

Charles Bell

Curriculum Vitae

Associate Professor
Illinois State University
Department of Criminal Justice Sciences
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Education

Wayne State University, Ph.D. in Sociology	2018
Michigan State University, M.A. in School Psychology	2009
Wayne State University, B.A. in Psychology	2008

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice Sciences Illinois State University	2024 - Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice Sciences Illinois State University	2018 - 2024
Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Eastern Michigan University	2015 – 2018
Lecturer, Department of Sociology Oakland University	2015 – 2018

Professional Experience

National Center for School Safety University of Michigan Equity Panel Subject Matter Expert – School Punishment, School Safety, and Teacher Victimization	2024 – Present
Centers for Disease Control Subject Matter Expert – School Punishment and School Violence	2023 – 2025
School Punishment Project Advisor Spencer Education Foundation Advisee: Erin Einhorn (NBC News)	2022 – 2023
Expert Witness – School Seclusion, Restraint, & Suspension State & Federal Cases	2022 – Present

Research & Teaching Interests

- Racial Inequality

- School Punishment
- School Safety
- Teacher Victimization
- Qualitative Methodology

Books

(Forthcoming February 2026) - Bell, Charles. *No Restraint: Disabled Children and Institutionalized Violence in America's Schools*. New York University Press

Since students with disabilities were permitted to attend public schools in the United States, no federal law has protected them from the horrors of restraint or seclusion. Despite pleas from parents, disability rights organizations, and at least seventeen state attorneys general, Congress has refused to act.

Drawing on interviews with seventy parents and education professors across thirteen states, Charles Bell reveals how a lack of federal oversight allowed school officials to use dangerous maneuvers to restrict students' mobility, drag students into semilit rooms that resemble solitary-confinement prison cells, and lock them inside. Kicking, screaming, and unable to escape, some children engaged in self-harm leaving blood smeared on surfaces throughout the seclusion room. Parents offer their narratives to us as a cry for help.

A deeply moving and timely work, *No Restraint* calls for an inclusive national conversation on the legitimacy of restraint and seclusion in public schools. Parents' stunning accounts of how restraint and seclusion traumatized their children, disrupted their households, and motivated them to take legal action against dozens of staff members will leave readers questioning whether schools are antidisability institutions.

2021 - Bell, Charles. [Suspended: Punishment, Violence, and the Failure of School Safety](#). Johns Hopkins University Press.

Decades of urban disinvestment and poverty have made educational attainment for Black youth more vital than at any time in recent history. Yet in their pursuit of quality education, many Black families are burdened by challenging barriers to success, most notably the frequency and severity of school punishment. Such punishment is meant to be a disciplinary tool that makes schools safer, but it actually does the opposite—and is particularly harmful for Black students and their families.

Focusing on schools in inner-city and suburban Detroit, Charles Bell draws on 160 in-depth interviews with Black high school students, their parents, and their teachers to illuminate the negative outcomes that are associated with out-of-school suspension. Bell also sheds light on the inherent shortcomings of school safety measures as he describes how schools fail to protect Black students, which leaves them vulnerable to bullying and victimization. The students he interviews offer detailed insight into how the lack of protection they received in school intensified their fear of being harmed and even motivated them to use violence to establish a reputation that discouraged attacks. Collectively, their narratives reveal how receiving a suspension for fighting in school earned them respect, popularity, and a reputation for toughness—transforming school punishment into a powerful status symbol that destabilizes classrooms.

