

The Sentencing Project

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/shadow-report-of-the-sentencing-project-to-the-committee-on-the-elimination-of-racial-discrimination/>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

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The incremental deterrent effect of increases in lengthy prison sentences is modest at best. Because recidivism rates decline markedly with age, lengthy prison sentences, unless they specifically target very high-rate or extremely dangerous offenders, are an inefficient approach to preventing crime by incapacitation.³⁵ National Research Council, *The Growth of Incarceration in the United States: Exploring Causes and Consequences* 5 (The National Academies Press 2014).

Given these findings, and the disproportionate effect of lengthy prison terms on people of color, what measures is the government undertaking to try to reduce the use of such sentences?

Footnotes[+]

Black men born in 2001 can expect to go to prison in their lifetime

Sentencing Policy

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