

Improving School & Community Safety: An Multi-Integrated Systems Approach

Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Ensuring School Engagement and Success
for Youth at Risk
April 10-13, 2010

CHAPTER ONE: Understanding Zero Tolerance

Definition, Background, & Effect

DEFINITION

“A philosophy or policy that mandates the application of pre-determined consequences, most often severe and punitive in nature, that are intended to be applied regardless of the seriousness of behavior, mitigating circumstances, or situational context.”

Skiba et al. 2006

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

- 80's War on Drugs
- Later applied to combat pollution, trespassing, sexual trespassing, & sexual harassment
- Attributed to "Broken Windows" theory of crime (Kelling, George & Coles, 1997)
- School Systems begin adopting in early 90's
- Suspensions nearly doubled from 1.7 million in 74 to 3.1 million in 01.
- Assumes that removal of disruptive students deters others from similar conduct while enhancing classroom

Zero Tolerance=Zero Intelligence

Adolescent Brain Research, School as
a Protective Buffer, & Racial & Ethnic
Disparity

SCHOOL CONNECTEDNESS

- School connectedness is a strong protective factor against delinquency. US Surgeon General. (2001). *Youth Violence: A Report of the Surgeon General*.
- School connectedness is linked to lower levels of substance abuse, violence, suicide attempts, pregnancy, & emotional distress. *Journal of School Health 72 (4)*.
- OSS of elementary & middle school students contributes to drop-out rates. Predictors of Suspension & Negative School Outcomes: A Longitudinal Investigation (2003)

EFFECTS OF ZERO TOLERANCE

- Suspension rates have doubled
- School Code violations result in court referrals
- Increase in police on school campus
- Increase in suspensions and referrals has significantly increased racial & ethnic disparities
- Drop-out rates increase
- Juvenile crime increases

CHAPTER TWO: SYSTEMS THEORY

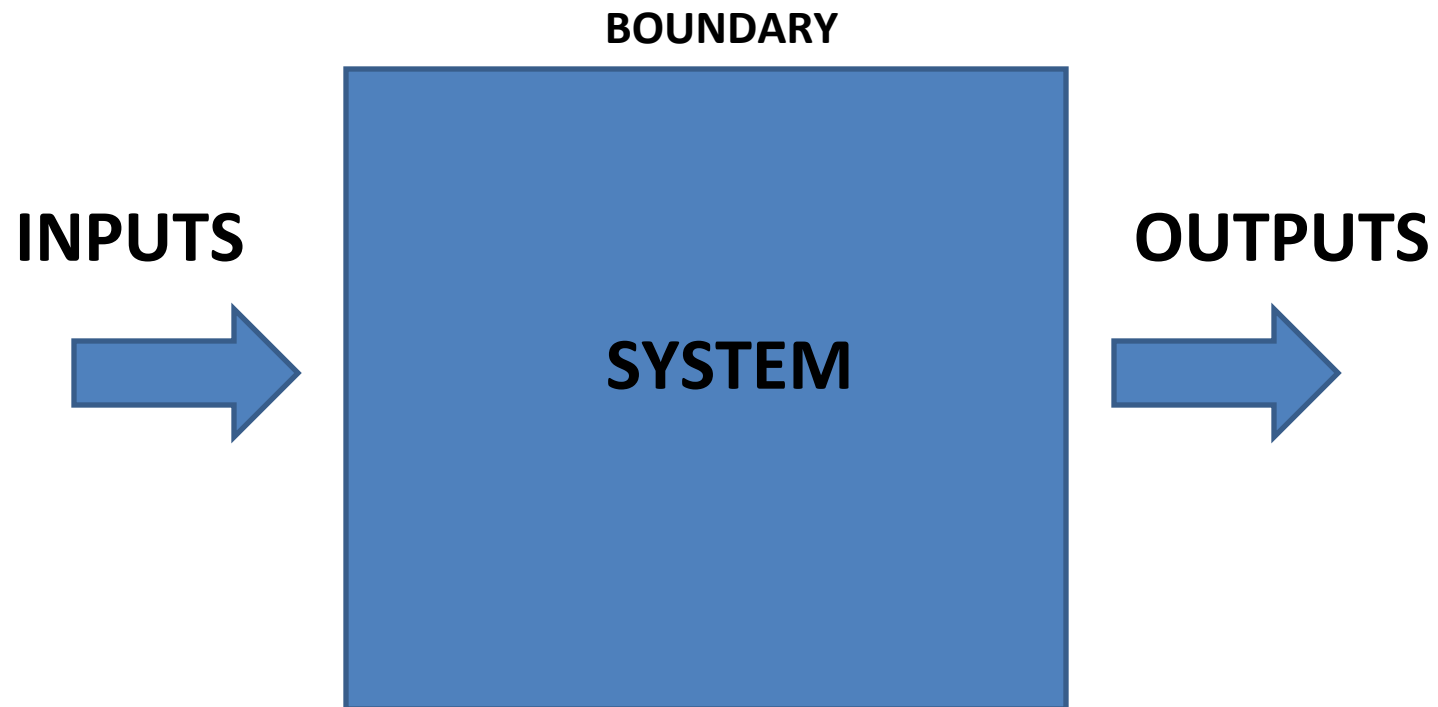
A Roadmap to Recovery, or It's the
Process; Not the Product

SYSTEM DEFINED

a set of interacting components,
acting interdependently and
sharing a common boundary
separating the set of components
from its environment.

Bozeman, B. *Public Management and policy Analysis*, St. Martin Press, Inc. New York (1979), 309.

