

# BLACKSTONIAN

## THE BLACK BOSTON 411... 24-7

Dedicated to the Movement and Upliftment of the Black People of Boston

VOLUME 1. NO. 2

CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE

CRIMINAL  
INJUSTICE?

CRIMINAL  
JUST-US?

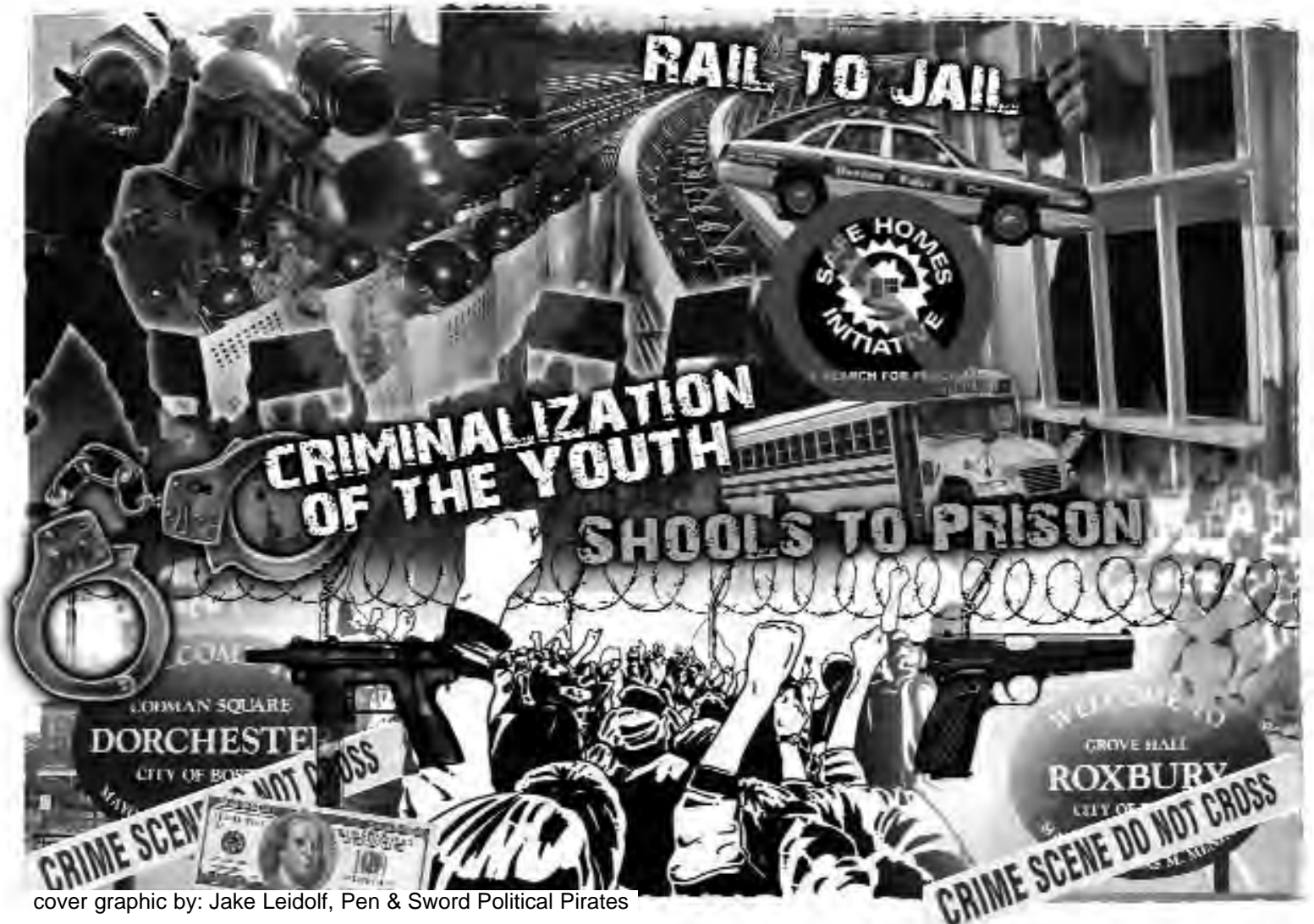
RACIAL  
PROFILING

PAMPERS  
TO PRISON

SCHOOLS  
TO PRISON

RAIL TO JAIL

CRIMINALIZATION  
OF THE YOUTH



cover graphic by: Jake Leidolf, Pen & Sword Political Pirates

### WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE "SAFE HOMES" INITIATIVE?



#### WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE "SAFE HOMES" INITIATIVE?

In his State of the City address on January 15, 2008, Mayor Thomas Menino proposed funding a new "Community Learning" program that would help ensure that young people in Boston have productive futures. The American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (ACLUM) commends his vision of uniting the

efforts of public schools, branch libraries and community groups to unlock "the vast potential of Boston's children" and decrease youth violence.

But we have serious concerns about another program aimed at youth that has been put forward by the Mayor and Boston Police Department: the "Safe Homes" initiative involving "no warrant" searches.

The BDP says the program will send a team of at least three police officers door-to-door in certain city neighborhoods, possibly with members of the clergy, who will ask for consent to search the bedrooms of young people. The searches will be conducted in response to community tips in order to get "illegal

guns" out of homes.

All people have the right to feel and be safe in their homes and neighborhoods. We have no doubt that this program is well intentioned and rises out of the urgent goal of reducing the violence that exists in our City.

But "Safe Homes" is an effort at a "quick fix" solution that could do more harm than good. We oppose this program on the following grounds:

1. It conflicts with the fundamental constitutional right to be free from unreasonable government searches.

2. It exposes families to potentially serious negative consequences, and could deprive young people of productive

futures.

3. It is unlikely to be effective, based on existing evidence.

4. It could be counterproductive in public safety terms, undermining relations of trust which must be cultivated if "community policing" is to be successful.

1. It conflicts with the fundamental constitutional right to be free from unreasonable government searches.

In a free society, police generally need a warrant before searching a home, and a warrant must be based on probable cause to believe a crime has been committed and that evi-

ACLU continued to pg. 4

# BLACKSTONIAN

The Blackstonian represents Black Boston, centrally Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan but really all through the other burroughs and suburbs to wherever Black people are found in our extended midst. Our definition of Black is very inclusive, in Boston we have a lot of Brothers and Sisters from all over the Globe... Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Cape Verde, Africa, Trinidad, wherever.... in our eyes you are all Black People and we are all family here in Boston aka The Bean.

Roxbury . Dorchester . Mattapan . Hyde Park . South End . Jamaica Plain . Roslindale .

Randolph . Cambridge . Brockton . Lawrence . Lynn . Worcester . New Bedford . East Boston .



# BAD IDEA?? BOSTON POLICE SAFE HOMES INITIATIVE



**The Boston Police Safe Homes Initiative** is a plan which will have a hand picked group of Boston Police Officers going unannounced to homes in 4 targeted neighborhoods which have been termed as “hot spots” for crime and violence. These officers will go to homes of youth who they believe “may” be in possession of a firearm based on anonymous tips and/or some other criteria that has been loosely and vaguely defined. Officers will knock on the door and ask to speak to the parent or legal guardian. Officers will tell the parent/guardian that they would like them to waive their legal rights and consent to a search of their home without a warrant. If a parent/guardian gives their consent to a search and agrees to waive their rights, Boston Police will be on hand with a consent form for parents to sign with checkpoints that you will be asked to initial before signing at the bottom. The Boston Police

will also be equipped with tape recorders which they will use to audio record a parent/guardian giving verbal consent to a search. The Boston Police have assured that the parent/guardian may refuse the search altogether or, if consent is given, the search can be confined to a particular area, as small as a box or a single drawer and that the parent or guardian may terminate the search at any time once it has begun.



*Question: How do you stop a search that you have already consented to with both a signed legal document and an audio recording of verbal consent? Once you waive your rights, they are gone. Whenever you waive your rights, you give them up and you can “wave” your rights goodbye.*

The Boston Police and Mayor

Menino have stated that this Safe Homes Initiative is to “get guns out of the hands of youth” We all can agree that our youth do not need handguns to committ random violence in our community. Isn’t it already the job of the Boston Police to keep our streets free of drugs and guns? The current epidemic we are facing is an indication of the failure of the Boston Police Department’s efforts to reduce drugs and guns and violence.

After such a failure, should the community assign more power to the same Deapartment that has already shown itself either unwilling or incapable of dealing with the problem.

Should the community willingly give up its rights and place blind faith in a system that has currently and historically failed us?

