DIVERSITY FORUM

PRESENTED BY THE YWCA GREATER HARRISBURG

MISSION

TO FOSTER INCLUSIVE, ACTION-ORIENTED COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATIONAL FORUMS THAT PROMOTE AND FACILITATE DIALOGUE, BEST PRACTICES AND SOLUTIONS.

VISION

EQUALITY AND EQUITY FOR ALL.

GUIDELINES FOR A "SAFE" & "BRAVE" SPACE

1. RESPECT DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW.
2. SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, NOT ANYONE ELSE.
3. ALLOW EVERYONE A CHANCE TO SHARE.
4. STICK TO THE ISSUE AND DON'T MAKE PERSONAL ATTACKS.
5. WHEN SOMEONE HURTS OR OFFENDS YOU, SAY "OUCH!"

DR. KAREN SCOLFORO

PRESIDENT, CENTRAL PENN COLLEGE

FRED GANTZ

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, HACC
RETIRED CHIEF OF POLICE, GETTYSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

CURRENT LANDSCAPE

Current Landscape: Incarceration Trends

Frederick Gantz, Professor of Sociology
Harrisburg Area Community College

Jurisdictions

- Federal
- State
- Local
- Other

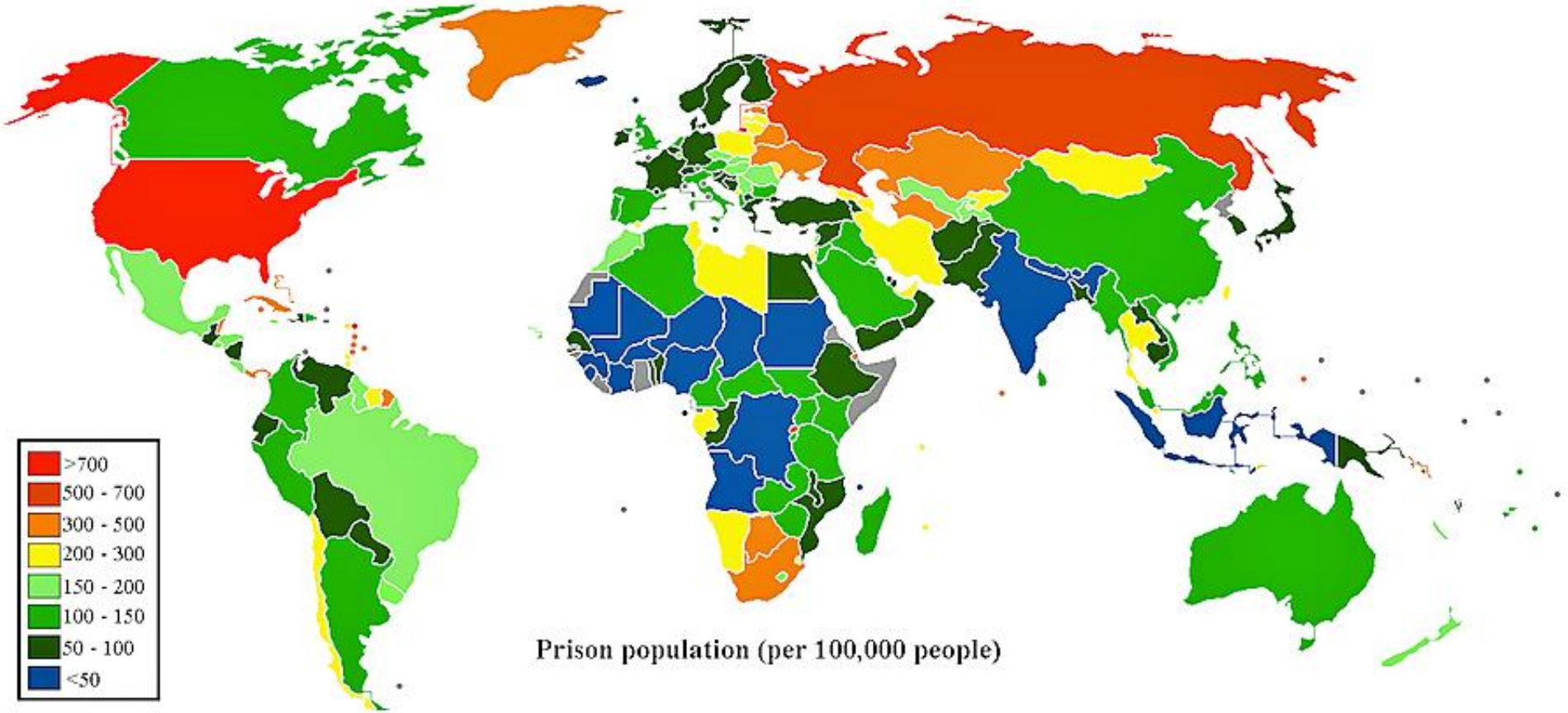
Jail versus Prison?

