

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:
**POLITICS AND STATE PUNITIVENESS IN
BLACK AND WHITE**

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The Journal of Politics
Volume 67, Issue 4
November, 2005

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**Definitions and Sources for Variables Used in Models of
White and Black Imprisonment Rates**

- Imprisonment Rates*** - The annual change in the number of white (and black) prisoners per 100, state white (and black) population. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Correctional Populations in the United States* (various years).
- Republican Legislators*** - The annual change in the average percentage of each chamber of the state legislature that is Republican. Source: Original data collected by Klarner (2003), and available at State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource: http://www.unl.edu/SPPQ/journal_datasets/klarner.html
- Republican Governor*** - The annual change in party control of the executive, where 1=change from Democrat to Republican, -1=change from Republican to Democrat, and 0=no change. Source: Original data collected by Klarner (2003), and available at State Politics and Policy Quarterly Data Resource: http://www.unl.edu/SPPQ/journal_datasets/klarner.html
- State Supreme Court Ideology*** - Annual change in the measure of state supreme court ideology developed by Brace, et al. (2000), rescaled as a measure of conservatism. Source: Data provided by Laura Langer, University of Arizona.
- Black Elected Officials*** - Annual change in the percentage state elected officials that are black. Source: Data purchased from Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies (www.jointcenter.org).
- Female Legislators*** - Annual change in the percentage of the state legislature that is female. Source: Provided by Dana Patton, Eastern Kentucky University (dana.patton@eku.edu).
- Citizen Ideology*** - Annual change in Berry, et. al's (1998) measure of citizen ideology. The updated version is available at the ICPSR's publication-related archive .
- Election Year*** - Coded as 1 for each year in which there is a gubernatorial election, 0 otherwise. Source: *America Votes* (Congressional Quarterly Press).
- Criminal Involvement*** - Defined alternatively as
- (1) ***Arrest Rate*** = For each race, the number of arrests (violent + property + drug) per 100,000 state population. Source: Data purchased from FBI.
 - (2) ***Crime Rate*** = the number of reported index crimes per 100,000 state population (lagged one year). Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>).

<i>Court Order</i> -	Coded 1 for each year that a state is under a court order concerning prison overcrowding, 0 otherwise. Source: Levitt (1996)
<i>DSL</i> -	Coded 1 for each year that a state's determinate sentencing law is in effect, 0 otherwise. Source: Marvell and Moody (1996)
<i>Poverty Rate</i> -	For each race, the annual change in the percentage of individuals falling below the poverty line. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census (intervening years estimated by linear interpolation).
<i>Unemployment Rate</i> -	For each race, the annual change in the percentage of a state's citizens who are unemployed. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, <i>Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment</i> (printed and online versions). Note: The black unemployment rate was unavailable for a few states between census years. These values were estimated from the results of a regression of black unemployment rates on the white unemployment rate, the national black unemployment rate, and a series of dummies for states and years. Predicted values below 0 were recoded to 0.
<i>Revenue Capacity</i> -	Annual percentage change in per capita state tax collections, [deflated using Berry, Fording and Hanson's (2000) state cost of living deflator]. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <i>State Government Finances</i> (printed and online versions).
<i>Black%</i> -	Percentage of the state population that is black. Source: Yearly data from U.S. Census Bureau.

Definitions of Variables Used in Models of Imprisonment Disparity (See Above for Sources)

