# **Institutional Racism**

This entire section is credited to Rose Wrist, a former guest of the stream. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3rSgPl8_RLMBHHsjaY7VAA>, <https://www.instagram.com/left__ty/>)

They are near-entirely responsible for the collection of this data. Seriously, I just ripped most of this from their document - with their permission, of course. I’m only broadcasting their incredible work with my much larger audience.

* <https://www.sentencingproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Black-Lives-Matter.pdf>
  + **Extensive document on racial biases** in our criminal justice system.
  + Studies seem to indicate **about 61-80% of black overrepresentation in prisons** can be explained by **higher black crime rates**, with the unexplained portion largely attributable to **racial bias**.
  + Remember - the factors which lead to **disproportionate criminality** amongst black Americans are also in large part a **product of racial bias**. Underfunded public programs, redlining, generational poverty, bad schooling, and myriad other factors which **influence criminality** can also be traced to **racial bias.**
* [**Investigation of the Ferguson Police Department**](https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/opa/press-releases/attachments/2015/03/04/ferguson_police_department_report.pdf)
  + Between 2012 and 2014, **black people in Ferguson** accounted for **85 percent of vehicle stops, 90 percent of citations and 93 percent of arrests**, despite comprising **67 percent of the population.**
  + **Blacks were more than twice as likely** as whites to be searched after traffic stops even after controlling for related variables, though **they proved to be 26 percent less likely** to be in possession of **illegal drugs or weapons.**
  + Between 2011 and 2013, **blacks also received 95 percent of jaywalking tickets and 94 percent of tickets for “failure to comply.”** The Justice Department also found that the **racial discrepancy for speeding tickets increased dramatically** when researchers looked at tickets based on only an officer’s word vs. tickets **based on objective evidence**, such as a radar.
  + Black people facing **similar low-level charges as white people** were **68 percent less likely to see those charges dismissed in court. More than 90 percent** of the arrest warrants stemming from failure to pay/failure to appear **were issued for black people.**

## **Biases in Stops, Searches & Arrests**

* [**The Concentrated Racial Impact of Drug Imprisonment and the Characteristics of Punitive Counties**](http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/vortex.pdf)
  + While White & Black Americans **admit to using and selling illicit drugs at similar rates**, Black Americans are **VASTLY more likely to go to prison** for a drug offense.
  + In 2002, **Black Americans were incarcerated for drug offenses at TEN TIMES** the rate of White Americans.
  + Today, **Blacks are 3.7x as likely to be arrested for a marijuana offense** as Whites, **despite similar usage**.
  + **97% of “large-population counties”** have **racial biases** in their drug offense incarceration.
* [**Militarization fails to enhance police safety or reduce crime but may harm police reputation**](https://www.pnas.org/content/115/37/9181)
  + **Police militarization does not lead to a decrease** in crimes committed or officer injuries, **may actually increase both**.
  + Police militarization (including the adoption of SWAT teams) **decreases public trust in police**, which may contribute to **increases in crime**.
  + Militarized police are **disproportionately deployed in African American communities**, even when **accounting for crime rates**.
* <https://www.acludc.org/sites/default/files/2020_06_15_aclu_stops_report_final.pdf>
  + This **ACLU report** reviews 5 months’ of data from **DC police stops & searches** by **race and outcome**.
  + The **black population of DC** is **25% greater than the white population**, but black people were **410% more likely to be stopped** by the police than **white people**
  + This disparity **increases to 1465%** for stops which led to n\*o warning, ticket or arrest and **3695% for searches** which led to no warning, ticket or arrest.
  + This data indicates the **disproportionate stopping and searching of blacks in the DC area** extended **massively beyond** any **disproportionate rate of criminality.**
* [**The Problem of Infra-marginality in Outcome Tests for Discrimination**](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1607.05376.pdf)
  + Analysis of **4.5 million traffic stops in North Carolina** shows blacks and latinos were **more likely to be searched than whites** (5.4 percent, 4.1 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively).
  + Despite this, **searches of white motorists were the most likely to reveal contraband** (32% of whites, 29% of blacks, 19% of latinos).
* <https://drivingwhileblacknashville.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/driving-while-black-gideons-army.pdf>
  + Between 2011 and 2015, **black drivers in Nashville’s Davidson County** were **pulled over at a rate of 1,122 stops per 1,000 drivers** — so on average, **more than once per black driver.**
  + Black drivers were also **searched at twice the rate of white drivers, though** — as in other jurisdictions — **searches of white drivers were more likely to turn up contraband.**
* [**A large-scale analysis of racial disparities in police stops across the United States**](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-020-0858-1.pdf)
  + ***Enormous* study** of nearly **100,000,000 traffic stops** conducted across America.
  + Analysis finds **the bar for searching black and hispanic drivers’ cars** is **significantly lower** than the bar for white drivers.
  + Additionally, **black drivers are less likely to be pulled over after sunset,** when “a ‘veil of darkness’ **masks ones’ race”.**