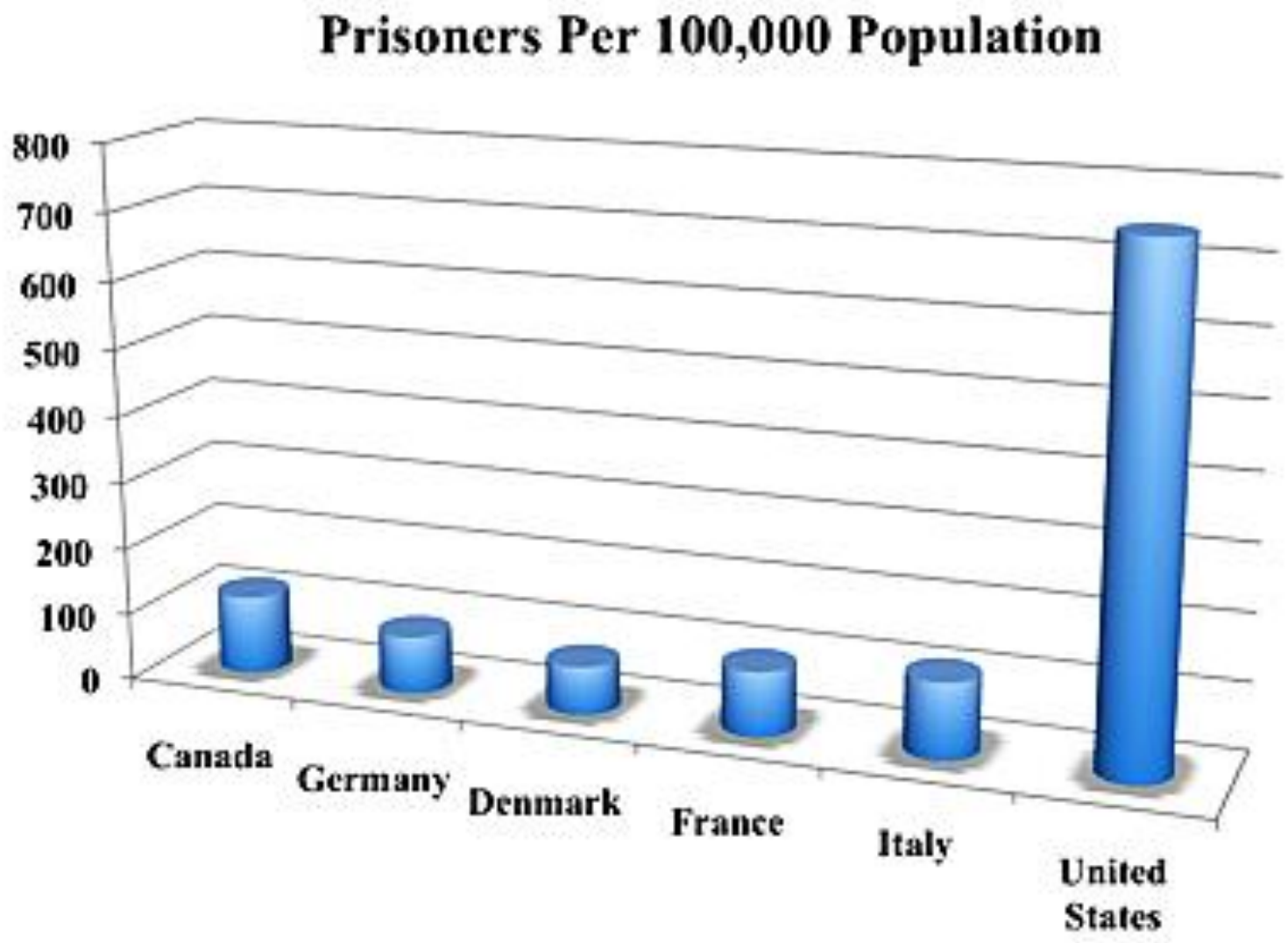
Probation versus Parole?

Diversionary Program?

