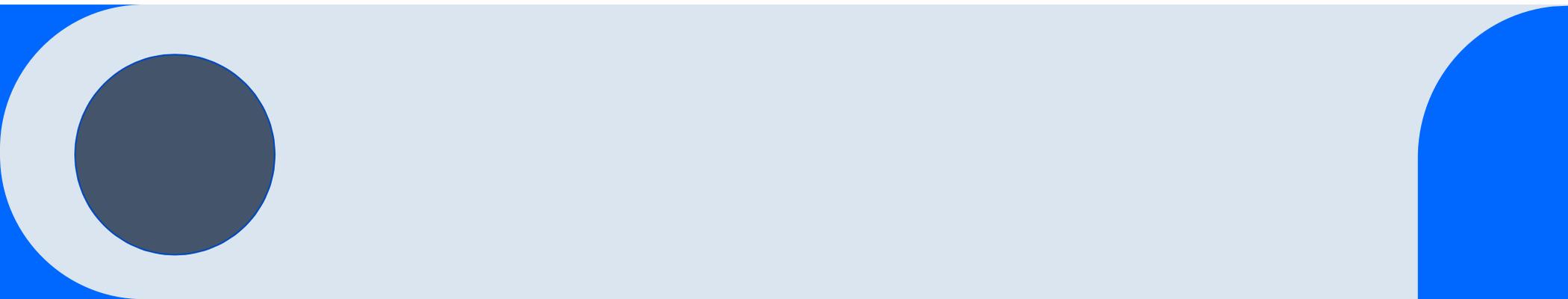
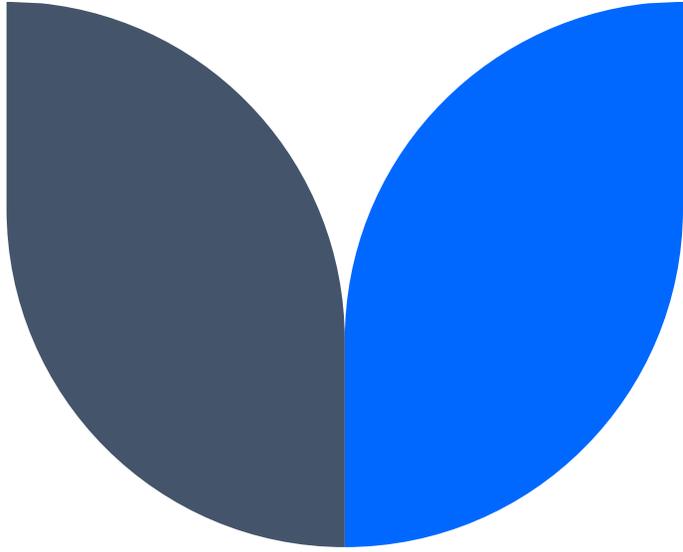




Racial trauma and disparities in the Criminal Justice System

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Agenda

Define Racial Trauma

Define Racial disparities

Define Implicit Biases

Impact of disparities and biases in the criminal justice system

Criminal Justice statistics

Keynotes

Summary

Introduction

Racial trauma, or race-based traumatic stress (RBTS), refers to the mental and emotional injury caused by encounters with racial bias and ethnic discrimination, racism, and hate crimes. Any individual that has experienced an emotionally painful, sudden, and uncontrollable racist encounter is at risk of suffering from a race-based traumatic stress injury. In the U.S., Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) are most vulnerable due to historical events in the U.S. Systemic racism is often interpreted as an accusation that everyone in the system is “racist”, systemic racism means the opposite. It means that we have systems and institutions that produce disparate outcomes , regardless of the people who work within them.

History and Origin

Police departments were originally created and used to enforce slave code laws such as Jim Crow to control the social order of minorities. The criminal justice system is still used as the mechanism of controlling African Americans/Blacks/People of Color but rather than labeling them “negro” they are labeled criminal. Slave patrols ended after the passage of the 13th amendment, which formally ended slavery “except as a punishment for crime”. The Black Codes, for all intents and purposes, criminalized every form of African American freedom of mobility, political power, and economic power.

