

XXVII

TECMUN Jr.

Commission on Crime
Prevention and Criminal
Justice

“It’s only after you’ve stepped outside your comfort zone that you begin to change, grow, and transform.”

— Roy T. Bennett

Dear delegate,

I would like to start thanking your interest in entering to this committee. Perhaps for you delegate this model is the beginning of a new stage , maybe you are afraid to take on this new challenge. In the same way it can be the continuation of your path . Or simply it could be the end of a phase.No matter what stage you are in, you should be sure that in this committee you will be welcome and in everything you need you will be supported by all the chair and me.

The world is full of atrocities, however I have faith that they can stop at the moment that a person decides to be the change that this world needs. The moment when you delegate decide to raise your voice against the adversity that awaits you. When you dare to assume this challenge , for me as your president,at that time you are the right person. But we cannot achieve that goal if we don't change ourselves first,by stop supporting acts that can become someday atrocities. Beginning to think in the other such as we think of us, that all the things that we make benefit everybody in this world. Trust in the everything we have faith on and stand for it everytime we have the chance. But being faithful doesn't mean to be inflexible or to be reluctant to change. The only thing that remains the same is that things are always changing, the inevitability of change is a universal variable.

Many people call this type of activities as something useless or meaningless. I would like to invite you to reflect on this questioning. From my perspective things are as you want them to be. One of the noblest tasks in this life is to worry about others. In this committee you delegate will be the voice of many people who have no voice. It is up to you to be that agent of change .We’re minuscule compared to all the problems , we’re kids trying to solve adults conflicts. Even this fact,by this moment you are immense to me delegate. I really hope you are ready to face this big challenge, becoming the responsible one of our world and reality.

Montserrat Olivás Ramos
President of the Commission on Crime
Prevention and Criminal Justice
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Background of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) was founded in 1991 by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), after resolution 46/152 of the General Assembly. The CCPCJ is composed of 40 member states, each with a term of three years. Its main objective is to make policies regarding crime prevention, provide technical assistance, improve action against national and transnational crime, as well as methods of delivering justice, and to communicate strategies for combating crime.

Topic A

Efforts to abolish racial discrimination in global courthouses and strategies to achieve fair rulings, with a focus on the North American law system.

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Introduction

The strong bias against African-descendent people all over the world is a well-known problem, which plagues and endangers the lives of African-descendents every day. From historical times, they have always been treated as lesser beings and mocked for their lifestyle, features, and mostly, for the color of their skin. The correct term for this hateful bias is racism, defined as:

Any action, practice, or belief that reflects the racial worldview--the ideology that humans may be divided into separate and exclusive biological entities called 'races'; that there is a causal link between inherited physical traits and traits of personality, intellect, morality, and other cultural and behavioral features; and that some races are innately superior to others. (Britannica, n.d.)

Despite the fact there are many races which have been systematically marginalized throughout history, people of African descent have been continually targeted by racist laws and policies, such as South Africa's Apartheid policies, which promoted the idea that a darker skin meant you were a subpar civilian, and therefore should only have subpar jobs, and overall have a low participation within society, whereas people of lighter skin tones had the right to live an accommodated life. These beliefs were treated as universal truths, however, there is no scientific evidence that proves the existence of more and less important races. (Britannica, n.d.)

One of the countries with high discrimination rates is the United States of America. Particularly brought to light within Donald Trump's administration, non-Caucasian Americans have been increasingly targeted and discriminated against, especially African-Americans. However, this behavior is deeply rooted in the country's history, from slavery, to Jim Crow laws, all having lasting repercussions in American mentality.

One of the most important examples of this discrimination lies in the court system, as cases with an African-American defendant and a Caucasian victim, if they even make it to court, it ends with a conviction. There are countless examples of this, such as the cases of the Scottsboro boys, Ed Johnson, Andre Thomas, and Johnny Bennett, as well as several studies which examine what factors can lead to a racially biased verdict, as well as the consequences this can bring.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, through resolution 73/185 by the General Assembly and resolution 2018/15 by the Economic and Social Council, has a role contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

particularly tied to the Sustainable Development Goal 16. This SDG, named Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, is targeted towards achieving equality and safety within legality, and one of its objectives is to “promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all” (United Nations, 2019). Aside from this, one of the main functions of the CCPCJ, as quoted from the official website, is to improve “efficiency and fairness of criminal justice administration systems” (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, n.d.).