## **Biases by Judges, Juries & Prosecutors**

* [**Demographic Differences in Sentencing: An Update to the 2012 Booker Report**](https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2017/20171114_Demographics.pdf)
  + Extensive multivariate regression analysis indicates **black male offenders receive 19.1% longer federal sentences than similarly-situated white male offenders** (white male offenders with similar past offenses, socioeconomic background, etc.)
  + This disparity seems to stem mostly from **black males being 21.2% less likely to receive non-government sponsored downward departures or variances**.
    - **Non-government sponsored departures and variances** refer to deviations from standard sentencing guidelines due to **judicial discretion**.
  + Black males who **do receive** non government-sponsored departures and variations **still serve 16.8% longer sentences than white males on average**.
  + In contrast, **when sentencing length follows standard guidelines, that disparity is only 7.9%**, and a substantial assistance departure for both groups **nullifies that disparity**.
  + **IN SUMMARY** - much of the sentencing disparity between **similarly situated black males and white males** comes down to **judicial discretion** to **deviate from standard sentencing guidelines.**
  + **BONUS -** regression analysis suggests **violence in a criminal’s history does NOT** explain **sentencing disparities between black males and similarly situated white males** - the effect of that factor seems to be **statistically insignificant.**
  + ***ADDENDUM - Some have asked me to clarify a sentence at the end of this report, where its authors write it cannot be used to prove discrimination on the part of judges. First, that disclaimer warns against inferring active discrimination as opposed to implicit bias - the disclaimer does not say the report cannot be used to prove implicit bias. Second, researchers are often quick to point out their research cannot prove a point, especially regarding intent. It can only strongly suggest a point - natural limitation of multivariate regression analysis.***
* [**Racial Disparity in Federal Criminal Sentences**](https://repository.law.umich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2017/11/16/black-men-sentenced-to-more-time-for-committing-the-exact-same-crime-as-a-white-person-study-finds/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.2e26662cc5f3&httpsredir=1&article=2413&context=articles) 
  + Examination of **federal data** indicates Black Americans spend about **10% more time in prison** when compared to comparable Whites who **commit the same crimes.**
  + Additionally, **Black arrestees are 75% more likely** to be charged with a crime carrying a **mandatory minimum sentence.**
  + Prosecutors contribute massively to this **undeniable racial bias.???**
* [**Report on Jury Selection Study**](https://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1330&context=facpubs)
  + Between 1990 and 2010, **state prosecutors struck about 53% of black people eligible for juries in criminal cases, as opposed to 26% of white people**. The study’s authors testified the **odds of this taking place in a race-neutral context** were around [**1 in 10 trillion**](https://files.deathpenaltyinfo.org/legacy/documents/RobinsonRJAOrder.pdf).
  + After **accounting for factors** prosecutors select for which tend to correlate with race, **black people were still struck twice as often**.
  + North Carolina’s state legislator **had** [**previously passed a law**](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.ncleg.net_Sessions_2009_Bills_Senate_PDF_S461v6.pdf&d=DwMFaQ&c=RAhzPLrCAq19eJdrcQiUVEwFYoMRqGDAXQ_puw5tYjg&r=nbKK7coza-77jenLzGL-ANiuQ3Xcws_fKsT8_vAbPP4&m=ZLM6jx8CaY2x8m7oQKacYJlnuPN-KG2S1kqUiCMqnbw&s=G7JBM32bKJupB5iusv-Ji92zU1Xkba_F7IFIX0VPtLY&e=) stating death penalty defendants who could **demonstrate racial bias in their jury selection** could have their sentences changed to life without parole. **The legislature later** [**repealed that law**](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.cnn.com_2013_06_20_justice_north-2Dcarolina-2Ddeath-2Dpenalty_index.html&d=DwMFaQ&c=RAhzPLrCAq19eJdrcQiUVEwFYoMRqGDAXQ_puw5tYjg&r=nbKK7coza-77jenLzGL-ANiuQ3Xcws_fKsT8_vAbPP4&m=ZLM6jx8CaY2x8m7oQKacYJlnuPN-KG2S1kqUiCMqnbw&s=Yprt_u3uqnTO4nLf17ylIKGig2J5_Kjb52j9tnPX-PU&e=)**.**
* [**Different Shades of Bias: Skin Tone, Implicit Racial Bias, and Judgments of Ambiguous Evidence**](https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1315&context=wvlr)
  + In this study, **two groups of mock jurors were given a collection of race-neutral evidence** from an armed robbery, with **one group’s alleged perpetrator** being shown to be **light-skinned** and the other **dark-skinned.**
  + Jurors were **significantly more likely to evaluate ambiguous, race-neutral evidence against the dark-skinned suspect as incriminating** and more likely to **find the dark-skinned suspect guilty.**
* <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/PleaBargainingResearchSummary.pdf>
  + **Government aggregate** of data on **plea and charge bargaining**.
  + *“Studies that assess the effects of race find that* ***blacks are less likely to receive a reduced charge compared with whites.****”*
  + *“Studies have generally found a* ***relationship between race*** *and whether or not a defendant receives a reduced charge.”*
  + *“****The majority of research on race and sentencing*** *outcomes shows that* ***blacks are less likely than whites to receive reduced pleas.****“*
  + In short, collected data **strongly indicates a racial bias against blacks** with regards to sentencing and plea bargains.
* <https://www.yalelawjournal.org/article/mandatory-sentencing-and-racial-disparity-assessing-the-role-of-prosecutors-and-the-effects-of-booker>
  + **Black men are twice as likely** to have charges which carry **mandatory minimum sentences** filed against them than **similarly-situated white men**.
  + This article **recommends against the tightening of judicial discretion**, arguing that process has historically led to **greater racial sentencing disparities**.
* <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.821.8079&rep=rep1&type=pdf>
  + Black defendants with **multiple prior convictions** are **28% more likely** to be charged as **“habitual offenders”** than similarly-situated white defendants.
  + *“****Assessments of dangerousness and culpability*** *are* ***linked to race and ethnicity****, even after offense seriousness and prior record are controlled.”*
* <https://sci-hub.tw/https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/jels.12077>
  + A study of **first-time felons** in Georgia found black men received sentences of **on average 270 days longer** than similarly-situated white males.
  + However, when black males were **differentiated by skin tone**, it was found **light-skinned black men** saw **virtually no disparity in their sentencing** while **dark-skinned black men** actually saw a disparity of around 400 days in prison.
* <https://sci-hub.tw/https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1990324>
  + A study of bail in 5 large counties found **blacks received significantly higher bail** than whites who had **committed similar crimes**.
  + The bail was **$7,000 higher** for violent crimes, **$13,000 higher** for drug crimes and **$10,000** higher for crimes related to public order.
* <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/22746/413174-Examining-Racial-and-Ethnic-Disparities-in-Probation-Revocation.PDF>
  + The Urban Institute analyzed the histories of **four probation offices** and found **black people were 18-39% more likely** than similarly-situated white people to **have their probation revoked.**