SYSTEMS THEORY



LINEAR PROGRAMMING MODEL

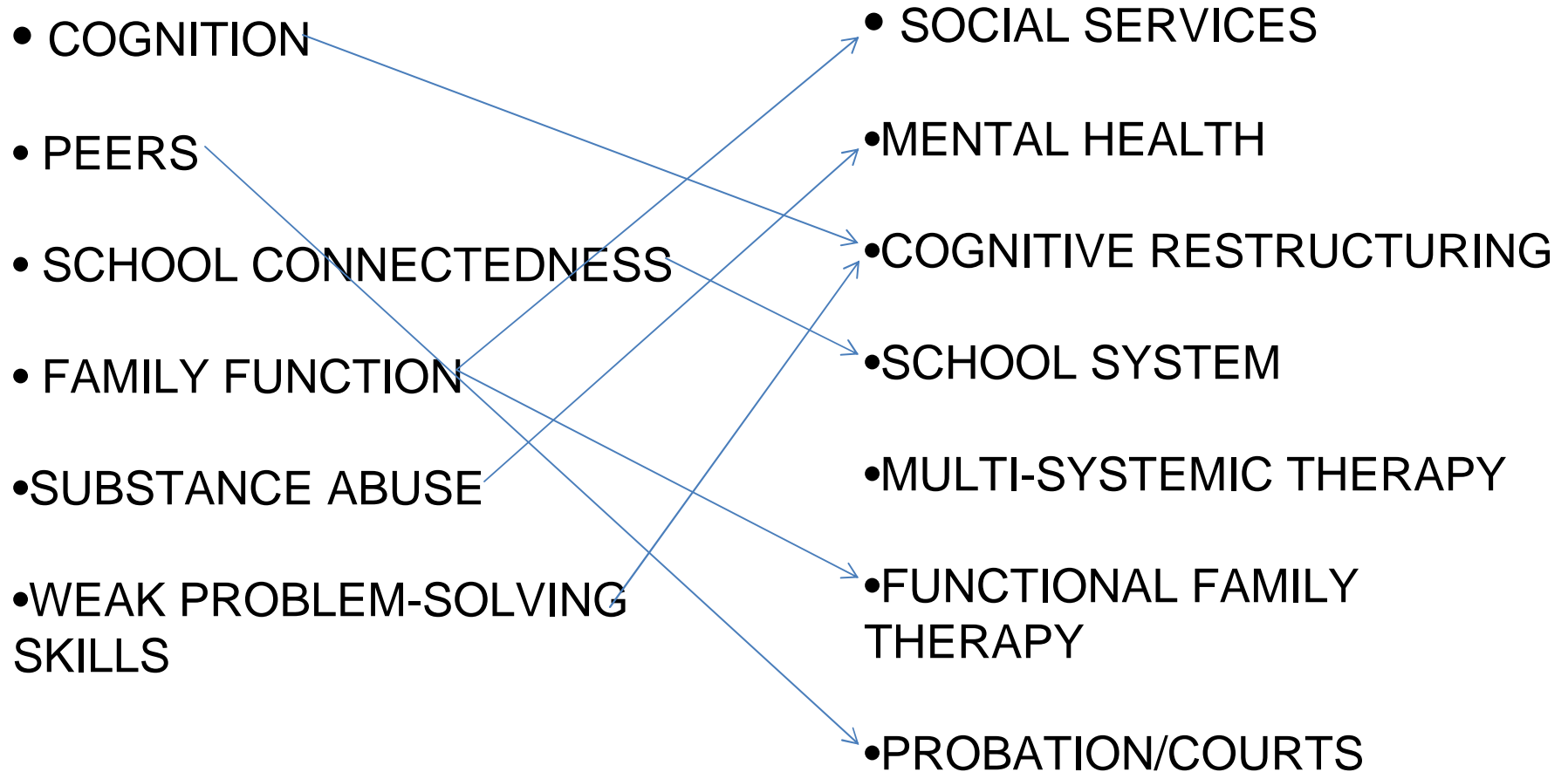
those values of X , the variables that maximize the linear objective Z while simultaneously satisfying the imposed linear constraints and the non-negativity constraints.

Bozeman, B. *Public Management and policy Analysis*, St. Martin Press, Inc. New York (1979), 309.

