

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Scholars Day Conference

Virtual Scholars Day 2020

May 1st, 12:00 AM

Mass Incarceration & HIV Infection

Naya Young

Ouachita Baptist University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/scholars_day_conference



Part of the [Criminology Commons](#)

Young, Naya, "Mass Incarceration & HIV Infection" (2020). *Scholars Day Conference*. 8.
https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/scholars_day_conference/2020/social_sciences/8

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the Carl Goodson Honors Program at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scholars Day Conference by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

Mass Incarceration & HIV Infection

Sociology 3053 Research Methods



Abstract

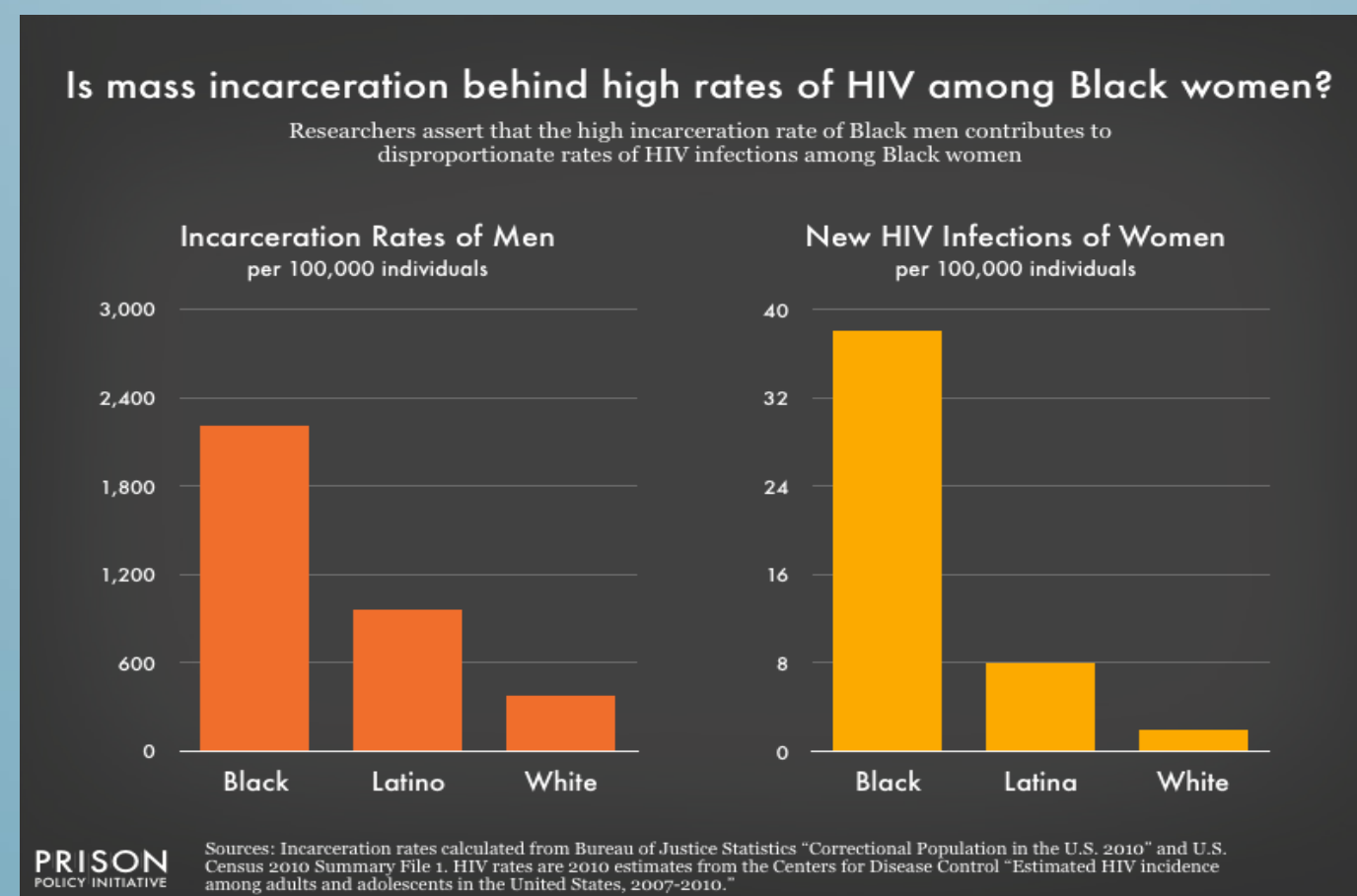
HIV is a critical problem among the incarcerated population. As of 2014, African Americans disproportionately made up 2.3 million of the 6.8 million correctional population. People of the correctional population are more susceptible to a decrease of CD4 cells (cells that kill the HIV virus). African Americans are at an elevated risk of HIV vs. everyone else in the correctional population.