Historical Framework

Historically, African-American people living in the United States have always been met with intolerance due to their ethnic origin, as they were originally brought into the country by the Dutch for the purpose of slavery, during the early European settlement in the United States. Following the Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation, issued in 1862 by president Abraham Lincoln, and the later 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the American Constitution, slavery was officially outlawed, and African-American men were granted equal protection under the law, as well as the right to vote. However, the mentality that African-Americans were lesser than Caucasians persisted, resulting in the formation of groups such as the Knights of the White Camellia and the Klu Klux Klan, which dedicated their efforts into intimidating African-American citizens and sabotaging their political campaigns. Jim Crow laws were set in place almost immediately after the abolishment of slavery, “detailing when, where and how freed slaves could work, and for how much compensation” (HISTORY, 2019), essentially nullifying any accomplishments made after the Civil War and forcing African-Americans into oppression. According to A’Lelia Bundles, “Those who got too uppity were lynched, firebombed in their homes and chased from land they owned” (Bundles, 2015).

Aside from being segregated politically and socially, African-Americans were also made into cultural smear targets. Works such as DW Griffith’s *Birth of a Nation*, David Butlers’ *The Littlest Rebel*, and Disney’s *Song of the South*, as well as the popularization of blackface, glorified the Confederate ideals and even depicted the Klu Klux Klan as heroic, while promoting African-Americans as either happy and willing slaves, or dangerous criminals.

African-American discrimination nowadays

American race relations vastly improved in the aftermath of the 1950's Civil Rights movement, which led to the Civil Rights Act. This legislation guarantees equal voting rights, outlaws public segregation, among other landmark achievements for African-Americans. Despite this, the reality for many African-American men and women, is one of constant fear and othering, especially from within the American justice system and law enforcement departments. According to the United States' Justice Department:

[African-Americans] in Ferguson, Missouri, accounted for an overwhelming majority of traffic stops, traffic tickets, and arrests over a two-year period—nearly everyone who got a jaywalking ticket was [African-American]. When [African-American] drivers were pulled over in Ferguson, [...] they were searched at twice the rate of [Caucasian] drivers. (2015)

Conducts like these are a direct consequence of the Civil War-era belief that African-Americans are inexorably linked to violence and crime, which makes them recurrent targets for law enforcement officers. Even though excessive "routine" check ups have become a nearly daily occurrence for many, cases of police officers abusing their powers pose a latent threat to African Americans. USLegal defines police brutality as "a civil rights violation that occurs when a police officer acts with excessive force by using an amount of force with regards to a civilian that is more than necessary" (n.d.). This phenomenon, which has always existed but gained traction in recent years, has claimed the lives of individuals who either committed minor offenses, such as speeding or driving past a stop light, or were simply racially profiled and reflexively injured by Caucasian police officers. According to statistics by Mapping Police Violence, of the total number of African American victims of police brutality, only 31% were alleged carrying weapons, whereas 69% were unarmed (2014). Cases like these have ignited the founding of organizations such as Black Lives Matter, which rallies against the systematic targeting of African-Americans.

Aside from endangerment on the streets, African-Americans are also vulnerable within American courts. There are records of many police reports and 911 calls which report "suspicious activity" by African-Americans, often male, as well as reports of criminal behavior. If these suspects are caught, there is a very high chance that their case won't even make it to court, as the "violent African-American" stereotype often leads officers to assume that the suspect is guilty, automatically convicting them. If the case does get reviewed in a courthouse, in the case of having an African-American defendant and a Caucasian victim, it

will most likely end in a conviction. As law professor at Drexel University Adam Benforado states, and many members of the African-American community agree, deep-rooted prejudices and personal agendas of the members of the court play pivotal roles in the verdict given, even more so than the evidence presented.

Factors that affect verdicts

‘Unfair: The New Science of Criminal Injustice’, a book written by the aforementioned Adam Benforado, explores what factors can result in swaying the judges and jurors’ opinion one way or another, ultimately leading to declaring a defendant guilty or not. Similarly, Radley Balko, a columnist for the Washington Post, states that biases within the courtroom do not necessarily mean that an attorney, jury or judge is racist, but rather than the systemic racism upon which America was built on leads to “racially disparate outcomes”, whether or not this was a conscious decision on their part. This is a consequence of the same racial profiling responsible for police brutality, an estigma prevalent since the 1800’s.

