# EQUITY & INCLUSION IN COLLABORATIVE COURTS

DOUGLAS B. MARLOWE, JD, PHD

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS

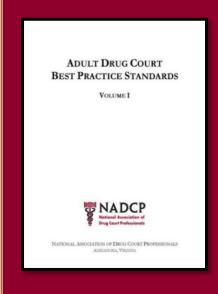


### Disclosure

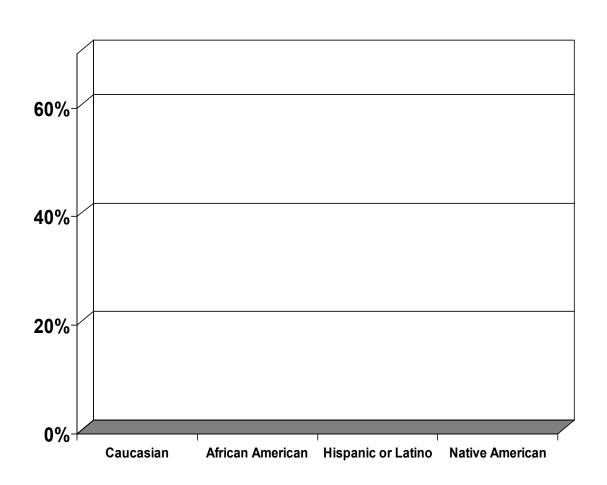
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- Points of views or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Executive Office of the President.

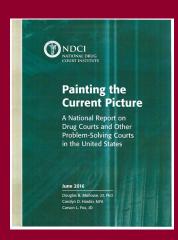
### BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

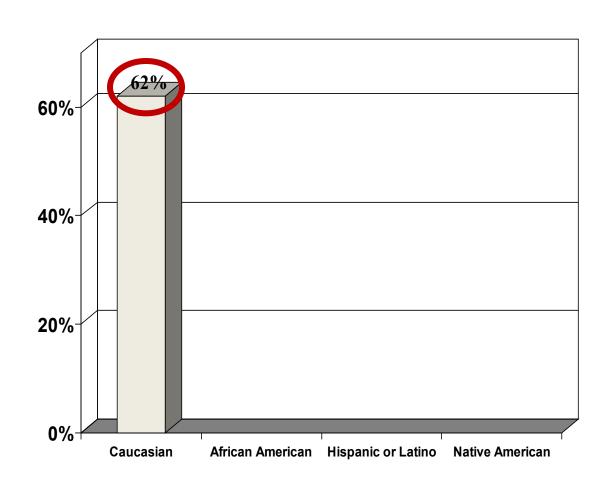
- Duty to avoid disparate access, services, and impacts regardless of intent
- Affirmative obligation to know whether disparities exist (annual monitoring)
- ➤ Take corrective actions unless doing so would demonstrably threaten public safety or program effectiveness
- Evaluate success of the corrective actions and adjust, as necessary, until disparities are eliminated (annual monitoring)