## **Biases in Death Penalty Sentencing**

* <https://files.deathpenaltyinfo.org/legacy/documents/WashRaceStudy2014.pdf>
  + Analysis of 33 years of data from Washington State to **determine which characteristics best predict the decision** to implement a **death sentence.**
  + **Black defendants** are **4.5 times** as likely to receive a **death sentence** as similarly-situated whites.
  + **Other factors** (presence of aggravating circumstances, involvement of sex crimes, hostage-taking, etc.) explain only a **small fraction of the disparity** in prosecutors’ and juries’ decision to **invoke the death penalty against black defendents.**
  + **Race** was by far the **most influential statistical factor.**
* <https://www.uky.edu/AS/PoliSci/Peffley/pdf/Eberhardt.2006.Psych%20Sci.Looking%20Deathworthy.pdf>
  + Analysis of the relationship between **racial stereotyping** and **death sentence convictions**.
  + Black defendants who **possessed darker skin** and more **“stereotypically black” features** were **twice as likely to be given the death penalty** when accused of **murdering a white person**, as compared to **lighter-skinned blacks** with **less “stereotypically black**” features.
  + This disparity **disappears completely** when the murder victim is **black**.

## **Implicit Bias**

* [**DOES APPEARANCE MATTER?: THE EFFECT OF SKIN TONES ON TRUSTWORTHY AND INNOCENT APPEARANCES**](https://ir.ua.edu/bitstream/handle/123456789/3276/file_1.pdf)
  + **Photos of capital inmates** shown to entry-level **criminal justice students** for them to **evaluate the trustworthiness** of the faces.
  + Students rated pictures of **light-skinned inmates as more trustworthy** when they preceded **pictures of dark-skinned inmates.**
  + **Most study participants (79.9%) were white, but the study predicted that this wasn’t a major factor** - “When controlling for race, no statistically significant result was found. This suggests that each race, White and non-White, were consistent in their rating outcomes. **Prior research has found similar results, where Whites and light-skinned Blacks are likely to share similar attitudes towards darker-skinned Blacks”**
* [**Black Boys Viewed as Older, Less Innocent Than Whites, Research Finds**](https://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2014/03/black-boys-older)
  + **Students and police officers** participated in tests to determine **levels of racial bias and perception of innocence.**
  + **Black boys as young as 10** are more likely to be **considered criminal or untrustworthy,** and more likely to face police violence.
  + Police officers were **tested on dehumanization of blacks** by comparing people of different races to animal groups. Police who engaged in **higher levels of dehumanization** were more likely to use **violence against black children.**
* [**Racial Bias in Judgments of Physical Size and Formidability**](https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/releases/psp-pspi0000092.pdf)
  + Results from **three separate studies on perception and racial bias** show people have a tendency to **perceive black men as larger and more threatening** than similarly sized white men.
  + Participants also **believed the black men were more capable of causing harm** in a hypothetical altercation and **police would be more justified in using force to subdue them**, even if the men were unarmed.

