

**The Institute for Research in African-American Studies
and The Center for Contemporary Black History
at Columbia University presents**



**AFRICANA STUDIES
AGAINST CRIMINAL
INJUSTICE:**

RESEARCH -- EDUCATION -- ACTION

**Friday, April 11, 2003
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
and
Saturday, April 12, 2003
Columbia University School of International Affairs
New York, New York**

April 2003

Welcome conferees:

Thank you for participation in this conference on, “Africana Studies Against Criminal Injustice: Research, Education, and Action.” The conference brings concerned people together to address racial inequality in the administration of justice, including the crises of mass criminalization and imprisonment for individuals, families, and communities of color. Through this conference and our larger and ongoing initiative – the Africana Criminal Justice Project – we hope to inform and strengthen ongoing and new struggles against racialized criminal (in)justice.

The conference is organized to promote cross-cutting community exchange on a wide variety of relevant issues along the color line of social control. In the course of two days, scholars, artists, activists, practitioners, and other community members will offer moderated discussions, workshops, and performances relating to race, crime, and (in)justice in the United States and beyond. Major leaders in research, education, and organizing – including many who have personally experience the problems at hand – have been invited to share their perspectives, and strategies for social change.

Indeed, the importance of this event lies very much in the timing of its occurrence. The terrible and dangerous intersection of race, crime, and (in)justice had been most forcefully revealed, at least in the modern era, by late twentieth-century U.S. Wars against “Crime” and “Drugs.” Yet today we are learning these and still new lessons from a changing terrain of racialized injustice, one with a global front, officially described as a campaign against “Terror.” New modes of research, education, and action are required to address mounting War casualties, here and abroad, and ultimately to imagine and realize a social world with actual justice and liberty for all.

The conference is sponsored by the Africana Criminal Justice Project, an initiative of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, and Center for Contemporary Black History, at Columbia University. We are greatly appreciative of funding provided by the Criminal Justice Initiative of the Open Society Institute, and for the contributions of those organizers, presenters, volunteers, and participants who have made this event possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Manning Marable
Director, Africana Criminal Justice Project
Center for Contemporary Black History
Columbia University

Dr. Geoff Ward
Coordinator, Africana Criminal Justice Project
Center for Contemporary Black History
Columbia University

About Us: The Africana Criminal Justice Project

Africana Studies Against Criminal Injustice: Research – Education – Action is a community and academic conference, sponsored by the Africana Criminal Justice Project at Columbia University. We take a moment here to say a little more about the Africana Criminal Justice Project (ACJP), and to invite your participation and feedback in ongoing ACJP initiatives.

ACJP is a research, education, and organizing initiative which began over one-year ago at Columbia University, under the direction of Dr. Manning Marable, and coordination of Dr. Geoff Ward. The project has two core objectives: 1) encouraging more critical engagement with intersections of race, crime, and (in)justice in African-American and Africana Studies programs and departments at U.S. colleges and universities, and; 2) helping to address the ongoing crisis of mass criminalization and incarceration, and their particularly devastating consequences for African-American individuals, families and communities.

We are pursuing these objectives through various ACJP initiatives, including:

- Work Groups and Conferences: Small and large gatherings to communicate about and devise strategies against problems along the intersection of race, crime, and (in)justice.
- Intellectual History Research: Examining knowledge on race, crime, and (in)justice in the black intellectual tradition, focusing on written works since the U.S. colonial period.
- Oral History Research: Documenting human aspects and social consequences of mass criminalization and incarceration in African-American communities.
- Educational Initiatives: Developing curricula for teaching about race, crime, and (in)justice in traditional and alternative educational settings.
- Arts and Technology: Using creative and multi-media approaches, including cultural performance and internet technology, to promote research, education, and action on racialized criminal (in)justice.

Through these and other efforts, ACJP will hopefully contribute positively to a growing movement for racial justice, not only in policing, the courts, and so-called corrections, but in the more general and everyday functioning of our societies, local, national, and global.

With no immediate end to this challenge in sight, we expect the Africana Criminal Justice Project to continue and grow over the months and years ahead. We invite your participation and suggestions along the way, and ask for your support. For more information and to become involved, visit us on the internet at, www.columbia.edu/cu/ccbh; send email to iraas-acjpconference@columbia.edu; or call (212)854-7094.