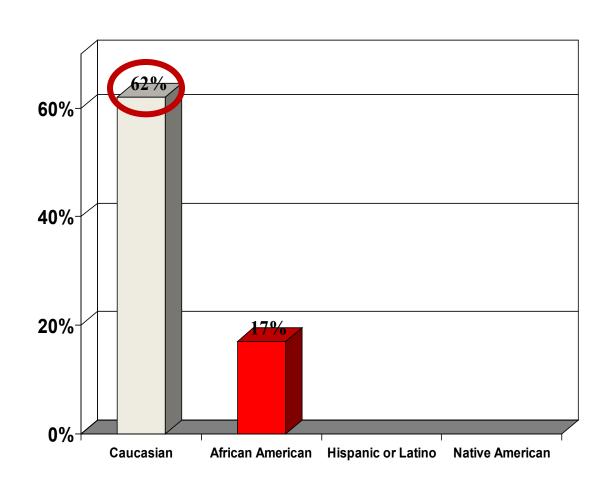


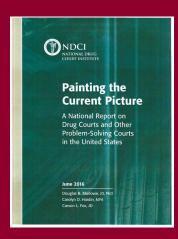


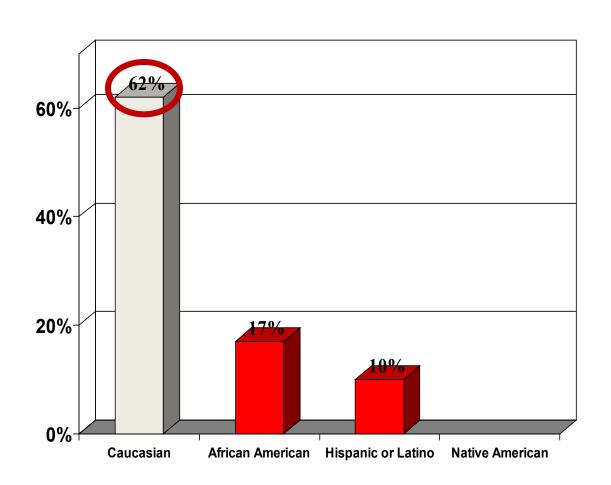


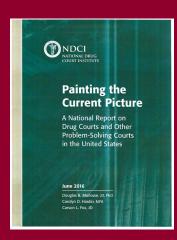


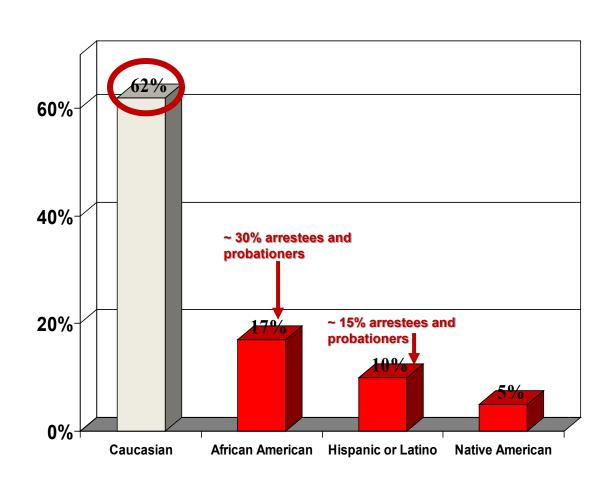






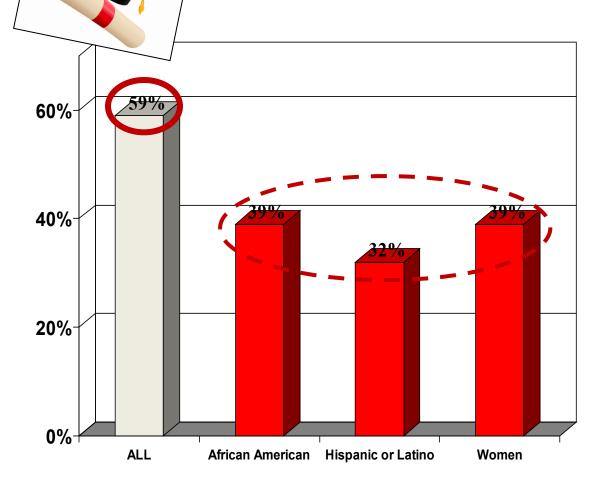




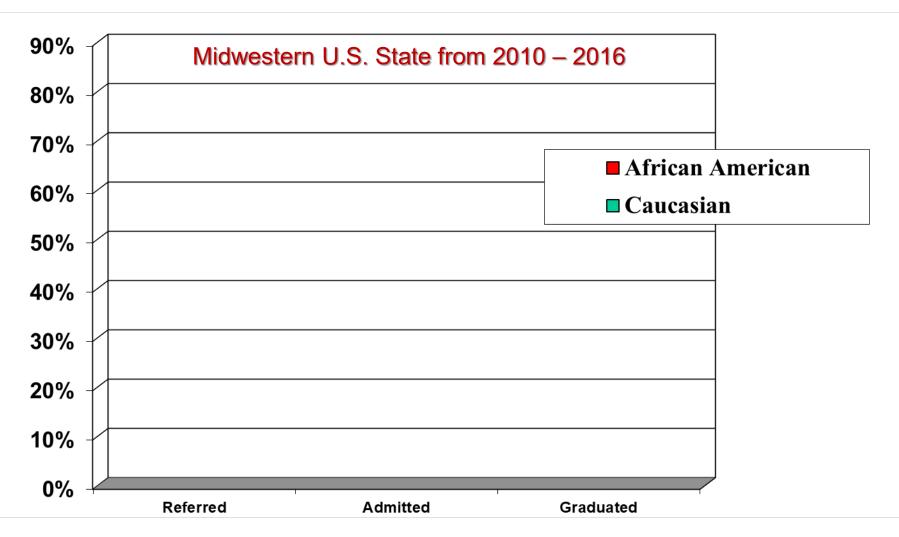




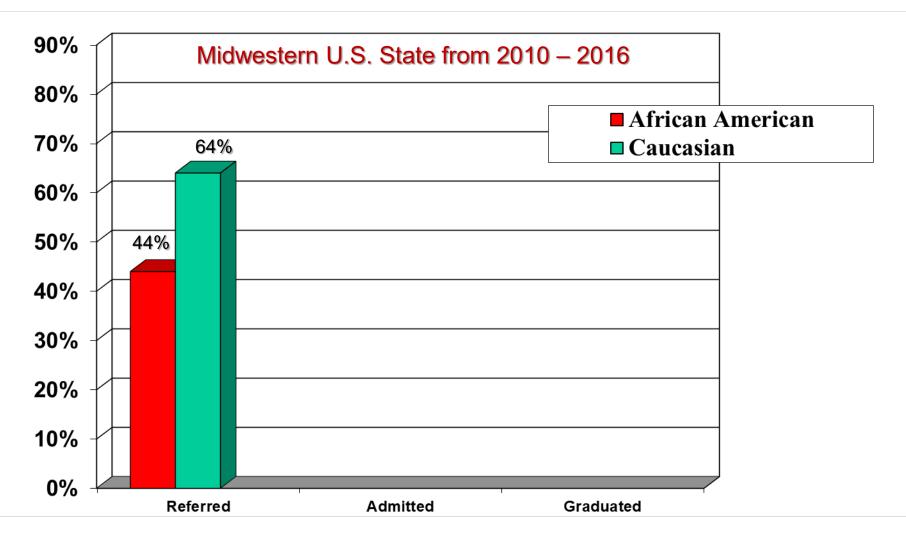
## Graduation Rates



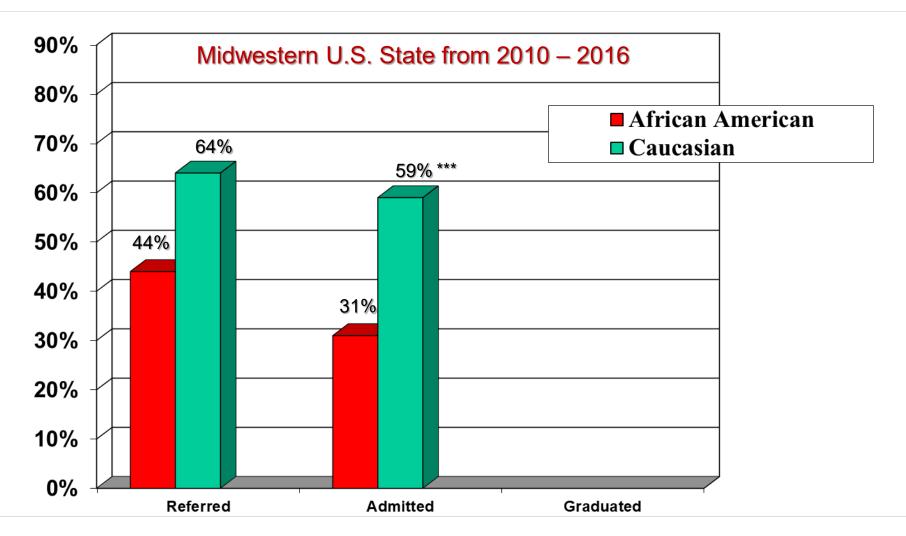




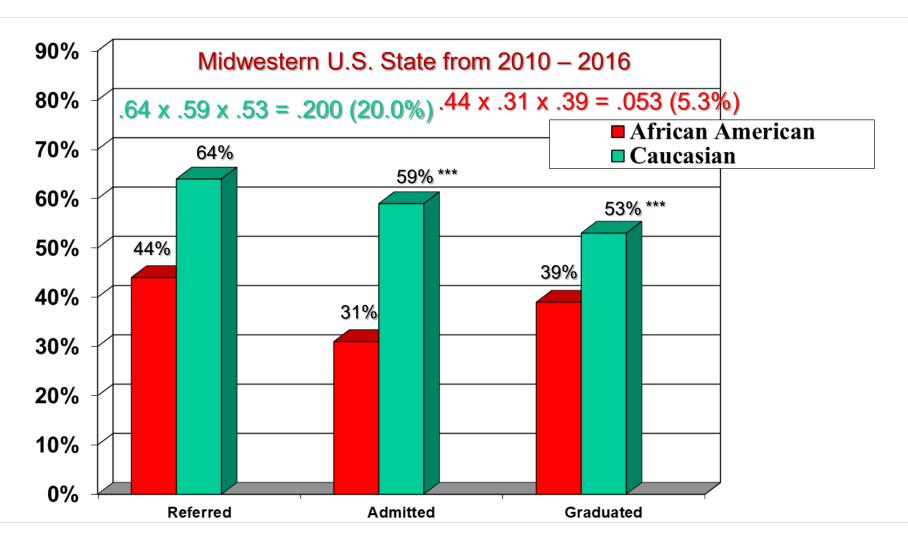
