

SOCIAL JUSTICE
MODELS FOR CAMPUS
ENGAGEMENT

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FEBRUARY 2017

QUESTIONS FACING EDUCATORS

- 
- What is social justice?
 - How are identities, experiences, and structures intertwined with social justice in our institutional context?
 - Why does social justice matter?
 - What can individuals and communities do to develop socially just outcomes?

What is Social Justice?

TOO OFTEN WE BEHAVE
AS THOUGH THESE ARE
NOT QUESTIONS, BUT
RATHER AS THOUGH WE
ARE CERTAIN OF THE
ANSWERS.

AUDACIOUS HUMILITY

1. What truths are missing here?
2. How can we adjudicate between multiple points of view?
3. How has my own thinking been disrupted?
4. Are there solutions for all problems?
5. How do my solutions generate new problems?

A FEW PRINCIPLES FOR ENGAGEMENT

PRINCIPLE 1

COURAGE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL THE VIRTUES, BECAUSE WITHOUT COURAGE YOU CAN'T PRACTICE ANY OTHER VIRTUE CONSISTENTLY.

-DR. MAYA ANGELOU



“What does this mean for our work?”

–YOU ASK

CLEAR-EYED
ASSESSMENT OF WHERE
WE ARE.

In this
moment...

**YES, ALL LIVES
MATTER**
BUT WE'RE FOCUSED ON THE
BLACK ONES RIGHT NOW, OK?
— BECAUSE IT IS VERY —
APPARENT
THAT OUR JUDICIAL SYSTEM
DOESN'T KNOW THAT.
PLUS, IF YOU CAN'T SEE WHY WE'RE EXCLAIMING
#BLACKLIVESMATTER
YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM.

Many of the young
people we work
with longer know
what it means to be
sane.



THE MADDENING IS ORDINARY.



UTTERLY ORDINARY.

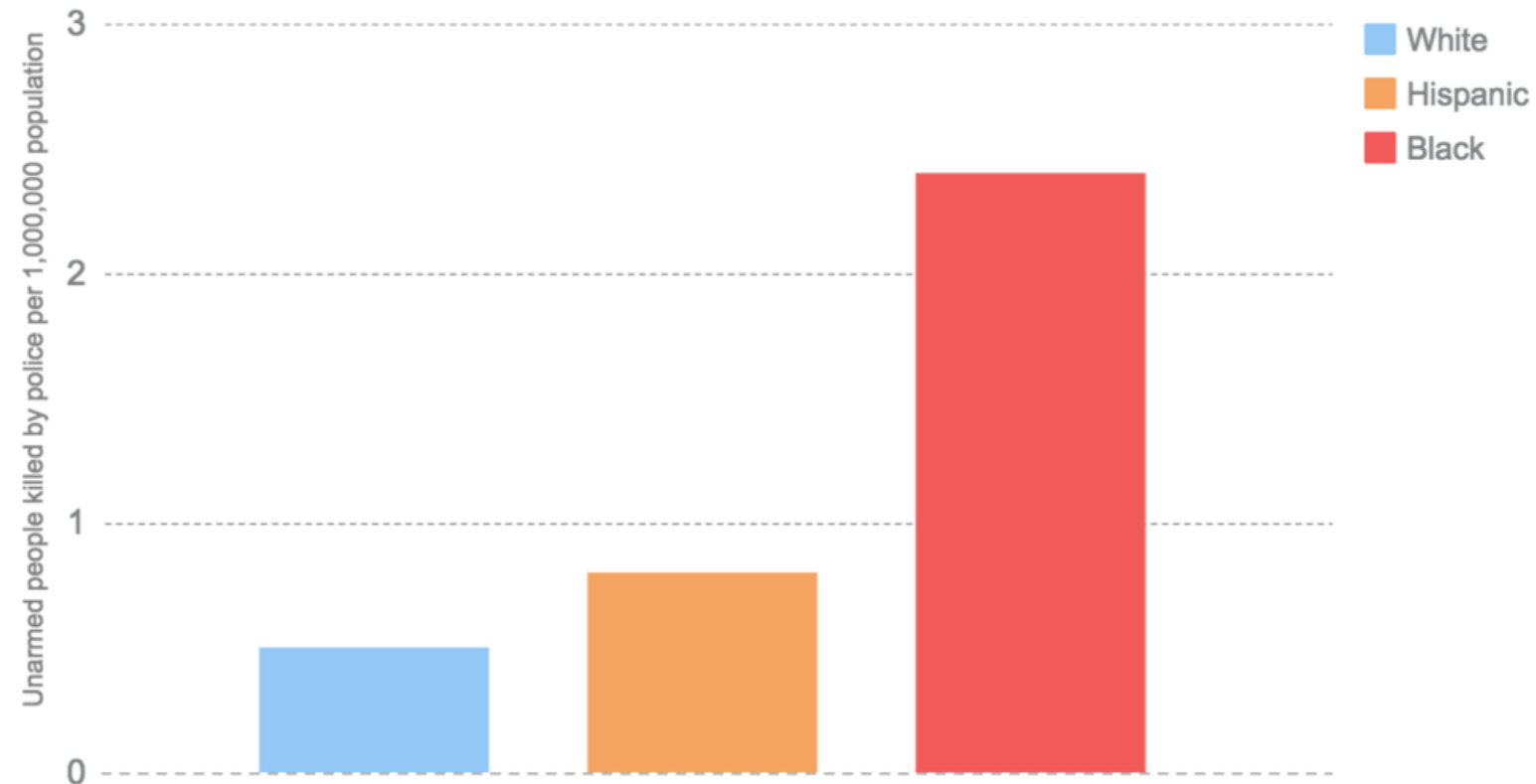


MAPPING POLICE VIOLENCE

Unarmed black people were killed by police at 5x the rate of unarmed whites in 2015.

