

Race_Ethnicity_and_Criminal_Justice.edited.docx

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Race Ethnicity and Criminal Justice

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Race Ethnicity and Criminal Justice

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, the Chicago Police Agency's Bureau of Records has kept count of violence in the city. The city's overall crime rate and highly vicious offenses are more significant than the average in New York and Washington D.C. Even though the country's crime levels stayed primarily near record lows in 2016, Chicago was responsible for roughly half of new shootings in 2016. Although Chicago is frequently asserted amongst the most unsafe cities in the nation, there is contradictory information to back up this claim. The truth is that Chicago is primarily inhabited by African-Americans, whose economic fortunes, segregation, and discrimination have led them into the criminal lives that continue to spike.

In 2016, Chicago recorded an all-time high in homicides, recording five hundred fatalities during the Labor Day weekend (NORTHWESTERN INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH, 2018). A significant number of those murdered were African-American men. Families lose their loved ones; fathers, brothers, sons, and daughters are killed in the process. Some of these men are breadwinners, and their deaths throw their families into disarray. One cannot blame these men and women of Chicago for engaging in crime. According to Ware (2021), the elected representatives have failed the people of Chicago. They have been asked to invest in the people and the city, but they have failed. Also, the residents of Chicago are significantly impoverished. The major problem is the lack of opportunities for African-Americans, especially those who have not gone to school. There are limited opportunities, leading to the surging crime rates. Families who have witnessed their kin getting murdered in cold blood have joined gangs to exert their revenge, exacerbating the problem. There is no refuting that African-American men, particularly those who drive Chicago's crime levels, are disproportionately impacted by joblessness, a lack of economic opportunity, and a slew of other inequities that originate from institutionalized racism.

When likened to cities such as New York and California, the economic outlook for African-American men in Chicago is not promising.

All is not lost for Chicago. There are specific strategies that can help the residents of Chicago prosper and make the city safe. Investing in Chicago neighborhoods trapped in a spiral of violence, decay, and underinvestment can significantly minimize crime levels. According to studies on social affiliations and establishments, solid civic organizations and governance can make a real difference in these neighborhoods (NORTHWESTERN INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH, 2018). In an attempt to solve the condensed drawback at the root of gang violence in communities, investments that enhance integration and sustain schooling, expertise, and access to employment may be required. Housing schemes may prevent the re-concentration of deprivation in impoverished backgrounds and the crossing of baselines associated with increases in criminal activity. Actions to reduce financial, cultural, and ethnic isolation, in a broad sense, can boost societies' greater access to resources for preventing crime and violence and promoting healthy progression. Furthermore, more detailed national statistics on crime rates at the local level can aid in our comprehension of patterns.

References

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