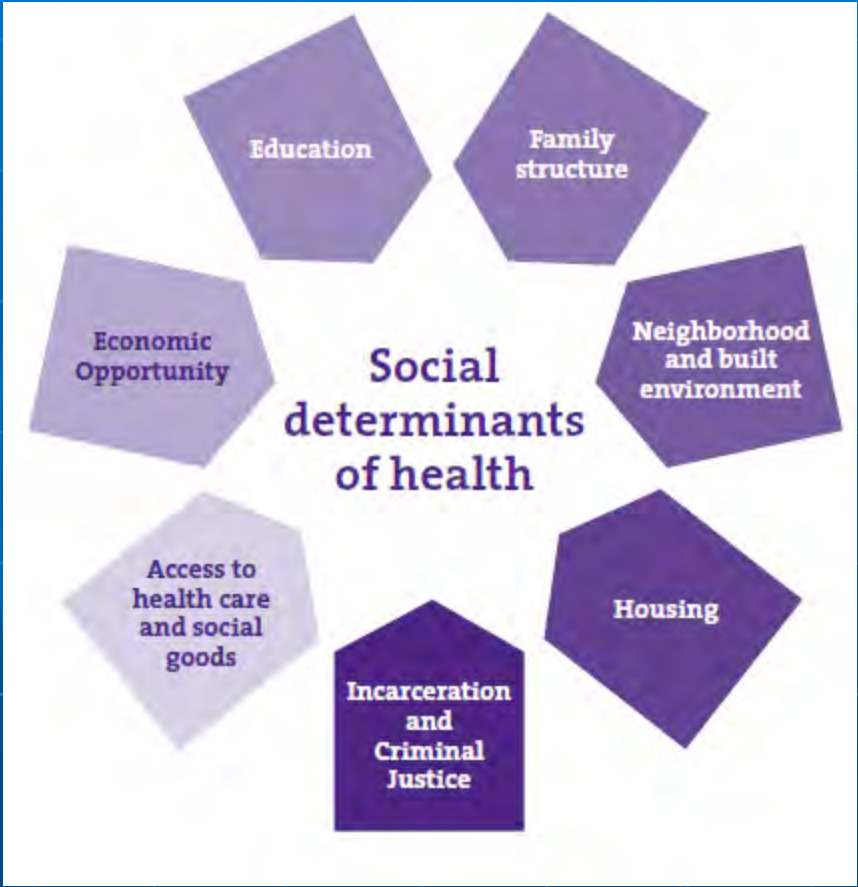
on September 16, 2013 at 4:30 PM, updated September 16, 2013 at 8:08 PM

[Print](#)

FLINT, MI – Final numbers from the FBI show Flint as the most violent city in America for the third consecutive year, but officials said violent crime is down so far this year.

Flint had more than 2,700 violent crimes in 2012, the [most per capita](#) in cities with more than 100,000 people, according to statistics.

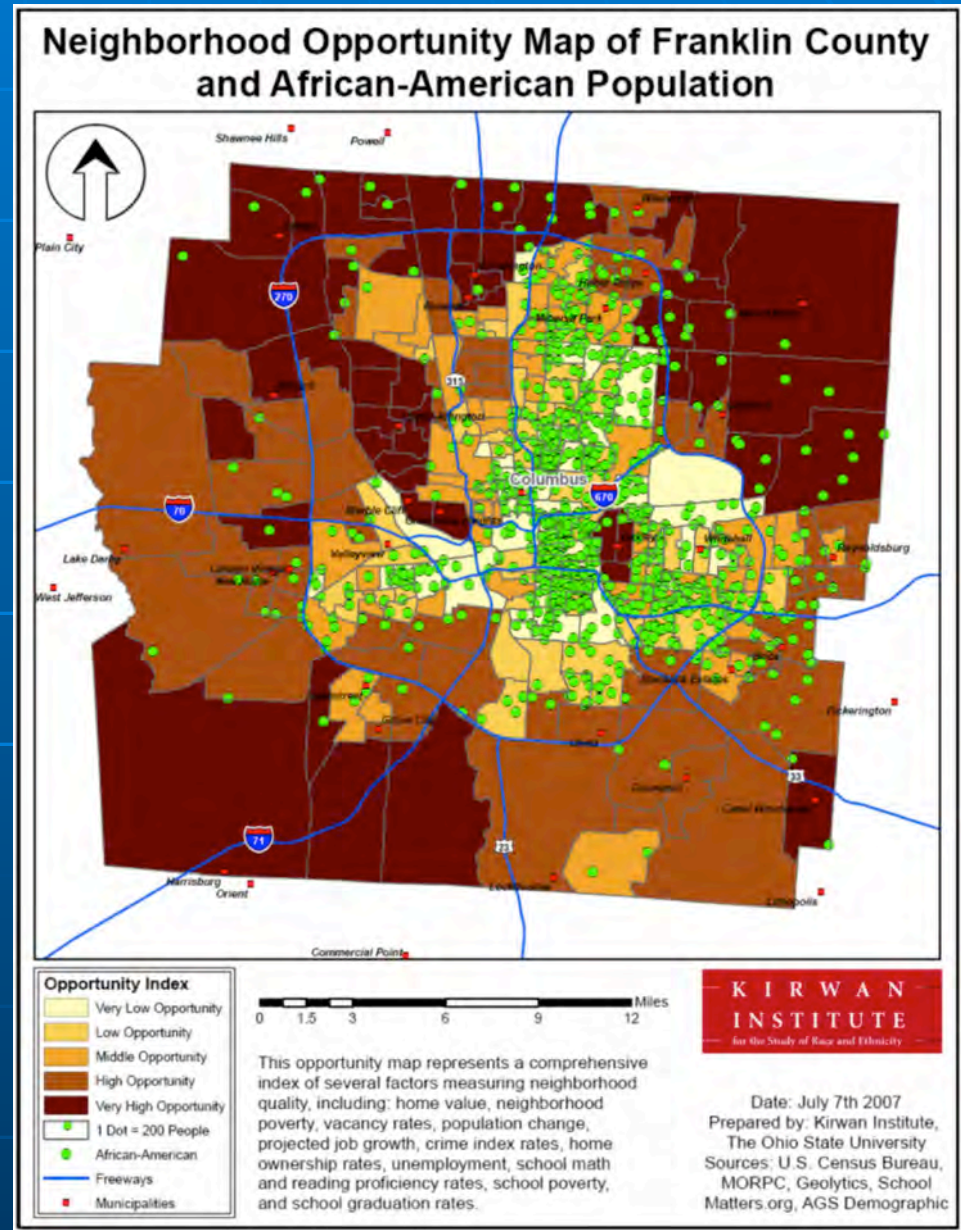




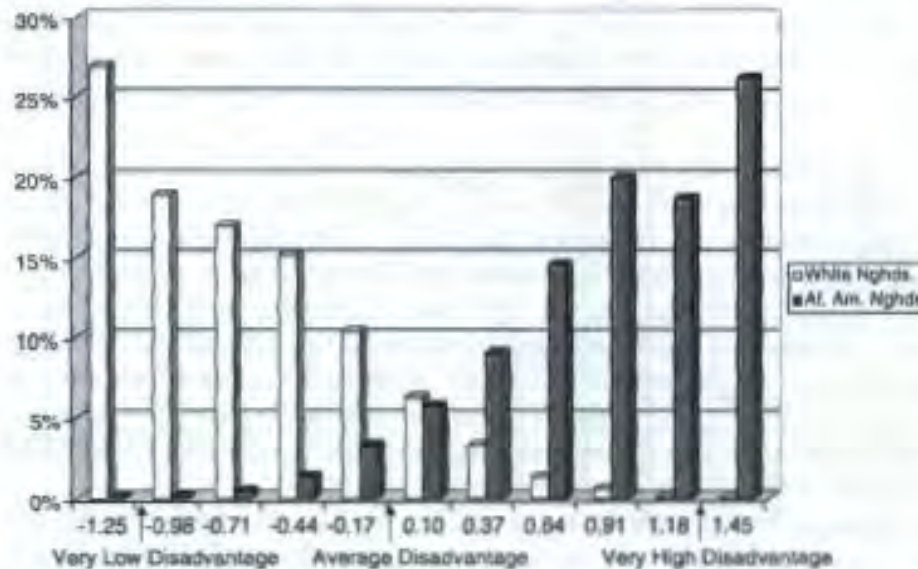
# Why Study Race and Place?

