WALKING THE TALK
Bringing Social Justice and Diversity to Direct Practice

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 | 8:30AM - 5:30PM

socialwork.nyu.edu/walkingthetalk
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MSW ’17

PRESENTATION
Roses That Grow From Concrete: New Perspectives on Juvenile Justice
Roses That Grow From Concrete: “New Perspectives on Juvenile Justice”

Terrance Coffie
Roses That Grow From Concrete:

➢ School to Prison Pipeline
➢ Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act
➢ Khalief Browder
➢ Youth Promise Act
➢ Intervention
➢ Artistic Noise Art Exhibition
➢ The Implications
➢ What can we do?
  ➢ Micro – One on One
  ➢ Mezzo – Community Organizations
  ➢ Macro – Policy Reform
Roses That Grow From Concrete:

Who are these Roses?

➢ The total delinquency case rate for black juveniles in 2000 (95.6) more than twice the rate for white juveniles (46.3) and nearly 3 times the rate for youth of other races (32.5).

➢ Eight in 10 of these youth were between the ages of 10 and 15, 12% were age 16, and 8% were age 17.

➢ Within each age group, the delinquency case rate for black juveniles was twice the rate for white juveniles and more than 3 times the rate for youth of other ethnic groups.

➢ 70% from poverty stricken communities and schools

(ncjrs.gov, 2012)
Roses: School To Prison Pipeline

Where Does This Criminalization Begin?
Figure 3. North Carolina Black/White Suspension Rates

Susensions for selected categories of infractions; first offense.
First Offenses/Status Offenses/Valid Court Order:

A "status offense/valid court order" involves conduct that would not be a crime. The actions are considered to be a violation of the law only because of the youth's age (typically anyone under 18 years of age).

➢ Truancy (skipping school).
➢ Violating a city or county curfew.
➢ Underage possession and consumption of alcohol.
➢ Underage possession and use of tobacco.
➢ Running away.
Minority youth are overrepresented within, the juvenile justice system compared to their white peers.

- African-American youth have the highest rates of involvement compared to other racial groups.
- They make up 16 percent of all youth in the general population, but make up 30 percent of juvenile court referrals.
- 38 percent of youth in residential placement (juvenile justice facility)
- 58 percent of youth admitted to state adult prison.
Proportion of 2008 juvenile arrest rates by category of crime

- 20.8% Property crime index (burglary, theft, arson)
- 4.6% Violent crime index (murder, rape, aggravated assault)
- 74.6% Other/nonindex (other assaults, vandalism, drug and alcohol related offenses, breaking curfew)

© National Center for Children in Poverty (www.nccp.org)
Juvenile Justice in the US: Facts for Policymakers
Juveniles in Residential Placement by Race/Hispanic Origin and Gender, 2013

The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement collects data from all juvenile residential custody facilities in the U.S., asking for information on each youth assigned a bed in the facility on the last Wednesday of October. Rates are calculated per 100,000 juveniles ages 10 through the upper age of each state’s juvenile court jurisdiction.

Roses: School To Prison Pipeline

Are Our Children Being Pushed Into Prison?

The Pipeline to Prison: The U.S. has the highest incarceration rate in the world, and its prisons and jails are overwhelmingly filled with African Americans and Latinos. The paths to prison for young African-American and Latino men are many, but the starting points are often the school and foster care systems.

From School to Prison
Students of color face harsher discipline and are more likely to be pushed out of school than whites.

- 40% of students expelled from U.S. schools each year are black.
- 70% of students involved in “in-school” arrests or referred to law enforcement are black or Latino.
- Black students are three and a half times more likely to be suspended than whites.
- 3.5X
- 2X Black and Latino students are twice as likely to not graduate high school as whites.

From Foster Care to Prison
Youth of color are more likely than whites to be placed in the foster care system, a breeding ground for the criminal justice system.

- 68% of all males in state and federal prison do not have a high school diploma.
- 50% of children in the foster care system are black or Latino.
- 30% of foster care youth entering the juvenile justice system are placement-related behavioral cases (e.g., running away from a group home).
- 25% of young people leaving foster care will be incarcerated within a few years after turning 18.
- 50% of young people leaving foster care will be unemployed within a few years after turning 18.
- 61% of incarcerated population vs 30% of U.S. population
- One out of three African-American males will be incarcerated in his lifetime
- One out of six Latino males will be incarcerated in his lifetime

The Color of Mass Incarceration

© Common's Coalition
African Americans make up 13% of the general US population, yet they constitute 28% of all arrests, 40% of all inmates held in prisons and jails, and 42% of the population on death row.

In contrast, Whites make up 67% of the total US population and 70% of all arrests, yet only 40% of all inmates held in state prisons or local jails and 56% of the population on death row.

