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African American citizens are being failed by the US criminal justice system because of ingrained racial bias in the way suspects are treated, according to the head of the United States’ largest legal professional body. For this reason, I wanted to check how the U.S criminal justice system has failed African Americans. I got interested in this question because of the climate in which we are living today, people of color are being attack due to the color of their skin and data has make it clear that African Americans and people of dark complexity are often profiled.

I believe that while doing this research I will find information that will sustain my theory: Young African Americans and Latino people are being profiled and targeted solely based on the color of their skin and are being kill by our justice system by the hundredths. I believe that the information I will encounter during this research will help me understand or at least try to understand why White Americans, are so prejudicial against people of another ethnic group. I think it is of great importance for people of color, especially African Americans to have a understanding of the reasoning behind violent behavior that affects their every day.

It is also important to point out that this research was based on some of my believes and that, what could be truth for me, will not be for the reader. Perception plays a part on this paper, what I perceived of our social and judicial system could be perceived differently by someone else, and it is not in any form being critical or disrespectful of the justice system.

TEDx Talks. “How the Justice System Fails African-Americans | Julianna Davis | TEDxCATSAcademyBoston.” YouTube, 14 Apr. 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ru1HAF70HCE. Accessed 21 Oct. 2020.

‌Julianna Davis talks about the disparities within the U.S justice system. She argues that African Americans are more likely than white Americans to be arrested; once arrested, they are more likely to be convicted. Once convicted, they are more likely to experience lengthy prison sentences than whites. She continues with examples as to how the justice system has failed African Americans, with many of them being a comparison between African Americans and White Americans. Julianna showcases how people of color get a sentence to service lengthier times compare to their counterparts for the same crimes. As she suggests, the Unites States operates two distinct criminal justice systems: One for white people and one for poor people and people of color, for this she used the example of Chase Legleitner and Lamar Lloyd, the first a white boy, the second an African American, both committed the same crime, both went to the same courtroom, saw the same judge, during the same day but both came out with different results, Lamar was sentenced to 26 years for arm robbery, while Chase was sentenced to 2 years and walked out of prison the same day of the sentencing.

I do agree with Ms. David, I do think United States Justice System has in many ways failed people of color. There is a lot of disparities within the system that run deep and are spreading throughout the nation affecting African Americans and Hispanics. Although our justice system is "color-blind" the truth is people of color live in fear. As we can appreciate in the video, we can comprehend how there is a double standard when it comes to justice. We live in fear of unfair treatment. Although some people might argue that; if you did not do anything, you do not have to fear being stopped, the truth is that minority has much more to lose. There is this fear of being stopped for anything at all, due to the color of our skin. What some people do not realize is that data has proven that minorities are more likely to be stopped, charged with a crime, prosecuted, indicted, and serve time with race playing a big part in the judgment. As Ms. Davis suggests, African Americans are more likely to “serve lengthier times, just because the we have two judicial systems…..one for African Americans and one for the rest of society”, one thing I Would have asked her though was , what could have become of you if your father didn’t make it out of jail? Society has placed labels on others based on their parent’s mistakes and too often young adults like Julianna end up being part of that environment.

"You know what I think is the biggest crime?, locking people up due to the color of their skin, years away from their families due to the color of their skin, unfair treatment due to the color of their skin. The biggest crime is the amount of people of color that lose their life daily all because of a racial bias, we cover up with the name Justice system." 5:03-5:18

Pettit, Becky, and Carmen Gutierrez. “Mass Incarceration and Racial Inequality.” American Journal of Economics and Sociology, vol. 77, no. 3–4, May 2018, pp. 1153–1182, 10.1111/ajes.12241. Accessed 21 Oct. 2020.

The increase in mass incarceration is so high that Becky Pettit and Carmen Gutierrez wrote about it. in their Journal article “Mass Incarceration and Racial Inequality.” Mrs. Pettit and Mrs. Gutierrez bring the facts about mass incarceration and the inequality people of color, especially African Americans endure in their lifetime. According to the article, despite a couple of decades of low crimes, the United States continues to disproportionally incarcerate a large segment of the population, affecting African Americans and Hispanics. About 2.3 million people are being imprisoned in the United States daily and present the high rates people in the U.S are incarcerated compared to countries like Denmark, Sweden, and even the United Kingdom. Using data, Pettit and Gutierrez show the disparities and the high rates African Americans and Hispanics are being incarcerated, and the inequalities this brings down the road, according to their findings, African Americans and Latinos have a higher chance to have a felony which plays an important part in their socioeconomic environment, people with felonies are less likely to have a stable job which will affect not only their lives but also their partners, family members, children, and their communities.

