Bias in Our Education

40% of expelled students in the US are Black

What biases underlie disciplinary actions?

Who do Zero-Tolerance policies benefit?

Scan the QR code to find out more
The School to Prison Pipeline

The School to Prison Pipeline is the description of those coming from a disadvantaged background particularly Black and Latinx students being disproportionately suspended and expelled, increasing the chance of future contact with the juvenile justice system due to increasingly harsh policies within schools.

Zero-Tolerance Policies

Zero-Tolerance Policies have had the opposite of their intended effects, rather than creating ‘blind justice’ they have led to disproportionate suspension rates targeting Black, Latinx and neuro-diverse students. Zero-Tolerance policies unwittingly allow bias, differences in culture and parenting to affect who is suspended and expelled.

Resource Officers

Truancy Officers and Student Resource Officers often develop a link between schools and the juvenile justice system by hyper-criminalizing student behavior, specifically in Black, Latinx and low-income students.

What those in the Educational Field are Saying

Alegría Barclay, the Social Justice Coordinator at The Nueva School specifically focuses on restorative justice practices in schools. In addressing biases and breaking down the pipeline she states that we need to focus on centering victims’ needs and addressing our own biases without attacking those we see biases in.

Restorative Justice

Restorative Justice breaks the link of instilling punitive justice in our students and by focusing on teaching empathy. Explicit bias is less of an issue because the ‘punishment’ is focused on victims’ needs and allowing a learning moment for students rather than focusing on punishment.

The School to Prison Pipeline: The Unintentional Damage of Zero-Tolerance Policies, Resource Officers and Restorative Justice’s Ability to Help

By: Isabella Veduccio, Roshara Morgan, Mairead Morrissey
Rethink the ‘Culture’ Surrounding Discipline

5% of out of school suspensions dealt with *dangerous disciplinary issues

If you feel marginalized how much harder would it be for you to attend school?

*possession of weapons and or drugs
Zero-tolerance policies have shifted to creating an example out of students who ‘disrespect’ authority or ‘disrupt’ classrooms.

Why are those who are expelled or suspended nearly 3x as likely to have run ins with the juvenile justice system within the following year?

Black students are 3x more likely to be suspended and/or expelled than white students.