

FROM LEGISLATOR TO

YOUTH JUSTICE HERO!

How youth automatically end up in the adult criminal justice system and how to change it.

THE CURRENT SITUATION...



When a law enforcement officer arrests a youth (age 14-17) accused of any one of 33 crimes, they are automatically charged as an adult.

Youth's cases spend an average of

4 MONTHS

in the adult system.

Although the youth has only been accused of the crime, they must request a hearing for a judge to determine if they are suitable for treatment in the juvenile system.

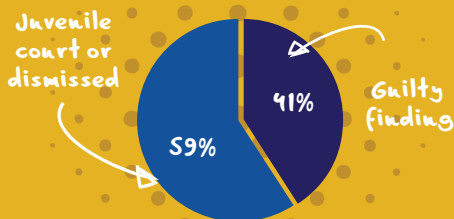


please!

Automatically charging a youth as an adult produces an adult criminal record.

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUTH AUTOMATICALLY CHARGED AS ADULTS?

Almost 60% of youth charged as adults have their case dismissed or sent to juvenile court.



Of the youth transferred to juvenile court in 2015,



64% were given probation or had their case dismissed.

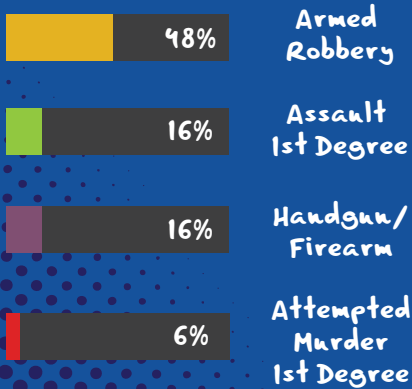
After one day in the adult system, a youth is

3X

more likely to reoffend than a youth in the juvenile system.

WHO ARE THE YOUTH?

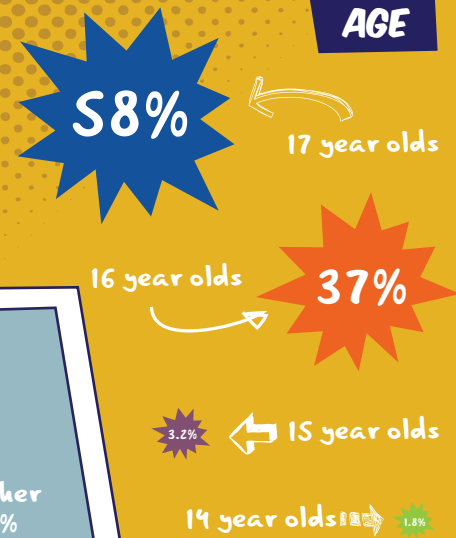
TOP CHARGES



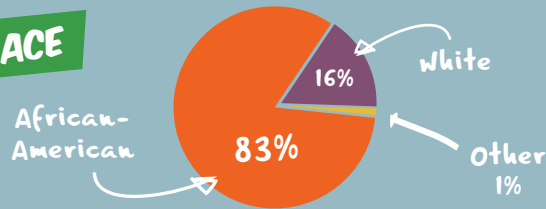
GENDER



AGE



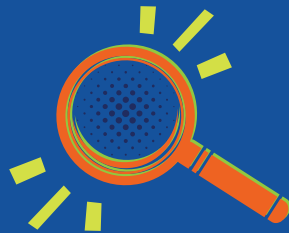
RACE



THE SOLUTION...

All youth regardless of charge will start their case in the juvenile justice system.

If necessary, a State's Attorney may ask a judge to review a youth's case to move it from the juvenile to the adult system.



A youth's case can be moved from the juvenile to the adult system if they are:



Over the age of 15



Under 15 and accused of first degree murder, sex offense and rape.

WHAT THE BILL DOES:

It holds kids accountable in a timely fashion.



It promotes public safety by providing the treatment that youth need.



It allows youth to become productive citizens by eliminating the barriers they'd face with an adult criminal record.