Rates of unarmed people killed by police per million people in the United States.

Data from Jan 1 through Dec 31, 2015



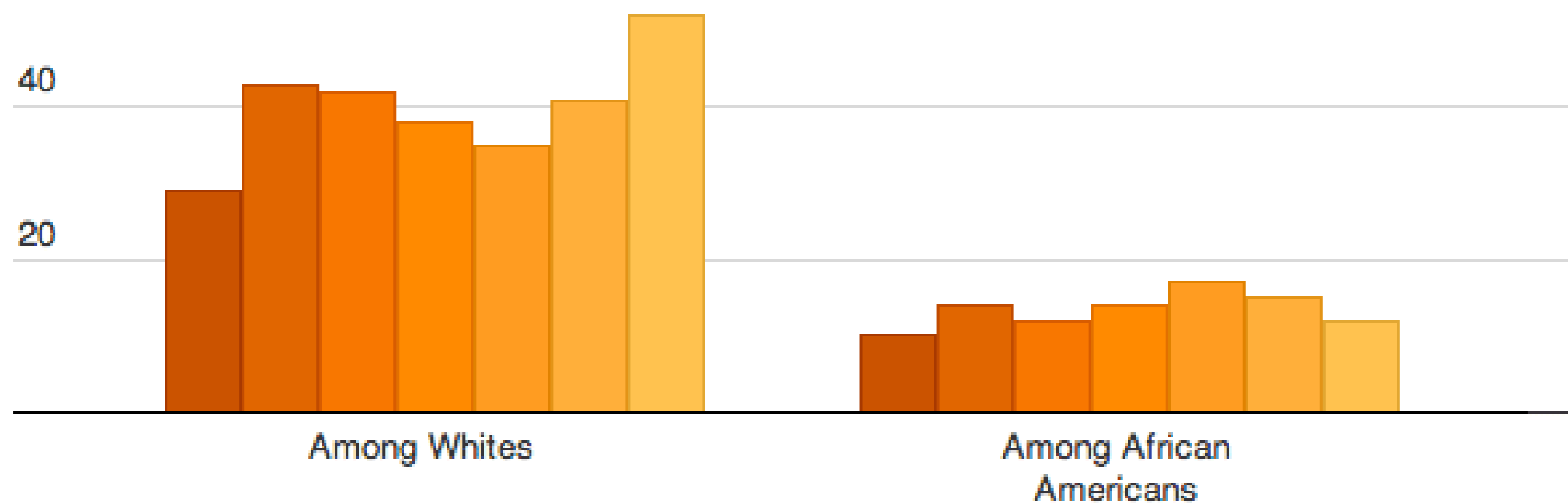
Source: MappingPoliceViolence.org; US Census 2014

EVIDENCE IS EVERYWHERE.

Whites' confidence in local police highest on record

How much confidence do you have in police officers in your community to treat blacks and whites equally: A great deal, a fair amount, just some, or very little confidence? Results show % saying they have a "great deal" of confidence

■ 1995 ■ 2007 ■ 2008 ■ 2009 ■ Aug. 2014 ■ Sept. 2014 ■ Dec. 2014



**BUT SOMEHOW, WE
DON'T ALL SEE IT.**

Police Are Most Likely to Use Deadly Force Against...

	Total	Whites	Blacks
A black person	40%	33%	84%
A white person	2%	2%	0%
Race doesn't matter	51%	57%	10%

