
Reading “Mass Incarceration” by Bryan Stevenson

In Bryan Stevenson’s essay for *The 1619 Project*, he writes, “[C]entral to understanding this practice of mass incarceration and excessive punishment is the legacy of slavery.”

Use this table to track evidence he provides for this claim by noting information provided about the links between mass incarceration and/or excessive punishment and slavery.

1. What facts and images does Stevenson use to show the similarities between slave plantations and Angola (the Louisiana State Penitentiary)?	
2. What rights were granted to U.S. citizens by the 13th amendment? What exception is written into the amendment that can revoke those rights?	
3. What were the Black Codes? What examples of Black Codes does Stevenson mention in his essay?	
4. What was convict leasing?	
5. What contemporary policies does Stevenson suggest have been implemented in the same way in which the Black Codes were implemented in the past?	