□ Because...

- Opportunity is a spatial variable
- Variation is (highly) unequal



**Figure 2. Disadvantage Distributions for White and African American Neighborhoods**



Source: Peterson, Ruth D. and Lauren J. Krivo. Figure 3.5, "Disadvantage Distributions for White and African American Neighborhoods." In *Divergent Social Worlds: Neighborhood Crime and the Racial-Spatial Divide*. © 2010 Russell Sage Foundation, 112 East 64th Street, New York, NY 10065. Reprinted with Permission.

ABBREVIATIONS: Af. Amer. = African American; Nghds. = neighborhoods.

Peterson, Ruth. 2012. "The Central Place of Race in Crime and Justice." *Criminology*, Vol. 50 (2): 303-327.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1745-9125.2012.00271.x/pdf>

# Environmental Health

“...The same environmental problems that contribute to poor air and water quality and to blight and neighborhood deterioration also contribute to negative mental and physical health outcomes...[and] environmental justice provides one way to examine and discuss the unequal nature of exposures and health outcomes”

(Cohen et al. 2010:236).

# A Relationship Between Them





# Reconstructing RAGE

*Transformative Reentry in the Era of Mass Incarceration*

Townsend Price-Spratlen & William Goldsby

# *Reconstructing Rage Themes*

#1 – Culture (environment, ways of being)

#2 – Community (interdependence, fellowship)

#3 – Capacity building (maximizing assets)

#4 – Returning citizens as vital to all three above



# Reconstruction, Inc.

## Philadelphia, PA



- **Founded on the Sacred Circle**
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# Social Context, Neighborhood Comparisons

## Reconstruction's Neighborhood

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- When this is true, that person is prevented from becoming a commodity to be auctioned off by the Prison Industrial Complex.”

# Reconstruction, Inc.: History, Structure

## *Capacity Building Org.*

- Founded by former felon William Goldsby
- Began in 1988 (AFSC)
- Incorporated in 1991, 501 (c) 3

## *Structure*

- Family-centered, intergenerational, consensus-driven
- Collaborations; PA-D.o.C., Bread and Roses, Philly D.A., Pew Foundation, Villanova, small donors
- Programs (AEA, FFL, LEAD)

## Ch. 4 – Women and Reconstruction, Inc.

“While engaging [with] others who have been involved with Reconstruction, I have developed a voice I never knew I had. And I took that voice and extended it to my family; some who were incarcerated.

“I didn’t know how to do that in the past...Once I became a part of Reconstruction, it really shaped me, and developed me into a stronger woman. Definitely into an activist. And also, I’m not so quick to judge others. That’s how Reconstruction has helped me” (p. 67).

– Jamilla Vorn, Reconstruction member

# What Reconstruction, Inc. Does

## *Within, Transition, Ongoing*

- **Within Prison**: Curriculum for transformation
  - Therapeutic community; indivs., families, communities
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- **In Transition**: Embracing tensions; agent of change
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  - Program affiliation, each-one, teach-one
- **Ongoing**: Civic engagements
  - Youth empowerment, prevention
  - Land, skill-building

## ➤ AEA – Strengths of Shared Vulnerability

- Carl's comment

- “I really got into [AEA]. I really enjoyed coming to the meetings, talking about what was going on. And if I had a struggle, I didn't have a problem with comin', sittin' down with whoever, whatever members was there, and discuss what was going on, and take some suggestions, and get the feedback, and reveal that idea that I was lookin' for...

because it wasn't nothin' I had to hide...I don't feel that [any] problem I have is [too great] to ask for help. You cannot get nowhere in life, thinkin' you know everything.”

-

# The Three Programs

## ❖ *Community Capacity Building Programs*

### *Alumni Ex-Offenders Association (AEA)*

- Returning citizens, family, others
- Fellowship and feedback, emotional intelligence

### *Fight for Lifers (FFL)*

- Lifers, family, others
- Advocacy, leadership, mentoring

### *L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Education, Advocacy, Development)*

- Emotional intelligence
- Fellowship and feedback, therapeutic community

# Three Pillars – Capacity Building Curriculum

- “Can specific programs affect levels of social integration among released persons enough to affect the quality of life for them and their family and to reduce their criminal involvement?”

(Lynch 2006:410)

- Principled Transformation

- Pillar 1 – Leadership Dev.
- Pillar 2 – Situation Management
- Pillar 3 – Support Group Dev.

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### **Reconstruction Community Capacity-building Curriculum (6/2009)**

Reconstruction's curriculum is designed for individuals, families, and community groups in and outside of institutions. We believe that each human being is sacred and is valuable to themselves, the family, the community, and to society. Each of us needs to be critical thinkers, be good decision makers, and give principled leadership to our family and eventually change the world. This curriculum has three pillars, is interactive, and transformative.

#### **The Curriculum Concept**

**Pillar I. The Leadership Development** entails understanding the principles and practices of four themes: from alienation to building community, from arrested development to self-determination, from co-dependency to reciprocity, and from individualism to collectivism. This pillar enhances the ability to recognize behaviors that keep one from transforming. It enhances economic and political awareness as well as builds potential to make necessary personal, economic, and political analysis.

**Pillar II. Situation Management** builds on the previous pillar and shows how to understand the differences between crises, ongoing drama, dysfunctional family versus crises within the family. This pillar helps with interpersonal and group conflicts, and identifies existing skills as well as develops new problem-solving skills. An individual's ability to effectively participate and coordinate Emergency Response Systems is heightened.

**Pillar III. Support Group Development** trains how to create and facilitate support groups and systems. Members learn how to build personal and group working agendas that address any needs of the participants, and develop the skills that produce principled solutions to the various issues.

Reconstruction recognizes the phenomenon of intellectual licensing as well as the need to promote faith and collective wellness. To that end, the above concepts do not include style of facilitation, suggested text, activity protocol, nor does it include coalition building. It is simply a series of concepts to be tailored to specific groups with specific missions.

*The art of development is  
changing ourselves to change the world and  
uniting the many to defeat the few.*



# Current Initiatives

## ❖ Navigating the weight of stigma

### *Fight for Lifers (FFL)*

- Clemency process
- Legislation – re: life WITH parole

### *Alumni Ex-Offenders Association (AEA)*

- Political forums; judges, city council
- Noble Pillars

### *Leadership, Education, Advocacy, Development (LEAD)*

- Situation Mngmt.
- Entrepreneurial collab. w/ Villanova Univ.

# Ch. 8 – Reciprocity, Best Practices

## ❑ A former felon member

“...It’s truly amazing to me, the selflessness of the participating individuals of Reconstruction. I haven’t run across anything [else] like that, Townsend. The ability to pull together and assist in any way possible. To just give...If Reconstruction put in any time or effort with an individual, they only ask that that individual come back and do something likewise that was given to them...for the next person coming through the doors.”

– Deion Morrison, longtime affiliate

# Winston Churchill's Wisdom



## □ *House of Commons (1910)*

“...The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilization of any country...

[extending from] an unfailing faith that there is a treasure if only you can find it, in the heart of every man—

these are the symbols which in the treatment of crime and criminals mark and measure the stored-up strength of a nation, and are the sign and proof of the living virtue in it.”

