

(STPP)



Workshop Overview

Purpose of the workshop: Examination of the production and perpetuation of the pipeline that leads children from schools to prisons, and the situations and systems that thwart human potential and relationships inside institutions and after incarceration.

Objectives:

- To educate participants on the meaning and cost of School to Prison Pipeline on Black Youth.
- To identify contributing factors to School to Prison Pipeline
- To identify protective factors to youth at risk for School to Prison Pipeline.

School to Prison Pipeline Definition

The School to Prison Pipeline describes the cumulative effect of various federal, state and local school district disciplinary and discretionary policies that push youth out of school and into the criminal justice system. The School to Prison Pipeline encompasses the policies and practices that lead young people down the path to incarceration rather than to a quality education.

Epidemiology



**Epidemic or
Outbreak**

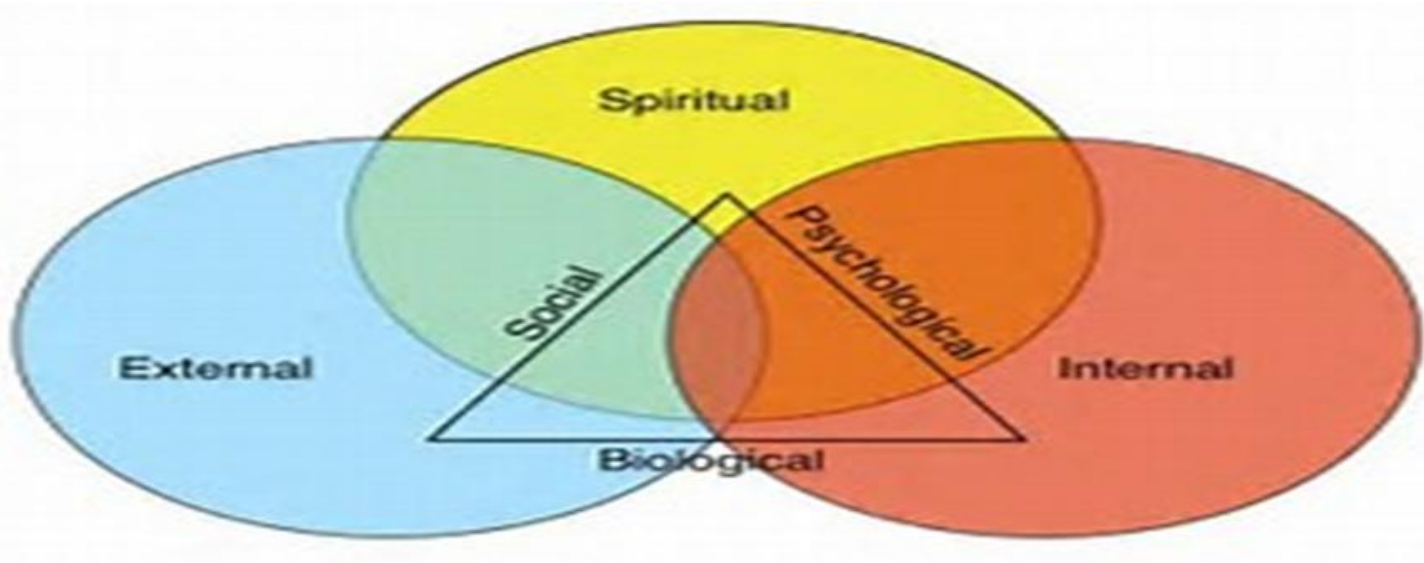
An epidemic is the rapid spread of infectious disease to a large number of people in a given population within a short period of time

Measuring the incidence and prevalence of the school-to-prison pipeline is crucial for several reasons:

1. Identifying Scope and Scale
2. Targeting Disparities
3. Informing Policy and Practice
4. Monitoring Trends Over Time
5. Raising Awareness
6. Resource Allocation
7. Building Community Support
8. Supporting Students' Needs

Prevalence	Measures existing cases of disease and is expressed as a proportion
Incidence	Measures new cases of disease and is expressed in person-time units

BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL MODEL



The biopsychosocial model ("BPS") is a broad view that attributes disease causation or disease outcome to the intricate, variable interaction of biological factors (genetic, biochemical, etc), psychological factors (mood, personality, behavior, etc), and social factors (cultural, familial, socioeconomic, medical, etc).

