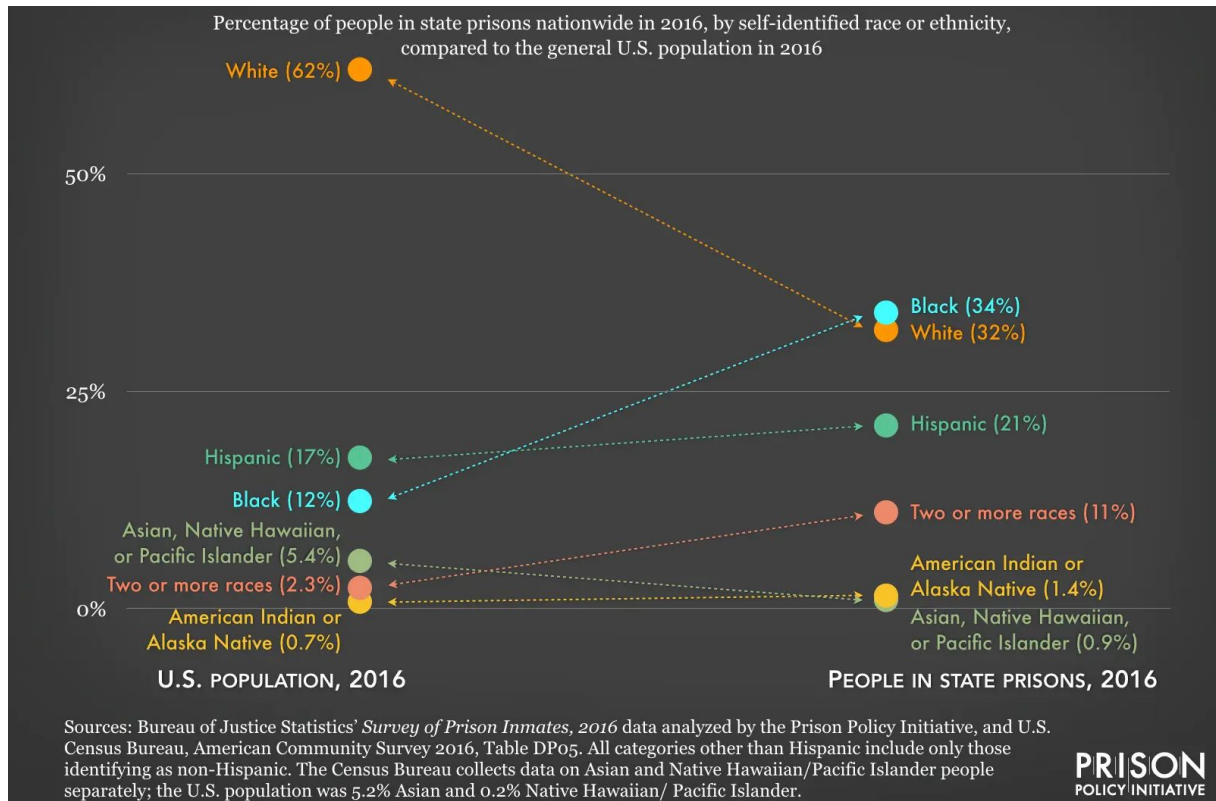


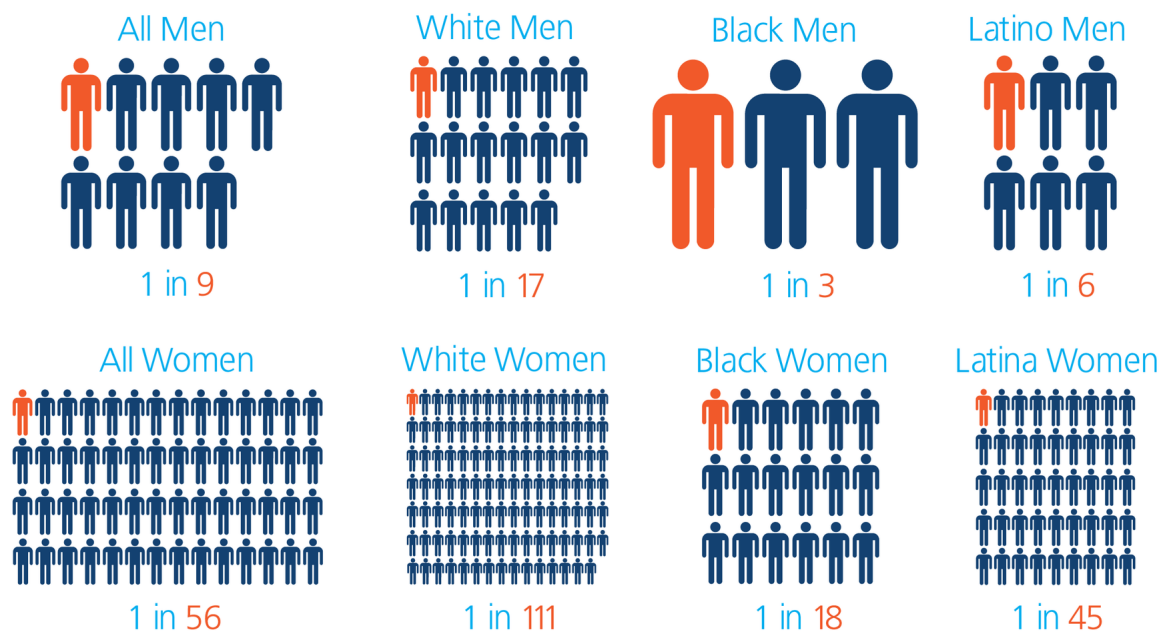
1 Stripping them of their rights - Mass incarceration in the US

