

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Soc 1101: Summer 2023

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Crime & Punishment

Lecture 19

TODAY'S LECTURE OUTLINE

- **Crime rates and mass incarceration in the US**
 - **Incarceration and disparities**
- **Explanations for criminal behavior**
 - **Biological**
 - **Bio-social interactions**
 - **Sociological**
- **Next lecture: Social Networks**

DEVIANCE

Informal Deviance

bizarre
clothing, nose
picking, facial
tattoos


CRIME

Formal Deviance

murder,
sexual
assault

Parking ticket,
speeding violation,
underage drinking

Source: Giddens, Duneier, Applebaum, and Carr. 2016. *Introduction to Sociology*



Since 2008, do you think crime in the country has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same...

A)Gotten better

B)Gotten worse

C)Stayed about the same

Crime in the country

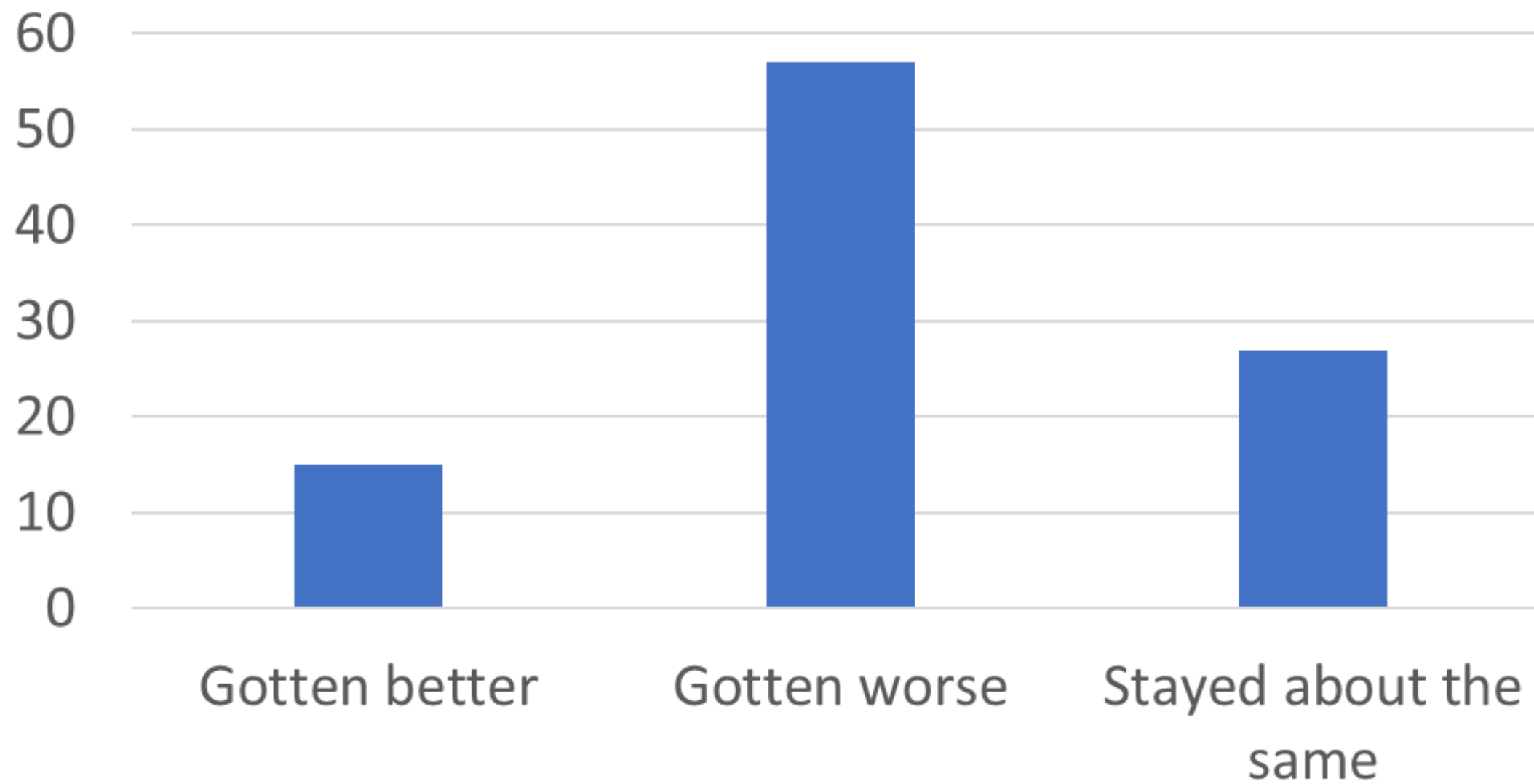
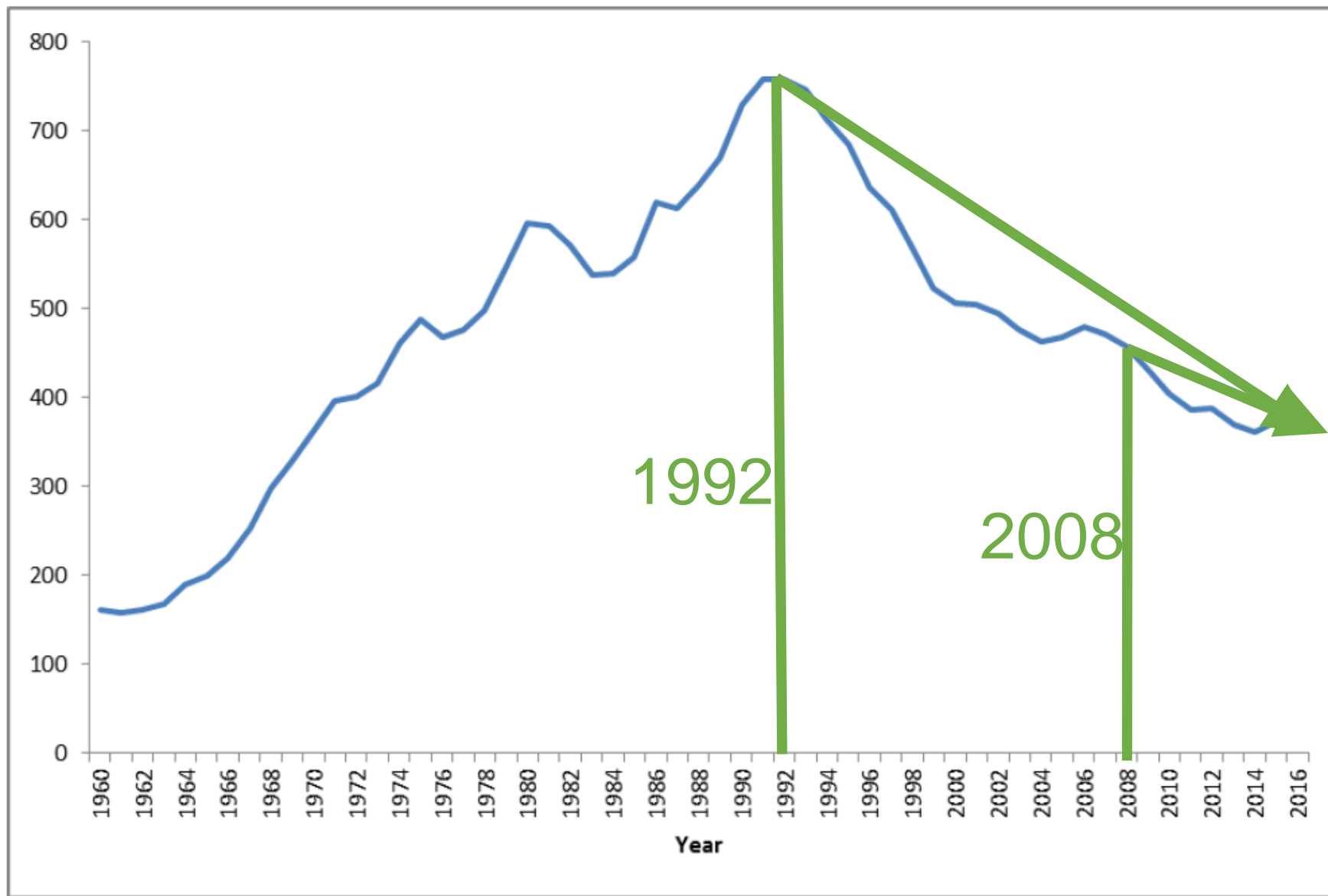


