

Public Perceptions of the Impact of the Collateral Consequences of Juvenile Justice Involvement

Elizabeth Gale-Bentz

Jennica Janssen

Suraji Wagage

Lindsey Cole

Naomi E. S. Goldstein



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
College of
Arts and Sciences

Public Perceptions of Juvenile Justice Issues

Rehabilitation and culpability

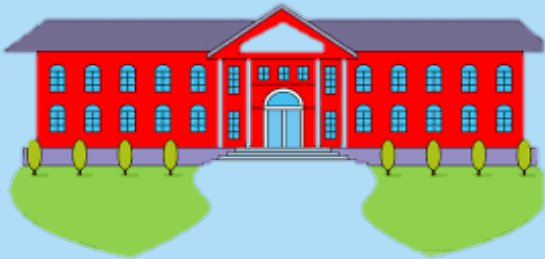
Sentencing decisions and transfer to adult court

Use of juvenile sex offender laws

Collateral consequences of system involvement



Collateral Consequences



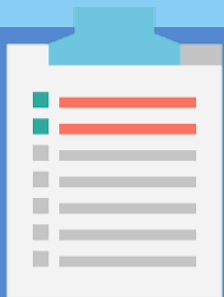
Attitudes and Justice System Issues

Ways to impact attitudes and opinions

Similar paradigms in other contexts

Discussion of the role of public opinion in juvenile justice reform

Hypothesis



Educational intervention will result in stronger endorsement of the negative impact of system involvement

Pre-
Intervention
Rating



Post-
Intervention
Rating

Method



Participation through MTurk



Presented with actual CC



Read a brief vignette

0-10



Provided perception
of impact rating

0-10



Provided perception
of impact rating



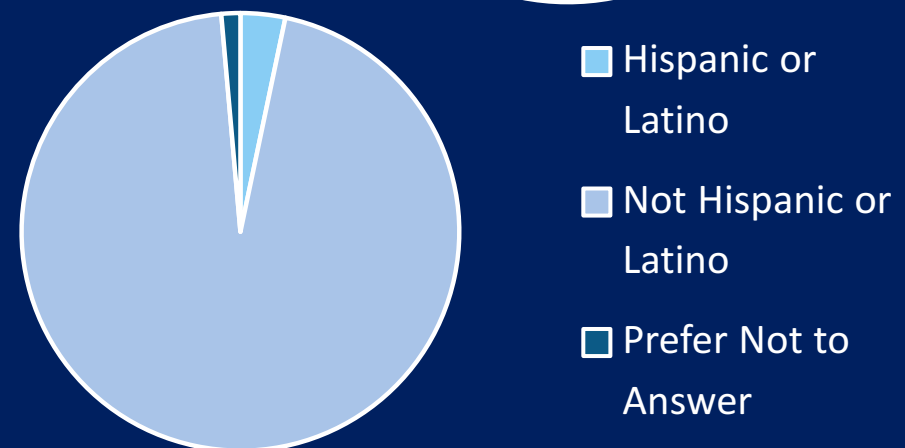
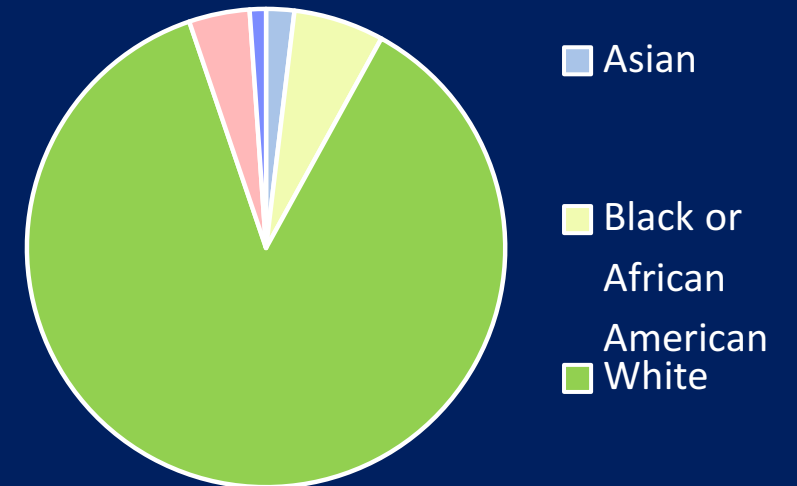
Provided demographic
information