Conference Schedule

Friday, April 11: **The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture**
515 Malcolm X Blvd. (at 135th Street)
New York, NY 10037

12:00 – 5:00 Registration
Langston Hughes Auditorium, Atrium

1:00 – 1:30 Opening Remarks
Langston Hughes Auditorium

1:30 – 1:45 Performance

Spoken Word featuring Bryonn Bain, The Blackout Arts Collective
Langston Hughes Auditorium

1:45 – 3:15 Concurrent Sessions

A. Race, Crime and (In)justice: Dimensions and Responses (Langston Hughes Auditorium)

Todd Clear, Sociology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, "The racial concentration of Incarceration at the neighborhood level."

Laura T. Fishman, Sociology, University of Vermont, "Resistance, Redemption and Transformation: African-American and Latino Prisoners Living with the HIV/AIDS Virus."

Bryan Stevenson, Director of the Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama.

Madison Hobley, former death row inmate exonerated in Illinois, member of Death Row 10.

Moderator: Geoff Ward, Research Fellow, Vera Institute of Justice, Coordinator of the Africana Criminal Justice Project, Columbia University.

B. Workshop: The World Without – Developing a world beyond prisons (American Negro Theatre)

Moderators: Kate Rhee and nehemiah bey, Prison Moratorium Project

Description: Facilitated discussion challenges participants to envision a world without the prison industrial complex. The prison industrial complex offers no real solutions to broader systemic conditions that place people of color, poor people, womyn, queer folks and other oppressed peoples in the situations they face. We hope to have an open dialogue, with concrete ideas about a world beyond and without prisons.

3:15 – 3:30 Short Break

3:30 – 5:00 Concurrent Sessions

A. Leadership Roles and Initiatives of People Formerly Incarcerated (Langston Hughes Auditorium)

Awilda Gonzalez, Nu-Leadership Policy Group.
Charles Lanier, Criminal Justice, University at Albany, Nu-Leadership Policy Group.
Khalil Osiris, Senior Consultant, LifeQuest Services.
George Prendes, Nu-Leadership Policy Group.

Moderator: Divine Pryor, Nu-Leadership Policy Group.

B. Impact of Criminal Justice Systems on Black Children & Youth (American Negro Theatre)

Mike Lindsey, Psychology, U. Texas at Arlington, “Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline: The Need for Normative Psychological Data on Black Youth.”

Carla Shedd, Sociology, Northwestern University, “Race, Perceptions of Injustice, and Delinquency.”

Rosemary Sarri, Social Work, U. of Michigan, “Children of Incarcerated African-American Women.”

Elaine Brown, Mothers Advocating Juvenile Justice, author of *The Condemnation of Little B*. Title TBA

Moderator: Geoff Ward, Coordinator, Africana Criminal Justice Project.

5:00 – 5:30 Performance

Spoken Word featuring Members of the Blackout Arts Collective and nehemiah bey
Langston Hughes Auditorium

5:30 – 7:30 Evening Conversation

Felon Disfranchisement and Civil Disability: Black Codes for the Twenty-First Century

Langston Hughes Auditorium

Chris Uggen, Sociology, U. of Minnesota, “Ballot Manipulation and the ‘Menace of Negro Domination’: Racial Threat and Felon Disfranchisement in the United States, 1850-2000.”

Marc Mauer, Assistant Director of The Sentencing Project, co-editor of *Invisible Punishment: Collateral Consequences of Mass Imprisonment*.

Peter Wagner, Co-Director of Prison Policy Initiative, “Felon Disenfranchisement, the Census and the Three-Fifths Clause.”

Janai Nelson, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Lead Attorney in Recently Filed Case, *Hayden v. Pataki*, Challenging Disfranchisement in New York.

Joseph Hayden, Founder, Prodigal Sons and Daughters, Plaintiff in *Hayden v. Pataki*.

Moderator: Manning Marable, Director, Africana Criminal Justice Project, and Center for Contemporary Black History, Columbia University.

7:30 – 8:30 Closing Reception (Evening Event at Riverside Church, See Flyer!)

Saturday, April 12: **School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University**
420 W. 118th Street (off Amsterdam Ave.)
New York, NY 10027

9:00 – 5:00 **Registration**
Altschul Auditorium, Atrium

9:30 – 10:00 **Continental Breakfast and Welcome**
Altschul Auditorium

10:00 – 11:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

A. Race, Crime and (In)justice: Dimensions and Responses (Altschul Auditorium)

Tony Platt, Social Work, CSU at Sacramento, “Reconstructing Race & Crime: The Radical Tradition Revisited.”

