

THE COST OF

INCARCERATING

A CHILD FOR

LIFE

IN THE

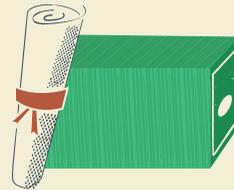
United States

WHEN A CHILD IS LOCKED UP UNTIL DEATH, TAXPAYERS HAVE TO FOOT THE BILL. SO EXACTLY HOW MUCH OF A FINANCIAL BURDEN DOES SUCH AN EXTREME SENTENCE PLACE ON TAXPAYERS?



IT COSTS APPROXIMATELY **\$2.5 MILLION** TO INCARCERATE A CHILD FOR LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES.¹

IF PAROLED AFTER SERVING 10 YEARS AFTER BEING INCARCERATED AT AGE 16, A YOUTH WITH A **HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION** COULD POTENTIALLY CONTRIBUTE UP TO **\$218,560** IN TAX REVENUE BY WORKING UNTIL AGE 66 AFTER RELEASE FROM PRISON.³



\$218,560

THAT FORMERLY INCARCERATED YOUTH, IF ABLE TO EARN A **COLLEGE DEGREE**, WILL ON AVERAGE CONTRIBUTE **\$706,560** IN TAX REVENUE BY WORKING UNTIL AGE 66.⁴



\$706,560

A PRODUCTIVE, TAXPAYING AND COLLEGE-EDUCATED ADULT **CONTRIBUTES OVER \$1 MILLION TO SOCIETY** OVER A LIFETIME.²



COLLECTIVELY THE **2,500 INDIVIDUALS** CURRENTLY SERVING JUVENILE LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE WILL COST TAXPAYERS AN ESTIMATED **\$6.2 BILLION** OVER THEIR LIFETIMES.⁶



For each inmate



Released after **30** years
Taxpayer Cost: **\$938,580**



Released after **20** years
Taxpayer Cost: **\$625,720**



Released after **10** years
Taxpayer Cost: **\$312,860**



IN THE UNITED STATES, IT COSTS **\$68,270 PER YEAR** TO INCARCERATE AN AGING INMATE.

vs

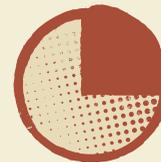


IN 2013, OUR NATION IS PROJECTED TO **SPEND \$11,810 PER YEAR** TO EDUCATE A CHILD.⁵



THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD THAT SENTENCES CHILDREN TO DIE IN PRISON.

10x



AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUTH ARE SENTENCED TO LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE AS CHILDREN AT A PER CAPITA RATE THAT IS **10 TIMES** THAT OF WHITE YOUTH CONVICTED OF THE SAME CRIMES.



x1 =



THE MONIES SPENT ON INCARCERATING **1 CHILD** FOR LIFE COULD EDUCATE APPROXIMATELY **169 STUDENTS** FOR A YEAR.

x169

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT FAIRSENTENCINGOFYOUTH.ORG.
TAKEPART.COM/SNITCH

¹ Calculation = ((Average cost per year per inmate to incarcerate before age 50 x 34) + (National estimate for annual cost for the care of an inmate after age 50 x 21)) x 2,500; At America's Expense: The Mass Incarceration of the Elderly, ACLU, June 2012. Available at: https://www.aclu.org/files/assets/elderlyprisonreport_20120613_1.pdf

² Philip A. Trostel, "The Fiscal Impacts of College Attainment," New England Public Policy Center at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Paper (2007):20-22. <http://www.bos.frb.org/economic/neppcp/wp/2007/neppcpwp0702.pdf>

³ Khatiwada I. et al (2007). The Fiscal Consequences of Adult Educational Attainment, National Commission on Adult Literacy. Retrieved from: <http://www.national-commissiononadultliteracy.org/content/fiscalimpact.pdf>

⁴ Khatiwada I. et al (2007). The Fiscal Consequences of Adult Educational Attainment, National Commission on Adult Literacy. Retrieved from: <http://www.national-commissiononadultliteracy.org/content/fiscalimpact.pdf>

⁵ Projected numbers for current expenditures per pupil in fall enrollment for public elementary and secondary education: School years 2013-2014 in current dollars. http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/ipedsreports/2011/tables/table_18.asp?referrer=list

⁶ Calculation = ((Average cost per year per inmate to incarcerate before age 50 x 34) + (National estimate for annual cost for the care of an inmate after age 50 x 21)) x 2,500; At America's Expense: The Mass Incarceration of the Elderly, ACLU, June 2012. Available at: https://www.aclu.org/files/assets/elderlyprisonreport_20120613_1.pdf