# **LGBTQ Issues**

## **Transgender People are Valid**

* **Forward -** *an incomplete list of the reputable scientific & social organizations which affirm the validity of transgender people (that transness is not an illness, that trans people are deseving of respect and equal rights, etc). This also serves as a list of the institutions which recognize the difference between sex and gender.*
  + American Psychological Association
  + American Medical Association
  + American Psychoanalytic Association
  + Human Rights Campaign
  + American Academy of Pediatrics
  + American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
  + United Nations
  + United Kingdom’s National Health Service
* <https://www.apa.org/topics/lgbt/transgender>
  + **American Psychological Association** pamphlet on transgender issues
  + Affirms psychological consensus - that transgender people **are valid**, have **existed throughout history**, are **subject to discrimination**, and that transness is **not a mental disorder**.
* <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-gender-identity.pdf>
  + A 2008 **Gender Identity Resolution** by the **American Psychological Association** which expands upon the premises listed in the annotation above and supports total equality for transgender people - affirmation of the **institutional legitimacy of transness** in psychology.
* <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/orientation-diversity>
  + **Identical to the above**, essentially, except pertaining to **trans and gender-nonconforming youth**.
* <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/booklet.pdf>
  + **Booklet on LGBTQ issues** from the **American Psychological Association**, outlining their **policy and attitudes** towards aforementioned communities.
  + **Expressly positive**.
* <https://assets2.hrc.org/files/documents/SupportingCaringforTransChildren.pdf>
  + **Human Rights Campaign** document published with the **American Academy of Pediatrics** & the **American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians** which affirms the validity of **transgender youth**, encourages **appropriate care and respect** for their transness and provides resouces on how to do so.
* <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/gender-dysphoria/>
  + The UK’s **National Health Service** report on **gender dysphoria**, which affirms the **validity of trans people** and discusses ways in which **gender dysphoria** can be alleviated, the best of which is said to often be **social and physical transition**.
* <http://www.apsa.org/content/2012-position-statement-attempts-change-sexual-orientation-gender-identity-or-gender>
  + The **American Psychoanalytic Association’s** statement on gender identity, in which **transness is validated**, social stigma against transgender people is cited as a serious cause of harm and ‘**reparative therapy**’ - attempts to suppress one’s transness and force them to live as the gender they were assigned at birth - **is medically invalid**.
* <https://time.com/5596845/world-health-organization-transgender-identity/>
  + The **World Health Organization** recently stopped classifying **transness** as a **mental disorder**.
* <https://www.babcp.com/files/About/Press/Memorandum-of-Understanding-on-Conversion-Therapy-in-the-UK.pdf>
  + Multilateral **condemnation** of ‘conversion therapy’ from **essentially every medical institution in the United Kingdom**, with reasons provided.
* <https://www.unfe.org/about/>
  + Transphobia? The **United Nations** says no.

## **Gender Transition has a Positive Effect on Trans People**

* <https://whatweknow.inequality.cornell.edu/topics/lgbt-equality/what-does-the-scholarly-research-say-about-the-well-being-of-transgender-people/>
  + **ENORMOUS** meta-meta-analysis on transgender people and the effect gender transition has on their mental health
  + **Of 56 studies, 52** indicated transitioning has a **positive effect** on the mental health of transgender people and **4** indicated it had **mixed or no results**.
  + **ZERO** studies indicated gender transitioning has **negative results**
  + **This pretty much ends the argument right here.**
* <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/134/4/696>
  + Longitudinal study on the **effectiveness of puberty suppression & sex reassignment surgery** on trans individuals in improving mental outcomes
  + **Unambiguously positive results** - results indicate puberty suppression, support of medical professionals & SRS have markedly **beneficial outcomes** to trans individuals’ mental health and productivity.
* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1365-2265.2009.03625.x>
  + Meta-analysis of studies concerning individuals who underwent **sex reassignment surgery**
  + **80%** of individuals reported significant improvement in **dysphoria**
  + **78%** of individuals reported significant improvement in **psychological symptoms**
  + **72%** of individuals reported significant improvement in **sexual function**
* <https://www.jaacap.org/article/S0890-8567%2816%2931941-4/fulltext>
  + **Children who socially transition** report levels of depression and anxiety which **closely match** levels reported by **cisgender children**, indicating social transition massively decreases the risk factor of both.
* <https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-03/tes-sdc030615.php>
  + “*A new study has confirmed that* ***transgender youth often have mental health problems*** *and that their depression and anxiety* ***improve greatly with recognition******and treatment of gender dysphoria***”
* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6223813/>
  + Longitudinal study which indicates **transgender people** have a **lower quality of life** than the general population.
  + However, that quality of life **raises dramatically** with ‘**Gender Affirming Treatment**’, the nature of which is detailed extensively in-text.
* <https://www.wpath.org/media/cms/Documents/SOC%20v7/Standards%20of%20Care_V7%20Full%20Book_English.pdf>
  + **Extensive and incredibly interesting document** on the standards of care for **transgender** and **gender-nonconforming** individuals.
  + A good read, but **won’t win you any arguments.**