A thought-provoking and urgent work, *Suspended* calls for an inclusive national dialogue on school punishment and safety reform. It will leave readers engrossed in the students' and parents' tearful narratives as they share how school suspension harmed students' grades, disrupted parents' employment, violated state and federal laws, and motivated families to withdraw from punitive districts

- Finalist for the [2021 C. Wright Mills Book Award](#)
- Selected for Author Meets Critics panel at the 2022 American Society of Criminology Conference

- Reviewed in [*Sociology of Race & Ethnicity*](#), [*Theoretical Criminology*](#), [*Journal of Urban History*](#)
- Invited Speaker for the Education Writers Association's 75th National Seminar
- Featured Guest on the [*Roundtable Perspective Television Show*](#) (Lakeshore PBS) -November 2022
- Cited by the U.S. Department of Education in its March 2023 publication titled [*Guiding Principles for Creating Safe, Inclusive, Supportive, and Fair School Climates*](#)
- Book Talks: *University of Akron*, *Wayne State University*, *Michigan Student Advocacy Center*, *University of Michigan*, *Michigan Center for Youth Justice*, *University of North Carolina-Wilmington*, *Source Booksellers Detroit*, *Advocating 4 Kids*, *Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint*, *Illinois State University*, *The College of New Jersey*, *Aquinas College*, *Black Youth Leadership Project*, *Colgate University*, *Saint Vincent College*, *Xavier University*
- Media Coverage: [*NBC Nightly News*](#), [*WDET Detroit NPR*](#), [*The 21st NPR*](#), [*WGLT*](#), [*WMBD Central Illinois*](#), [*Detroit News*](#), [*WGLT*](#), [*WMBD Central Illinois*](#), [*Learning for Justice*](#), [*Everyday Injustice*](#), [*Mississippi Today*](#), [*WCBU Peoria*](#), *910 AM Detroit*, *The Talk of Chicago (Buchanan & Seaton Show)*, *WVON 1690AM (Perri Small Show)*, and *Black v. Board of Education Podcast*.

Articles (* Denotes Graduate Student)

- Forthcoming— **Bell, Charles**, Miltonette O. Craig, Cresean Hughes, Sarah Franklin, and Constantus Akuma-Zanu. The Cost of Challenging School Seclusion and Restraint Practices for Parents of Black and White Children with Disabilities. *Disability Studies Quarterly*.
- 2024 –Krause, Kathleen H, **Charles Bell**, Bajha Jordan et al. Report of Unfair Discipline at School and Associations with Health Risk Behaviors and Experiences —Youth Risk Behavior Survey, United States, 2023. [*Center for Disease Control Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*](#)
- 2023 – **Bell, Charles** and Miltonette O. Craig. Suspended, Restrained, and Secluded: Exploring the Relationship Between School Punishment, Disability, and Black and White Parents' Health Outcomes. *Children and Youth Services Review*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2023.107119>
- 2022 - **Bell, Charles**, Aaron Kinzel*, and Yoo Akakpo*. Continuity of the Code: A Review of the Subcultures & Informal Social Norms in Prisons, Streets, and Schools. *Sociology Compass*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.13010>
- 2021 - Harm, Alena* and **Charles Bell**. Teaching beyond the Textbook: Integrating Formerly Incarcerated Individuals into Criminal Justice Learning Environments. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 32(1), 126-142.
- 2020 - **Bell, Charles** and Tiffany Puckett. I Want To Learn But They Won't Let Me: Exploring the Impact of School Discipline on Academic Achievement. *Urban Education*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042085920968629>

- BYU Radio—Top of Mind w/ Julie Rose. “Far-reaching Impacts of Biased School Discipline.” (12/03/20)

2020 - **Bell, Charles.** Maybe if they let us tell the story I wouldn't have gotten suspended: Understanding Black Students' and Parents' Perceptions of School Discipline. *Children and Youth Services Review* 112 (3): 1-11.

- [“School Discipline Creating 'Black Flight' in Certain Districts.”](#) WGLT. August 26.

2019 - **Bell, Charles.** The Code of the School: Discipline, Respect, and Survival in Primarily Black High Schools. *Journal of Crime and Justice* 42(4): 414-429.

