

Further Reading

Fair Workplace

Domhoff, William. 2013. "The Rise and Fall of Labor Unions In The U.S. From the 1830s until 2012 (but Mostly the 1930s-1980s)." University of California Santa Cruz: 1–101.
http://www2.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/history_of_labor_unions.html.

This is a very extensive article on the history of labor unions in the United States from the 1830s to 2012. "The heart of this document focuses on the unlikely set of events leading to the passage of the National Labor Relations Act of 1935 (NLRA). The NLRA was a major turning point in American labor history because it was supposed to put the power of government behind the right of workers to organize unions and bargain collectively with their employers about wages, hours, and working conditions."

Hanratty, M., & Trzcinski, E. 2009. "Who benefits from paid family leave? Impact of expansions in Canadian paid family leave on maternal employment and transfer income. *Journal of Population Economics*."22(3), 693-711. doi:10.1007/s00148-008-0211-x

This is an extensive research article documenting how and if paid family leave affects the company's overall performance. "this study found little evidence that the expansions in paid leave decreased women's work effort once paid leave expired... These results are relevant from a policy perspective because they suggest that expansions in paid leave may have differential impacts on maternal and child well-being. Thus, countries considering an expansion in paid leave may want to find other ways to ensure that they maintain consistent support for low-income women (707)."

Ybarra, M. 2013. "Implications of Paid Family Leave for Welfare Participants. *Social Work Research*."37(4), 375-387.

This is an extensive research article where which "[t]he primary purpose of this article was to consider whether TANF's new mothers used welfare as a PFL program and whether they would receive more benefits from PFL than from TANF... The findings indicate that many new-mother welfare participants use TANF in a similar way to how other mothers use paid leave (385)."

Jobs for Coal Families

Pizzo, Laura. 2015. "Laid-Off Coal Miners Inspire Virginia Tech and Local Workforce Board Study on Transferable Skills." EMSI Case Study.
<http://www.economicmodeling.com/2015/04/17/laid-off-coal-miners-inspire-virginia-tech-and-local-workforce-board-study-on-transferable-skills/>.

This is a case study of the coal industry in the state of Virginia and how Virginia Tech is helping former coal miners utilize their transferable skills to other job markets. The analysis software VT uses takes a look at what skills and qualifications an applicant has and attempts to place them in a profession that well suits their skills and abilities.

Make WV the Best Place to Start a Small Business

Hawaii Small Business Regulatory Review Board. 2015. Review of Administrative Rules, Legislation, and Rules Requested by Small Business. Hawaii.
<http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/sbrrb/files/2013/03/2015-SBRRB-Annual-ReportFinal.pdf>

This report is an overview of the Small Business Regulatory Board in Hawaii. This document spells out, under the Hawaii Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act, Chapter 201M, who has authority and who is part of the organization; what the organization oversees; and how and to what extent their powers extend. “The board shall submit an annual report to the legislature twenty days prior to each regular session detailing any requests from small business owners for review of any rule adopted by a state agency, and any recommendations made by the board to any agency or the legislature regarding the need for a rule change or legislation. The report shall also contain a summary of the comments made by the board to agencies or the legislature regarding its review of any proposed new or amended rules.”

Wisconsin Regulatory Review Report. 2013. Wisconsin Regulatory Review Report: A Report to Governor Scott Walker. Wisconsin, USA.
<http://walker.wi.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2013-Wisconsin-Regulatory-Review-Report.pdf>

This is another state report put together by Wisconsin’s Small Business Regulatory Review Board. Wisconsin’s Governor signed this review board into law through an executive order in 2012. The Board’s purpose is to review cases and suggestions given to them from various small businesses across the state. To “identify rules hindering economic growth... [and] decrease unnecessary regulatory burdens that hinder job creation and growth.” In this 2013 report, the state addressed complaints regarding

WVHKFC Early Childhood Education for All Aug 26, 2016 Sasha Reynolds

Collective Impact. 2013. Estimating Early Childhood Program Participation Rates. West Virginia Early Childhood Planning Task Force. <http://www.wvecptf.org/docs/CI-ParticipationRates.pdf> (August 23, 2016).

This policy briefing examines the WVECPTF estimation and rationale for participation rates of pre-natal to 5-year-old parent volunteers for the program. In short, as of 2012 of the 54,668 eligible participants for subsidized childcare about 7k used the service and they estimate a 12.4% participation rate in the future. As for Head Start programs, of the 12,138 eligible 8,331 used the service, and there is an estimated 68% participation rate. Overall 73% of Pre-K Special Education children, three years of age and younger, are estimated to need and use a specified education plan. Each age group is represented in the rationale for each policy proposal. Their methodology is based on recent WV student enrollment data from 2012-2013.