There are many problems with the Safe Homes Initiative and many voices have raised concerns about the plan. Thus far experts in the related fields of criminal justice, law, civil rights have all vocalized potential problems and the Boston

Police’s methods have been questioned by experts such as: Prof. James Alan Fox, Criminologist Northeastern University, Prof. Hillary Farber, Criminal Justice Professor, Northeastern University, National Lawyers Guild of MA, MASS Innocence Project, Lisa Thureau-Gray, Juvenile Justice Center, Suffolk University Law School, Carol Rose, Executive Director, ACLU, Amy Reichbach, Racial Justice Advocate, ACLU, Sarah Wunsch, Staff Attorney, ACLU.

Additionally, there is not one Black Elected Official who is in support of the Safe Homes Initiative. The only support for the program that can be documented comes from a few Clergy Members and Religious Leaders who already have a well-established relationship with Mayor Menino and the Boston Police Department.

**-J. Crawford**  
**Editor, Blackstonian**  
*National Minister of Information*  
*Boston Chapter Chairman*  
*New Black Panther Party*

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE BPD.....

from Lisa Thureau-Gray,  
Suffolk University Law School Juvenile Justice Center  
Deputy Superintendent Gary French  
Anthony Braga  
Boston Police Department  
1 Schroeder Place Boston, MA 02120

Dear Deputy Superintendent French and Mr. Braga:

On behalf of the Juvenile Justice Center of Suffolk University Law School, I thank you for inviting us to share our concerns about the proposed Consent-to-Search plan to suppress gun use among juveniles. We greatly appreciate your respectful inclusion of us as you consider

implementation of this program and we look forward to a positive collaboration in considering the pro’s and con’s.

Like you, we are concerned at the toll guns are taking on Boston’s youth and are anxious to stop the violence. We also recognize that the balancing act necessary for keeping communities safe from guns while protecting their civil liberties is an increasingly tricky tightrope to walk.

After our preliminary discussion, I offered to investigate my colleagues’ legal concerns about issues that are likely to arise from the

implementation of this plan, including the consent form and the protocol for police action, especially as regards the promise not to arrest any members of the household or the teen. All advocates celebrate the goal of this program—reducing guns on the streets of Boston.

As promised, you will find below a list of the major legal concerns raised by groups involved in the analysis and legal defense of juveniles as well as civil rights and civil liberties of Boston’s citizens.

This letter does not address the post-search service components of the program which will hopefully be substantive. We anticipate that some youth will feel betrayed by their parents and this may provoke other family dynamics Open Letter continued to pg. 4

## Lack of a Parent-Child Privilege and its Relationship to the Safe Homes Program

from Prof. Hillary Farber  
Northeastern University College of Criminal Justice, National Lawyers Guild-MA Chapter



A number of issues have been raised about the Safe Homes Program from the unannounced police presence to the inherently coercive nature of the request for permission to search a child’s bedroom. The Initiative is billed as multi-purpose: eradicating the escalating gun violence in our Boston neighborhoods while simultaneously con-

necting with parents who may be living with at risk youth. This is in large part why the program is being implemented in cooperation with the school police unit. According to reports of a similar program in St. Louis in the mid 1990’s, the police had almost 100% compliance from parents.

What has not been previously discussed is how information that police gather from parents and other household members concerning their child’s activities and associa-

tions will be used. The Safe Homes Program offers immunity from prosecution related to illegal possession in the event a gun is found, but the unannounced visits will undoubtedly reveal information from parents and guardians well beyond the specifics of the sought after firearm. Safe Homes targets specific neighborhoods thought to be rife with youth who are “behind gang activity.” Unannounced nighttime visits by police officers will entail more than “soft searches” but also Parent-Child continued to pg. 5

## Deconstructing the School to Prison Pipeline

### National Crisis for Black Youth

In every state in the Nation, Black youth are:

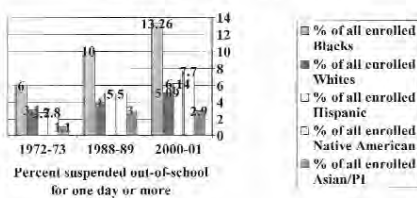
- Overrepresented in the juvenile justice system.
- More likely than their White counterparts to be detained in juvenile detention facilities. In some States, Black youth are as much as 40 times as white youth to be in detention on any given day.
- More likely to have their cases waived to Adult Court.
- Less likely to graduate from High School. In some states Black youth are 7 times as likely to drop out.

### Massachusetts High School Graduation Rates

Massachusetts Averages		National Averages	
All Students:	72.1%	All Students:	69.6%
Hispanic:	41.2%	Hispanics:	55.6%
Black:	53%	Blacks:	51.3%
White:	78.5%	Whites:	76.2%
<b>Males:</b>			
All:	67.8%	All:	65.2%
Hispanic:	36.6%	Hispanics:	50.1%
Black:	43.5%	Blacks:	44.3%
White:	75.6%	Whites:	72.4%

### RACIAL IMPACT OF THE RISING USE OF SUSPENSION

Suspension Rates By Race



### Dropouts to Incarceration

- Failure to graduate from high school triples the likelihood of being imprisoned.
- 68% of state prison inmates did not graduate from high school.
- Around 60 percent of black male h.s. dropouts born between 1965-69 had served time in prison by their early thirties.

### Incarceration Rates

-Among the more than 1.4 million sentenced inmates at the end of 2003, an estimated 403,165 were black men between 20 and 39.

-At the end of 2003, 9.3 percent of black men 25 to 29 were in prison, compared with 2.6 percent of Hispanic men and 1.1 percent of white men in the same age group.

-In 11 states, there were increases in the prison population of at least 5 percent, led by North Dakota with an 11.4 percent rise.

### Massachusetts Incarceration Rates by Race

White:	204 per 100,000 citizens
Black:	1,807 per 100,000 citizens
Hispanic:	1,435 per 100,000 citizens
<b>Ratio: Black/White: 9:1</b>	
<b>Ratio: Hispanic/White: 7:1</b>	
Blacks make up 5.4% of state's population and 26.3% of incarcerated population	
Hispanics make up 6.1% of state's population and 26.1% of incarcerated population	



## Redirecting the School to Prison Pipeline

The School to Prison Pipeline describes the tragic journey that begins in segregated, impoverished schools and ends in juvenile halls and adults prisons for far too many children of color. Youths traveling through this pipeline are frequently taught by unqualified teachers in overcrowded, dilapidated facilities, forced to endure sub-standard curriculum, tested on material they were never taught, removed to separate and inadequate special educa-

tion programs, repeatedly suspended, expelled and even arrested for relatively minor offenses, held back in grade, banished to alternative schools, before they finally drop or are pushed out of school, thus tripling the likelihood that they will spend time in prison.

The School to Prison pipeline is derailing individual lives, devastating families and communities, and threatening our nation's economic future. Yet, preliminary research indicates that jail is not the inevitable destiny for children trapped within this pipeline. Rather, their journey through the pipeline is accelerated by the

convergence of ill-conceived policies and practices permeating both educational and juvenile justice systems, and by the failure of these two systems to work together to improve the life chances of at-risk youths. Fortunately, these ineffective and costly policies can be dismantled and replaced with interventions and programs aimed, first, at keeping more at-risk youths in school through, at a minimum, completion of high school, and, second, at helping those who have dropped out or been sent to juvenile halls to successfully re-enter communities and schools.

## REDIRECTING THE SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE - TAMI WILSON

Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice - Harvard Law School  
125 Mount Auburn Street, 3rd Floor Cambridge, MA 02138-5765

Tel: 617.495.8285 Fax: 617.496.1406 Email: houstoninst@law.harvard.edu  
www.charleshamiltonhouston.org

### South End/Lower Roxbury



### SIGN THE PETITION.....

The YWA is calling on the Boston Police Department to end the 'Safe Homes' Initiative. While we support the goals - getting guns off the streets and keeping our young people safe - we believe this program will not accomplish those goals, and will instead create other problems for young people and their families. We are currently circulating a petition - we need the support of everyone in the YWA who agrees with this position to help us collect signatures. We are seeking signatures from youth, youth workers, and all community members.

Eli Pabon will be coordinating the petitions - please let her know where you will be collecting signatures: epabon@bhcc.mass.edu. Petitions are due by March 12- send to: YWA, 31 Lenox Street, Boston 02118

Help us create a truly safe community for Boston's youth!

-Sandy, for the YWA Advocacy Committee

South End/Lower Roxbury  
Youth Workers' Alliance  
31 Lenox Street Boston, MA 02118  
617-442-9800  
www.youthworkersalliance.org

Please call for the petition, and take it to meetings, events, your neighbors, and co-workers.

