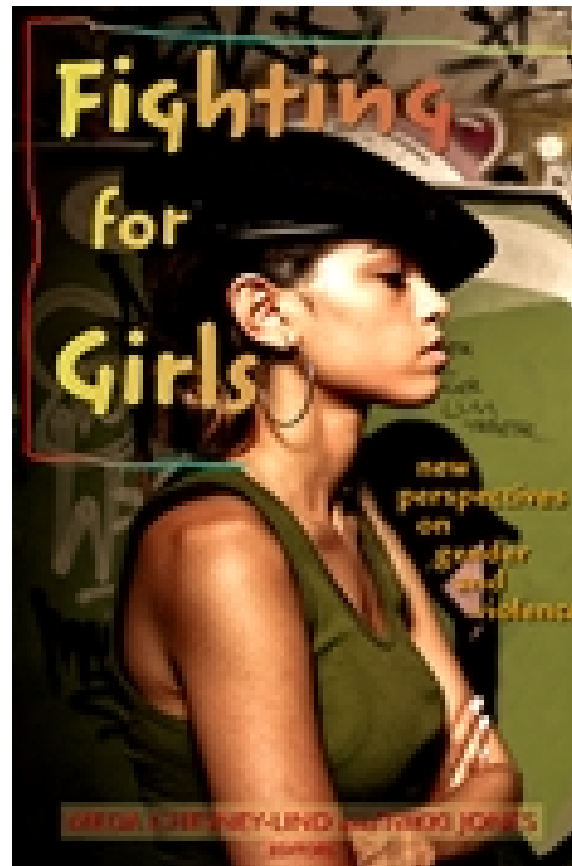


Girls, Delinquency, and Juvenile Justice



WEST SIDE STORY



West Side Story™ Associates present

West Side Story
film with live orchestra





BUSH'S TRUMAN FIXATION • SHIITE DEATH CULTS

February 12, 2007 \$4.95

newsweek.msnbc.com

Newsweek

OUT-OF-CONTROL
CELEBS AND
ONLINE SLEAZE
FUEL A
NEW DEBATE
OVER KIDS
AND VALUES

The Girls Gone Wild Effect

Paris Hilton and Britney Spears

8 ball chicks

Gini Sikes

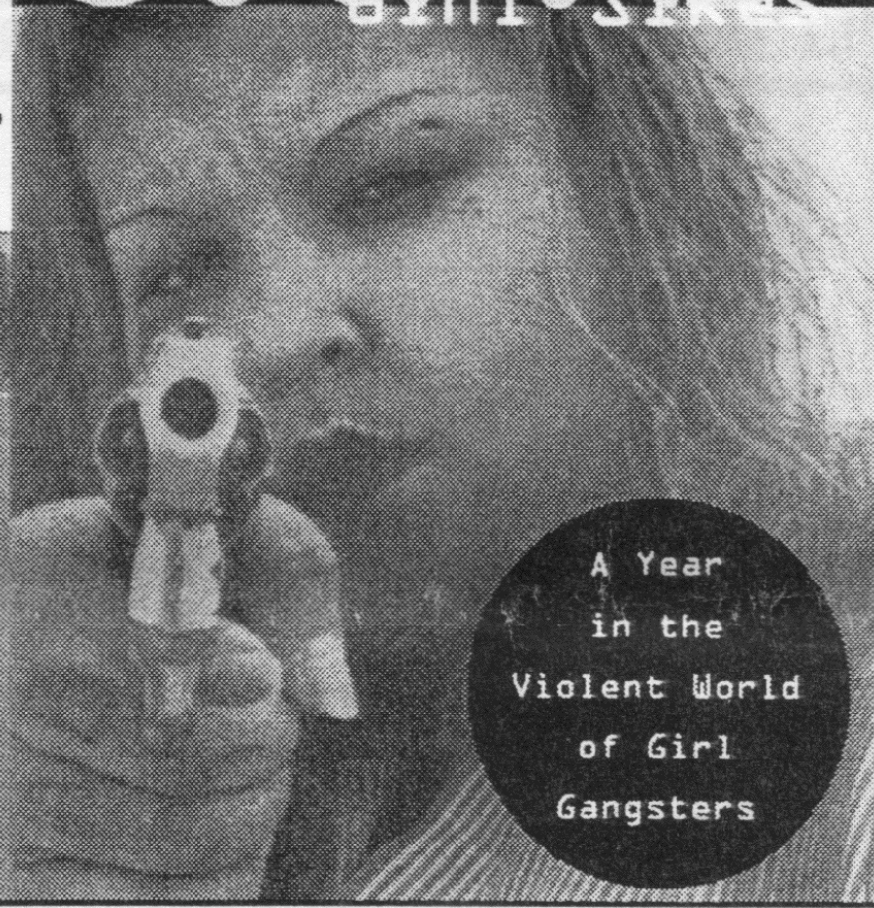
8 ball chicks
A Year in the Violent World of Girl Gangsters



Gini Sikes



Anchor
Books



A Year
in the
Violent World
of Girl
Gangsters

Girls Will Be Girls

IT'S NOT JUST BOYS. IN SAN Antonio, Texas, recently, a 13-year-old girl allegedly beat and then held down another girl while police say several boys sexually assaulted her. In New Orleans, a 16-year-old schoolgirl pulled out a six-inch kitchen knife and plunged it into a classmate's back. On the streets of Los Angeles and New York, some girls carry small guns in their purses and razor blades in their mouths, in case they need to protect themselves—or find a victim ripe for the taking.

The plague of teen violence is an equal-opportunity scourge. Crime by girls is on the rise, or so various jurisdictions report. In Massachusetts, for instance, 15 percent of the crimes that girls were convicted of committing in 1987 were violent offenses. By 1991, that number had soared to 38 percent. In California, judges send the "hard core" girls to the Youth Authority's Ventura School. "You name the crime, we have it; you think about the worst scenarios and we have them here," says Edward Cue, a school official.