# *Reconstructing Rage* Themes

#1 – Culture (environment, ways of being)

#2 – Community (interdependence, fellowship)

#3 – Capacity building (maximizing assets)

#4 – Returning citizens as vital to all three above



**Thank You!**

**Questions, Comments**





**INFLUENCES ON PRISON GROWTH:**  
(Ray to chart)

**PRIMARY INFLUENCES:** The police & prison system itself. Those who profit directly from building and running prisons & getting more people locked up.

**SECONDARY INFLUENCES:** One step removed from prisons, supplying them with prisoners, services & goods. They profit indirectly by locking up more people.

**IDEOLOGICAL INFLUENCES:** Influence how we think about different groups of people, crime, poverty & prisons. They use "science" to divide, to blame, & to justify inequality.

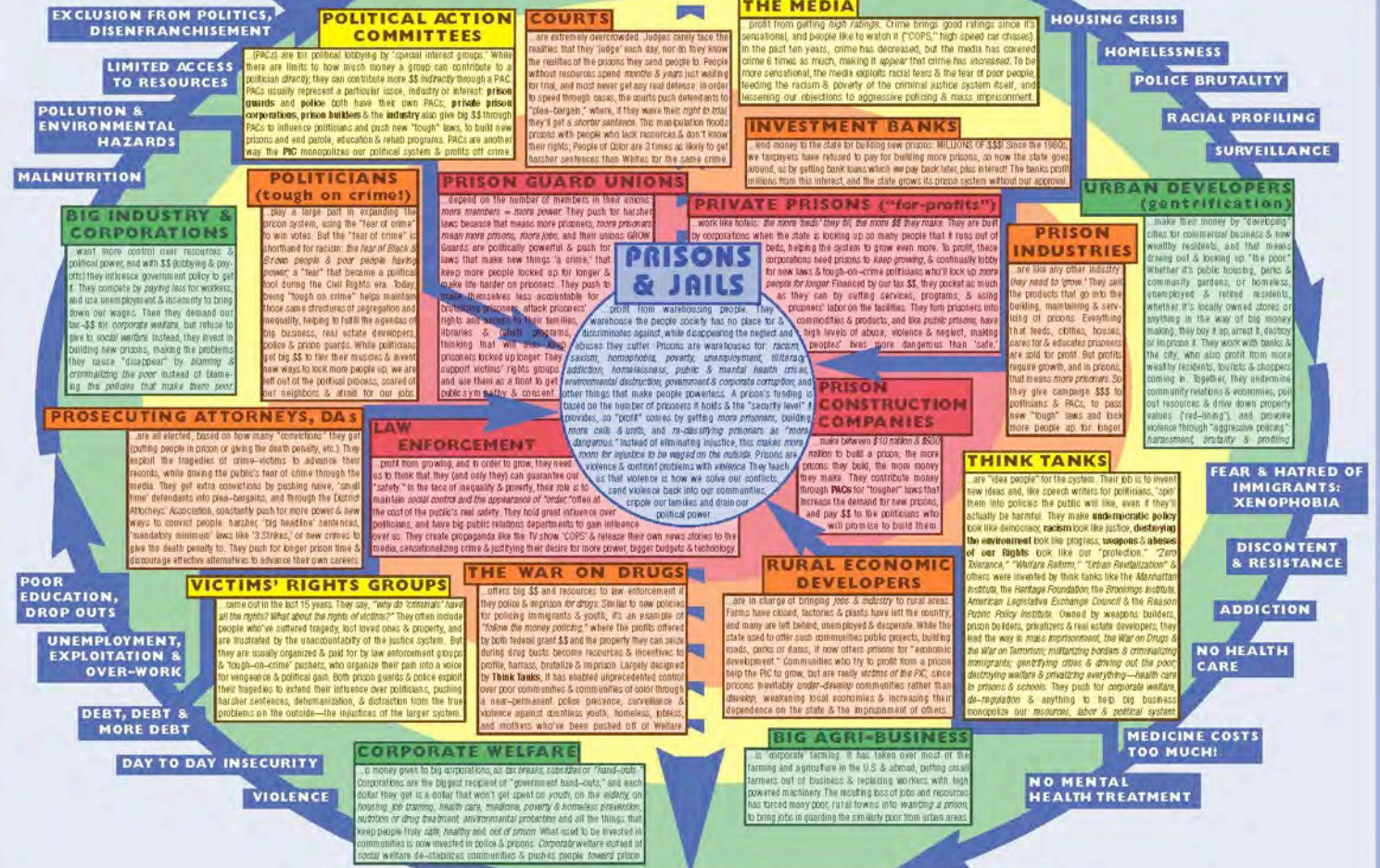
**ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES:** Create the environment of inequality & violence that push people toward prisons. They exploit, destroy and rob communities of progress and development.

**PROBLEMS CAUSED BY INEQUALITY:** The results of powerlessness, social control & the environment influence communities, prisons on the outside, problems that go unresolved or get criminalized & fed into prisons.

The PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX (the PIC) is the intersection of all the interests who help expand the prison system, conventionally some comradely but all for reasons other than our safety and justice. Most of them influence prison growth for reasons of their own profit, some profit in terms of

cash—\$\$, others in terms of political power, control of resources & property, or good TV ratings. Some profit from the business of imprisonment, others from having people out of their way, "criminalized" and locked up. It's a system where profit is more

important than people, where people are split along the lines of race, gender & culture so that their resources, labor, wealth & power can be exploited & monopolized, and prisons make the damage done even worse. It's a conspiracy? It doesn't have to be—each group's own interests are set up to grow the system.





“Crime is a phenomenon of organized social life, and is the open rebellion of an individual against his social environment...Crime comes either in spite of intelligence, or as a result of misdirected intelligence under severe economic and moral strain.”

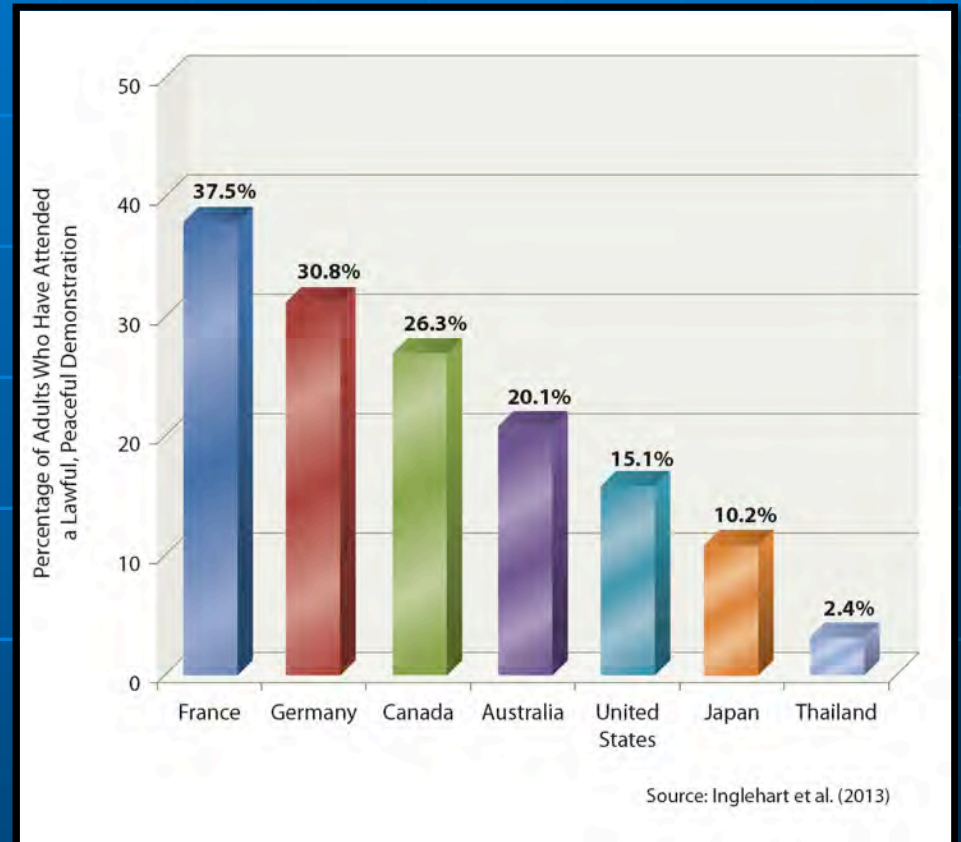
– W.E.B. Du Bois (1899:235, 254)



Living in the Solution:  
What would a **prisonless society** look like?