- The Santita Jackson Show – School Punishment & Violence (06/06/19)
- Love, David. 2019. [“Suspensions Don't Work: Study Says Students Seek School Discipline To Earn Respect and Social Status.”](#) Atlanta Black Star. June 2.
- WDET 101.9FM - Detroit Today w/Stephen Henderson [“Does Suspension Prevent School Violence? New Study Says No”](#) (02/11/19)
- BYU Radio – Top of Mind w/ Julie Rose “Bullying Rewards” (02/27/19)

2016 - **Bell, Charles.** Special Needs Under Siege: From Classrooms to Incarceration. *Sociology Compass*, 10: 698–705

2015 - **Bell, Charles.** The Hidden Side of Zero Tolerance Policies: The African American Perspective. *Sociology Compass*, 9, 14-22.

- [Detroit Public Television, One Detroit.](#) “Pathways to Prison”. January 31, 2017
- Love, David. 2016. [“The Pre-K to Prison Pipeline: Black Preschoolers Labeled ‘Violent Problems,’ Suspended Nearly 4 Times More Often Than Whites.”](#) Atlanta Black Star. June 18.
- WFDF 910AM, Detroit Superstation; Mass Incarceration and the School to Prison Pipeline. (02/06/16; 04/23/16; 06/25/16)
- WEXL 1340AM, Detroit Urban Station; the School to Prison Pipeline and African American Academic Achievement. (03/19/16; 05/21/16; 07/23/16; 10/15/16; 2/18/17).
- Perry, David. 2015. [“The Corrosive Cult of Compliance in our Schools”](#). Al Jazeera America. August 22.
- Hock, Dylan. 2015. “Detroit School Board Files Massive Complaint against State for Abuse against Students of Color.” Addicting Info. July 30.

2015 - **Bell, Charles.** School Personnel Training Efforts in Child Psychopharmacology. *The International Journal of Assessment and Evaluation*, 2, 43-50.

Book Chapters

2021 - **Bell, Charles.** Special Yet Unequal: Race, Disability, and the Prison Pipeline for Black Youth in America. *In Racism By Another Name*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

2021 - Beichner, Dawn, Miltonette O. Craig, and **Charles Bell**. Racialized Mass Incarceration in the U.S.A. as a form of Macro Victimization. *In Mass Victimization*. Instituto Vasco de Criminología.

Public Writing

2022 – Bell, Charles. [Seeking Safety in A “Code”: Black students share how failing school safety measures lead to escalating violence and victimization](#). *Phi Delta Kappan*.

2022 – Bell, Charles. [1 in 10 teachers say they’ve been attacked by students](#). *The Conversation*. August 16. *Republished in the following outlets: Yahoo News, Houston Chronicle, Britannica Connecticut Post, Albany Times-Union, and several other newspapers.*

2021 - Bell, Charles. [Teachers Must Often Face Student Attacks Alone](#). *The Conversation*. October 18. *Republished in the following outlets: Yahoo News, Tucson Sentinel, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Houston Chronicle, Albany Times-Union, New Haven (CT) Register, and several other newspapers.*

2021- Bell, Charles. [Black Parents Say Their Children Are Being Suspended For Petty Reasons That Force Them To Take Off From Work and Sometimes Lose Their Jobs](#). *The Conversation*. August 24. *Republished in the following outlets: Yahoo News, The Grio St. Louis Post, Houston Chronicle, Connecticut Post, Albany Times-Union, Tucson Sentinel and several other newspapers*

2020 - Bell, Charles. [“School suspensions don't just unfairly penalize Black students – they lead to lower grades and 'Black flight'”](#). *The Conversation*. – *Republished in the following outlets: The Philadelphia Tribune, Yahoo News, Blavity, News One, Connecticut Post, Houston Chronicle, New Haven (CT) Register, Albany Times-Union, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, and several other daily newspapers.*

2019 - Bell, Charles. 2019. [“Suspensions Don’t Stop Violence – They Help Students Celebrate It.”](#) *The Conversation*. – *Republished in the following outlets: San Francisco Chronicle, Houston Chronicle, Idaho Press-Tribune, Laredo Morning Times, New Haven Register, Gazeta do Povo, and other several daily newspapers.*

Teaching Oriented Articles, Newsletters, and Encyclopedia Publications

2023 – Bell, Charles. [Resistance Pedagogy: Illuminating Marginalized Voices and Challenging Dominant Narratives](#). *Protest*.