Larry Mamiya, Religion & African-American Studies, Vassar College, “Jailhouse Religion: Religion in Prison and Change in U.S. Society.”

Angela Hilton, Literature, Purdue University, “Motherhood on Trial: Black Mothers Negotiating the Criminal Justice System in African American Literature.”

Lewis Gordon, Africana Studies, Brown University, “Race, Class, and the White Illicit Economy of Culpability.”

Moderator: Geoff Ward, Coordinator, Africana Criminal Justice Project.

B. Policing in the Black Experience (Jerome Greene Hall, Room 105)

George Musgrove, History, New York University, “The Harassment of Black Congress People: Race, Citizenship, and State Power in Post-Civil Rights America.”

Andrea Ritchie, INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence, “Invisible Crimes, Inadequate Remedies: Police Brutality against African American Women.”

Delores Jones-Brown, Law and Police Science, John Jay College (CUNY), “And We are not Saved: The Waning Impact of Tennessee v. Garner on the loss of Black Life at the Hands of the Police.”

Bill McIver, Information Science, SUNY-Albany, “Impacts of Information and Communications Technologies on African Americans in the Criminal Justice System: Selected Issues in Policing and Corrections.”

Moderator: King Downing, Coordinator, National ACLU Campaign Against Racial Profiling.

11:30 – 1:00 Concurrent Sessions

A. Workshop: Making Ex-Prisoners Voices and Votes Count (Altschul Auditorium)

Julian Brown, Assistant Director, Developing Justice, Fifth Avenue Committee.

Le'Roi Gill, Executive Director, Central Brooklyn Churches.

Robin Templeton, Director, National Campaign to Restore Voting Rights.

Moderator: Ludovic Blain, Associate Director, Democracy Program, D_mos.

Description: Who can vote in NY, who knows that they can, and what can we do about increasing both of those numbers? We'll have a broad conversation about the coalition-building, organizing and advocacy work that it takes to change laws, policies and attitudes about voting by citizens with felony convictions. Participants will be able to engage with the challenges of re-integrating felons into communities, with full voices and votes.

B. Crime and Community (Jerome Greene Hall, Room 105)

Frankie Bailey, Criminal Justice, SUNY-Albany, "African American Crime Writers and the 'Mean Streets' of the Inner City."

Camille Gibson, Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Prairie View A&M, "Student-Teacher Relationships and African American Male Delinquency."

Biko Agozino, Criminology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, "Fractals of Black Macho Youth."

Shaun Gabbidon, Social Policy, "Crime Prevention in the African American Community: Lessons from the Nation of Islam."

Moderator: Russell Rickford, African-American Studies, Columbia University.

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch Break (see restaurant listings in program)

2:00 – 2:30 Short Film

"Sun Up till Sun Down: No More Prisons," Produced by Prison Moratorium Project
Altschul Auditorium

2:30 – 3:30 Concurrent Sessions

A. Impact of Criminal Justice Systems on Black Women and Girls (Altschul Auditorium)

Natalie Sokoloff, Sociology, John Jay College (CUNY), “Impact of the Prison Industrial Complex on Black Women.”

Nikki Jones, Sociology, University of Pennsylvania, “A Bad Relationship: Violence in the Lives of Incarcerated Black Women.”

LaShawnDa L. Pittman, Sociology, Northwestern University, “Shackles on My Feet and High Heels: the Criminalization of Juvenile Prostitutes.”

Katheryn Russell Brown, Criminal Justice, University of Maryland, “First Comes Dating?: An Exploratory Analysis of African-American Female Dating Responses to High Control Rates for African-American Men.”

Moderator: Mignon Moore, Sociology and African-American Studies, Columbia University.

B. Casualties of War: Crime, Drugs, and now Terror (Jerome Greene Hall, Room 105)

Lisa Nealy, Political Science, Howard U., “Valley of Dry Bones: Human Bodies for Private Cells.”

Jeanette Covington, Sociology, Rutgers University, “Drugs and the Racial Divide: Selective Punishment of Black Drug Offenders.”