# The Power of Society

- Is being active in a social movement just a matter of personal choice?



# America Is Finally Closing Prisons. Now What Do We Do With Them?

Emily Badger Dec 06, 2012

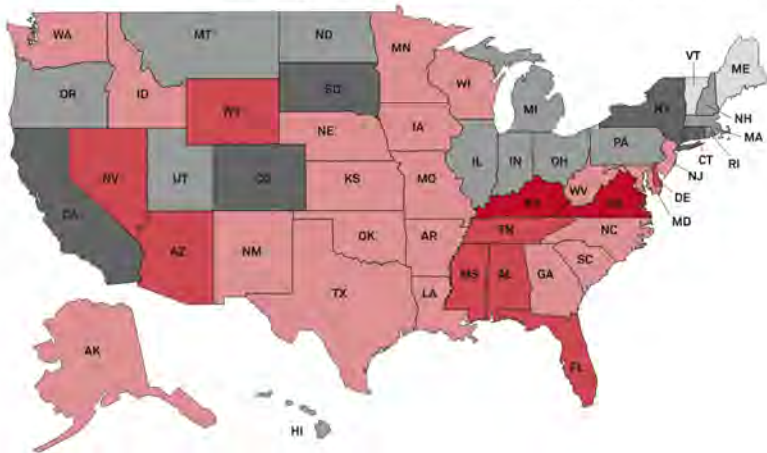


Two years ago, the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics announced a small data point marking an inglorious milestone: **In 2009, America's prison population declined for the first time in decades...** dating all the way back to 1972, America had been in the business of constantly imprisoning more and more people.

# Voting

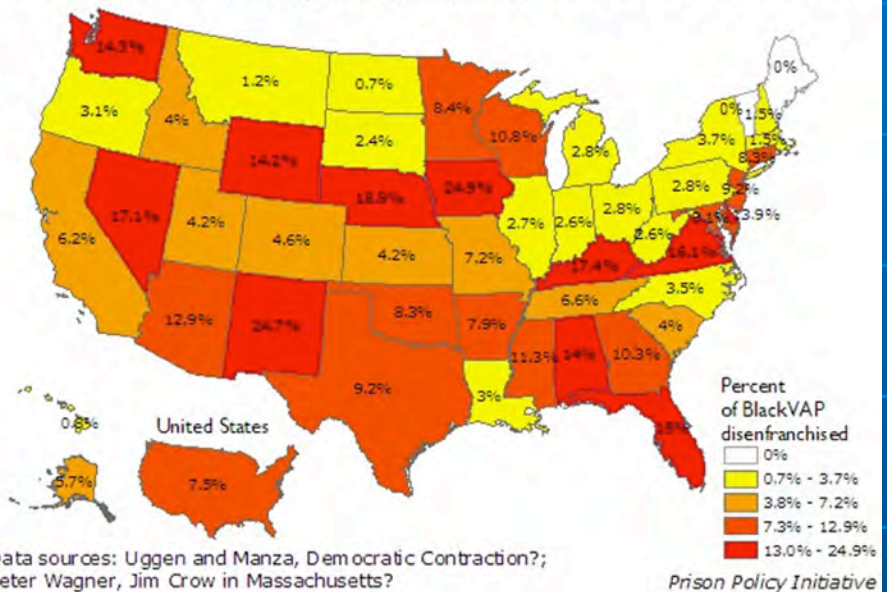
## CRIMINAL DISENFRANCHISEMENT LAWS ACROSS THE U.S.

States vary widely on when voting rights are restored. Maine and Vermont do not withdraw the franchise based on criminal convictions; even prisoners may vote there. Kentucky and Virginia are the last two remaining states that permanently disenfranchise all people with felony convictions, unless they receive individual, discretionary, executive clemency.<sup>2</sup>



- Permanent disenfranchisement for all people with felony convictions, unless government approves individual rights restoration: KY, VA
- Permanent disenfranchisement for at least some people with criminal convictions, unless government approves individual rights restoration: AL, AZ, DE, FL, MS, NV, TN, WY
- Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, including prison, parole, and probation: AK, AR, GA, ID, IA, KS, LA, MD, MN, MO, NE,\* NJ, NM, NC, OK, SC, TX, WA, WV, WI  
\* Nebraska imposes a two-year waiting period after completion of sentence.
- Voting rights restored automatically after release from prison and discharge from parole (probationers may vote): CA, CO, CT, NY, SD
- Voting rights restored automatically after release from prison: DC, HI, IL, IN, MA, MI, MT, NH, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, UT
- No disenfranchisement for people with criminal convictions: ME, VT

## Disenfranchisement of Black voting age population, 2000

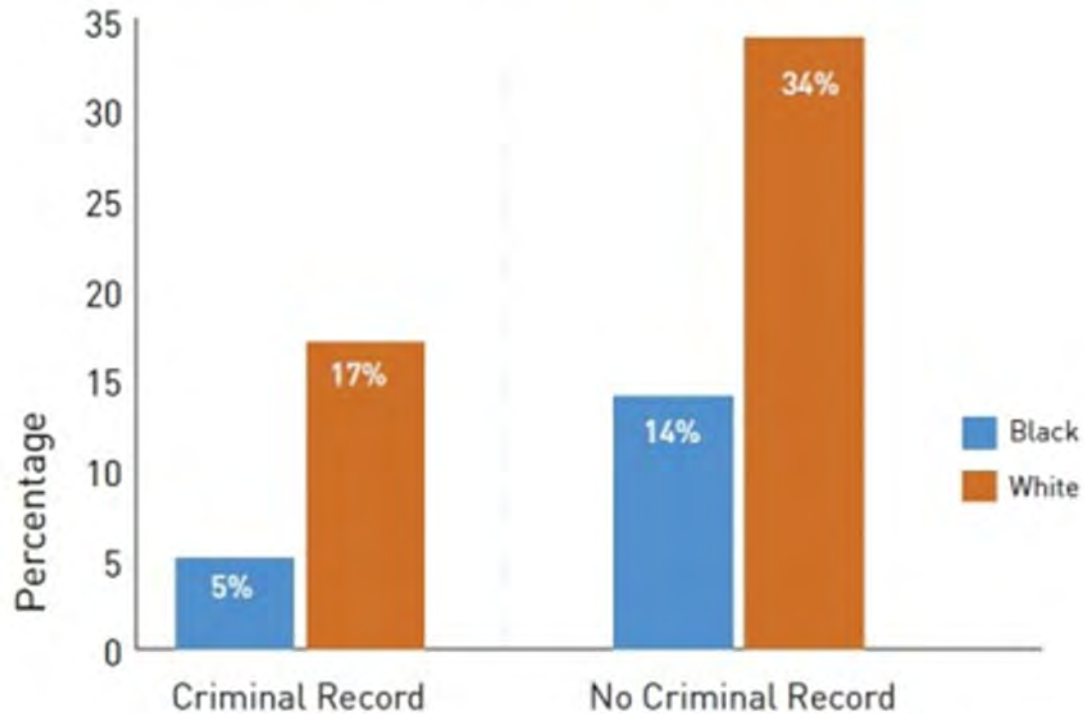


2.6 million former felons are barred from voting because of U.S. felony disenfranchisement laws

This, in addition to those currently incarcerated.

# Employment

Fig. 9. Racial Impact of a Criminal Record on Interview Callbacks, 2003



Source: Devah Pager. "The Mark of a Criminal Record", *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 108, No. 5 (March 2003). Figure 6, p. 958.