2020 - Bell, Charles. “Racial Injustice in School Punishment: The Marginalization of Black Voices. *Society for the Study of Social Problems Newsletter*

2018 - Bell, Charles. Poverty to PhD: An Insider Account on Structural Barriers That Affect Impoverished Students of Color. *ACJS Today*, 4, 26-28.

2017 - Bell, Charles and Nicholas Buckingham. Beyond the Bars: Exploring the Lived Experiences of Returning Citizens. *Western Criminologist*, 2, 8-10.

2017 - Bell, Charles. Race & Policing: A Legacy of Exclusion, Profiling, and Oppression. *ACJS Today*, 3, 71-75.

2016 - Bell, Charles. The Status Quo: Structural Oppression in America. Honey Suckle Magazine. October 16.

Teaching Experience

Illinois State University

Senior Professionals Program (Two Lectures – Fall 2022)
CJS 200 – Contemporary Corrections
CJS 308 – Race, Ethnicity, and Criminal Justice
CJS 318 – Schools, Crime, and Social Policy
CJS 471 – Race, Violence, and Injustice

Eastern Michigan University

CRM 200H – Honors Crime and Justice (Winter 2016, Fall 2016)
CRM 200 (online) – Crime and Justice (Winter 2017, Fall 2017)
SOC 105 – Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Fall 2016)

Oakland University

SOC 205 – Social Problems (Winter 2017)
SOC/AN 331 – Race and Ethnicity (Fall 2015, Winter 2018)

Michigan State University

CEP 260 – Dynamics of Personal Adjustment (Fall 2009, Winter 2010)

Student Advising

Dissertation

Brandeis University

Spring 2022 – Spring 2024 Anna Clements – Committee Member - Sociology

Illinois State University

Summer 2025 – Present Kendell Kelly – Committee Member – School Psychology
Fall 2021 – March 2023 Brittany Bradley – Committee Member – School Psychology

Master's Thesis

Illinois State University

Fall 2022 – April 2023 Yoo Akakpo – Chair – Criminal Justice Sciences

Culminating Research Experience

Illinois State University

Spring 2023 Jada Stinson – Advisor
Fall 2022 Tamika Tracy – Advisor
Spring 2022 David Boron – Advisor
Fall 2021 Will Faltyn – Advisor

Spring 2021

Karen Lagunas – Advisor***Undergraduate Teaching Assistant & Independent Study***

Illinois State University

Summer 2021	<u>David Bogacz</u> –	Teaching Assistant
Spring 2021	<u>Aaron Head</u> –	Independent Study
Spring 2020	<u>Destini Stewart</u> –	Undergraduate Teaching Experience
Spring 2020	<u>Kajah Whitaker</u> –	Undergraduate Teaching Experience
Spring 2020	<u>Taylor Gardner</u> –	Independent Study
Spring 2020	<u>Kelsie Prear</u> –	Independent Study
Fall 2019	<u>Tierra Horton</u> –	Independent Study
Fall 2019	<u>Jacob Reyna</u> –	Independent Study

Pedagogical Training & Workshops

2017 - Inside-Out Prison Exchange Instructor Training

Research Grants

- 2024 - Exploring Black students', parents', and community activists' experiences with zero tolerance policies in the south.
 - University Research Grant (Internal) - \$5,000
 - Sustainability Committee (Internal) - \$3,000
- 2021 - Exploring Students' School Restraint & Seclusion Experiences at the Intersection of Race & Disability
 - Sustainability Committee (Internal) - \$5,350
 - University Research Grant (Internal) - \$5,000
- 2019 - Understanding Secondary Educators Experiences Navigating Verbal Threats & Violence on School Grounds
 - Student Sustainability Grant (Internal) - \$6,250
- 2019 - Exploring Black Students' and Parents' Perceptions of School Discipline in Primarily White High Schools
 - Midwest Sociological Society Grant (External) - \$2,500
 - University Research Grant (Internal) - \$5,000
 - Student Sustainability Grant (Internal) - \$6,000
 - African American Studies Summer Research Initiative (Internal) - \$1,500

Teaching Grants

- 2023 – Instructional Innovation Grant (**Internal**) - \$500
- 2022 – Instructional Innovation Grant (**Internal**) - \$1,000
- 2022 – Multi-Ethnic Cultural Programming Advisory Committee Grant (**Internal**) - \$1,000
- 2021 – Culturally Responsive Learning Grant (**Internal**) - \$500
- 2020 – Culturally Responsive Learning Grant (**Internal**) - \$500
- 2020 – Multi-Ethnic Cultural Programming Advisory Committee Grant (**Internal**) - \$500
- 2019 – Multi-Ethnic Cultural Programming Advisory Committee Grant (**Internal**) - \$2,000
- 2019 – Teaching Innovations Grant (**Internal**) - \$1,000
- 2018 – Culturally Responsive Learning Grant (**Internal**) - \$500

- 2018 – Professional Development Award (**Internal**) \$1000

Fellowships & Awards

- 2024 – Illinois State University Impact Award
- 2023 – CAST Outstanding Researcher Award – Pre-Tenure, Illinois State University
- 2023 – American Society of Criminology (DPCC) Teaching Award
- 2022 – CAST Outstanding Teacher Award – Pre-Tenure, Illinois State University
- 2017 – Ruth Peterson Fellowship, American Society of Criminology
- 2017 – 2018 Thomas C. Rumble Fellowship, Wayne State University
- 2017 – Dissertation Research Support Award, Wayne State University
- 2017 – Travel Award, Alpha Kappa Delta
- 2017 – Travel Award, Wayne State University Humanities Center
- 2017 – Conference Scholarship, Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health
- 2016 – Graduate Research Award, Wayne State University
- 2016 – 2017 Thomas C. Rumble Fellowship, Wayne State University
- 2016 – Mary Sengstock Diversity Scholarship, Wayne State University
- 2015 – Graduate Scholar Award, International Conference on Learning
- 2014 – Graduate Scholar Award, International Conference on Learning
- 2014 – 2016 Initiative for Maximizing Student Development
- 2014 – Promotion of Diversity Scholarship, Wayne State University

National Service

- 2024 (ACJS) Panel Chair
- 2023 (SSSP) Emergent Challenges in School Punishment, Violence, and Safety Session Organizer
- 2022-2023 (SSSP) C. Wright Mills Award Committee
- 2022 (ASC) Division of Critical Criminology Graduate Paper Award Committee Member
- 2022 (SSSP) Reimagining Schools Without Police and Punitive Practices Session Organizer
- 2021 (SSSP) Associate Chair, Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division
- 2021 Editorial Board Member, Journal of School Violence
- 2020 (SSSP) Schools, Punishment, and Juvenile Justice Session Organizer

College Service

- 2022 – 2022 – CAST First Year Faculty Event Panelist
- 2020 – 2021 – CAST Connections Committee
- 2019 – 2019 – Courageous Conversations Facilitator Committee

Department Service

- 2023 – 2025 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2022 – 2023 Department Search Committee
- 2022 – Present Co-Lead Honors Program
- 2021 – 2022 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- 2021 – 2021 Departmental Search Committee
- 2020 – 2020 – Departmental Search Committee - Corrections
- 2019 – 2021 – Bylaws Committee
- 2019 – 2021 – Graduate Committee