Effects of STPP Traumatization





The Invisible Crisis!!

African American Youth
Experiences with Racism
and Discrimination can
lead Trauma that may
result in Behavior Health
Disorders and contribute
to the School to Prison
Pipeline.

The Problem.....

We fail to recognize traumatic experiences that youth experience and how it may affect their behavior.



Our response to youth misconduct and behavioral problems has become overly reliant on the use of a punitive prison response rather than prevention, treatment, and application of the least restrictive corrective measures possible. We fail to look at the root causes of juvenile conduct associated with negative activity and apparently add to the problems of our young people in our myopic blame the victim mentality.

Historical Trauma



Historical trauma is a factor that may adversely impact healthy development for youth in these communities.

Ancestor challenges Family
Dynamics The Law (the
deception of it all!)

Witnessing or experiencing race-related trauma damages the psychological wellbeing of minority youth. African American youth not only encounter race-related trauma in their neighborhoods but also in school.



Key aspects of
STPP issue
include:

Disproportionate Impact

Mental Health Consequences

Community Health Effects

Stigmatization and Marginalization.

THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE IN ARIZONA

Snapshot



Too many Arizona children are pushed out of school and pulled into the juvenile and criminal justice system.

KEY DRIVERS IN ARIZONA SCHOOLS



EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE

Suspensions and expulsions remove students from the classroom and increase risk of justice involvement.



CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Missing 10% or more of school days is linked to lower achievement and higher justice risk.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

Many students face trauma, anxiety, depression and other needs without adequate supports.



SCHOOL DISENGAGEMENT

Disconnection from school leads to academic challenges, substance use and delinquency.



REFERRALS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

School-based law enforcement and zero-tolerance policies can escalate minor issues into legal involvement.



WHAT IS THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE?

Policies, practices and conditions that push students—especially those who are disproportionately impacted—out of school and increase their likelihood of justice system involvement.



THE IMPACT



Students who are suspended are up to **3x** more likely to be in contact with the juvenile justice system.



Students who are chronically absent in 6th grade are **4x** more likely to drop out of high school.



Native American students are disproportionately suspended and referred to law enforcement.



Disconnection from school increases the risk of substance use, exploitation and long-term justice involvement.

ARIZONA BY THE NUMBERS



57,000+

students in Arizona were suspended (2022-2023 school year).

AZ Dept. of Education



1 IN 5

students experiences chronic absenteeism. (2022-2023 school year)

AZ Dept. of Education



BLACK STUDENTS

are suspended at nearly **3x** the rate of White students.

AZ Dept. of Education



1 IN 3

youth in the juvenile justice system has a history of school suspension.

Annie E. Casey Foundation



73%

of Arizona youth in detention have not completed high school.

AZ Dept. of Juvenile Corrections

WHAT WORKS: PIPELINE INTERRUPTERS

- ✓ Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
- ✓ Restorative Practices
- ✓ Trauma-Informed Care
- ✓ Mental Health & Substance Use Support
- ✓ Academic Engagement & Attendance Support
- ✓ Family Engagement & Community Partnerships
- ✓ Diversion & Re-Engagement Programs



HOW WE CAN CHANGE THE PATH



Invest in students, not suspension. Support, don't exclude.



Address root causes: trauma, poverty, mental health and unmet needs.



Keep youth connected to school, support and opportunity.



Stronger communities start with stronger supports for our kids.

EVERY STUDENT DESERVES THE CHANCE TO LEARN, GROW AND SUCCEED — NOT BE PUSHED OUT AND PUSHED TOWARD PRISON.



TOGETHER, WE CAN INTERRUPT THE PIPELINE.



Action items

Addressing the school-to-prison pipeline requires a holistic approach that considers these interconnected dimensions to promote the well-being of African American students and support their success in both education and life.

Action items (small group)

1. What specific data collection methods can we implement to accurately track the incidence and prevalence of disciplinary actions and their impact on marginalized student populations within our schools?
2. How can we develop and promote restorative justice practices and alternatives to exclusionary discipline that effectively address student behavior while maintaining a supportive educational environment?
3. What partnerships can we establish with local community organizations and mental health services to provide comprehensive support for students at risk of being affected by the school-to-prison pipeline?

Group: Share with the main group 1 action item to be achieved

Conclusion

- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS?
- CALL TO ACTION