

The Definition of

# Mandated Reporting

The laws that require certain adults to report suspected abuse maltreatment and neglect at risk of legal, financial and/or professional penalties.



Jordan, 2020

## States with Universal Mandated Reporting Laws



Gray= States with Universal Mandated Reporting Laws

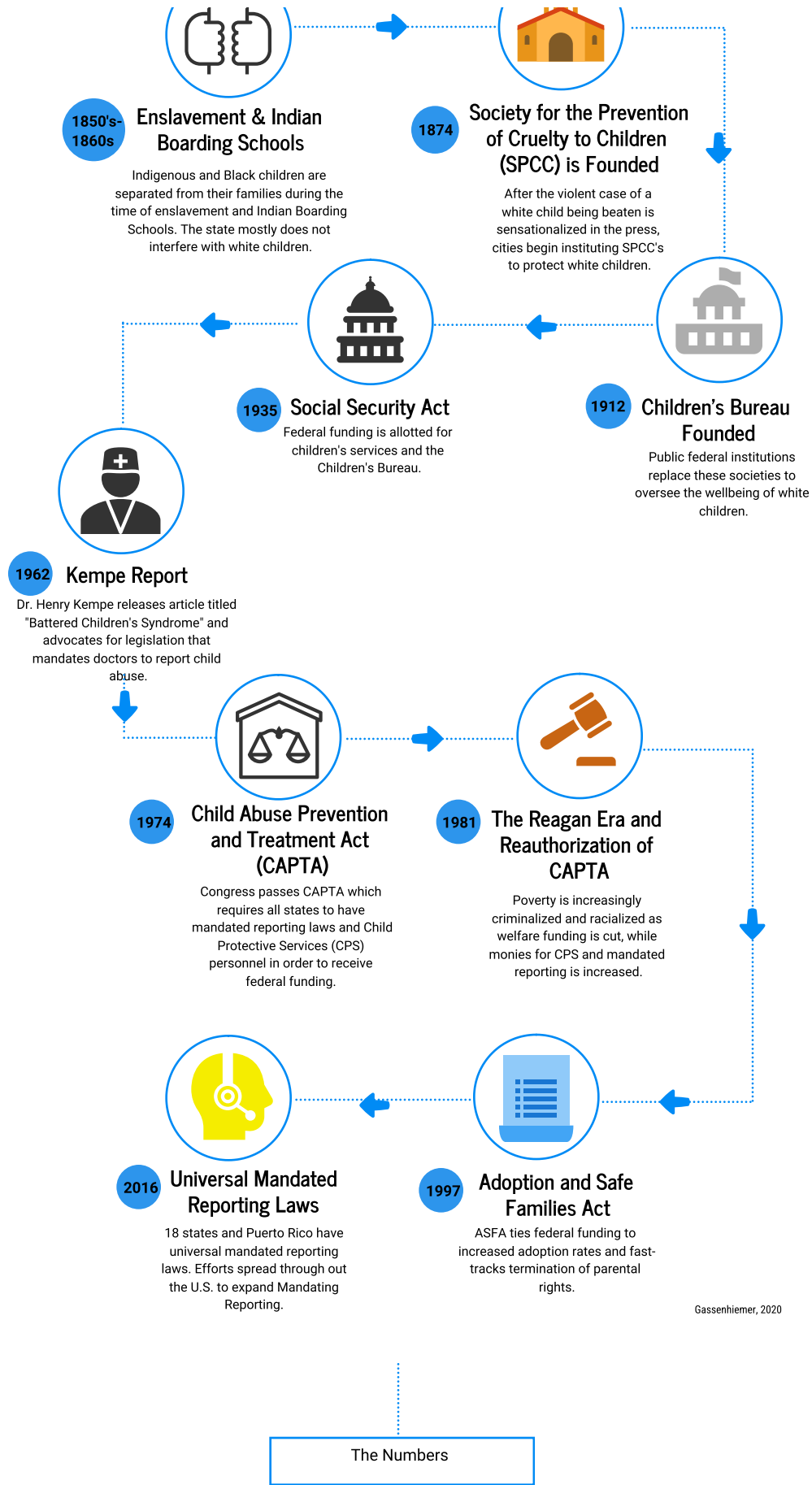
MapWinGIS 4.8  
Krase, 2015

Universal Mandated Reporting Laws= Laws that require all adults over the age of 18 to report incidents of child abuse at risk of legal, financial and/or civil penalties

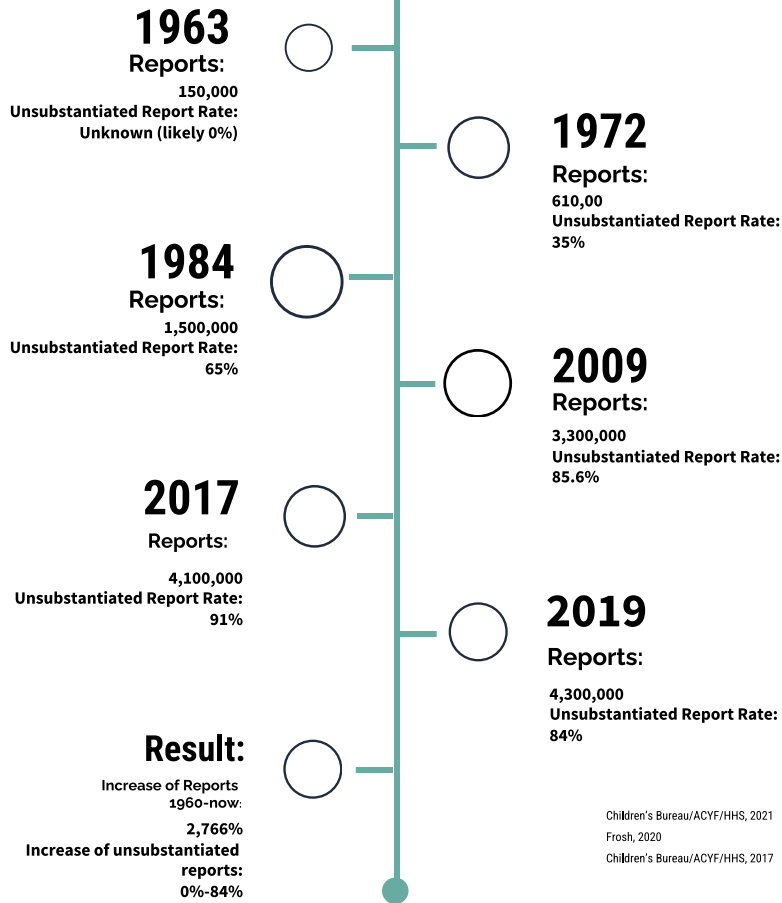
The U.S. History of

# Mandated Reporting

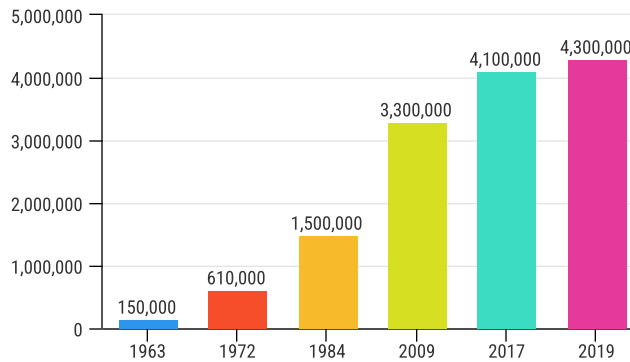




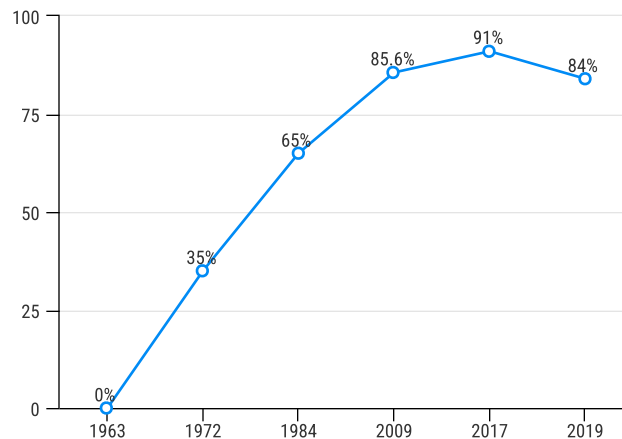
# Mandated Reporting



Number of Mandated Reports in the U.S.