Figure 1. National Violent Crime Rate, 1960-2016

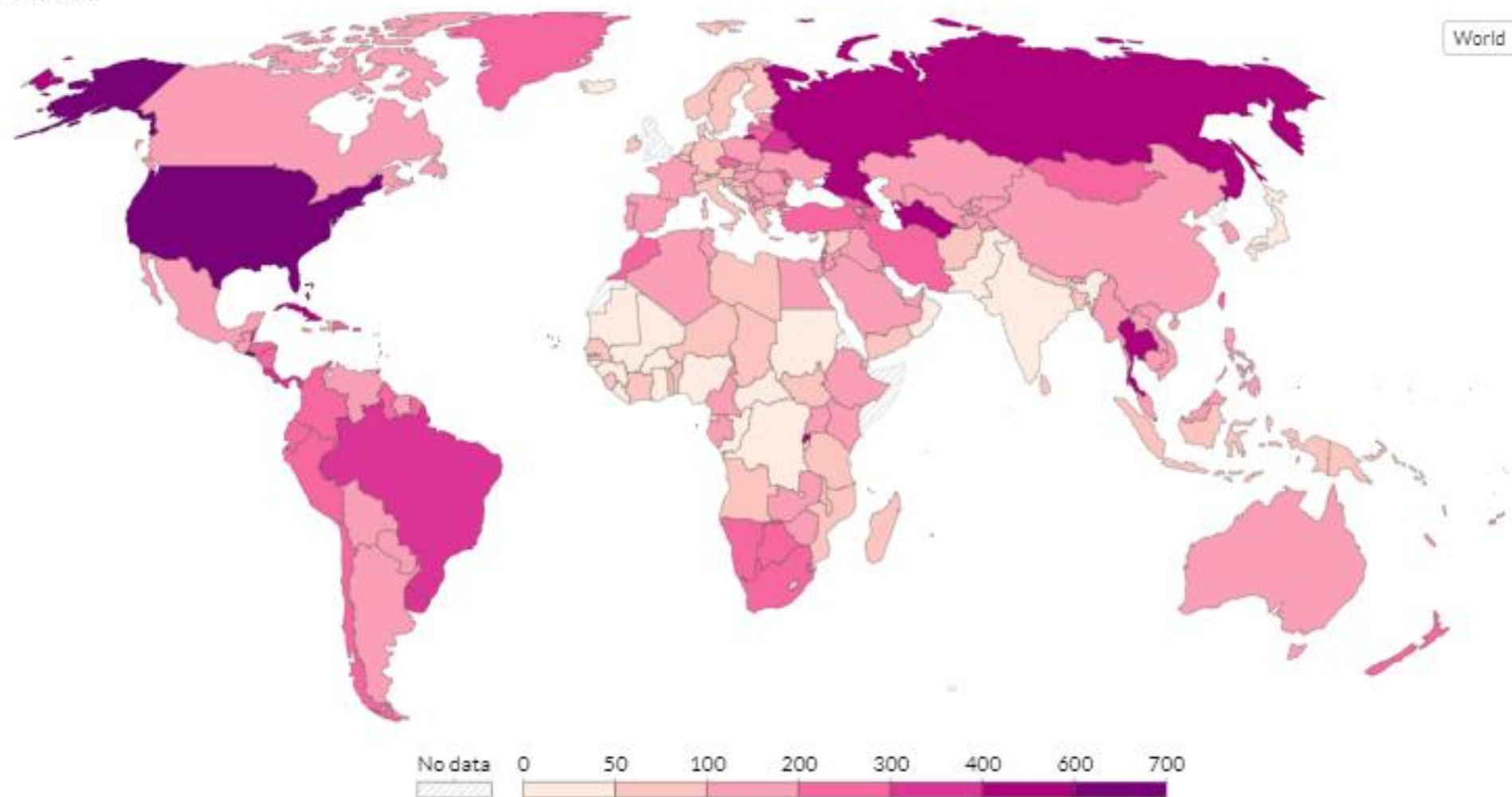
Rate per 100,000 people



Prison population rate

Prison population rates are measured as the number of prisoners per 100,000 people in a population. Shown is data for 2018 or the latest available data before 2018.

World



Source: World Prison Brief (2018)