SOURCE: *CBS News*

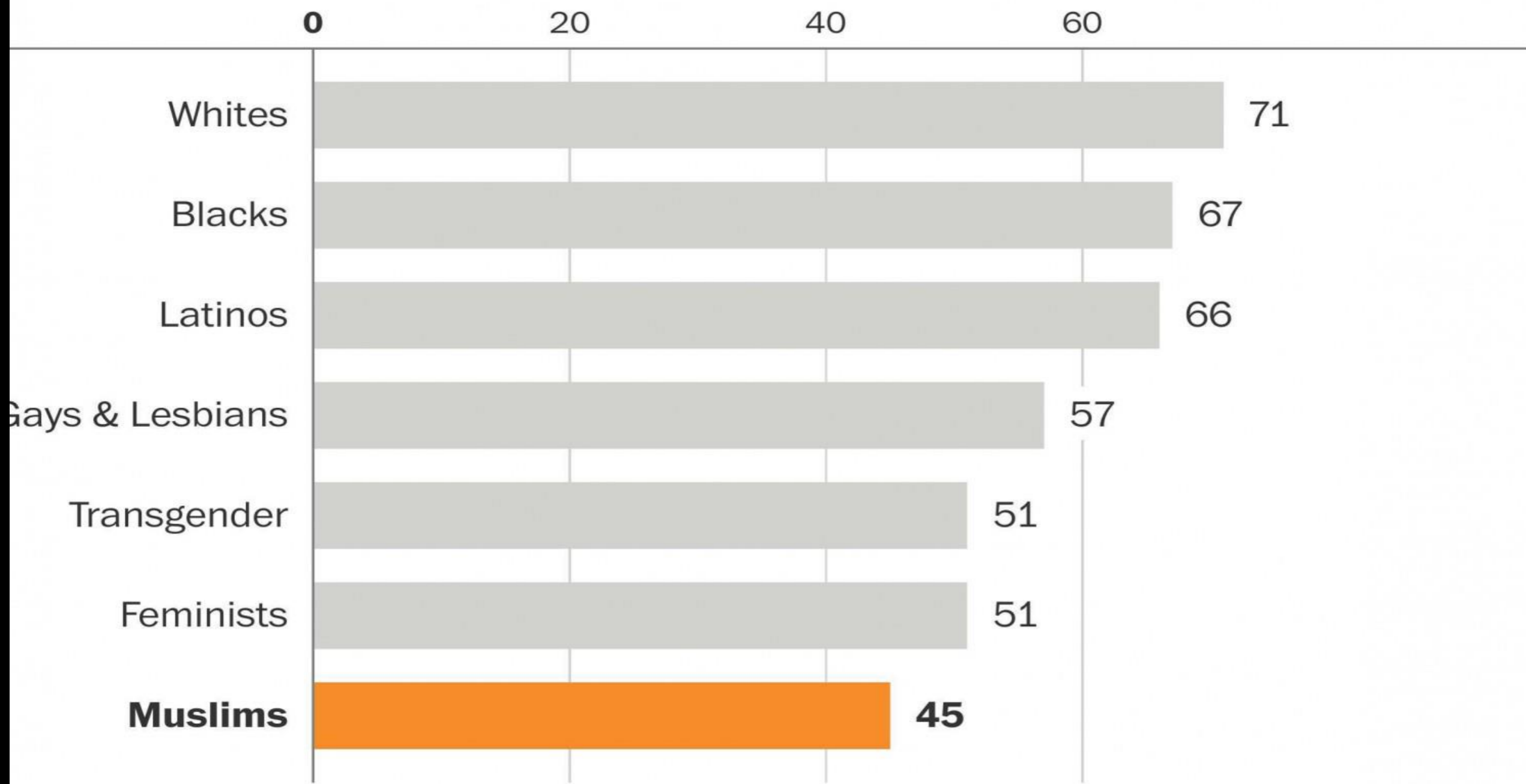
**OR REFUSE TO SEE
IT.**



**GRIEF AND ANGER
OF SOME IS DEFINED
AS THE TROUBLE.**

AND BEING HATED IS THE NEW NORMAL

Average feelings toward social groups on a 0-100 scale



Source: 2016 American National Election Study Pilot

THE MONKEY CAGE

AND BEING BANNED FEELS LIKE A DAILY POSSIBILITY

Trump Rescinds Rules on Bathrooms for Transgender Students

By JEREMY W. PETERS, JO BECKER and JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS FEB. 22, 2017



The Trump White House

Stories about President Trump's administration.

[Repeal of Health Law Faces Obstacles in House Not Just in Senate](#)

[Rex Tillerson Arrives in Mexico Facing Twin Threats to Relations](#)

[F.B.I. Interviews Tell of Cleric's Role in Plot to Bomb Plane](#)

[The Pruitt Emails: E.P.A. Chief Was Arm in Arm With Industry](#)

[Hispanic Leaders Plan Fight Against Trump's Agenda](#)

VULNERABILITY IS REAL

The Plum Line • Opinion

Trump is set to introduce a new 'Muslim ban.' This one is nonsense, too.

By Greg Sargent February 21 





AS IS THE SENSE OF
TRAUMA MANY FEEL



REMEMBER ...AUDACIOUS HUMILITY

1. What truths are missing here?
2. How can we adjudicate between multiple points of view?
3. How has my own thinking been disrupted?
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PRINCIPLE 2

INVITE QUESTIONS
RATHER THAN OFFER ANSWERS



instagram.com/soonerdave25

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD WE ASK?

"There will never be a n***** at SAE..."



TOMORROW ▶ "AS THEY TAKE THEIR BELONGINGS OUT OF THE HOUSE. LEGAL VIEW

A collage of historical and cultural artifacts. At the top, a map of Africa is visible with the word 'NIGGER' written across it in large, colorful letters. Below the map, there is a book cover with the title 'HISTORY CELEBRATION' and the subtitle 'Black Arts, revisited'. To the right, there is a drawing of a person's head and shoulders, possibly a portrait. The background is a mix of various patterns and colors, including a green and white striped pattern and a blue and white pattern.

WHAT QUESTIONS
SHOULD WE ASK?

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD WE ASK?