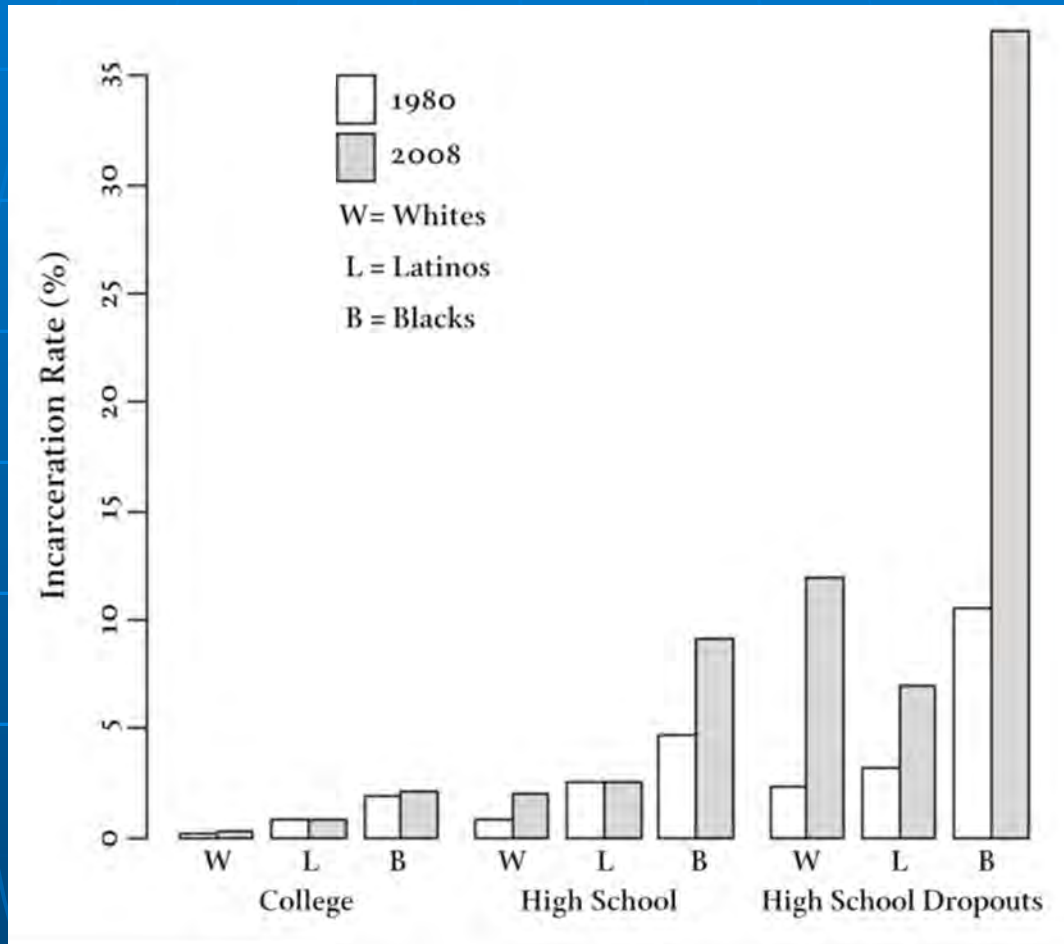


Are we flushing  
children's  
futures down  
the drain?

**THE  
SCHOOL.  
TO  
PRISON  
PIPELINE**



# School-to-Prison Pipeline



Western and Pettit (2010), "Incarceration and Social Inequality"

# Networks and Partnerships

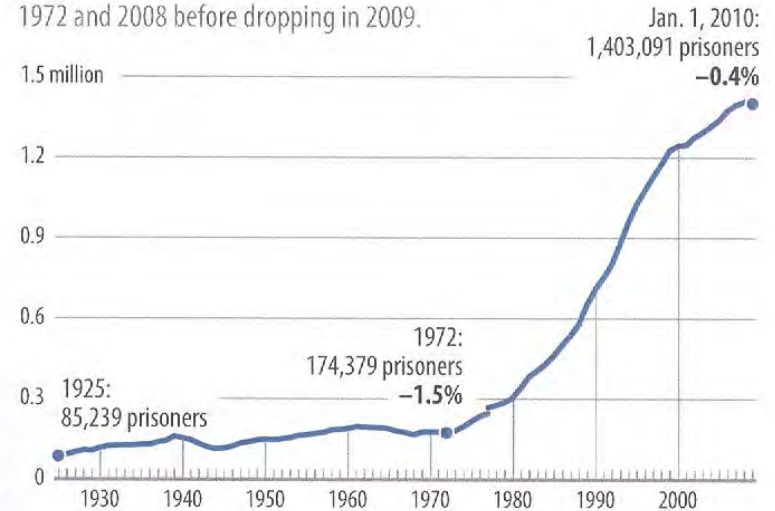


Source: Center for Participatory Change (Asheville, NC)



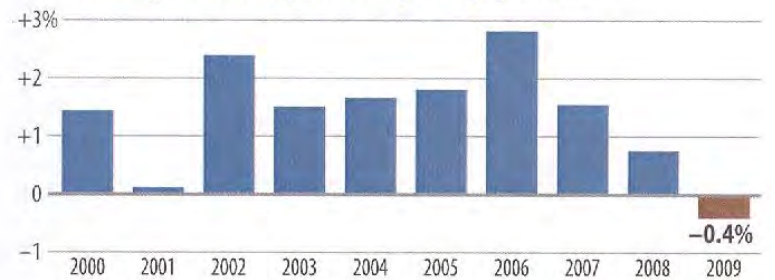
## FIRST STATE DECLINE IN 38 YEARS

The number of state inmates grew 705% between 1972 and 2008 before dropping in 2009.

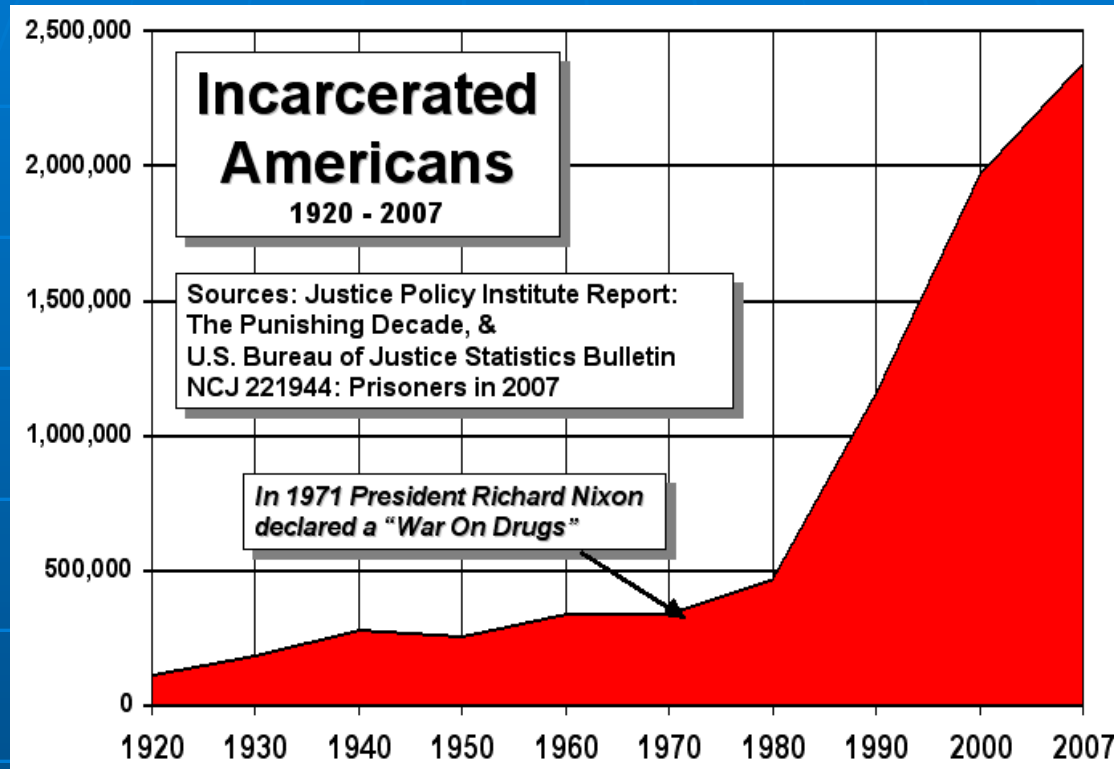


NOTE: Annual figures prior to 1977 reflect the total number of sentenced prisoners in state custody. Beginning in 1977, all figures reflect the state jurisdictional population as reported in the Bureau of Justice Statistics' "Prisoners" series. Data for both sentenced prisoners in custody and the jurisdictional population are reported for 1977 to illustrate the transition.

