

Slide 1

- Name, where I am from, in high school, what I believe my community to be
 - Go around, name and what you believe your community to be
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Slide 2/3

- How do you define “justice”?
 - What do you know about the “Justice System” (Take 3 hands)
 - From watching Law and Order to hands on experience
 - Have you ever heard of a district attorney?
 - I only heard recently
 - Know many adults who do not
 - This is why we are doing this! Because you’ll find out that it is very important.
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Slide 4

- What does the district attorney do?
 - Anything that struck you?
 - Do you think that this impacts you or your community?
 - Remember our intro. Immigrants? People of color? Youth? Etc.
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Slide 5

- Do you know what mass incarceration means? Video talked about it.
 - Incarcerated → To be “put behind bars”, prison, jail, juvenile hall, immigrant detention facility, etc.
 - Raise your hand if you or someone you know has been incarcerated. That can be life in prison or time in jail.
 - This is what the “mass” part refers to.
 - “With only 5% of the world’s population, the US holds 25% of the world’s prisoners”
 - Who is responsible for deciding if someone is incarcerated?
 - Graph 1, show massive amount of growth
 - Do you think that more crimes are being committed?
 - Graph 2
 - Mainly non-violent offenders! Not more violent crimes, actually not really more crime at all but a decrease. JUST MORE INCARCERATION. >:(@ DA
 - Drug crimes
 - Prostitution/victim of sex trafficking
 - Theft
 - Selling oranges without a license → ceviche example
 - Immigrant detention centers having long sentences
 - Justice system looking for convictions vs solutions → Albert ex.
 - Remember their language: Do you think that this is an example of justice?
 - If not, what would you change about incarceration in the U.S. to make it just?
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Slide 6 - Play video → next slide (7)

- How is this different than United States’ prisons?
- Incarceration does not make people stop committing crimes. Sometimes it can cause people

to keep committing them.

- Longer prison sentences shown to increase chances of recidivism
 - If someone does end up back in prison, do you think their sentence would be longer or shorter?
 - So after incarceration showed that it did not solve the problem, we thought we would try the same thing?
 - Like a kid trying to put a square block in a round hole over and over
 - Wouldn't it be better if when someone committed a crime, especially a non-violent one, we gave them resources to learn, grow, and leave as a person who will contribute and care for their community? Shouldn't (describe trauma's) be the last option?
 - If someone has nothing, making their circumstances worse will not help them to succeed
 - So if this is the case, why are we incarcerating so many people?
 - What was happening in the US when the prison population started growing?
 - Racism in our society, new changes from civil rights era, how can we contain?
 - More focus on drugs, mass hysteria, fear, STEREOTYPES
 - Have you ever felt stereotyped because of your race?
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Slide 8

- What do you think about these images? Take a moment to read, maybe 30 seconds to speak with a partner.
 - Graph one: What did you and your partner think about the first graph?
 - This is racial bias. The fact that we all raised our hands is NOT a coincidence.
 - Many places where racial bias occurs along the path to incarceration
 - Starts with over policing, police in schools
 - Reference pictures. What were your thoughts?
 - How do you react when you see a cop when walking/driving? (Light, humor)
 - Racial profiling – police pulling people over because of bias in seeing black and brown people as “criminals”
 - Mexicans make up less than half of undocumented folks
 - White people and black people smoke weed at roughly the same rate
 - **DA is the one who influences police behavior, they decide if police will be held accountable, they decide what crimes they will actually convict**
 - Where are you all from? Have you ever been to a community like Coronado or La Jolla where there are (examples)? Have you ever seen a lot of police officers around? If you did, what were they doing?
 - Like a movie, white picket fence, the kids who thank police officers
 - What about your community? How is what they do here/ how they act different?
 - Mouse traps
 - **Again, do you think that this fits your definition of justice?**
 - This is especially important for young people like us.
 - Young people of color in particular seen as criminals
 - Friend of mine story
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Slide 9

- We see other events like this on the news (explain photo) and it can be very disempowering
- Have you ever had an experience with the police? How did you feel? How do you think your

- family and friends felt? Do you think that you were treated with dignity and respect?
- Option: Share a similar current event that they may have connected with
 - Older brother involved in the courts system as youth
 - Made to feel alone, his fault.
 - Not treated with dignity or respect
 - Dropped out of high school got in more trouble, not given resources or a chance
 - Can feel disempowering, but truth is we are not alone
 - Remember the hands and the stories told, remember the patterns
 - There is power in numbers
 - Shared stories → Shared Action
 - No matter how distant it may seem, power of the district attorney is our power
 - We get to hold them accountable, not really a minority
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Slide 10

- Able to choose whether prosecuted as adult or youth
 - Graph 1: what is a direct file
 - Kid in Florida who got 25 years for selling drugs, adult prison at 16
 - This should not happen
 - Racial bias in california
 - Power to keep sentencing shorter - no life for people under 18 or 25
 - Power to choose rehabilitation programs vs detention center
 - Sensitivity to power imbalance and brain development in plea deals
 - What would justice look like in a district attorney that you choose?
 - Making sure that any court involvement is happening without any bias in the first place and only for things worth a conviction
 - Making sure that we are learning and not just ending up incarcerated as adults
 - Youth understanding their power as individuals and leaving with the ability to thrive in their communities
 - Imagine the effect on the community! Stopping the cycle - remember john legend video
 - If diversion program: Look where we are! This is what we want the District Attorney to do more of :)
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Vote slide

- Make sure that the hands that are voting are representative of the community
 - Pre register or vote
 - Talk with your family
 - Don't sit and let things stay the same
 - **Ask for voter commitment**