Integrating Lessons from Race and Trauma in Local Services: Achieving Better Results at Lower Costs

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“[Cities are] indispensable to the world. The world changes according to the way people see it, and if you alter, even by a millimeter, the way a person looks at reality, then you can change it.”

— James Baldwin
America’s [civic] systems are neither healthy, caring, nor a system.
– Walter Cronkite

- Juvenile Justice and Corrections Systems
- School Systems
- Child Welfare Systems
- Public Health Care Systems
The Significance of Race in Local Public Services

- Juvenile Justice and Corrections
- Child Welfare
- Schools
- Health Care

RACE STILL MATTERS

RACE IS BEHIND US
The Role of Structural Trauma in Local Public Services

By slow violence I mean a violence that occurs gradually and out of sight, a violence of delayed destruction that is dispersed across time and space, an attritional violence that is typically not viewed as violence at all.

– Rob Nixon, 2011
The Role of Gun Violence

CHICAGO’S HOMICIDE SURGE IN CONTEXT

The 762 murders recorded by the city in 2016 place it eighth among large cities when adjusted for population.

Note: The city of Orlando has excluded the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting from its 2016 homicide count, as the adjusted rate was not high enough to make the list.

SOURCE: Police data, news reports
*reflects partial homicide counts reported as of November or December 2016
Loud vs. Silent Traumas

Homicide
Hearing Gunshots
Witnessing
Victimization
Silent Traumas
Lower Costs and Better Outcomes

- Increasing public awareness & campaigns
- Improving detection
- Increase evidenced-based interventions
- Locate mental health systems in principal settings
- Enhance interagency collaborations
AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL AND VIOLENT
Black Youth & Neighborhood Trauma in Chicago

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