### BOSTON POLICE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD

Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel (CO-OP)  
<http://www.cityofboston.gov/POLICE/CO-OP/>

The Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel is a three person independent civilian board appointed by the Mayor that is empowered to review Boston Police Department Internal Investigations cases appealed by complainants.

Cases eligible for appeal include those with a finding of not sustained, exonerated or unfounded that you feel were not fairly and/or thoroughly investigated. You must file your appeal in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date on the Notice of Finding from the Boston Police Internal Investigations Unit.

Please refer to the Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel Brochure for fur-

ther instructions on how to file your appeal.

The Panel will also be reviewing a random sample of not sustained, exonerated or unfounded cases that have not been appealed by complainants. This external oversight of cases will help ensure that current Internal Investigation practices are fair, thorough and complete even when an appeal is not filed. Not sustained, exonerated, or unfounded cases involving allegations of serious misconduct or unjustified use of force will also be reviewed by the Panel at the discretion of the Department.

If you have not yet filed a complaint with the Internal Affairs Division of the Boston Police Department, you may do so online at: [www.cityofboston.gov/police/complaint](http://www.cityofboston.gov/police/complaint)

**Members of the CO-OP include:**  
**Ruth Suber, MA Parole Board (ret'd.)**  
**Prof. David Hall, Northeastern University**  
**John O'Brian, Dean NE School of Law**



## QUOTES ON THE SAFE HOMES INITIATIVE

"Currently, the BMA has taken a position of neutrality on the Safe Homes Initiative. This could change in the future, but this is the current, official position."

-from an email dated 2/6/08

-Rev. David Wright, Executive Director, Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston



"My belief is there are ministers that will do it as part of their ministry because they want to make sure police don't overstep their boundaries," said the Rev. David Wright, executive director of the Black Ministerial Alliance, whose board has not decided whether to endorse the program. "And I think that's a valid point."

-Rev. David Wright, Executive Director, Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston Boston Now 2/9/08



Jorge Martinez, executive director of Grove Hall advocates Project Right, Inc. said he had concerns about Safe Homes.

"Right now, we are not going to participate," he said.

"[Boston Police] is a government agency, and allowing people coming into your house when you're not educated enough about civil rights is a problem."

Boston Now 11/21/07



Boston Police spokeswoman Elaine Driscoll said the program is scheduled to begin this week Boston Now 2/3/08

ACLU Racial Justice Advocate Amy Reichbach called for more information about a plan targeting "primarily minority neighborhoods."

Boston Now 11/21/07



**Department of Social Services (DSS) Legal Department: "Foster parents can not consent to warrant-less searches by the police of the room of a child/teen in DSS care or custody"**

ACLU continued from pg. 1

dence of that crime will be found in the place to be searched. The warrant requirement can be waived if the person whose rights are at stake gives consent that is knowing and voluntary. The consent on which the Safe Homes program appears to rest is unlikely to be either knowing or genuinely voluntary.

Even assuming that language is not a barrier to understanding, few people are able to say no when confronted at their door by three police officers and possibly a member of the clergy. Consent to search under these circumstances is unlikely to be truly voluntary.

The "Consent to Search and Seize" form that police will present at the door for the resident's signature may further confuse and intimidate people, who have expressed fears that there will be retaliation against them if they refuse to allow the police to conduct a search. Statements by the police that they will not retaliate do little to ensure that consent is not the result of this kind of fear, especially at a time when fears associated with law enforcement on the doorstep have been inflamed by immigrant raids in various Boston neighborhoods.

And who will be asked to give permission for a search? The law does not allow a third party to consent to a warrantless search. If a parent is not at home and the door is answered by another relative, or someone who is not a family member, such as a baby sitter, the police have given no guarantee that they will not request permission to enter and search the home.

The police have been vague about what they will do with information obtained or items seized during a search, making it like-

ly that many people will give consent to a search without knowing the possible consequences, some of which could be extremely harmful to families.

2. It exposes families to potentially serious negative consequences

The Boston police will not ensure that residents really understand that the following are among the possible consequences if they consent to a search:

- Arrests may be made of someone who lives in the home, relating to weapons, drug possession, or possession of other items.
- These arrests could lead to federal prosecution, which often carries a longer prison sentence without the possibility of parole.
- Any arrest may also carry immigration consequences, up to and including deportation if an individual is found guilty of a deportable offense.
- The family may lose its home in public housing, depending on information obtained during a search of the home.
- Information gained in the course of the search may lead to the filing of a "51A report" with the Department of Social Services alleging abuse or neglect.
- Students may be suspended or expelled from school based on the results of a search of the home and information obtained there. The police state that they will not automatically share the information that they have found firearms in a youth's home with his school. But the BPD has not prom-

ACLU continued to pg. 5

Open Letter continued from pg. 2

that will need attention. For the purposes of this letter, we focus only on legal issues that may render the program unconstitutional, harm youths' educational opportunities, and question the circumscription of the program to juveniles.

I have divided the concerns into the following categories:

**Issues Regarding Community's Trust in Police:**

While we are pleased that officers under the supervision of Deputy Superintendent French would be entrusted with this delicate duty, community advocates who are not familiar with Deputy Superintendent French have uniformly stated their concern that this allocation of power to officers would result in abuse. The specific points of concern are:

A person facing two officers, even in plainclothes, appearing at her door with hearsay evidence about the presence of a gun in the possession of a juvenile living in the home, may not feel empowered to just say no. There is strong concern that this approach is coercive and will lead to consents that are deemed invalid due to what a court would perceive is the coercive nature of the request. In short, the voluntariness of the consent may be subject to legal challenge.

Advocates are also concerned that parents' and tenants' refusal to sign the consent form will lead to reprisals by police, housing officials or community members. Advocates suggested that consent forms, if used, should be read aloud to

tenants and family members.

The consent agreement and the descriptive document permits officers to bring charges against residents for significant amounts of contraband. It is unclear if this would be for contraband seen anywhere on the premises, in the juvenile's room, or hidden in the home. This aspect of the program is likely to be nettlesome in instances where a resident has hidden contraband from other residents in a home; the risk to parents of being charged for such contraband may chill the success of the recovery of guns. At the very least, clarification as to what constitutes "significant" amounts of contraband would be needed. As a group, we believe that the Internal Affairs Division of the Boston Police Department is neither responsive nor supportive of community complaints. If citizens felt that they had been coerced or harmed in any manner from such searches, there would be no immediate or effective means of remedying the harm and preventing its recurrence.

Suggestions:

- \* Involve community members in training and/or discussions of how police officers should approach homeowners.
- \* Develop a transparent, widely publicized protocol for complaints about treatment in this program that is separate from IAD and involves members of the targeted communities in the investigation and review process.
- \* Set up meetings at monthly intervals to ascertain resistance to search issues and

Open Letter continued to pg. 11

ACLU continued from pg. 4

ised to keep the information confidential and has said that they will inform school authorities if they believe it is in the interest of public safety to do so. Nothing has been said about the sharing of information through Juvenile Justice Roundtable meetings, where it would be communicated to school administrators, police officers, the district attorney and other participants. There are no assurances that a child will not be pushed out of school as a direct or indirect result of the search.

- If a school police officer is aware that drugs, or a knife, or something suggesting "gang affiliation" was found in a youth's home and he shares that information with a school administrator, that administrator may assert that she has the requisite reasonable suspicion to search that youth every day when he comes to school. Even if nothing is found, a child who is searched every day may become alienated from school, increasing the risk that he or she may eventually drop out of school. According to a recent study by the Parthenon Group, Boston's dropout rate is dismal, with 1,900 students dropping out in the 2005-6 academic year and a further 1,900 students "almost certain to drop out," because they have fallen behind in school.

- If a firearm discovered as a result of a "no warrant" search is linked to a crime with which the youth is charged or if anything else found in the home leads to felony

charges, the youth may be suspended from school pending resolution of the charges against him if the principal determines that his continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school. By the time a youth is found innocent of the charges, he may have missed months of school, making it difficult for even the most motivated student to complete his work successfully. If he is convicted or admits guilt as part of a plea and the principal makes a similar determination regarding the effect of his presence in school, he may be expelled.

- The program is likely to exacerbate the dual problems of overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system, and the funneling of young people out of the Boston Public Schools and into the Department of Youth Services. Unless Boston Police are willing and able to guarantee that "no warrant" searches will not lead to school exclusion or disciplinary transfers, parents should be informed of these possible consequences when asked for consent to enter their homes.