OurWorldInData.org/covid-excess-mortality • CC BY

CHART

MAP

TABLE

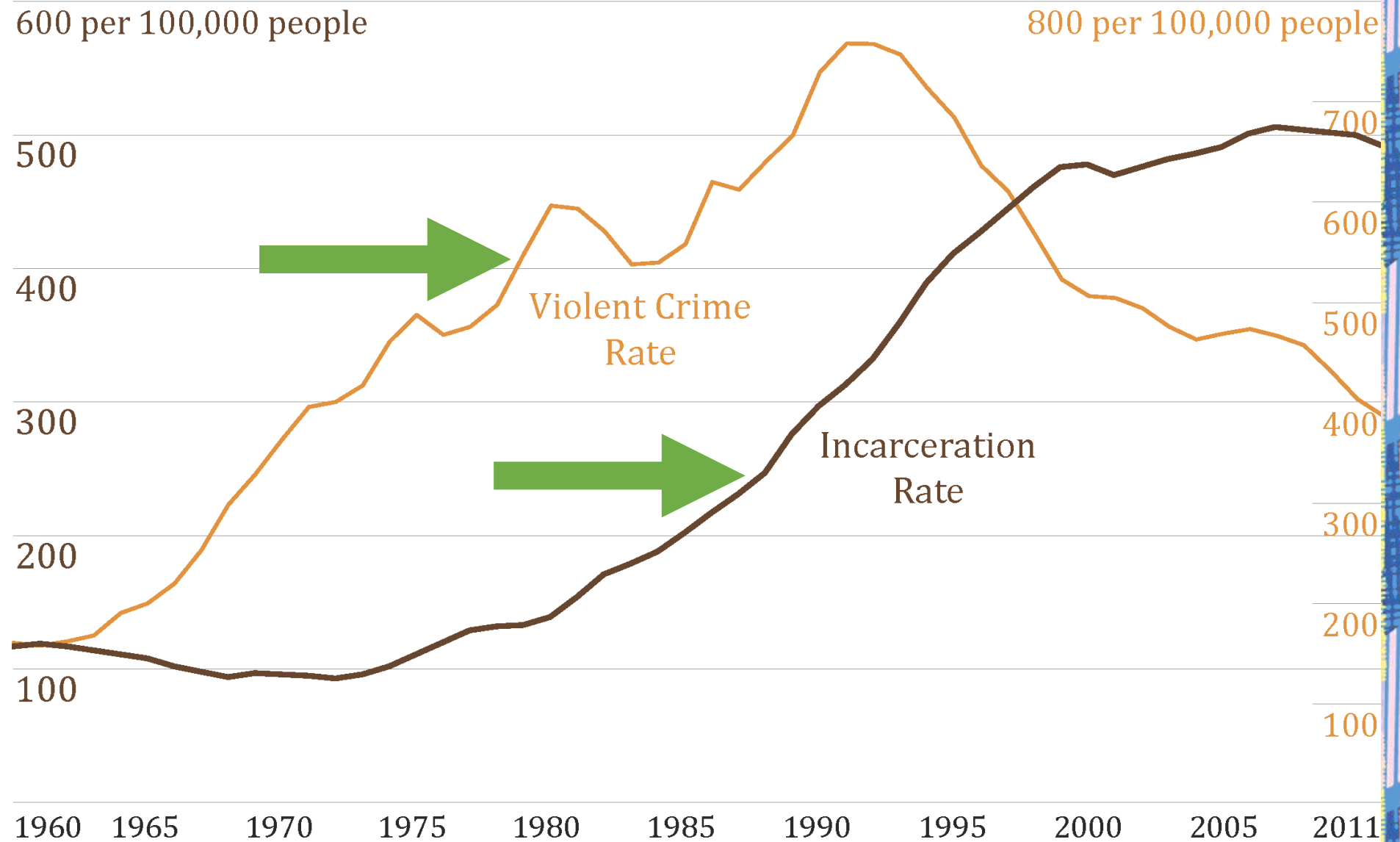
SOURCES

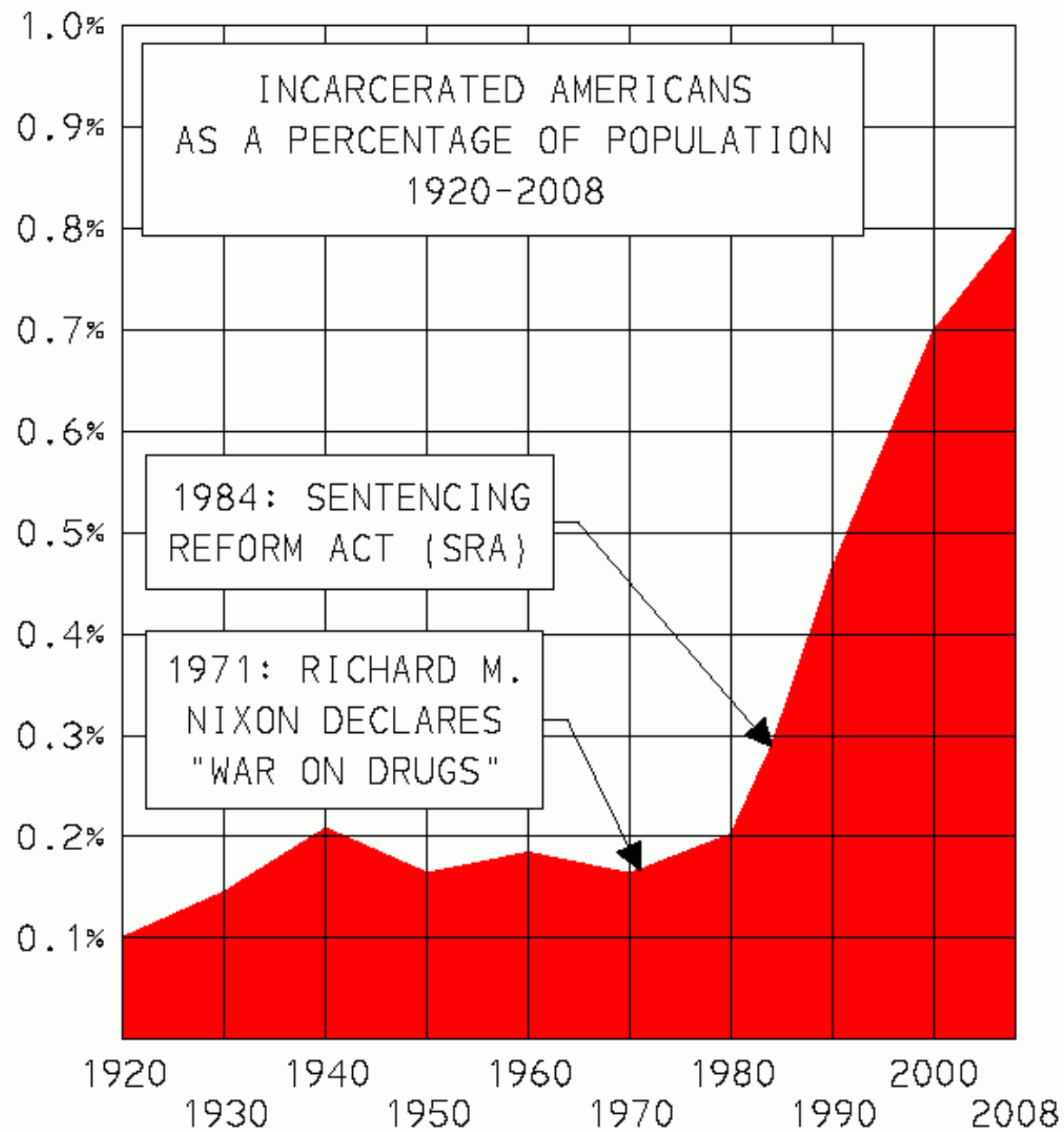
DOWNLOAD

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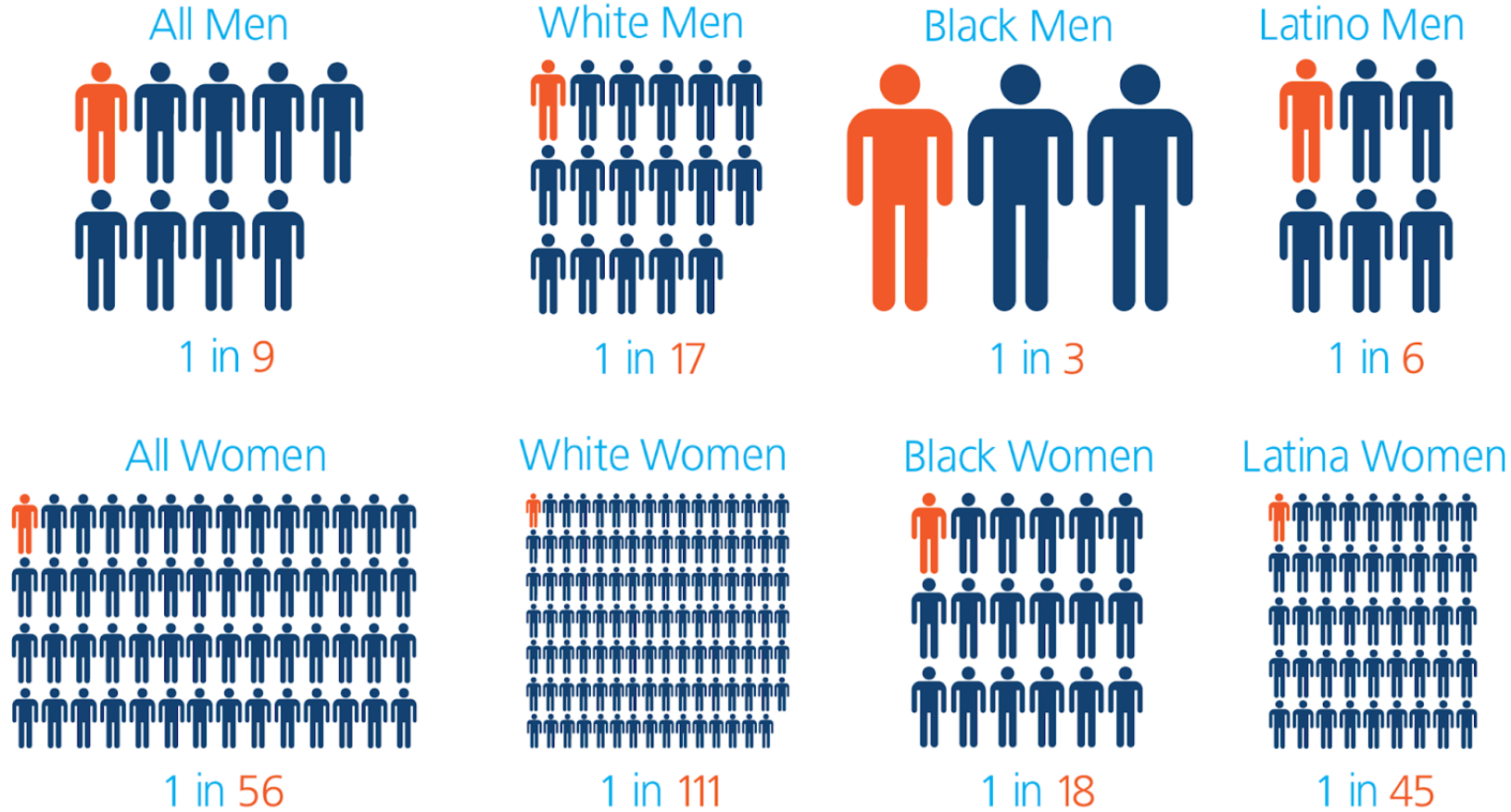
Full Screen

