

Eleanor K.

**CER: Based on this essay 'Mass Incarceration' how does the legacy of slavery still show uptoday?**

The legacy of slavery still shows up today in law enforcement and incarceration. In the essay, it says "Late in the 20th century, amid protests over civil rights and inequality, a new politics of fear and anger would emerge. Nixon's war on drugs, mandatory minimum sentences, three-strikes laws, children tried as adults, "broken windows" policing — these policies were not as expressly racialized as the Black Codes, but their implementation has been essentially the same." This shows that even after slavery was abolished, white lawmakers have just made new laws to discriminate against people of color. They basically just took the same laws, revised them a little, and gave them a new name. They weren't making circumstances any better, they were just pretending to. Another quote from the essay says "We are too practised in ignoring the victimization of any black people tagged as criminal; like Woods Eastland's crowd, too many Americans are willing spectators to horrifying acts, as long as we're assured they're in the interest of maintaining order." This shows that over time we have just "gotten used to" the disparities and discrimination towards people of color. As long as the acts of violence are "to maintain order" few people give the situation a second glance. From loopholes in the 13th amendment to convict leasing, there are so many more ways to show how the legacy of slavery still shows up today.

Kaiya M.

**CER: Based on this essay ‘Mass Incarceration’ how does the legacy of slavery still show up today?**

Claim	The legacy of slavery still shows up today in many things. For example, it still shows up today in Mass Incarceration.
Evidence	In the article we learn about Black Codes, and while they are not something commonly referred to, they definitely stemmed from slavery and greatly influenced our justice system. In the text it says, “Laws governing slavery were replaced with Black Codes governing free black people — making the criminal-justice system central to new strategies of racial control. These strategies intensified whenever black people asserted their independence or achieved any measure of success.” This shows that basically if any black person did anything that made them successful, white lawmakers would put them in jail just because of their race. One major example from the text is, “Almost all had been sent to Angola, a penitentiary considered one of America’s most violent and abusive. Angola is immense, larger than Manhattan, covering land once occupied by slave plantations. Our clients there worked in fields under the supervision of horse-riding, shotgun-toting guards who forced them to pick crops, including cotton. Their disciplinary records show that if they refused to pick cotton — or failed to pick it fast enough — they could be punished with time in “the hole,” where food was restricted and inmates were sometimes tear-gassed.” This shows that at Angola they were literally dehumanizing the black inmates and forcing them to participate in free labor. One more way of how the legacy of slavery still shows up today is through laws. As Stevenson states, “Because of mandatory sentencing and “three strikes” laws, I’ve found myself representing clients sentenced to life without parole for stealing a bicycle or for simple possession of marijuana. And central to understanding this practice of mass incarceration and excessive punishment is the legacy of slavery.” Based on this information we can gather that the legacy of slavery still impacts our world today.

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William R.

**CER: Based on this essay ‘Mass Incarceration’ how does the legacy of slavery still show up today?**

Claim	According to the essay ‘Mass Incarceration’ the legacy of slavery still shows up today through the systemic racism through jails.
Evidence	Some evidence from the text is “In schools, black kids are suspended and expelled at rates that vastly exceed the punishment of white children for the same behavior. Inside courtrooms, the problem gets worse. Racial disparities in sentencing are found in almost every crime category. Children as young as 13, almost all black, are sentenced to life imprisonment for nonhomicide offenses. Black defendants are 22 times more likely to receive the death penalty for crimes whose victims are white, rather than black — a type of bias the Supreme Court has declared “inevitable.” Some more evidence is “Our clients there worked in fields under the supervision of horse-riding, shotgun-toting guards who forced them to pick crops, including cotton. Their disciplinary records show that if they refused to pick cotton — or failed to pick it fast enough — they could be punished with time in “the hole,” where food was restricted and inmates were sometimes tear-gassed.”
Reasoning	This shows that racism still shows up today through how African Americans are treated in jail and also how they are unfairly put there. They are treated to the same degradation when they were slaves picking crops for white people. This is really racist because this should have been abolished when slavery ended but that ended up not happening. Also this shows that black kids are treated differently just because of their skin. Like how they are forced to a life sentence at only age 13 and how they are kicked out of school for doing the same thing as white students. This shows that the legacy of slavery still shows up today.

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Nzubechukwu M A.

**CER: Based on this essay ‘Mass Incarceration’ how does the legacy of slavery still show up today?**

Claim	Based on my reading of Mass Incarceration, the legacy of slavery shows up to Mass Incarceration today
Evidence	Late in the 20th century, amid protests over civil rights and inequality, a new politics of fear and anger would emerge. Nixon’s war on drugs, mandatory minimum sentences, three-strikes laws, children tried as adults, “broken windows” policing — these policies were not as expressly racialized as the Black Codes, but their implementation has been essentially the same. In schools, black kids are suspended and expelled at rates that vastly exceed the punishment of white children for the same behavior. Inside courtrooms, the problem gets worse. Racial <b>disparities</b> in sentencing are found in almost every crime category. Children as young as 13, almost all black, are sentenced to life imprisonment for nonhomicide offenses. Black defendants are 22 times more likely to receive the death penalty for crimes whose victims are white, rather than black — a type of bias the Supreme Court has declared “ <b>inevitable.</b> ” The <b>smog</b> created by our history of racial injustice is suffocating and <b>toxic.</b>
Reasoning	Therefore even though black people are not slaves anymore they are still being treated badly by white americans and they don’t get as much freedom as white do.

Based on my reading of Mass Incarceration, the legacy of slavery shows up to Mass Incarceration today. The reason I made this claim is because “Late in the 20th century, amid protests over civil rights and inequality, a new politics of fear and anger would emerge. Nixon’s war on drugs, mandatory minimum sentences, three-strikes laws, children tried as adults, “broken windows” policing — these policies were not as expressly racialized as the Black Codes, but their implementation has been essentially the same.” “In schools, black kids are suspended and expelled at rates that vastly exceed the punishment of white children for the same behavior. Inside courtrooms, the problem gets worse. Racial disparities in sentencing are found in almost every crime category. Children as young as 13, almost all black, are sentenced to life imprisonment for nonhomicide offenses. Black defendants are 22 times more likely to receive the death penalty for crimes whose victims are white, rather than black — a type of bias the

Supreme Court has declared “inevitable.” The smog created by our history of racial injustice is suffocating and toxic.” Therefore even though black people are not slaves anymore they are still being treated badly by white americans and they don’t get as much freedom as white people do.