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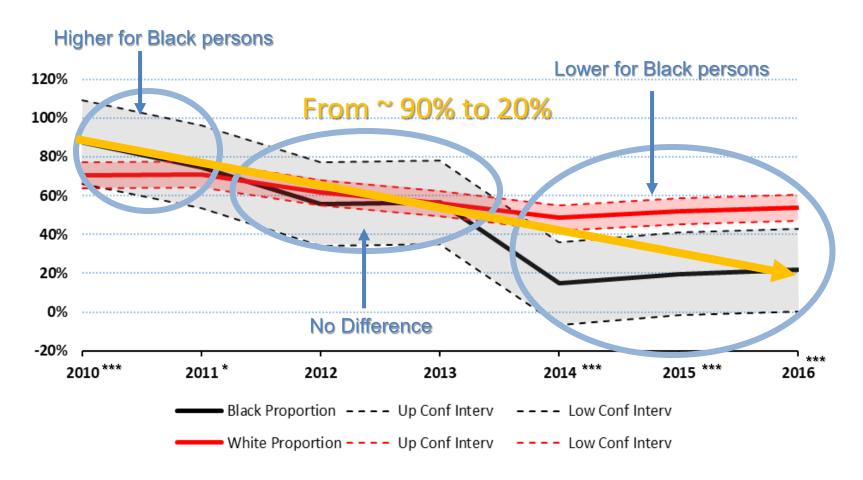


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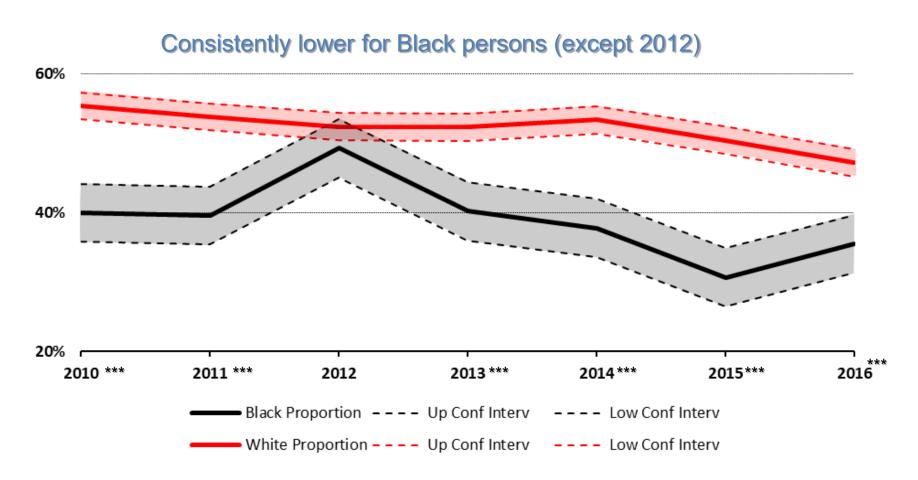
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# Admission Rates in Midwestern State Over 7 Years



<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p < .001.

# Graduation Rates in Midwestern State Over 7 Years



p < .05. p < .01. p < .001. p < .001.