U.S. Incarceration & Violent Crime Rates





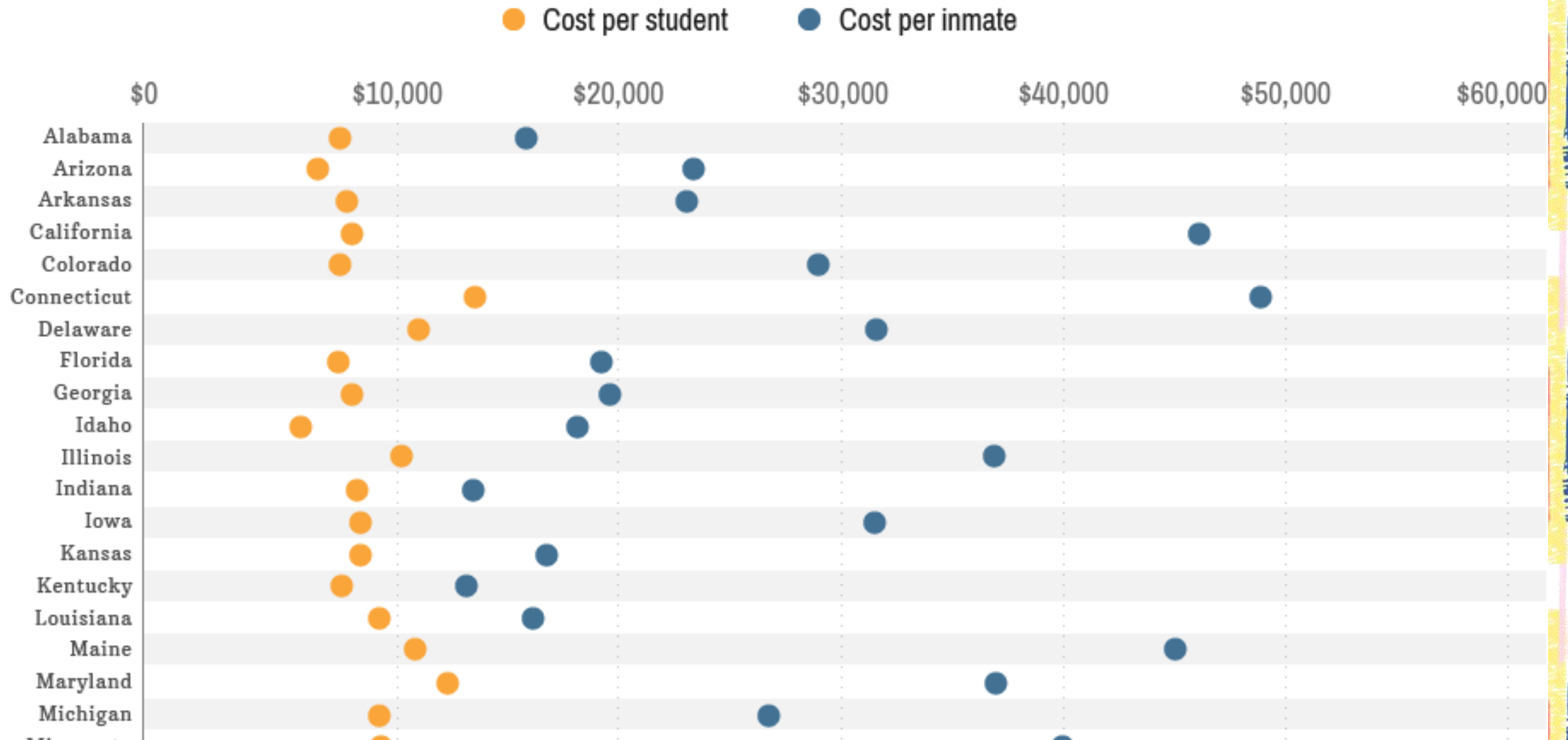
Lifetime Likelihood of Imprisonment



Source: Bonczar, T. (2003). *Prevalence of Imprisonment in the U.S. Population, 1974–2001*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics



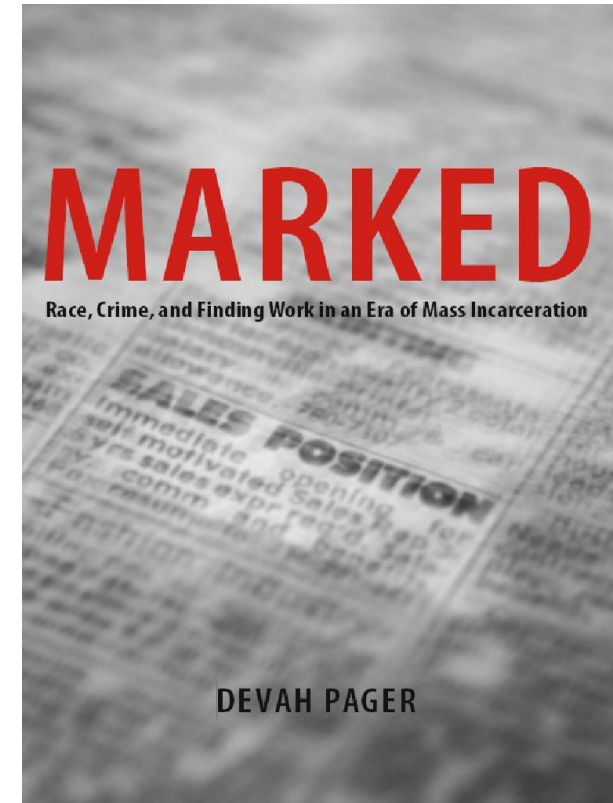
THE COST OF EDUCATION VS. THE COST OF INCARCERATION



