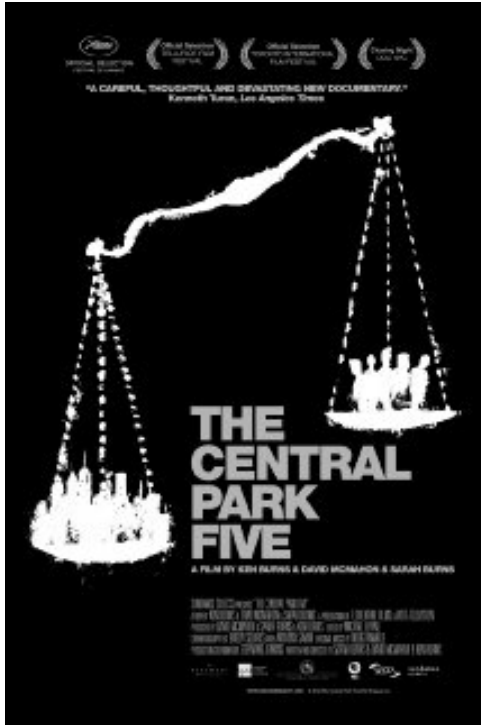


Context for Reform: The 1980s-1990s



- Growing rates of youth incarceration during the 1980s and 1990s
 - Flawed predictions of teenage male “superpredators”
 - Skepticism about rehabilitation
 - Greater reliance on transfer to adult court, boot camps, and get-tough policies and programs
 - Construction of more youth correctional facilities
 - **50% increase** in the number of youth in custody from 1983 to 1997



Context for Reform: The 2000s

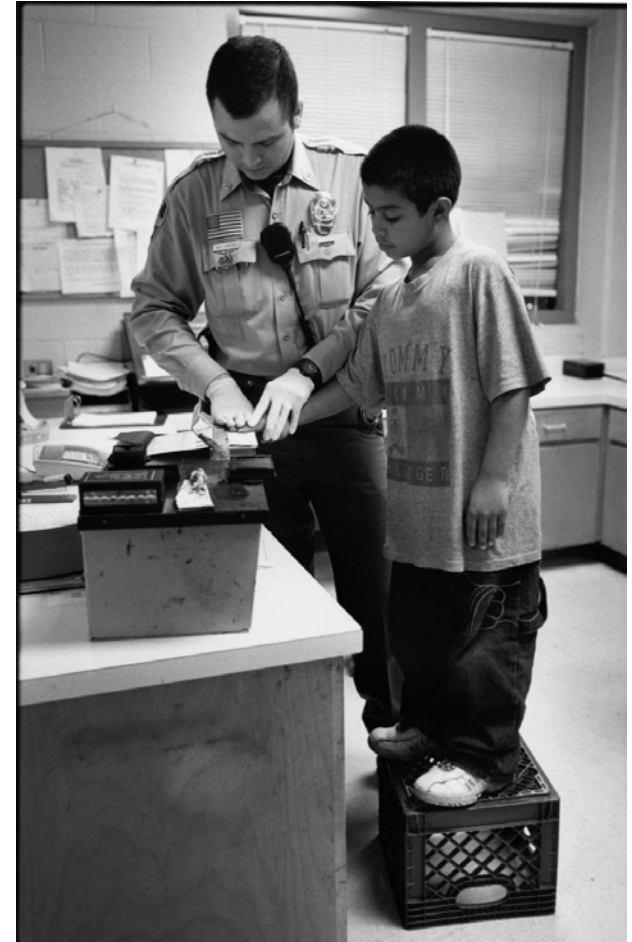
- What happened?
 - Exposure of faulty methodology underlying studies predicting rise of “superpredators”
 - Declining juvenile arrest rates (33% decline from 1996 to 2008)
 - New research:
 - Ineffectiveness of large correctional facilities
 - Transfer to the adult system increases recidivism
 - Adolescent brain research
 - Effectiveness of community-based programs
 - Litigation over abuses in institutions
 - Fiscal challenges



Why does this context matter?