Collective Impact. 2013. State and Federal Expenditures: Early Childhood Programs. West Virginia Early Childhood Planning Task Force . <http://www.wvecptf.org/docs/ci-state-and-federal-expenditures-report.pdf> (August 23, 2016).

This briefing compiles an overview of the “total federal and state spending for early childhood services” for the fiscal year 2012. This article also displays and elaborates on the total cost of five early childhood education programs such as: birth to three years; Pre-K; Child Care; Right from the Start; and Home visiting. The total expenditures for Head Start, including both federal and state funds add up to \$58,356,030. Childcare costs for all ages, including federal block grants and state development funds, add up to \$54.2 million dollars. The cost of every other program and where the money is coming from can also be found in this report.

Miranda, Leticia, Vince Dixon, and Cecilia Reyes. 2015. “How State Handle Drug Use During Pregnancy.” Pro Publica. <https://projects.propublica.org/graphics/maternity-drug-policies-by-state> (August 25, 2016).

This article examines how states handle drug use during pregnancy. There are only three states, Tennessee, Alabama, and South Carolina that consider drug use during pregnancy as a crime. Though it is only these few states that consider drug use during pregnancy a high crime, it is still a prosecutable offense in 45 states. In 18 states a pregnant user can be charged with child abuse. This article has extensive data from every state on: whether the state considers substance abuse during pregnancy as a crime; if women have been convicted in that state for this offense; those that consider the offense child abuse; grounds for civil commitment; if healthcare providers have to report the abuse; and if drug testing of the patient is required under suspicion. The only law that applies to West Virginia is regarding prosecution for drug use during the pregnancy.

U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. 2010. “Compare School: The Opportunity Gap: Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education?” Compare School the Opportunity Gap: Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education? <http://projects.propublica.org/schools/schools/540060000442#540051000284,540081000636,540060000397> (August 25, 2016).

Coutts, Sharona, and Jennifer LaFleur. 2011. “Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains.” Pro Publica. <https://www.propublica.org/article/opportunity-gap-schools-data> (August 25, 2016).

LaFleur, Jennifer. 2011. “Methodology on Our Educational Opportunity Project: About the Data and Our Analysis.” Methodology on Our Educational Opportunity Project: About the Data and Our Analysis. <https://www.propublica.org/article/opportunity-gap-methodology> (August 25, 2016).

This interesting interactive data sheet compares school performance on a county level. Their rationale for this data was to see “whether states provide high-poverty schools equal access to advanced courses and special programs that... will help them later in life”. ProPublica got their data using the Civil Rights Data Set by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights.

You can compare any school in any county in any state in the United States. To compare data in our region, I entered Kanawha County Schools into the database. Then it directed me to the spreadsheets comparing close proximity school and low and high poverty schools. Looking at George Washington High School in Kanawha Co. versus Big Creek High School in McDowell Co. you can visually see the disparity in access to quality education. For example, only 12% of Big Creek High students take advanced math; and 77% of the students get free/reduced price lunch. Now, looking at George Washington High School in Kanawha Co., 23% of their students take advanced math; while only 19% get free/reduced price lunches. The full analysis article and methodology article are easily accessible in the abstract of the data set. (links in sub-citation: Coutts & LaFleur)

U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. 2010. "Educational Access in West Virginia." The Opportunity Gap: Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education? <http://projects.propublica.org/schools/states/wv> (August 25, 2016)

This interactive spreadsheet also published by the ProPublica organization displays a comparison of educational access in the entire state of West Virginia. The methodology and sources were the same for this data sheet as the previous article. However, this datasheet differs in that it compares West Virginia's education standards to the national average. This spreadsheet shows a grim reality of student performance because it is looking at a larger sample size. Of the eight variables studied, West Virginia is below the national average in six of the eight.

Department of Health and Human Services. "Cabell County, W.Va., Funds by Department of Health and Human Services." Pro Publica. <https://projects.propublica.org/recovery/locale/west-virginia/cabell/dept/7500> (August 25, 2016).

This data table lists the funds granted to Cabell County W.V. by the DHHR for health and wellness related programs, research, and scholarships. The stimulus packaged was a sum of 7.7 billion dollars in 2009-2010. The Southwestern Community Action Council Inc. was awarded \$786,887 as start-up funding for their "Early Head Start Expansion Program which provides service in the [WV] Counties of Cabell and Mason.

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Make Higher Education Debt Free

Chingos, Matthew M. 2016. "Who Would Benefit Most From Free College?" Economic Studies at Brookings 1(15): 1-4. <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/download-the-paper-5.pdf> (September 1, 2016)

Eliminating college tuition and fees is an important issue that the two Democratic nominees of 2016 have debated at length. Though Clinton and Sanders both believe higher education should

be debt-free, their proposals differ in where and how the moneys for these proposals are to be distributed. This article looks at the socio-economic factor associated with “free college”. The fact of the matter is more wealthy students decide to enroll in college; and there are other fees associated with the full cost of college aside from tuition. Chingos’ data shows that for financially stable and financially dependent students alike, even if tuition fees were eliminated across the board more than ¾ of the total non-tuition costs still remain.

