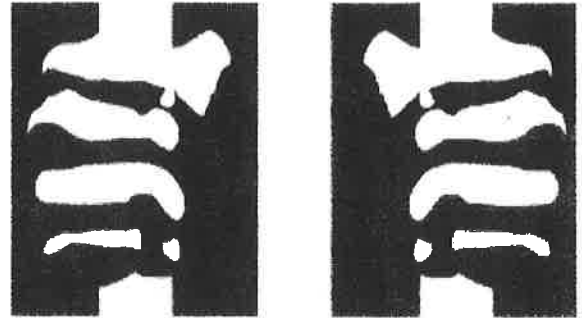


# Stop Jailing Youth – There’s a Better Way!

King County plans to spend \$210 million to tear down the current structures at “Juvie” on 12<sup>th</sup> & Alder and build a new “Children and Family Justice Center” – the CFJC. No New Jim Crow Seattle says, “Yes, knock down the old structures!” They are monuments to a racist, punishment-oriented system that hurts youth of color and their families at greatly disproportional rates. We are also saying, “Don’t build 150 new jail cells and 10 new courtrooms. We want real justice and real safety – not jail cells and courtrooms!”

What No New Jim Crow is calling for instead:

- Meaningful discussions with the youth most affected, their families, and communities...
- Money for education not for incarceration...
- Job creation for youth and adults...
- Dignified, affordable housing...
- Public transportation that is affordable and available to youth and low-income adults throughout the County...
- Don’t sell the corner lots for private development!  
We need that land for Youth and Family-run enterprises of all kinds...
- Abundant mental health and substance abuse services to help struggling parents regain their lives and keep their children out of the foster care system...
- Transformative / Restorative Justice (TJ/RJ) in schools, community centers, and the courts!



**What is Transformative / Restorative Justice?** When there is harm and conflict in our communities, people come together to talk about what is happening, why it is happening, and what we all need to do together to make things right. The people who are hurt get their community’s support. The people doing the hurt get a chance to speak their truth, be heard, and be accountable. Everyone decides together what needs to be done – without resorting to jails, prisons, and punishments. *TJ/RJ is being practiced in communities all over the world! Why not here in Seattle/King County?*

There are now more African Americans in jail, prison, on parole, or under legal “supervision” in the U.S. than were enslaved in 1850.

In King County, black youth are jailed at 6 times the rate of white youth. African American youth are 8% of the youth population but 42% of the jailed youth population.

King County jails an average of 60 youth per day, down from 200 in 1998. With TJ/RJ those numbers will fall still further. Why build 150 new cells?

New Zealand’s juvenile justice system has used Maori-based TJ/RJ since 1989 and incarcerates only youth who have committed homicide.

**Let Executive Dow Constantine know what you think: 206-263-9600 and [kcexec@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kcexec@kingcounty.gov).**

No New Jim Crow Seattle Campaign ~ [nnjcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:nnjcinfo@gmail.com), 206-271-0251 and 206-380-5823  
Next meetings: Sun., Jan. 18, 2:3-4:30 at Columbia City Library and Feb. 8, 2:30-4:30 at Douglass-Truth Library

*We need to break the chains of institutionalized racism now – the new “CFJC” at 12<sup>th</sup> & Alder is the place to start!*

Re: 2014-0486

BFR Meeting 1/20/15  
Public Comment. From  
Mary Patterson