## **Pre-Entry Attrition**

### Effects are cumulative and subtractive:

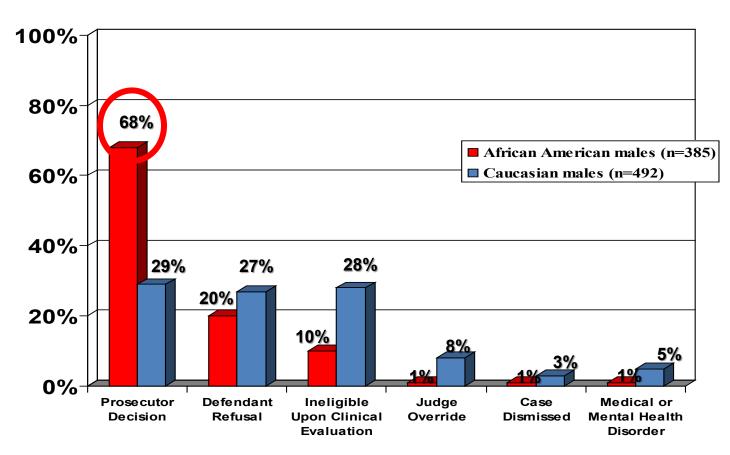
- Pretrial release vs. detention
- Public defender philosophy and private counsel knowledge (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment applies)
- Plea offer from prosecution
- Plea acceptance by defendant
- Screening tools (?)
- Eligibility criteria
- Suitability determinations