3. It is unlikely to be effective, based on existing evidence.

The BPD states that it has modeled its "consent to search" program on the St. Louis Firearm Suppression Program (FSP) under which police would respond to reports

ACLU continued to pg. 12

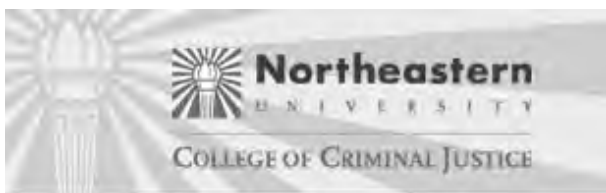
Parent-Child continued from pg. 2

conversations between parents, as well as other household members, and police about matters related to the child's whereabouts, compliance with household rules, school attendance, undesirable personal relationships and other intimate details. But for the presence of police in one's home with assurances of immunity, such candor and detail with authorities would likely not be so forthcoming.

Despite the promise of immunity as it relates to the recovery of a firearm, any information police obtain from parents, and other household members, is not protected by any common law or statutory privilege. Unlike the spousal privilege or doctor-patient privilege, which is recognized in most states, Massachusetts, along with over two thirds of states, does not recognize a privilege between parent and child that would shield a parent from being forced to testify against his/her child. Since the immunity guarantee under the Safe Homes Program only relates to an illegal possession of firearms charge, any other information gathered during a Safe Homes visit that leads to the prosecution for a separate offense leaves open the possibility that parents of the accused could be compelled to testify to statements the child made to them, as well as observations made by the parent in their familial setting. Compelled testimony may also include information that incriminates one of their children's friends based upon knowledge parents gain from speaking to their own children after a gun is recovered. The potential for misunderstanding and mistrust in the eyes of parents should this possibility result is enormous.

The Safe Homes Program is designed to get guns off the streets. If the St. Louis experience is any indication, it will have some success. The more difficult question is whether the costs associated with this Initiative are worth the gain. In determining the answer to this question, police need to be cognizant of the myriad of challenges they face in substantiating their credibility and trustworthiness with the communities impacted by the Safe Homes Program. As well intentioned as this Program may seem on its face, it is inevitable that families will be negatively impacted both internally and externally by its implementation. Whether it involves threats to familial security based upon perceived cooperation with police or distrust among family members, these are collateral consequences that must be given formidable weight in the decision whether to proceed with the Safe Homes Program.

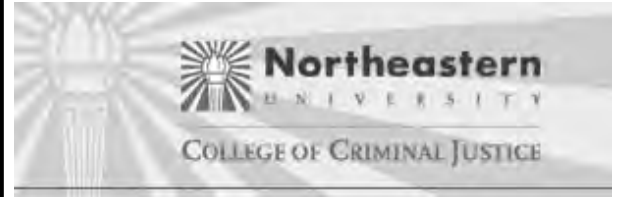
Hillary B. Farber is an assistant professor in the College of Criminal Justice and a visiting assistant professor in the School of Law at Northeastern University. She also serves on the Board of the Suffolk Lawyers for Justice and the National Lawyers Guild, Massachusetts chapter.



MORE QUOTES...

All of this sounds like slippery territory according to James Alan Fox, a criminal justice professor at Northeastern University. He recommended blanket amnesty for all individuals found with guns - similar to Boston's previous gun buyback programs. "This opens the situation for parents, in a well-meaning way, to invite police into their homes with the potential for a found gun to result in prosecution," he said. "At that point the cops will be adversaries. Whose side are you on, then?"

Boston Now 11/21/07

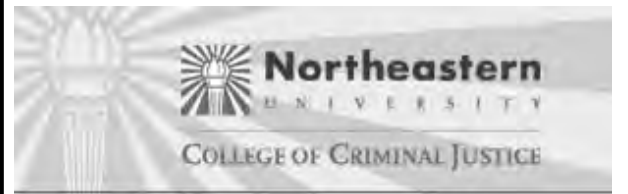


Starting this week, police are ready to begin going door to door, seeking to search teenagers' bedrooms for guns as part of the controversial Safe Homes Initiative. When officers knock, families need to think carefully about what they say, said Northeastern criminal justice and law professor Hillary B. Farber.

Anything they say could get them into trouble, she said.

"In Massachusetts ... there's no parent-child privilege, which means that communication between parents and their kids, and actual observations made ... in the familial setting - that kind of information can be compelled by the government," Farber said.

Boston Now 2/3/08



"Notably, the concerns we raise do not simply affect the youth we serve or the communities we represent; they also pose substantial legal risks to the Boston Police Department. Our concerns are broad and deep enough that it is difficult to imagine how the program could succeed given the need for acceptance by the legal service community."



Lisa Thureau-Gray, Suffolk University Law School – Juvenile Justice Center

"I was so against it," said M.C. Spice, program director of the station, located in Grove Hall. "But the fact that he (Dept. Supt. Gary French) came in here and he was a person - he wasn't in there with direct orders: 'Hey we're the Gestapo and we're going to go in.' He said his point with passion and conviction. He cared about the youth."

-Boston Globe 2/9/08

"I support the "Safe Home" Initiative" – from an email dated 2/9/08

M.C. Spice, host of "The Big Morning Thing" at Touch 106.1 FM

**MORE QUOTES...**

Police gun searches raise concern  
Letter to the Editor, Boston Globe  
February 13, 2008

BOSTON RESIDENTS are right to be concerned about the proposed Boston Police "Safe Homes" program ("Police set to search for guns at homes," City & Region, Feb. 9). While the American Civil Liberties Union joins in widespread community support for stopping gun violence, we cannot condone warrantless searching of people's homes. If Boston residents open their doors to the police under this program, they may be subject to prosecution if a gun found in the home is linked to a crime or if police find drugs or anything else illegal. Anything police find may also lead to school discipline, including expulsion, and may be reported to the Department of Social Services and Boston housing authorities. The ACLU has urged the Police Department to agree to immunity from prosecution for items found in people's homes during these searches. We also are working with community groups and individuals concerned that their rights may be violated by the plan. Boston residents have the right to say no when the police come to their door without a warrant. And when they do, the police should leave.

CAROL ROSE

Executive Director ACLU of Massachusetts



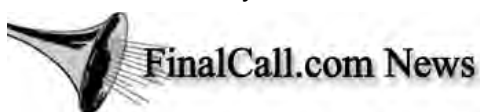
"Everybody knows this program stinks to high heaven," City Councilor Chuck Turner told The Final Call. "There are too many issues with police improprieties in Boston, such as brutality and shake downs, to believe the program would be conducted properly.

"The BPD has already admitted they cannot stop the drugs and the gang violence. It's time politicians begin to stand up and speak truth to the situation," Mr. Turner continued. "There are 11,000 young people, ages 16 to 24 in Boston out of work, three-fourths people of color. If you don't have any economy, you don't have any peace," he said. Final Call January 28, 2008



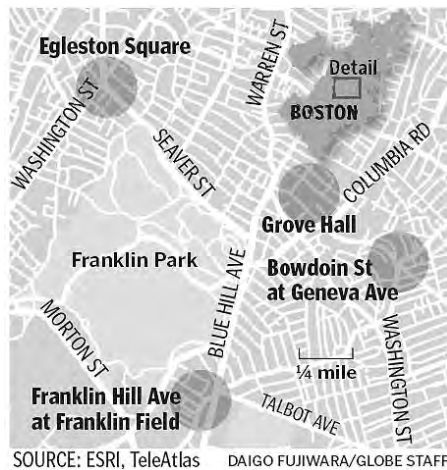
Bro. Don Muhammad, of Muhammad Mosque No. 11, said the police accountability is an important part of the program. "When they first announced the program the community was totally against it. There were many calls to the mosque asking our input," he told The Final Call. "The community is sensitive to the issue of who is considered to be reputable in this," he added. Community organizations and leaders will go to homes when police are called, he explained. The community will have input throughout the process, Mr. Muhammad emphatically stated.

Final Call January 28, 2008



**14th Amendment to the United States Constitution**

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.



