

Equity and SW-PBS: Using Discipline Data to Assess and Address Disproportionality

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Handouts: http://www.pbis.org





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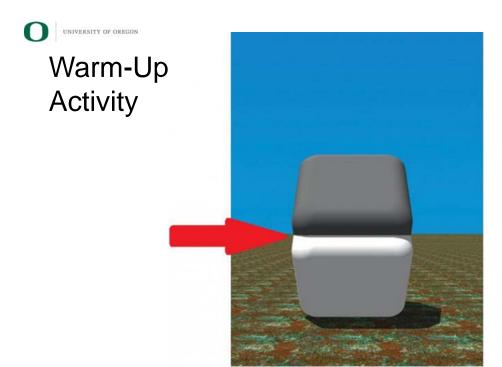
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Overview of Today's Sessions

- Describe the term implicit bias and its role in disproportionality in school discipline
- Share an intervention approach for enhancing equity in school discipline
- Guide you though a process for using data to identity specific situations to target
- Guide you through an alternative response to reduce the effects of bias on discipline decisions

Handouts: http://www.pbis.org



Warm Up Activity: Stroop Task



- Words are displayed in different colors to test "snap decision" making
- Easier to identify the color in which this word is displayed: GREEN (i.e., green) than this word: GREEN (i.e., red)



Stroop Task (Part 1) Practice

Say the color of each word as quickly and accurately as you can.

MISSOURI TEACHERS ARE THE BEST MISSOURI TEACHERS ARE THE BEST

Stroop Task: A test of automatic associations

- Our brains are wired to look for patterns
- When we are forced to make quick decisions, we use our automatic associations to respond



Warm Up Activity #2: Implicit Association Test

- https://implicit.harvard.edu/
- Uses beliefs (stereotypes) and evaluations (attitudes) associated with social groups
- Example: Gender-Career IAT
 - □ Tests automatic association of MEN more with CAREERS (work outside the home) and WOMEN more with FAMILY



What is implicit bias?

- Unconscious, automatic
- Based on stereotypes
- We all have it (even those affected by it)
- Generally not an indication of our beliefs and values
- More likely to influence:
 - Snap decisions
 - □ Decisions that are ambiguous



Implicit Bias at Work

- Attractiveness
 - □ Real estate agents rated as more attractive sell homes for significantly higher prices (Salter, Mixon, & King, 2012)
- Height
 - □ One inch of height is worth \$789 per year in salary (Judge & Cable, 2004)



Implicit Bias in Refereeing

(Carlson, 2014)

FOUL DIFFERENTIAL IN THE ACC Away game Boston College -27 14 Florida State -13 Georgia Tech Maryland Miami N.C. State Pittsburgh 2 9 22 Virginia Tech Wake Forest



Implicit Bias and Gender

(Reuben et al., 2014)

- Subjects randomly split into groups of 4 (employers and job candidates)
 - □ Job candidates paid by performance on timed math (adding sets of 2 digit numbers)
 - Employers paid if they chose the best of 2 job candidates
- Hiring criteria:
 - □Appearance
 - □ Self-reported performance
 - □ Actual pre-test performance

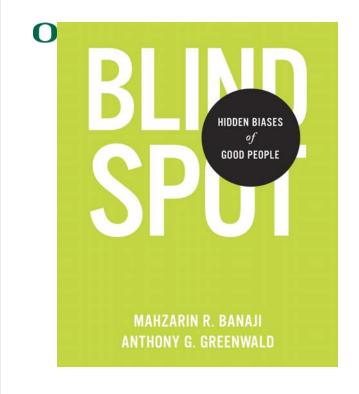
Implicit Bias and Gender (Reuben et al., 2014) **Pre-test Performance** **Pre-test Performance** **Appearance** **Appearan

