



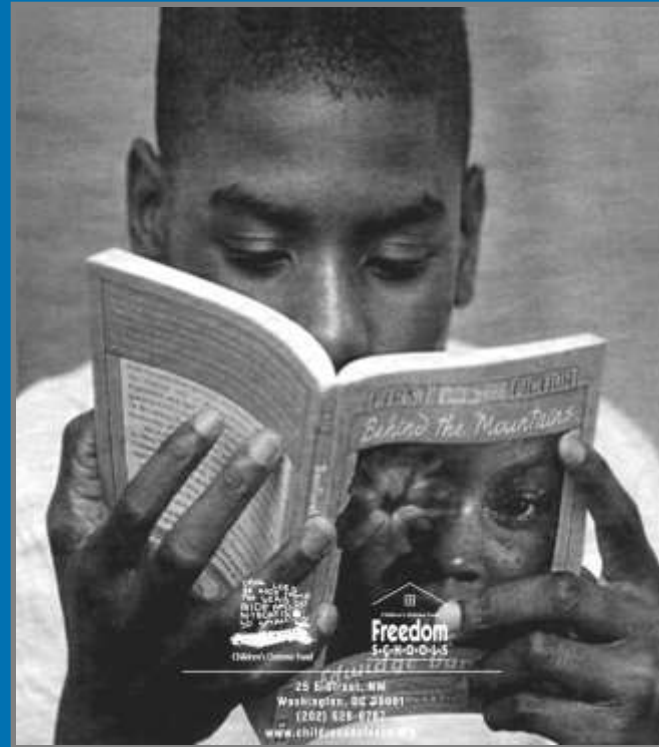
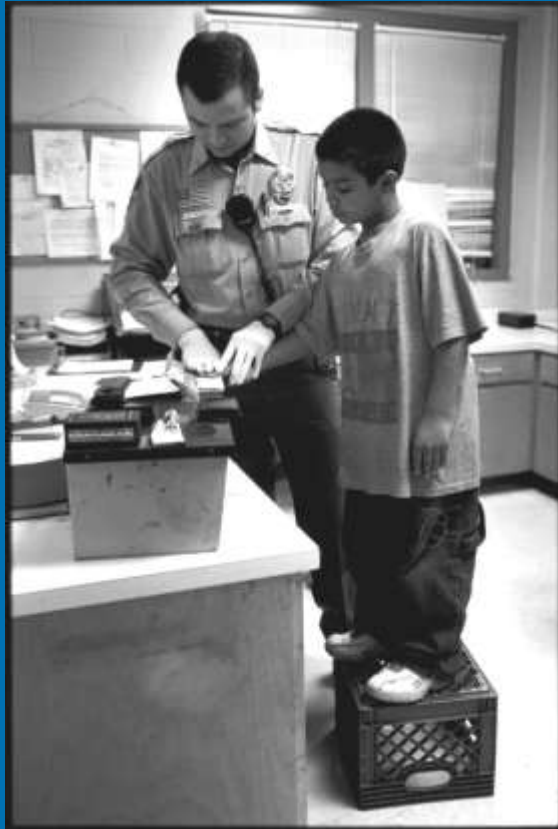
Coming Together to Dismantle the Cradle to Prison Pipeline



January 25, 2011



The choice we face



We who believe in freedom cannot rest.



Lifetime risk of boy born in 2001 going to prison

- Black boy: 1 in 3
- Latino boy: 1 in 6
- White boy: 1 in 17





Lifetime risk of girl born in 2001 going to prison

- Black girl: 1 in 17
- Latina girl: 1 in 45
- White girl: 1 in 111





One thing is clear ...

**The only thing our nation will
guarantee every child
is a detention or prison cell
after
they get into trouble.**



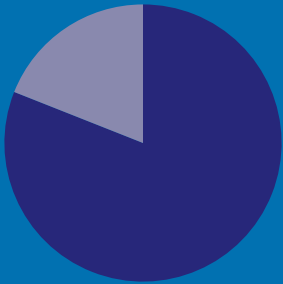
Systems Fueling the Pipeline

- Pervasive poverty
- Racial and ethnic disparities
- Trauma / inadequate health and mental health care
- Gaps in early childhood development
- Disparate educational opportunities
- Chronic abuse and neglect
- Rampant substance abuse
- Overburdened and ineffective juvenile justice systems

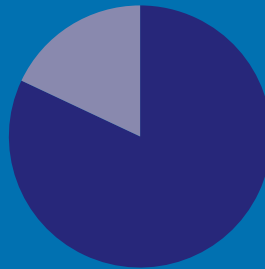


Disparate Educational Opportunities

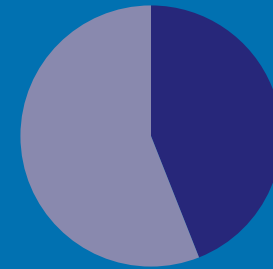
Percent of MA 4th Graders Who Cannot Read at Grade Level