### Annual percent change in state prison populations



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics; Pew Center on the States, Public Safety Performance Project

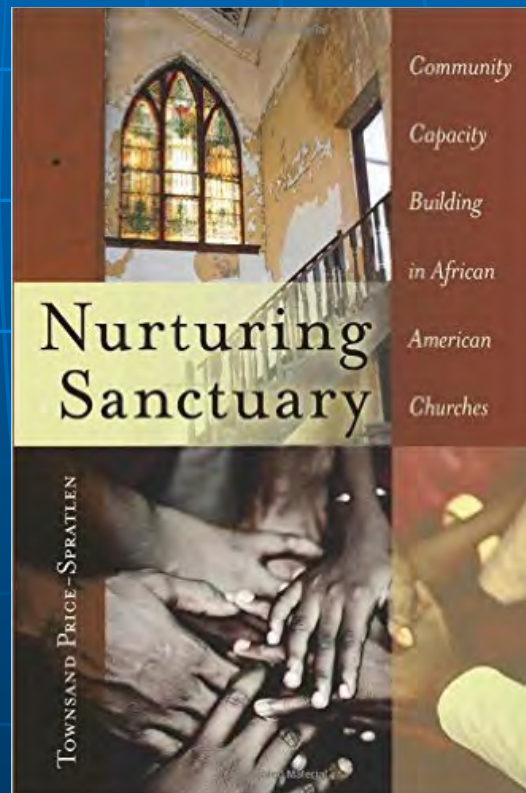


The Numbers, Change Over Time



# Community Capacity Building in Action

- **What is sanctuary? How is it nurtured?**



# *Nurturing Sanctuary Themes*

#1 – Community capacity building (CCB.)

#2 – (CCB. and) Pedagogies of faith

#3 – (CCB. and) Tensions of faith

#4 – (CCB. and) Best practices for faith-health

-

## COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING IN AN AGE OF FAITH?

### Pedagogy and Tensions of Nurturing Sanctuary

Culture comes from the Latin word *cultus*, which means "to care for." At its heart, it has to do with growth: of crops (as in the word "cultivate"), or of peoples. Culture is a set of [symbolic and material] ideas, practices, and rituals that help human beings develop morally, intellectually, and spiritually.

—Terrance MacMullan<sup>1</sup>

The Negro of America needs an Age of Faith. All great ages are ages of faith. It is absolutely necessary for a new people to begin their career with the religious verities.... Christianity is contrary to the spirit of caste—spiritual kinship transcends all other relations.... No matter what destiny awaits the race, religion is necessary either as a solvent or as a salve.

—W. E. B. Du Bois<sup>2</sup>

One of the most vivid memories of my childhood is being 4 or 5 years old and sitting with a longtime family friend during a December church service. My mother was nearby but occupied with music, playing her guitar at the front of the church. There was an excitement in the chapel. It was the holidays, and Santa Claus was going to make an appearance. The anticipation of gifts was the preoccupation of every child in the church. We were an African American family and were members of an overwhelmingly white Unitarian Church in a small, college town in northwest Washington State. And yes,



# **Related Tensions**

**Mass Incarceration and  
the Militarization of Local Police**



A recent New York Times article by Matt Apuzzo reported that in the Obama era, “police departments have received tens of thousands of machine guns; nearly 200,000 ammunition magazines; thousands of pieces of camouflage and night-vision equipment; and hundreds of silencers, armored cars and aircraft.”

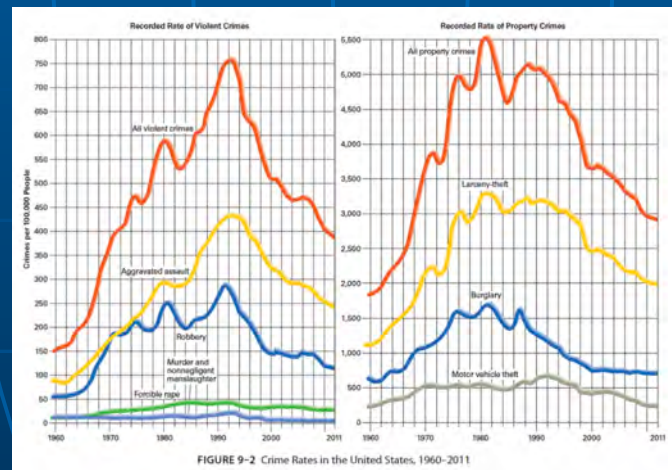


FIGURE 9-2 Crime Rates in the United States, 1960-2011

The result is that police agencies around the nation possess military-grade equipment, turning officers who are supposed to fight crime and protect communities into what looks like an invading army. And military-style police raids have increased in recent years, with one count putting the number at 80,000 such raids last year.

<http://billmoyers.com/2014/08/13/not-just-ferguson-11-eye-opening-facts-about-americas-militarized-police-forces/>

– Bill Moyers and Company

# What Now?

# What Next?

## ☐ Crime

- Types, Statistics

## ☐ Incarceration and Crime

- Uneven rel. at best, global and rates
- Now, incarceration > education
- Linked with police militarization

## ☐ Where We Are

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUdHIatS36A> (John Oliver)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_icVWKO4\\_o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_icVWKO4_o) (resource)

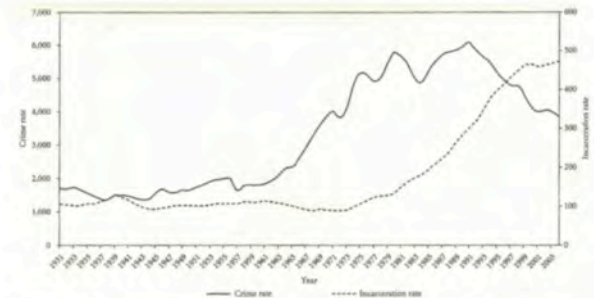
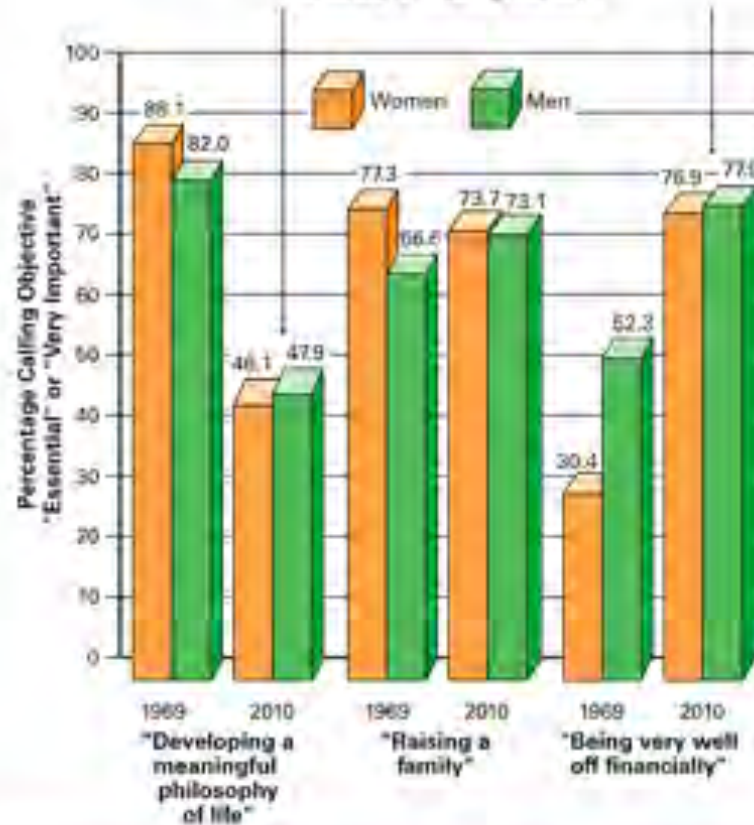