For some girls, the best defense is a good offense. "I've had fights with a lot of guys," says Laura Morales, a South End, Boston, youth. Years ago, she concedes, a girl might have called a brother or a cousin to fight her battles. Today, says Morales, "if I have to take care of something, I'll do it by myself." A third-grade New Or-

leans girl recently took a .357 magnum to school to protect herself from a boy who was allegedly harassing her. After police confiscated the gun, she claimed that her complaints to



JIM TYNAN—IMPACT VISUALS

Some girls now carry guns. Others hide razor blades in their mouths.

the school officials had gone unheeded.

Girls are breaking into the traditionally male world of gangs, too. The Kings, one of San Antonio's largest gangs, recently started accepting young women. Where male gang members used to refer to the girls as "hos and bitches," says Sgt. Kyle Coleman of the Bexar County Sheriff's Department Gang Unit, they're a little more reluctant now as those female gang members start to equal them in fights and drive-by

shootings. Girls join gangs for a variety of reasons: protection, fun, because they like a particular boy or for acceptance. The gangs also provide a makeshift family. Some teens will do anything to join. In one initiation rite in San Antonio, girls are kicked and beaten by

the brutality of the beatings of girls by other girls," says Dr. Naftali Berrill, director of the New York Forensic Mental Health Group. The violence is a vicious, antisocial pack mentality aimed at a target who is incapable of fighting back, says Berrill. The pack smells weakness, and the situation turns into a free-for-all where no individual person feels responsible.

Social agencies haven't learned much about curbing violence among young women. The police and social workers know only how to worry about whether the girls are pregnant, says Franklin Tucker, director of the Barron Assessment Counseling Center, where students from Boston schools are sent if they are caught with a weapon on school grounds. "These young girls are very angry and very hostile," he says.

They have their reasons—some good, some not. Sheri Pasanen, a San Diego social worker, was caught short recently when she was showing the movie "Thelma and Louise" to a group of jailed young and older women. "When they shot the [attempted rapist], the whole class cheered," she says. The problem, says Pasanen, is that their reaction was reasonable. "Every single one of them in there has probably been abused." But if violence is a learned behavior, it can also be unlearned. And these inmates now have some time to work on that lesson.

CONNIE LESLIE with NINA BIDDLE in Houston, DEBRA ROSENBERG in Boston and JOE WAYNE in San Diego

half a dozen gang members.

In Boston, the two biggest female gangs are every bit as ruthless as the boys'. "They're shooting, stabbing, and they're into drug sales and stickups," says Tracy Litthcut, manager for the Boston Streetworkers violence-intervention program. In New York City, not only are packs of boys "whirlpooling" or surrounding girls in public swimming pools and molesting them, but groups of girls are attacking other female swimmers as well. "I've been amazed at

The New York Times Magazine

FEBRUARY 24, 2008 SECTION 6



Mean Girls

and the new movement to tame them.