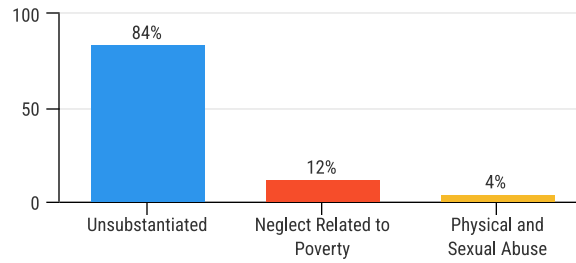
Percent of Unsubstantiated Reports



(/infographics)

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### 2019 Mandated Report Calls



### The Negative Effects of

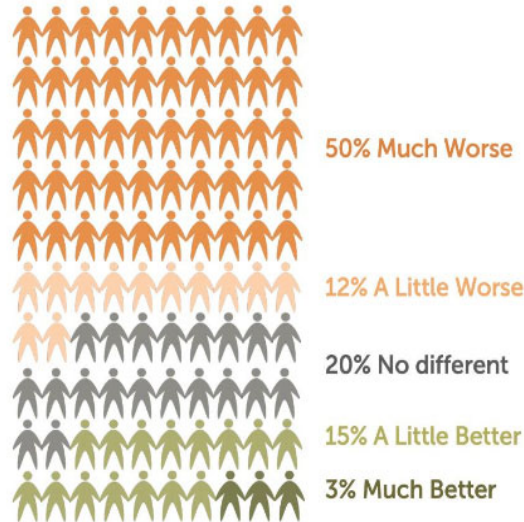
# Mandated Reporting

## On Clients

The majority of participants said the report made the situation worse or had no impact.

Half (50%) of participants who have been reported said it made the situation much worse.<sup>5</sup>

(Lippy, et. al., 2016)



(Lippy, et. al., 2016)

## Too Afraid to Reach Out for Help

Over **1 in 3 (34%)** participants said they have **not asked someone for help** for fear the person would be legally required to report what they shared.

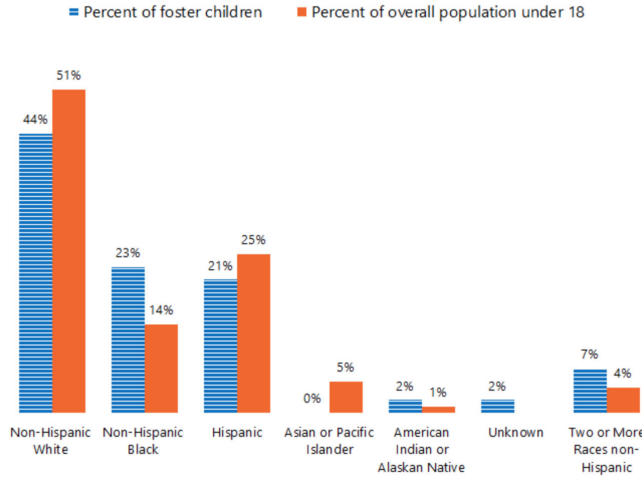


(Lippy, et. al., 2016)

The Racism in

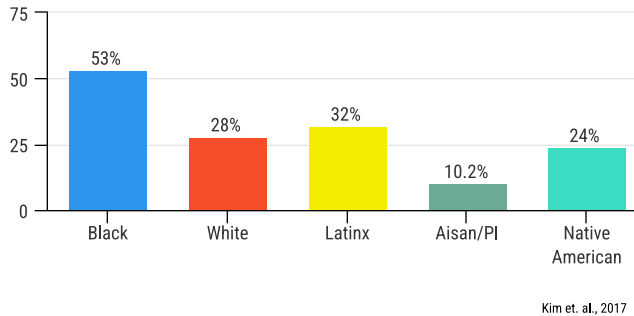
# Mandated Reporting

## Percentage Distribution of All Children in Foster Care, by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2017\*

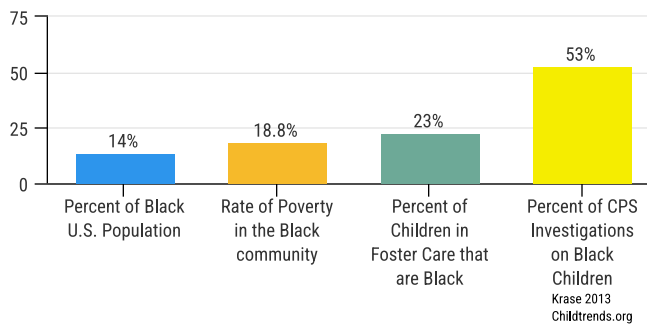


\*Foster data are preliminary estimates as of August 10, 2018. Revised estimates may be forthcoming.  
 Note: Estimates for Asian and American Indian and Alaskan Native exclude those of Hispanic origin. Those of Hispanic origin may be of any race.  
 Sources: "The AFCARS Report: Preliminary FY 2017 Estimates as of August 10, 2018" U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau. <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/afcars-report-25> Population data from Census Bureau. (2018). Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States and States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017, 2017 Population Estimates.  
[childtrends.org](http://childtrends.org)

