



Employment Pathways for Boys and Men of Color

The Corps Network

Feb. 17 2017

About CLASP

- The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) is a national, nonpartisan, anti-poverty organization advancing policy solutions that work for low-income people. We offer nearly 50 years of trusted expertise, a deeply knowledgeable staff, and a commitment to practical yet visionary approaches to opportunity for all. We lift up the voices of poor and low-income children, families, and individuals, equip advocates with strategies that work, and help public officials put good ideas into practice. Our solutions directly address the barriers that individuals and families face because of race, ethnicity, and immigration status, in addition to poverty. CLASP's recent focus on justice-related issues stems from our organizational commitment to racial equity and understanding the particular challenges that justice-involvement have on the economic security of communities of color.

Discussion Outline

- Anjel's Story
- Employment Landscape for BMOC and Federal Policy Threats
- Systemic Barriers Confronting Boys and Young Men of Color and Guiding Principles for Realizing Economic Justice
- Strategies for Reconnection

Anjel's Story

Investing in Boys and Young Men of Color: The Promise and Opportunity (June 2014)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AAGAqpyjZc>

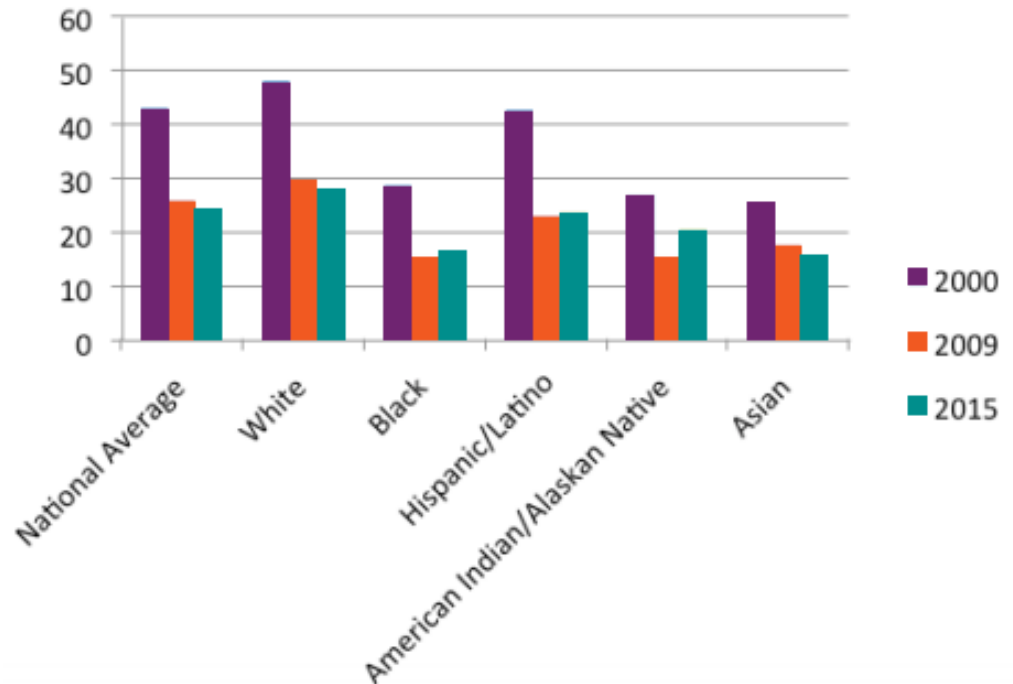
Employment Landscape for BMOOC



BMOC Employment Trends

- Steady decline of youth in the workforce since 2000 and BMOC have been severely impacted

