

# Prelim Paper Presentation

Kristina Mensik  
Duke University

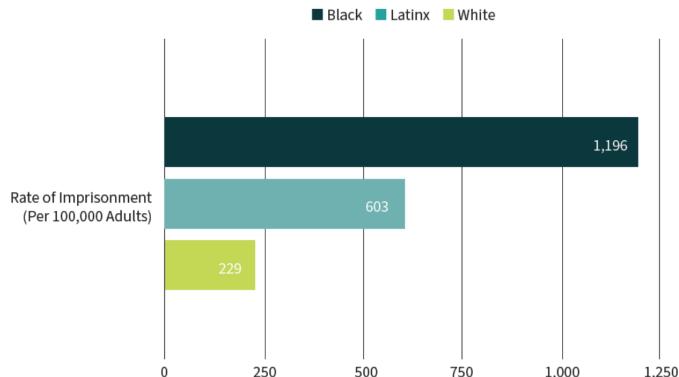
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# Motivation

- Mass Incarceration 360,000 (1970) to nearly 2 million (Correctional populations of the United States. Bureau of Justice Statistics).

**Figure 5. Racial and Ethnic Disparities in State and Federal Prisons, 2022**



Source: Carson, E. A. & Kluckow, R. (2023). Prisoners in 2022-Statistical tables.  
Bureau of Justice Statistics.

- *De jure* disenfranchisement —
  - 4.4 million disenfranchised
  - Nearly 5% of Black Americans (Uggen, Laren, & Pulido-Nava 2022)
- *De facto* disenfranchisement
  - 'Jail-based' - 500,000+ (Rosewood and Wang 2024)
  - Demobilizing effects (Weaver and Lerman 2014, White 2019, Walker 2020)
- Prison Gerrymandering
  - (Kramer and Remster 2018)

# Research Questions

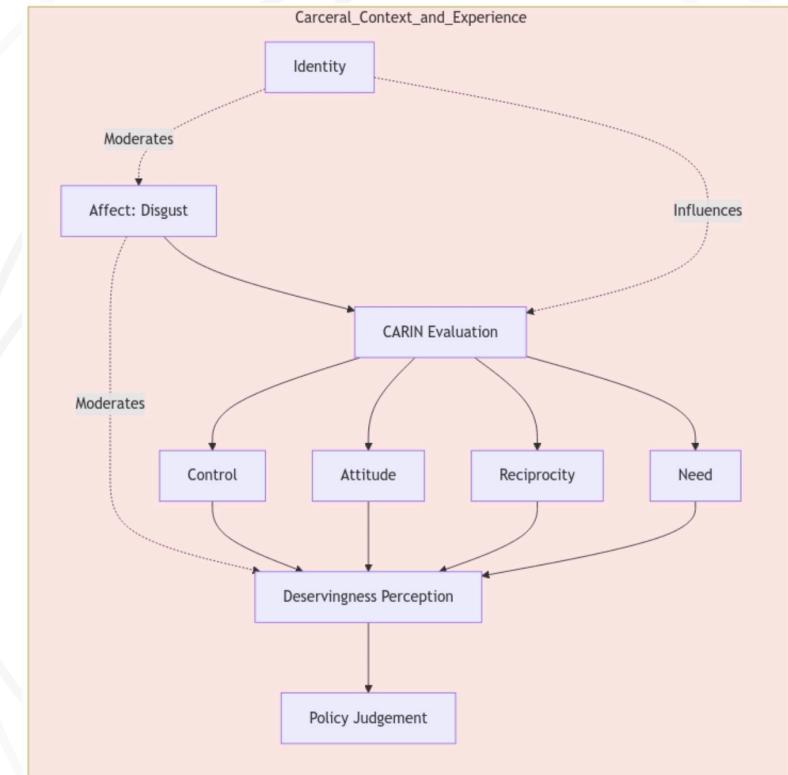
1. How do direct experiences with the criminal legal system shape perceptions of what incarcerated people deserve?
  - A. Differentiation — does direct experience inform distinct perceptions of what “carceral subgroups” deserve?
2. How do experiences with the carceral system shape perceptions of what kinds of policy carceral citizens deserve?

# Literature

- Social Constructions + Deservingness — (Schneider and Ingram 1993)
  - Within-group subsetting for dependents in welfare, migration — political expedience of differentiating within groups (Schneider and Ingram 2019, Smith and Kreitzer 2018, Abrajano and Hajnal 2015)
- Deservingness Heuristic + CARIN
- Punitiveness
  - Impact
  - “Mushy” or Nuanced
  - Temporal and “Psychological” Distance
- Racial Attitudes
- Disgust, Dehumanization, Moral Differentiation

# Theory

- Direct impact matters for how people think about carceral deservingness and policy
- Identity and affect uniquely salient in carceral contexts
  - Disgust — to moral differentiation
- Identity involves hierarchy
- Some policies challenge hierarchies, and others don't; policies are perceived to ask different things of the perceiver (ie, material sacrifice, moral differentiation).



# Questions

How do direct experiences with the criminal legal system shape perceptions of what incarcerated people deserve?

A. Differentiation — does direct experience inform distinct perceptions of what “carceral subgroups” deserve?

How do experiences with the carceral system shape perceptions of what kinds of policy carceral citizens deserve?

# Hypotheses

H1A: Groups who are impacted by the criminal legal system perceive carceral citizens as more deserving.

H1B: Groups who are impacted by the criminal legal system differentiate between carceral subsets

- (a) Less than those who are not directly impacted
- (b) Differently from each other

H2: People impacted by the carceral system’s views of what policy help carceral citizens deserve will be less informed by their overall perception of incarcerated people’s deservingness.

H2B: People impacted by the carceral system’s views of what policy help carceral citizens deserve – both material and symbolic policies – will more closely resemble their views of what people who are not incarcerated deserve.