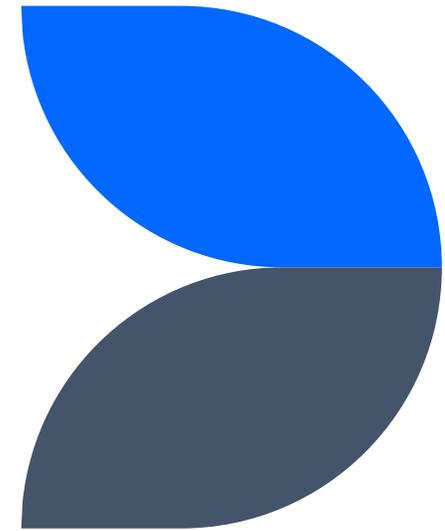
Racial Trauma

Establishment of slavery

-hard labor, deprived of legal rights, no education, sexual exploitation, and killed

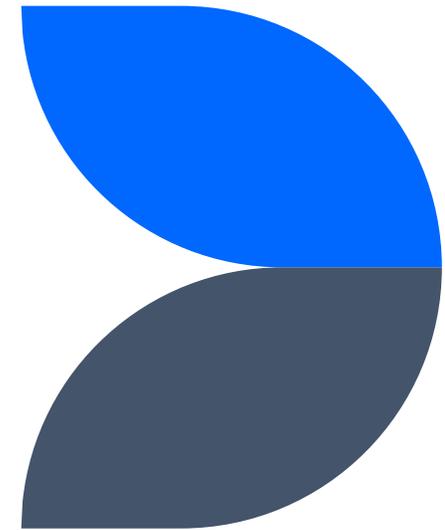
Segregation/Jim Crow Laws

-segregation of blacks and white in schools and other public places, blacks were denied the right to vote, lasted from 1877 to the 1950s, known as racial control measures



Define Racial disparities

Racial disparity refers to the imbalances and incongruities between the treatment of racial groups, including economic status, income, housing options, societal treatment, safety, and myriad other aspects of life and society to include the criminal justice system.



Implicit Bias

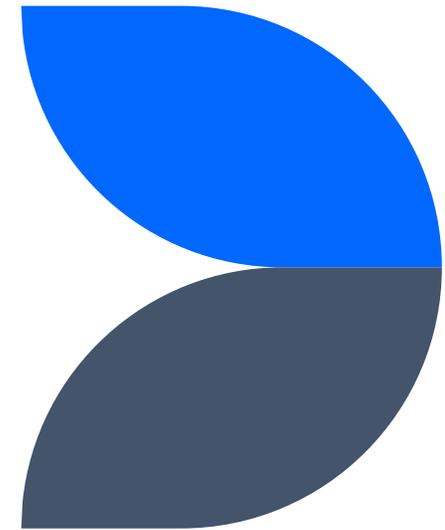
Implicit bias, also known as implicit prejudice or implicit attitude, is a negative attitude, of which one is not consciously aware, against a specific social group.

Implicit bias is thought to be shaped by experience and based on learned associations between particular qualities and social categories, including race and/or gender.

Unconscious attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions.

Can influence decisions and behavior subconsciously.

Implicit biases can lead to stereotyping.



Racial disparities

Racial disparities in South Carolina prison and jail incarceration rates

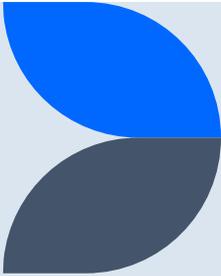
People in state prisons and local jails, per 100,000 state residents in each race or ethnicity category



† Suppressed: Estimate is either not calculable based on published data or is based on fewer than 25 people. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau data. For sourcing details and dataset, including race definitions and categories not displayed above, see: www.prisonpolicy.org/data/race_bystate_2021.xlsx.