## **Trans People in Sports**

* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5357259/>
  + Meta-analysis covering prior research on **trans individuals’ performance in sports** and preexisting **sports policies** concerning trans people
  + Findings show there is **no consistent or direct research** indicating transgender women have an **unfair athletic advantage** at any **stage of their transition**.
  + Additional findings show most sports policies are **not evidence-based** and trans individuals experience **substantial discrimination** from sports institutions.

## **Sex is Complicated and not a Binary**

* <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/beyond-xx-and-xy-the-extraordinary-complexity-of-sex-determination/>
  + ***Scientific American*** graphic describing the many characteristics which factor into one's **sexual identity**.
  + Helpful in indicating the **ambiguous and bimodal** nature of sex/responding to people who believes it’s as simple as **XX/XY**
* <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/25/opinion/sex-biology-binary.html?ref=oembed>
  + NY Times Op-Ed from a professor of biology & gender studies
  + Explains the **biological complexity of sex** and the ways in which the **Trump Administration’s** attempts to legislate that complexity of of existence is both **immoral and unscientific.**
* <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2470289718803639>
  + Description of **modern scientific attitudes** towards **human sex**.
  + “*The view that the world’s population can be separated into a clearly defined dyadic unit of male and female is* ***defunct****; not only* ***clinical observations, but molecular biology*** *has established that* ***sexual identity is on a continuum****, with an* ***enormous potential for variance***”

## **Queer People are Still Oppressed (and that’s why their suicide rate is higher)**

* <https://assets2.hrc.org/files/assets/resources/2018-YouthReport-NoVid.pdf?_ga=2.134619825.1102244158.1526302453-846000759.1523970534>
  + **2018 LGBTQ Youth Report**
  + **HUGE** collection of data concerning difficulties LGBTQ people face
  + **67% of LGBTQ youth** hear their parents make **negative statements** about LGBTQ people - **rises to 78% if child is in closet**.
  + **48% of LGBTQ youth** say their family **makes them feel bad for their identity**
  + **This pretty much ends the argument right here**.
* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5178031/>
  + Broad international study of **trans suicide rate** (it’s quite high).
  + “***Gender-based victimization, discrimination, bullying, violence, being rejected by the family, friends, and community; harassment by intimate partner, family members, police and public; discrimination and ill treatment at health-care system are the major risk factors that influence the suicidal behavior among transgender persons***”.
* <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/AFSP-Williams-Suicide-Report-Final.pdf>
  + **Massive demographic analysis** which codifies the many **social & institutional factors** which contribute to **trans suicide rates**
  + Surprise surprise, discrimination & abuse play a huge role. **Read the summary**.
* <http://transpulseproject.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Impacts-of-Strong-Parental-Support-for-Trans-Youth-vFINAL.pdf>
  + Analysis of the ways in which **parental support** affect elements of disadvantage experienced by **transgender youth.**
  + Most notably, **strong parental support** decreases the likelihood of a **suicide attempt** within the past year from 57% to **just 4%**.
* <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs13178-018-0335-z>
  + **Analysis of crime & privacy violations** as they relate to concerns raised by those who advocate for ‘**trans bathroom bills**’
  + Analysis indicates there is **no empirical evidence to support these concerns**; such crimes & privacy violations are **exceptionally rare**. Calls for trans bathroom bills are **fearmongering**, plain and simple.
* <https://mountainscholar.org/bitstream/handle/10217/178827/Matthews_colostate_0053N_13859.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
  + Interesting (and long) qualitative analysis on the **depiction of transgender people in *Sports Illustrated*** over past decades.
  + Finds disproportionately **negative depictions** (of course).
  + **Worth reading; probably not going to win you an argument**.
* <https://tgeu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/MapB_TGEU2019.pdf>
  + 16 countries in Europe & Central Asia still **require sterilization** before transgender peoples’ gender identity can be **legally recognized**
* <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/national-security/trump-admin-tells-u-s-embassies-they-can-t-fly-n1015236>
  + News article - June 2019
  + **Trump Administration rejecting requests** from US embassies to **fly the rainbow pride flag** on embassies’ main banner during **Pride Month**
* <https://www.hrc.org/blog/new-report-on-youth-homeless-affirms-that-lgbtq-youth-disproportionately-ex>
  + **LGBTQ youth** are **120% (2.2x)** as likely to **experience homelessness** as cisgender and heterosexual youth.
  + **Up to 40%** of the homeless youth population is **LGBTQ**
  + Cited possibility for this discrepancy being LGBTQ youth getting kicked out of the home by **unwelcoming/openly hostile family**.
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_employment_discrimination_in_the_United_States>
  + **LGBTQ employment discrimination is still far from a settled issue**.
  + A point of note - in 2017, the **Trump Administration** used the Department of Justice to **revoke an Obama-era Title VII policy** which **protected transgender employees from discrimination**.