Present the statistics to each other and comment on them.



Partner A

Lifetime Likelihood of Imprisonment



Partner B

2 Slavery - Still an issue in 2023?

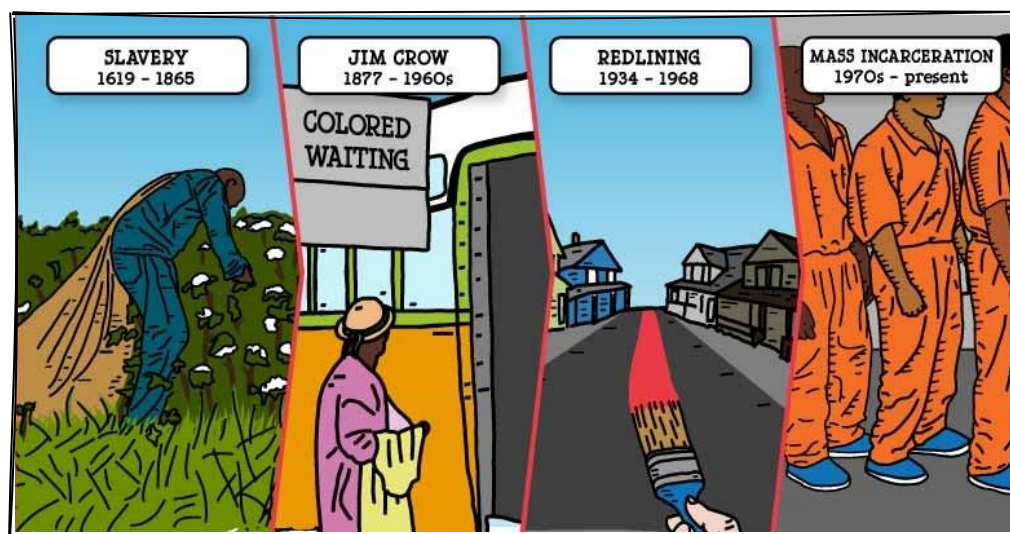
 Read section 1 of the 13th amendment to the Constitution (see box below).

- a) Rephrase the amendment in your own words.
- b) Discuss potential consequences of the "loophole" in the amendment.



Amendment XIII - Section 1 (1865)

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.



Conditions and consequences of imprisonment in the US

- Read the different statements and statistics.
- Highlight the three which are most surprising to you.
- Compare with your partner and comment.

Some States have no minimum age for prosecuting children as adults children under the age of twelve have been sent to adult jails and prisons to serve long prison terms

Annual value of work provided by prison laborers: \$ 2 billion

Writing a bad check, committing a petty theft or being involved with drugs can result in life imprisonment

Average wage for prison laborers: \$0.86 - \$3.45 per day

In some States, you permanently lose the right to vote if you have been to prison

Prison laborers are not allowed to form a union

In Texas, prisoners who refuse to work are often placed in solitary confinement

Spending on jails and prisons has risen from \$ 6.9 billion in 1980 to nearly \$ 80 billion today. In some States, the budget allotted to incarceration is three times higher than that for education.

Upon release, former prisoners face difficulties finding employment, housing and benefit from social welfare. They often end up homeless.



Vocabulary

(to) prosecute sb - (to) accuse sb in court

jail - for sb awaiting their trial or being held for minor crimes

prison - for sb having been found guilty of a major crime

solitary confinement - sb who is held in their cell all by themselves

a union - a community of people (e.g. workers) who engage themselves towards a certain objective

petty theft - a minor crime (e.g. stealing a handbag, a mobile phone)

social welfare - receiving money from the government when you are unemployed or poor

3 Institutionalized Racism



Institutionalized Racism

"[T]he perpetuation of discrimination on the basis of "race" by political, economic, or legal institutions and systems. According to critical race theory, [...] institutional racism reinforces inequalities between groups—e.g., in wealth and income, education, health care, and civil rights—on the basis of the groups' perceived racial differences."



In which way can the American incarceration system be considered an example for institutionalized racism ? Assess.



Sources

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