OVERREPRESENTATION OF RACIALIZED COMMUNITIES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THE RACIALIZATION OF POVERTY

- 19% of Ontario families from racialized communities live in poverty compared to 6% from non-racialized communities.
- Workers from racialized communities in Ontario are paid 77.5¢ for every dollar earned by persons from non-racialized communities.

HIGHER JAIL ADMISSIONS

- A third of children from racialized communities live in poverty.
- 4X more Black Canadian boys (aged 12 to 17) in the young male jail population than what they would represent in the general young male population.

RACIAL PROFILING

Racial profiling is any action undertaken for reasons of safety, security or public protection that relies on stereotypes about race, colour, ethnicity, religion, or place of origin rather than on reasonable suspicion, to single out an individual for greater scrutiny or different treatment.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- A landlord asks a student to move out because she believes that the tenant will expose her to SARS.
- A bar refuses to serve certain patrons because of an assumption they will get drunk and rowdy.
- A private security guard follows a shopper because she believes the shopper is more likely to steal from the store.
- An employer wants a stricter security clearance for an employee after a terrorist attack.
- A police officer assumes someone is more likely to have committed a crime.

CHILDREN IN STATE CARE

- 41% of youth in care of the Children’s Aid Society of Toronto are Black.
- Even though only 8.2% of the city’s under-18 population is Black.

SOURCES: