

Defining Racism

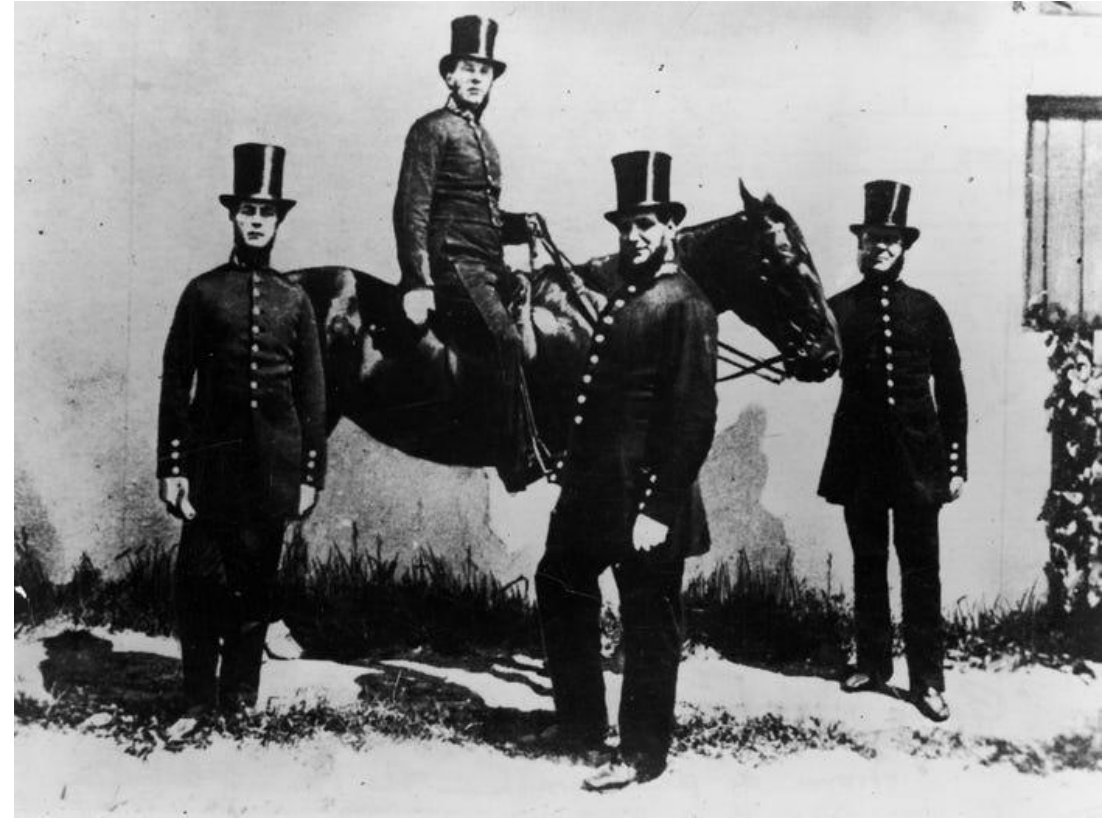
Racism = prejudice + power

“Prejudice is understood to be judgments made in the absence of due examination and consideration of facts . . . When prejudice is based on racial consideration it is race prejudice.”

“When prejudice is combined with power it becomes racism. Power is the capacity to command, control, and dominate social reality for the purpose of achieving a desired outcome. Those who control power have the capacity to transform prejudice into racism by establishing and maintaining institutions and structures that embody group biases.”

(Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community - PC(USA) Churchwide Antiracism Policy approved by the 222nd General Assembly (2016)