THE MARK OF A CRIMINAL RECORD

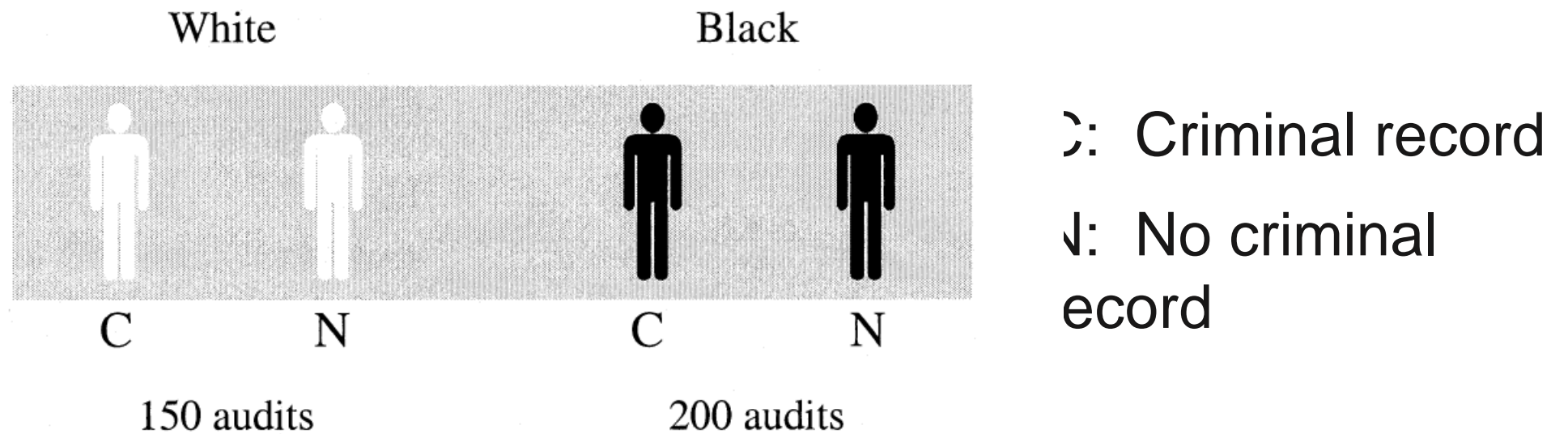


Devah Pager
Harvard sociologist



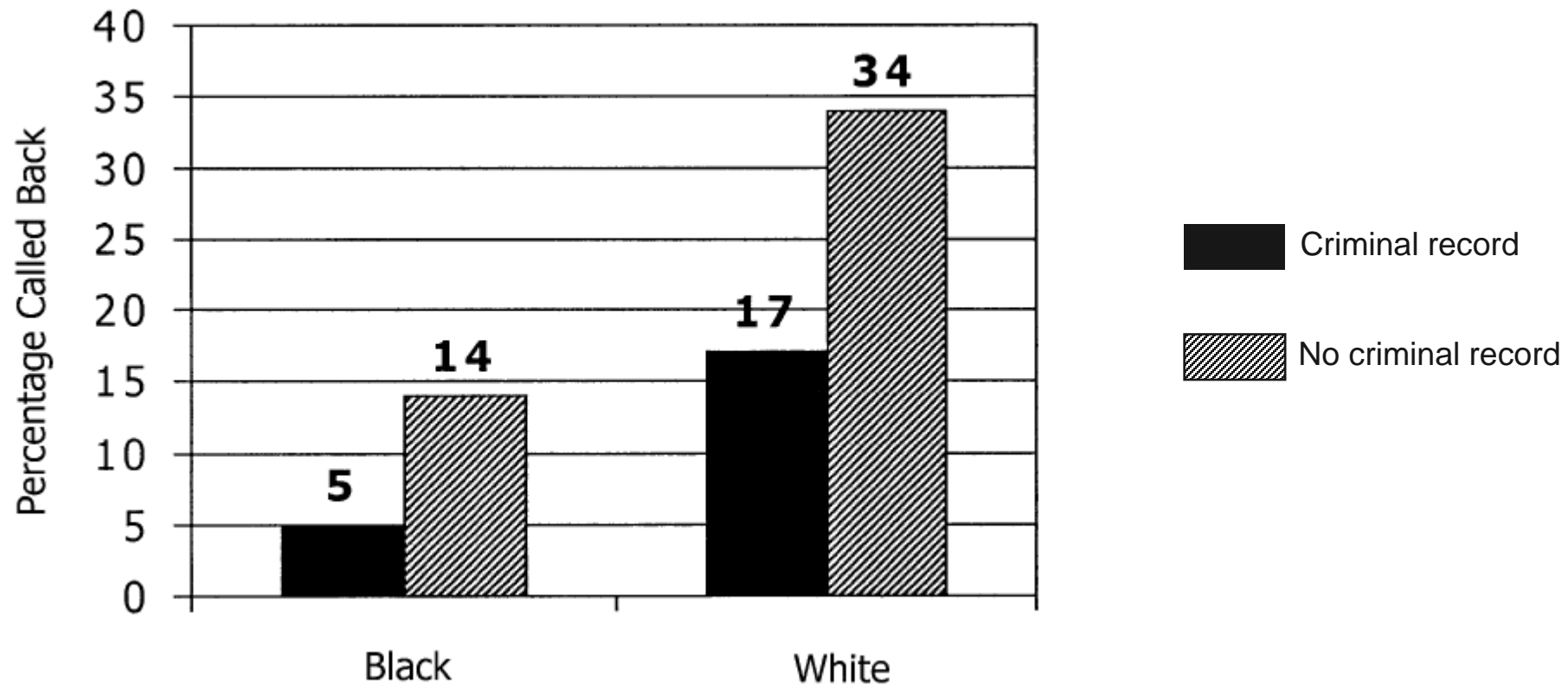
The Research Question

- **Audit study in Milwaukee, WI**



- Experiment designed to isolate the effect of a criminal record and detect racial discrimination

The Impact of a Criminal Record on Interview Callbacks, by Race



CRIME AND BIOLOGY: PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS



CRIME AND BIOLOGY: PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

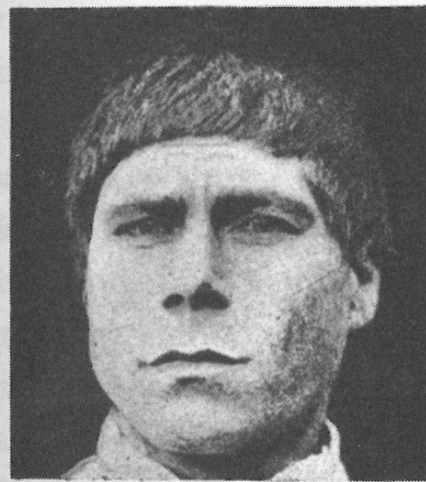


Fig. 20. Tipo di razza inferiore - Ladro abituale.

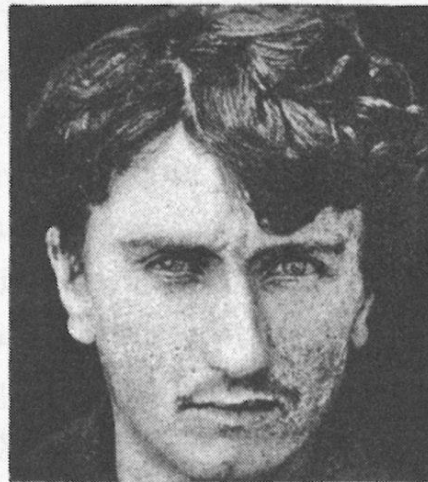


Fig. 23. Tipo comune di ladro - Ladro abituale.