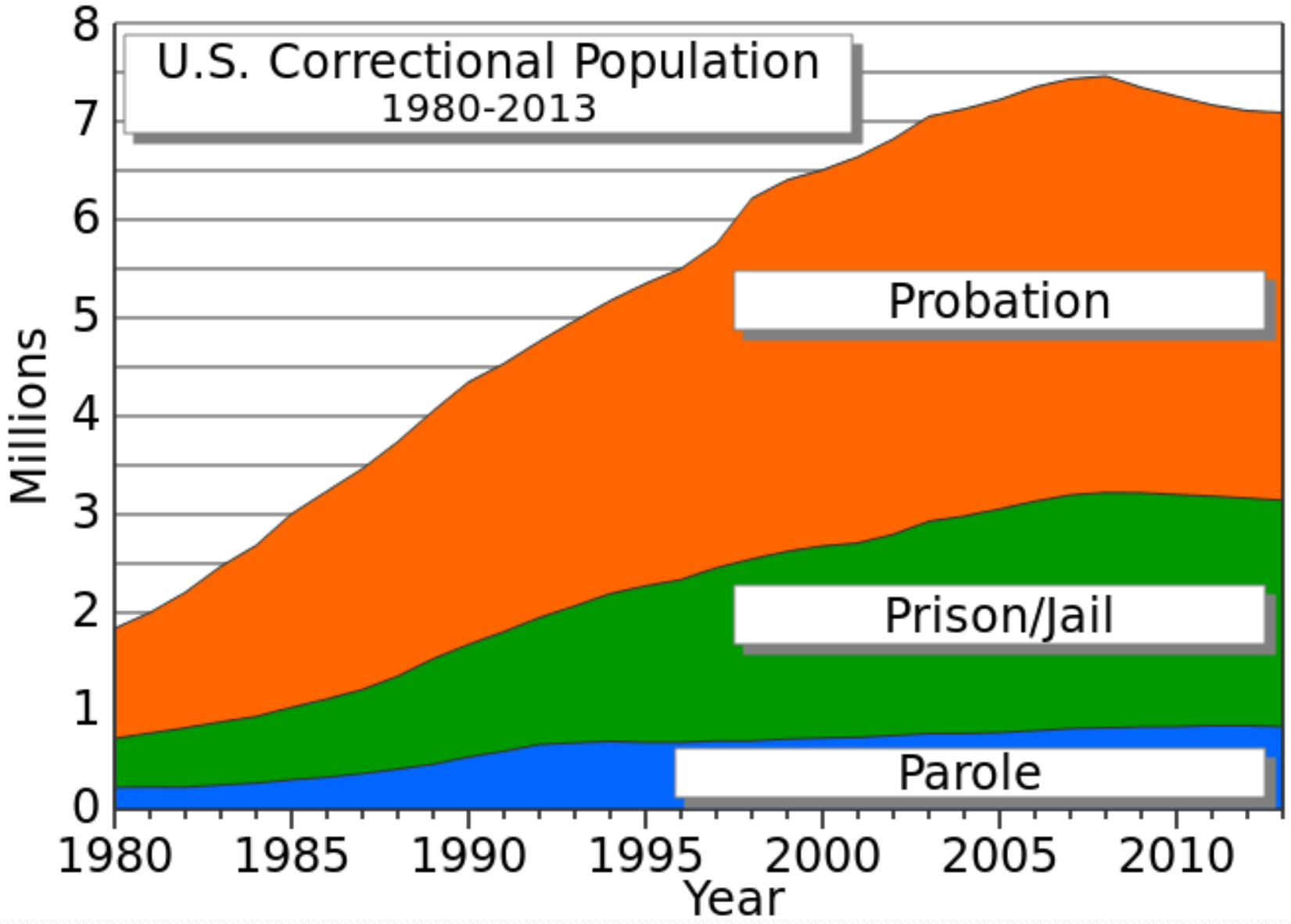
How does the United States prison population compare with other countries?