By Margaret Talbot

Can a Laugh Track Topple Iran? By Michael Lewis

The Life and Death of Cultural Profiling By Frank Rich

Stephin Merritt's Art-Pop By William Berling

FOOD: The grill of it all / Saving the Provincetown fleet

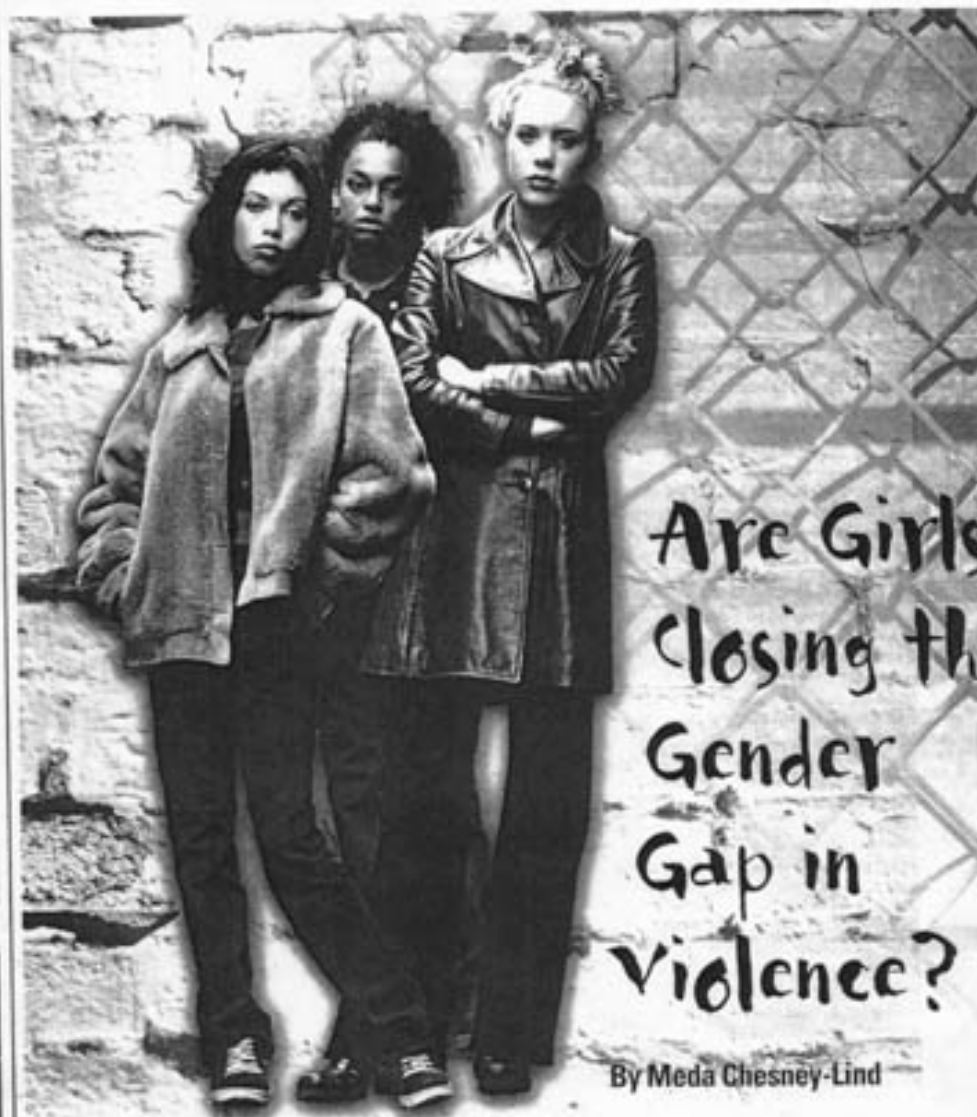
The Boston Globe Magazine

Nov. 24, 1994

**BAD
GIRLS**

UNTIL ABOUT 10 years ago, teenage girls seldom fought each other, even with fists. They did not carry knives and razors and box cutters. They did not form roaming packs and attack other girls. They did not fight with sticks, bats, and bricks. Today, more and more of them do. Though most of them still aren't likely to carry guns, girls are moving into the world of violence that once belonged to boys. And even the experts don't know whether the kinds of programs that help boys have a chance of turning these violent young girls around.

By Royal Ford



Are Girls Closing the Gender Gap in Violence?

By Meda Chesney-Lind



Self-Reported Delinquency

% Self Reporting

Source: Youth Risk Surveillance data (CDC, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 , 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019)

GIRLS	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
In a Physical Fight	31.7	30.6	26.0	27.3	23.9	25.1	28.1	26.5	22.9	24.4	19.2	16.5	17.2
Carried a Weapon	9.2	8.3	7.0	6.0	6.2	6.7	7.1	7.5	7.1	6.8	7.9	7.5	7.4
Carried a Gun	1.8	2.5	1.4	.8	1.3	1.6	.9	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.6		1.9
BOYS	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
In a Physical Fight	51.2	46.1	45.5	44.0	43.1	40.5	40.5	44.4	39.3	40.7	30.2	28.4	30.0
Carried a Weapon	34.3	31.1	27.7	28.6	29.3	26.1	26.9	28.5	27.1	25.9	28.1	24.3	6.9
Carried a Gun	13.7	12.3	9.6	9.0	10.3	10.2	10.2	9.0	9.8	8.6	9.4		7.7

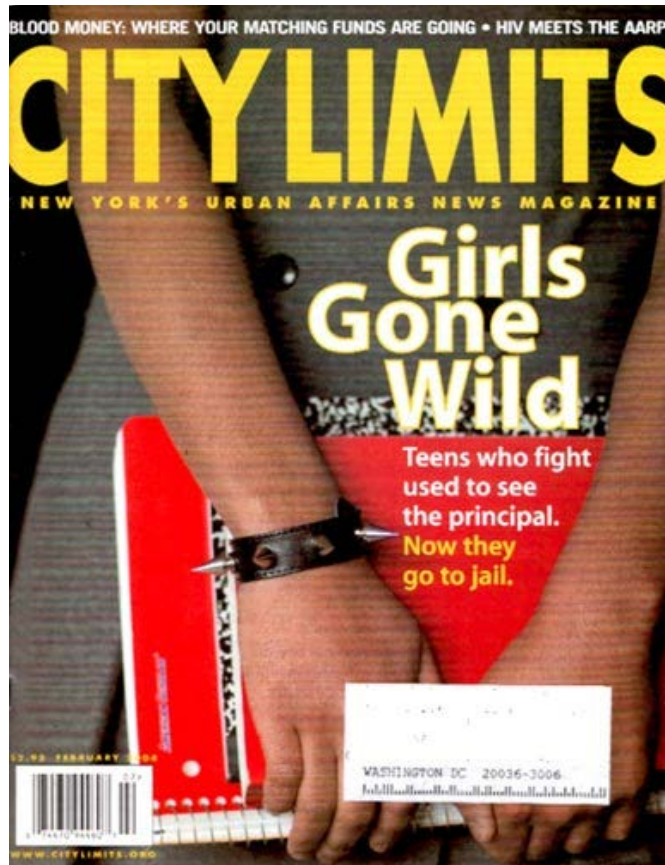


Are Girls Getting Tougher, or Are We Tougher on Girls? Probability of Arrest and Juvenile Court Oversight in 1980 and 2000

*Tia Stevens, Merry Morash and
Meda Chesney-Lind*

Girls suspected or convicted of assaults make up an increasing proportion of juvenile arrests and court caseloads. There is indication that changes in domestic violence arrest policies, school handling of student rules infractions, and practices of charging youth for assaults rather than status offenses account for these trends. To determine whether girls were treated more harshly for assaults after these policies changed, the present study compared the probabilities of conviction and institutionalization, net of the effect of self-reported attacks on persons, for 1980 and 2000. Data were from the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth 1979 and 1997 cohorts. Girls experienced a unique increase in the probabilities of justice system involvement that was replicated only for Black males. The increase was magnified for Black girls. Additional research is needed to better connect specific policies to drawing selected