National Presentations

- 2025 - [Bridging the Gap: Health Justice and Exclusionary School Discipline Symposium](#). University of California-San Francisco Law School. San Francisco, CA.
- 2024 – Krause, Kathleen, Charles Bell, Jingjing Li, Izraelle McKinnon, and Jorge Verlenden. A systematic analysis of individual-level factors associated with skipping school due to feeling unsafe, overall and stratified by race/ethnicity—42 states in the youth risk behavior surveillance system, 2021. American Public Health Association. Minneapolis, MN.
- 2024 – Bell, Charles; Miltonette O. Craig, and Cresean Hughes. The Cost of Challenging School Seclusion and Restraint Practices for Black and White Families. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, IL. – ***Panel Chair***
- 2024 – Presidential School Safety Panel w/Victor Rios, Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, Adrian Huerta, and Lindsay Kahle Semprevivo. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference, Chicago, IL.
- 2023 – Bell, Charles. How Does Seclusion and Restraint in K-12 Settings Affect Families of Children with Disabilities and Why Do Some Teachers Misuse These Approaches. American Society of Criminology Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 - Bell, Charles. The Hidden Side of School Punishment: Restraint & Seclusion. Presented at the Creating Transformative Schools Conference, Novi, MI.
- 2022 – Bell, Charles; Aaron T. Kinzel, and Yola Akakpo. Continuity of the Code: Do the Inmate, Street, and School Codes Reinforce Each Other? Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 - How School Punishment Influences Students’ Social Status and Victimization. Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2021 - Educator Targeted Violence: What are the Consequences of Being Threatened or Attacked by Students. Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2021 - Does the “Code of the School” Encourage Educator Targeted Violence. Presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Conference. Virtual Presentation.
- 2021 - Revisiting The Code of the School in Primarily White High Schools. Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Conference. Virtual Presentation.
- 2020 -They Just Want To Learn: The Collision of School Discipline & Academic Achievement. Presented at the Black Doctoral Network Conference. Virtual Presentation
- 2019 - The Hidden Consequences of School Punishment: An Insider's Perspective. Presented at the Culturally Responsive Campus Community Conference, Normal, IL
- 2019 - Race, Disability, and Unlawful School Discipline Practices in Primarily Black High Schools. Presented at the American Society of Criminology Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- 2019 - Exploring Black Students’ and Parents’ Perceptions of School Discipline in Michigan and Illinois. Presented at the African American Studies Lecture Series at Illinois State University, Normal, IL.
- 2019 - Exploring Black Students’ and Parents’ Perceptions of School Safety Measures. Presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems Conference, New York, NY.
- 2019 - The Code of the School: Discipline, Respect, and Survival in Primarily Black High Schools. Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Conference, Chicago, IL.
- 2019 - Black Students’ and Parents’ Perceptions of School Discipline. Presented at the Critical Criminology Conference, Ypsilanti, MI.
- 2017 - Opportunities Denied: Advancing Conceptualization of Black School Discipline Disproportionality. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology conference, Philadelphia, PA.

- 2017 - Opportunities Denied: Advancing Conceptualization of Black School Discipline Disproportionality Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Sociology of Development conference, Detroit, MI
- 2017 - African Americans and the Police: A Legacy of Exclusion, Profiling, and Oppression. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- 2017 - Zero Tolerance for Black Girls: Suspended, Expelled, and Trapped in the Pipeline. Paper presented at the Midwest Sociological Society conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2017 - Improving Societal Outcomes for Juveniles with Disabilities. Paper presented at the Academic Health and Policy conference on Correctional Health, Atlanta, GA.
- 2017 - The Social Deconstruction of Detroit Public Schools. Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2016 - The Relationship between Lead Toxicity, Race, Disability, and the School to Prison Pipeline. Paper presented at the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium, Toledo, OH.
- 2016 - A Social-Ecological Model for Black School Discipline Disproportionality. Paper presented at the National Council for Black Studies conference, Charlotte, NC.
- 2015 - Bell, Charles, Heather Mooney, and Barbara Thelamour. The School to Prison Pipeline, Mass Incarceration of Black Men, and Teaching Cultural Competence to K-12 educators. Panel Presentation accepted at the Global Studies Association conference, Toledo, OH.
- 2014 - The Hidden Side of Zero Tolerance Policies: The African American Perspective. Paper presented at the annual Association of Black Sociologist conference, Charlotte, NC.
- 2014 - School Personnel Training Efforts in Child Psychopharmacology. Paper accepted presented The International Conference on Learning, New York City, NY.
- 2009 - Carlson, John, Ramzi Hasson, Charles Bell, Stacey Bender, Justin Bartarian, and Aaron Schantz. Prevalence of risk and protective factors in head start. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association conference, Toronto, CA.

