

# 40 YEARS IN CORRECTIONS

**Allen Ault, Ph.D.**

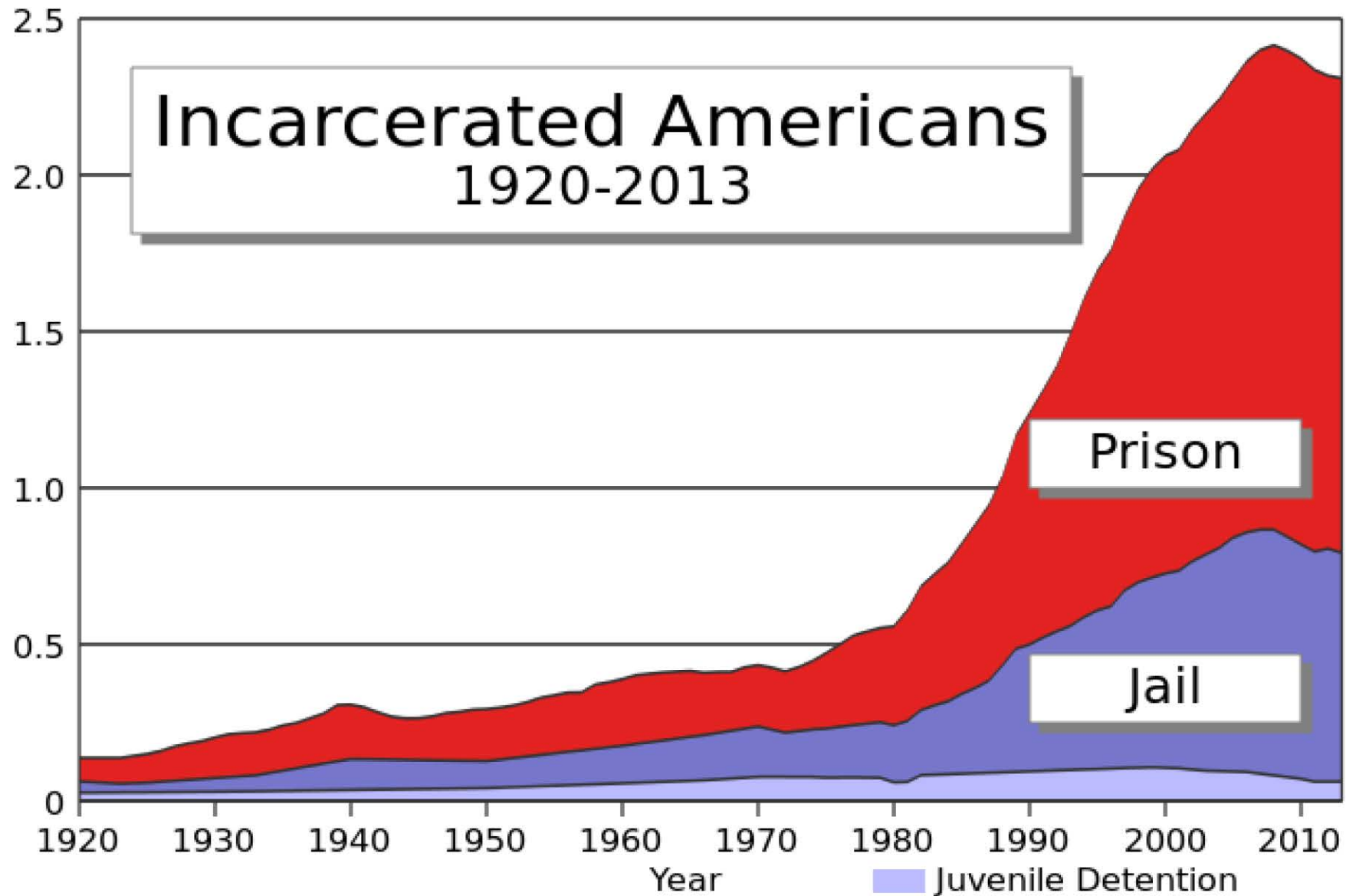
Dean, College of Justice & Safety  
Eastern Kentucky University



Presented March 2, 2015 for National Criminal Justice Month, University of Alaska Anchorage