During an interview regarding his book, Benforado cites a study by Cornell University, in which researchers state that defendants with more stereotypically African-American characteristics, such as wide noses, thick lips, and darker skin, are much more likely to be convicted and receive higher sentences than a Caucasian defendant. As quoted from the original research:

People more readily apply racial stereotypes to [African-Americans] who are thought to look more stereotypically Black, compared with Blacks who are thought to look less stereotypically [African-Americans]. [...] The more stereotypically [African-American] a person’s physical traits appear to be, the more criminal that person is perceived to be. (Eberhardt, Davies, Purdie-Vaughns & Johnson, 2006)

This is because “[judges and jurors] are just susceptible and have been exposed to the same negative stereotypes linking blackness and violence or crime” (Benforado, 2015).

This disparity is also reflected on the defense arguments that can be applied during trial, such as the ‘Graham v. Connor’ defense, which is very prominent within police brutality cases. According to Mapping Police Violence, 99% of police brutality cases where a Caucasian officer harms an African-American individual have gone unconvicted, and out of 351 cases, 13 officers are charged, and only five are convicted (2015). The ‘Graham v. Connor’ defense is largely used in these cases, as defense lawyers claim that the defendant only used force as a method of self defense, while facing what at the time they believe to be an imminent danger. This is backed by the Supreme Court, which ruled that a police officer is

allowed to use force when in perceived danger, in the aftermath of a police brutality case. However, cases where African-American officers harm a Caucasian victim, namely the recent trial of officer Mohamed Noor, shows that when this defense is used in opposite scenarios, it loses credibility, and can be outright denied by jurors.

Consequences of an unfair conviction

The aforementioned Cornell University made an extensive research paper regarding the conditions of African-Americans during trials, why they are vulnerable, and the consequences they face. This study, named “Looking Deathworthy: Perceived Stereotypicality of Black Defendants Predicts Capital-Sentencing Outcomes”, presents evidence that show that, especially in the case of a Caucasian victim accusing an African-American, there is a higher probability that the jury applies longer sentences if the defendant is found guilty. Cornell researchers found that, stereotypical African-American defendants serve an average of eight extra months in prison, compared to Caucasian defendants with similar charges.

However, the most important and concerning disparity, is the fact that racially biased convictions can lead to the application of capital punishment. Capital punishment has always been controversial, because, while many believed it is strictly applied to extremely dangerous felons, other argue that those who are most affected are people in poverty and people of color (Claiborne, 2017). This argument stems from the fact that proper legal representation, which is essential to avoid a conviction, is nearly impossible to obtain while struggling with poverty, and 20% of African-Americans currently live in poverty making it the second most impoverished sector of the American population, only after Native Americans (The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2018). This, coupled with the amount of discriminatory police officers, prosecutors and jurors, greatly increase an African-American’s risk of not only being guilty, but being eligible for death row if the accusations are severe enough, especially during trials in which a Caucasian victim’s life has been taken. Multiple studies, including Cornell University’s, have concluded that cases involving the decease of a Caucasian person are often racially biased. “These studies typically control for other variables in the cases studied, such as the number of victims or the brutality of the crime, and still found that defendants were more likely to be sentenced to death if they [took the life of] a white person” (Death Penalty Information Center, n.d.). Furthermore, the American Civil Liberties Union reports that “12

people have been executed where the defendant was white and the victim [African-American], compared with 178 black defendants executed for [charges against] white victims”, and confirms that, since 1976, 43% of executed inmates, and 55% of those awaiting execution, are African-American (n.d.).

Actions taken against discrimination in court

As an action to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) created the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in December 21st, 1965, and put it to action in January 4th, 1969. It has 25 articles divided in three parts. The first states that, as a main objective, it is made to promote, encourage and take care of universal respect and human rights for all, also giving all fundamental freedoms; in spite of race, sex, religion and language. The second declares that every single human being is equal before the law and entitled to the same protection of it against any action and incitement to discrimination. Further, the convention affirms the necessity of eliminating racial discrimination, fast in all its forms, throughout the globe, by giving the following statement: “there is no justification for racial discrimination, in theory or in practice, anywhere” (OHCHR, 1996-2019).

‘The Sentencing Project’ was created in the year 1986 by Marc Mauer; this project works for a more fair and effective criminal Justice in the United States, which is the world’s leader in incarceration, by applying reforms in the sentence policy, addressing unfair disparities and practices in a racial matter and pleading for other ways of making justice instead of incarceration. Their work also consists on uploading groundbreaking research activity about aggressive media campaigns and strategies for advocating policy reform.

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Glossary

A

Abolishment: Doing away with something by formal action.

Advocate: To support something publicly.

Alleged: Said, without proof, to have taken place or to have a specified illegal or undesirable quality.

Apartheid: A former policy of segregation and political and economic discrimination against non-European groups in the Republic of South Africa.

B

Bias: An attitude that always favors one way of feeling or acting especially without considering any other possibilities.

Blackface: Dark makeup worn in a caricature of the appearance of a black person.

C

Capital Punishment: The practice of killing people as punishment for serious crimes.

Caucasian: Of, constituting, or characteristic of a race of humankind native to Europe, North Africa, and southwest Asia and classified according to physical features —used especially in referring to persons of European descent having usually light skin pigmentation.

Causal: Involving causation or a cause, marked by cause and effect.

Conviction: The act or process of finding a person guilty of a crime in a court of law.

D

Defendant: Someone who is being sued or accused of committing a crime.

E

Emancipate: To free from restraint, control, or the power of another.

Ethnic: Relating to large groups of people classed according to common racial, national, tribal, religious, linguistic, or cultural origin or background.

F

Felon: A person who has committed a felony.

Felony: A grave crime declared to be a felony by the common law or by statute regardless of the punishment imposed.

G

Groundbreaking: Introducing new ideas or methods.

J

Jaywalking: The act of crossing a street in an illegal, careless, or unsafe manner.

Juror: A person summoned to serve on a jury.

M

Marginal: Excluded from or existing outside the mainstream of society, a group, or a school of thought.

Mock: To treat with contempt or ridicule.

N

Nullify: To make of no value or consequence.

O

Oppression: Unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power.

Othering: Any action by which an individual or group becomes mentally classified as not part of a specific group or community.

Outlaw: To make illegal.

P

Pivotal: Vitaly important.

Prejudice: An adverse opinion or leaning formed without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge.

Profiling: The act of suspecting or targeting a person on the basis of observed characteristics or behavior.

Prosecutor: A person, especially a public official, who institutes legal proceedings against someone.

S

Sabotage: To intentionally damage or destroy property.

Segregation: The separation or isolation of a race, class, or ethnic group by enforced or voluntary residence in a restricted area, by barriers to social intercourse, by separate educational facilities, or by other discriminatory means.

Smear: A usually unsubstantiated charge or accusation against a person or organization.

Stigma: A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person.

Subpar: Below a usual or normal level or standard.

Sway: To control or influence a person or course of action.

Systematic: Relating to or consisting of a system.

T

Target: To aim an attack or a criticism at somebody or something.

Trial: The formal examination before a competent tribunal of the matter in issue in a civil or criminal cause in order to determine such issue.

Topic B

Strategies to diminish the consequences of interrupted education on criminal behavior and extremist involvement in West Africa

By: Andrea Paola Lara López

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Introduction

Education is a fundamental right for youth across the world. It is a key factor that affects the way they perceive the world around them and teaches them to act in accordance with society. Oskar Anweller, a writer for Academic Room, states that “education is designed to guide them in learning a culture, molding their behavior in the ways of adulthood, and directing them toward their eventual role in society” (n.d.). However, the right to an education is not something accessible to everyone who needs it. Pearson reports that:

One in five adults lack the written communication skills they need to progress in life, and 57 million children do not know what it's like to step inside a classroom. Many millions more are in education, but not learning effectively.” (n.d.)

Due to the lack of educated children and teenagers worldwide, these become more vulnerable to developing criminal behaviors later on in life. Several studies have been conducted to examine the link between education and criminality, such as those by Anahuac University and the University of California Berkeley, and despite the different methods of research, they all agree that a significant number of convicted felons either interrupted their education or did not have access to it in the first place due to economic disadvantage, such as tuition fees that are sometimes impossible for parents to meet. According to the Huffington Post, “children of parents earning less than \$15,000 a year have pre-primary enrollment rates about 20 percent lower than children of parents earning more than \$50,000 a year” (2012). A situation of poverty, which is a constant similarity within youth with interrupted education, has shown to force children to forfeit schooling in favor of looking for a job in order to support their families, however, long hours and reduced salaries often lead these young people into criminality, as a way to obtain a larger amount of money in a shorter amount of time.