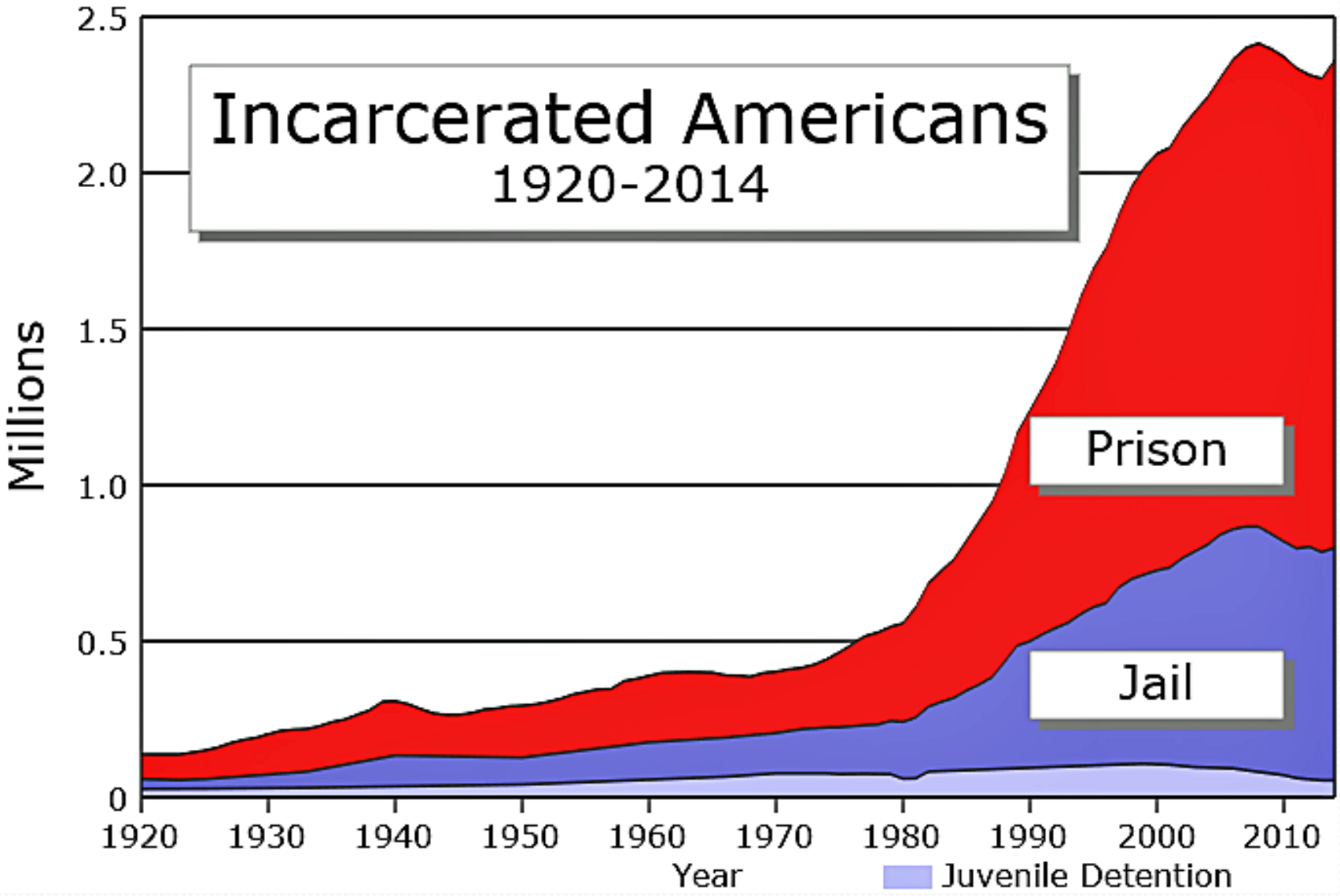
With only 5 percent of the world's population, the United States holds 25 percent of the world's prisoners.


>700
500 - 700
300 - 500
200 - 300
150 - 200
100 - 150
50 - 100
<50
Prison population (per 100,000 people)


Prisoners Per 100,000 Population
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Canada
Germany
Denmark
France
Italy
United States

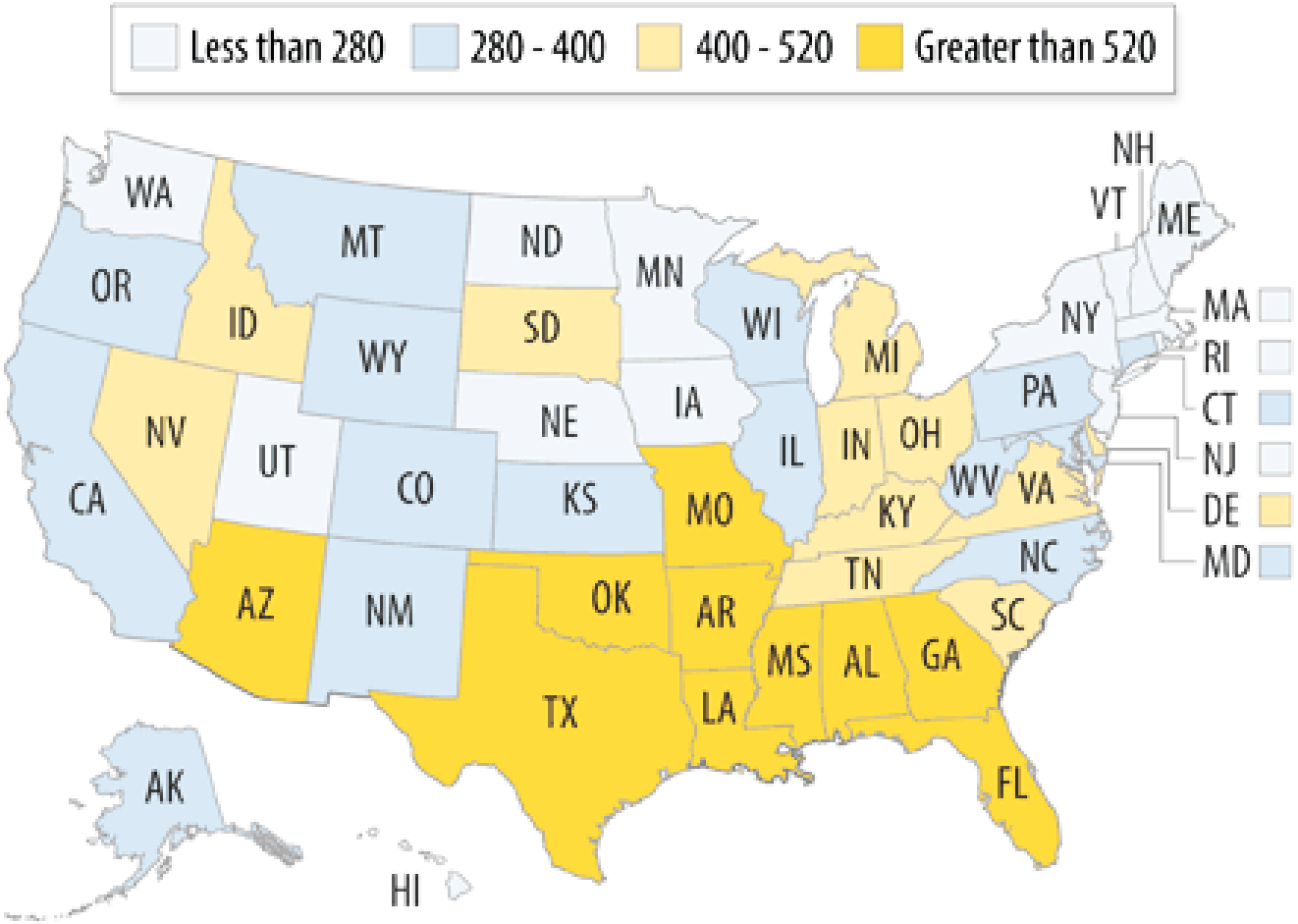
United States
300 million total population
7.1 million total prison population
10 million total crimes in 2008
66% recidivism rate
Executed 33 people already this year
140,000 people serving life sentences
500 million total population
620,000 total prison population
15 million total crimes in 2008
16%-40% recidivism rates
Banned the death penalty in all but two countries
Most European countries have banned life sentences
European Union