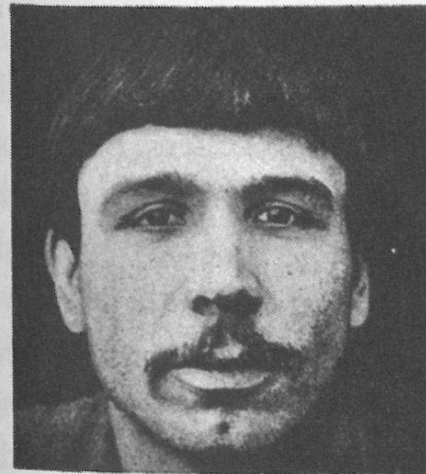


Fig. 21. Tipo di razza inferiore - Ladro abituale e forziere.

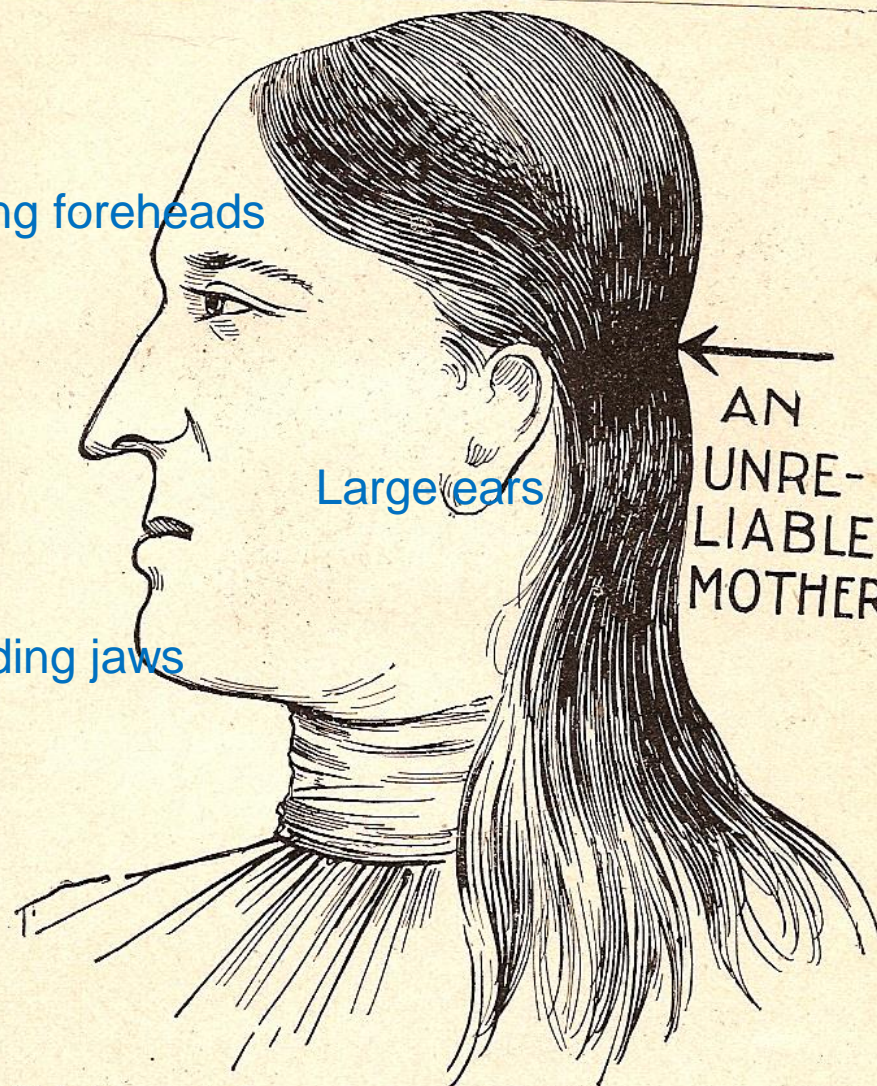


Fig. 24. Tipo comune di ladro (degenerato) - Borsaiuolo.

receding foreheads

Large ears

Protruding jaws

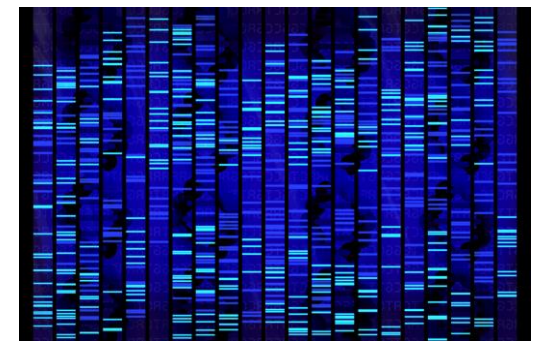


AN
UNRE-
LIABLE
MOTHER

This is a striking illustration. It will pay all to remember this head formation and especially all men who would select wives who will make good mothers.