Girls and Violence: Trends

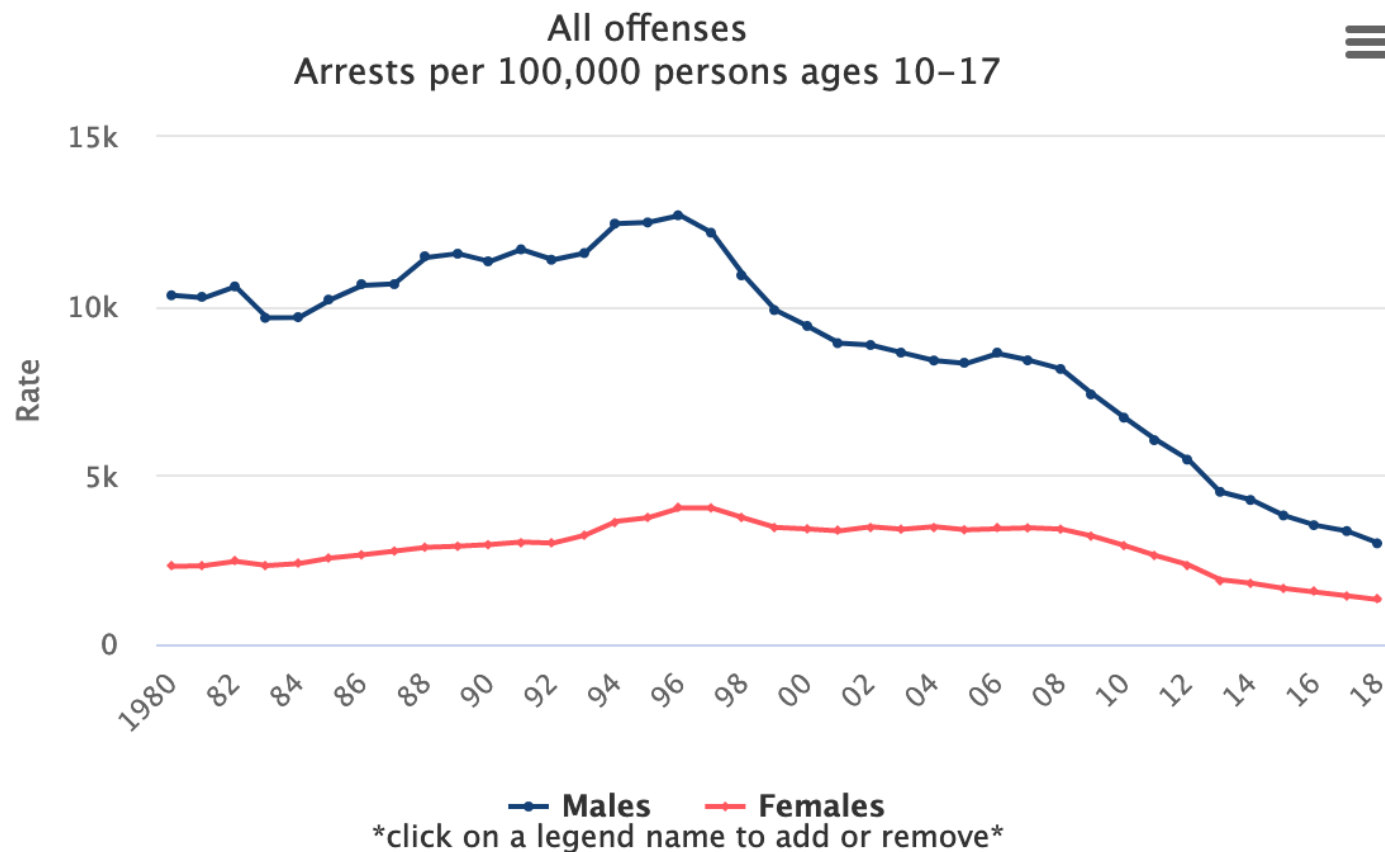


- Upcriming
- Re-labeling
 - Bootstrapping
 - Domestic Violence
- (Re)discovery



Juvenile Arrest Rate Trends

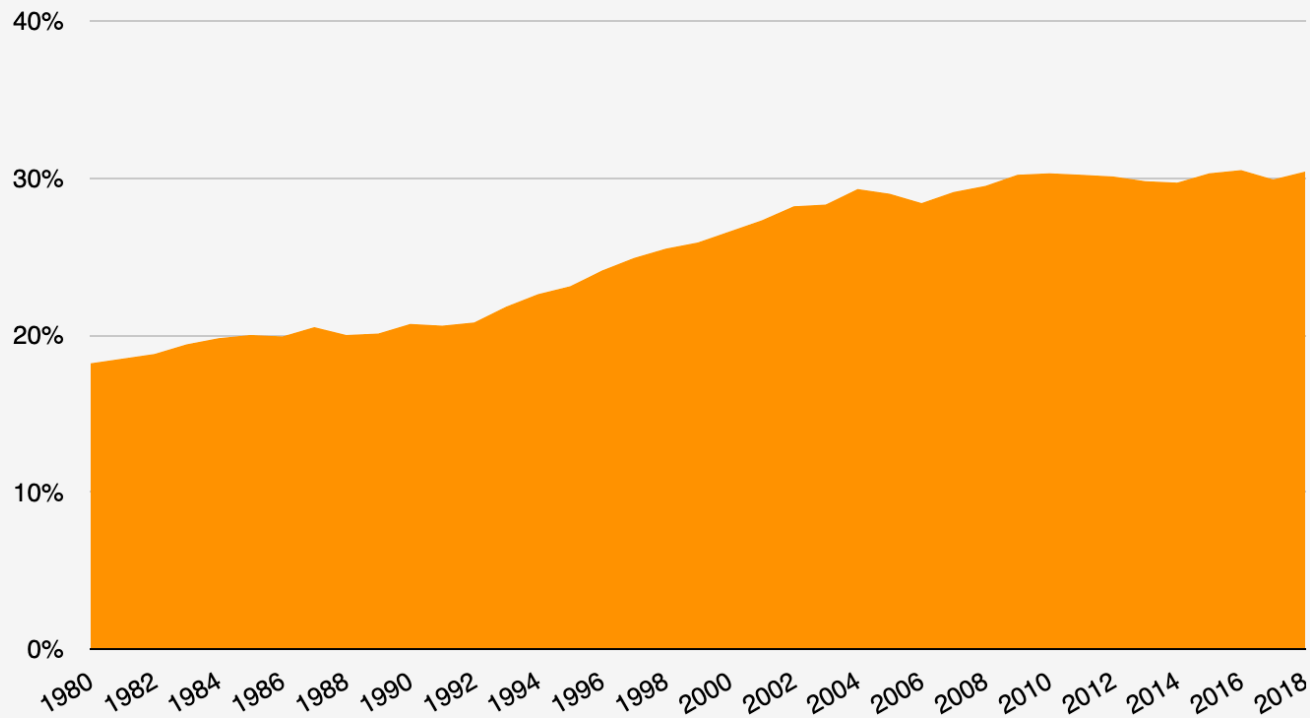
The juvenile arrest rate for all crimes decreased substantially for both males and females since the peak in 1996, and is at the lowest level for both genders since 1980.