cmogk23



24 likes

cmogk23 likes with the community

Wendell Happy MLK day home...
mood with sports

likes

likes

ASU FRATERNITY SUSPENDED

COMMUNITY LEADERS CALL FOR MORE ACTION TO BE TAKEN

abc 15
5:04 80°

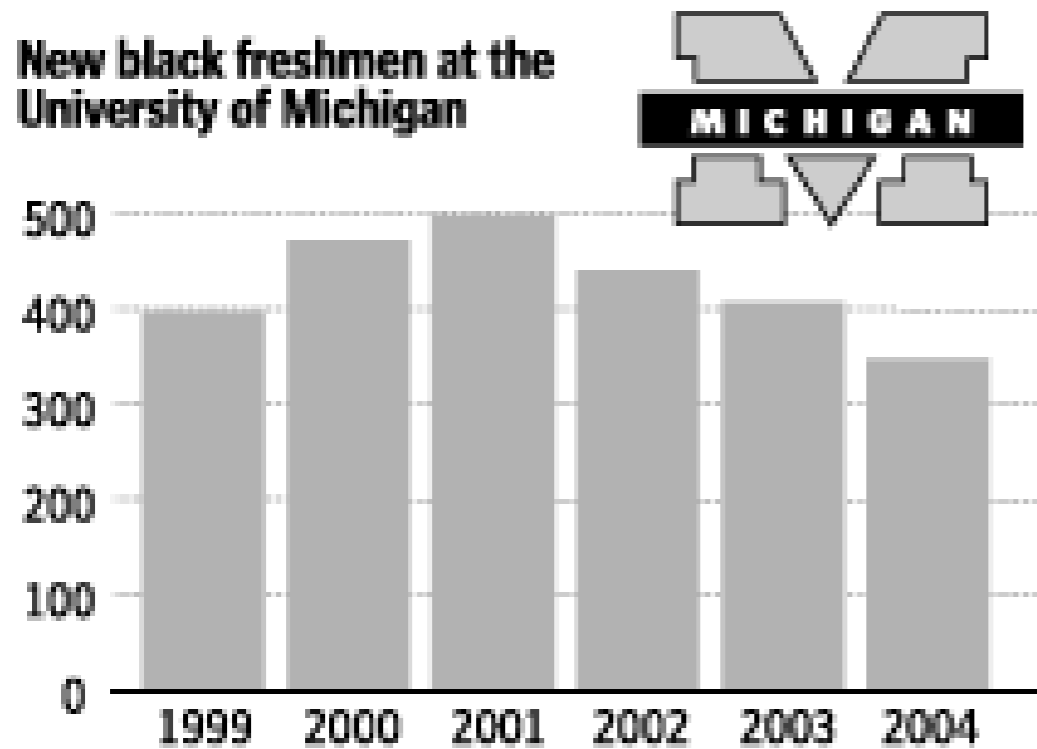
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

- Nurturing curiosity is an absolute good within participatory democracy.
- Questions are generative rather than final.
- “The kind of role that I tried to play was to pick up pieces or put together pieces out of which I hoped organization might come. My theory is, strong people don't need strong leaders”
 - -Ella Baker

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Fewer Black Students

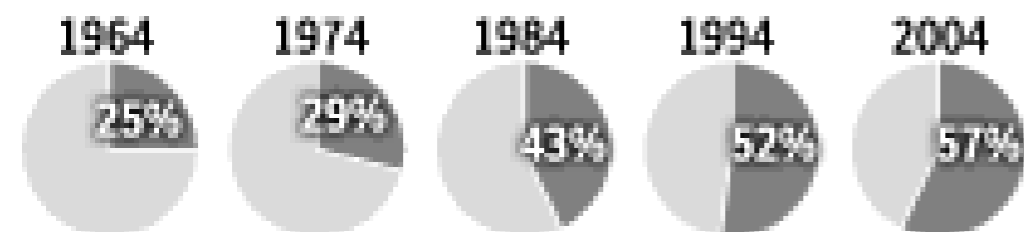
The number of black freshmen at the University of Michigan has declined since a recent peak in 2001.



Relying on Tuition

The University of Michigan relies more and more on tuition to pay its bills.

Percentage of general fund revenue at the University of Michigan from tuition



SOURCE: University of Michigan

WE ARE WHITER

1995 to 2009

People ages 18-24 who were white 68% to 62%.

White share of freshman slots at the USA's most elite colleges 77% to 75%.