Reshef, Shai. 2014. “ A Tuition-Free College Degree.” *Educause Review* 9(6).
<http://er.educause.edu/articles/2014/11/a-tuitionfree-college-degree> (September 1, 2016).

This is a transcript a speech by Shai Reshef, the founder of University of the People, given at the TED2014 Conference. Reshef’s discussion is about how he created an organization whose mission is “to create...an alternative that will be affordable and scalable and one that will disrupt the current educational system and open the gates to higher education for all qualified students regardless of what they earn, where they live, or what society says about them.” Through real-life anecdotes Reshef explains that while getting higher education is a goal for most Americans, millions who are qualified and capable of attending college cannot. This is due to multiple reasons but the most prominent reason is financial inability. His organizational model addresses the cost issue in higher education. He utilizes the internet to reduce costs in infrastructure. The full cost to the student to attain a degree with \$4,000.

Cubberley, Fran. 2015. "THE REALITY OF FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION." *Journal Of College Admission* no. 227: 21-23. *Academic Search Premier, EBSCOhost* (September 1, 2016).

Federal research has shown that most adults work to support themselves while trying to go to college simultaneously. But more often than not the obligation of working overcomes the ability to also pay for school; so many students “withdraw altogether.” Those that do go to college who cannot really afford it depend on student loans and financial aid which leaves them with crippling debt. This proposal does not seek to completely eliminate all the fees associated with higher education, but could have a significant impact on a portion of the population that cannot afford vocational, associates, and four-year degree programs. Reforming the requirements for community college on a local and federal level could increase the opportunity for more people to enroll for further education after their technical or associate degree is acquired. This way the student is qualified to apply for work within their career field and have the opportunity to consider further schooling.

K-12 Education for Real Life

Israel, M., Wherfel, Q. M., Pearson, J., Shehab, S., & Tapia, T. (2015). Empowering K–12 Students With Disabilities to Learn Computational Thinking and Computer Programming. *Teaching Exceptional Children*, 48(1), 45-53.
doi:10.1177/0040059915594790

This article takes a look at how students with disabilities can be easily included in k-12 computer science training. Their research asserts that STEM, science, technology, engineering and mathematics workers are in high demand. Therefore, teaching computer science and STEM objectives to all students early in their k-12 years is most certainly beneficial to students and the community. This article offers a strategy for how to teach computing skills in a k-12 setting. By using tutorial software, graphically intuitive software, and later, more advanced professional software, any and all types of students will be able to participate, learn, and succeed in a variety of technologically oriented tasks/jobs inside and outside of the classroom.

Hough, H.J. (2012). Salary incentives and teacher quality: The effect of a district-level salary increase on teacher recruitment.

This is a study on increasing salary incentives for urban school districts and the impact on the application pool as a result of salary increases. The quality of teachers has a direct impact on student achievement. Their hypothesis asserts that because higher paying school districts get more, better qualified applicants, increasing pay in lacking districts will inevitably increase the “quality of new hires.” Increasing teacher pay can help attract teachers to the predominantly urban-area schools where they are most needed. Hough’s study found that by implementing QTEA, Quality Teachers and Education Act of 2008, has a positive impact on attracting better qualified candidates. The candidate pool for QTEA districts was ten percent larger than those without a guaranteed gradual percentage salary increase. Thus, when salary is increased the attractiveness of the job is increased; this can have a direct positive effect on urban school districts.

Borawski, E. A., Tufts, K. A., Trapl, E. S., Hayman, L. L., Yoder, L. D., & Lovegreen, L. D. 2015. Effectiveness of Health Education Teachers and School Nurses Teaching Sexually Transmitted Infections/Human Immunodeficiency Virus Prevention Knowledge and Skills in High School. *The Journal of School Health*, 85(3), 189–196.
<http://doi.org/10.1111/josh.12234>

The purpose of this study is to evaluate and examine the effectiveness of STI/HIV preventative curricula and whether the information is better received and retained by the pupil when delivered through a classroom-teacher setting versus a nurse-student setting. This very extensive study measured cognitive mediators of participants, established knowledge of how to use condoms and HIV/STI knowledge, sexual intentions, impulse control/ efficacy, perceived peer beliefs, and descriptive characteristics of the demographics of participants among other things. The results show that students prefer to have classroom teacher rather than a nurse as their sexual education facilitator. In most measures, most notably, material retention, the nurse-student arrangement yielded longer lasting results. In the end, regardless of who taught the material, all student learned new information about sexual precautions they would not have otherwise learned without a school-based program.

