

Hi, {{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

Ayika Tshimanga, Digital Organizer with the Education and Justice Transformation Program (EJT) at the Center for Popular Democracy, here

with another addition to the EJT team's NEW Journey into the Impact of the Police-State and Liberation Guided Email Series. Stay up-to-date on the learning series, and [let us know which topics you're interested in reading about next!](#)

POLITICAL EDUCATION POLL

As back-to-school month kicks up, we welcome you to our second email in the series, **Lesson 2: Schools and Policing**. We've also compiled all of this information in a one-pager for you and your community to use. You can read more [here](#).

So, let's dive in.

Content Warning: Discussions on police violence, discrimination, incarceration, and deportation.

BE IN SOLIDARITY AND WAYS TO HELP.



Although the prevalence of police in schools and limited investments in education is bleak, a more just future is possible. Communities nationwide have been building this future by winning investments in their schools and continuing to fight for police-free schools. One such initiative saw young people all across the nation come together to deliver their [Youth Mandate for Education and Liberation](#) with their vision of police-free schools with three key components:

- Funding education not incarceration,
- Restoring and strengthening the civil rights of students, and
- Uplifting public education and ending the private takeover of schools.

For more ways to get involved in ending the school-to-prison-and-deportation pipeline, follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) to stay current in the campaign!



WHAT IS THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON-AND-DEPORTATION PIPELINE?



The [Youth Mandate for Education and Liberation](#) defines the School-to-Prison-and-Deportation Pipeline (STPDP) as the combination of policies, practices, and culture that punish, isolate, marginalize, and deny Black, Brown, Latine, Indigenous, immigrant, LGBTQIA+, youth with disabilities, and young people at the intersections of those identities from access to nurturing and supportive learning environments and instead funnels them into the criminal legal system. For immigrants and undocumented young people, the STPDP can result in loss of benefits, detention, and deportation.

The STPDP can look like having police in schools, suspensions, or having surveillance equipment in schools, such as metal detectors.

PUSHING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO PRISON.

THE **STPDP'S** NEGATIVE IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE

Exclusionary school discipline policies are linked to "higher average levels of student substance use, depressed feelings, less school and community support, and lower feelings of school safety."



Police in schools push young people into incarceration and deportation through suspension, arrest, a culture of hostility, and even the most innocuous interaction with officers.

Students attending schools with high suspension rates are more likely to be arrested or incarcerated as adults. One study showed that young people who

attended stricter schools were 17 percent more likely to be arrested and 20 percent more likely to be incarcerated than those at less punitive schools. Another study found that attending a school specifically with a higher suspension rate could mean a 15%-20% higher likelihood of a young person being incarcerated as an adult.

Extreme discipline—including arrests—predicts grade retention, school pushout, and future juvenile and criminal legal system involvement.

The experiences of countless Black and Brown young people show that police in schools create hostile environments, leading to more assaults, arrests, and harassment from police against Black and Brown young people.

Police in schools can have immigration consequences for young people and their families, fueling the school-to-deportation pipeline. Students can enter the deportation pipeline through interactions with school police, including tickets, citations, and arrests that can put young people at risk. Arrests can become part of young people's records, impacting their ability to apply for immigration status or, in the case of convictions, lose their legal status (for example, DACA) or bar them from becoming eligible to get immigration status.

Underfunded schools that fail to prepare students for their future because they lack the supports they need can also contribute to pushout. Without proper investments in students and educators, schools fail to create cultures that do not rely on exclusionary discipline and policing.