# **Immigration**

## **Immigration Doesn’t Really Hurt Wages**

* <https://www.nber.org/papers/w12497.pdf>
  + **National Bureau of Economic Research** paper on the effects immigration has on wages in the United States
  + Study contends **previous analyses** on the relationship between immigration and wages **falsely assumed perfect labor substitutability between immigrants and native workers** of similar education levels, distorting results
  + Research shows average American wage **RISES due to immigration**, both short-term and long-term
  + **Only native demographic whose wages drop are High School dropouts** who suffer a decrease in wages of approximately **~2% short-term, alleviating to ~1.1% over time.**
  + Study finds **new immigration does severely impact wages of prior immigrants**, suggesting **lack of substitutability with \*natives**.
  + Overall, **vast majority of American workers’ wages increase from immigration**, High School dropouts (<10% of population) experience a slight **decrease which alleviates with time** (and there is evidence that immigration [**may increase native High School graduation rates**](https://www.nber.org/papers/w18047.pdf), too).
* <https://sci-hub.tw/https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0927537114000566>
  + **Similar research to the above paper**, except conducted on the **French labor market.**
  + Findings are **near-identical**; immigration leads to **across-the-board wage increases** for all except a **small minority of low-education native workers**.
  + Reaffirms conclusion that there is **low substitutability between native workers and immigrant workers**.
* <http://davidcard.berkeley.edu/papers/mariel-impact.pdf>
  + Famous research on the **Mariel Boatlift** and the impact of a **wave of Cuban immigrants (mostly low-skilled)** on the economy of **Miami**.
  + Research found essentially **no impact on native wages**, even for **low-skilled workers**, despite the Mariel Boatlift **increasing Miami’s labor force by seven percent.**
  + Even **former Cuban immigrants** didn’t seem to be affected.

## **Immigration Is Just Good in General**

* <https://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2016/1/27/the-effects-of-immigration-on-the-united-states-economy>
  + **Extensive summary** on the **effects immigration has on the US economy,** with sources
  + “While some policymakers have **blamed immigration for slowing U.S. wage growth** since the 1970s, most **academic research finds little long run effect on Americans’ wages”**.
  + “The available evidence suggests that **immigration leads to more innovation, a better educated workforce, greater occupational specialization, better matching of skills with jobs, and higher overall economic productivity”.**
  + “Immigration also has a **net positive effect** on combined **federal, state, and local budgets**”.
  + “Economists generally agree that the **effects of immigration on the U.S. economy are broadly positive**”.

## **Diversity Doesn’t Hurt Social Cohesion**

White supremacists will often argue racial diversity leads to less social cohesion than racial homogeneity. The data disagrees. Credit to Mouthy Infidel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqctWuiqMJBehe1BH0JKtg>) for this research.

* <https://sci-hub.tw/https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev-soc-071913-043309#article-denial>
  + **Enormous meta-analysis of 90 cross-sectional studies analyzing relationship between diversity & social cohesion.**
  + Vast majority of studies on the subject **fail to prove the relationship** between two variables.
  + In fact, study finds **positive relationship** between **inter-ethnic contact & trust** in ethnically heterogeneous communities.
  + **Only contrary data** shows **small-scale (intra-neighborhood) trust suffers** with ethnic heterogeneity in **some circumstances,** and even then **only in America**.
  + Plurality of data **does not support - and largely contradicts -** assertion that diversity hurts social cohesion.
* <https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/laibson/files/measuring_trust.pdf>
  + Study which tested around **200 students in a trust based experiment** and compared results from **diverse groups and homogenous** groups .
  + Finds **no statistically significant negative relationship** between **diversity and social cohesion.**
* <https://psycnet.apa.org/buy/2018-13651-001>
  + Study examining a **range of experiments** meant to gauge the relationship **between diversity and social cohesion.**
  + Study finds **all of the experiments** found a **positive relationship between diversity and social cohesion.**
  + **Proposed mechanism** is that **diversity** causes people to **identify more broadly with humanity, increasing sociability.**
* <http://www.fisherwilliamson.com/downloads/MPSA040508.FINAL2.pdf>
  + Longitudinal study comparing the **change in social cohesion over time** in an area which **experienced a large increase in diversity** with a **comparative control which didn’t.**
  + The two areas **did not differ significantly** in how their levels of **social cohesion changed over time**, suggesting the increased level of diversity had **no statistically significant impact on social cohesion.**
* <https://sci-hub.tw/https://academic.oup.com/sf/article-abstract/93/3/1211/2332107?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
  + Another longitudinal study analyzing **changes in trust in 22 European countries** between the years **2002 and 2010**.
  + Study suggests **immigration often leads to decrease in social trust**, but results were **heavily affected by ethnic polarization & economic stability**.
  + With low polarization and a good economy, immigration was shown to actually **increase social trust**.
  + Results suggest **it isn’t the diversity of immigrants** which lessens trust, but rather the **economic and political context in which they arrive.**

# **Holocaust Denial**

There is an enormous body of historical research concerning the Holocaust, none of which holocaust deniers care to engage with. They are conspiracists, regurgitating already-debunked talking points which “question the official narrative” but do not engage with existing research. This is because, no matter how tenacious they are in their ignorance, their talking points are very easy to disprove. Here are a few rebuttals to those talking points, though not all unsubstantiated denier claims warranted an academic paper in response.