U.S. Correctional Population
1980-2013
Probation
Prison/Jail
Parole
Millions
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
1980
1985
1990
1995
2000
2005
2010
Year


Incarcerated Americans
1920-2014
Millions
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010
Year
Prison
Jail
Juvenile Detention

Incarceration Rates Especially High in South and Midwest

Number of sentenced prisoners under state jurisdiction per 100,000 residents, 2013



Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics

How does race, gender, socio-economic status and other social factors influence a person's chance of entering the criminal justice system?

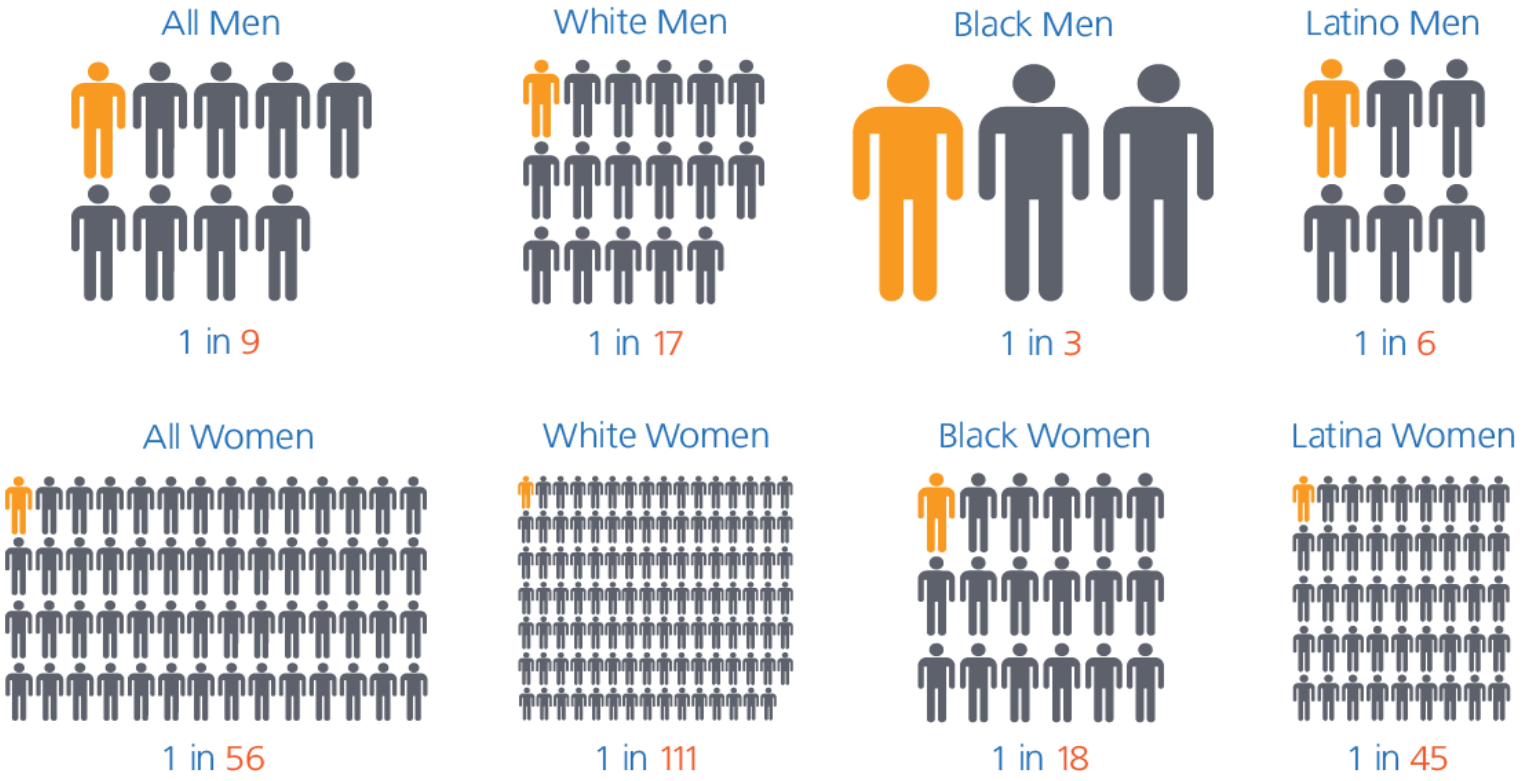
- The number of youth in juvenile commitment has fallen by half since 2000.
- Racial disparities in youth commitment remain large and prevalent.
- One in three juvenile facilities has closed since 2002, with the highest rate of closure for large facilities.