Hispanics and Native Americans are also alarmingly overrepresented in the criminal justice system. This overrepresentation of people of color in the nation’s criminal justice system, also referred to as disproportionate minority contact (DMC), is a serious issue in our society. (nccdglobal.org)
WRONGLY IMPRISONED
This legislation was passed in 1974. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) are broad federal standards that protects children, youth, and families involved with the juvenile and criminal justice system.
Four Core Provisions:

➢ Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO);
➢ Adult Jail and Lock-Up Removal (Jail Removal);
➢ Sight and Sound Separation; and
➢ Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC).
Roses: Intervention Programs
Roses: Youth Promise Act

Youth PROMISE Act:

Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education

The Youth Promise Act is bipartisan legislation that will give our communities the support and funding they need to effectively address issues of youth involved with the juvenile justice system.

By specifically focusing on violence prevention and intervention strategies, this bill ensures we are funding programs that save lives and give every young person the opportunity to meet his or her potential.
In light of the growing body of research, we now know that the better and more cost-effective place to stop the “cradle to prison pipeline” is as close to the beginning of that pipeline as possible. Early intervention prevents the onset of delinquent behavior and supports the development of a youth’s assets and resilience.

(youth.gov)
Roses: Youth Promise Act
Roses: Intervention Programs

➢ Classroom and behavior management programs
➢ Multi-component classroom-based programs
➢ Social competence promotion curriculums
➢ Conflict resolution and violence prevention curriculums
➢ Bullying prevention programs
➢ Afterschool recreation programs
➢ Mentoring programs
➢ School organization programs
➢ Comprehensive community interventions
Roses: Intervention Programs:
My Brothers Keeper: Barack Obama
Roses: Artistic Noise Art Exhibition

Educate Don't Incarcerate presents

Roses that Grew from Concrete

An art exhibition of growth

Educate Don't Incarcerate is hosting an art exhibition in support of Artistic Noise, an organization that brings the freedom and power of creativity to young people who are incarcerated, on probation, or otherwise involved in the justice system. Artistic Noise creates safe spaces where court-involved youth can be seen, heard, and supported on their path to adulthood.

Art has the power to change perceptions because it can convey humanity and transformation. It has the capacity to elicit an empathetic connection from the viewer; the kind of response is needed to affect the necessary shift in the contemporary narrative about youth with a criminal conviction.

Art Show & Panel Discussion

Friday, February 3rd, 2017
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

New York University
Silver School of Social Work
1 Washington Square N,
New York, NY 10003

Register online at: www.artisticnoiseatnyu.eventbrite.com
Roses: Artistic Noise Art Exhibition
Roses: What Can You Do?
Roses: What Can You Do?

Micro Work:
High-risk youths often are referred to as “disconnected” because they rarely have family to rely on or a healthy support network to help guide them; their lives may be filled with risks and characterized by drugs, sexual exploitation, violence, living on the streets, and family breakdown; and they typically have difficulty trusting adults and perceive that they’re alone in the world.
Micro’s Helpful Hints:

➢ Be available.
➢ Value youths and believe they’re worth the effort.
➢ Go the extra mile.
➢ Be self-aware.
➢ Communicate a consistent message: “I will not give up on you”
➢ Expect to be tested.
➢ Explore youth's motivation to change.
➢ Be patient.
➢ Allow trust to evolve naturally.
➢ Inspire hope.
➢ Intentionally interact.
Roses: What Can You Do?

Mezzo Work:
Social workers practicing mezzo work face unique challenges, generally will have experience in both micro and macro work and use this experience in tandem. You will need to be experienced with both interpersonal relations and community involvement. You may work with a variety of different clients from small to medium-sized businesses, schools, local organizations, neighborhoods, and other small groups.
Roses: What Can You Do?

Mezzo’s Helpful Hints:

➢ Approach practice with a stance of “not knowing”.
➢ Listen for cultured narratives.
➢ View practice as “mutual interchange” because relationships have “mutual influence”.
➢ Recognize how individuals and groups construct their identities through an ongoing, fluid process.
➢ Facilitate group and community interaction.
➢ Networking & referrals to facilitate change.
Roses: What Can You Do?

Macro Work:
The practice of macro social work is the effort to help clients by intervening in large systems. Examples include lobbying to change a health care law, organizing a statewide activist group or advocating for large-scale social policy change.

Macro social work generally addresses issues experienced in mezzo or micro social work practice, as well as social work research.

Macro practice empowers clients by involving them in systemic change.
Macro’s Helpful Hints:

➢ Gain an understanding of social work at the micro level to be better able to translate those issues into policy.
➢ Learn about macro level social and political groups or organizations currently involved in policy work. Get Involved!!
➢ Find mentors and a community in your field of study.
➢ Be flexible and willing to compromise.
➢ Educate the community you are serving.
Roses That Grow From Concrete: The Implications Without Intervention:

➢ Children are more likely to become more involved in the juvenile justice system.
➢ More likely to drop out of school.
➢ At a higher rate of being involved in the adult criminal justice system.
➢ At higher risk for substance abuse usage and drug addiction.
➢ Higher chances of becoming teen/single parent.
➢ Suffer from physical or mental health problems.
➢ Have difficulty in the labor market later in life.
➢ Higher rates of being involved with gangs and gang activity.
Roses That Grow From Concrete