2011 full-time professors

84% white (60% white men),

4% Black

3% Hispanic,

8% Asian/Pacific Islander,

<1% percent American Indian/Alaska Native

Our class divide is more stark

Few Poor Students Attend Top Schools

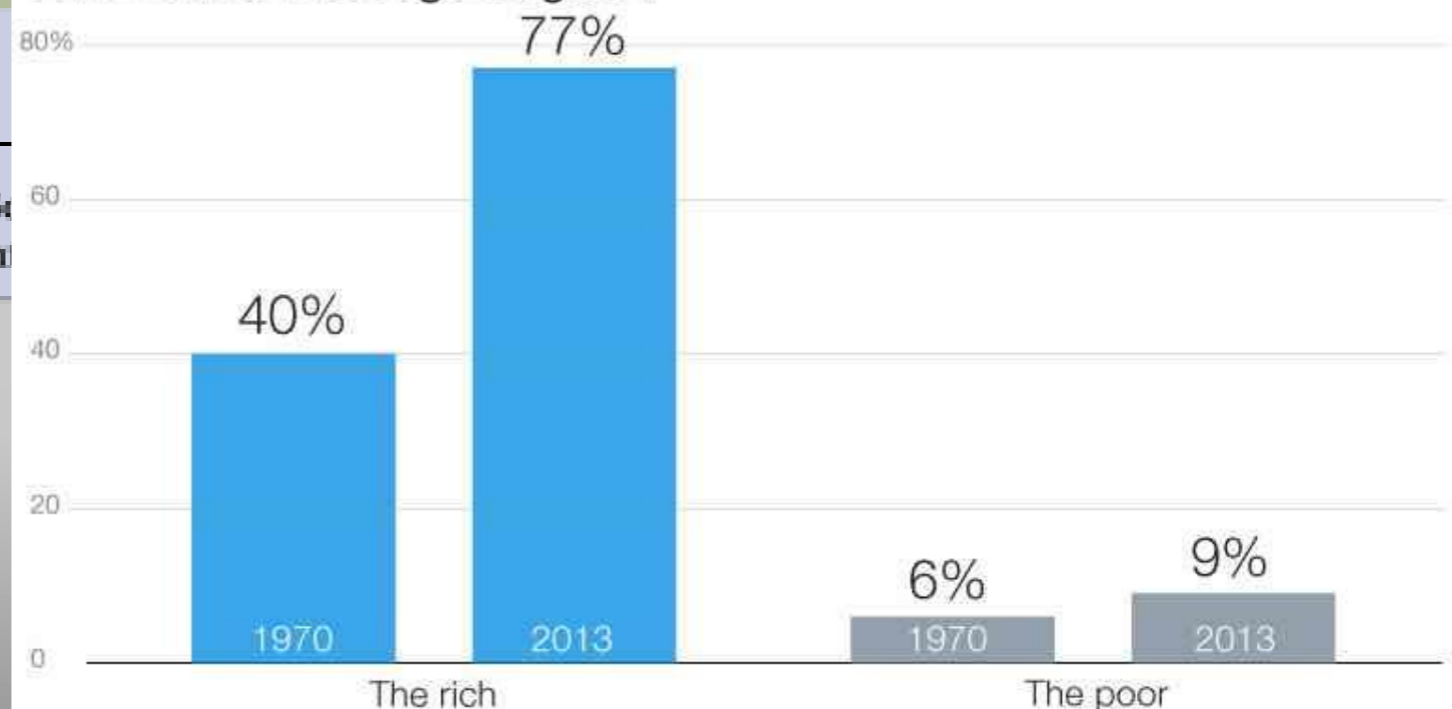
Nearly three-quarters of students entering tier 1 colleges and universities come from the wealthiest families, but only 3 percent of students from the bottom quartile enter top schools. Far more students from poorer backgrounds enroll in less prestigious schools, and even more in community colleges.

Socioeconomic Status of Entering College Classes

School prestige level	First quartile (lowest)	Second quartile	Third quartile	Fourth quartile (highest)
Tier 1	3%	6%	17%	74%
Tier 2	7	18	29	46
Tier 3	10	19	36	35
Tier 4	16	21		
Community Colleges	21	30		

Source: Anthony P. Carnevale and Stephen J. Rose, "Social Stratification, Ethnicity, and Selective College Admissions," The Center for Postsecondary Education, 2011.

Who earns a college degree?



RESEARCH: BACHELOR'S DEGREE ATTAINMENT BY AGE 24, GRADUATES ARE DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS. *IF FAMILY INCOME IS GREATER THAN \$104,204 FOR THE RICH AND LESS THAN \$34,163 FOR THE POOR.

SOURCE: FENNERBERG AND THE PELL INSTITUTE

WE READ LESS AND RISK LESS

Proportion of American teens who "never" or "hardly ever" read tripled since 1984.

High stakes testing and admissions.

Tuition costs.

Proficiency over passion.

Success over exploration.



CHILDREN, TEENS, AND READING

The reading habits of America's kids are dynamic and unfolding. Multiple studies show a decline in reading, especially in adolescents, and a stubborn lack of improvement in reading scores among teens.

> Many children do not read well or often.

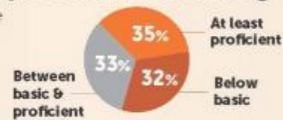
Teens who read for pleasure

33% **45%** say they read for pleasure no more than 1-2 times per year.



Fourth graders proficient in reading

One third of fourth graders are at least proficient (33%), and another third (32%) score "below basic" in national reading tests.



> A significant reading achievement gap continues to persist between white, black, and Hispanic children.

Reading achievement gap continues

Only 18% of black and 20% of Hispanic fourth graders are rated as "proficient" in reading, compared with 46% of whites.



> Reading is changing habits and experiences with reading, but its impact is still unknown.

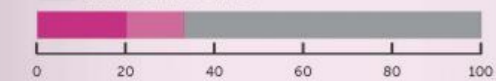
Families with a device for reading

75% of families own some type of "smart" electronic device for reading: **63%** smartphone, **40%** tablet, **27%** iPod touch or similar device.



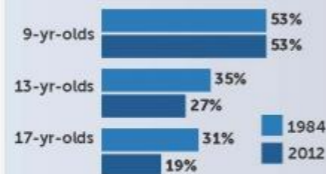
Homes with a dedicated ereader

Somewhere between 20% and 33% of children under age 8 live in homes with a dedicated ereader such as a Kindle or a Nook.



> There has been a drop in reading among all kids, especially adolescents, over time, and reading for fun drops off dramatically as children grow.

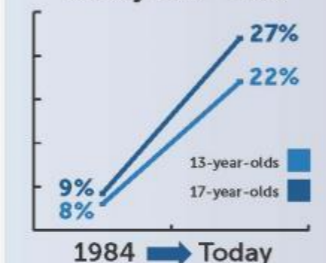
Children who read for fun every day



Daily readers



Say they "never" or "hardly ever" read



Methodology: This report by Common Sense Media is a review of the research on reading. It is based on large national studies or databases and charts trends in children's and teens' reading over time, their reading achievement, and demographic differences in reading. Common Sense Media also examines the growing literature on ebook reading among children, which is largely focused on attitudes toward reading. For more details on the methodology, key findings, and studies reviewed, see the full report at www.common Sense.org/research.

