



THE CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN INSTITUTE ON LAW AND SOCIAL POLICY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW

BMOC BOYS AND A RESEARCH PROJECT OF THE WARREN INSTITUTE YOUNG MEN OF COLOR

About the Project on Boys and Young Men of Color

The *Project on Boys and Young Men of Color* at the Warren Institute responds to the urgent need to identify the evidence-based public policies and intervention strategies that promise to improve the education, health, and economic outcomes of young men and boys of color in California and the nation.

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FAST FACTS:

STATUS OF BOYS AND MEN OF COLOR (NATIONAL AND CALIFORNIA)

EDUCATION

- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2008, 13 percent of Hispanic males had a college degree, compared with 30 percent of white males, 19 percent of black males, and 56 percent of Asian and Pacific Islander males (Slopen & Williams, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In 2008, only 61 percent of Hispanic males had earned at least a high school degree in comparison with 86 percent of white males, 82 percent of black males and 91 percent of Asian and Pacific Islander males (Slopen & Williams, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In 2007, more than 1 in 5 young Latino males (ages 16-25) dropped out of high school compared to 1 in 8 Black males and 1 in 17 white males (Reyes, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- California fails to graduate 34.7% of its black youth and 25.5 of its Latino youth, as compared to 12.2% of its white youth (ACLU, 2010, drawing on 2009 CDE data).
- Today, more black men receive their GED in prison than graduate from college (Martinez & Colby, *Changing Places*, 2010).

WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT

- According to U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics, in January 2010 only 28 percent of black men between the ages of 16 and 24 were working, compared with 43 percent of Hispanic men and 44 percent of white men in the same age category (Harris & Duke-Benfield, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- Among sixteen- to twenty-four-year-old males of color not enrolled in school, fewer than half have jobs and about a third are in prison or jail or on probation or parole (Kirp, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In 2000, among black male dropouts in their late twenties, more were in prison on a given day (34 percent) than were working (30 percent) Martinez & Colby, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In the Bay Area, (2007), 7.8 percent of youth 18-24 were African-American, but they account for one-quarter of all youth in that age group who were not in school, lacked a diploma, and were unemployed (Reyes, *Changing Places*, 2010).

JUVENILE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT

- If incarceration rates remain constant, one in three black males, one in six Latino males, and one in seventeen white males will go to prison at some time during their lifetime (Slopen & Williams, *Changing Places*, 2010)
- In 2007, 1 in every 8 black males in their twenties was in prison or jail as compared to 1 in 26 Latino males and 1 in 59 white males (Eaton, *Changing Places*, 2010). That same year, 7 percent of all black males ages 20-24 in California resided in prison (Reyes, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In 1980, 17 percent of black male high-school dropouts in their early thirties had been incarcerated; by 2000 this figure more than tripled to nearly 60 percent (58 percent) (Martinez & Colby, *Changing Places*, 2010).

VIOLENCE & TRAUMA

- Homicide rates of African-American males are 18 times higher than that of their white peers (Slopen & Williams, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- According to national statistics on violence among ten- to twenty-four-year-old males, homicide is the leading cause of death for African Americans, and the second-leading cause of death for Latinos (Corbin, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- According to the Center for Disease Control, young African American men have a firearm-related death rate more than 10 times that of young white men; young Latino men have a rate that is over 3 times greater (Corbin, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- In California, there were 741 homicide deaths among youth ages 10-24 in 2010. Of those homicides where the race of the victim was reported (680 homicides), 48% (327) were Latino boys and another 31% (212) were black boys. The vast majority of these homicides were deemed “gang-related” and not connected to a felony crime (Violence Policy Center, 2010).

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Fifty-Three percent of non-Hispanic white young men (ages 15-24) live in a two-parent household and 15 percent in a female-headed household. Meanwhile only one-third of black young men live in two-parent households, and 46% live in a female-headed household (Reyes, *Changing Places*, 2010).
- Fresno, Los Angeles, and metropolitan Oakland are among the 20 most economically (family income) segregated regions in the United States, with 47.8%, 45.7%, and 37% of residents, respectively, living in highly concentrated, low-income neighborhoods (Reardon, 2011).

More at <http://www.boysandmenofcolor.org>

References

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- Reardon, Sean and Kendra Bishoff, “Growth in the Residential Segregation of Families by Income, 1970-2009,” (US2010 Project, November 2011) available at: <http://www.s4.brown.edu/us2010/Data/Report/report111111.pdf>
- Violence Policy Center, “Lost Youth: a County-by-County Analysis of 2010 California Homicides Ages 10-24,” (Violence Policy Center, Washington, DC) 2010.