

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/research/policing-legal-estrangement-and-marginality>

Policy Issue Resources

Prof. Monica Bell's work examines how predominantly African-American samples of parents and youth in three American cities—Washington, DC; Cleveland, Ohio; and Baltimore, Maryland—understand police presence in their everyday lives. In reexamining this issue, the project as a whole reveals the deep and often overlooked complexity in the relationships between marginalized communities, the police, urban neighborhoods, and the state that are rarely considered in popular conversations about police reform and transformation.

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The Disparate Treatment of Black Americans in the Criminal Justice System

The evidence for racial disparities in the criminal justice system is well documented. The disproportionate racial impact of certain laws and policies, as well as biased decision making by justice system actors, leads to higher rates of arrest and incarceration in low-income communities of color. However, there is no evidence that these widely disp ...

An innovative alternative-to-jail program focuses on young adult development

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