## Percentage of Lifetime Prevalence of CPS Investigations 2003-2014



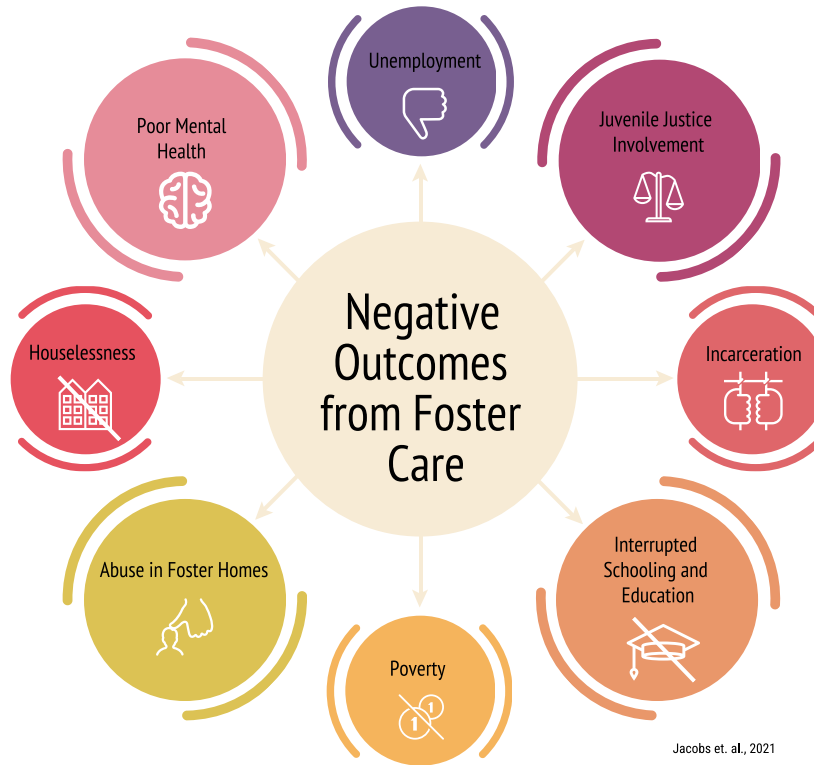
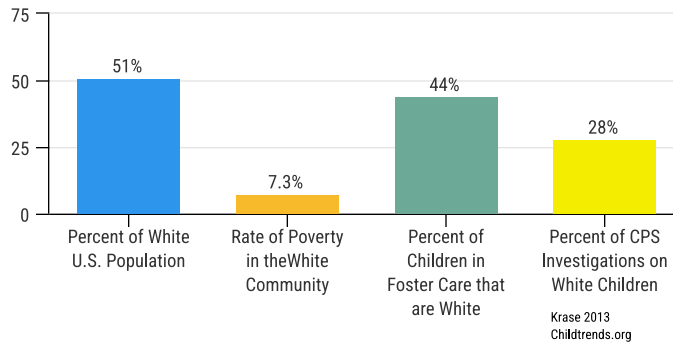
## Comparison of Black Involvement in the Family Regulation System (Child Welfare Systems) in the U.S.



## Comparison of White Involvement in the Family Regulation System (Child Welfare System) in the U.S.

(/infographics)

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# Recommendations

1. Advocate and join campaigns to abolish the mandate to report, so that reporting is no longer required by law.
2. Advocate for anti-poverty measures such as shifting monies to welfare services and away from Child Protective Services.
3. Explore and start Transformative Justice Projects, such as the De-colonize Academy in the San Francisco Bay Area (<https://sfbayview.com/2020/07/abolish-the-other-police-mandated-reporters/>).
4. Join campaigns to abolish ASFA with the Movement for Family Power.

# If you feel you have to make a call...

1. If possible, make referrals to resources instead of calling.
2. Involve the family in the process of making a call.
3. Inform the family that anything they say to CPS will be used against them, if there is an investigation.
4. Have the operator repeat back what you say.
5. Talk about the family's strengths and supports, and give context.
6. Work with and support the family throughout the investigation.

Gormley et. al., 2020  
Mandated Reporting Impact, 2021

**For more information on your local mandated reporting laws go to:**  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57126eff60b5e92c3a226a53/t/5f84b886d7a3130e832fa7e7/1602533514502/Mandatory+Reporter+Laws+by+State.pdf>

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