Participants

$N = 368$

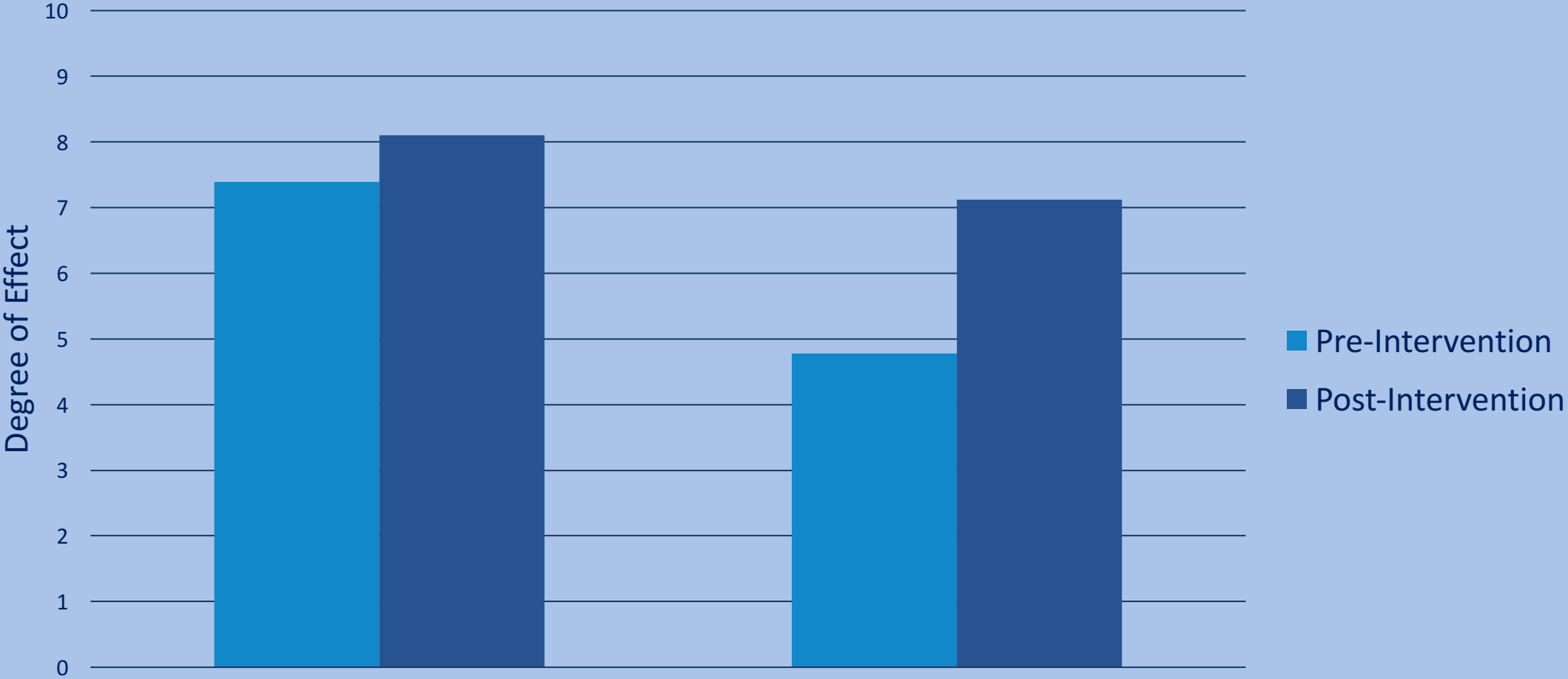
Gender 66.8% female

Age 35.71 (11.41)



A very large effect

Perceptions of the Impact of Collateral Consequences



No effect

Before the Youth Turns 18

After the Youth Turns 18

Implications

Perceptions of the impact of JJ involvement were significantly more negative post-intervention

Perceptions of the impact after age 18 dramatically increased following the presentation of information

Ratings of impact did not differ by youth gender

Change in impression



Unaware of possible long-term effects



Similar perceptions



Limitations and Future Directions



Generalizability

Replicate in other jurisdictions



One time point

Examine attitude change over time



Need for increased public dialogue

Thank you!

ewg25@drexel.edu