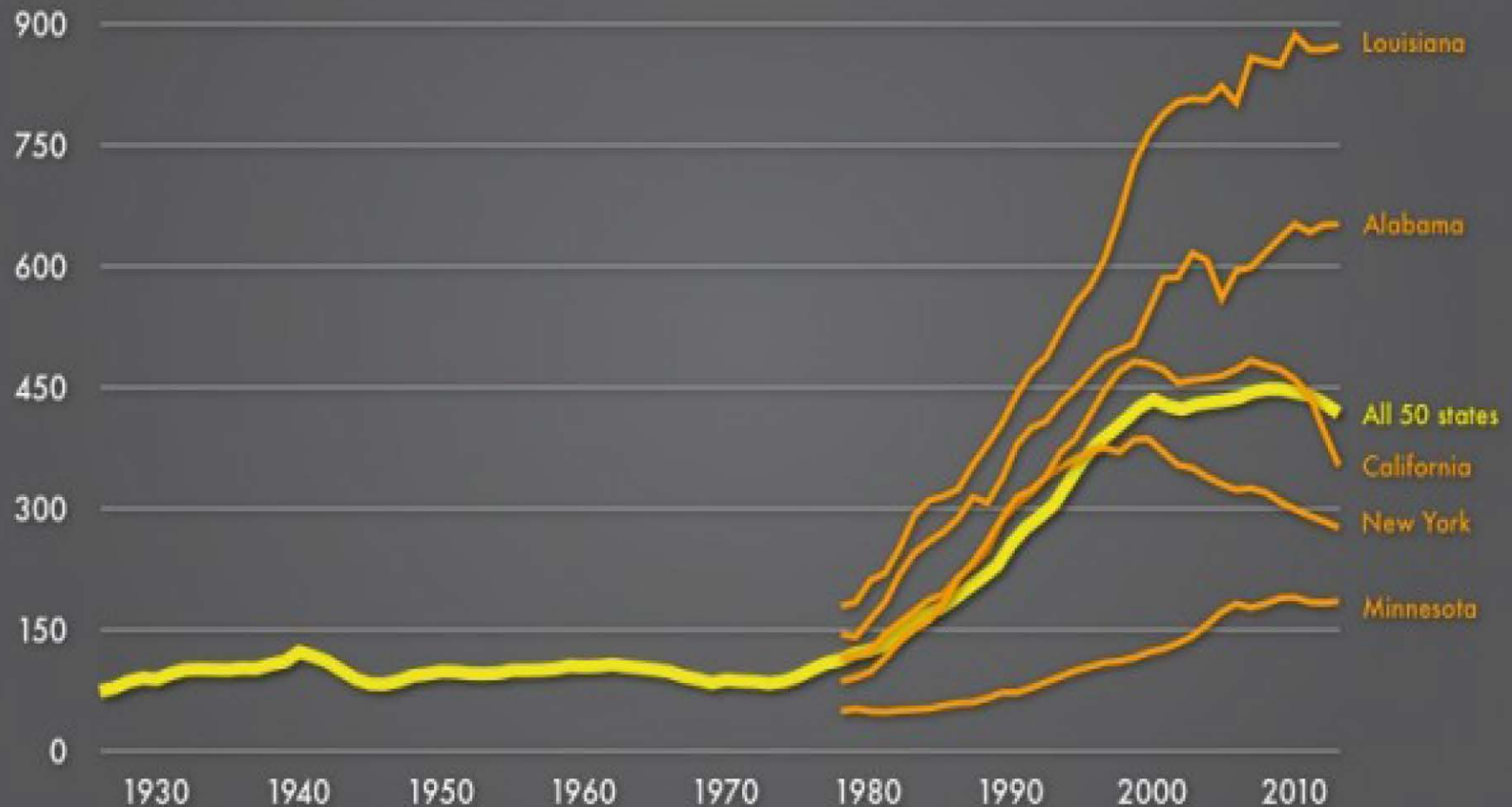
# Incarcerated Americans 1920-2013

Millions



# STATE PRISON INCARCERATION RATE SELECT STATES & ALL 50 STATES

(Number of people incarcerated per 100,000 people in that group)



ALASKA has the third fastest growing prison population in the country.

The recidivism rate is 63 percent.