Social Media Changed Our Lives

REDEFINED
PUBLIC V.
PRIVATE SPACE.

FREEDOM OF
SPEECH AND
EXPRESSION.

ANONYMITY AND
INTERVENTION?



At a time when we need to understand one another across difference, connect contemporary outcomes to historical trajectories, and craft unique solutions to complex problems.

Our colleges are more economically and racially homogenous.

Education is increasingly defined by narrow measures of performance.

Our lives are increasingly mediated by technology.

PRINCIPLE 3

SEEK TO DEFEAT BAD IDEAS AND PRACTICES RATHER THAN BAD PEOPLE

Bipartisan Tillis bill establishing protections for victims of state-run eugenics becomes law

By Ripon Advance News Service | October 17, 2016



Thom Tillis

President Barack Obama recently signed legislation into law that U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC) co-authored to establish protections for living eugenics victims receiving compensation payments.

From the 1920s to the 1970s, compulsory sterilization laws and state-run eugenics victimized 60,000 Americans. North Carolina became the first state to create a victim compensation fund for victims of forced sterilization in 2013.

The Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act, S. 1698, would exclude eugenics compensation payments from eligibility determinations for federal safety net programs like Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program and Social Security programs.

“Why?”

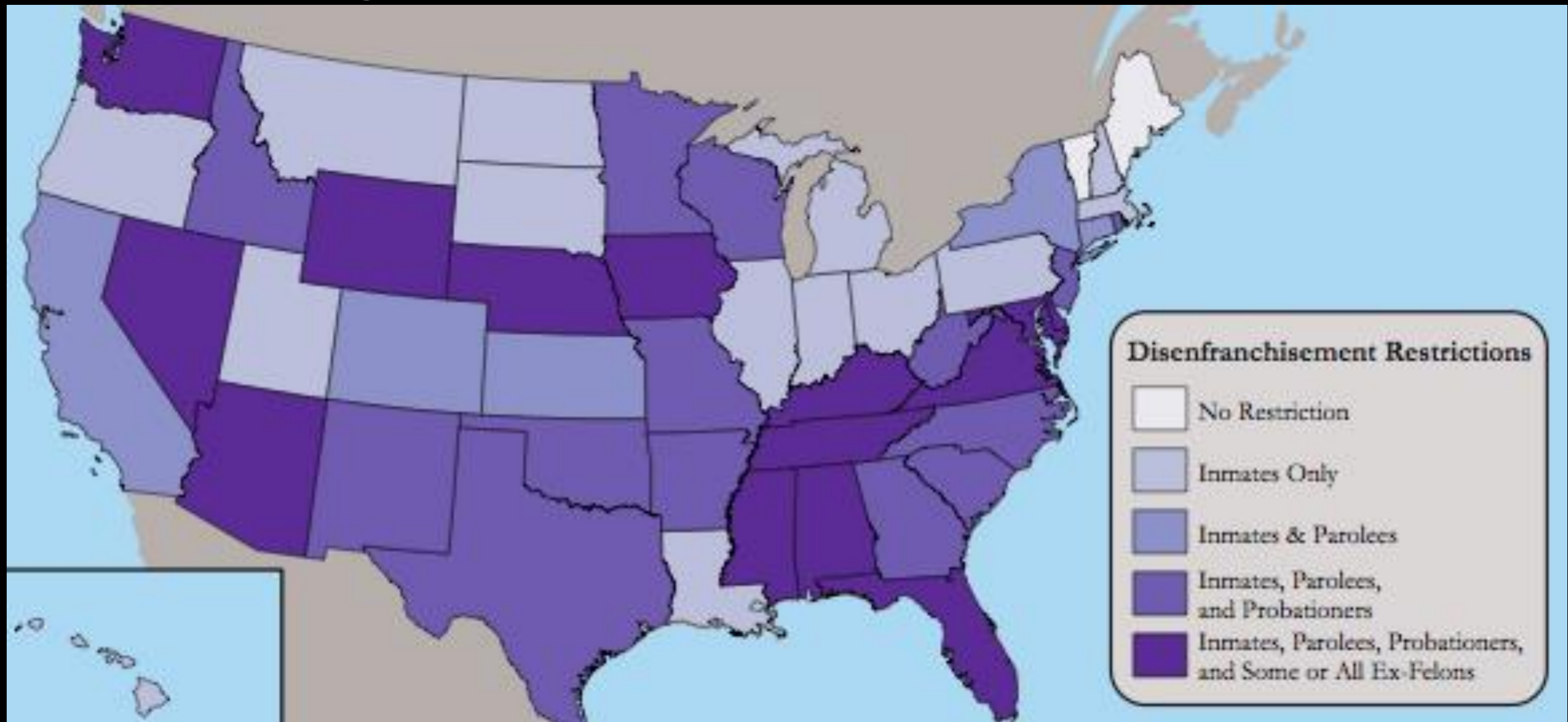
–YOU ASK

STRATEGY AND HISTORY TEACH

- Enemies and friends are not permanent, interests are.
- Learning and change must be incentivized, not punished.
- It is easy to get miss the target of social change when building movement.
- I am human, therefore nothing human can be alien to me.