Stop the Opioid Crisis

U.S. Congress. Senate. 2016. Budgeting for Opioid Addiction Treatment Act. 114th Cong. 2nd Session. S. 2977

This is a bill proposed by Senator Joe Manchin “to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an excise tax on the production and importation of opioid pain relievers.” The bill proposes a 1 cent per milligram tax on the manufacturer, producer, or importer. The bill also suggests which patients will be eligible for discounted opioid prescription prices. This bill also lays out a plan for drug treatment options and funding; as well as making police stations and hospitals a “safe haven” for prescription drop-offs.

Lorenzi, Peter. 2004. "SIN TAXES." *Society* 41, no. 3: 59-65.

This is a very interesting bi-partisan look at sin-tax and luxury tax and their perception and use in America. While sinful activities such as smoking and drinking are often taxed separately to disincentivize consumption, the results are, in reality, paradoxical. Meaning, things that are taxed more are often used more regardless of how bad they are for your health. That said, “[t]he revenue resulting from sin taxes directly or indirectly causes the government to encourage rather than discourage the taxed behavior... Sin taxes generate funds that promote the public good and may fund the costs created by their negative externalities and self-destructive behavior.”

Keast, Shellie L., Nancy Nesser, and Kevin Farmer. 2015. "Strategies aimed at controlling misuse and abuse of opioid prescription medications in a state Medicaid program: a policymaker's perspective." *American Journal Of Drug & Alcohol Abuse* 41, no. 1: 1-6.

This research article examines prescription regulation policies based on a study of Oklahoma Medicaid program. Misuse and abuse of prescription narcotics is a priority concern for this state just as it is in West Virginia. The author’s assert that it is policymakers have a direct impact in “curbing” opioid abuse. This article looks at various methods Oklahoma policymakers have used to combat the growing issue in their state such as: pharmacy/prescriber controls; promotion of abuse-deterrent opioid products; monitoring of prescription claims; data sharing among insurance providers; and promoting strategies at the provider level to reduce risk of abuse.

2015. "Opioid Abuse." *Congressional Digest* 94, no. 9: 10-11. Academic Search Premier, EBSCOhost.

This brief article lists the legislation that is pending in Congress to address opioid substance abuse and substance abuse treatment. The ideas range from introducing incentives and resources to states and local communities to expanded access to Naloxone and creating drug monitoring programs for local law enforcement agencies.

Turning Around Dilapidated Buildings

Pridemore, Amelia A. 2013. "West Virginia's Abandoned and Dilapidated Building Problem." Coalfield Development Corporation: 1–17. <http://www.coalfield-development.org/assets/pdf/abandoneddilapidatedbuildingspaper.pdf> (September 2, 2016).

This article is specifically analyzing the impact dilapidated buildings is having on West Virginia. Abandoned buildings are a growing problem all across the United States; and in every size community from small rural towns to large urban cities. The author uses the *Broken Window Theory* to help explain the why vacant buildings have negative social, economic, and environmental impact on the community. The broken window theory asserts that the aesthetics of the building promote deviant behavior. The data in this article shows the positive correlation between the decline of the population in particular West Virginian cities and an increase in town property neglect. Property neglect and deterioration of infrastructure, in turn, result in: bad press from bad property owners in the area, reluctant new home buyers, increased city clean-up fees, and a very high criminal Larson rates. The author also addresses how other cities across the country have accomplished taking care of this issue. For example, though it cost a Michigan city 3.5 million dollars to demolish a particular plot, the value of the property, and surrounding properties, increased to 112 million after the project was finished. The author asserts, "the economic benefits for a community also helps outweigh deconstruction's on-the-surface cost." In this case they found that buyers were more attracted to this area because it now had a better reputation for being a revitalization project. Also, many local construction and demolition jobs were created in the process.

South Carolina General Assembly. House. 2013. Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act of 2013. 120th Session. H.B. 3093.

South Carolina enacted a bill in 2013 entitled the Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act to address the health and safety hazards of "excessive vacancies". To reduce the negative effects dilapidated buildings, have on the community the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina decided to make tax incentives for the "rehabilitation, renovation, and redevelopment of abandoned buildings located in South Carolina." There are various guidelines as to what property can be used for tax credit and how much tax credit the properties are worth.

Wilson, Randy L. Dealing with Abandoned & Dilapidated Buildings: Strategies for Saving, Maintaining and Enhancing Our Downtown Architectural Assets Dealing with Abandoned & Dilapidated Buildings: Strategies for Saving, Maintaining and Enhancing Our Downtown Architectural Assets. <http://www.crt.state.la.us/assets/oed/hp/mainstreet/resource-page-documents/dealing-with-abandoned-dilapidated-buildings-handout-intro-only.pdf>.

School Based Mental Health

Bubrick, Kate, Jacklyn Goodman, and Janis Whitlock. 2010. "Non-Suicidal Self-Injury in Schools: Developing & Implementing School Protocol." Cornell Research Program on Self-Injury and Recovery : 1–10.