Average Daily Prisoner Population:

**6,286**





# REASON FOR VOLATILE INCREASE IN PRISON POPULATION



# FAILED DRUG POLICY



# REASON FOR DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS IN U.S. CORRECTIONS



# PRISON LITIGATION REFORM ACT 1996





# RESULTED IN DEEP CUTS IN STATE AND FEDERAL CORRECTIONS BUDGETS



Flickr: niseag03

# NOW VERY LIMITED TREATMENT AND RELEASE PROGRAMS



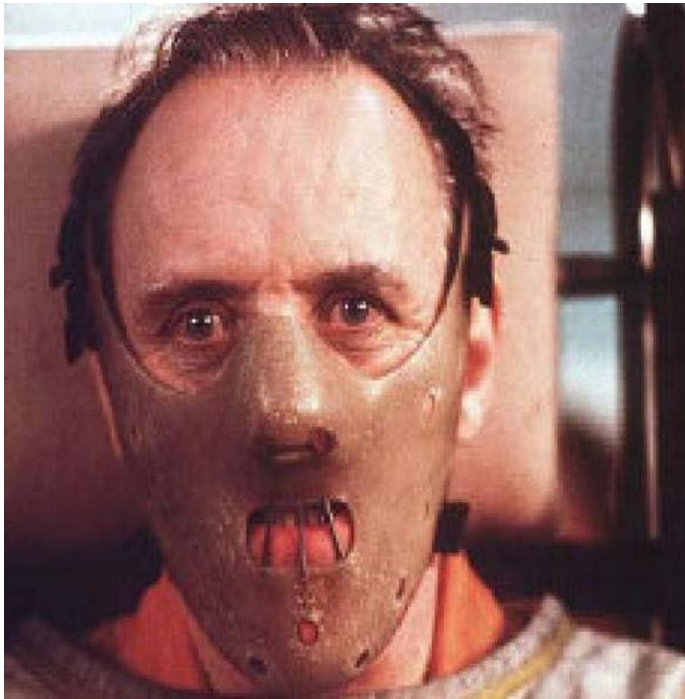
20% HAVE SIGNIFICANT  
MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

85 % HAVE SERIOUS SUBSTANCE  
ABUSE ISSUES



AVERAGE READING GRADE LEVEL  
6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

# PSYCHOPATHS IN THE PRISON SYSTEM





# PLETHORA OF LAWS PROHIBITING EMPLOYMENT OF EX-OFFENDERS



# BOTTOM LINE



# RECIDIVISM RATE



**3 OUT OF 4** FORMER  
PRISONERS ARRESTED WITHIN  
5 YEARS OF RELEASE

# IS THERE A SILVER BULLET

????????????





# COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

a short-term, goal-oriented psychotherapy treatment that takes a hands-on, practical approach to problem-solving. Its goal is to change patterns of thinking and **behavior**.

