

THE NATIONAL  
REGISTRY  
OF  
EXONERATIONS



RACE AND  
WRONGFUL  
CONVICTIONS

African Americans (13%)

U.S. Population

Known  
exonerations

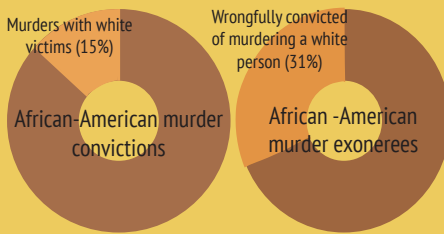
African Americans  
(47%)

MURDER

Black people are **7 times more likely** to be wrongfully convicted of murder than white people.



African Americans imprisoned for murder are more likely to be innocent if they were convicted of killing white victims.



= including police misconduct  
 = without police misconduct

Murder exoneration with white defendants



Murder exoneration with black defendants



On average, black murder exonerees spend **3 years** longer in prison before release than white exonerees.



SEXUAL ASSAULT

A black prisoner serving time for sexual assault is **3.5 times more likely** to be innocent than a white sexual assault convict. The major cause is misidentification of black defendants by white victims.



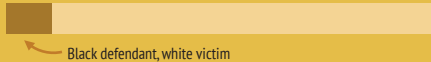
In half of all sexual assault exoneration where mistaken identification is a factor, the defendant was black and the victim was white.

Sexual assault exoneration where mistaken identification is a factor



This combination only occurs in about 11% of all sexual assaults in the US

All sexual assaults in the United States



African-American sexual assault exonerees spent 4.5 years longer in prison than white sexual assault exonerees

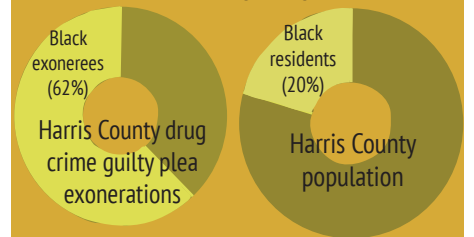


DRUG CASES

Innocent African Americans are **12 times more likely** to be convicted of drug possession than innocent white people.



In Harris County, Texas, 133 defendants pled guilty to drug possession, but lab tests later showed they had no illegal drugs



Since 1989, more than **1,800 defendants** have been cleared in "group exoneration" that followed **15 large-scale police scandals** in which officers systematically framed innocent defendants. The great majority were African-American defendants who were framed for drug crimes that never occurred.