This is especially true in countries within the region of West Africa, such as Kenya and Somalia, since the rampant poverty that these people experience often pushes them to commit crime as a way to support themselves, as well as their families. According to ‘Tomorrow in North America: Youth between the American dream and reality’, poverty is “the chronic culprit for the symptoms of social decay: drugs, alcohol and sex-related problems that will affect the young as long as the family itself has difficulty facing the strains of inflation and unemployment” (UNESCO, 1980). Even though a considerable number of felonies committed by uneducated and impoverished youth are minor offenses, such as

shoplifting, the constant spread of extremist groups within this region of Africa poses a great concern, since the desperate situation in which these young people live in make them ideal candidates for recruitment.

Reasons behind the lack of education in west African youth

In Kenya, an important amount of children, adolescents, and teenagers leave school for a variety of reasons, the most common one being to work for their families. According to a study by Abel Nyamesa Morara and Bernard Chemwei, from the School of Theology, Education and Arts Kabarak University in Kenya, the main reason for male teenagers to leave school is to go look for work, which represented 18.6% of the total study population. Other popular reasons were traditional and cultural practices, peer influence, and indiscipline.

On the other hand, there were more circumstances that encouraged women's decision to leave school at a young age, mostly the fact that, according to Kenyan culture, women are to take care of household activities and other related endeavors. Pregnancy was the most common factor, representing 26.9% of the total, followed by the necessity to work in order to maintain their family, which represented 12.92% of the cases. Other common reasons were a lack of money for tuition and school supplies, social influence and marriage.

Taking these statistics into account, it is important to point out that the lack of stable income in Kenyan communities is causing an increment in the number of children and teenagers that interrupt their education. Given their need to support themselves and their families, young men and women can risk their integrity and lives in order to join the workforce at a young age, and can become vulnerable to an involvement with organized crime.

Consequences of a lack of education

Education is regarded as one of the most important aspects of a society's composition, and the lack-there-of is an issue that should be addressed with urgency, as it can lead to several negative consequences to both individuals and their communities. According to Reference, "situations like teen pregnancy, gang violence, theft, drug use, and other crimes happen more frequently in non-educated settings" (n.d.), due to the fact that an underdeveloped world view can make it easier to commit poor judgements. Also, this can greatly hinder a person's

chances to obtain a steady income, as a majority of stable, remunerated jobs require a higher education degree. Aside from this, these type of job opportunities are sought after by thousands of young people, so an under-qualified suitor is at a disadvantage. Youth are therefore forced to have to find other jobs that bring with them lower income, which is often not enough for some families in Kenya, since families are often large, and situations such as illness often need more money to maintain.

Taking the aforementioned circumstances into consideration, we can see how a lack of education can lead to hardship in the labor sphere, and raises the probability of a young person to engage in illicit activities. In a study done by Stephen Machin and Sunica Vuji, they report that “having low education levels, especially possessing no educational qualifications, is significantly associated with higher levels of offending” (2006). This statement was corroborated with information from the Offenders Index Database, and an imprisonment census. Inversely, social benefits in terms of crime reduction are often associated with a satisfactory academic performance (Lochner and Moretti, 2004).

Extremism in West Africa

One of the most alarming issues that West African has had to face is the growing number of extremist groups in the region. According to the West Africa Center for Counter-Extremism (WACCE): “West Africa has remained a notorious epicenter for radicalization and costly terrorism wrecking economic damage in billions of dollars annually” (n.d.).

Not only has extremism been a threat to African safety, but also, it has endangered economy as well. Violent radicalization has made foreign inversions in West African countries unstable, as the precarious situation has affected commerce for tantalum and precious stones, the most important mining activity in the region. This lack of business has brought great economic damage, and has impoverished mining communities.

It is important to mention that each country has its own divided statement about how effective and trustful their government could be for this kind of problem. As quoted by the GSDRC Organization, “public trust in security forces varies widely by country generally lower in the police than in the army” (n.d.).

The extremist threat has made the population experience constant feelings of anxiety, fear, uncertainty, and distrust, especially considering that certain international organizations

have not lent aid to people in a state of vulnerability given the difficulty of the situation. However, organizations such as the International Crisis Group have focused on supporting the State and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as providing media diffusion to the struggle, in order to let the world know about the situation, data, and in which ways the public can help, in an attempt to build a social resilience against extremism.