SLOVENLINESS

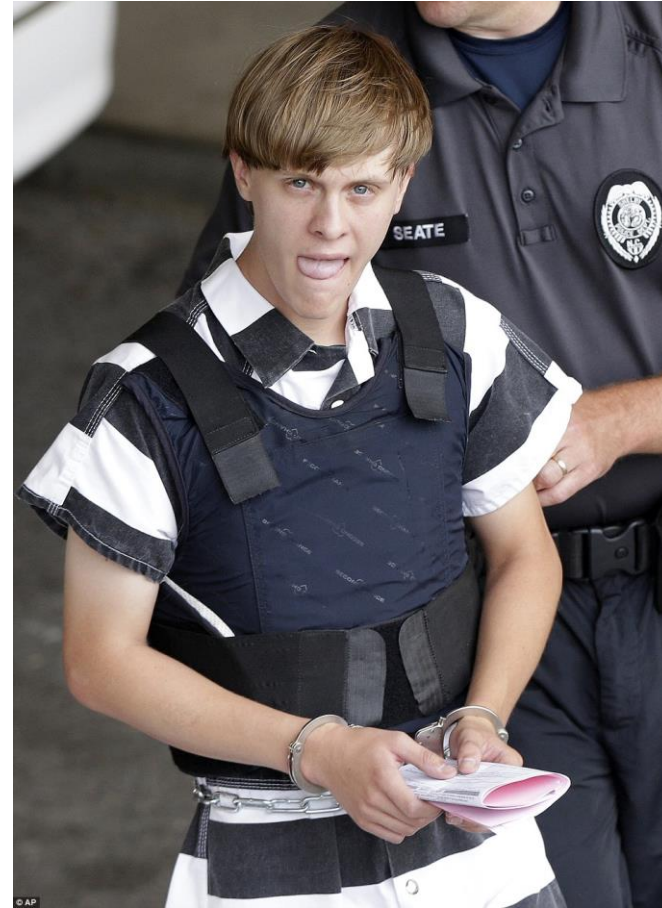
CRIME AND BIOLOGY: GENETIC FACTORS



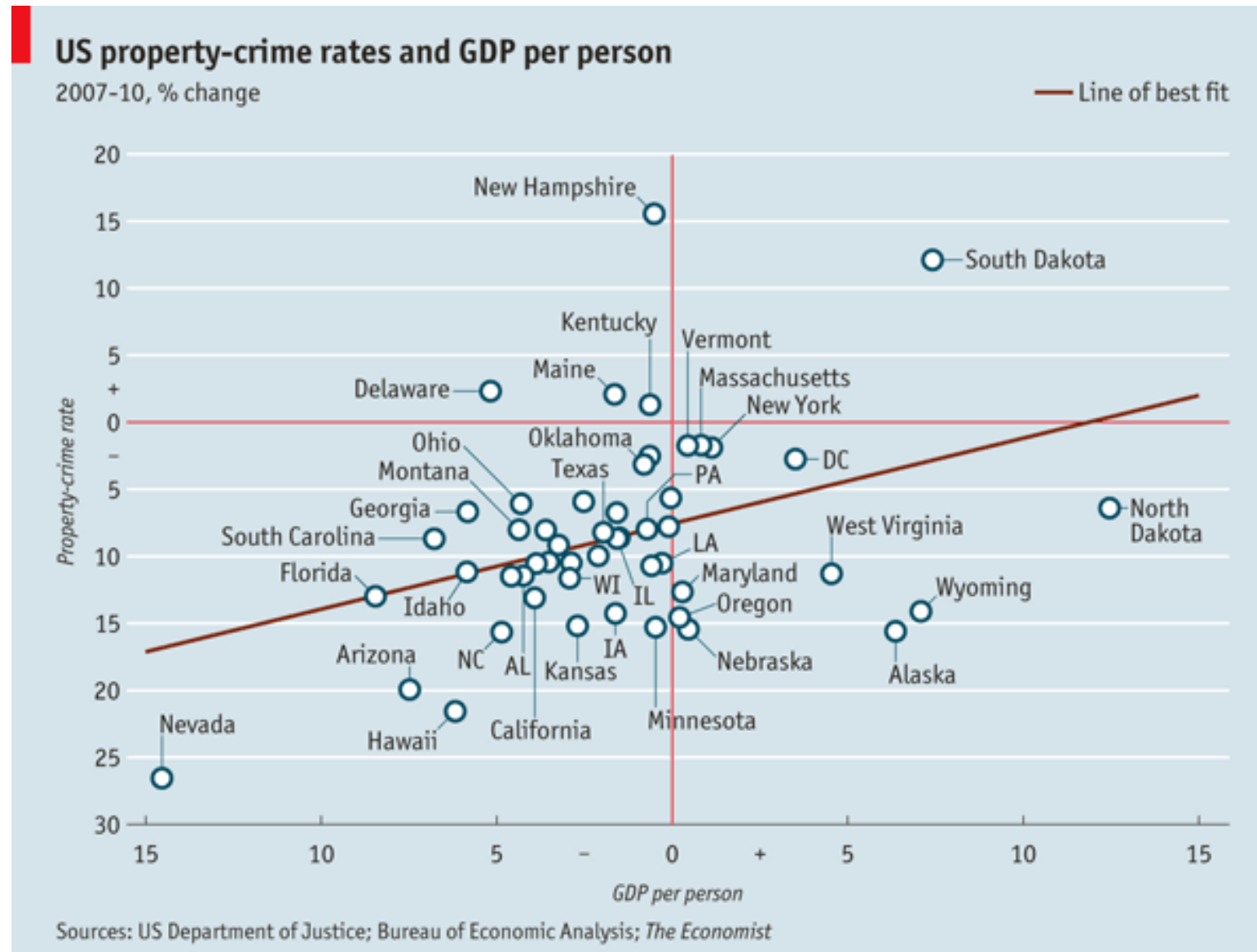
Genetic Relatedness and Behavioural Similarities		
Genetic Relatedness	Number of Pairs	Correlation coefficient
MZ twins	62	0.59
DZ twins	73	0.21
Full siblings (non-divorced family)	58	0.10
Full siblings (step families)	94	0.13
Half siblings	60	<0.01

Article link: [Aggressive Behavior between Siblings and the Development of Externalizing Problems: Evidence from a Genetically Sensitive Study - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)
64 2 4 0.pdf (uscourts.gov)

CRIME AND PSYCHOLOGY



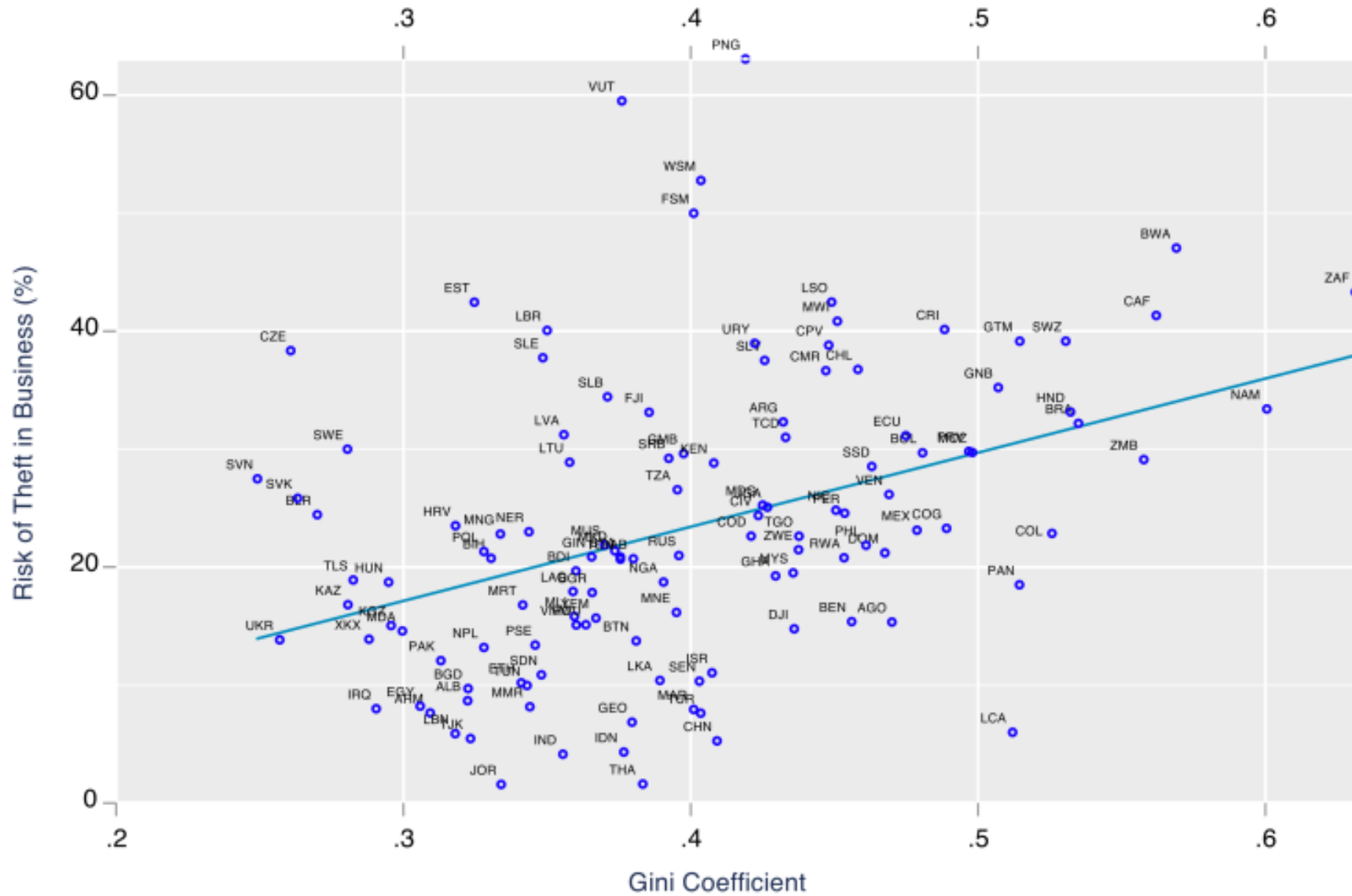
CRIME AND ECONOMICS



WHY?