The Liberal Sanity Project, who helped with this document, has a good video on this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_YFgugVhns&t=1s>

***“The estimated number of Jewish deaths in the Holocaust is wildly overinflated.”***

* + [This extensive and well-sourced post](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/76avmk/how_do_we_estimate_the_number_of_jewish_deaths_in/doco9me/) explains how modern historians arrived at their estimation of Jewish Holocaust deaths (5.4 - 6.2 million).
  + There is lively academic debate within that range (Nazis kept poor records so we will never have a completely accurate answer) but no serious historian believes in any figure which deviates significantly from that range.
  + A passage from *Denying History* - *Historians are the ones who should be described as revisionists. To receive a Ph.D. and become a professional historian, one must write an original work with research based on primary documents and new sources, reexamining or reinterpreting some historical event—in other words, revising knowledge about that event only. This is not to say, however, that revision is done for revision’s sake; it is done when new evidence or new interpretations call for a revision.*

*Historians have revised and continue to revise what we know about the Holocaust. But their revision entails refinement of detailed knowledge about events, rarely complete denial of the events themselves, and certainly not denial of the cumulation of events known as the Holocaust.*

*Holocaust deniers claim that there is a force field of dogma around the Holocaust—set up and run by the Jews themselves—shielding it from any change. Nothing could be further from the truth. Whether or not the public is aware of the academic debates that take place in any field of study, Holocaust scholars discuss and argue over any number of points as research continues. Deniers do know this.*

***“Zyklon B is just a delousing agent, it can’t kill people! It was used to clean clothes! Also, even if it was lethal, why do some “gas chambers”*** [***lack the blue stain Zyklon B leaves on walls***](https://i.imgur.com/X5n9l6f.jpg)***?”***

* + First of all, Zyklon B can absolutely be used to kill. Just Wikipedia it.
  + Secondly, Zyklon B must be used in higher concentrations to kill lice than it need be to kill humans. It’s more economical to use less gas, so the blue gas residue wouldn’t form as easily in gas chambers.
  + Third, Zyklon B residue can be easily cleaned from walls, and Nazis made every effort to destroy evidence of the Holocaust as Soviet soldiers marched in.
  + Fourth, even this stupid image acknowledges there are traces of (again, easily-cleanable) Zyklon B in the gas chamber.

***“The Auschwitz memorial plaque death figure suddenly*** [***CHANGED from 4 million dead to 1.5 million dead***](https://i.imgur.com/P1scrSN.jpg)***. What are they hiding?”***

* + The 4 million figure was initially published by the Soviet State Commission in 1945, long before any reliable estimates were available.
  + As new information is made available, historians revise general knowledge of the subject. This is how the field of history works.

***“The “gas chamber” doors were*** [***made from WOOD***](https://i.imgur.com/iQ4blnJ.jpg)***. They clearly weren’t meant to contain people.”***

* + The wooden doors presented in these images led to delousing rooms, not gas chambers. These are literally just pictures of wooden doors. It is not known what the original gas chamber doors looked like because Nazis destroyed those facilities before Soviet soldiers arrived.
  + [This door](https://i.imgur.com/A0T8lNZ.jpg), however, was found in the building yard of Auschwitz and is believed to be the kind used in their gas chambers.
  + The doors may have been destroyed, but the receipts for those doors were not. [This receipt](https://i.imgur.com/1ZRz9FO.png) calls for an order *“on 6/3/1943 concerning the delivery of a gas tight door 100 x 192 cm for cellar I of Krematorium III, to be produced to the identical pattern and dimensions as the cellar door of Krematorium II which is situated opposite, with peephole of double 8 mm glass, with rubber sealing strip and frame.”*

***“The camp crematoriums could not have handled that many bodies! It takes 4-8 hours to cremate a body.”***

* + It takes 1-5 hours to cremate a *civilian* body at a *professional service*. It takes far less time to cremate a body in an industrial furnace when speed takes priority over cleanliness and decency.
  + Also, Holocaust victims were not cremated one at a time. Toph and Sons (the makers of the Auschwitz crematoriums) claimed their units could handle 4-6 bodies an hour.
  + *The bodies were ". . . sorted according to their combustibility: for the bodies of the well-nourished were to help burn the emaciated. Under the direction of the Kapos, the bearers began sorting the dead into four stacks. The largest consisted mainly of strong men, the next in size of women, then came children, and lastly a stack of dead Mussulmans, emaciated and nothing but skin and bones. This technique was called 'express work,' a designation thought up by the Kommandoführers and originating from experiments carried out in crematorium 5 in the autumn of 1943. The purpose of these experiments was to find a way of saving coke. . . . Thus the bodies of two Mussulmans were cremated together with those of two children or the bodies of two well-nourished men together with that of an emaciated woman, each load consisting of three, or sometimes, four bodies." Filip Müller, Sonderkommando - Filip Müller*
  + When crematoriums failed, they used burning pits.