- The legacy of the 1980s and 1990s, a broken system with ineffective programs and practices, persists in many counties and states
- There are many ongoing efforts to align what we do with what we know is best using a variety of strategies
- In spite of recent progress, there is much more to be done, and we are not immune from reverting back to past practices

© Steve Liss





Insider Reform Strategies

JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE

- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Over 200 counties in 39 states and the District of Columbia
- Data-driven initiative focused on reducing unnecessary use of detention using eight interrelated “core strategies”

ModelsforChange

- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- 17 states, including 4 “core states” and other “Action Networks” focused on specific issues: racial and ethnic disparities, mental health, indigent defense



Outsider Reform Strategies: National, Issue-Based, and State-Based Advocacy





Reinvestment and Realignment

Shift from juvenile justice systems that:

Focus solely on sanctions and control

Rely on large institutions and out-of-home placements

Do not consider the needs and importance of family members



Juvenile justice systems that:

Build upon strengths and reward success

Promote and support community-based services

Value family members and include them in rehabilitation

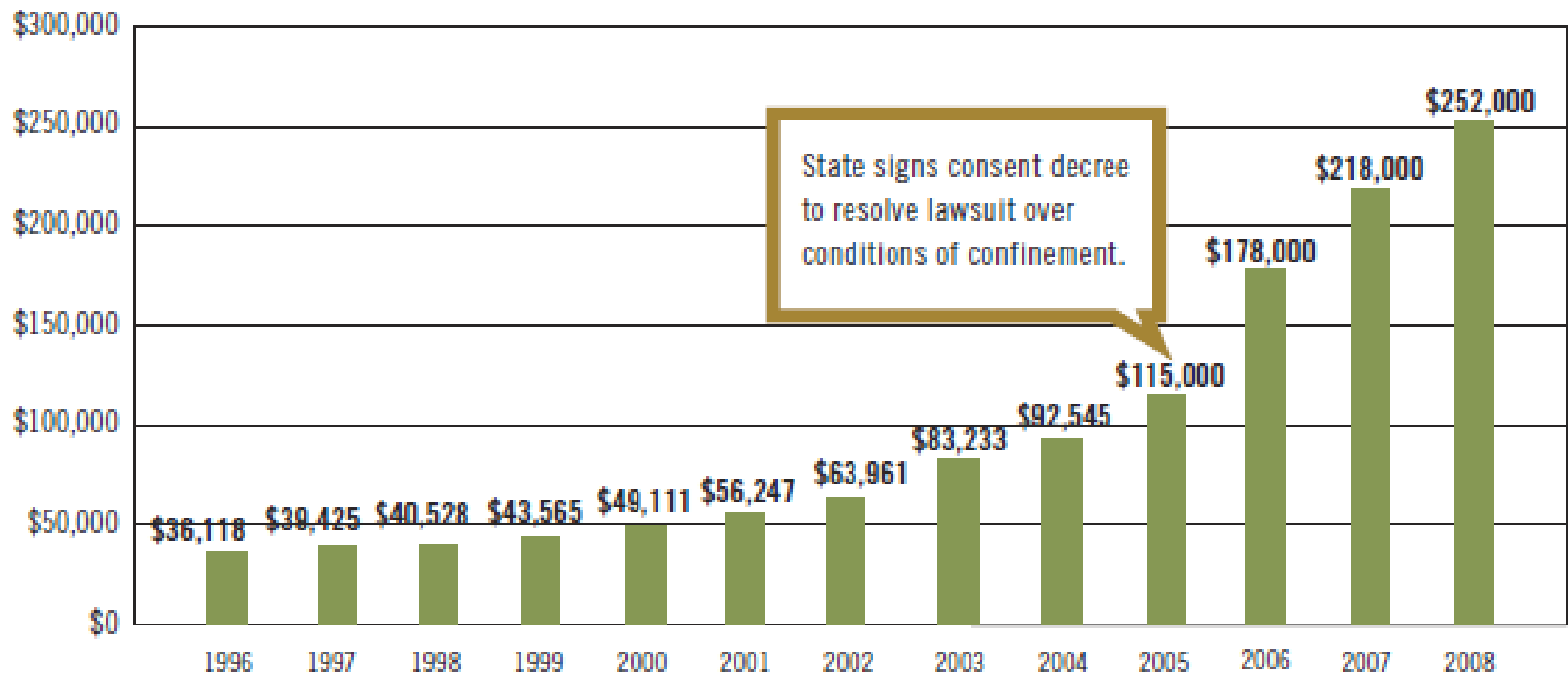


Conditions of Confinement



Outsider Reform Strategies: Litigation

FIGURE 8
IMPACT OF LITIGATION ON COSTS OF JUVENILE CONFINEMENT IN CALIFORNIA



Source: *Juvenile Justice Reform: Realigning Responsibilities*, Little Hoover Commission, 2008.