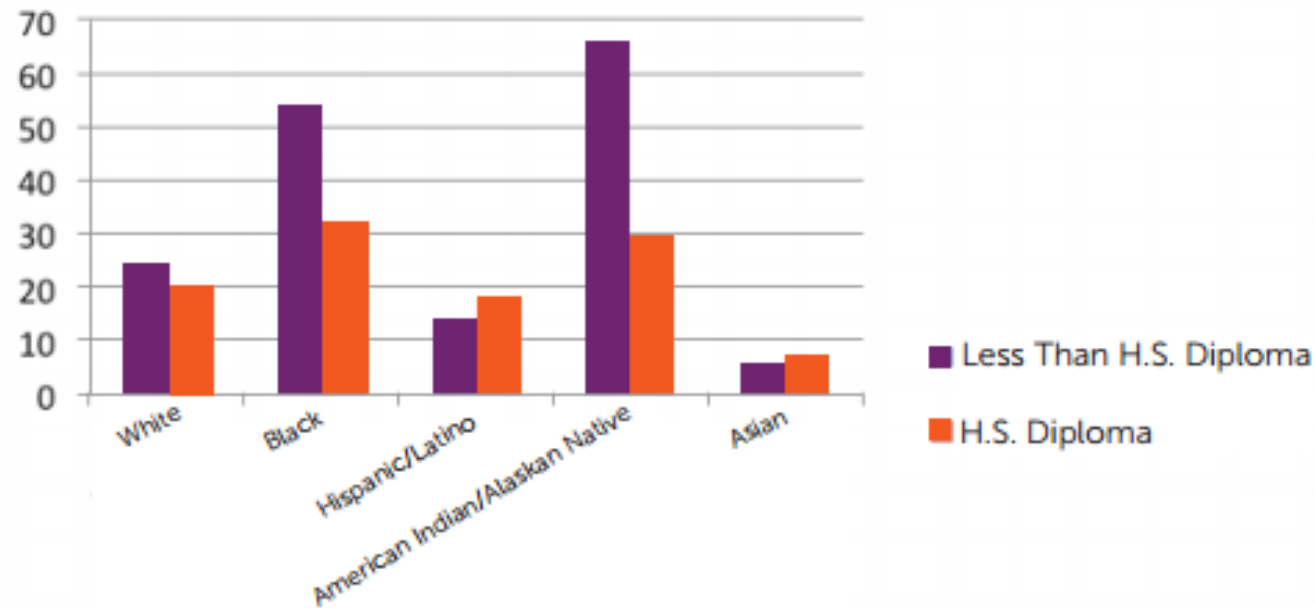
Figure 1. Percent of Males Employed By Race, Ages 16-19



Source: CLASP Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2015

Employment and Educational Attainment

Figure 4. Unemployment Rates for Out-of-School Males by Race and Education Attainment, Ages 16–24



Source: CLASP Analysis of US Census Bureau American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2010–2014

Questions



Federal Context



Budgetary Threats

- The President's proposed FY 2018 budget is expected to gut or eliminate funding of programs critical to children and youth well-being, including:
 - Job Corps
 - The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and
 - Competitive and formula programs authorized under Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act.
 - Other critical support for youth serving programs

Additional Threats

- Presidential executive orders
- Cabinet and sub-cabinet nominations
- ACA Repeal
- Congressional Review Act
- Etc.

Systemic Barriers to Economic Security for BMOOC



- Racism, Segregation and Social Isolation
- Education Inequality
- Over-Criminalization
- Inequitable Access to Physical and Mental Healthcare
- Unique Challenges for Undocumented Youth

Guiding Principles for Realizing Economic Justice for BMOOC

- Considerations for programs and policies aimed at reconnecting boys and men of color to employment pathways include:
 - Equity
 - Youth Voice
 - Data-Informed Solutions
 - Culturally Relevant and Developmentally Appropriate



REALIZING YOUTH JUSTICE

Guiding Principles for Advocates
in the Trump Era



Nia West-Bey,
Clarence Okoh,
and Kisha Bird

February 2017

Questions



Strategies for Reconnection

- Provide Programming to Help Young Men of Color Master Early Work Skills
- Broker Relationships with Employers to Help Young Men of Color Enter into Employment and gain Work Experience
- Implement Traditional and Non-traditional Employment Strategies to Achieve Results for Employers and Youth



Interventions for BMOOC: High Quality Early Work Experiences



Questions



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