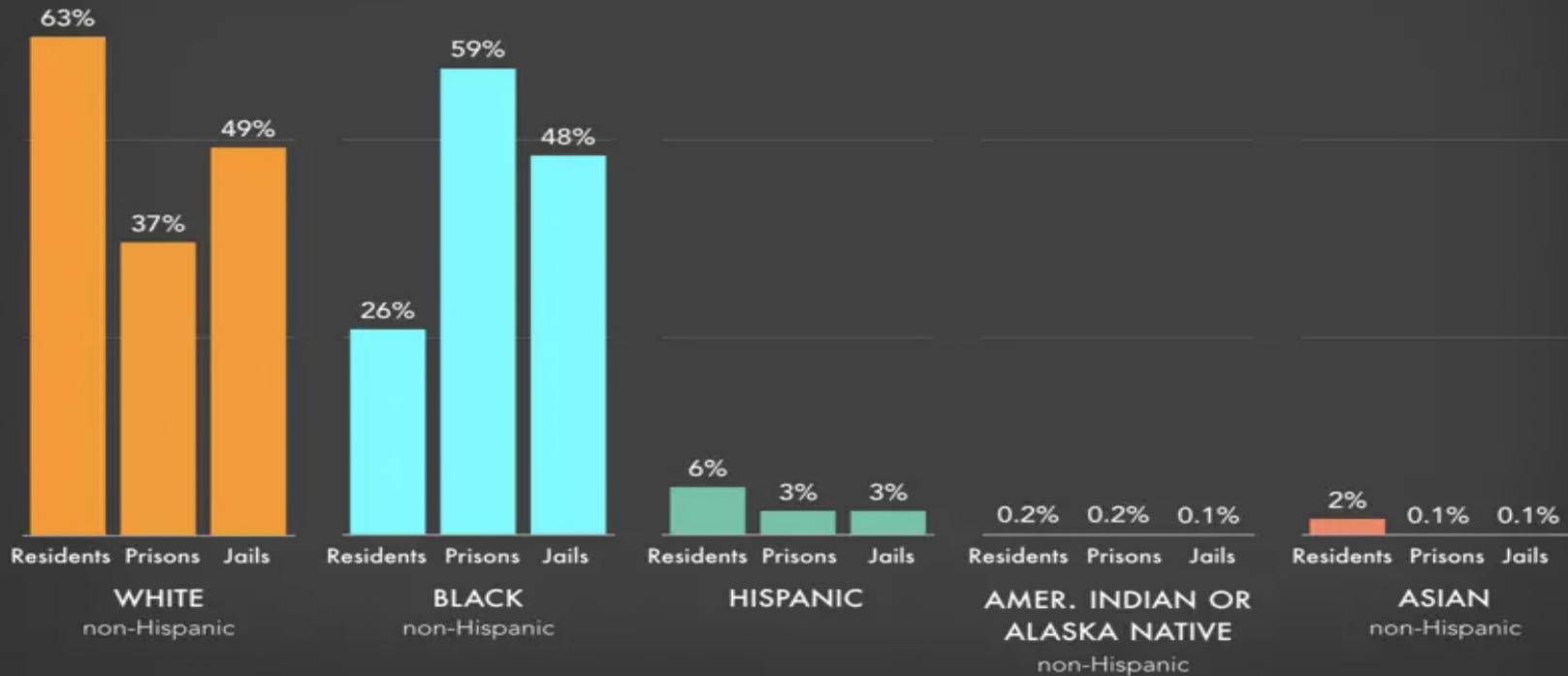
PRISON
POLICY INITIATIVE

Racial disparities



Comparing South Carolina's resident and incarcerated populations

Percentage of state residents, by race or ethnicity, compared to the percentage of people in the state's prisons in 2021 and in local jails in 2019, by race or ethnicity. Compared to the total state population, Black people are overrepresented in the incarcerated population, while white people are underrepresented.



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau data. For sourcing details and dataset, including race definitions and categories not displayed above, see: www.prisonpolicy.org/data/race_bystate_2021.xlsx.

PRISON
POLICY INITIATIVE

Reducing disparities in our Communities

- Drug Intervention Programs
- Community programs and activities in neighborhoods of color
- Eliminate stereotypes and racial stigma (drug dealer, unemployed, gang affiliated and a menace to society)
- Eliminate the adultification for children of color
- Increase the diversity of Law enforcement agencies, increase positive police interaction

NOTES

- People of color, mostly blacks tend to be sanctioned more severely than whites, includes both the adult and juvenile legal systems.
- The negative imagery of African American persons based on their ethnicity/race is becoming a leading basis for treatment in the criminal justice system; not being uniquely judged based on their individual qualities.
- Driving while black (DWB) has increased distrust and caused more suspicion of police motives from African Americans.
- South Carolina has an incarceration rate of 678 per 100,000 people (including prisons, jails, immigration detention, and juvenile justice facilities), meaning that it locks up a higher percentage of its people than any democracy on earth.

NOTES

- Traumatic reactions from racial profiling and exploitation can include irritability, nightmares, flashbacks, anxiety, despair, fear of police and intrusive thoughts.
- In many states, it is legal to discriminate against a criminal or felon for employment, housing, denial of public services, denial of educational advancements, inability to serve on a jury and excludes felons from voting.
- The concept of “negrophobia” or “African American phobia” is the illogical fright of being victimized by African Americans (AA) that can result in whites killing or hurting AA based on criminal/racial stereotypes.
- White privilege is the privilege to feel normal.

Summary

Our work as a community should focus on understanding the structural issues and understanding the lives of people caught in the justice system and focus on our community strengths, recovery, community empowerment, local culturally informed solutions and self-determination rather than strategies that rely on institutions to monitor, manage, enforce compliance and ensure containment.

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