I do agree with both of the Authors of this article, As I continue to read, I have come to believe that there is a major problem within our justice system. While reading this article, it is evident that African Americans and Latinos are at a higher risk of being imprisoned, and disproportionally serve a longer time in jail. People of color are not only spending time behind bars but also paying an economical price. Despite committing the same or a lesser crime than their white counterparts, people of color are facing injustices within our system. More work needs to be done to ensure that everyone is treated fairly under our justice system. It is also vital that while people serve their time behind bars, we continue to ensure people do not continue to fall behind socially and economically. One question I Would have asked the Authors would have been what is the price children pay when both of their parents are incarcerated, I think this is a question that needed to be addressed in this article because data within the article suggested one or both parents could have been imprison.

"Mass incarceration, or the widespread incapacitation of people in prisons and jails, does not randomly or equally affect all subgroups in the population. Rather, mass incarceration is characterized by its systematic targeting of particular segments of the population (Garland 2001)." pg.3

Quigley, Bill. “Racial Discrimination and the Legal System.” UN Chronicle, vol. 44, no. 3, Sept. 2007, pp. 56–57. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=28140007&site=ehost-live&scope=site.

This article focuses on the injustice, vile attacks, and how the legal system plays a part in portraying African Americans as the bad apple. Various African American students were arrested after being attack and the legal system did not only deny them justice but also threatened them and prosecuted them, all this by a white prosecutor, white jury, white witnesses, and a white judge. Some people argued that race didn't play a part in the prosecution and the indictment of the 6 black teenagers, like the white public defender who didn't challenge the witnesses nor presented evidence and said "I don't believe race is an issue in this trial. I think I have a fair and impartial jury in this trial" nevertheless the perpetrator, white boys from a high school in Jena Louisiana, hanging nooses, used racial slurs, and beat black students did not face any kind of corrective actions, yet black students were told to "stop making a fuss about this "innocent prank" " by the prosecutor or I can be " your worst enemy, I can take your lives away with the stroke of my pen". The author stresses that the problem in the state is an example of how diverse racial discrimination as well as the nature of the law system of the country. Racial discrimination plays a great part in justice, these kids were prosecuted and deny justice based on the color of their skin and although the victim couldn't in fact say they participated in the fight, they were indicted regardless of the facts presented by the prosecutor.

I agree with the Autor of this article, although this was about 13 years ago, this kind of prosecution continues. It is sad to see that our legal system, which is supposed to work for all of us because under the constitution "All men are created equal" is not doing so, and although this wasn't truth until the emancipation of African Americans in 1863, is still treating others as second class citizens and denying them the justice we all deserve under a fair and equal justice system. This believe that justice is blind and equal to all of us is a distortion of reality, this case proves that without convincing evidence, people can be prosecuted and eventually indicted and serve their lives in prison for no reason at all. As a society we have dehumanized other "races" and have used this kind of arguments to justify our actions. One of the thing this Author did that I loved was the called out of the authorities and try to bring attention to both the prosecutor and the public defender which could have done a better job defending the 6 young African Americans. One thing I believe he could have done better nonetheless was to write more about the abuses those young African Americans endured while attending High School.

In conclusion, these are perilous times for African Americans and Latinos. Data suggest that people of color need to be more vigilant due to the bias they face. Over the last four years much of what has happened with Latinos and African Americans is due to the racist and the xenophobic tone of people holding public offices. At the same time, the US is reckoning with centuries of racial injustice – as the White House stokes division along racial lines. I believe that every one of us deserves equal access to the justice system and equal treatment under the law. It is also imperative that more people of color involve themselves in politics and fight for, not only an equal justice system for all but also for social and economic equality, education, and health care.

According to a recent research “One in 16 African Americans are subjected to the criminal justice system,” “compared to one in 106 of white people. A lot of that is drugs. The evidence, however, shows that black people do not use drugs any more than white people. In our system, prosecutors have so much control and sometimes more than the judges, as we notice in the case of the 6 young African Americans. Prosecutors decide whether someone is to be charged with a crime and what crime that will be and judges do not have discretion. The prosecution has so much power, so they have a bad reputation in the community and so we can see why it is important to be involved in our politics and representation. It is up to us to fight for the equality we want. Despite the progress African Americans and Latinos have made over the last few decades, prejudice and hatred is still visible and living in our neighborhoods. We need to wake up and empower young people to fight for their rights and equal justice.