The Sentencing Project ***Declines in Youth Commitments and Facilities in the 21st Century,*** *2015*

- More than 60% of the people in prison are now racial and ethnic minorities.
- For Black males in their thirties, 1 in every 10 is in prison or jail on any given day.
- These trends have been intensified by the disproportionate impact of the "war on drugs," in which two-thirds of all persons in prison for drug offenses are people of color.

The Sentencing Project ***Declines in Youth Commitments and Facilities in the 21st Century,*** *2015*

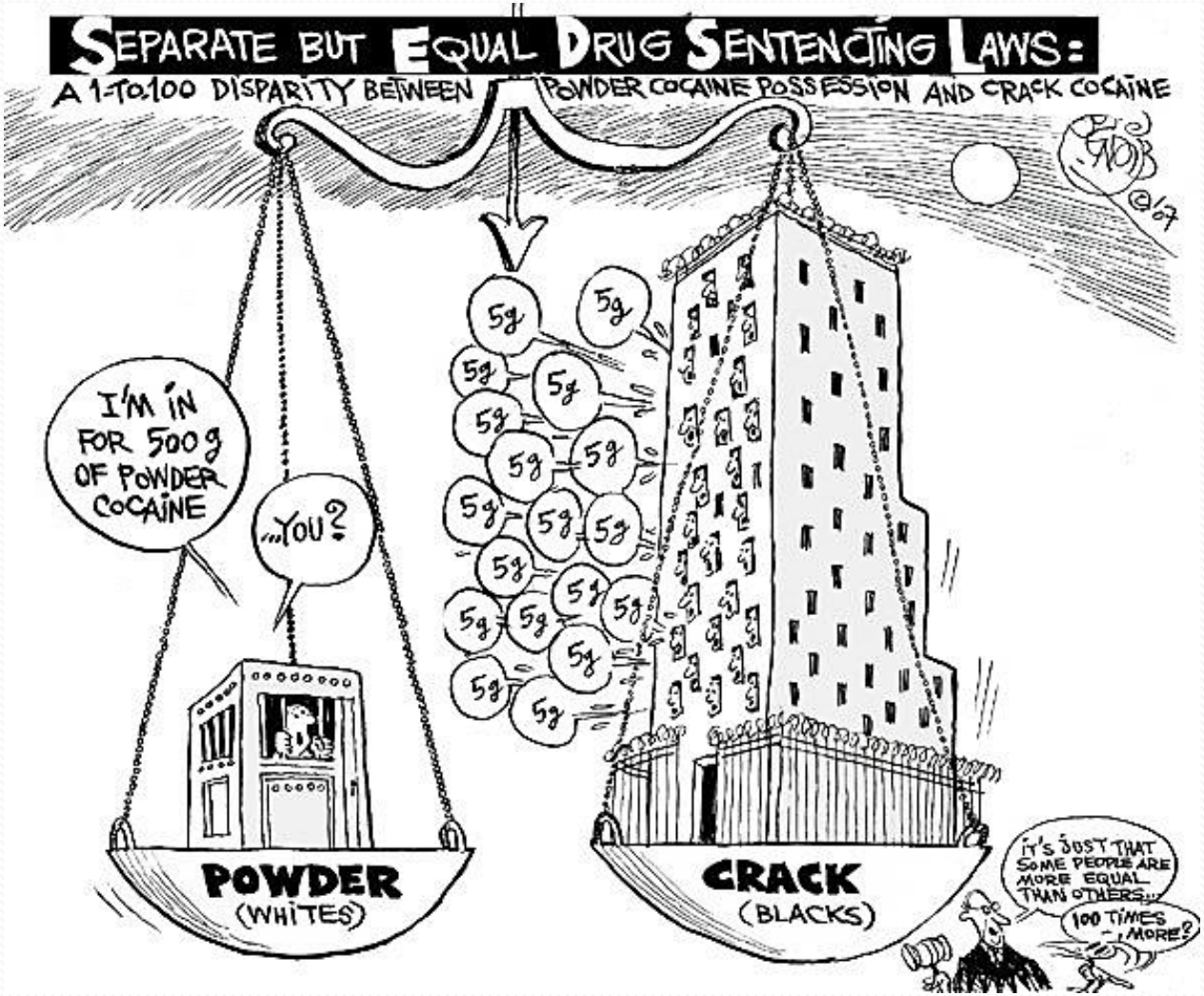
Lifetime Likelihood of Imprisonment



Source: Bonczar, T. (2003). *Prevalence of Imprisonment in the U.S. Population, 1974-2001.* Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

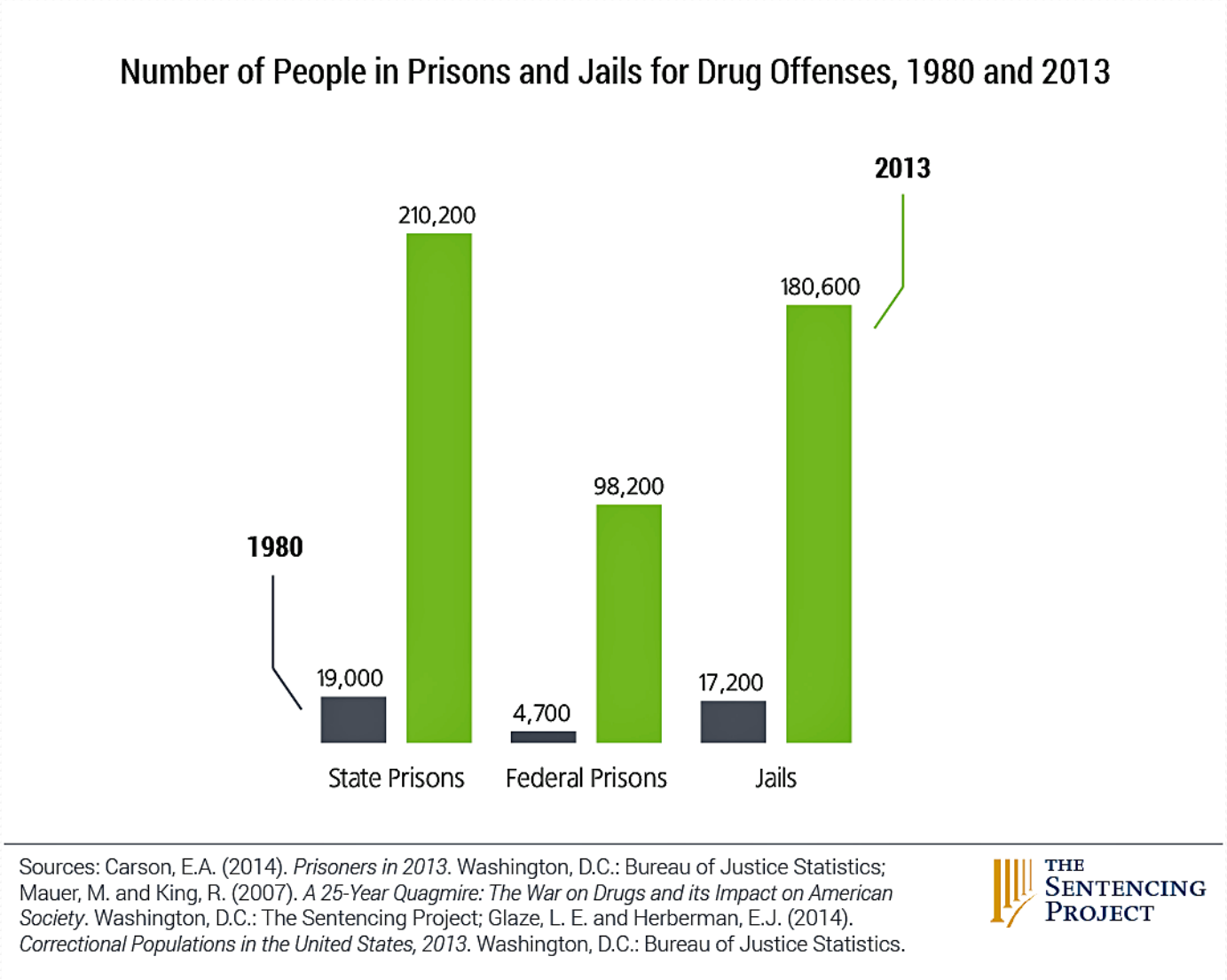
THE SENTENCING PROJECT

Do higher rates of crime within marginalized communities explain their higher rates of incarceration?