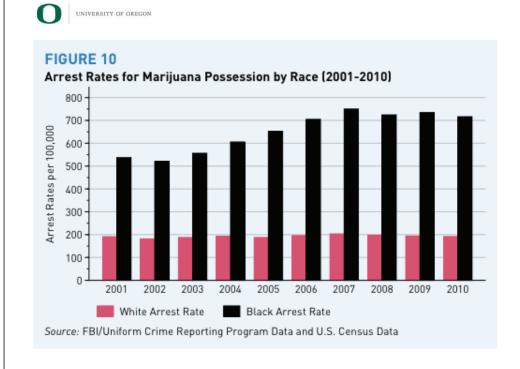


Implicit Bias and Race

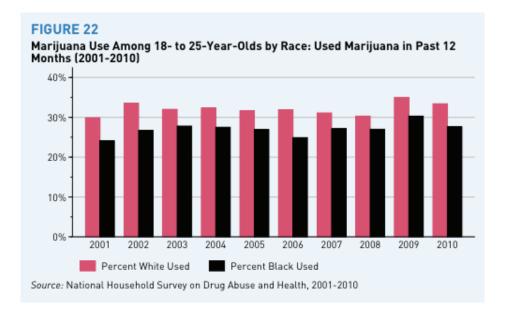
"the challenge is not a small number of twisted white supremacists but something infinitely more subtle and complex: People who believe in equality but who act in ways that perpetuate bias and inequality."

-Nicholas Kristof, The New York Times





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Dept. of Justice Report: Ferguson Police Department

"African Americans are 2.07 times more likely to be searched during a vehicular stop but are 26% less likely to have contraband found on them during a search."

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Implicit Bias predicts the extent to which...

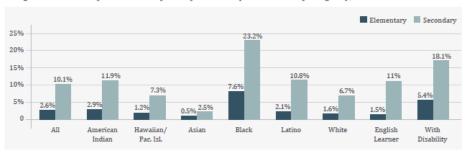
- Police Officers use force when arresting African American children as opposed to White children (Goff et al., 2014)
- Arbitrators decide labor grievances in favor of men over women (Girvan, Deason, & Borgida, 2014)
- Pediatricians recommend less pain medication for African American children than White children with identical symptoms (Sabin & Greenwald, 2012)





Disproportionality in School Discipline (Losen et al., 2015)

Figure 1. Elementary and Secondary Out-of-school Suspension Rates by Subgroup, 2011-12



http://civilrightsproject.ucla.edu/resources/projects/center-for-civil-rights-remedies/school-to-prison-folder/federal-reports/are-we-closing-the-school-discipline-gap



Addressing Common Questions

"Isn't it all really about poverty?"

- Poverty plays a role, but racial disproportionality remains, even when controlling for poverty
 - □ American Psychological Association, 2008
 - □Skiba et al., 2005
 - □Wallace et al., 2008



Addressing Common Questions

"Aren't Black boys just more violent?"

- No evidence of different base rates of behavior for any subgroups
 - □ Bradshaw et al., 2010
 - □Losen & Skiba, 2010
 - □Skiba et al., 2014



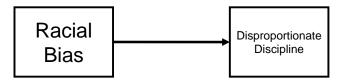
Addressing Common Questions

"Are you saying that all teachers are racist?"

- No! Our research indicates that disproportionality comes from unconscious bias – that we're not even aware of.
 - □Banaji & Greenwald, 2013
 - □ Greenwald & Pettigrew, 2014
 - □van den Bergh et al., 2010

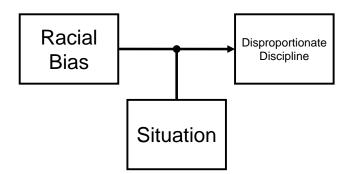


A Unidimensional View of Bias





A Multidimensional View of Bias





Two Systems for Decision Making (Kahneman, 2011)

- System 1: *Fast Decisions*
 - □ Automatic, snap judgments
 - □ Intuitive, unconscious
- System 2: Slow Decisions
 - □ Deliberate decisions
 - □ Allows for conscious attention



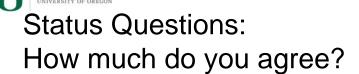
Discussion

- Which decisions in schools are more likely to be snap judgments?
 - Correcting a student's behavior
 - ☐ Sending a student to the office
 - □ Picking which student to call on
- □ Deciding whether to call a student's parent
- □ Suspending a student from school
- ☐ Grading students' work



Assumptions

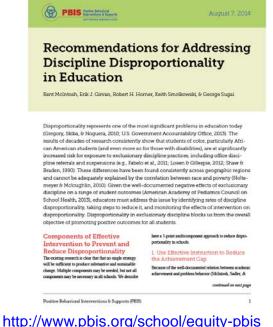
- We all believe that a student's color should not fate him or her to negative outcomes
- Discussing equity and race is uncomfortable
- Creating discomfort without providing effective strategies for equity is not productive
- In discussing equity and taking steps, we will make mistakes



- 1. I am <u>aware</u> of my personal biases.
- 2. I am <u>concerned</u> about the consequences of bias in education.
- I have <u>effective strategies</u> for reducing bias in educational decisions.