**TARGET AREAS of PROPOSED SAFE HOMES INITIATIVE**

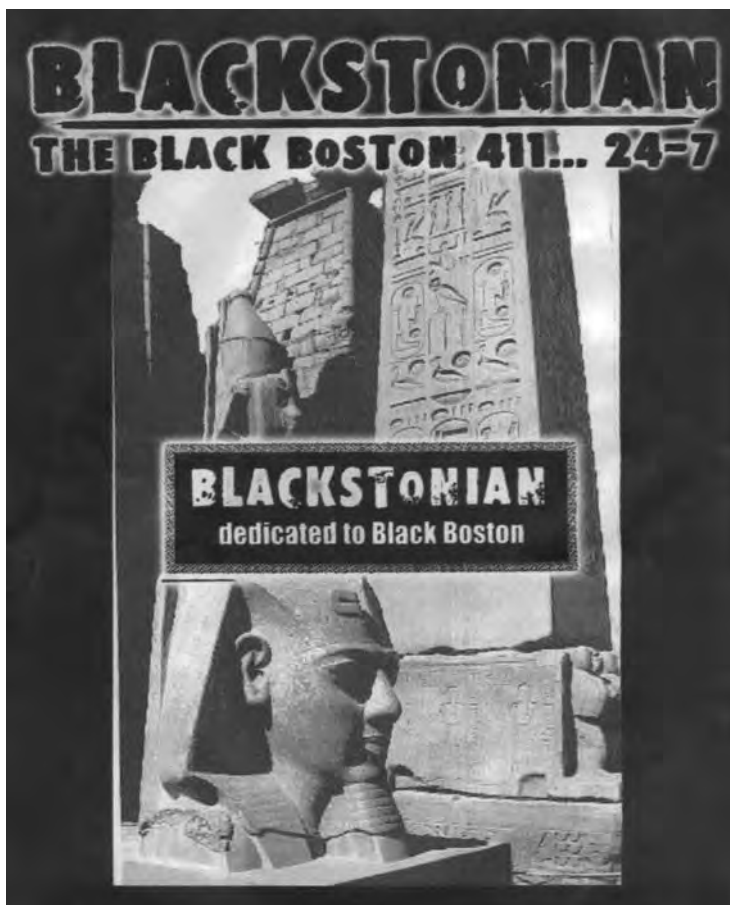
Egleston Square which has been described as a Latino Community  
Grove Hall which has been described as a Black Community  
Bowdoin St./Geneva Ave. which has been described as a Cape Verdean Community  
Franklin Hill/Franklin Field which has been described as a Black Community



**MASSACHUSETTS LEGAL DEFINITION OF RACIAL PROFILING**

The statute in Massachusetts defines racial profiling as the practice of detaining a suspect based on a broad set of criteria which casts suspicion on an entire class of people without any individualized suspicion of the particular person being stopped. An Act Providing for the Collection of Data Relative to Traffic Stops (Section 1, Chapter 228 of the Acts of 2000).

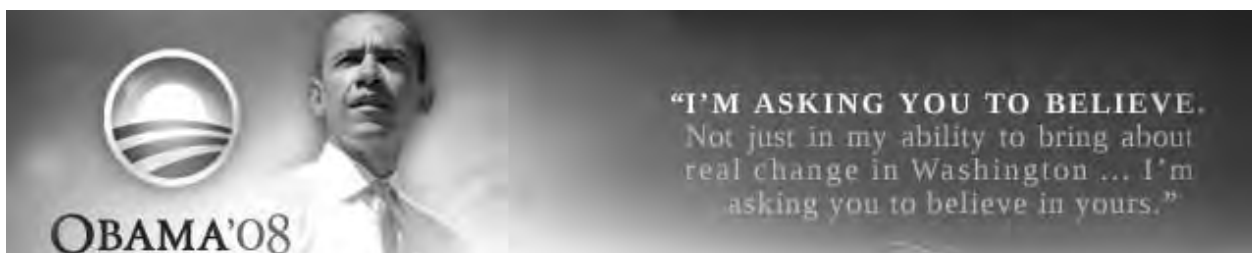
**Editor's Note:** This statute only applies to traffic stops, but the legal definition of racial profiling here could easily compare to the racial profiling of an entire community and the criminalization of Black, Latino and Cape Verdean youth.




















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# THESE PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY POLICE

	November 21, 2007 Marquis Barker, 38 yrs. old Father of Five, Suffolk County Jail Officer - Nashua 18 yrs. **5th Fatal Shooting since 2002 *Mentally Ill Person
	October 3, 2005 Stanley Seney, 25 yrs. old
	July 2, 2004 Luis Gonzalez, 57 yrs. old *Mentally Ill Person **Detective Danny Keeler Involved
	June 27, 2004 Bert W. Bowen, 40 yrs. old
	September 25, 2002 Eveline Barros-Cepeda, 20 yrs. old
	July 15, 2002 Daniel Furtado, 59 yrs. old *Mentally Ill Person
	July 2, 2002 LaVeta Jackson, 36 yrs. old *Mentally Ill Person
	May 2002 Nelson Santiago
	February 12, 2002 Willie L. Murray jr., 37 yrs. old *1st time since 1991 a BPD Officer was charged with wrongful shooting.
	July 15, 2001 Rene Romain, 19 yrs. old
	May 29, 2001 Jose Pineda
	December 27, 2000 Ricky Bodden, 29 yrs. old
	November 27, 2000 Carlos M. Garcia
	March 24, 1994 Rev. Accelyne Williams, 75 yrs. old
	January 31, 1988 Donald Johnson *BPD shot and killed 5 suspects of non-violent crimes in 1988; 4 out of 5 suspects were Black
	1981 Levi Hart, 14 yrs. old
	January 1975 James Bowden *Made into 1986 movie "A Case of Deadly Force"

## PEW REPORT 1 in 100: Behind Bars in America 2008

Three decades of growth in America's prison population has quietly nudged the nation across a sobering threshold: for the first time, more than one in every 100 adults is now confined in an American jail or prison. According to figures gathered and analyzed by the Pew Public Safety Performance Project, the number of people behind bars in the United States continued to climb in 2007, saddling cash-strapped states with soaring costs they can ill afford and failing to have a clear impact either on recidivism or overall crime.

For some groups, the incarceration numbers are especially startling. While one in 30 men between the ages of 20 and 34 is behind bars, for black males in that age group the figure is one in nine.

Gender adds another dimension to the picture. Men still are roughly 10 times more likely to be in jail or prison, but the female population is burgeoning at a far brisker pace. For black women in their mid- to late-30s, the incarceration rate also has hit the 1-in-100 mark. Growing older, meanwhile, continues to have a dramatic chilling effect on criminal behavior.

While one in every 53 people in their 20s is behind bars, the rate for those over 55 falls to one in 837.

Complete Report  
available at:

[www.pewcenteronthestates.org](http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org)



[www.BLACKSTONIAN.com](http://www.BLACKSTONIAN.com)

# STATISTICS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

1. 62% of Black homes are headed by a female.
2. 67% of Black children are born out of wedlock.
3. There are more Black men in the prisons and jails than there are in college.
4. 1 in 3 Black men age 20-29 is in prison, on parole, or on probation.
5. 43% of all Black children live below the poverty line. A figure identical to the day Dr. King was assassinated some 40 years ago.
6. Blacks represent 30% of America's poor, compared to 27% for Latinos, and 11% for whites even though Blacks comprise only 12% of the population.
7. Blacks, who comprise only 12% of the population, account for 12% of all drug users, 35% of all arrests for drug possession, 55% of all convictions on these charges, and 74% of those sentenced to prison for possession.
8. Between 1980-1999, incarceration rates for Blacks more than tripled from 1,156 per 100,000 to 3,620 per 100,000. This is 4 times the rate of incarceration of Blacks in S. Africa during the apartheid era.
9. The Black male homicide rate is 7 times the white male homicide rate.
10. Black males represent 6% of the U.S. population, but 44% of the prison population.
11. Black women are 18 times more likely to be raped than white women.
12. The rate of imprisonment of Black women is 8 times that of white women.
13. 54% of children under age 13 with AIDS are Black.
14. Black babies are twice as likely as white babies to die before their first birthday.
15. Black infant mortality rates are higher than many "Third World" countries.
16. 1 in 7 Black babies is born with low birth-weight which makes them 40 times more likely to die than white babies.
17. Blacks have twice as many strokes as whites.
18. 90% of Black women suffer complications during pregnancy. A rate 3 times higher than white women.
19. The Justice Department estimates that 1 out of every 21 Black men can expect to be murdered; a rate double that of U.S. soldiers in WW11. A young Black male in America is more likely to die from gunfire than was any soldier in the Vietnam war.
20. 49% of Blacks and 74% of whites own their homes. Blacks were 210% more likely than whites of comparable credit to be rejected for mortgage loans.
21. Black adult unemployment has remained twice as high as white unemployment for more than 30 years.
22. Black women make 83% of what white women make in earnings.
23. Black men make 67% of what white men

make in earnings.

24. Blacks hold only 10% of U.S. jobs and are dramatically under-represented in many professions. We are 3% of all lawyers, 3% of all doctors, and 1% of architects.

25. White males with a high school diploma earn just as much as Black males with a college degree.

26. Blacks are rejected twice as often for small business loans as whites of comparable credit.

27. Nearly 65% of Black children in 4th grade can't read, compared to 29% of white children.

28. Only 15% of Black high school seniors are 'proficient' readers, while 52% have 'below basic' reading skills.

29. Black children are 3 times more likely that white children to be labeled mentally retarded.

30. Blacks are 2.5 times more likely to be placed in remedial classes. And even when Black children show potential equal to or above that of whites, they are 40% less likely to be placed in advanced classes.

