

FULLY FREE

The Campaign to end Permanent Punishments in Illinois

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Campaign Goals



**Build
Relationships**



**Narrative
Change**



**Pass
Legislation**



History

Never Fully Free Report

Development of Board and Coalition

Multi-City Launch Events

Statewide Virtual Launch Event

NEVER
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The Scale and Impact of Permanent Punishments
on Parents with Criminal Records in Illinois

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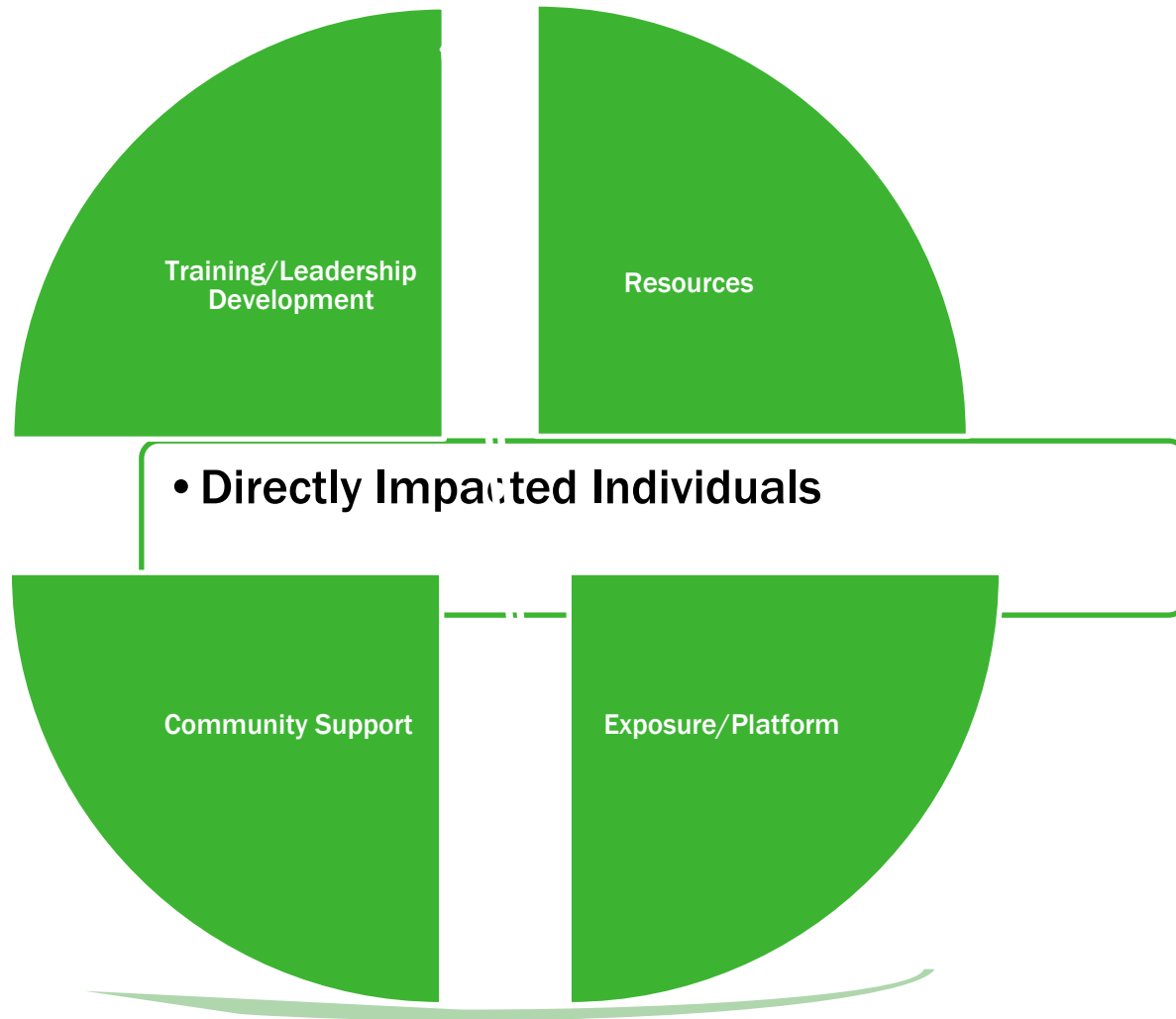
“Those closest to the problem are closest to the solution, but furthest from resources and power.”

Glenn Martin, Founder of
JustLeadership USA

Why **people with records as leaders**

- ✓ People with records are experts of their own experience
- ✓ No one tells our story better than us – WE create our own narratives
- ✓ We are the ones who can shift the narrative
- ✓ “You can't listen to me talk and go tell my story.” Drake

Centering Directly Impacted Individuals



What are permanent punishments?