(Devine et al., 2012)

A 5-point
Intervention
Approach
to Enhance
Equity in
School
Discipline



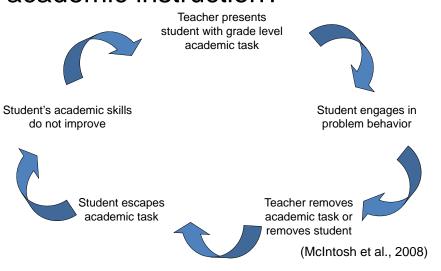
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5-point Intervention Approach

- 1. Use engaging academic instruction to reduce the support gap (achievement gap)
- Implement a behavior framework that is preventive, multi-tiered, and culturally responsive
- Collect, use, and report disaggregated student discipline data
- Develop policies with accountability for disciplinary equity
- Teach neutralizing routines for vulnerable decision points

http://www.pbis.org/school/equity-pbis

1. Why a focus on engaging academic instruction?



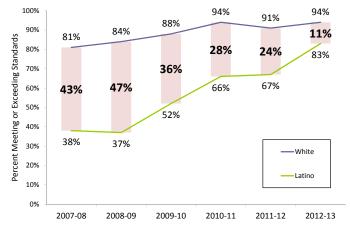
What do we mean by engaging academic instruction?

- Explicit instruction
- High rates of opportunities to respond
- Quality performance feedback
- Progress monitoring and data-based decision making

(Hattie, 2009)

Effects of Engaging Instruction

on the Support Gap



Tigard-Tualatin School District (Chaparro, Helton, & Sadler, in press)

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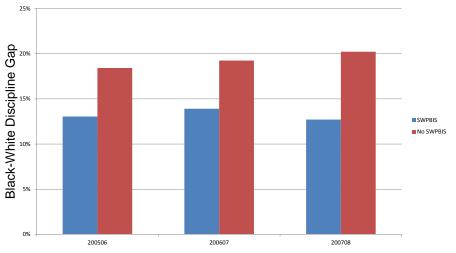
2. Why start with a foundation of SWPBIS?

- Proactive, instructional approach may prevent problem behavior and exposure to biased responses to problem behavior
- Increasing positive student-teacher interactions *may* enhance relationships to prevent challenges
- More objective referral and discipline procedures *may* reduce subjectivity and influence of cultural bias
- 4. Professional development *may* provide teachers with more instructional responses

(Greflund et al., 2014)

Effects of SWPBIS on Discipline Disproportionality

(Vincent, Swain-Bradway, Tobin & May, 2011)



Which SWPBIS Features are Most Related to Equity?

(Tobin & Vincent, 2011)

- Examined change in Black-White Relative Risk Index for suspensions in 46 schools
- Two key predictors of decreased disproportionality:
 - □ Regular use of data for decision making
 - □ Implementation of classroom SWPBIS systems

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Which features predicted decreased disproportionality?

- Expected behaviors defined clearly
- Problem behaviors defined clearly
- Expected behaviors taught
- Expected behaviors acknowledged regularly
- Consistent consequences
- CW procedures consistent with SW systems
- Options exist for instruction
- Instruction/materials match student ability
- High rates of academic success
- Access to assistance and coaching
- Transitions are efficient and orderly

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Culturally Responsive SWPBIS Implementation

- Ensure equitable access to praise and acknowledgment systems
- Develop and revise school-wide systems with active involvement of families, students, and the community
- Use regular student and family surveys to assess acceptability and fit



Student Input & **Satisfaction** Survey

How Do You Feel About Your School?			
We want to hear from you about what you think about school and what can be on thave to answer all of the questions if you don't want to.	done be	tter.	You do
We will not ask your name, so nobody will know that your answers came from y	ou.		
Please answer these questions:			
Date: Your Grade: Your Gend	ter: Male	e Fe	emale
Other/Don't know			
Your Race (please pick the one that best describes you):			
Your Ethnicity (pick one):			
At home, does your family primarily speak a different language than English?	YES	1	NO
Do you receive special education services?	YES	1	NO
Please pick an answer or fill in the blanks for the following questions:			
EXPECTATIONS (How your teachers want you to behave at school)			
Do you know how your teachers want you to behave at school?	YES	1	NO
What are the school-wide expectations?			
Do you like the school expectations?	YES	1	NO
If not, what do you think they should be?			
Are the expectations for your behavior at school the same as they are in your he	ome?		
	YES	1	NO
If not, what expectations are different at school?			
Do students usually follow the behavior expectations at school?	YES	7	NO
Do teachers usually follow the behavior expectations at school?	YES	1	NO
If not, give an example:			
Do teachers and staff regularly reward or praise other students when they follow	ow the s	cho	iol
expectations?	YES		
Do teachers and staff reward or praise you when you follow the school expecta	itions?		
. — ,	YES	1	NO
If so, when was the last time?			
TODAY / IN THE LAST WEEK / IN THE LAST MONTH / IN	THE L	AST	ΓYEAR
If so, are you rewarded or praised in ways that you like?	YES	,	NO