Figure 2.1 U.S. Unified Crime Report (UCR) crime trends and sentenced prisoners in federal and state institutions, 1972–2004, showing an increasing incarceration rate and a rising and falling crime rate. Rate of crime and rate of incarceration given are per 100,000 resident population.



• Compared to college students 40 years ago, today's students are less interested in developing a philosophy of life and more interested in making money.



# Defining Sociology

# Brief Review

## □ Way Society's Org.

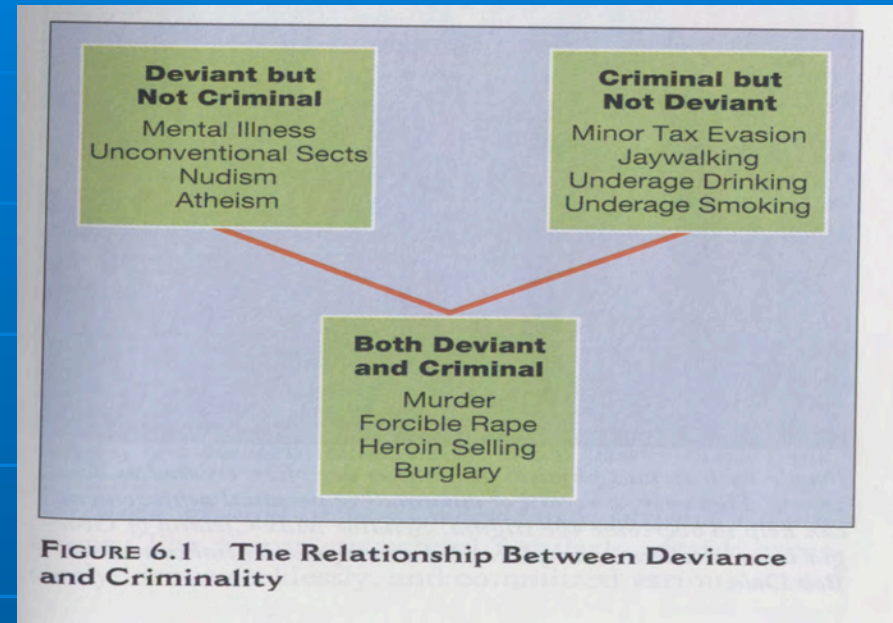
- Race, class, gender

## □ Theoretical Diff.

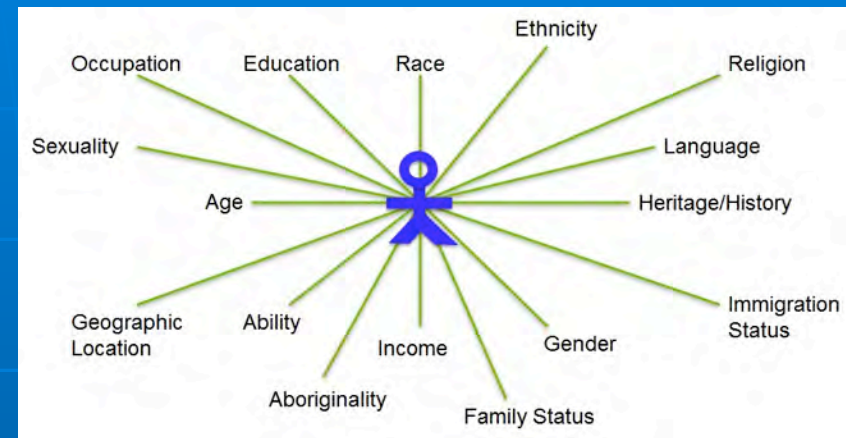
- Functionalist – utility
- Sym. Interaction – responses, labelling
- Conflict – class diffs. → power unequal.

## □ Intersectionality

- Multiple at once



# Race- / Gender- Conflict View



## *Questions, etc.*

- “What is one’s position in the matrix of domination?”
- Result of: relative power, privilege of diff. categories
- Purpose: Identity empowerment, valuing diffs.
- Race-Conflict – Hate Crimes
  - Matthew Shepard (1998); 30mrdrs., 2092 ttl. (2011)
- Gender-Conflict – Cross-culture
  - Sudan, Saudi Arabia; U.S./Western absence...