CRIME AND SOCIOLOGY

Structural strain theory: Individuals may commit crime when there is high consensus over valuable goals but a lack of legitimate means to achieve those goals.



If inequality is rising with income, more people might be lacking the means to achieve the desirable ends. (Merton's Structural Strain Theory)

CRIME AND SOCIOLOGY

Anomie (or deviance) results when a society develops social norms that a significant part of the population is unable to realize

ANOMIE, STATE AND MAFIA

- **State: A human community that successfully claims the monopoly of the legitimate use of physical force within a given territory (Weber, 1946)**
- **When state authority weakens and fails, lawlessness, including criminal gangs take over.**

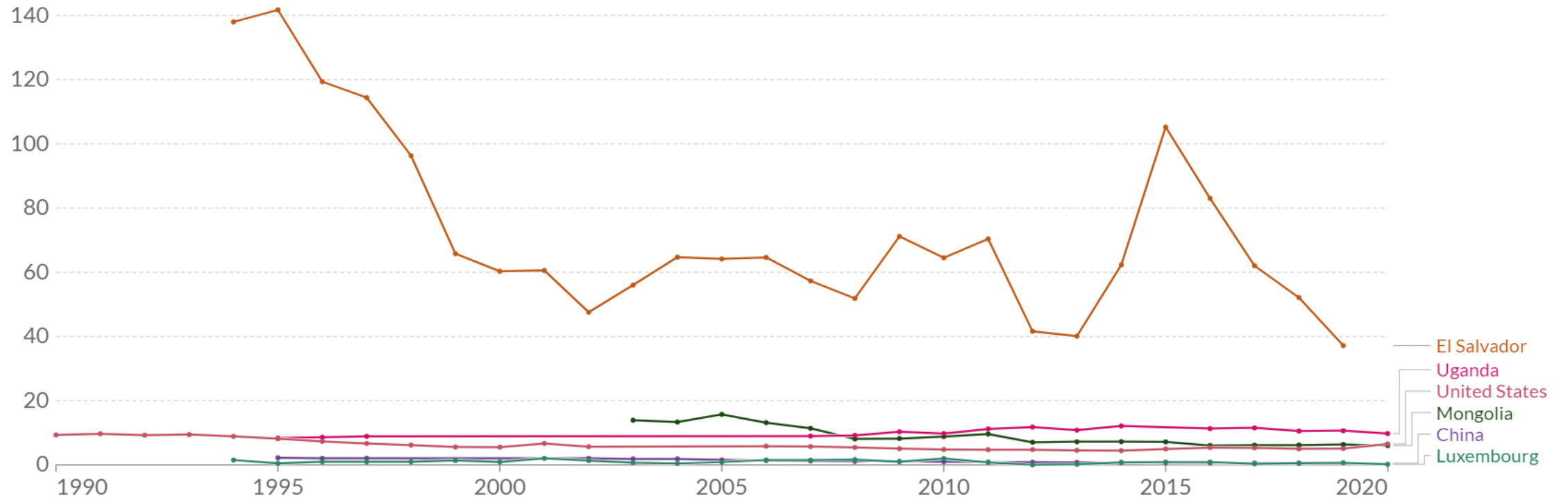
Homicide rate, 1990 to 2020

Annual number of deaths from homicide per 100,000 people.

Our World
in Data

+ Add country or region

All together ▾



Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2022)

OurWorldInData.org/homicides • CC BY

1990 2020

CHART

MAP

TABLE

SOURCES

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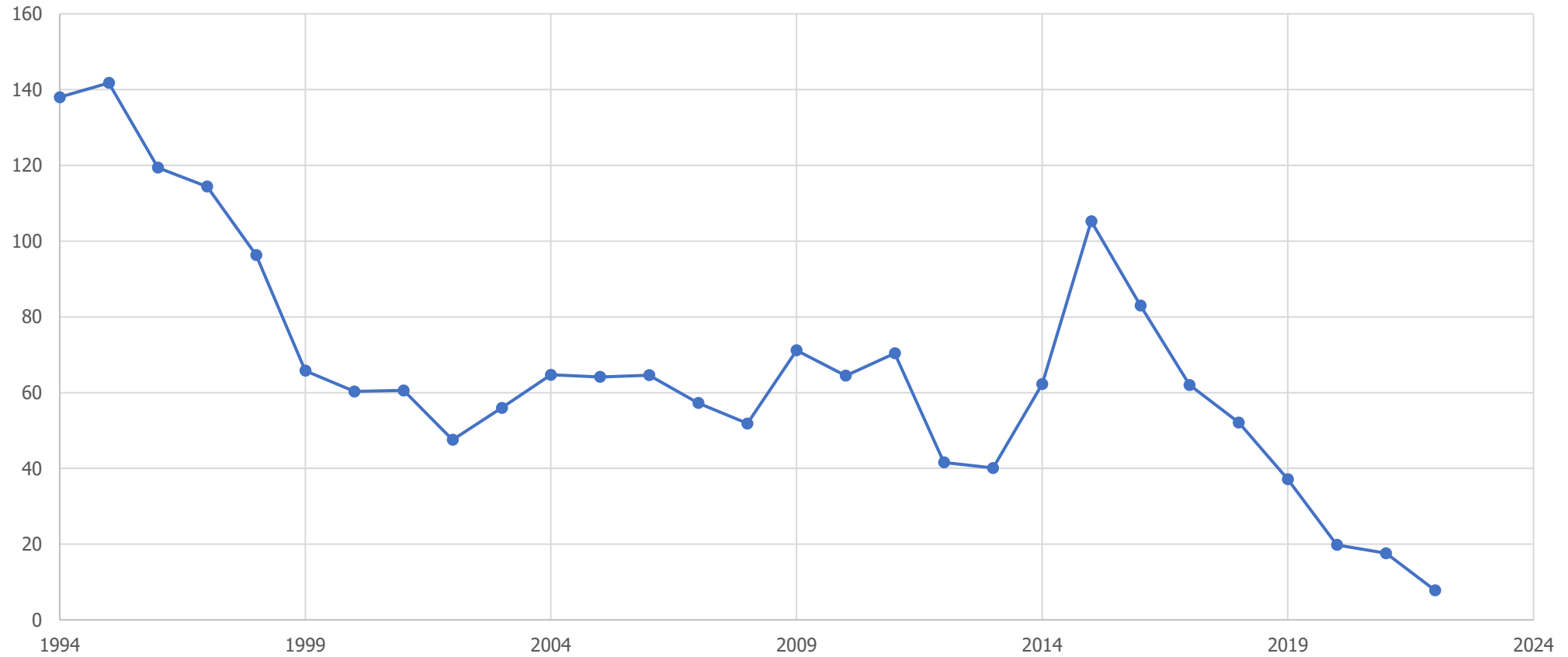


Source: [https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/intentional-homicides-per-100000-people?](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/intentional-homicides-per-100000-people?country=MNG,LUX,UGA,SLV,USA,CHN)

country: MNG, LUX, UGA, SLV, USA, CHN

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Homicide Per 100K in El Salvador



NEXT CLASS

- **NO CLASS ON WEDNESDAY**
 - Watch *Just Mercy* (Online streaming using this link
<https://new.olevod.com/player/vod/1/15586/1?duration=0&play=true>).
 - Short Essay 2 Assigned & Quiz 5
- **Thursday:**
 - **Social Networks**
 - Reading: Christakis and Fowler 2009(Chapter from *Connected*)
 - **Globalization**
 - Reading: Hochschild 2014 (Book Chapter Article)