PBIS Cultural Responsiveness Companion

- Aligned directly with SWPBIS Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) Tier I Scale
 - □ Identifies SWPBIS critical feature
 - □ Identifies cultural responsiveness concept
 - □ Provides non-examples, examples, activities, and resources

SITUATIONAL APPROPRIATENESS 1.5 Problem Behavior Definitions

Explicit definitions of acceptable versus inacceptable behavior provides clarity to both students and staff, and is a critical component of identifying clear procedures for staff to respond to inappropriate behavior objectively.

If so, are you rewarded or praised in ways that you like?

Teams and staff understand the difference between wrong and situationally inappropriate behaviors and take responsibility for teaching what is acceptable at school without devaluing what may be acceptable at home or in the

Situationally or culturally inappropriate behaviors are behaviors that are routine and acceptable in one setting such as at home or with friends, but are inappropriate in other situations such as school.

Behaviors determined to be "wrong" must be grounded in actual purpose; (i.e. directly violating school-wide expectations). Differences between school and home/community definitions of "wrong" behaviors are discussed and mitigated with families and community so that schools truly reflect the communities they serve.

- · Teams and staff use vague definitions of problem behavior or procedures for handling them.
- Teams and staff identify situationally inappropriate behavior at school as "wrong."
- Situationally inappropriate behaviors result in consequences without regard to context or cultural knowledge of the behavior.

Examples

- · Teams actively seek feedback on problem behavior definitions from school staff, students, families, and community members
- · Teams actively seek feedback on specific definitions of subjective behaviors (e.g., defiance, disrespect, disruption) from school staff, students, families, and community members.
- Teams provide information and seek feedback in in multiple languages and modes of delivery (e.g., written, audio, visual).
- Teams actively seek consensus among staff with responses to problem behavior by revisiting and practicing the procedures at least annually or as data indicates the need.
- Teams work with school staff to develop categories for behavior that include staff-managed, office-managed, and culturally inappropriate behaviors (e.g., transform T-charts to Pi-charts).

- Activity for redefining problem behavior "Pi" Chart (Appendix 5)
- Family Input and Satisfaction Survey (Appendix and <u>www.PBISApps.org</u>)
- · Sample behavior definitions SWIS

(www.pbisapps.org/Resources/SWIS%20Publications/Referral%20Category%20Definitions.rtf)



PBIS Cultural Responsiveness Companion

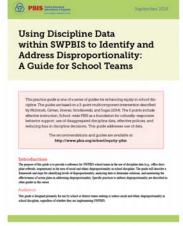
http://tinyurl.com/ncn8fmf



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3. Using disaggregated data to assess and address equity

DisproportionalityData Guide



http://www.pbis.org/school/equity-pbis



4. Implement policies with accountability for equity

- How <u>could</u> policy work fit in to enhancing equity?
 - □ Could highlight a common priority
 - □ Could reduce effects of explicit bias
 - Could enable implementation of other aspects of equity interventions
 - □ Could reduce use of discriminatory practices



Policy Example: Equitable Mission Statements

The teachers, administrators and staff of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) believe in the equal worth and dignity of all students and are committed to educate all students to their maximum potential.



Literature Review: Elements of Effective Policies

(Canizal Delabra, McIntosh, & Nese, 2015)

Ineffective	Limited Research	Effective
# General guidance on equity	- Teacher-student ethnic match (i.e., hiring preferences)	✓ Removal of zero tolerance policies or suspensions for non- violent offenses
★ Including commitment to equity in mission statement	- Clear, objective discipline procedures (e.g., ODR definitions, staff vs. office-managed behavior)	✓ Regular sharing of disproportionality data with managers/administrators and accountability for decisions
* One-time cultural sensitivity/diversity trainings	- Adoption of proactive, positive instructional approach with students	✓ Installation of ongoing processes for assessing and addressing inequities (e.g., team charged with taking action and reporting data to administrators)
* Zero tolerance policies	- Guidance to consider academic skills in school discipline decisions	·



Policy Example: Processes with Accountability

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop and update a detailed action plan to address equity, with multiple metrics to assess progress in reducing inequities in school discipline. The action plan shall identify district leads and clear procedures for school staff. The Superintendent will share the plan and report on progress towards these goals to the Board at least twice per year. Lack of progress toward these goals may be considered grounds for dismissal.