31. 32% of all suspended students are Black.

32. The high school drop-out rate approaches 50% in some inner-city communities.

33. 60% of the total Black population lives in communities with one or more uncontrolled toxic waste sites.

34. Blacks have a 60% higher diabetes-related mortality rate than whites and suffer 30% higher cardiovascular mortality, 25% higher cancer mortality(including breast cancer). Blacks with prostate cancer are 2-3 times more likely to die than whites. Black men have the highest prostate cancer rate in the world. Blacks with lung cancer were 24% more likely to die within 5 years than whites. The death rate of middle-aged to elderly Black women from coronary heart disease is more than 70% higher than that of white women.

35. Blacks who suffer a stroke have a 95% higher death rate than whites-----75% higher for Black women.

36. Blacks in particular, receive outdated or far less aggressive treatment, even when their condition and health insurance are identical to those of whites. Doctors are less likely to perform high-tech, diagnostic procedures on Blacks and less likely to go to extreme measures to keep them alive if they go into cardiac arrest on the table. Whites are 2/3 more likely to receive kidney transplants than others. When hospitalized for pneumonia, whites are more likely to receive intensive care than Blacks are. 25% of Blacks have no health insurance.

37. The median net worth of Black households is one one-tenth of that of white households - \$11,800 for Blacks compared to \$118,000 for whites.

The facts speak for themselves.

\* In Massachusetts, Blacks are 5.4% of the population, 26.4% of incarcerated adults. Latinos are 6.8% of the population, 26.2% of incarcerated adults

\* In Massachusetts, Blacks and Latinos are 12.2% of the population. Only 5% of state senators and representatives are Black or Latino and 0% of congressmen.

\* In Boston 86% of white students graduate high school, only 76% of blacks and 55% of Latinos do.

\* In Boston, the unemployment rate for Black men is 42%.

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau**

38.3 million

The estimated number of U.S. residents who were black or black in combination with one or more other races as of July 1, 2002. This race group then made up 13.3% of the total population.

Education

79%

Among blacks age 25 and over, the proportion that had at least a high school diploma in 2002. For blacks ages 25 to 29, the proportion is considerably higher: 87%.

17%

Among blacks age 25 and over, the proportion that had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2002, up a full percentage point from the previous year.

1.1 million

Among blacks age 25 and over, the number who had an advanced degree in 2002 (e.g., master's Ph.D., M.D. or J.D.).

\$2.5 million

Estimated work life earnings for full-time, year-round, black workers with an advanced degree. For blacks, more education means higher career earnings: those without a high school diploma would earn less than \$1 million during their work life, increasing to \$1.0 million for workers with a high school education and \$1.7 million for those with a bachelor's degree.

Serving Our Nation

2.6 million

Number of black military veterans in the United States in 2000.

Median Income of Households

\$29,177

The annual median income in 2002 of households with householders who reported only black or black in combination with one or more other races.

23.9%

Poverty rate in 2002 for those reporting black, regardless of whether they reported any other race or races.

Families

African-American Population by Region

Cities with Highest Percentage of African Americans

Interracial Married Couples

8.8 million

Number of black families. Of these, nearly one-half (48%) are married-couple families.

Among black married-couple families, 33% consist of two members, and 20% consist of five or more members.

9%

Proportion of black children who live in their grandparents' household. This is the highest rate for any race or ethnic group.



# STATISTICS YOU SHOULD KNOW... (continued)

48%  
The proportion of black householders who own their own home.

## Population Distribution

### Nation

1.2 million  
The size of the increase in the black population between Census Day, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2002. The rate of increase for this group was 3.3%, higher than the overall increase of 2.5% for the population as a whole.

55%  
The proportion of blacks who live in the South.

2  
For every black person who moved out of the South from 1995 to 2000, the number of blacks who moved there from the nation's other regions. Conversely, each of the other regions experienced a net outmigration of blacks over the same period.

52%  
The proportion of blacks who live in the central city of a metropolitan area.

### States

3.6 million  
Estimated black population of New York on July 1, 2002, the highest of any state. Four other states had black populations that surpassed 2 million: Florida, California, Texas, and Georgia.

216,000  
The number of blacks added to Florida's population between Census Day, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2002, which led all states. Georgia, which added 97,000 blacks, was the runner-up. When it comes to percentage increase, Idaho led all states with a 24% increase in its black population over the same period.

37%  
The estimated proportion of Mississippi's population that was black as of July 1, 2002, the highest percentage of any state in the nation. Louisiana (33%), South Carolina (30%), Georgia and Maryland (29%), and Alabama (27%) followed. The District of Columbia, classified as a state equivalent by the Census Bureau, has a population that is 61% black.

130,000  
Total number of blacks added to Georgia's population through net migration during the five-year period prior to the last census. Georgia led all states, followed by North Carolina, Florida, Maryland, and Texas. (Totals for North Carolina and Florida are not statistically different from each other.)

### Counties

1.4 million  
The estimated number of people in Cook County, Ill., on July 1, 2002, who were black. Cook leads all the nation's counties in this category. Los Angeles, Calif., and Kings (Brooklyn), N.Y., also had black populations exceeding 1 million.

68%  
Estimated proportion of Orleans Parish, La., residents who were black as of July 1, 2002. Among counties with a minimum total population of 100,000, Orleans has the highest percentage of blacks. A pair of jurisdictions in Maryland—Baltimore city and Prince George's County—followed closely, at 66 percent each.

50,100  
Number of blacks added to the population of Broward County, Fla., between Census Day, April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2002, easily the highest total of any county in the nation. When it comes to percentage increase of blacks, Forsyth, Ga., led all counties with an 88% increase. (These statements apply only to counties with a minimum total population of 100,000.)

## Age Distribution

32%  
Proportion of the black population under 18 as of July 1, 2002. At the other end of the spectrum, 8% of the black population were 65 or over.

## Jobs

For black men, the most common occupational category is operator, fabricator and laborer; 28% of them are employed in jobs that come under this heading. About 19% each work in three other occupational categories: technical, sales and administrative support jobs; service occupations; and managerial and professional specialty jobs.

Among black women, 36% work in technical, sales, and administrative support jobs and about 27% each in managerial and professional specialty jobs and in service occupations.

There are about 41,000 employed black physicians, 91,000 engineers, and 43,000 lawyers.

Over 64% of African American women work outside the home.

There are more than 400,000 African American women-owned businesses that are generating an annual \$25 billion in salaries and over a quarter million jobs.

African American women are reported to have an estimated \$400 billion in buying power!

The 2000 Census data indicates that the "minority" population of Boston is now in the majority. Blacks, (including multiracial) have a population of 158,479 (28% of the population) and Latinos have a population of 85,089 (14.4% of the population). The combined population of Blacks and Latinos in Boston is larger than the total population of Worcester (population 204,000) and the total population of Springfield (population 152,082).



photo: Taniya Delva

## Targeting the Youth

Why is it that during a tragedy, blame is placed on all parties but the one responsible? In the hysteria that followed the 9-11 attacks on the twin towers in New York City, Muslims in the United States who had absolutely nothing to do with the attacks were demonized and constitutional rights were compromised in the name of "safety" with the introduction of the USA PATRIOT Act.

The same is happening here in Boston as the increasingly destructive phenomenon of Black on Black violence meets response from the Boston Police with the Safe Homes Initiative. In this case, it is Black, Latino, and Cape Verdean youth who are being made the villain and blamed for a crisis we are not responsible for. Parents are being asked to waive their rights because police believe their child is in possession of a firearm. In the meantime, guns and drugs continue to flow into the community, with no one addressing the real problems.

The Boston Police's Operation Safe Homes is less an effort to reduce gun-violence than a method implemented to incarcerate and incriminate Black and Latino youth. If the city was really concerned for the lives of our youth, it would crack down on those who bring guns and drugs into our impoverished Black and Latino communities. The blame cannot be placed upon youth who grow up in areas where guns and crack are more readily available than jobs and a good education. As I stated in one of my songs, "They take all the funding back, then give us guns and crack."

There has long been a history of the criminalization of Black Youth, especially by the Police here in Boston. It is something I've experienced personally growing up, as well as many of my peers. Racial profiling is rampant and police harassment goes on a lot more than people realize.

The Safe Homes initiative suggests, if nothing else, that Black, Latino and Cape Verdean youth are at fault for what is going on and that parents have no other choice but to allow the police into their house to search their child's home. It is scary to think that some have even come out in support of such a program given its obvious-if-not-stated intent.