This conceptual research article outlines what self-injury is and suggests that school staff and parents should be able to recognize the signs of self-injury, and should have strategies for prevention and help for students dealing with this issue specifically. The paper addresses: Developing a protocol Identifying self-injury, Assessing self-injury, Engaging parents, and pertinent legal issues.

Hillery, Mary. 2007. "Self-Injury: A Short Guide for Schools and Teachers Including How to Write a Self-Injury Policy." LifeSigns Self-Injury Awareness Booklet: 1–6. <http://www.scar-tissue.net/schoolsipolicy.pdf> (September 24, 2016).

This is an excerpt of a pamphlet on self-injury awareness. Self-injury is a very common very serious behavior that, "should not be minimized or dismissed as "attention seeking" or "just a fad". When people take the radical step of harming their bodies, they should be taken seriously and the sources of their stress addressed." (Walsh, 2006, p.38)" This booklet introduces teachers to the issues and gives them guidance on how to spot a student who may be engaging in this type of behavior and how to address, confront, and counsel students. Creating a self-injury policy in the school is a must for every public school elementary, middle school, and high school. The last few pages of this booklet is a template for a self-injury policy that could be adapted by any school.

<http://www.lifesigns.org.uk/fact-sheets/>

This is the link to an organization called Life Signs. They focus on self-injury guidance and network support. This link takes you directly to their fact-sheet page. Each fact sheet is customized for the audience it is intended for such as: parents, friends, males, females, self-injurers themselves, healthcare workers, teachers, and employers.

Ojio, Yasutaka, Hiromi Yonehara, Setsuko Taneichi, Syudo Yamasaki, Shuntaro Ando, Fumiharu Togo, Atsushi Nishida, and Tsukasa Sasaki. 2015. "Effects of school-based mental health literacy education for secondary school students to be delivered by school teachers: A preliminary study." *Psychiatry & Clinical Neurosciences* 69, no. 9: 572-579.

This is a full methodology research article examining grade school student participants after receiving counseling sessions over a three-month period. The results show that having a teacher in the school that informs students of resources for mental health help greatly improved student knowledge and competency on the subject. The researchers conclude that a "a school-staff-led program may have a significant effect on the improvement of [mental health literacy] in secondary school students."

Cannabis for Medical Use

Corey-Bloom J, Wolfson T, Gamst A, Jin S, Marcotte T, Bentley H, Gouaux B. (2012). Smoked cannabis for spasticity in multiple sclerosis: a randomized, placebo-controlled trial. CMAJ. 2012 Jul 10;184(10):1143-50. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.110837. Epub 2012 May 14. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22586334>

This random selection clinical study, conducted by Corey Bloom M.D., Ph. D. at the University of California, San Diego, examines the short-term effect of cannabis treatment on spasticity in Multiple Sclerosis patients. This was a placebo-controlled, crossover trial on thirty-seven randomly selected participants. The results showed patients that smoked cannabis during the three-day trial had significantly reduced pain scores in comparison to the control/placebo group. However, more studies need to be conducted to determine if there is any significant “impairment” on “attention, concentration, and memory.”

[Ellis RJ, Toperoff W, Vaida F, van den Brande G, Gonzales J, Gouaux B, Bentley H, Atkinson JH. \(2009\). Smoked Medicinal Cannabis for Neuropathic Pain in HIV: A Randomized, Crossover Clinical Trial. Neuropsychopharmacology. 2009 Feb;34\(3\):672-80. doi: 10.1038/npp.2008.120. Epub 2008 Aug 6. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18688212>](#)

This double-blind clinical study on medical cannabis in painful HIV Neuropathy was done by Ronald Ellis, M.D., Ph. D to determine if cannabis and its derivatives have a direct impact on elevating the pain symptoms presented by HIV patients. The study of 127 volunteers concluded that “among completers, pain relief was greater with cannabis than placebo... Mood and daily functioning improved” as well.

Golstein, Estelle Toby. 2013. “Why I Recommend Medical Cannabis.” Norml . <http://norml.org/library/item/why-i-recommend-medical-cannabis> (August 14, 2016).

In this health report article Dr. Estelle T. Goldstein of California tells her personal story of why she recommends medical cannabis as opposed to pharmaceutical remedies. As a pharmaceutical researcher in her early career she was very familiar with a variety of drugs to treat an array of illnesses. When she found out she had a congenital condition she decided to try non-traditional cannabis instead of taking any drugs, changing her diet, or having surgery. She says, “I basically cured myself [with not] only vitamins and mineral supplements, but amino acids and other exotic -- but entirely non-toxic and totally safe -- treatments.” She concludes by asserting that she prefers the safer alternative marijuana “to any anti-anxiety drug, mood stabilizer, sleep medicine or pain remedy currently on the market in the USA.”