Note: Rates are arrests of persons ages 10-17 per 100,000 persons ages 10-17 in the resident population.

Girls: An Increasing Share of Juvenile Arrests

Girls Comprise a Growing Proportion of All Teen Arrests, 1980-2018



Source: Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzzanchera, C. (2019). "Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement." Available: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/>



robbery, and burglary).

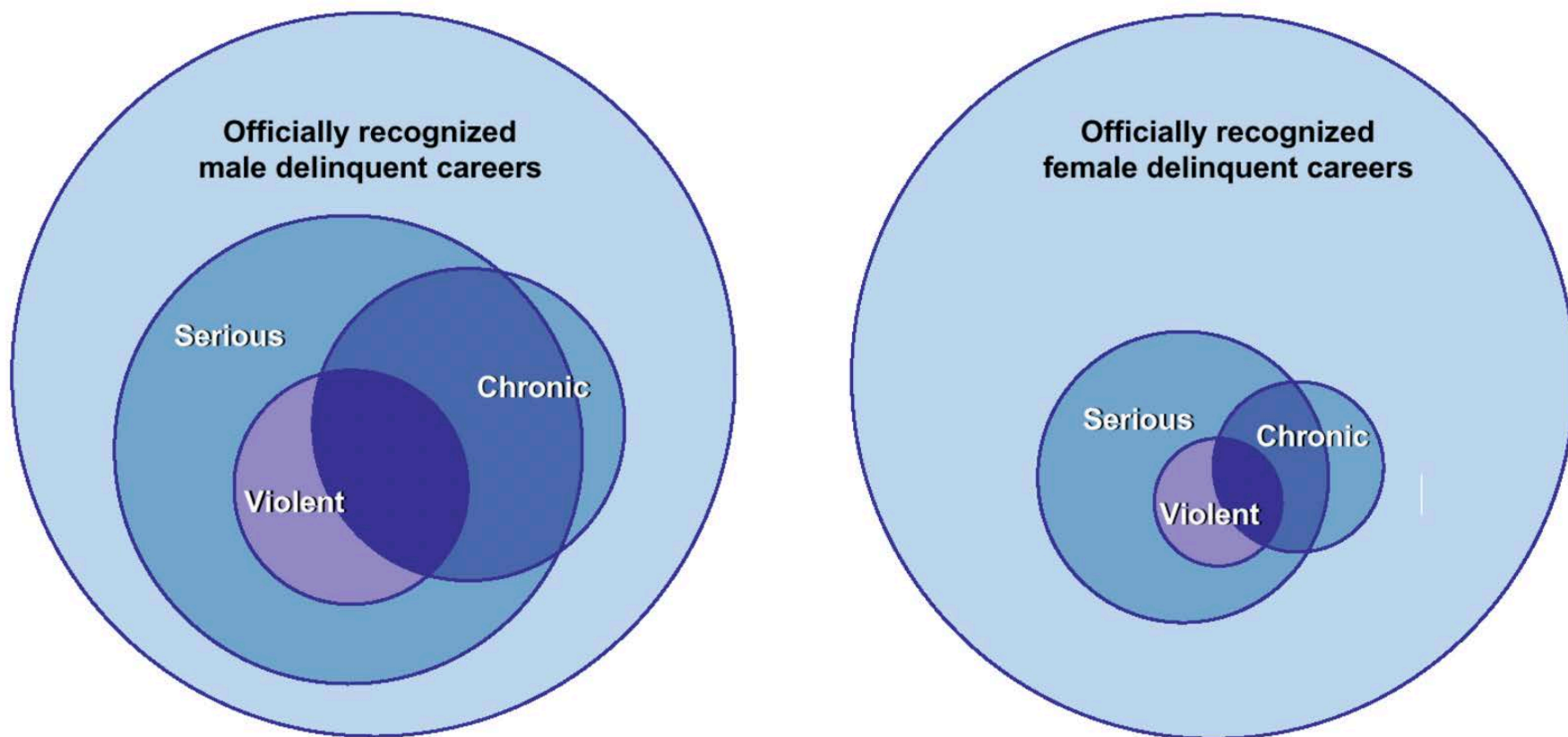
Percent change in juvenile arrests 2009–2018

Most serious offense	Female	Male
Violent crime*	–37%	–46%
Robbery	–38	–46
Aggravated assault	–37	–46
Simple assault	–38	–46
Property Crime Index	–73	–66
Burglary	–67	–71
Larceny-theft	–75	–67
Motor vehicle theft	–19	–27
Vandalism	–53	–68
Weapons	–46	–50
Drug abuse violation	–14	–53
Driving under influence	–59	–60
Liquor law violation	–74	–78
Disorderly conduct	–63	–67

*Includes murder, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Data source: Analysis of arrest data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Center for Juvenile Justice. (See data source note on page 13 for details.)