Literature Review

Stressful living conditions along with various characteristics among the correctional population are related to HIV infection. These characteristics range from drug use, mental illness, socioeconomic status, etc. My hypothesis is that when people are placed in institutions such as prison, they will do anything to survive. This includes participating in risky behaviors that makes them susceptible to HIV.

Method

I conducted a literature review for this research project. I viewed various articles that discussed the correlation between mass incarceration and the HIV epidemic. Many of the articles examine the disproportionality between the correctional population and conditions that cause the HIV prevalence rate to skyrocket.

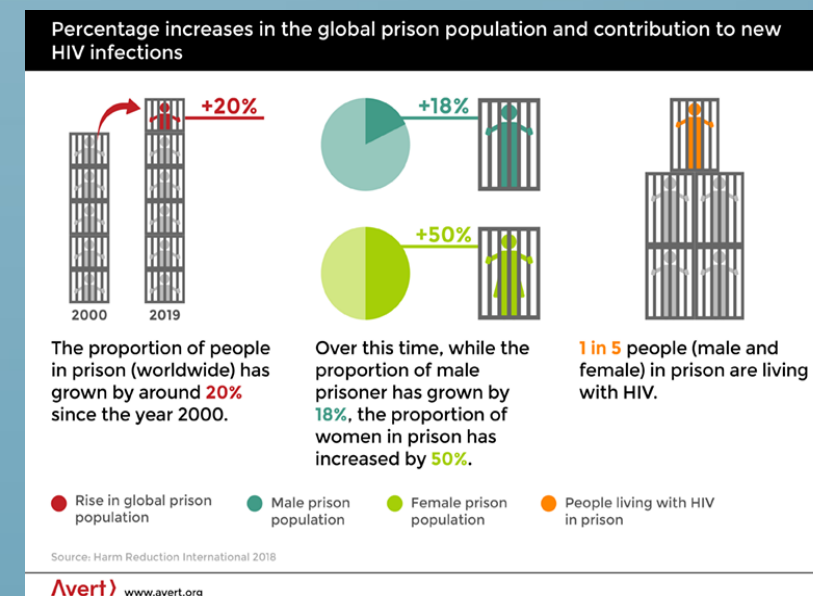
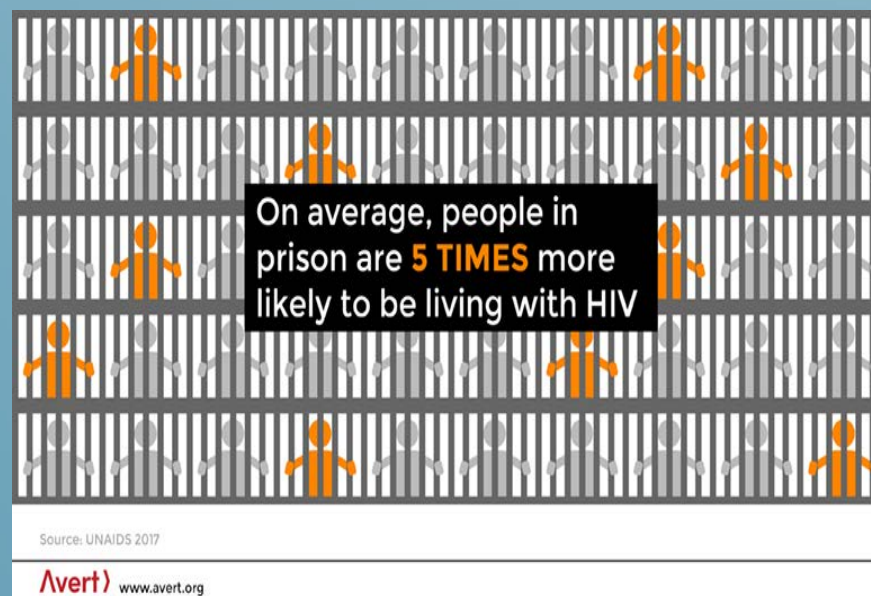


Conclusion

Incarceration increases the risk for poor health. It powers the HIV epidemic. The policies and laws that lead to African Americans being incarcerated have led to the creation and promotion of circumstances that increase the risk of HIV. Receiving medical care doesn't replace the overcrowding and stressful living conditions that prisoners face. This causes the CD4 cells to decrease more than expected compared to an outpatient population. We cannot address the HIV epidemic without addressing incarceration first.

References

- <https://www.naacp.org/criminal-justice-fact-sheet/>
- Schnittker, Jason, et al. "Incarceration And The Health Of The African American Community." *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, vol. 8, no. 1
- Wohl, D. A. "HIV and Mass Incarceration: Where Infectious Diseases and Social Justice Meet." *North Carolina Medical Journal*, vol. 77, no. 5, 2016
- Briscoe, Kathleen, et. Al. "Effects of Incarceration on HIV-Infected individuals." *Journal of the National Medical Association*
- Rowell-Cunsolo, Tawandra, et. Al. "Black Americans and Incarceration: A neglected public health opportunity for HIV risk reduction." *Journal of health care for the poor and underserved*.



Contact:you60022@obu.edu