<i>Imprisonment Disparity</i> -	For each year, this variable is calculated as the ratio of the black imprisonment rate to the white imprisonment rate.
<i>Republican Legislators</i> -	The average percentage of each chamber of the state legislature that is Republican.
<i>Republican Governor</i> -	Party control of the executive, where 1=Democrat, and 0=Republican.
<i>Judicial Conservatism</i> -	The measure of state supreme court ideology developed by Brace, et al. (2000), rescaled as a measure of conservatism.
<i>Black Elected Officials</i> -	The percentage state elected officials that are black.
<i>Female Legislators</i> -	The percentage of the state legislature that is female.
<i>Citizen Ideology</i> -	Berry, et. al's (1998) measure of citizen ideology.
<i>Election Year</i> -	Coded as 1 for each year in which there is a gubernatorial election, 0 otherwise.
<i>Arrest Rate Disparity</i> -	Calculated as the ratio of the black arrest rate to the white arrest rate.
<i>Court Order</i> -	Coded 1 for each year that a state is under a court order concerning prison overcrowding, 0 otherwise.
<i>DSL</i> -	Coded 1 for each year that a state's determinate sentencing law is in effect, 0 otherwise.
<i>Poverty Rate Disparity</i> -	Calculated as the ratio of the black poverty rate to the white poverty rate.
<i>Unemployment Rate Disparity</i> -	Calculated as the ratio of the black unemployment rate to the white unemployment rate.
<i>Revenue Capacity</i> -	Per capita state tax collections, [deflated using Berry, Fording and Hanson's (2000) state cost of living deflator].
<i>Black%</i> -	Percentage of the state population that is black.

**Table A1. Descriptive Statistics for Variables Used in Regressions
of White and Black Imprisonment Rates**

Variables	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum Value	Maximum Value
<i>Imprisonment Rate (White)</i>	6.595	12.063	-158.754	70.356
<i>Imprisonment Rate (Black)</i>	56.633	99.627	-340.220	677.456
<i>Repub Legislature</i>	0.921	4.345	-26.670	25.630
<i>Repub Governor</i>	0.020	0.321	-1.000	1.000
<i>Judicial Conservatism</i>	-0.280	3.975	-28.284	29.166
<i>Black %</i>	9.941	9.365	0.221	35.811
<i>ln(Black %)</i>	1.628	1.382	-1.510	3.578
<i>Black Elected Officials</i>	0.084	0.347	-1.246	5.770
<i>Female Legislators</i>	0.642	1.793	-5.914	10.606
<i>Citizen Ideology</i>	-0.229	6.324	-24.959	32.611
<i>Election Year</i>	0.264	0.441	0.000	1.000
<i>Arrest Rate (White)</i>	587.720	261.633	87.084	1994.521
<i>Arrest Rate (Black)</i>	2769.913	1537.439	0.000	9806.093
<i>Crime Rate</i>	4998.135	1355.701	2190.700	8937.600
<i>Overcrowding Litigation</i>	0.179	0.384	0.000	1.000
<i>Determinant Sentencing Laws</i>	0.166	0.372	0.000	1.000
<i>Poverty Rate (White)</i>	-0.006	0.308	-2.521	2.294
<i>Poverty Rate (Black)</i>	0.072	1.057	-4.354	5.314
<i>Unemp Rate (White)</i>	-0.095	1.194	-3.800	4.800
<i>Unemp Rate (Black)</i>	-0.161	3.574	-26.610	25.110
<i>Revenue Capacity</i>	0.004	0.015	-0.083	0.149

**Table A2. Descriptive Statistics for Variables Used in Regressions
of Racial Imprisonment Disparity**

Variables	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum Value	Maximum Value
<i>Imprisonment Disparity</i>	8.008	3.821	0.302	24.261
<i>Repub Legislature</i>	39.013	18.152	0.000	80.320
<i>Repub Governor</i>	0.384	0.484	0.000	1.000
<i>Judicial Conservatism</i>	61.803	14.531	18.542	89.076
<i>Black %</i>	9.941	9.365	0.221	35.811
<i>ln(Black %)</i>	1.628	1.382	-1.510	3.578
<i>Black Elected Officials</i>	1.961	3.128	0.000	16.573
<i>Female Legislators</i>	14.229	7.698	1.149	40.136
<i>Citizen Ideology</i>	46.235	15.194	9.751	93.912
<i>Election Year</i>	0.264	0.441	0.000	1.000
<i>Arrest Rate Disparity</i>	4.818	2.158	0.000	16.244
<i>Overcrowding Litigation</i>	0.179	0.384	0.000	1.000
<i>Determinant Sentencing Laws</i>	0.166	0.372	0.000	1.000
<i>Poverty Rate Disparity</i>	2.787	0.786	0.769	4.924
<i>Unemp Rate Disparity</i>	2.314	1.117	0	6.634
<i>Revenue Capacity</i>	1161.052	1344.764	74.624	8985.100