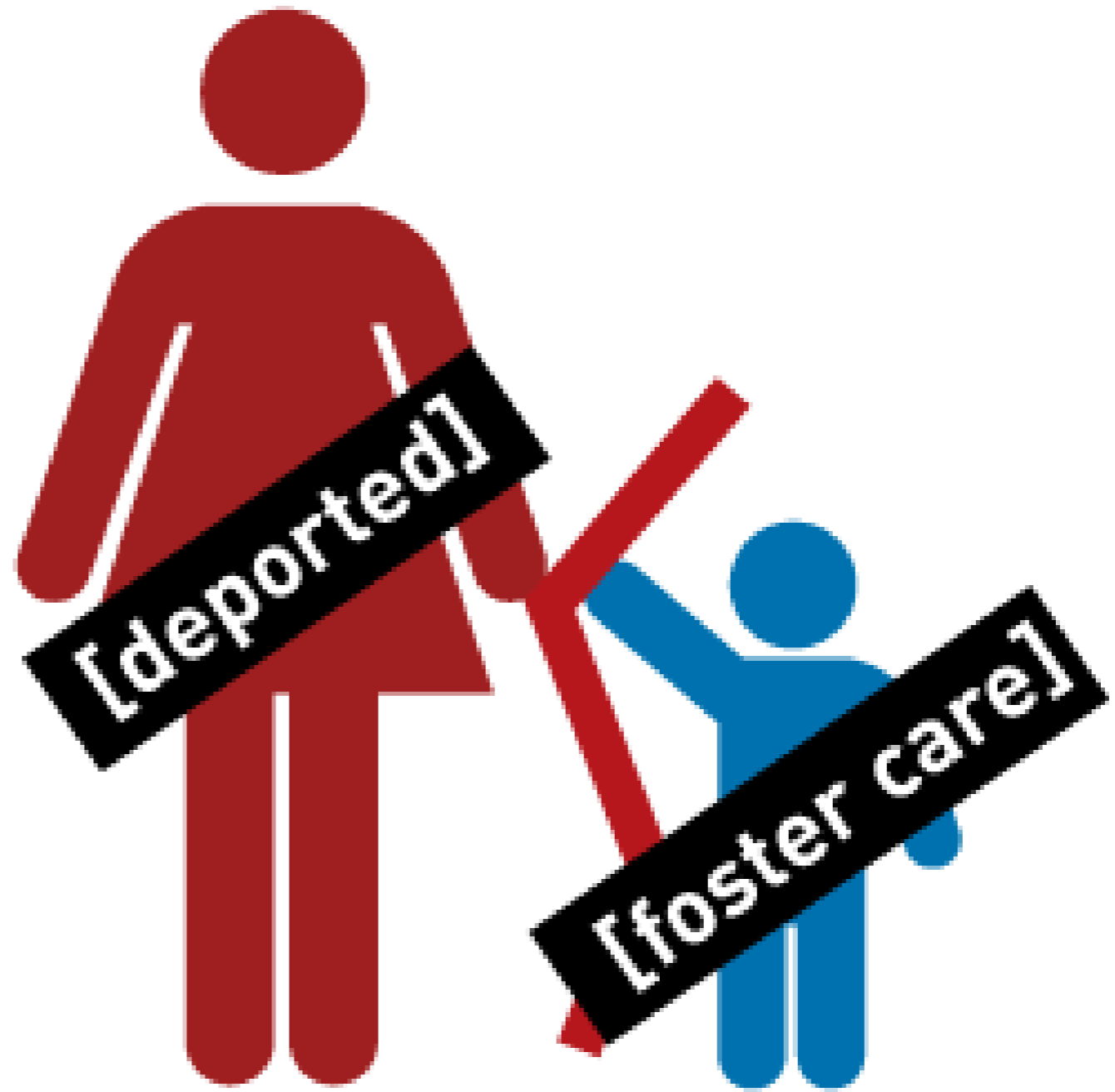


LONG BEFORE PRESIDENT TRUMP



• FELON DISFRANCHISEMENT affected Approximately

LONG
BEFORE
PRESIDENT
TRUMP



At least **5100 children** who
are presently in **foster care**
whose **parents have been**
detained or deported

COLORLINES.com

Long before President Trump

LIVE

7:19 am PT

WOMEN'S HEALTH & CONTRACEPTION

SANDRA FLUKE

Georgetown University Law Student

C-SPAN
c-span.org



BEFORE PRESIDENT
TRUMP

PRINCIPLE 4

CREATE AND SUPPORT INTENTIONALLY INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACES





- Isolation creates intolerance.
- Arendt: Loneliness is the foundation of totalitarianism.
- Meaningful inclusion must be created with intention and reinforced with values and resources at all levels.



Recognition matters.



We **all** want and are willing to sacrifice for, accurate, meaningful, and mutual recognition of our humanity and uniqueness. Part of our collective work is to provide space and tools for this just recognition to occur.