Increasing Safeguards to our Water Supply

Forssén, Ulla M., Amy H. Herring, David A. Savitz, Mark J. Nieuwenhuijsen, Patricia A. Murphy, Philip C. Singer, and J. Michael Wright. 2007. "Predictors of use and consumption of

public drinking water among pregnant women." *Journal Of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology* 17, no. 2: 159-169.

"The data were analyzed according to demographic, health, and behavioral variables expected to be predictors of water use and thus potential confounding factors relating water use to pregnancy outcome... Demographic variables tended to be more strongly predictive of the use and consumption of water than health and behavior-related factors... Lower socioeconomic groups reported spending a longer time showering and bathing, but were less likely to use swimming pools. The results of this study should help researchers to anticipate and better control for confounding and misclassification in studies of exposure to [Disinfection by-products] and [adverse] pregnancy outcomes."

State of California. 2000. Capacity Development Strategy Capacity Development Strategy. University of Southern California.
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Publications.shtml

"The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996 authorize a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan program to help public water systems finance their infrastructure needs. Through this authorization, set aside funds are available to assist public water systems in acquiring and maintaining technical, managerial and financial capacity. The purpose of this strategy document is to describe how the Department will assist public water systems to meet this challenge and to guide the Department in integrating these new program elements with the existing public water system regulatory program."

California Department of Public Health Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. 2008. Annual Capacity Development Program Implementation Report to the United States Environmental Protection Agency Annual Capacity Development Program Implementation Report to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. rep. http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/tm_fplanningandreports/FINAL%20Capacity%20Development%20Report%202008-09.pdf

This is the most recent report from the California State's Safe Drinking Water Department to the US EPA. The agency was able to develop their existing system strategy, conduct training and 55 workshops, provide technical assistance to 2,115 public water systems, and identify why and who needs capacity development assistance among other things. The agency did not report back on a review of the implementation of existing strategy, or any modifications to the existing system strategy.

International Human Rights Law Clinic. 2013. "The Human Right to Water Bill in California: An Implementation Framework for State Agencies." University of California, Berkeley, School of Law: 1-19.
https://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/water_report_2013_interactive_final.pdf.

In "2012 California became the first state in the nation to legally recognize the human right to water... Under AB 685, all relevant state agencies have an ongoing obligation to consider the human right to water in executing policy, budgetary, and programmatic duties... Over the last

century, California has responded to water safety and access problems with strong legislative and institutional initiatives. Today, disadvantaged rural and urban communities still face water contamination, infrastructure deficiencies, and financial barriers to sustainable solutions. AB 685 reaffirms the state’s long-standing commitment to universal access and offers state agencies a road map for addressing the state’s current water challenges.”

Knocking WV Off the Worst Health List

Centers For Disease Control and Prevention. 2011. “School Health Guidelines to Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity.” CDC MMWR: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 60(5): 1–80. <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/npao/pdf/mmwr-school-health-guidelines.pdf>.

Executive Summary:

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/npao/pdf/pan-guidelines-executive-summary.pdf>

This document compiled by the US CDC is a comprehensive guide including strategies and resources for promoting healthy eating and physical activity policies and practices. This document has well researched statistical data on childhood obesity rates across the country. The document also recommends policy inputs that have been proven to produce desired policy outcomes.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. School Health Guidelines to Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity. MMWR 2011; 60(5): 1-76. <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/npao/strategies.htm>.

This is a resource guide intended for teachers provided by the CDC. The suggestions involve: making celebrations... healthier, making classrooms more physically active; adding 20minutes of recess to every school day; and using physical activity as reward and not punishment among others.

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/obesity/obesity-youth-txt.htm>

This is the link to a web-page with youth obesity rates over time. The data is from the CDC and spans from 2003-2013. *A Word Document of this data is provided with the other pdfs under the title “CDC Data Fact Sheet”.*



STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

Infrastructure Now: Roads and Broadband

West Virginia Legislature. 2016. Committee on Government Organization. 2016 Regular Session, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 315. http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2016_SESSIONS/RS/pdf_bills/SB315%20SUB2.pdf

This bill was introduced in 2016 and is now pending in the West Virginia State Legislature. The bill's purpose is to increase infrastructure in the state by expanding broadband infrastructure by developing a public-private partnership.