Can be influenced but not controlled by the drug court

Directly within control of the drug court

## Suitability Determinations

#### **Paper-Eligible Candidates**



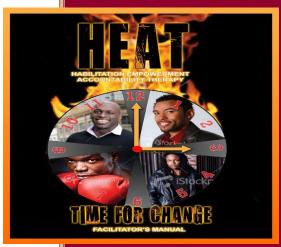
Janku (2016)

### Assessment Tools

- Superior to professional judgment (AUC = .50 vs .70)
  (Monahan & Skeem, 2016; Singh & Fazel, 2010; Skeem & Lowenkamp, 2016)
- Associated with shorter detention and reduced racial and ethnic disparities (Desmarais et al., 2021; Lowder et al., 2019, 2021; Marlowe et al., 2020; Milgram et al., 2015; Viljoen et al., 2019; Vincent & Viljoen, 2020; Skeem & Lowenkamp, 2016)
- False positive vs. false negative rates (mixed findings)
  (Angwin et al., 2016; Marlowe et al., 2020)
- "Proxies" for race or ethnicity (cause or effect?)
- Cultural relevance and item familiarity (IQ and achievement tests ≠ symptom and attitudinal checklists)
- Symptom under-reporting is a serious concern

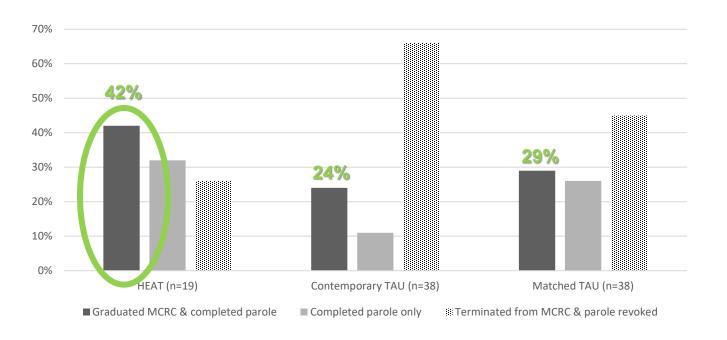
## H.E.A.T.

- Culturally tailored, strength-based, trauma informed
- African American males 18 to 29 years of age
- Not presumed to be drug or alcohol dependent
- 80 sessions over 9 months:
  - 1. <u>Self</u> prevalent myths, stereotypes and misconceptions of African American manhood
  - 2. <u>Family</u> unrecognized and unacknowledged trauma
  - 3. <u>Community</u> neighborhood challenges and threats
  - 4. <u>Spirituality</u> natural and preferred recovery communities
  - 5. Mentoring and employment



### Effect Size

- Reentry drug court
- Condition of parole
- Administrative discharge from parole
- Contemporary comparison group
- Matched comparison group



### **Effect Size**

- Reentry drug court
- Condition of parole

- Effect Size: Cramer's V > 0.30 (moderate)
- Administrative discharge from parole
- Contemporary comparison group
- Matched comparison group



p < .05

### Conclusions

- Racial and ethnic disparities permeate drug courts from referral through completion
- Pretrial detention and bond contribute to disparities without protecting public safety
- Exclusionary charges (especially violence) contribute to disparities without protecting public safety
- Suitability determinations (especially by prosecutors)
  contribute to disparities without improving outcomes
- Drug courts make poor efforts to sell their product to participants and colleagues
- Motivation for change is irrelevant at entry
- Standardized assessment is best practice (rapport is key)

#### **Evaluation**



https://cvent.me/80N7DE

- On your compatible phone or tablet, open the built-in camera app.
- 2. Point the camera at the QR code.
- Tap the banner that appears on your phone or tablet.
- 4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the evaluation.
- 5. After completion, you will be provided with a certificate that can be saved and printed.