



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 19, 2019

Mass Incarceration and Race in the United States

Tanen, Samantha

Abstract — *In this presentation, I will discuss the relationship between race, specifically African Americans, and mass incarceration. This topic also covers how slavery, discrimination, unequal rights, and racism in the United States have been the foundation of our society.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The meaning of the researched gathered was to expose the racial inequity in America's incarcerated population. I present past justice reform efforts and the inadequacies of these in reducing incarceration rates of African Americans compared to whites. In the analysis of these policies I conclude there are limited public policy reform efforts in place to reduce the number of people sentenced to jail, specifically racial minorities.

II. FINDINGS

The United States is home to around five percent of the world's population, but holds twenty-five percent of the world's prison population. Around six percent of the nation's population is of black men, however, over forty percent of the nation's prison population is of black men. Policy efforts made by past politicians have been shown to increase incarceration rates.

REFERENCES

DuVernay, Ava, director. 13th. 13th, Netflix, December 7 2018.

Gottlieb, Chris. "The Lessons of Mass Incarceration for Child Welfare." New York Amsterdam News: The New Black View, 1 Feb. 2018, Retrieved from amsterdamnews.com/news/2018/feb/01/lessons-mass-incarceration-child-welfare/. December 7 2018.

"Three Strikes Law" https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three-strikes_law. 2016. December 7 2018.