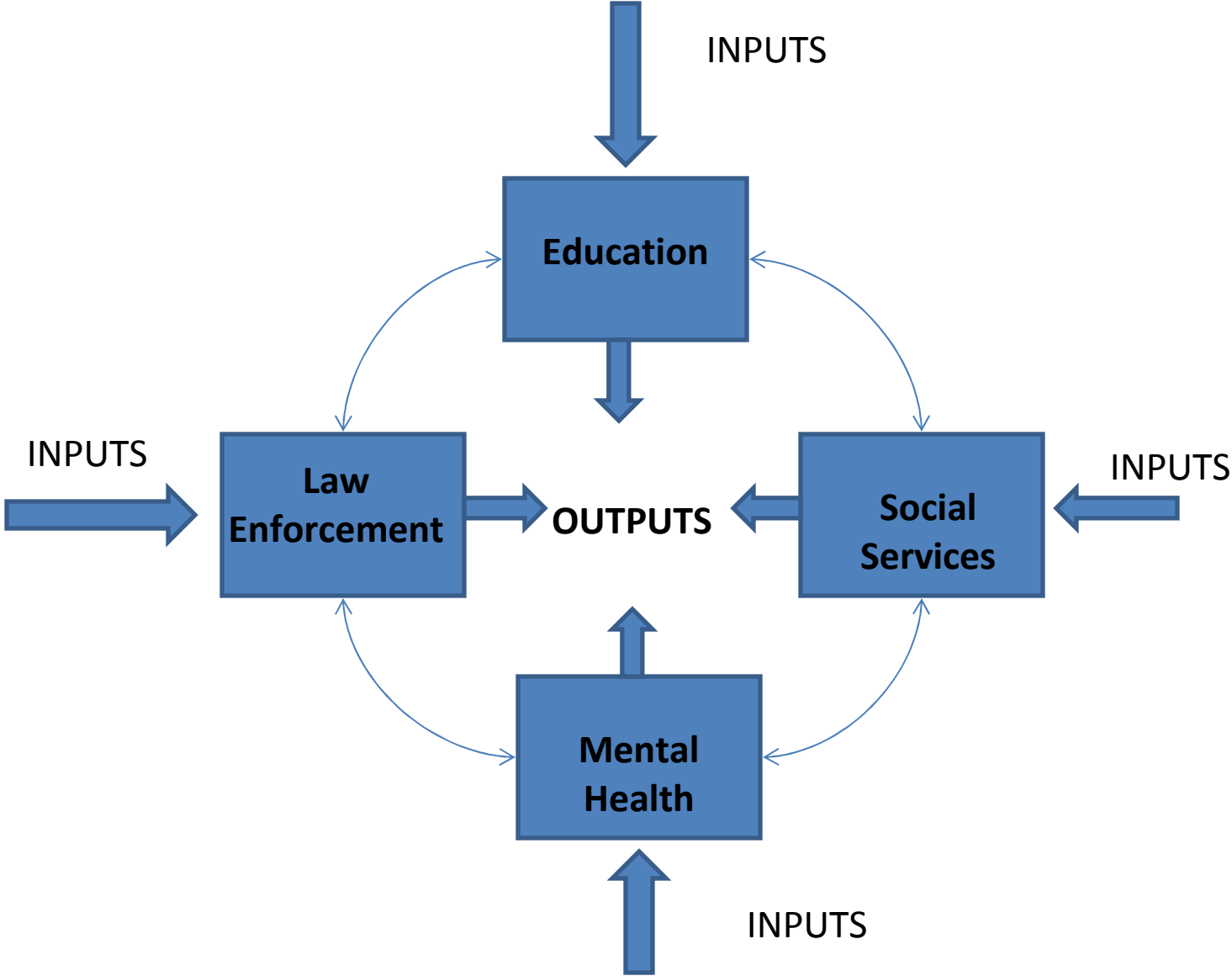
WHAT IS THE A JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM?

- WHAT IF THE DESIRED OUTCOME IS DEPENDENT ON MULTIPLE SYSTEMS?
- HOW ARE THOSE MULTIPLE SYSTEMS INTEGRATED TO MAXIMIZE THE DESIRED OUTCOME?

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO TARGET CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS



MULTI-INTEGRATED SYSTEM THEORY



CHAPTER THREE: The Protocol

The Clayton County Case Study

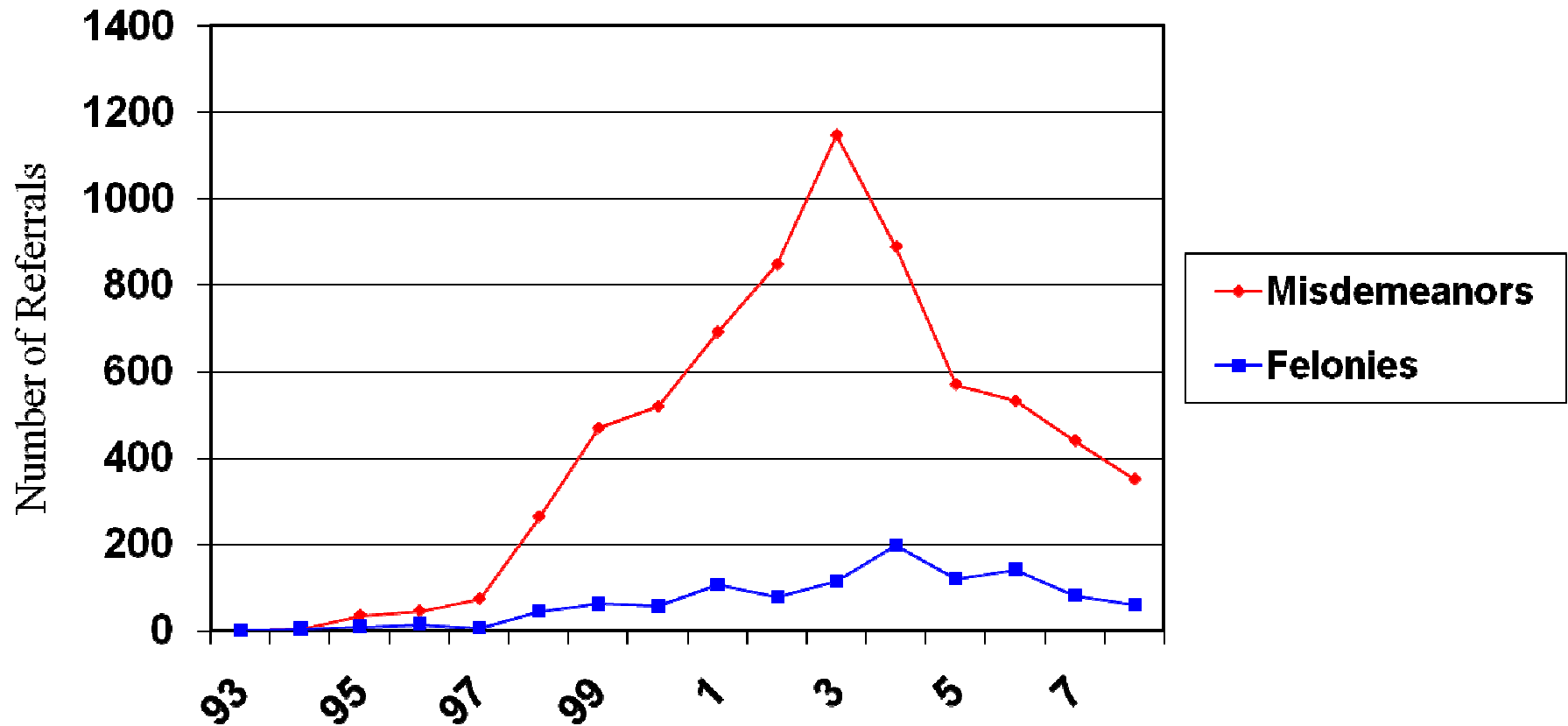


Figure 3. Line graph showing the increase in referrals after police placed on campus and the decrease after the protocol became effective in 2004.

OBJECTIVES OF PROTOCOL

- Reduce misdemeanor school referrals to the juvenile court & keep kids in school;
- Reduce probation caseloads that will increase supervision of high risk youth (the kids we are scared of);
- Give police more time to build rapport with students to gather intelligence on crimes about to occur;
- Increase safety in the school and the community;
- Increase graduation rates.

SCHOOL OFFENSE PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

- Focused Acts: Affray, DPS, DC, Obstruction
- First Offense/Warning
- Second Offense/Referral to Workshop
- Third Offense/Complaint Filed



School Offense Agreement Signed by all Police Chiefs, School Superintendent, Juvenile Judges, DFCS Director, and other partners on July 8, 2004

CHAPTER FOUR: School Safety

Engaging Students to Promote Safety
in the Schools

**“Schools are a microcosm of the
community”**

Sgt. Marc Richards

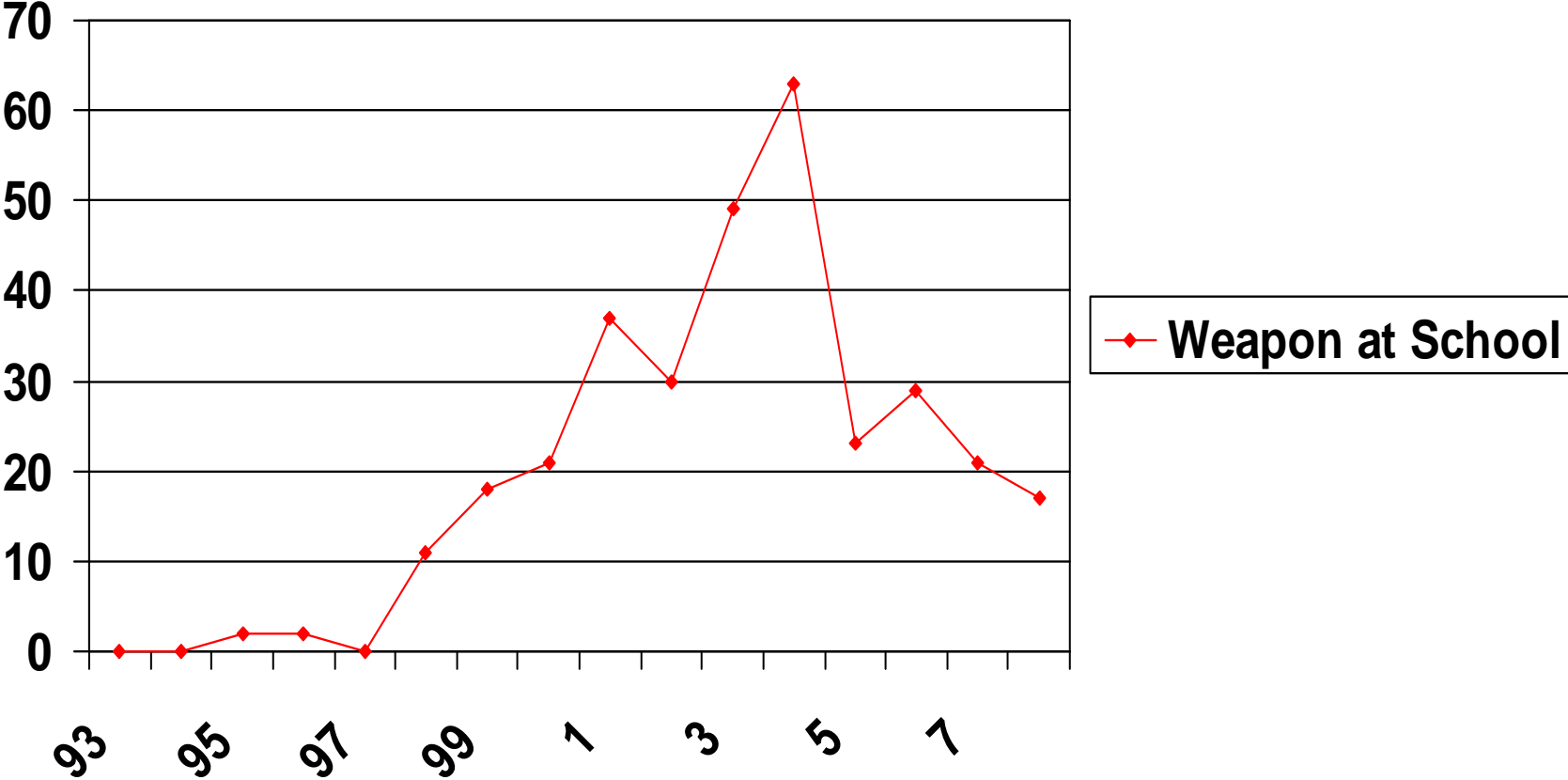
Supervisor, SRO Unit

Clayton County Police Department

EFFECTIVE USE OF PROTOCOL PROMOTES SAFETY



PROTOCOL INCREASES POLICE INTELLIGENCE



AVOIDING A TRAGEDY & MEDIA DILEMNA

How will the media & community respond if a person comes on school campus with a gun while your SRO is at intake booking a student for a school fight or disorderly conduct?