What does **not work** in policy

- Enacting policies that nobody knows about
- Enacting policies that don't change practice
- Policies without accountability for implementation

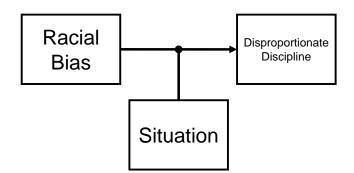


Equity Policy Recommendations

- Include a Specific Commitment to Equity
 - ☐ Create mission statements that include equity
 - ☐ Enact hiring preferences for equitable discipline
- Install Effective Practices
 - □ Require clear, objective school discipline procedures
 - □ Support implementation of proactive, positive approaches to discipline
 - □ Replace exclusionary practices w/ instructional ones
- Create Accountability for Efforts
 - ☐ Create teams and procedures to enhance equity
 - ☐ Share disproportionality data regularly
 - ☐ Build equity outcomes into evaluations



5. How can we reduce implicit bias in our decision making?





Interventions for Implicit Bias in School Discipline



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What is a Vulnerable Decision Point (VDP)?

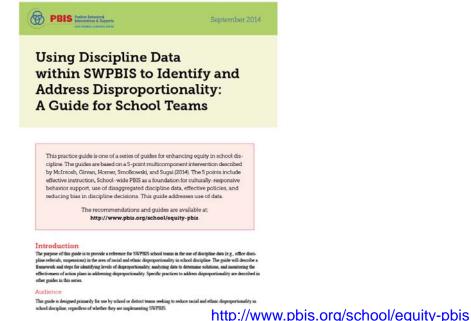
- A specific decision that is more vulnerable to effects of implicit bias
- Two parts:
 - □ Elements of the situation
 - ☐ The person's decision state (internal state)



Situations:

Options for Identifying VDPs

- Levels of specificity:
- All ODR/suspension decisions (general self-instruction routine)
- 2. Identify VDPs through national data
- 3. Use school or district data



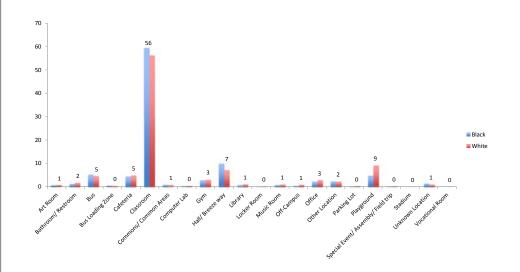


National SWIS Data (2011-12)

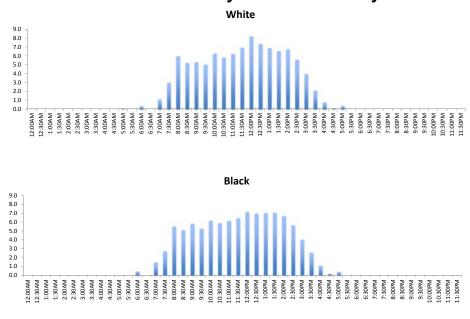
3,026,367 ODRs 6,269 schools 47 states, plus DC



Office Referrals by Location



Office Referrals by Time of Day





VDPs from national ODR data

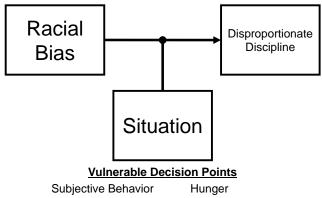
■ Subjective problem behavior

- □ Defiance, Disrespect, Disruption
- Non-classroom areas ACK OF CONTACT

 □ Hallwave ACADEMIC DEMANDS
- Classrooms
- Afternoons



Multidimensional View of Bias



Vague Discipline System Fatigue

Classrooms Unfamiliar with Student



Worksheet Activity

- What data sources will you be using?
- Options:
 - Sample school data
 - ☐ Your school's data (e.g., SWIS)



Activity - Identify VDPs worksheet

- 1. Identify a demographic group of interest
- 2. Fill the top set of blanks with national **ODR** data
- Behavior:
- Location:
- Time:
- Day:
- Grade IvI:



Activity - Identify VDPs worksheet

- 3. Fill the middle left set with your school or district's overall data (ODR, susp.)
- Behavior:
- Location:
- Time:
- Day:
- Grade IvI:

Situations:

Activity - Identify VDPs worksheet

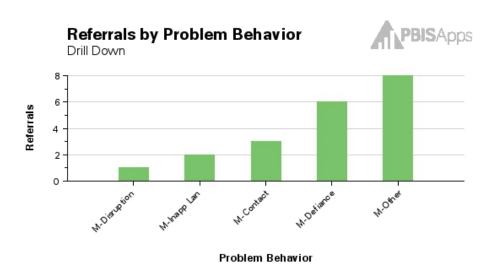
- Fill the middle right set with data for your demographic group
- Behavior:
- Location:
- Time:
- Day:
- Grade IvI:

SWIS Drill Down (www.swis.org)



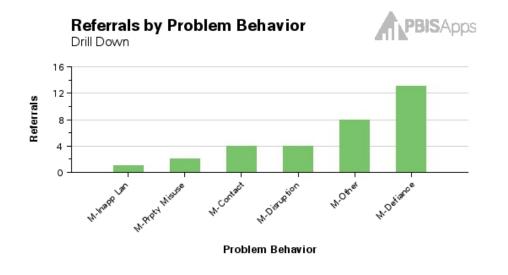


Stage 1 Behavior: White Students



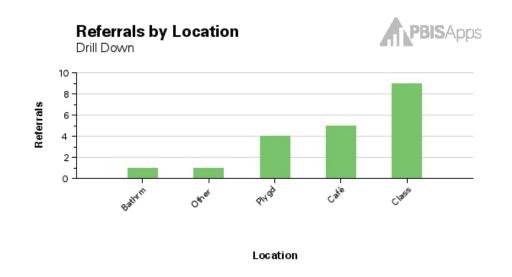


Stage 1 Behavior: Black Students



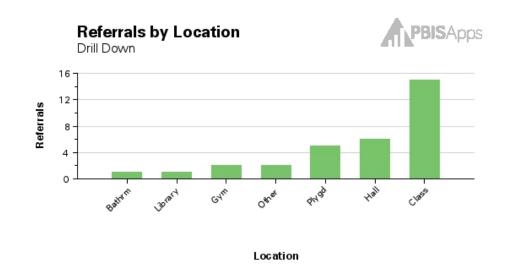


Stage 1 Location: White Students



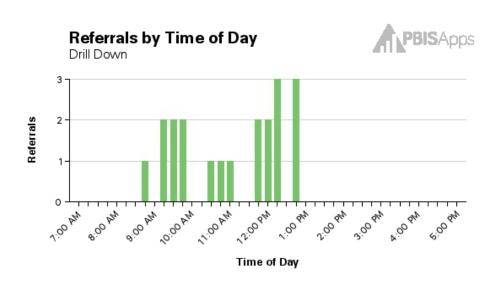


Stage 1 Location: Black Students



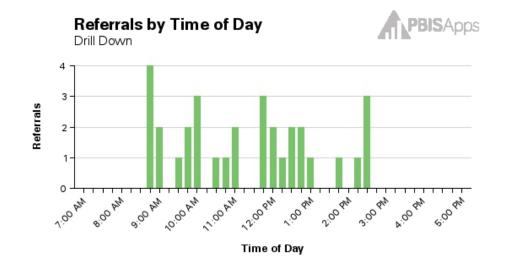


Stage 1 Time: White Students



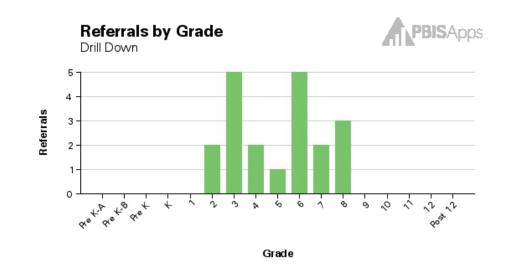


Stage 1 Time: Black Students



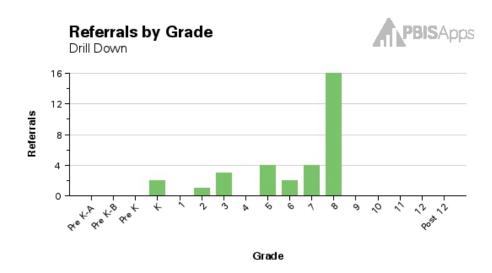


Stage 1 Grade: White Students





Stage 1 Grade: Black Students



O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON Situations:

Activity - Identify VDPs worksheet

- 5. For this group, what are some common student behaviors that push <u>your</u> buttons?
- 6. How might these specific behaviors be related to cultural differences?
- 7. How might these behaviors meet a functional need for these students?