Invited Lectures – Zero Tolerance, Mass Incarceration, & School Discipline

- 2024 - *Suspended*. Keynote speaker for the 2024 Peoria Library Black History Month Author Series (In Person). Peoria, IL.
- 2024 – Barred from Learning: Examining School Suspension & The Criminalization of Blackness in U.S. Public. Keynote speaker for the 2024 Arthur L. Beeley Lecture Series (In Person & Virtually) at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 2023 - Race & School Suspensions. Guest Lecture at Oakland University (Virtually), Rochester, MI.
- 2022 - *Suspended*. Guest Lecture at the University of Southern California (Virtually), Los Angeles, CA.
- 2022 - Race, Zero Tolerance, and School Punishment in Michigan Schools. Guest Lecture at the University of Michigan (Virtually), Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2022 - Race & The School to Prison Pipeline in Michigan. Guest Lecture at Michigan State University (Virtually), East Lansing, MI.
- 2021 - Zero Tolerance Policies & The School to Prison Pipeline. Guest Lecture at the University of Michigan (Virtually), Ann Arbor, MI.

- 2020 - Contemporary School Discipline Issues. Presented at Bloomington Junior High (Virtually), Bloomington, IL.
- 2019 - School Discipline and Mass Incarceration: A Collaborative Approach to Reform. Presented at Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.
- 2018 – *w/ Nicholas Buckingham*. Beyond the Bars: Exploring the Lived Experiences of Incarcerated Individuals & Prison Reform Solutions. Presented at Facing Race, Detroit, MI.
- 2018 - Exploring the effects of School Discipline in Detroit Public Schools. Presented at the Detroit Public School Superintendents Office, Detroit, MI.
- 2018 - Exploring the School-to-Prison-Pipeline & Parent Rights. Presented at the Oakland County African American Male Task Force Parent Expo, Southfield, MI.

Forums

- 2021 - Masked in the Schoolyard: School Discipline in the Age of the Covid-19 Pandemic.
Program Coordinator: Howard University School of Law Education Law Society
Panelists: **Charles Bell**, Cara McClellan-*NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*; Aseena Tuione-*HUSL Alumna*, E. Christi Cunningham-*HUSL Professor*, Ky'Eisha Penn-*Advancement Project*, Jazmyne Owens-*New America*, Thalia Gonzalez-*Occidental College*
- 2021 - Surviving a “Structurally Violent” Public School: No Books, No Supplies, No Help.
Program Coordinator: **Charles Bell**
Panelists: Jamarria Hall-*Plaintiff in the 6th Circuit Right to Literacy Lawsuit*, Kayla Tate-*Detroit Public Schools graduate*, Kalief Spraglin-*Chicago Public Schools graduate*
Location: Illinois State University (Virtual)
- 2021 - Defunding the Police in our Detroit Public Schools
Program Coordinator: Ayesha Ghazi, University of Michigan ENGAGE
Panelists: **Charles Bell**, Kristian Matthews-*482forward Youth Organizing Member*, Mohammad Muntakim-*482forward Youth Organizing Member*, Dillon Cathro-*Director of Youth Organizing*
Location: University of Michigan (Virtual)
- 2020 - Wayne County (Michigan) Prosecutor Forum
Program Coordinator: Nicholas Buckingham, *Michigan Liberation*
Event Moderator: **Charles Bell**
Panelists: Victoria Burton-Harris, *Defense Attorney & Candidate*, and Kym Worthy, *Prosecutor*
Location: Detroit, MI
- 2019 - School Discipline, Violence, and Childhood Trauma
Program Coordinator: **Charles Bell**
Panelists: Mr. Dilliand Santoni, *Senator Kimberly Lightford Policy and Budget Staff*, Six Illinois High School Students
Location: Illinois State University
- 2019 - The Anatomy of a Wrongful Conviction
Program Coordinator: **Charles Bell**
Panelists: Davontae Sanford, *Exoneree*; Patrick Pursley, *Exoneree*
Location: Illinois State University