...to promote the construction of broadband infrastructure throughout the State of West Virginia, which will ultimately result in increased access to broadband service for a greater number of unserved or underserved households and businesses. This is a particularly important need in West Virginia due to high numbers of residents who live in rural areas that are unserved or underserved by broadband. Many residents lack access to crucial services, including health care. By increasing access to broadband throughout the state, the provision of telemedicine services to rural health facilities can be enhanced, whereby an individual may receive medical services from a health care provider without person- to-person contact with a provider. In addition, the enhancement of broadband can also make 911 and emergency alert systems more capable, allowing for better protection of West Virginia residents' lives and property. Also, emergency service providers in West Virginia could use broadband networks to disseminate vital information to the public during emergencies

West Virginia Legislature. 2016. Committee on Government Organization. SB488 H GO Am3-9. Article 15c. Broadband Deployment-Enactment.

http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2015_SESSIONS/RS/amendments/SB488%20H%20GO%20AM%203-9.htm

This West Virginia Senate bill defines the legal terms broadband, data rates, community equity, and the Broadband Demand Promotion Project. This bill also establishes the Broadband Enhancement council as an arm of the state whose purpose is to “ (1)explore any and all ways to expand access to broadband services, including, but not limited to, the middle mile, last mile, and wireless applications. (2) Gather data regarding... speeds provided to consumers in comparison to what is advertised...” (§31-15c-4)

2013. "Broadband Expansion Programs in the Recovery Act: Economic Stimulus Funding for Federal Broadband Infrastructure." Congressional Digest 92, no. 4: 6-32.

Broadband access is becoming crucial in most aspects of American life. Citizens need high-speed internet capabilities for access to information in their homes and offices, as well as in public institutions and schools. “The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided \$7.2 billion primarily for broadband grant programs.” These programs are intended to, “in the short term, to create jobs through the construction and deployment of broadband infrastructure, and in the long term, to address concerns over economic and societal impacts of inadequate broadband availability, access, and adoption, particularly in rural and lower-income areas of the Nation.”

Ending Youth Incarceration

Petteruti, Amanda, Marc Schindler, and Jason Ziedenberg. 2014. “Sticker Shock: Calculating the Full Price Tag for Youth Incarceration” ed. Sarah E. Baker. Justice Policy Institute: 1–56.

http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/sticker_shock_final_v2.pdf.

This is a very extensive research article by a non-profit organization that focuses solely on “reducing the use of incarceration and... promoting policies that improve the well-being of all people...”. This article focuses on the **costs** associated with youth incarceration. The authors assert that incarceration is overused, trends are upward sloping over time, and this system impacts African American youth in a disproportionate amount. As for cost, the most expensive juvenile centers cost \$407.58 per day and \$148,767 per year. The purpose of this article is to examine the “long-term costs costs of unnecessarily or inappropriately confining young people outside their homes.”

Peteruti, Amanda, Kajastura, Aleks, Schindler, Marc, Wagner, Peter, and Jason Ziedenisberg. 2015. “The Right Investment? Corrections Spending in Baltimore City” ed. Marie Roda. Justice Policy Institute: 1-55.

http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/rightinvestment_design_2.23.15_final.pdf

- Interactive web-page for this document:
<http://www.justicepolicy.org/research/8764>
- Legislative & Policy Issues Affecting Youth Incarceration:
http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/executive_summary_rightinvestment_2.23.15_final.pdf
- Executive Summary:
http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/executive_summary_rightinvestment_2.23.15_final.pdf
- Press Release:
http://www.justicepolicy.org/uploads/justicepolicy/documents/jpipressrelease_therightinvestment.pdf

This in-depth research article examines the incarceration rates in Baltimore City, Maryland. Baltimore City spends \$288 million on correctional facilities. The research suggests that spending this amount of taxpayer money on this issue yields negative and unintended consequences. Rather than rehabilitate the ill-mannered individuals of the community, the community itself is suffering. Their data shows communities with high incarceration rates “experience some of the highest levels of: unemployment; reliance on public assistance; vacant and abandoned housing; emergency calls for service related to narcotics; high school incompleteness; [and] elevated blood-lead levels among children.” *This article has great methodology with very interesting and useful data and figures. I have also attached the links and pdfs to related documents for this research.*

The “Legislative & Policy Issues Affecting Incarceration” document has hyperlinks to many more primary resource documents relevant to the Baltimore case research and the issue as a whole. Maryland has already enacted second chance legislation in 2015. They have also created a handful of other bills addressing criminal procedure/ expungement of records;

reducing the length- of-stay in prison; reducing the number of people in jail; and improve[ing] data collection and policy coordination. (Executive Summary; Press Release; Legislative & Policy Issues Affecting Incarceration)

Maryland General Assembly. Senate. 2015. Senate Bill 526: Maryland Second Chance Employment Act of 2015. 2015 Session. <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2015RS/bills/sb/sb0526T.pdf>

This is Maryland's Second Chance Employment Act of 2015, SB0526, which allows a person to petition the court to "shield records and police records relation to specified convictions that were previously not eligible for shielding". The document, of course, hashes out terminology and definitions.