Possible behaviors/cultural basis

- Talking out (aka "overlap")
 - Origin: churches and desired group responses to leader
 - □ Demonstrates engagement
- Emotional reactions to requests (aka "machismo")
 - □ *Origin:* years of living in a society that marginalizes them, need for academic support?
 - □ Expect this kind of response from some
 - □ Not necessarily a response to you
 - □ Provide "peacock moments"



Possible behaviors/cultural basis

- Ignoring requests
 - □ Origin: need for academic support?
 - □ Functional alternative to defiance?
 - □Rather than look bad than stupid
 - □ Identify parts of (a) task, and (b) request that may be aversive



Situations:

Responses to culturally-based behaviors

- May be desirable/adaptive outside of school
 - ■May work/be reinforced in other settings
 - □ Not necessarily "wrong" just not for school
- Solutions
 - 1. Be explicit in teaching situational specificity ("code-switching")
 - 2. Provide extensive practice
 - Example: operation signs



Setting Events

- An event occurring before or with an antecedent that increases likelihood of a behavior
- Sets it up (slow trigger)
- Sometimes is present and sometimes is not
- Does not require one's awareness
- Examples from students:



Resource Depletion

(Girvan et al., 2014)

- As we become fatigued, our filters for appropriate behavior can be affected
- Effects of hunger (Gailliot et al., 2009)
- Decreases in willpower later in day
 - "The Morning Morality Effect" (Kouchaki & Smith, 2014)
 - □Examples...

O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON Decision States:

Activity - Identify VDPs worksheet

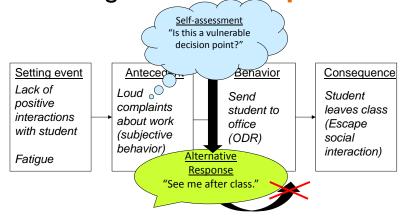
- 1. What are some common VDP decision states for many adults in schools?
- What do you think might be possible VDP decision states for you?

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Two-step Neutralizing Routine for **Staff**:

- When you see problem behavior, stop and ask yourself:
- 1. Is this a VDP?
 - □ Situation
 - □ Decision state
- If so, use an agreed-upon alternative response

Neutralizing Routines for Reducing Effects of Implicit Bias



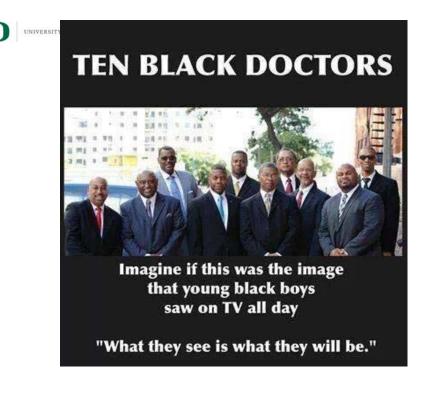
What makes for a good neutralizing routine?

- 1. If-then statement
- 2. Brief
- 3. Clear steps
- 4. Interrupts the chain of events
- 5. Doable

Neutralizing Routine Examples

- If this is a VDP....
 - □ "See me after class/at the next break"
 - □ am I acting in line with my values?
 - □ take two deep breaths
 - □ recognize my upset feelings and let them go
 - □ picture this student as a future doctor/lawyer
 - □ model taking think time
 - □ delay decision until I can think clearly
 - □ ask the student to reflect on their feelings/behavior
 - □ know that's Rock Brain talking to me
 - □ "I love you, but that behavior is not ok"







When we look for the behavior we want to see, we will see it more often.