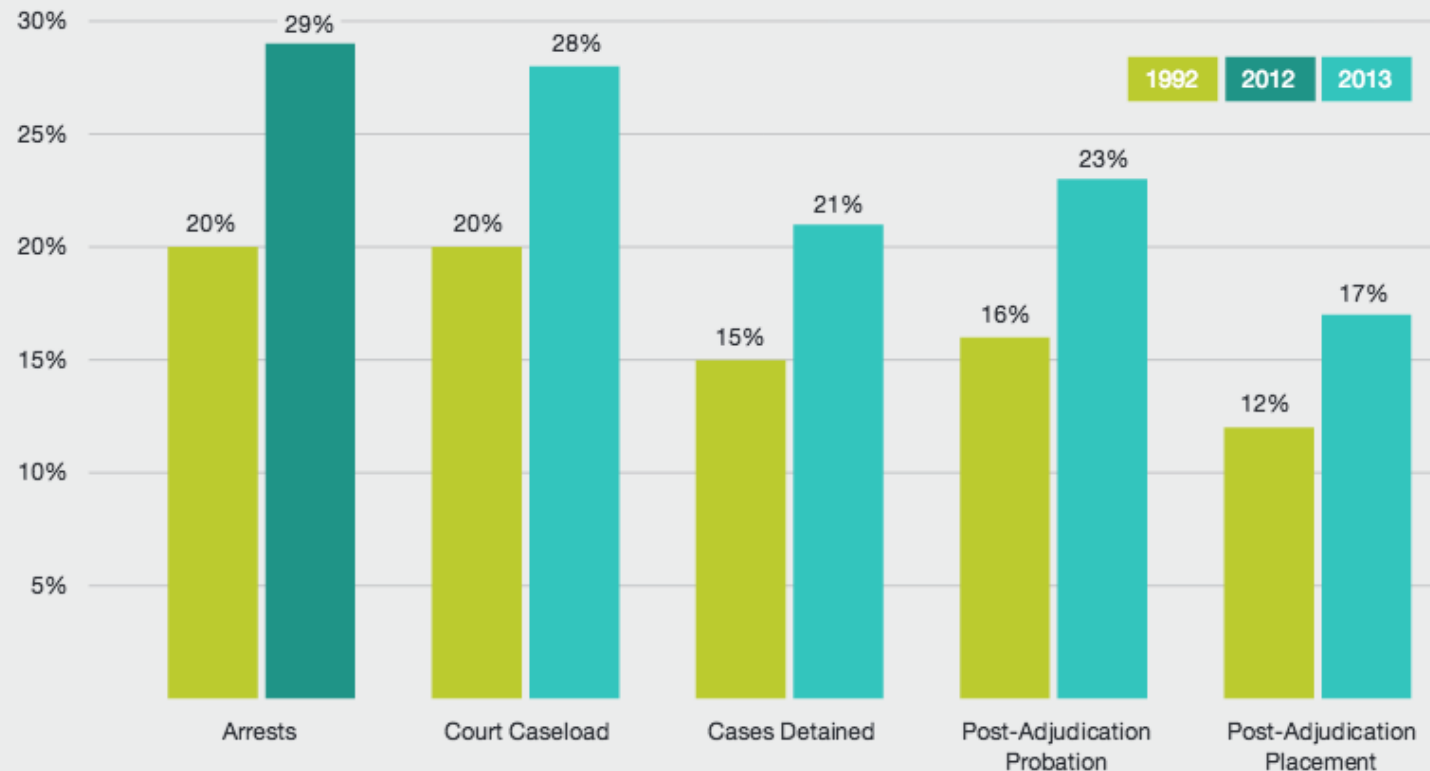
Figure One: Offense Profile of Officially Recognized Male and Female Delinquents



Source: Snyder and Sickmund, 1999: p. 81



Girls' Increasing Share of the Juvenile Justice System, 1992 to 2012/2013*



Source: Adapted from Charles Puzzanchera, "Juvenile Arrests 2012" (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 2014): 3, <http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/248513.pdf>; Melissa Sickmund, Anthony Sladky, and Wei Kang, "Easy Access to Juvenile Court Statistics: 1985-2013," <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/>.

* At the time of this writing, 2012 is the most current available juvenile arrest data and 2013 is the most current juvenile case processing data.