## Applying Theory

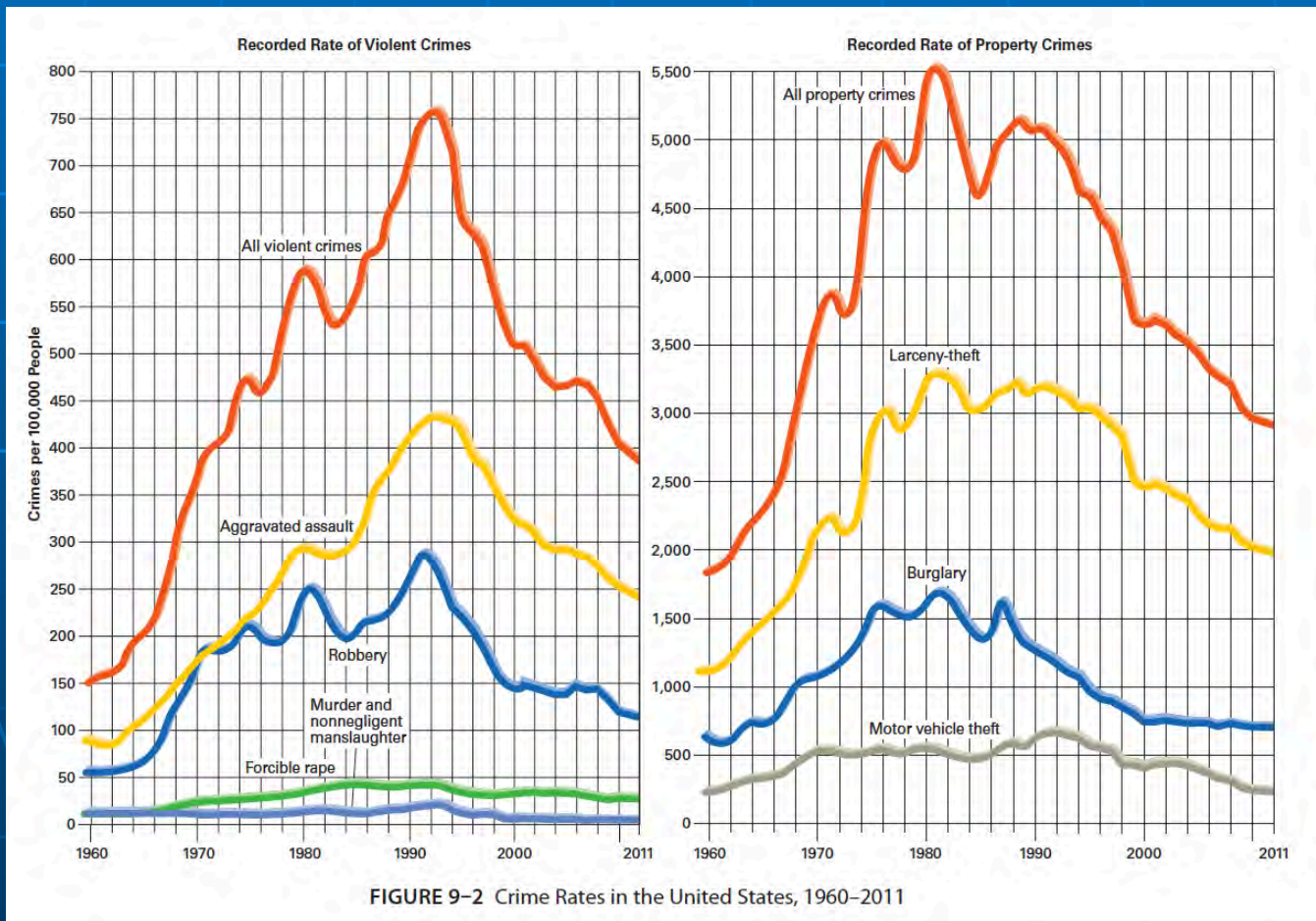
### Deviance

	Structural-Functional Theory	Symbolic-Interaction Theory	Social-Conflict Theory	Race-Conflict and Feminist Theories
<b>What is the level of analysis?</b>	Macro-level	Micro-level	Macro-level	Macro-level
<b>What is deviance?</b> <b>What part does it play in society?</b>	Deviance is a basic part of social organization. By defining deviance, society sets its moral boundaries.	Deviance is part of socially constructed reality that emerges in interaction. Deviance comes into being as individuals label something deviant.	Deviance results from social inequality. Norms, including laws, reflect the interests of powerful members of society.	Deviance reflects racial and gender inequality. Deviant labels are more readily applied to women and other minorities.
<b>What is important about deviance?</b>	Deviance is universal: It exists in all societies.	Deviance is variable: Any act or person may or may not be labeled deviant.	Deviance is political: People with little power are at high risk of being labeled deviant.	Deviance is a means of control: Dominant categories of people discredit others as a means to dominate them.

p. 155 – Major Deviance Theoretical Approaches

# Criminal Statistics

- Victimization surveys: Crime rate is two to four times higher than official reports.





# Incarceration and Crime

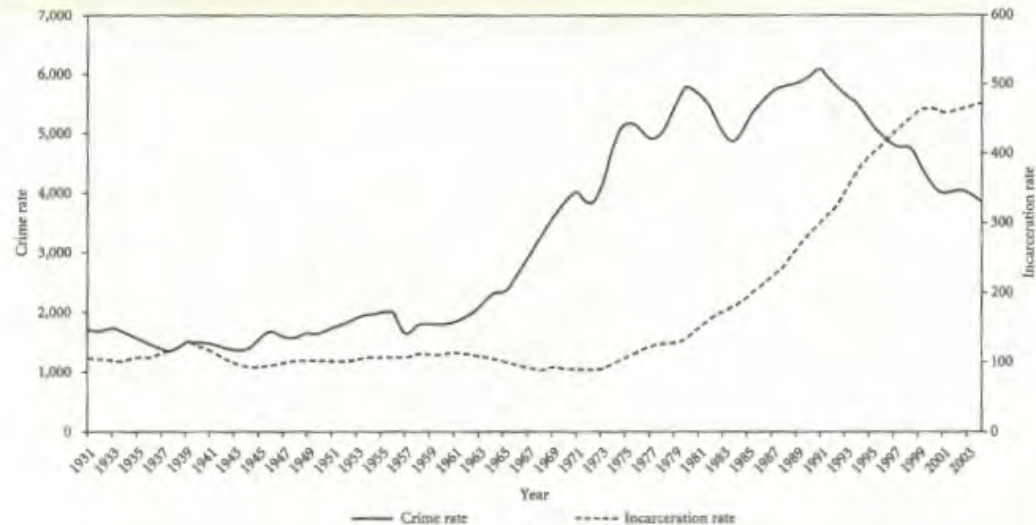


Figure 2.1 U.S. Unified Crime Report (UCR) crime trends and sentenced prisoners in federal and state institutions, 1931–2004, showing an increasing incarceration rate and a rising and falling crime rate. Rate of crime and rate of incarceration given are per 100,000 resident population.

# Schwarzenegger Seeks Shift From Prisons to Schools

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER

Published: January 6, 2010



SACRAMENTO — With his state strapped and his legacy looming, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed on Wednesday to greatly reduce the amount of money California spends on its prisons and to funnel that sum to the state’s higher education system instead.

The governor said he would also push for a constitutional amendment prohibiting the percentage of the state budget earmarked for prisons from exceeding what is set aside for its public university system.

“Choosing universities over prisons,” Mr. Schwarzenegger said in his final annual address to the Legislature. “This is a historic and transforming realignment of California’s priorities.”

# Schwarzenegger Seeks Shift From Prisons to Schools

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER

Published: January 6, 2010



SACRAMENTO — “The priorities have become out of whack over the years,” the governor told lawmakers.

“I mean, think about it, 30 years ago, 10 percent of the general fund went to higher education, and 3 percent went to prisons. Today, almost 11 percent goes to prisons, and only 7.5 percent goes to higher education.”

“What does it say about any state that focuses more on prison uniforms than on caps and gowns?” he continued. “It simply is not healthy.”

# MASS

## INCARCERATION



WITH ONLY 5% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, THE



U.S. HAS 25% OF THE WORLD'S PRISON POPULATION. **1**

★ World Population

★ U.S.'s % of Overall Population

★ U.S.'s % of Prisoner Population

# What it is

## ❑ Mass incarceration

- “refers not only to the criminal justice system but also to the larger web of

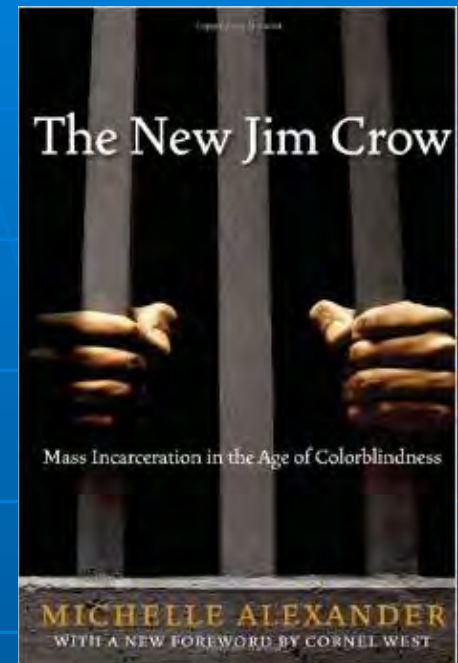
laws, rules, policies, and customs that control those labeled criminals **BOTH IN AND OUT OF PRISON.**”

## ❑ Why both (in and out)?

- “Once released, former prisoners enter a hidden underworld of legalized discrimination and permanent social exclusion” (Alexander 2010:13).



# Michelle Alexander



“We have not ended racial caste in America, we have merely redesigned it.”

A recent New York Times article by Matt Apuzzo reported that in the Obama era, “police departments have received tens of thousands of machine guns; nearly 200,000 ammunition magazines; thousands of pieces of camouflage and night-vision equipment; and hundreds of silencers, armored cars and aircraft.”

The result is that police agencies around the nation possess military-grade equipment, turning officers who are supposed to fight crime and protect communities into what looks like an invading army. And military-style police raids have increased in recent years, with one count putting the number at 80,000 such raids last year.

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– Bill Moyers and Company



# Brief Review



## ❑ Crime

- Types, Statistics

## ❑ Incarceration and Crime

- Uneven rel. at best, global and rates
- Now, incarceration > education
- Linked with police militarization

## ❑ Where We Are

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUdHIatS36A> (John Oliver)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_icVWKO4\\_o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_icVWKO4_o) (resource)