-- J. Winfrey

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**FELIX ARROYO**  
\*Boston's 1st Latino City Councilor  
www.FelixArroyo.com  
**NOTE:** Sadly Councilor Arroyo was not re-elected but he has pledged to continue his activist/advocacy efforts...

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Roxbury Community College



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Darnell Williams  
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Urban League of Eastern  
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Sam Yoon was elected to the Boston City Council in November 2005, making history as the first Asian American ever to run for elected office in Boston.

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MORE QUOTES...



Police plan to search for weapons in four Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods by late February or early March. Boston Globe 2/9/08

Rev. Wayne Daley, of the Boston Ten Point Program, told The Final Call Safe Homes is "a positive program." There has been a lot of demand for the police department to get guns off the streets, he said. "Just take a look at some of the things that are happening with our young people having these guns," Rev. Daley noted. "We need to be responsible as a community, and the police department has committed to transparency; so we need to be part of this program. We just have to hold them accountable."



Final Call January 28, 2008



Open Letter continued from pg. 4  
any consequences of such searches.

Issues Regarding Collateral Consequences to Youth from Searches & Recovery of Guns:

Some of the most compelling concerns about the consent to search program are the risks of collateral consequences to teens in public school. The majority of teens report that the primary reason they carry guns is for protection.

In view of how many youth report being frightened when walking in their own neighborhoods or going to school, how many youth wish for adult protection but lack it, the treatment of youth who possess a gun must be nuanced. We are concerned that the simple claim of gun possession, as opposed to the reason for gun possession, will blind school authorities and impel them to remove such youth.

Since it is the School Police Unit conducting the searches, no doubt in part due to information gleaned from school officials, the likelihood that search results would be shared with school officials concerns us greatly. In particular:

We are concerned that recovery of a gun would lead to circulation of the information to principals who could then decide to suspend or expel youth for posing a danger to other youth, under Ch. 71 sec. 37H1/2. This is of especial concern in view of a) the importance of education and b) teens are not entitled to legal representation to ensure they have every possible chance of obtaining their education.

Would the recovery of a gun or even the information that community members believe the youth has a gun result in school officials and school police officers perceiving this information as reasonable suspicion to subject the youth to daily searches?

Would the need to search and the fruits of such a search be reported to the juvenile justice community based roundtables?

If the answer to these questions is yes, or even "maybe", we would need to advise our clients' parents not to consent to the searches for risk of losing youths' access to public education opportunities.

Similarly, if information is obtained by landlords or the Boston Housing Authority that a gun was recovered, it would likely lead to eviction as currently, arrests tend to lead to evictions of Boston Housing Authority youth, prior to adjudication. For the reasons noted above, including the dearth of housing attorneys, we are concerned that the consequences of this effort would further destabilize families, albeit in the service of safety.

Concerns with How Homes are Chosen:

Advocates raised concerns about the risk that BPD's searches could lead to vendetta-like or retaliatory information sharing by members of the community. Is there a process in place to weigh claims, check sources, track and distinguish between "good" and "bad" sources?

Why Just Juveniles?

While we recognize that there is increased circulation of guns among younger and younger teens, we note that the predominant age of victims and defendants in Boston appears to be over the age of 17, and therefore, not involving juveniles. By focusing this program only on juveniles we are concerned that the most negative stereotypes, and not always the most accurate, views of youth will be solidified. We also wonder if it would be in the Department's interest in reducing gun crimes to increase the scope of this program to recover more guns.

Because Massachusetts' collection of data on crime is at present, inadequate, we cursorily reviewed FBI data on the two age groups of most concern, youth under 18 and young people aged 18 to 25, the largest number of gun offenses is among the older youth, not those under 17.

\*\*\*\*\*

Notably, the concerns we raise do not simply affect the youth we serve or the communities we represent; they also pose substantial legal risks to the Boston Police Department. Our concerns are broad and deep enough that it is difficult to imagine how the program could succeed given the need for acceptance by the legal service community.

We look forward to discussing these concerns with you in greater detail and appreciate your invitation to Wednesday's meeting. We remain committed to finding a way to navigate the Scylla and Charybdis of community safety and the fourth amendment.

Very truly yours,

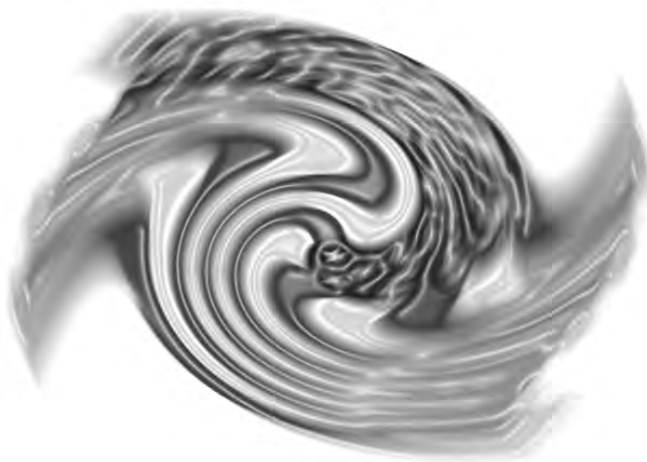
Lisa H. Thurau-Gray



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10,000 Strong continued to pg. 12



from neighbors or a request from a parent by visiting a home and asking to search for weapons belonging to juveniles.

In the first phase of the FSP program (1994-1996), adult residents were given a "Consent to Search and Seize" form to sign and assurances that there would be no criminal prosecutions if illegal guns were found.

According to a National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Research Report, Reducing Gun Violence: The St. Louis Consent-to-Search Program, (November 2004), the program was never adequately evaluated. However, although phase one records were lost, anecdotal evidence suggests that "in its first year of operation, the program enjoyed spectacular success," with a reported 98 percent of those approached consenting to be searched and guns found in half of the homes that were searched, amounting to 510 in all. The program was temporarily suspended after the police chief responsible for it resigned.

In its second nine-month phase, FSP consent searches took a back seat to the use of search warrants and arrests when guns were found. Gone was the promise that there would be no prosecutions. With very few guns found, the program was discontinued in 1998.

In 1999 it was re-introduced with federal funding. The original consent-to-search form was restored, and police acted in partnership with African-

American church leaders who were supposed to counsel parents and young people. Both the proportion of those granting of consent (50%) and the number of guns seized (29) were dramatically lower in phase three than they had been in phase one of the program.

The NIJ Research Report spells out the problems inherent in the St. Louis program: at various stages it was undermined by uncommitted leadership, officer resistance, program isolation, the lack of community support, the lack of training, its inherent fragility, the absence of follow up, the possibility of police acting on poor or inaccurate information.

The lesson the BDP should take from St. Louis is that the program was only successful in obtaining significant numbers of guns when arrest and prosecution were off the table (phase one). This will not be the case in Boston, where only "limited immunity" is promised for unlawful gun possession, but criminal charges may be brought if a seized weapon is linked to a crime.

This makes it likely that "Safe Homes" will be as lacking in solid results as the St. Louis program appeared to be in its second and third phases.

4. It could be counterproductive in public safety terms

Additional problems with the St. Louis program were highlighted in The Future of Children: Children, Youth and Gun

Violence produced by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation (Volume 12 - Number 2, Summer/fall 2002).

In this publication, Jeffrey Fagan, a professor of law and public health at Columbia University Law School writes as follows about the St. Louis initiative:

"First, the level of perceived coerciveness in these situations is unclear. How voluntary is 'consent' when police officers arrive at the door and ask permission to search the home?... Second, security and control may not directly increase when neighbors are encouraged to 'snitch' on each other. Police-citizen interactions differ when a parent invites the police to a home, compared to when a citizen refers police to a neighbor's home. The latter situation does little to knit social ties among neighbors and may lead to counterproductive scenarios in which neighbors accuse each other falsely or fail to come to each other's aid when crimes occur nearby" (Future of Children, page 145).

If the police believe parents genuinely want the kind of help offered by the police searching a young person's bedroom or entire home, they could publicize a phone number where the parent can voluntarily call after having had a chance to think about it, instead of forcing residents to be confronted by three police officers at their doorstep, asking to come in and search.

Because trust and per-

ceptions of legitimacy are essential building blocks for effective community policing, initiatives that threaten to undermine them and that could well set neighbor against neighbor should not be undertaken by the Boston Police Department.

**ACLU RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REMOVING GUNS FROM HOMES**

\* Blanket immunity should be part of any "Safe Homes" program.

\* To ensure that consent to search is indeed voluntary, police visits to homes should be informational only. Police officers can explain the program either directly or through leaflets, and ask parents to call them back if they would like them to conduct a search.

\* Police could hold training sessions that parents could attend if they want to know how to safely search their homes for guns.