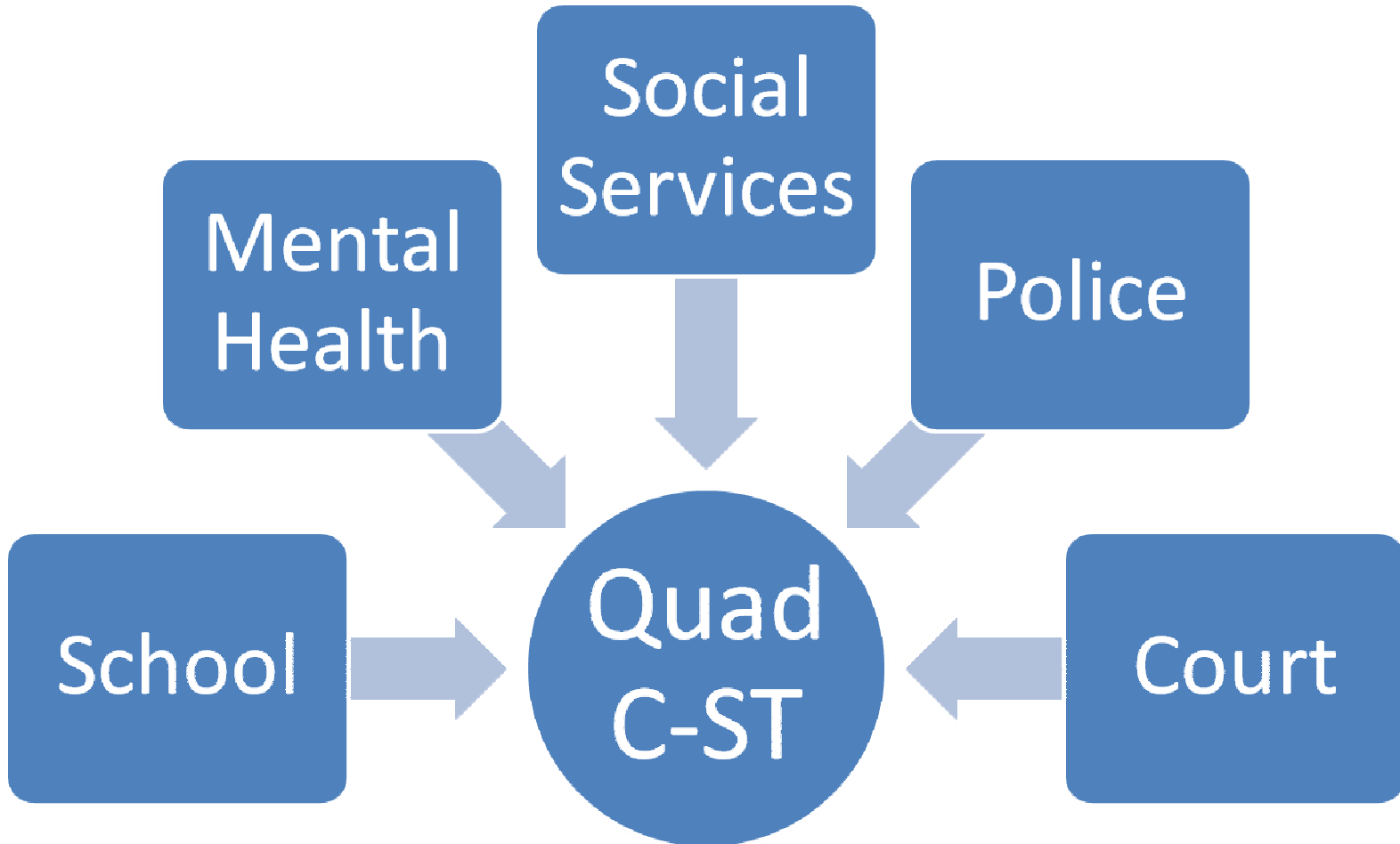
CHAPTER FIVE: Increase Graduation Rates

Who would ever think that keeping
kids in school will increase
graduation rates?