Sean Wheeler, Sociology, John Jay College (CUNY), “American Economy and War on Drugs: Consequences and Effects on African American Communities.”

Ramona Brockett, Political Science, Northern Kentucky U., “The U.S. Patriot Act, Conceptual Incarceration, and Re-Enslavement of the Unworthy.”

Moderator: Jan Warren, Associate Director, College and Community Fellowship Program, CUNY and The Graduate Center.

3:30 – 5:00 Concurrent Sessions

A. From George Jackson to Mumia Abu Jamal: Prisons and Political Repression (Altschul)

Bob Boyle, attorney for former political prisoner Dhoruba Bin Wahad, contributing author, *COINTELPRO: The Untold American Story*.

Ahmed Obafemi, human rights organizer, former political prisoner.

Laura Whitehorn, N.Y. Taskforce on Political Prisoners, former political prisoner.

Moderator: Lumumba Bandele, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, co-founder of the Black August Hip Hop Project.

Description: The session will address how the prison industry has been used to isolate and silence political dissent, since Reconstruction. Particular attention will be given to recent changes of the hard-won Hanchu Settlement, and to the of the U.S.A. Patriot Act, both of which threaten political organizations today, and continue to use criminalization as a tool of political repression.

B. Comparative & Historical Perspectives on Race, Crime, and Injustice (Jerome Greene Hall, Room 105)

Karl Johnson, African-American History, Ramapo College, “The Rise of The Modern Day Criminalization of African American Philadelphia, 1945 -2000.”

Heather Schoenfeld, Sociology, Northwestern University, “Organizing Against Criminal Injustice: Contributions of the Black Panther Party.”

Mark Christian, Black World Studies, Miami University—Ohio, “Blacks in Britain and in British Prisons: An African Diaspora Case Study.”

Julius Debro, Social Justice, U of Washington at Seattle, “Children of the Incarcerated in the South African context.”

Moderator: Asale Angel-Ajani, Gallatin School, New York University.

C. After Prison: From Re-Entry to Reconstruction (Jerome Greene Hall, Room 107)

Everett Penn and Bridgett McGowen, Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Prairie View A&M, “The Possibilities are Endless: Rites of Passage Programs for African-American Boys.”

Joseph Richardson, Criminal Justice, Rutgers University, “Re-Entry and Educational Opportunity for Formerly Incarcerated Youth.”

Mecca, Patricia Allard, and Tonya McClary, “From Individual to Collective Rights: The Case for Human and Spiritual Rights Frameworks in Criminal Justice Agitation and Programming.”

Karima Amin, on behalf of incarcerated husband, Baba Jayiasuria, “How will Reparations Address the Effects of the Prison Industrial Complex on the Black Community?: Relating Restorative Justice to the Black Experience.”

Moderator: Patricia Clough, Director of Women’s Studies, CUNY and The Graduate Center.

5:00 – 5:30 Performance

Skits from “Stakes is High,” a staged workshop production, by actor Pattydukes.
Altschul Auditorium

5:30 – 7:30 Evening Conversation

Resisting Injustice: Reports from the Frontlines

Altschul Auditorium

Angela Davis, History of Consciousness, UC Santa Cruz, Founding member of Critical Resistance.

Eddie Ellis, President of the Community Justice Center, Inc., Founding member of Nu-Leadership Policy Group.

Van Jones, Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Organizer in the *Books Not Bars* Campaign.

Julia Sudbury, Sociology, Mills College, founding member of Critical Resistance, Delegate to the recent International Conference on Penal Abolition (Nigeria).

Moderator: Manning Marable, Director, Africana Criminal Justice Project.

7:30 – 8:00 Closing Remarks and Acknowledgements

Participating and Supporting Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union, NY

125 Broad St., 17th Floor
NY, NY 10004
Tel: 212 344 3005
www.aclu.org

Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES)

346 Broadway, 3rd Floor
NY, NY 10013
Tel: 212 732 0076
www.cases.org

College and Community Fellowship

365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5103
New York City, New York 10016
Tel: 212) 817-8895
<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/womencenter/index.htm>

