



Press Release

For Immediate Release

LEADING DEANS LAUNCH SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE CONFERENCE

Cambridge, MA—May 15, 2003--Elena Kagan, incoming dean of Harvard Law School, and Emily Spieler, Dean of Northeastern University School of Law, will launch a ground-breaking, national conference: The School-to-Prison Pipeline Conference.

An exclusive media preview will set the stage for compelling, new work that will be presented at the conference and offers the opportunity for journalists to engage with conference leaders, researchers, and people from the front-lines of the school-to-prison pipeline. In addition, four brand new papers—touching on the major themes of the conference—will be released for publication.

Presenters at the conference will explore how school policies and practices may be affecting the flow of minority youths into the criminal justice system. We will also seek to better understand how educational institutions can work in concert with community and public agencies to implement programs of intervention and prevention.

The media preview will be held Thursday, May 15 from 3:00- 5:30 pm and the conference will be held on Friday, May 16 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Both the media preview will take place at Harvard University, Graduate School of Education, Gutman Auditorium, 6 Appian Way, and the conference will take place at Harvard University, Graduate School of Education, Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Askwith Forum. During the media preview we will present an overview of work to be presented throughout the conference by leading experts in the field of education and the criminal justice system.

We are excited to offer you this opportunity to become some of the first journalists to venture into this topic area. Little has been written about this important subject, and we believe more attention needs to be focused on the relationship between educational policies and practices and the disproportionate numbers of minority youths being funneled into the criminal justice system. In an effort to move this discussion beyond the anecdotal, and to begin to quantify some of the effects of these policies, our conference will explore the problems in depth and search for constructive solutions.

Please note that all event proceedings and publications are embargoed until Saturday, May 17th at 11pm for publication in Sunday morning and forward print and broadcast venues. The four new research papers have been chosen for publication under this embargo. Only these new reports may be discussed and cited in news stories. All other research you will learn about is in an early stage of development and will be published at a future date. We ask that you honor these protocols as we do plan to have numerous, future published reports that will evolve from this event and future events.

Jennifer Badot
Information Officer
The Civil Rights Project
617.384.9398
jbadot@law.harvard.edu