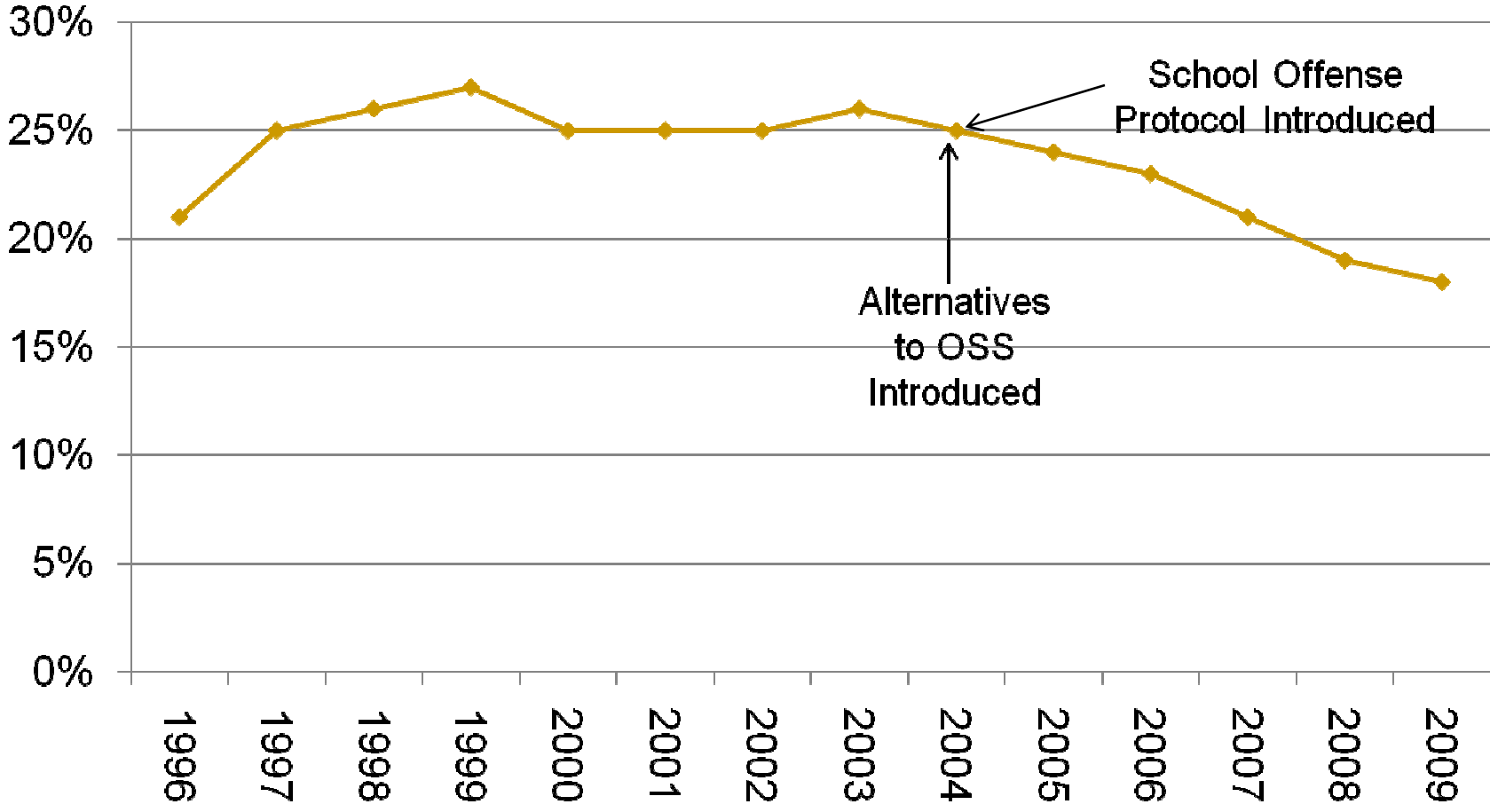
THE RESEARCH



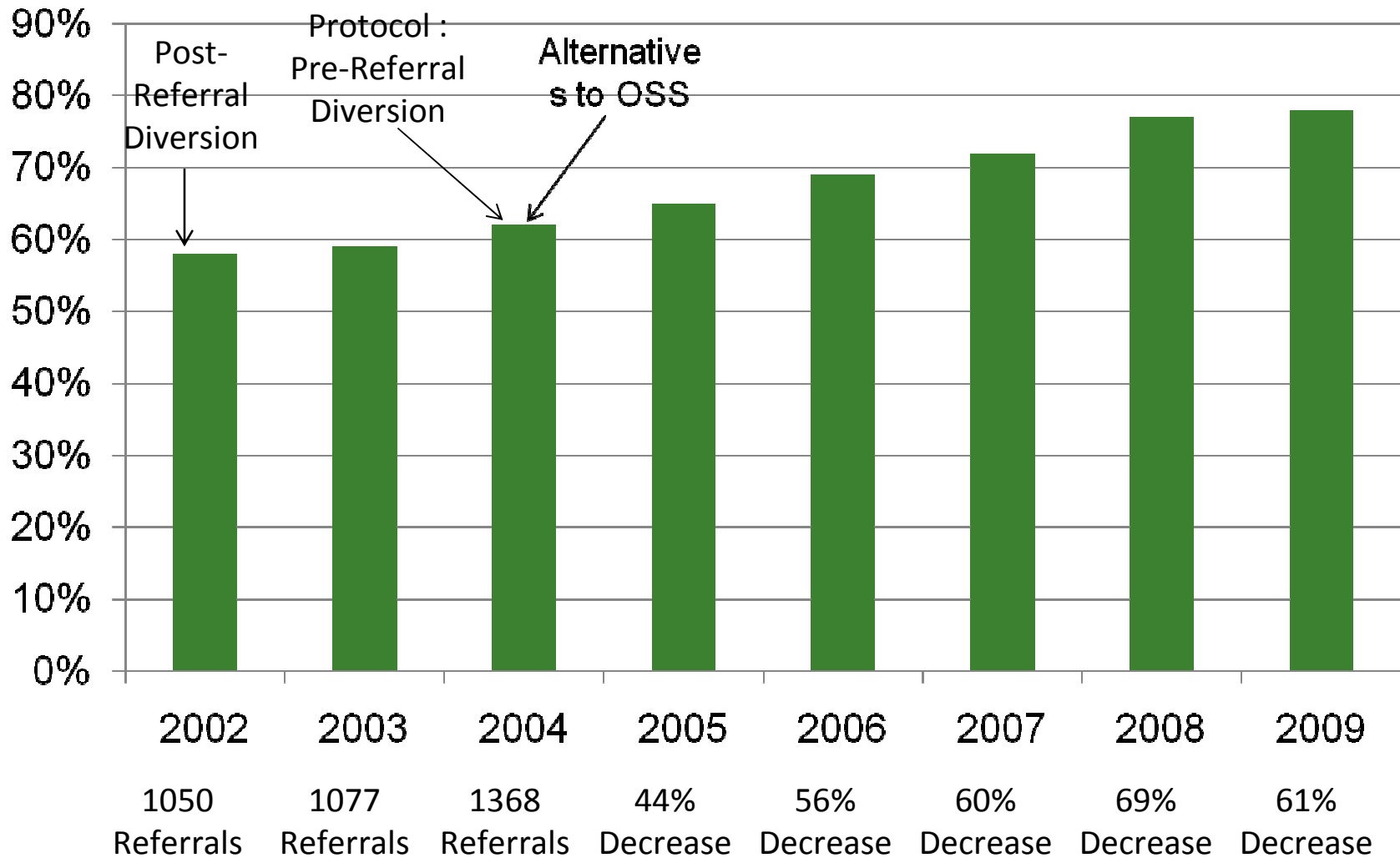
Single Point of Entry



OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION MIDDLE SCHOOL

