# THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGE AND GENDER AND ITS EFFECT ON INTERGENERATIONAL PATTERNS OF INCARCERATION

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#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

- PARENTAL INCARCERATION IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR FOR THE TRAJECTORY OF YOUTH'S LIVES
  - Ex: the adaptation of violent coping mechanisms or severe economic strain
- Mass incarceration leads to increased patterns of Intergenerational incarceration
- MORE RESEARCH NEEDS TO BE DONE TO UNDERSTAND WHY CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE INCARCERATED, ARRESTED, AND CONVICTED THAN OTHERS.

#### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

#### ROBERT STAPLES' COLONIAL MODEL

- AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY SEEN AS AN UNDERDEVELOPED
   COLONY AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE DOMINANT RACE, WHITES
- PRESSURES OF INSTITUTIONALIZED OPPRESSION LEAD TO AN AVOIDANCE COPING MECHANISM THAT TAKES THE FORM OF VIOLENCE, WHICH JUSTIFIES INTERVENTION BY LAW ENFORCEMENT
- RACIAL DISCRIMINATION LEADS TO SENTENCING DISPARITIES

FRAMEWORK PROVIDES ABILITY TO EXPLORE OTHER **SOCIAL CONSTRUCTS**THAT MAY FURTHER LEAD TO THE **OPPRESSION OF CERTAIN PEOPLE** 

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- MEARS AND SIENNICK (2016) AND PORTER AND KING (2015)
  DISCOVERED THAT PARENTAL INCARCERATION COULD HAVE NEGATIVE
  EFFECTS ON YOUTH'S BEHAVIOR AND COPING MECHANISMS
- ACCORDING TO MCGEE, DAVIS, SAUNDERS-GOLDSON, FLETCHER &
  FISHER (2017), MATERNAL INCARCERATION IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR
  IN THE RELATIONSHIP ADOLESCENT HAVE WITH CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT,
  DRUG USE AND SYMPTOMOLOGY OF DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, AND PTSD
- ACCORDING TO STEFFENSMEIER, PAINTER-DAVIS, AND ULMER (2017),
  YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES AND HISPANICS OF ALL AGES ARE
  MORE LIKELY TO RECEIVE HARSHER SENTENCES. HOWEVER, YOUNG
  FEMALES OF ALL RACES AND ETHNICITIES ARE MORE LIKELY TO RECEIVE
  LENIENT SENTENCE CHARACTERISTICS (STEFFENSMEIER, PAINTER-DAVIS,
  & ULMER, 2017).

#### METHOD

- General Social Survey Sample and a National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health)
- VARIABLES
  - INDEPENDENT VARIABLES:
    - **AGE** IS RANGED FROM 1983 1974. THE AVERAGE BIRTH YEAR IS 1979.00 (SD = 1.775).
    - **GENDER** (MALE=1 AND FEMALE=2)
    - MOTHER HAS EVER SERVED TIME IN JAIL/ PRISON (NO=1 AND YES=2)
    - FATHER HAS EVER SERVED TIME IN JAIL/ PRISON (NO=1 AND YES=2)
  - DEPENDENT VARIABLES:
    - HAVE YOU EVER SERVED TIME IN JAIL/ PRISON (NO=1 AND YES=2)
    - HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED (NO=1 AND YES=2)
    - HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME (NO=0, YES=1, AND SEVERAL CONVICTIONS=3)

### **METHOD**

- Linear Correlation test to examine the separate effects the independent variables had on each dependent variable
- MULTIPLE REGRESSION TEST TO TEST COLLECTIVE EFFECT THE INDEPENDENT VARIABLES HAD ON EACH DEPENDENT VARIABLE
  - REGRESSION EQUATION:  $\hat{Y} = A + B_{SEX} X_1 + B_{AGE} X_2 + B_{MATERNAL INCARCERATION} X_3 + B_0$
  - REGRESSION EQUATION:  $\hat{Y} = A + B_{SEX} X_1 + B_{AGE} X_2 + B_{PATERNAL INCARCERATION} X_3 + B_0$

#### RESULTS

- GENDER IS THE BEST PREDICTOR OF ARREST, INCARCERATION, AND CONVICTION
- FEMALES ARE LESS LIKELY THAN MALES TO BE ARRESTED, INCARCERATED, AND CONVICTED
- Individuals with a father who has been incarcerated are more likely to be arrested when controlling for gender and age
- AGE HAD NO STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECT

#### DISCUSSION

- SUGGESTIONS FOR ACADEMIC WORLD
  - MORE ATTENTION TO FACTORS THAT LEAD MEN TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
  - EXAMINE THE PROTECTIVE AND RISK FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE MALES' INCLINATION TOWARDS CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR
- CURRENT SUGGESTIONS FOR THESE PROBLEMS
  - MEARS AND SIENNICK (2016) SUGGESTS REMOVING PARENTS WHO EXHIBIT POOR PARENTING HABITS FROM CHILDREN
  - SHLAFER, DAVIS, AND DALLAIRE (2019) SUGGEST THE CHILD HAVE GREATER INVOLVEMENT WITH THEIR CURRENTLY OR FORMERLY INCARCERATED PARENT.



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## THANK YOU!