***“The Red Cross visited a “death camp” and*** [***found that it wasn’t inhumane***](https://i.imgur.com/kIACOBc.jpg)***!”***

* + The Red Cross inspectors were not allowed to visit the parts of the camp intended for genocide and the had Nazis prepared their camp for scrutiny, deporting the near-dead and sanitizing the presented facilities.
  + *"I repeatedly witnessed guided tours of civilians and also of commissions of the Red Cross and other parties within the camp, and I was able to ascertain that the camp leadership arranged it masterfully to conduct these guided tours in such a way that the people being guided around did not see a\*hing about inhuman treatment. The main camp was shown only and in this main camp there were so-called show blocks, particularly block 13, that were especially prepared for such guided tours and that were equipped like a normal soldier's barracks with beds that had sheets on them, and well-functioning washrooms." - SS-Untersturmführer Hans Münch*
  + Additionally, that letter tallying camp deaths is attributable to the International Tracing Service, not the Red Cross. They tally estimates, not records, and are not historically relevant.

***“The prisoners at Auschwitz*** [***had a swimming pool***](https://jan27.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/auschwitz-swimming-pool-ladder.jpg)***! And a band! And a brothel! And a goddamn soccer team! And a dentist! Some prison, huh?”***

* + All these amenities were present at Auschwitz I - the main camp, which held POWs, not Holocaust victims. The infamous extermination camp was Auschwitz-Birkenau. Also, the band and “pool” were for the guards exclusively. The “pool’s” main purpose [was actually that of a backup water reservoir](http://holocaustcontroversies.blogspot.com/2017/05/rebutting-twitter-denial-most-popular.html#auschwitzswimmingpool).
  + Even if these amenities were present at Auschwitz-Birkenau, it wouldn’t disprove anything concerning the Holocaust.

# **Miscellaneous**

* <https://whatweknow.inequality.cornell.edu/topics/lgbt-equality/what-does-the-scholarly-research-say-about-the-wellbeing-of-children-with-gay-or-lesbian-parents/>
  + **ENORMOUS** meta-meta-analysis on the **wellbeing of children** with **same-sex parents.**
  + **75 of 79 studies affirmed** children of same-sex couples **fare no worse** than children of opposite-sex couples.
  + The few dissenting studies acknowledge **social prejudice may explain worse outcomes.**
  + **OVERWHELMING academic consensus** from **three decades** of study.
* <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/01/17/generation-z-looks-a-lot-like-millennials-on-key-social-and-political-issues/>/
  + Contrary to common belief, **Generation Z is more left-leaning than any prior generation of Americans**.
  + Generation Z people are **most likely** to - know a person who uses **they/them pronouns**, recognize the **systematic mistreatment of black people**, believe the government should play a role in **addressing social issues**, acknowledge humans’ role in **climate change**, champion **racial/ethnic diversity**, and support **same-sex/interracial marriage**.

<https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3660&context=faculty_scholarship>

<https://www.nber.org/papers/w27408.pdf>

<https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4200>

<https://users.nber.org/~sewp/events/2005.01.14/Bios+Links/Good-rec2-Steele_&_Aronson_95.pdf>

<https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/pubs/journals/MQ-Frost_1468-0009.12080.pdf>

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.915.9087&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

<https://www.law.umich.edu/special/exoneration/Documents/Race_and_Wrongful_Convictions.pdf>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/pops.12670>

# **Studies to Watch Out For**

* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21364939>
  + **Commonly cited by transphobes** to indicate sexual reassignment surgery **HARMS trans people**, increases risk of suicide.
  + **BAD DATA**. Control group for post-transition trans individuals was CISGENDER people - **post-SRS trans participants weren’t compared to pre-SRS trans participants, they were compared to cis paticipants.** Methodology **DOES NOT PROVE** intended point.
* <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0202330>
  + **Commonly cited by transphobes** to indicate transness spreads socially, that exposure to trans material might encourage youth to be trans. **“Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria”**.
  + **BAD DATA**. This study polled **PARENTS, not the actual children**, and those polls were taken online, *and* those sites were **biased by nature** - ‘*4thwavenow, transgendertrend, y\*ls*’.
  + **Horrendously, pathetically inept data collection.** Anyone who cites this **should** **be laughed at.**