

The Hidden Curriculum of Justice:

How the American Criminal Justice System Educates, and Miseducates, Citizens

1st Annual College of Education Research Symposium Keynote Speech

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For an increasing number of Americans the criminal justice system plays a powerful and pervasive role in shaping notions of civic identity. Officially this education is supposed to reinforce notions of democracy, equality, fairness, as well as the opportunity for rehabilitation. In reality, however, the criminal system offers Americans a hidden curriculum of justice that is quite the opposite—a series of lessons in unlimited state power, racism, and economic death. In this talk Dr. Justice will examine three aspects of the criminal justice system—jury service, incarceration, and policing—and demonstrate the operation of two parallel curricula within them: a symbolic, overt curriculum rooted in positive civic conceptions of fairness and democracy; and a hidden curriculum, rooted in empty or negative conceptions of certain citizens and their relationship to the state.

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Norman Hall Auditorium, UF

5:30-6:00pm: Reception 6:00-7:00pm: Keynote Speech