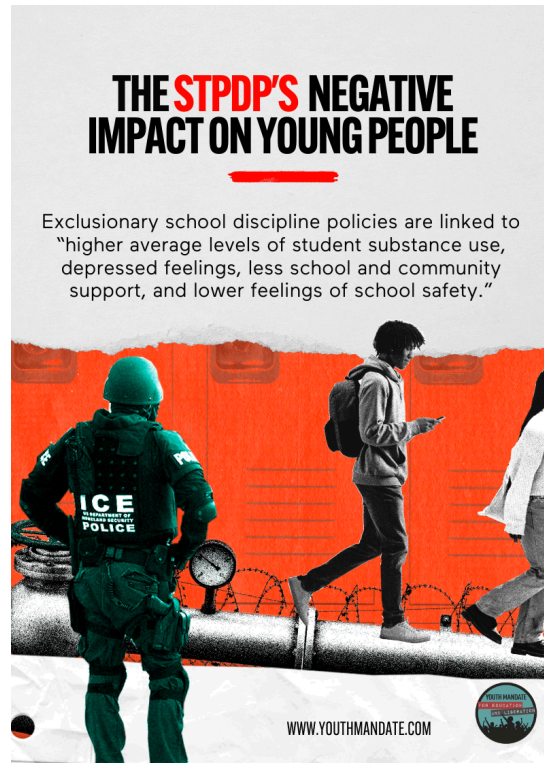


NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF POLICE IN SCHOOLS.

In a national survey of 630 young people in four states, young people reported disturbing patterns of harassment and violence by school police. When asked to report for themselves or someone they know, respondents said that school police:

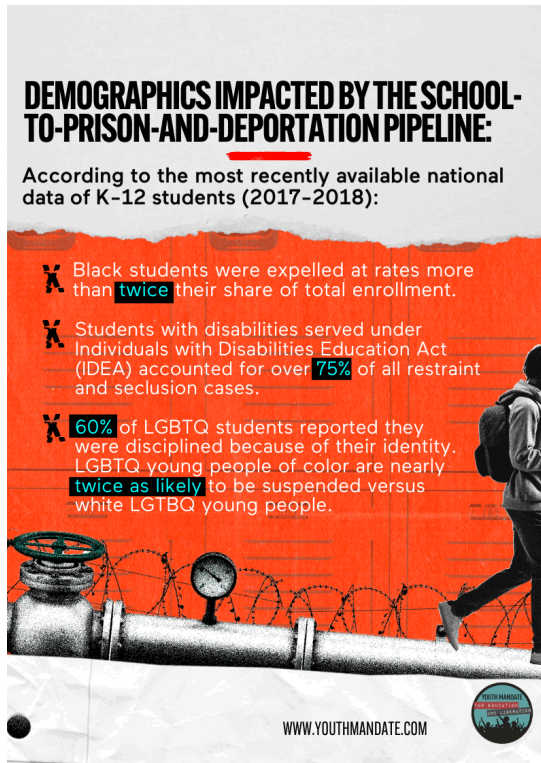
- Verbally harass or make fun of students (20%).
- Take students out of the classroom (50%).
- Arrest students at school (26%).
- Sexually harass students at school.

**Study conducted by Center for Popular Democracy, Urban Youth Collaborative, Make the Road New Jersey, Latinos Unidos Siempre, and Make the Road Nevada.*



[Read more](#)

DEMOGRAPHICS IMPACTED BY POLICING.



[Read more](#)

According to the most recently available national data of K-12 students (2017-2018):

- Black students were:
 - Referred to law enforcement at higher rates than their share of enrollment (15% of enrollment versus 29% of students referred to law enforcement and 32% of all students arrested at school or during a school-related activity).
- American Indian or Alaska Native students were:
 - Expelled at higher rates than their share of enrollment (1.1% expulsions with educational services and 1.8% of expulsions without educational services versus 1.0% of student enrollment).

- Students with disabilities served under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) were:
 - Disproportionately suspended (13% of enrollment but 25% of one or more out-of-school suspensions.)
 - Black students served under the IDEA accounted for 2% of enrollment, but 8% of students referred to law enforcement and 9% of students who were arrested.
- Students who are LGBTQIA+:
 - In a qualitative research project on LGBTQ youth, young people overwhelmingly reported being targeted by school staff with increased surveillance and policing. LGBTQ youth of color reported harsh school discipline and biased application of policies.

[Read more](#)

The school-to-prison-and-deportation pipeline is deeply harmful and must be ended. So, young people are fighting back all across the country. Organizations like Urban Youth Collaborative, Make the Road New York, Make the Road Nevada, Leaders Igniting Transformation, Latinos Unidos Siempre, Florida Student Power Network, and so many more are fighting every day to dismantle the school-to-

prison-and-deportation pipeline and build the communities and schools they deserve to thrive. And folks are coming together nationwide to demand the federal government support them by ending funding for police in schools and investing in supports, by passing the Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act, which will be reintroduced soon. [Join us in this fight!](#)



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Center for Popular Democracy Action

449 Troutman Street, Suite A

Brooklyn, NY 11237

United States

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