Maryland General Assembly. 2015. SB526 Judicial Proceedings Fiscal and Policy Note (Revised). Department of Legislative Services, 2015 Session, Judiciary. http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2015RS/fnotes/bil_0006/sb0526.pdf

This is the policy analysis document for SB0526, Maryland Second Employment Act of 2015. Most notably, this document has the fiscal summary of the bill implementation. The state's general expenditures increased at least \$294,250.

Maryland General Assembly. House. 2015. House Bill 678: General Assembly – Fiscal Notes – Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statements. 2015 Session. <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2015RS/bills/hb/hb0678F.pdf>

This is another relevant Maryland Bill "[r]equiring a fiscal note for a bill to include a criminal justice policy impact statement if the bill creates a criminal offense, significantly alters the elements of an existing criminal offense, alters the penalties applicable to a criminal offense, or changes existing sentencing, parole, or probation procedures; requiring the Department of Legislative Services to prepare the criminal justice policy impact statement by requesting information from specified entities; etc.

Maryland General Assembly. 2015. HB678 Fiscal and Policy Note. Rules and Executive Nomination, 2015 Session. http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2015RS/fnotes/bil_0008/hb0678.pdf

This is the policy analysis/fiscal and policy note for HB0678. On the local level the bill can be carried out with "existing budgeted resources".

Middle Class Tax Cuts

Domhoff, G William. 2005. "Wealth, Income, and Power." University of California Santa Cruz. <http://www2.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/wealth.html>.

"This document presents details on the wealth and income distributions in the United States, and explains how we use these two distributions as power indicators. The most striking

numbers on income inequality will come last, showing the dramatic change in the ratio of the average CEO's paycheck to that of the average factory worker over the past 40 years"

Fieldhouse, Andrew. 2013. "RISING INCOME INEQUALITY AND THE ROLE OF SHIFTING MARKET-INCOME DISTRIBUTION, TAX BURDENS, AND TAX RATES." Economic Policy Institute: 1–14. <http://www.epi.org/files/2013/fieldhouse-inequality.pdf>.

Fieldhouse's research is aimed at determining to what extent income inequality is affected by tax policy. The research spans from 1979-2007. The research concludes that, "[t]he market-based distribution of income concentrated at the top of the income distribution, particularly the rising share of investment income at the expense of labor income, is driving the sharp growth of income inequality in the United States (10)."

Mishel, Lawrence, and Alyssa Davis. 2014. "CEO Pay Continues to Raise as Typical Workers Are Paid Less." Economic Policy Institute (#380): 1–12. <http://www.epi.org/files/2014/ceo-pay-continues-to-rise.pdf>.

This paper analyzes CEO pay on a variety of levels. The raw data displays how CEO pay relates to the stock market and average worker pay. The results show there has been a steady then steep rise in CEO pay as opposed to the pay of workers and even the other top .1% income households. Davis and Mishel conclude that, "escalating CEO compensation and, correspondingly, executive compensation more generally, have fueled the growth of top 1.0 percent incomes... There are policies that can be used to curtail escalating executive pay and broaden wage growth for the majority of workers (10)."

Wamhoff, Steve. 2014. Who Pays Taxes in America in 2014? Who Pays Taxes in America in 2014? Citizens for Tax Justice. rep. <http://www.ctj.org/pdf/taxday2014.pdf>.

This article evaluates the reality of citizen income in relation to what percentage they pay in state, federal, and local taxes. Most "poor and middle-income families" pay a larger share of taxes than do their wealthier counterparts.

Putting WV Back to Work

Pushkin et. al. House. 2015. HB2604. 2nd session. 82nd legislature. http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Text_HTML/2015_SESSIONS/RS/bills/hb2604%20intr.pdf

Ross, B. 2013. POWERING DOWN AT STATE BUILDINGS. Capitol Ideas, 56(2), 30-31.

Mattera, Philip, Tommy Cafcas, and Kasia Tarczynska, eds. 2016. "Researching Audits and Tax Expenditure Budgets." GoodJobsFirst.Org. <http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/accountable-development/researching-audits-and-tax-expenditure-budgets>.

Fording, R. C., & Berry, W. D. (2007). The Historical Impact of Welfare Programs on Poverty: Evidence from the American States. *Policy Studies Journal*, 35(1), 37-60.
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Utah State Treasurer's Office. 2011. PTIF Instructions and Information PTIF Instructions and Information. Utah State Treasurer's Office. <https://treasurer.utah.gov/treasurer/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2013/09/ptifinstructionsinformation.pdf>.

Pay Your Fair Share

MACGILLIS, Alec. 2013. EMBRACE THE IRS SCANDAL ... (Cover story). *New Republic*, 244(11), 23.

Lower Rate, Fewer Loopholes. 2011. *America*, 204(5), 4.

Jablow, Benjamin A. 2016. Florida Corporate Income Tax: Reporting of Federal Audit Adjustments. *Florida Bar Journal*, 90(5), 54-57.