81% Black

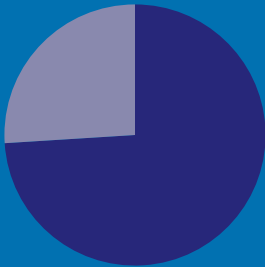


82% Latino

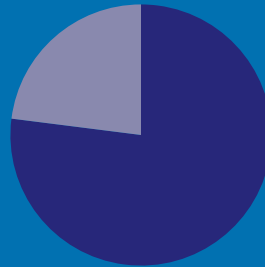


44% White

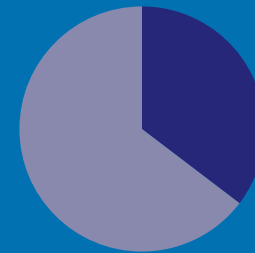
Percent of MA 4th Graders Who Cannot do Math at Grade Level



74 % Black



77 % Latino



35% White



Children's Defense Fund

For just one year....

1,000





2,700



3,448

7,326



10,460





24,934



52,637





National Goals to Dismantle the Pipeline

- **End Child Poverty**
- Ensure Every Child and Pregnant Woman Access to **Affordable, Seamless, Comprehensive Health and Mental Health Coverage and Services**
- Provide **High Quality Early Childhood Development Programs for All**
- **Ensure Every Child Can Read at Grade Level by Fourth Grade and Guarantee Quality Education through High School Graduation**
- **Protect Children from Abuse and Neglect and Connect Them to Caring Permanent Families**
- **Stop the Criminalization of Children at Increasingly Younger Ages and Invest in Prevention and Early Intervention**



Campaign to Dismantle the Cradle to Prison Pipeline in Massachusetts

- Focus on the role of **zero tolerance school discipline policies** in funneling children into the pipeline
- Launch a **broader education campaign** to inform communities about the systems that fuel the pipeline
- **Mobilize people to take action** against the systems that fuel our youth into the pipeline.



Children's Defense Fund

Zero Tolerance Policies



Zero Tolerance Policies

Would you call the police if

- A 10-year old elementary school student took a pair of scissors out of her backpack during class?
- A 7-year old boy threw a backpack at a classmate?
- A 6-year old child had a temper tantrum?
- A 5-year old boy was misbehaving in school?
- Two 4-year olds refused to take their nap?



Children Criminalized



A 5-year old Florida girl handcuffed, arrested after tantrum in kindergarten



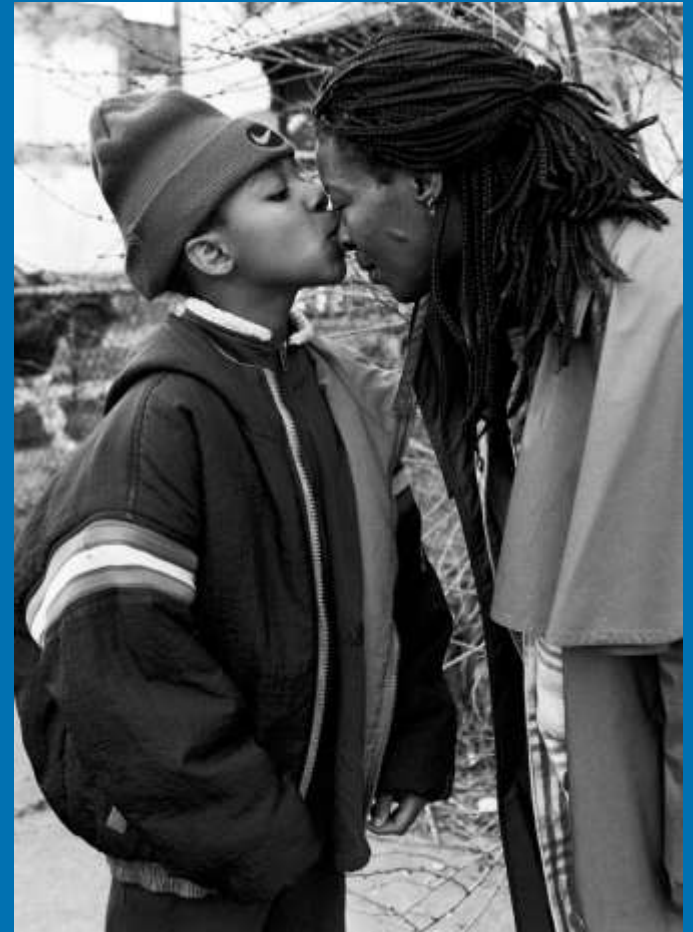
Zero tolerance in Massachusetts

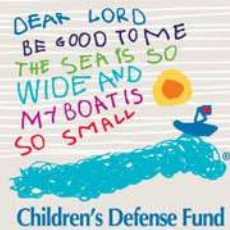
- Would you expel a student for the rest of the school year for poking another student with a ballpoint pen?
- Would you exclude a student for four months for sharpening his pencil without permission and giving the teacher a “threatening” look when asked to sit down?
- Would you permanently expel a student for possession of an antibiotic due to a zero tolerance policy for drugs?
- Would you call the police, handcuff, and then expel a student who started a snowball fight on school grounds?



Call to Action

What Can We Do To
Dismantle the
Pipeline?





Thank you!

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