*Cognitive restructuring of*  
**CRIMINAL THINKING**

# OUR PUNISHMENT MIND SET



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# CAPITAL PUNISHMENT



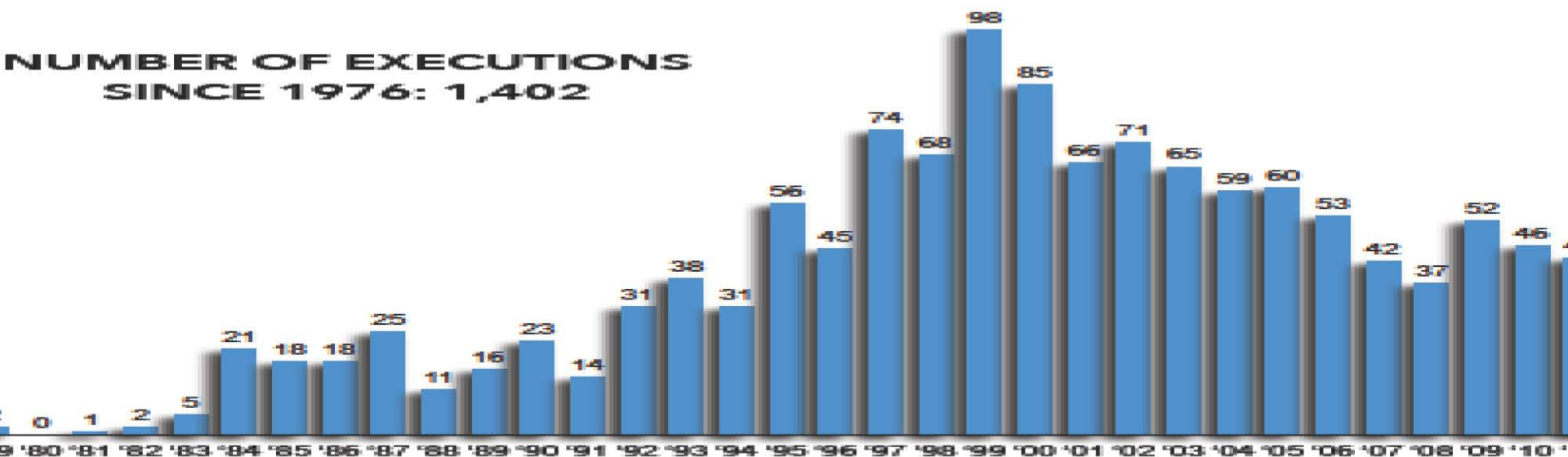


# DEATH PENALTY INFORMATION CENTER

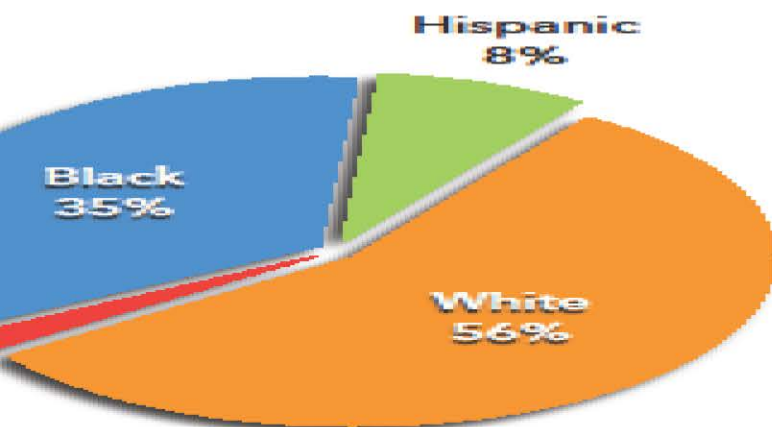
## Facts about the Death Penalty

February 11, 2015

### NUMBER OF EXECUTIONS SINCE 1976: 1,402

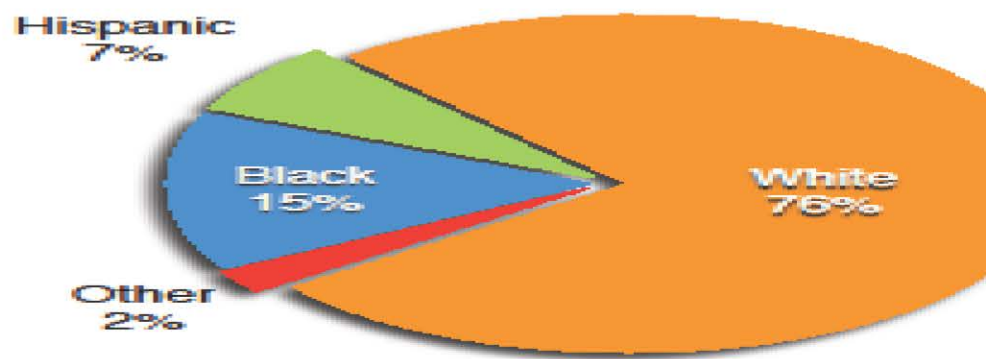


### RACE OF DEFENDANTS EXECUTED



- White: 780
- Black: 486
- Hispanic: 112
- Other: 24

### RACE OF VICTIMS IN DEATH PENALTY CASES



Over 75% of the murder victims in cases resulting in an execution were white, even though nationally only 50% of murder victims generally are white.



# TO CHANGE DIRECTION



DRUG ABUSE: HEALTH ISSUE, NOT  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROBLEM

INSIST ON EVIDENCE BASED  
PROGRAMS RATHER THAN  
POLITICAL SOLUTIONS