Permanent punishments

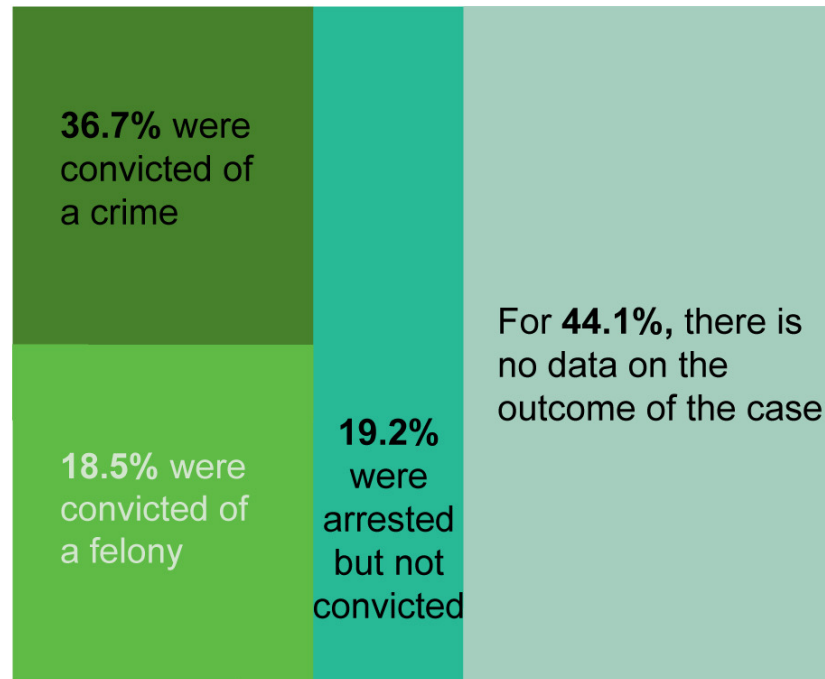
Legal penalties that create long-lasting, often permanent, barriers to employment, housing, education, civil engagement, and more for people arrested or convicted of crimes

There are **1,189** unique sanctions in the State of Illinois that act in **1,260** ways to impact people's access to housing, employment, education, and other opportunities.



Who is impacted by permanent punishments?

3.3 million adults alive today have been **arrested or convicted** of a crime in Illinois.



Types of permanent punishments: Jobs

- The majority (982) of permanent punishment laws in Illinois prevent or hinder access to employment
- 169 of these require/create background checks



*"I supposed to get a job, a 12-hour shift, making \$14. My background disqualified me... I find my background really stopping me now."
- Jerome Fazir*

Types of permanent punishments: Housing

- In Illinois, **40** sanctions apply permanent punishments in the area of housing.



“I feel like if people have made mistakes in the past, went to jail, came home...and changed their lives and... they living the straight legal life doing the right thing and they’re able to pay the rent and pay the bills... that’s wrong and then very hard to get a good housing in Chicago with a criminal history.”
– Charlie Sanders

Types of permanent punishments: Education

- In Illinois, **28** govern education access. There are at least **364** state laws and regulations that restrict occupational licensing for people with a criminal record.



“When I tried to go back to school they told me [that] I no longer qualify for the FASFA because of some reason...I think it was an incident from a while ago... a fight and that I got involved with, it wasn’t even my fight.... It just seems like... they are holding everything against you, basically ... Like, why can’t I get an education? Just because I made a bad decision that don’t mean you should take that from me.” – Anonymous

Racism and permanent punishments

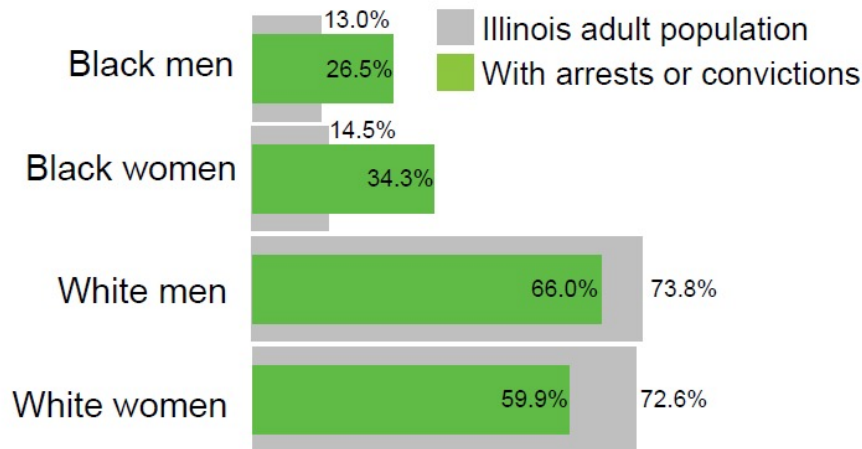
- An estimated 14% of Black adults in Illinois were currently or formerly incarcerated as of 2010, compared to 3% of adults overall. Illinois has the third highest percentage of Black adults who are formerly incarcerated in the nation