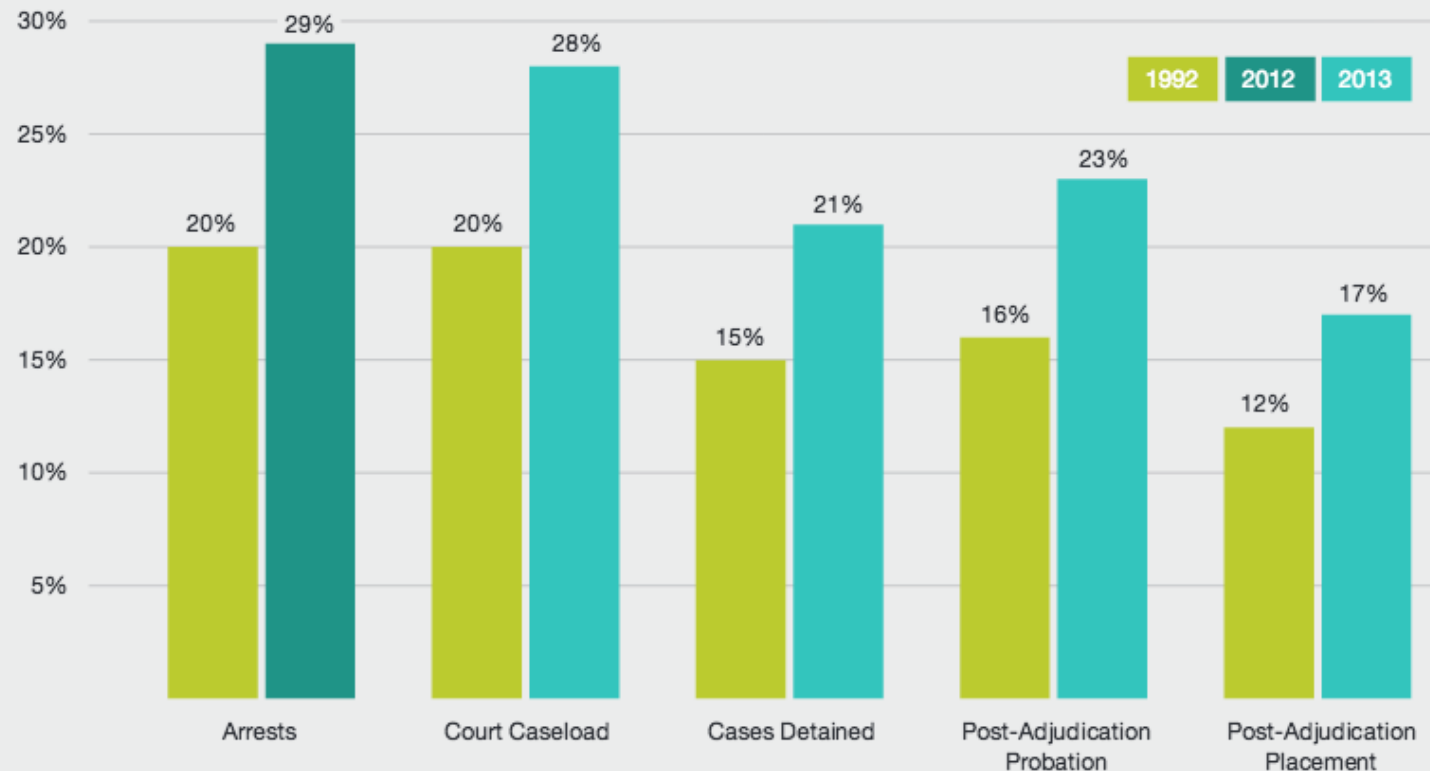
Offense profile of delinquency cases for males and females:

Most serious offense	Male	Female
2018		
Person	30%	35%
Property	31	28
Drugs	14	12
Public order	25	25
Total	100%	100%
2005		
Person	25%	28%
Property	37	37
Drugs	12	8
Public order	26	27
Total	100%	100%

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.



Girls' Increasing Share of the Juvenile Justice System, 1992 to 2012/2013*



Source: Adapted from Charles Puzzanchera, "Juvenile Arrests 2012" (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 2014): 3, <http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/248513.pdf>; Melissa Sickmund, Anthony Sladky, and Wei Kang, "Easy Access to Juvenile Court Statistics: 1985-2013," <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/>.

* At the time of this writing, 2012 is the most current available juvenile arrest data and 2013 is the most current juvenile case processing data.



Feds reviewing jail video of deputy roughing up teen in cell

The U.S. Department of Justice is reviewing the videotape of a King County sheriff's deputy roughing up a 15-year-old girl in a holding cell to determine whether her civil rights may have been violated.

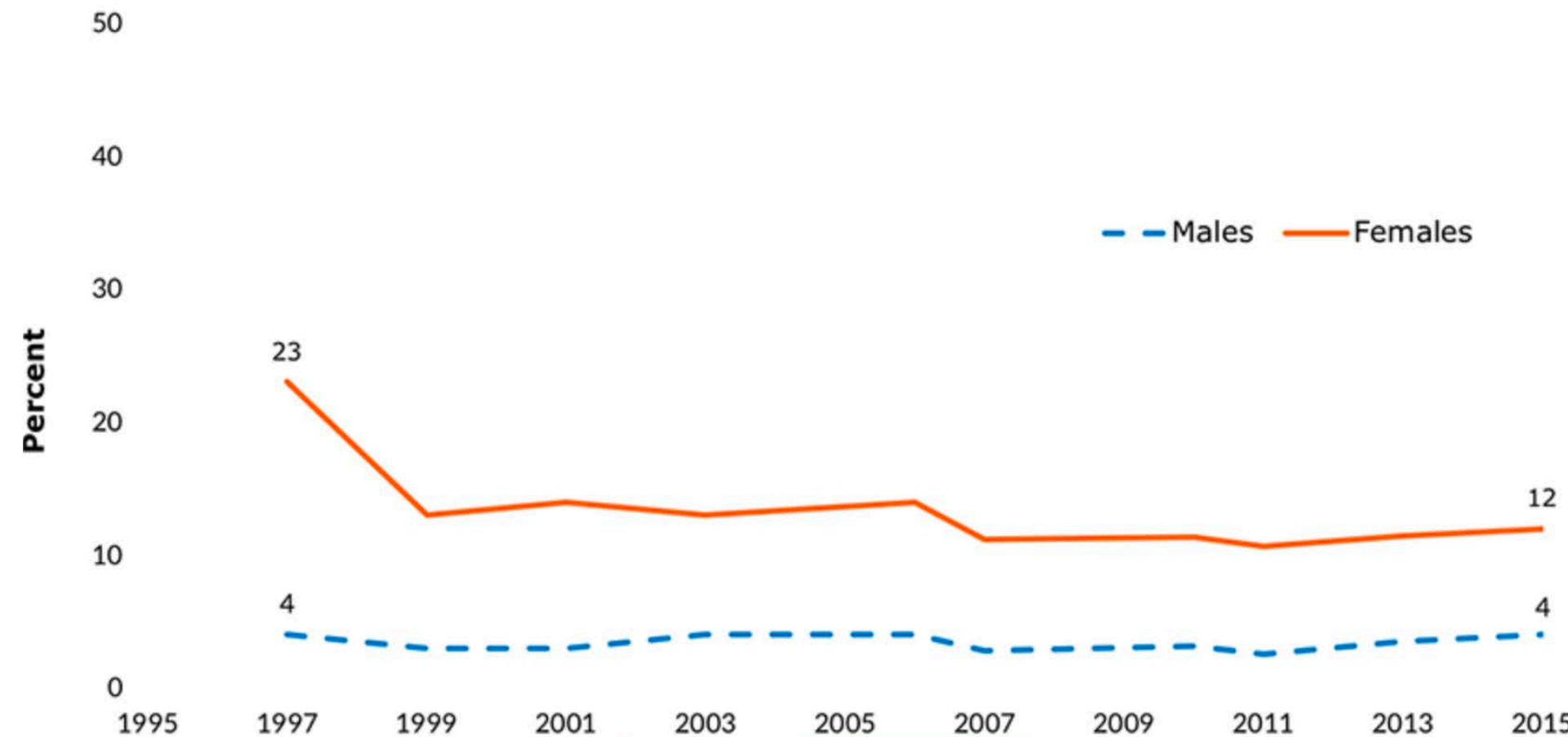
By **Mike Carter** *Seattle Times* staff reporter

