

Learner Series: History and School Discipline

Series 1 | Video 1 | Reflection

The History of Discipline in Schools

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Purpose

This video provides important historical context about punitive disciplinary practices in school and how it connects to institutional racism.

Background

School suspensions and expulsions disproportionately impact children of color and this harmful trend begins with our youngest learners in preschool (Iruka et. al., 2020). While the “problem” behavior is often blamed on the child, racism is at the root of the issue. This video discusses the introduction of school discipline as a direct result of school integration.

Reflections

How might institutional racism and/or school discipline have impacted your own school experiences? Which racial groups were present in your school? Which racial groups were missing? How were the experiences of different racial groups in your school similar and how were they different? (if applicable)

What new insights have you gained from this video about school discipline and institutional racism?

How do you see institutional racism showing up in other areas of school?

Extended Connections