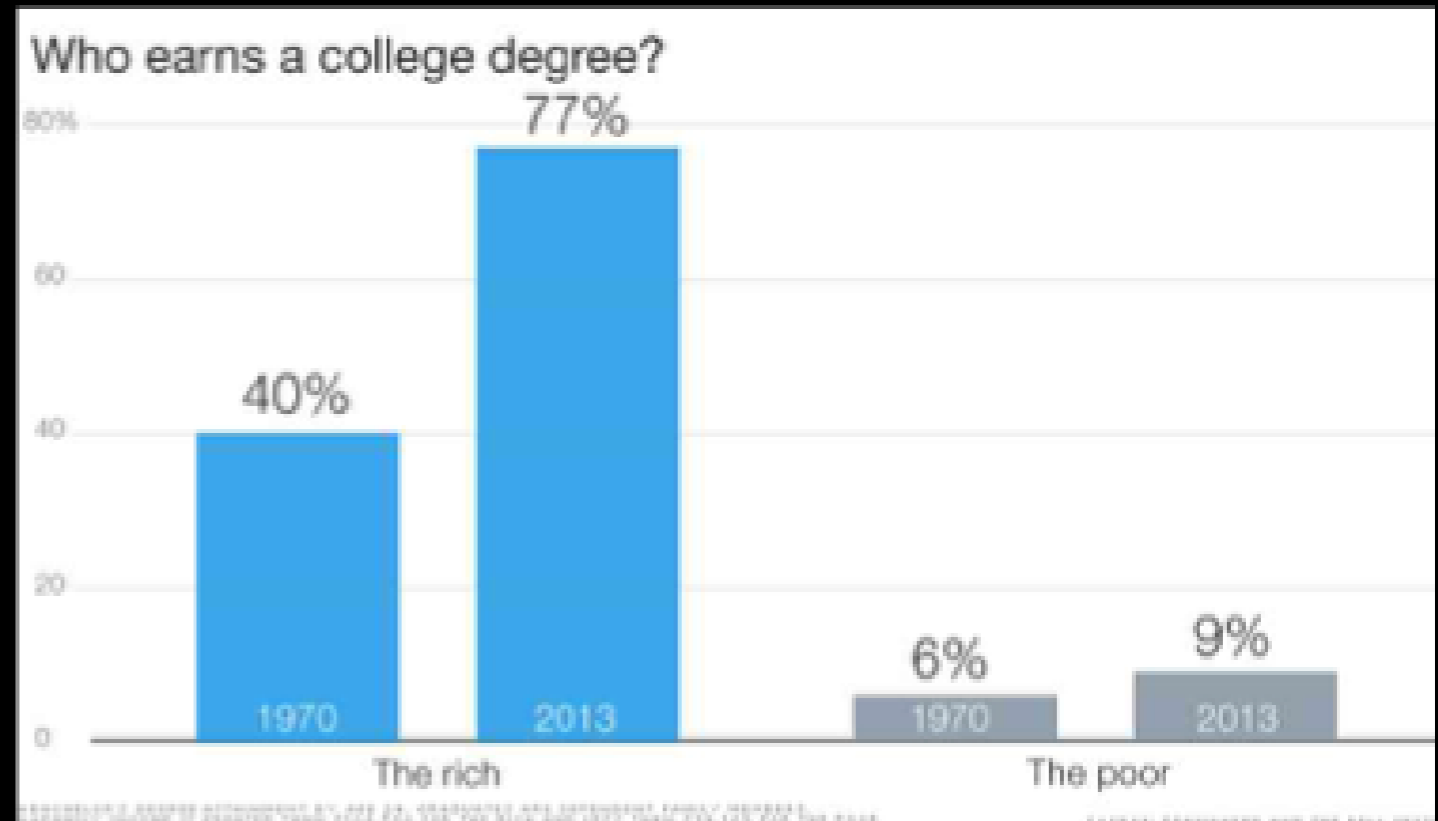


DEMOCRACY, LIKE COLLEGE,
IS SUPPOSED TO BE HARD.

We are supposed to encounter ideas and experiences that make us uncomfortable, challenge our sense of self, force us to think differently, and disrupt our worldview.

IDEAS MATTER

- Education, not income, had greater explanatory power in 2016 election choices. This tells us there is something about education that is distinct and interesting.
- Higher education is increasingly a “luxury” item.



PRINCIPLE 5

BE AN ENGINE OF FUN, CREATIVITY,
OPTIMISM AND JOY!



“Why?”

–YOU ASK

OPTIMISM
MOTIVATES
ACTION-
FEAR MOTIVATES
WITHDRAWAL

- MLK called for “creative maladjustment”
- To be an artist is to believe you can create something wholly new out of existing material.
- This requires *playful* attitude even in dire circumstances.



Get Creative!

Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.





BECAUSE
THE ARTIST
RESPECTS
NO
ARBITRARY
BOUNDARY.

BECAUSE THE ARTIST
REFUSES TO BE INVISIBLE.



**Because the artist refuses
to be silent.**



FIVE PRINCIPLES IN REVIEW

1. COURAGE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT VIRTUE, BE COURAGEOUS!

2. INVITE QUESTIONS RATHER THAN OFFER ANSWERS

3. DEFEAT BAD IDEAS AND PRACTICES RATHER THAN BAD PEOPLE

4. CREATE AND SUPPORT INTENTIONALLY INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACES

5. BE AN ENGINE OF FUN, CREATIVITY, OPTIMISM AND JOY!

I REMAIN OPTIMISTIC ABOUT
OUR ABILITY TO THRIVE IN
OUR PERSONAL, COLLECTIVE,
AND INSTITUTIONAL BODIES.

NO EASY ANSWERS.



No matter how good our intentions, how well resourced our actions, how engaged our campuses. Failure is certain. So do not be afraid.



DEMOCRACY IS MESSY.

MAKE A MESS.

Thank you

QUESTIONS