History of Policing in America



School-to-Prison pipeline in North Carolina

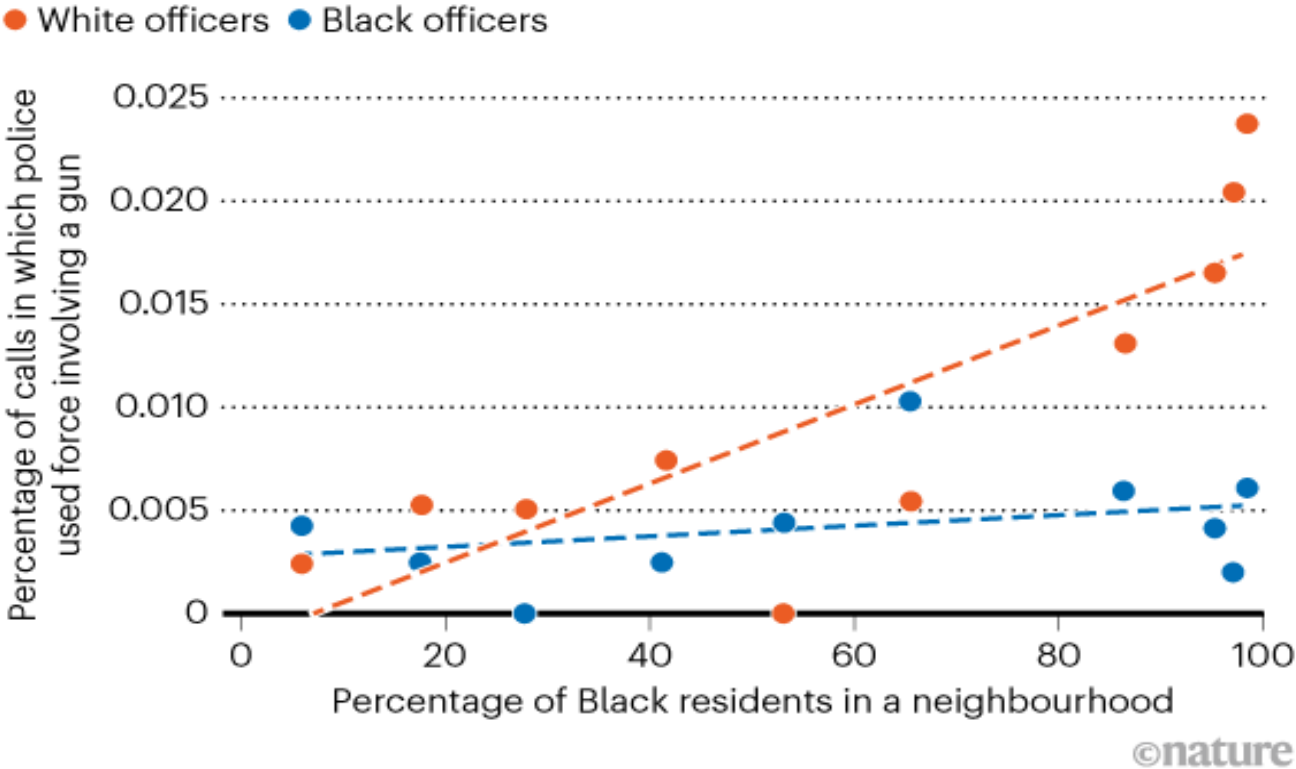
- White students make up 47% of children in NC Public Schools and receive 25.8% short term suspensions. Black students make up 25% of students and receive 55.2% of short-term suspensions.
- In all, Black students are 4.1 times more likely than white students to receive a short term suspension.
- Statewide, 45.1% of juvenile referrals to the criminal justice system came from schools. Black students made up 47.6% of all referrals

(Southern Coalition for Social Justice 4th Annual Racial Equity Report Cards Highlighting Disparities in NC Public Schools. February 26, 2020)

“What the data says about police brutality and racial bias – and which reforms might work” *Nature Magazine*, June 19,2020.

ANSWERING THE CALL

Researchers looked at responses to 1.2 million 911 emergency calls in a US city and plotted the use of force involving a gun across neighbourhoods, according to their racial composition. White officers were more likely to use a gun than were Black officers and more likely to do so in predominantly Black neighbourhoods.



Racism, Law Enforcement, and the Church

“White evangelical Protestants stand out for the extent to which they believe recent killings of black men are isolated incidents. More than seven in ten (71%) of white evangelical Protestants say these killings are isolated incidents, a view shared by roughly six in ten white Catholics (63%) and white mainline Protestants (59%). In contrast, only about four in ten (43%) Hispanic Catholics and about one-third of religiously unaffiliated Americans (33%) and Hispanic Protestants (32%) say these killings are isolated incidents. Just 15% of black Protestants identify the recent killings of black men by police as isolated incidents, while more than eight in ten (84%) say they are part of a broader pattern.”

(Partisan Polarization Dominates Trump Era: Findings from the 2018 American Values Survey by the Public Religion Research Institute, October 29, 2018)

Racism, Law Enforcement, and the Church

- *“30% of White Christians are more likely to say Confederate monuments to Confederate soldiers are symbols of Southern pride rather than symbols of racism.”*
- *“White Christians are 20% more likely to disagree with this statement: “Generations of slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for Blacks to work their way out of the lower class.” And these trends generally persist even in the wake of recent protests for racial justice.”*

Jones, Robert P. “Racism among white Christians is higher than among the nonreligious. That's no coincidence.” *nbcnews.com*, July 27, 2020.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/racism-among-white-christians-higher-among-nonreligious-s-no-coincidence-ncna1235045>