

# The Negative Impact of Exclusionary School Discipline

including prosecuting children for misbehaviors that can be addressed within the school environment

Why should schools choose to address student misbehavior within the school code of conduct instead of relying upon exclusionary discipline practices and juvenile court prosecution?



## Statistics

Cost to taxpayers for a child in the detention system: \$97,000/year

Cost to society for a life of crime of a high risk youth: \$3.8 million

Cost of after-school programs: \$3,800/year

Cost of public university education: \$22,000/year

Cost for Job Corps training: \$39,000/year

Investing in the future of our youth through education and treatment results in lower costs and greater benefits

Community based treatment programs can yield benefits of up to \$13 for every dollar spent

The benefit to society through the lifetime tax contributions of a four-year college degree holder is \$1,000,000

Community based treatment programs also reduce recidivism by up to 22%

Students who experience out-of-school suspension are far more likely to drop out of high school, which has detrimental economic effect on society as a whole

A high school dropout will earn \$400,000-\$485,000 less over a lifetime than a high school graduate

The loss in tax revenue to state and federal governments is in the billions of dollars

It is beneficial to society to find alternatives to exclusionary discipline practices for both economic and healthcare reasons

Above Statistics from:

[http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/09\\_05\\_R EP\\_CostsofConfinement\\_JJ\\_PS.pdf](http://www.justicepolicy.org/images/upload/09_05_R EP_CostsofConfinement_JJ_PS.pdf)

[http://blueprintky.org/documents/12pub\\_Ending-the-use-of-Incarceration-for-Status-Offenses-in-Kentucky.pdf](http://blueprintky.org/documents/12pub_Ending-the-use-of-Incarceration-for-Status-Offenses-in-Kentucky.pdf)

Left Facts from:

American Academy of Pediatrics, "Out-of-School Suspension and Expulsion", February 23, 2013  
<http://pediatrics.aapublications.org/content/131/3/e1000.full#sec-5>

Shore R, Shore B. "Kids count indicators brief: reducing the high school dropout rate," Baltimore, MD: The Anna E Casey Foundation; 2009.

National Institutes of health. "Pathways linking education to health," Washington, DC: National Institutes of Health; 2003.  
[www.federalgrants.com/PATHWAYS-LINKING-EDUCATION-TO-HEALTH-4663.html](http://www.federalgrants.com/PATHWAYS-LINKING-EDUCATION-TO-HEALTH-4663.html)



Below From:

Breaking School's Rules: A Statewide Study of How School Discipline Relates to Students' Success and Juvenile Justice Involvement located at <http://justicecenter.csg.org/resources/juveniles/report>



Parents whose actions or neglect contribute to the child's misbehavior should be held accountable.

Kentucky statutes allow for parents of children adjudicated as public offenders to be fined if the court finds that the guardian has failed to exercise reasonable parental control and this failure is the proximate cause of the act that the child was adjudicated for. (KRS 610.180)

That court may also order parents or guardians to participate in treatment or social service programs ordered for the child (KRS 610.160)

It is also possible for that court to assess detention costs of a child to parents if a child is adjudicated guilty as a habitual truant or public offender and; 1. the child has previously been adjudicated guilty as a habitual truant or public offender or is now being considered for transfer as a youthful offender, 2. failure of neglect of the parent to exercise control substantially contributed to the adjudicated act, [and] 3. the parent has the ability to pay the fees ordered. (KRS) 610.295)

Exclusionary discipline policies which separate children from the educational environment have a large impact on the achievement gap and graduation rates, significantly impacting youth of color at a disproportionate rate

The incarceration of children removes them from home and places children with other young people, many of whom have committed more serious, violent offenses.

In Kentucky, as in many other states, all children charged with status or public offenses or offenses qualifying for transfer to adult court are incarcerated together in Kentucky's Juvenile Justice Detention Centers and if committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice are placed together in Kentucky's Youth Development Centers.

Final DJJDP Report on  
Very Young Offenders located at  
<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/186162.pdf>

In that environment, children learn from their peers and model even more anti-social and oppositional behavior.

Children then identify themselves as criminals or gang members.



Charging children in court with offenses that could be addressed within the school environment disempowers the school because it reduces the school's capacity to assume its rightful position of authority vis a vis the child.

<http://www.ncsc.org/sitecore/content/microsites/future-trends-2012/home/Other-pages/SchoolToPrison-Pipeline-In-Texas.aspx>



Studies indicate that many schools fail to implement the full range of services available to address school discipline and often employ exclusionary discipline without thought to a more systemic approach to changing school culture. More intentional and innovative school districts have chosen to adopt.