Critical Resistance, NYC

460 W. 128th St.
New York, NY 10027
Tel: 917-493-9795
www.criticalresistance.org

Demos

220 Fifth Ave., 5th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Tel: 212.633.1405
www.demos-usa.org

Developing Justice Program

141 Fifth Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11217
Tel: 718-857-2990
www.fifthave.org

Drop the Rock Coalition

www.droptherock.org

Friends of Island Academy

500 8th Ave., Suite 1209
NY, NY 10018
Tel: 212 760 0755
www.foiany.org

Justice for Youth Coalition

www.nomoreyouthjails.org

The Blackout Arts Collective

Tel: 917 974 6540
www.blackoutboston.com

Malcolm X Grassroots Movement

388 Atlantic Ave, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
Tel: 718 254 8800
www.malcolmgrassroots.com

Mothers Advocating Juvenile Justice

4060 Peachtree Road, D324
Atlanta, Georgia 30319
Tel/Fax: 404-468-8198

NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Inc.

99 Hudson Street, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10013
Tel: 212-965-2200
www.naacpldf.org

National Alliance for Radical Prison Reform

4060 Peachtree Road, D324
Atlanta, Georgia 30319
Tel/Fax: 404-468-8198

New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty

40 North Main Avenue
Albany, New York 12203
Tel: 518 453 6797
www.nyadp.org

Prison Moratorium Project

388 Atlantic Avenue, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
Tel: (718) 260-8805
www.normoreprisons.org

The Correctional Association of New York

135 East 15th Street
New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212-254-5700
www.correctionalassociation.org

The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

PMB # 409
1230 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: 415-951-4844
www.ellabakercenter.org

The Riverside Church

490 Riverside Dr.
NY, NY 10027
Tel: 870 6700
www.theriversidechurchny.org

Local Restaurants

Schomburg Area

Amy Ruth's Restaurant – 113W 116th Street Soul food; Avg. entrée price - \$ 5- \$ 13	212-280-8779 □
Londel's – 2620 8th Avenue Southern/Soul food; Avg. entrée price - \$15	212-234-6114
Sugar Hill Bistro – 458 145th Street Southern American cuisine; Avg. entree price- \$20- \$30	212-491-5505
Jimmy's Uptown – 2207 7th Avenue Caribbean/Soul/ Southern/Latin; Avg. entrée price - \$18	212-491-4900
Uptown Juice Bar – 54W 125th Street Vegetarian food; Avg. entrée price – \$6-\$8.50	212-987-2660
Bayou – 308 Lenox Avenue Louisiana Creole; Avg. entrée price – lunch- \$9-20, dinner- \$19-\$25	212-426-3800
Sylvia's – 328 Malcolm X Boulevard Soul food; Avg. entrée price– \$12 - 20	212-996-0660

Columbia University Area

Amir Falafel – 2911A Broadway (between 113 th & 114 th) Mediterranean/Lebanese food; Avg. entrée price–\$5	212-749-7500
Cafe Pertuti – 2888 Broadway (between 112 th & 113 th) Italian cuisine; Avg. entrée price–\$8-\$10	212-864-1143
Deluxe – 2896 Broadway @ 113 th Street Sandwiches, salads; Avg. meal price–\$3- \$7	212-662-7900
Famous Famiglia Pizza – 2859 Broadway @ 111 th Italian food; Avg. meal price–\$5	212-865-1234
Max Soha – 1274 Amsterdam Avenue @ 123 rd Street Italian cuisine; Avg. entrée price–\$ 10	212-531-2221
Milano's Gourmet Deli – 113 th & Broadway Sandwiches, hot food; Avg. meal price–\$6.95	212-665-9500
Mill Korean Restaurant – 2895 Broadway @ 112 th Street Korean food; Avg. entrée price –\$ 6-8	212-666-7653
Tom's Restaurant – 2880 Broadway @115 th Street Continental American; Avg. entrée price – \$7.00	212-864-6137
West End Café – 2911 Broadway @114 th Street Varied menu; Avg. entrée price–\$8-\$13	212-662-8830

Acknowledgements

This conference would not have been possible were it not for the contributions of many committed individuals and organizations. We wish to thank all of those who have contributed to the success of this event, and especially the following:

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ACJP Work Groups (2002)
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Blackout Arts Collective
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Correctional Association
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Justice 4 Youth Coalition
NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund
National Tour to End the Death Penalty
Nu-Leadership Policy Group
Open Society Institute
Prison Moratorium Project
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WBAI Peace & Justice Radio 99.5 FM

All conference presenters, moderators, volunteers, and participants