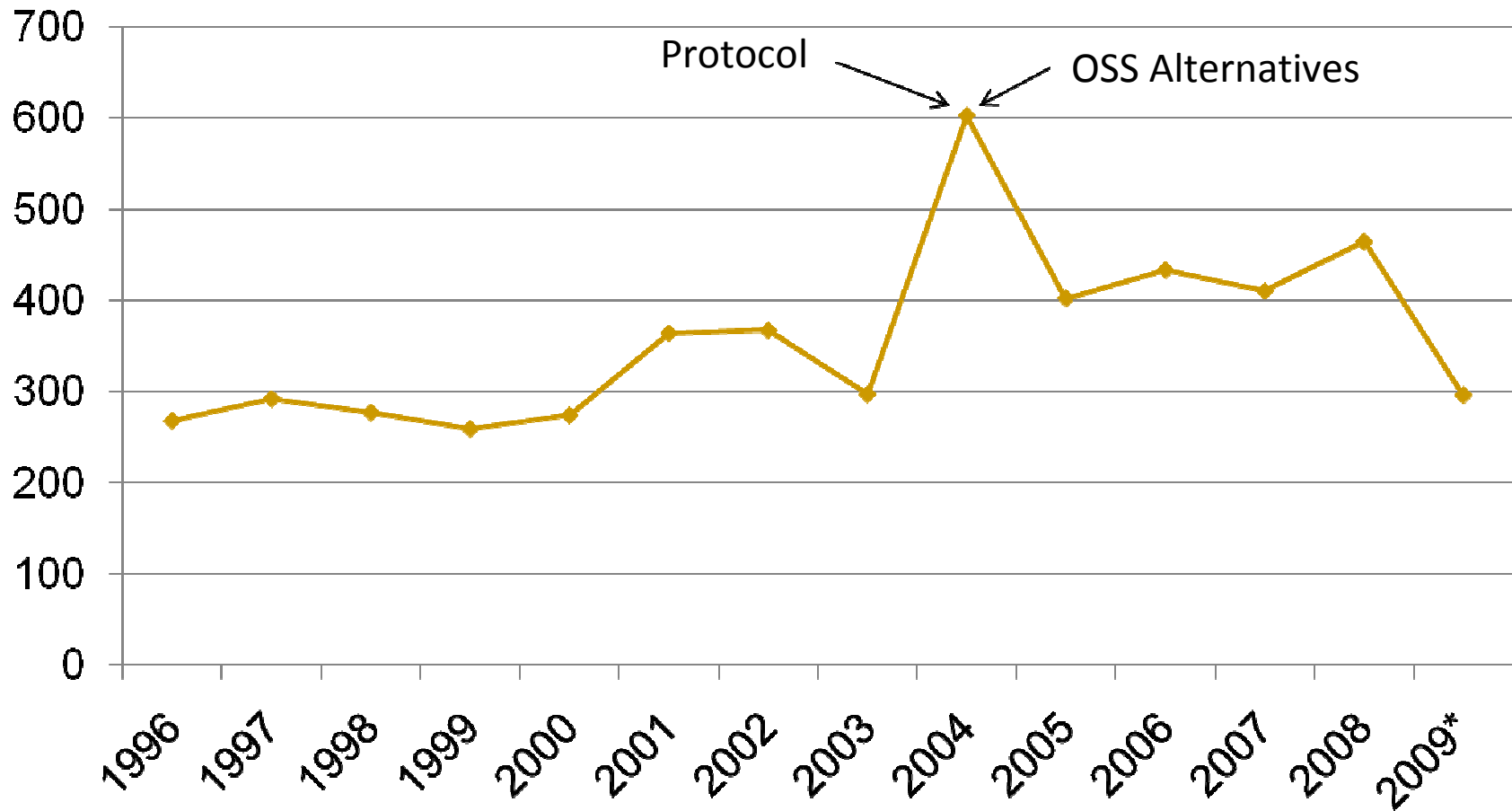


GRADUATION RATES

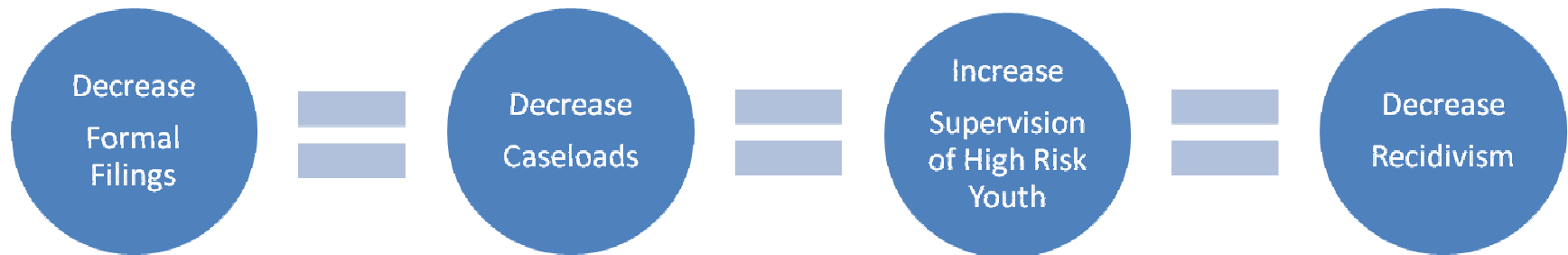


FELONY RATES

So goes graduation; so goes juvenile crime

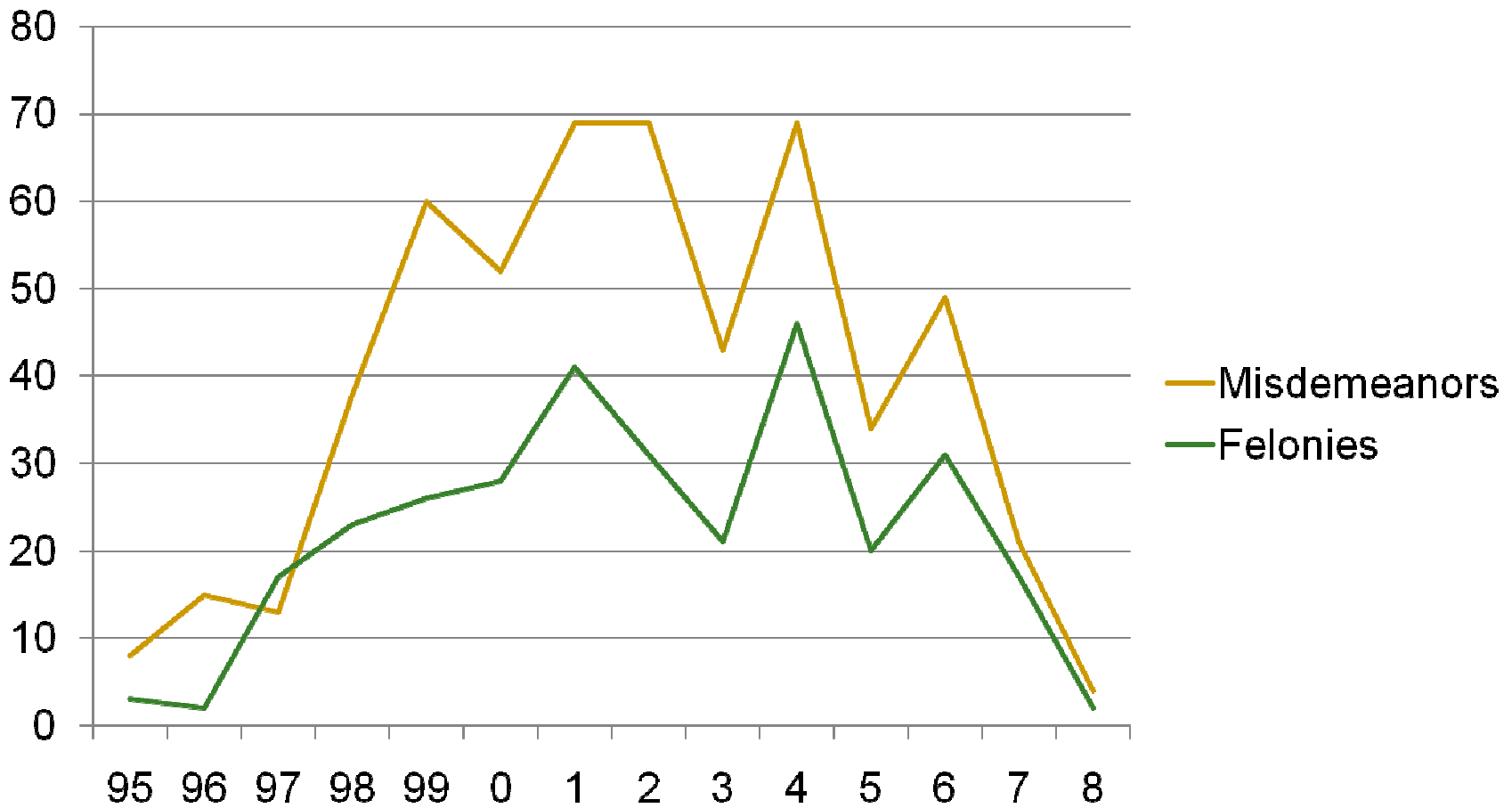


TARGET HIGH RISK YOUTH



CHAPTER SIX: Reducing Racial & Ethnic Disparities

DETENTION RATES ON SCHOOL REFERRALS



QUESTIONS

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