2019 - White Like Me

Program Coordinator: Illinois State University Multicultural Outreach

Panelists: **Charles Bell**; Toure Reed *Professor History*, Beth Hatt *Professor of Special Education*

Location: Illinois State University

2018 - Beyond the Bars Panel

Program Coordinator: Charles Bell

Panelists: Nicholas Buckingham, James Holmes, Imad Saadeh, Aaron Kinzel, Deon Rushin, and Kimberly Simmons (*All the panelists are formerly incarcerated individuals*)

Location: Illinois State University

Media: <https://news.illinoisstate.edu/2018/11/formerly-incarcerated-individuals-share-their-personal-experiences-with-students/>

2017 - Pathways to Prison

Program Coordinator: Detroit Public Television

Panelists: **Charles Bell**; Bill Kubota, *Detroit Public TV Producer*; Mary King, *Executive Director of Michigan Council on Crime & Delinquency*; Joe Havesman, *Michigan State Representative*; Yusef Shakur, *Community Activist & Returning Citizen*

2017 - Not Guilty: Gun Rights, Policy, and Surviving the Courtroom

Program Coordinator: Charles Bell

Panelists: Marcus Weldon, *Author & Gun Rights Specialist*, Rick Ector, *Firearms Specialist & Trainer*, Terry Johnson, *Attorney*

Location: Mathis Community Center, Detroit, MI

Beyond the Bars: Research, Returning Citizens, Proving Innocence and Prison Reform (*February, 2016; April, 2016; May, 2016; February 2017; March 2017; April 2017; June 2017; June 2018*)

Program Coordinator: Charles Bell

Panelists: Davontae Sanford, *Michigan Exoneree*; Yusef Shakur, *Returning Citizen & Activist*; Nicholas Buckingham, *Returning Citizen & Activist*; Todd Bettison; *Detroit Police Officer*; Ralph Godbee, *Former Detroit Police Chief*; Bill Cobbs, *Michigan Gubernatorial Candidate*; Coleman A. Young II, *Michigan State Senator & Detroit Mayoral Candidate*

Location: Forums held at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI; Judge Mathis Community Center, Detroit, MI; Focus Hope, Detroit MI; Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2016 - The Use of Intersectionality to Explore the Experiences of Marginalized Communities

Program Coordinator: Stephanie Johnson-Cobb, Focus Hope Project Leader

Presenter: **Charles Bell**

Location: Focus Hope Community Center, Detroit, MI

2016 - I Mind Dying: A Review of Research and Lived Experiences on Systemic Inequality in Education, Criminal Justice, and Veteran Affairs (*July 2016*)

Program Coordinator & Presenter: Charles Bell

Panelists: Ralph Godbee, *Former Detroit Police Chief*; Odis Bellinger, *Assistant Director of the Matrix Children's Center*; Nicholas Buckingham, *Returning Citizen & Activist*; Willie Baker; *Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran*.

Location: Forum held at the Matrix Center, Detroit, MI

2016 - Are You Serious About Stopping Violence

Program Coordinator: Rev. Charles E. Williams, President of National Action Network.

Panelists: The Honorable Judge Greg Mathis, *Michigan 36th District Court*; **Charles Bell**, Ralph Godbee, *Former Detroit Police Chief*; Brenda Hill, *Mothers of Murdered Children Representative*; Benny Napoleon, *Wayne County Sherriff*

Location: Presentation held at Wayne State University General Lectures Building, Detroit, MI

Publication Reviewer

- Journal of School Violence
- Traumatology
- Criminal Justice Policy
- Social Problems
- Sociology of Race & Ethnicity
- Sociology Compass
- Pearson Textbooks
- The Urban Review
- Oxford University Press

Journal Editorial Board Member

- Social Problems

Professional Affiliations

- American Society of Criminology
- National Center for School Safety
- Society for the Study of Social Problems