Two-step Neutralizing Routine for Staff:

- Can also be used as precorrection
- 1. Am I about to enter a VDP?
- 2. What are my values?
- 3. When I see problem behavior, I'll use the alternative response

Neutralizing Routine: Activity - Identify NRs worksheet

- 1. Brainstorm possible neutralizing routines
- 2. Check if each idea has all 5 critical features
 - 1. If-then statements
 - 2. Brief
 - 3. Clear steps
 - 4. Add space/delay between behavior and response
 - 5. Doable

Neutralizing Routine: Activity - Identify NRs worksheet

- 3. Decide on a single neutralizing routine for you (or the school)
- 4. Practice the neutralizing routine
- 5. Identify helping and hindering variables
- 6. Make a plan to maximize its use

Two-step Neutralizing Routine for Administrators:

(Susan Barrett)

- When you have to handle problem behavior, stop and tell yourself:
- 1. Don't just do something, stand there!
 - Be sure you are ready to act in line with values
 - Get information from student and staff
 - Assess student-teacher relationship
- 2. Whenever possible, use an agreed-upon instructional response
 - Teaches missing skills
 - Connects student to school and staff

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The Restorative Chat

(Alton School District, Alton, IL)

- 1. Tell me what happened.
- 2. What you were thinking at the time?
- 3. What do you think about it now?
- 4. Who did this affect?
- 5. What do you need to do about it?
- 6. How can we make sure this doesn't happen again?
- 7. What I can do to help you?

Professional Development

- 1. Use data to identify:
 - ☐ The extent of the problem
 - □ Vulnerable Decision Points (VDPs)
- 2. Teach and practice:
 - □ Implicit bias
 - □VDPs
 - □ Neutralizing routines
- 3. Follow up:
 - □ Ongoing coaching
 - ☐ Monitor progress with data



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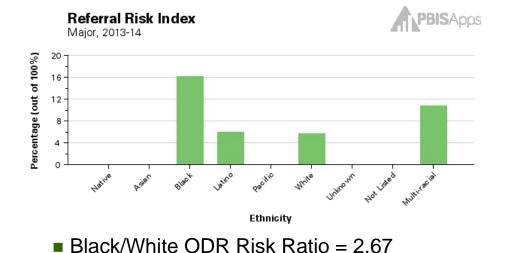
School Example

Urban K-8 School



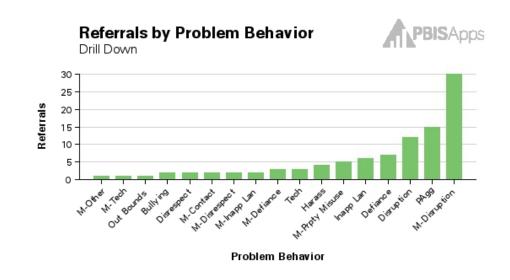
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Risk Indices

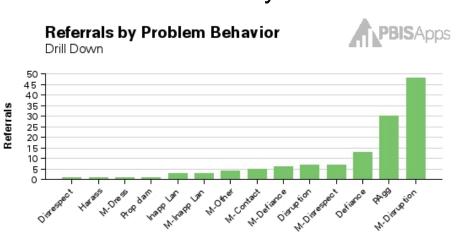




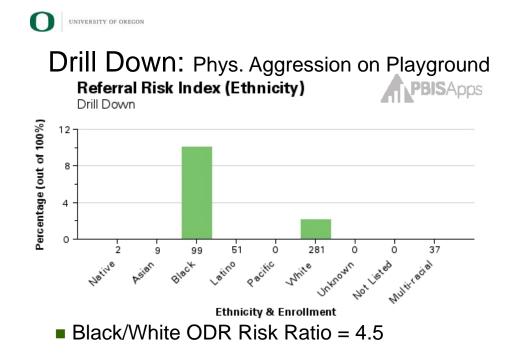
Problem Behavior: All Students







Problem Behavior



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The School PBIS Team's Intervention

- ODRs and observations indicated differences in perceived basketball rules
- Team clarified rules for staff and students
 □ Aka "code-switching"
- Additional teaching, practice, and acknowledgement
- Monitor with ODRs and Black-White RRs

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The School PBIS Team's Intervention Outcomes

Black-White Risk Ratios

- Overall
 - **2013-14**: **2.67**
 - □2014-15 (Sept to Dec): 2.0
- Physical Aggression on Playground
 - □2013-14: **4.5**
 - □2014-15 (Sept to Dec): can't calculate (1 ODR)



Big Ideas

- Thinking about and discussing solutions is the first step
- Pick a neutralizing routine and try it out
- Use your data to assess and monitor
 - ☐ If you don't have the data you need at hand, advocate for it
- This is hard work but you know how to do it!



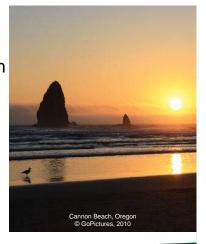
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Handouts: http://kentmcintosh.wordpress.com



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