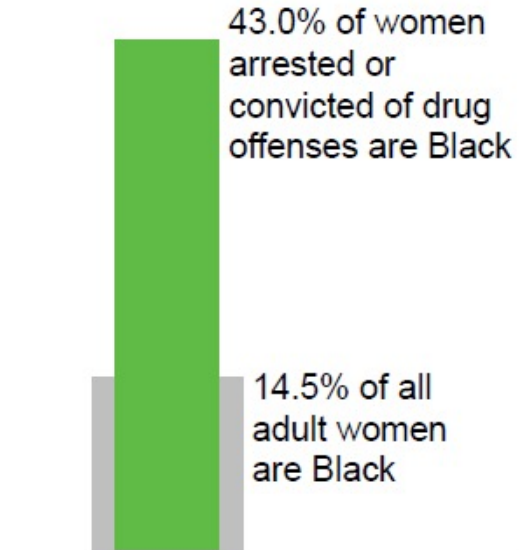
*"[It's] a system that's kind of rigged to really, really entrap you in it."
– Wendell Robinson*

Permanent punishments and women

Black men and women make up a **higher proportion** of those with arrests and convictions than **their proportion of all adults** in Illinois.



Black women make up a **smaller proportion** of Illinois female population but a **larger share of women arrested or convicted for drug offenses**.



What do we do about permanent punishments?

Get rid of them.



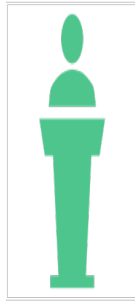
“I hope that people will realize that incarceration is not the answer. We keep hitting everything with a hammer. No matter how small or big the problem is. We need more tools. You know, people need to be put in better conditions to talk about housing, healthcare, education, employment. We’re talking about opportunity. Like what are realistic opportunities for people to succeed.”

– Michael Tafolla

Regional Community Clusters



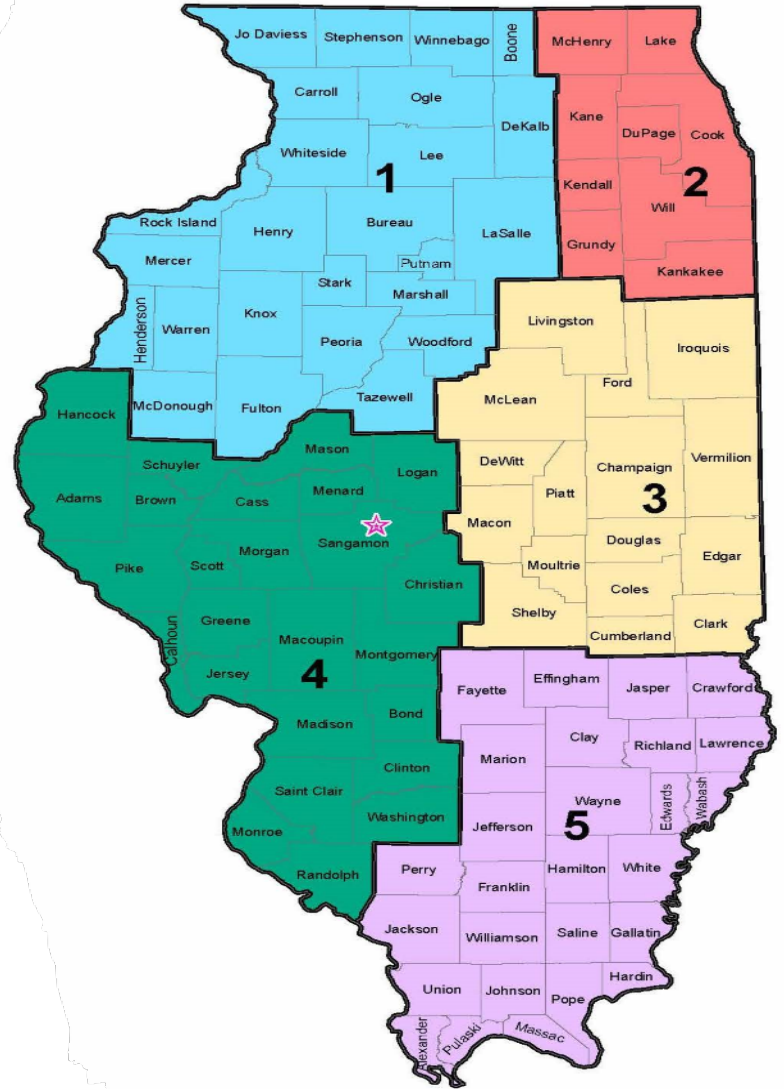
Build Relationships



Develop Leaders



Take Action



There is still so much work to do!

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Join us!

- Sign up on our website to receive campaign updates
<https://fullyfree.org/>
- Join us for the Oct 2nd Bloomington Normal Fully Free Launch Event.
- Join the Fully Free Coalition to eliminate permanent punishments
- Make a donation to support the campaign
- Like us on Facebook, fully free campaign, and twitter @FullyFreeIL

The End



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