\* Priority should be given to methods that have had a measure of success in the past - such as gun drop off and buy back programs. According to the Boston Indicators Project, 1,000 weapons were recovered in the "no questions asked" buy back program initiated in the summer of 2006.

We agree that no children can be the targets of violence in our community.

We call for an end to all violence against children, sexual molestation, physical abuse, etc.

We agree that we can no longer commit violence against each other. We cannot continue to shoot each other.

Black on Black Crime, Youth Violence, Gang Warfare

Black, Latino and Cape Verdean People killing Black, Latino and Cape Verdean People. We have all lost someone. Enough is Enough. Do it for the babies.

We agree that the Elderly cannot be targets of violence.

We must protect our elderly. Our senior citizens are our Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles

We agree that women cannot be the targets of violence.

We must protect our women against rape, domestic violence and abuse

We call on all leadership, clergy, politicians, etc. to be directly accountable and responsible to the PEOPLE.

All leadership must put the people

first and not be swayed by Money, Grants, Politics, Religion, Position, the Media, the Mayor, etc. All leadership must immediately drop all special interests and focus on the salvation and safety of our children.

We call for a citywide Truce on all Gang Warfare, Street Beefs and Feuds. End the senseless Violence and acts of aggression towards your own people.

We also encourage other Metro Areas Brockton, Lawrence, Lynn, Worcester, Springfield, etc. to call for an immediate end to violence.

We agree that we can no longer allow ourselves to fill up the prisons and courtrooms throughout Massa-Chusetts. If you are involved in illegal activity, strive to get your life straight. Develop an exit plan. We are well aware that the Police and Courtrooms and Jails are more than ready and equipped to make room for us all.

We demand that the Police and other "Law Enforcement" entities live up to their appointed duty to uphold the Laws that protect & serve the PEOPLE.

We demand that the Police, the Courts, Probation, Parole, District Attorney, US Attorney work to bring an immediate end to

Racial Profiling, Disparate Sentencing, Framing, Crooked Cops, False Imprisonment, Police Brutality, Police Murder of Black, Latino & Cape Verdean People. WE DEMAND JUSTICE.

We demand that the Media present a fair and accurate account of our community and People. We demand an end to sensationalized media and further demand a balanced portrayal of our community to present profiles of our positive alternatives in Academics, Arts and Culture. We demand an end to the use of terms such as "animals" or the labeling of our youth as "thugs" "gangstas" or the labeling of our communities as "drug zones" or "hot spots" or other code terminology that seeks to deflect the real problems and scare the community.

We also demand that local radio stations adopt a "Balance Campaign" and cease and desist on playing and promoting music and personalities that degrade and demean our women, promote violence and the use and sale of drugs and guns.

We call for an end to unsafe zones in our community where there are very public displays of open Prostitution and Drug Use. This unsafe and unhealthy behavior can no

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to change CORI Laws!!!



Union of Minority Neighborhoods



Horace Small, Executive Director  
Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
Email: umnunity@att.net

Jackie Lageson, Director of Programs  
Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
Email: jackie.lageson@gmail.com

83 Highland Street, Roxbury, MA 02119  
2 Harris Ave, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Phone: 617-541-4111 or 617-522-3349  
Fax: 617-522-3351

[www.unionofminorityneighborhoods.org](http://www.unionofminorityneighborhoods.org)



A Letter From Jim Brown,  
Amer-I-Can Program CEO

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\*My belief is that teaching and sharing the program concepts related to self-esteem could significantly impact the problems our society faces today.

\*I feel that the Amer-I-Can Program is, in many ways, a missing link that empowers those exempted from power and participation in the mainstream.

\*We believe in and work effectively with those whom society disregards, contending that it is never too late to attain a full, meaningful life.

\*We in the Amer-I-Can Program are willing and capable of working with and enhancing any individual or organization that is motivated to effect positive change. Our practice is neither to condemn nor condescend.

\*Completing the Amer-I-Can Program will change one's life and help him or her to become a contributor to a better community and ultimately, a better nation.

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10,000 Strong continued from pg. 12 longer be tolerated it is not good for our women, children and elders. We call for a community cleanup of Dudley Station – No more drug activity, prostitution. Blue Hill Avenue (from Dudley St. – Brunswick) No more drug activity, prostitution. Grove Hall, Codman Sq., Uphams Corner, Humboldt Ave., Elm Hill  
**NO MORE ROBBERIES**  
**NO MORE RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE.**  
 We are killing ourselves.

We demand that the Boston Public School System, immediately develop new curriculums which educate each of our children equally. We demand that there be implemented new academic standards and practices to promote excellence in our schools. We demand a "Truth-Based" curriculum that is culturally accurate and incorporates a true Black/African History, Latino History, and an updated and true American History. Furthermore a cross the board standard should be developed for high schools in order to prepare our children for higher education. Every child in Boston deserves a

Boston Latin quality education.

We call for an immediate end to economic warfare on the community. We demand an end to predatory lending, disparities in business and home loans, malevolent merchants who do bad business in our community. City and State violations (Parking, Street Cleaning, Towing, Snow Plowing, Trash, High Tax rates) which are heaped out on our community without equal city/state services.



**INVITED ELECTED OFFICIALS:**  
**STATE OFFICIALS**  
 Sen. Dianne Wilkerson  
 Rep. Gloria Fox  
 Rep. Linda Dorcena-Forry  
 Rep. Marie St. Fleur  
 Rep. Byron Rushing  
 Rep. Liz Malla  
 Rep. Willie Mae Allen  
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 Chuck Turner  
 Charles Yancey  
 Sam Yoon  
 Michael F. Flaherty  
 Michael Ross  
 John Connolly

**INVITED ORGANIZATIONS:**  
 Project Right  
 Black Ministerial Alliance-Boston  
 Boston Ten Point Coalition  
 NAACP-Boston  
 Nation of Islam

**TOWN HALL MEETING pt. II**  
**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**  
**BPD Safe Homes Initiative**



The Boston Police plan to conduct home visits in 4 neighborhoods that have been called "hotspots". The BPD will knock on a door and inform a parent that their child "may" have a gun. They will ask the parent/guardian to waive their rights and consent to a search of the home. If consent is given, you will be asked to sign a waiver form and verbal consent may be taped. The BPD has stated searches may be limited to a specific area and may be stopped at any time. You have the right to say no to this search.

**THURSDAY MARCH 20th 6 - 9 pm**  
**@Roxbury Y Warren St./MLK jr. Blvd.**

**6-7pm Panel 7-8:30pm Q&A/Discussion 8:30-9pm Wrap-Up**  
**FOR MORE INFO 617-755-6463**

**Criminalization of Youth? Constitutionality? Probable Cause? Legality? Justifiable Search? Racial Profiling?... WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

**Panelists:**  
 Prof. Hillary Farber, National Lawyers Guild-MA Chapter Northeastern Univ.  
 Horace Smalls, Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
 Angela Mitchell, MAMLEO (MA Assoc. of Minority Law Enforcement Officials)  
 Lisa Thurau-Gray, Suffolk University Law School-Juvenile Justice Center  
 Spice, Program Director Touch 106.1, Host "Big Morning Thing"  
 True-See Allah, FOI Director, Nation of Islam Mosque #11

**Presentations by: ACLU of Massachusetts**  
 Sarah Wunsch (Staff Attorney) Amy Reichbach (Racial Justice Advocate)

**TOWN HALL MEETING ENDORSED BY: SEN. BILL OWENS (RET'D), MEL KING, HORACE SMALLS/UNION OF MINORITY NEIGHBORHOODS, ATTY. JAMES S. DILDAY, KAZI TOURE/JERICO BOSTON, MAMLEO, KAREN MILLER/BOSTON VULCANS, CARLOS HENRIQUEZ/PRES. DUDLEY ST. NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE, CINDY DIGGS/PEACE BOSTON, DONOVAN WALKER/DEVELOPMENTAL NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION, NATION OF ISLAM, MILLIONS MORE MOVEMENT, COMMUNITY CHANGE, INC., GREATER BOSTON CIVIL RIGHTS COALITION, THE CITY SCHOOL, TURHAN SHEPHERD/21ST CENTURY CHURCH, PASTOR BRUCE WALL/GLOBAL MINISTRIES CHRISTIAN CHURCH, ZULU NATION-BOSTON, UNIVERSAL BREATH OF LIFE, NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY-BOSTON CHAPTER, BLACKSTONIAN.COM, ATTY. MALIK SHABAZZ/BLACK LAWYERS FOR JUSTICE...**

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ATTORNEY MALIK ZULU SHABAZZ  
 AT WAR FOR MEGAN WILLIAMS Page 16

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