Many ostensibly race neutral policies and laws are still disparate in their racial impact.

Blacks are highly over-represented in arrests for drug violations.



Sources: Carson, E.A. (2014). *Prisoners in 2013*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics; Mauer, M. and King, R. (2007). *A 25-Year Quagmire: The War on Drugs and its Impact on American Society*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project; Glaze, L. E. and Herberman, E.J. (2014). *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2013*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

THE SENTENCING PROJECT

The use of police discretion can at times intentionally be influenced by racism.

The use of police discretion can unintentionally be influenced by racial bias.

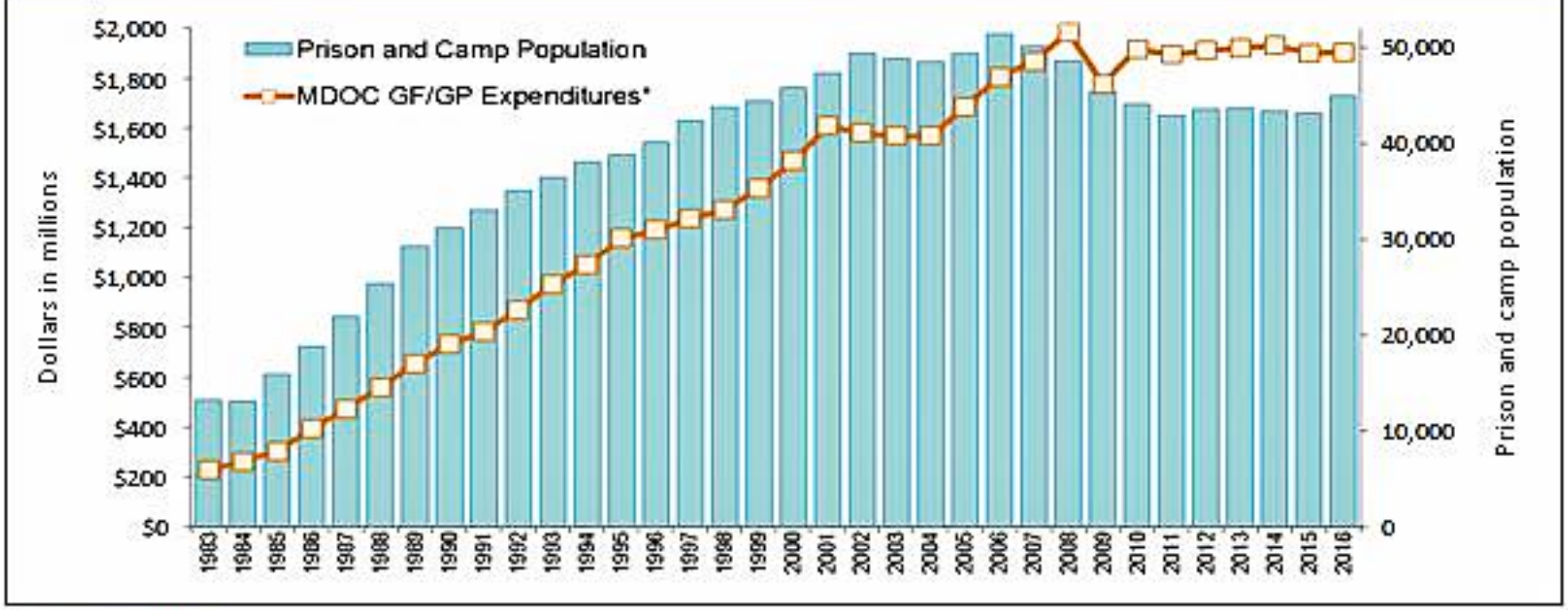
Economic Factors

Key segments of the criminal justice system are under funded, putting minorities - who are disproportionally low income – at a disadvantage.

Criminal justice policies exacerbate socioeconomic inequalities by imposing collateral consequences on those with criminal records.

Criminal justice policies exacerbate socioeconomic inequalities by diverting public spending.

Growth in State Corrections Spending and the Prisoner Population



Source: House Fiscal Agency

Address the idea of Black-on-Black crime.

- **Expanded Homicide Data** Race, Ethnicity, and Sex of Victim by Race, Ethnicity, and Sex of Offender, 2014 FBI/UCR 2014

Race of victim	Race of offender			
	total	White	Black	other/unknown
White	3,021	2,488	446	87
Black	2,451	187	2,205	59

Thank you!

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BRAD WINNICK

DAUPHIN COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

LEGAL BARRIERS TO JUSTICE

ANDY HOOVER

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, ACLU OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATION & JUSTICE

Questions?