Originally published Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 12:00 AM

<http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/video.html>



Percentage of Juveniles in Residential Placement¹ for Status Offenses,² by Gender: Selected Years, 1997-2015





UNITED STATES

Custody and Control

Conditions of Confinement in New York's
Juvenile Prisons for Girls

HUMAN
RIGHTS
WATCH

"I been restrained two times during my stay here and they do it to hurt you.... [T]hey had messed up my face real bad... busted my lip... I just think they shouldn't touch us 'cause us kids get hurt real bad."





Highest and Lowest State Rates of Confinement for Girls (per 100,000), 2017₈₎

Highest Incarceration Rates

State	Rate
Nebraska	166
Wyoming	143
Alaska	102
West Virginia	95
Idaho	81

Lowest Incarceration Rates

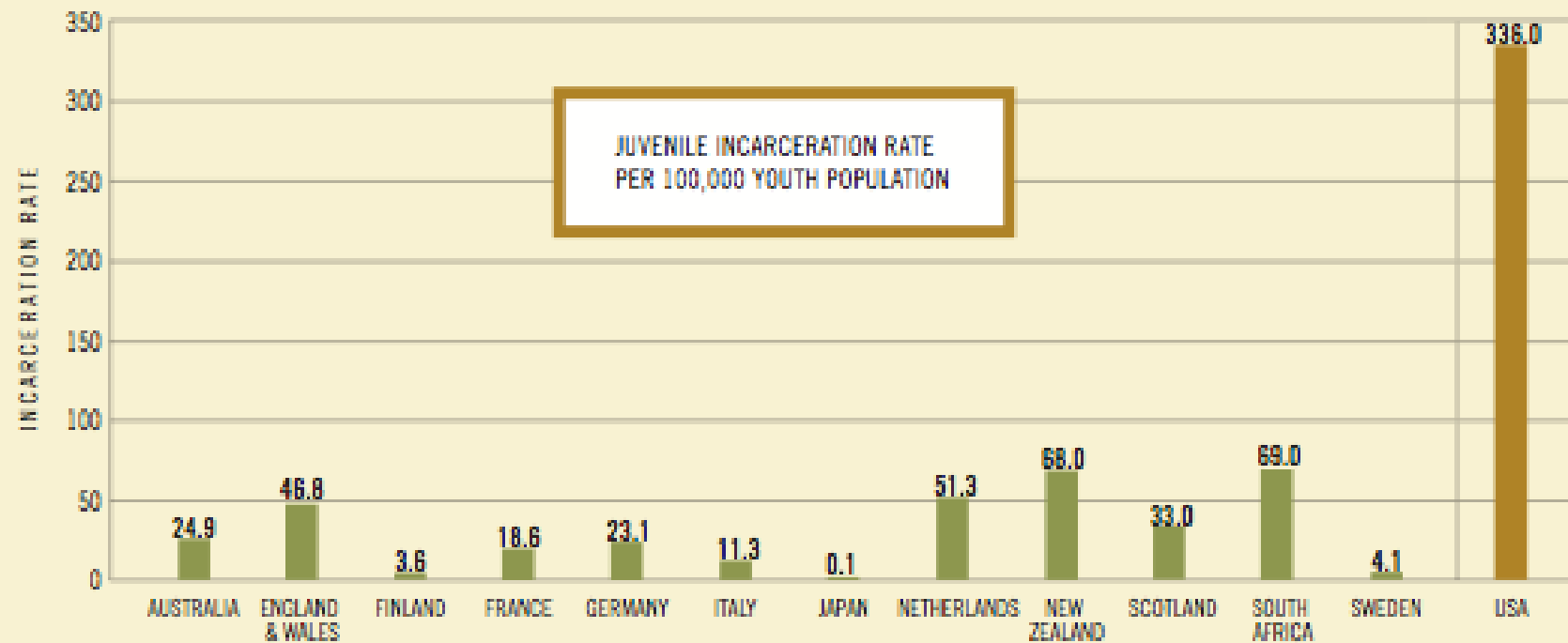
State	Rate
Vermont	0
Connecticut	7
Massachusetts	9
New Jersey	11
North Carolina ₉₎	11

Source: Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., and Puzzanchera, C. (2017) "Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement." Online. Available: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/>.



FIGURE 1

YOUTH INCARCERATION RATE: UNITED STATES VS. OTHER NATIONS



Source: Hazel, Neel, *Cross-National Comparison of Youth Justice*, London: Youth Justice Board, 2008.



Girls Action Agenda

Challenge Backlash Journalism
on Girls' Issues

Support Research on Girls'
Lives, particularly Girls of
Color

Advocate for Gender
Responsive Programming

Monitor Conditions in Girls'
Facilities