Recruitment techniques

One of the most dangerous characteristics of extremist groups is their ability to spread, and there is a clear profile that these groups tend to look for. The most common extremist targets are young people who are emotionally and psychologically vulnerable, as they are easily convinced by the promises of glory and fame that recruiters often use. Also, it is important to mention that, according to journalist Christopher Dickey, poverty is a major trigger for men, as societal norms have forced them to become breadwinners for themselves and their families. Dickey states that:

It relates to the core question of how one proves one's manhood, retains one's dignity, reacts in the face of humiliation—which is the common experience of many people from Muslim backgrounds in Europe, especially young men without jobs and without the ability to start and sustain families. (2017)

Aside from the core profile for recruitment, modern technologies have played a major role within the expansion of extremism, as it has facilitated contact with young people all over the world. As quoted by Tim Cartwright, chief commissioner of police in Victoria, Australia, “the internet provides people opportunities to radicalize from across the world” (2015). As aforementioned, vulnerability is a crucial characteristic that recruiters look for, and young people who use the internet and social media as venting spaces are in major danger.

Overall, online recruitment can be separated into two groups, hosted sites and non-hosted sites. Hosted sites are those built and operated by extremist organizations, as a means to communicate internationally within members and potential recruits. These sites are only accessed through what is commonly known as the “Deep Web”, but due to the public interest and new ways to access this area of the internet, it is easier than ever to visit these pages. On the other hand, non-hosted are those who were not originally created by extremist organizations, and whose main functions are not catered towards extremism, but are used as

tools by recruiters to find gullible young people and convert them into their cause, either by convincing them to join their ranks in the Middle East, or to participate in extremist demonstrations within their own country.

Preventive Tactics and Possible Solutions

Several organizations have been founded in order to oppose the transnational threat. Amongst these organizations is the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), established in 1994 and integrated by Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. The Task Force was created with the purpose of countering cross-borders safety concerns, as well as the insurgency of group Boko Haram, within the Lake Chad region. (Musa, 2013)

Aside from the aforementioned MNJTF, there have been several popular uprisings against extremist groups. According to the Democracy Speaks Organization, “soft-power tactics such as empowering citizens and communities must be recognized as an important tool in establishing stability and preventing violent extremism” (2017). However, the lack of government support, and the absence of mediatic influence have made these efforts largely unsuccessful.

Taking all of these factors into account, a joint effort between the population and the government seems to be the most effective solution to manage this problem. A government initiative to facilitate education to the public will lead to a decrease in criminality and incarceration, as the resources given within education, as well as an informed worldview, has been proven to distance young men and women from illicit activities, and will therefore make the youth less vulnerable to extremist recruiters, online or otherwise.

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Glossary

C

Census: A count for official purposes, mainly used to count the number of people living in a country and collect information about them.

Convicted: To find or prove to be guilty.

Culprit: One guilty of a crime or fault.

D

Decay: To decline from a sound or prosperous condition.

Diminish: To make less or cause to appear less.

Disadvantage: An unfavorable, inferior, or prejudicial condition.

E

Endeavor: Activity directed toward a goal.

Enrollment: To insert, register, or enter in a list, catalog, or roll.

Epicenter: The central point of something, typically a difficult or unpleasant situation.

F

Fee: A sum paid or charged for a service.

Felon: A person who has committed a felony.

Felony: A grave crime declared to be a felony by the common law or by statute regardless of the punishment imposed.

Forfeit: To lose or lose the right to especially by some error, offense, or crime.

G

Gullible: Easily duped or cheated.

H

Hinder: To make progress slow or difficult.

I

Illicit: Forbidden by law, rules, or custom.

Inflation: A continuing rise in prices caused by an increase in the money supply and demand for goods.

Insurgency: An occasion when a group of people attempt to take control of their country by force.

P

Peer: One belonging to the same societal group especially based on age, grade, or status.

Precarious: Characterized by a lack of security or stability that threatens with danger.

Pre-Primary: Taking place before primary school.

R

Rampant: Profusely widespread.

Remunerate: To pay an equivalent to for a service, loss, or expense.

Resilience: The ability to be happy or successful again after something difficult or bad has happened.

S

Salary: Fixed compensation paid regularly for services.

Shoplifting: to steal displayed goods from a store.

Steady: Showing little variation or fluctuation.

Strain: Something that causes anxiety, worry, or difficulty.

T

Tantalum: A gray-white ductile acid-resisting metallic element found combined in rare minerals and used especially in electronic components.

Transnational: Extending or going beyond national boundaries.

Trigger: An event that is the cause of a particular action, process, or situation.

Tuition: A sum of money charged for teaching by a college or university.