



# Draft

# Recommendations

Chapter 3—Racial Terror  
Chapter 8—Pathologizing Black Families

CA Reparations Task Force  
December 14, 2022





# Chapter 3

## Racial Terror

# Corridor of Uninterrupted History Terror and Dehumanization of Black People



**Enslavement  
Paddy Rollers**

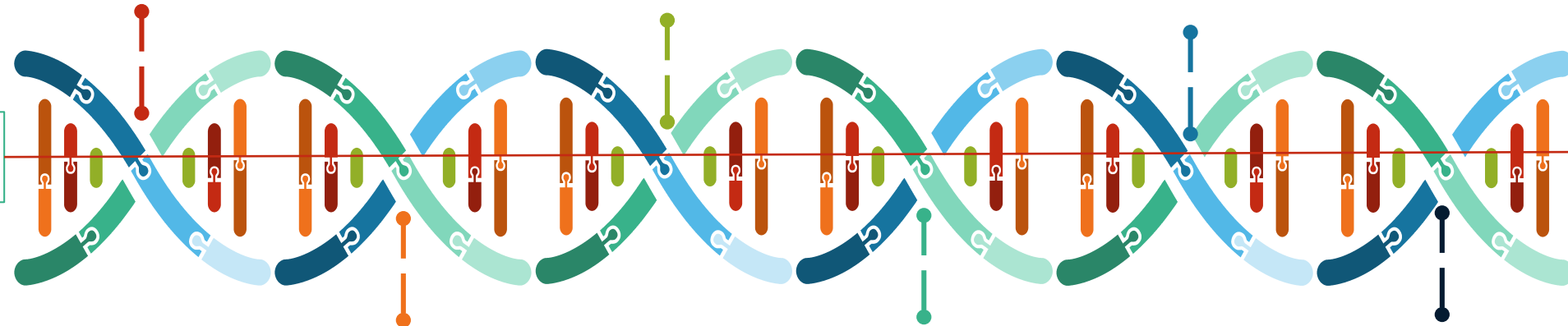


**Convict Leasing**



**Fight for Civil Rights  
Police Assaults and  
Murders**

**PAST**



**PRESENT**



**Reconstruction  
KKK**



**Lynchings  
Great Migration**

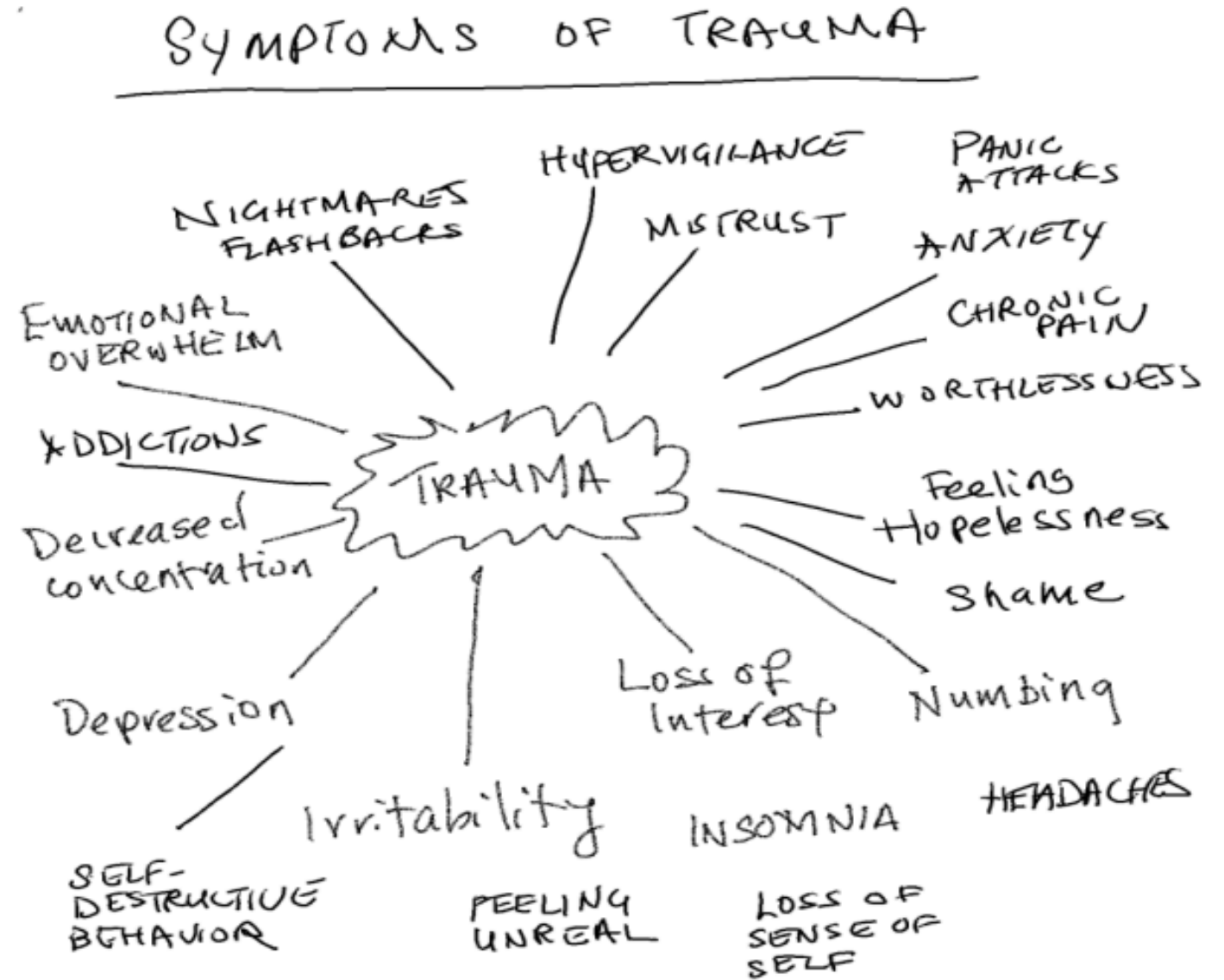


**War on Drugs  
Incarceration**

Racial  
Terror

## Black Racial Trauma

- Individual
- Collective
- Historical
- Intergenerational



# Multidimensional & Multigenerational Terror

## Requires building a culture of repair to restore....

- Psychological, emotional, spiritual and physical well being
- Agency
- Hope
- Narrowed sense of time
- Community well being & ability to see and be with each other from a place of compassion, connection, and free of anti-Black narrative

# Racial Terror

## Recommendations to Build A Culture of Repair

Guarantees of  
Non-Repetition

1. Eliminate legal protections for peace officers who violate civil or constitutional rights
  - a. eliminate requirement that a victim of police violence show that the officer “specifically intended” to violate a constitutional right
2. Comprehensive audit of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and County detention facilities to determine extent of racially biased treatment of African American youth and adults

# Racial Terror

## Recommendations to Build A Culture of Repair

Guarantees of  
Non-Repetition

3. Incorporate behavioral health clinicians into 911 responses
4. Establish state funds and provide criteria to support culturally aligned trauma—informed practices in detention facilities and public schools in CA

# Racial Terror

## Recommendations to Build A Culture of Repair

Rehabilitation

5. Establish and fund **community wellness centers** within African American communities to
  - a. decrease mental health stigma
  - b. teach stress reduction and resilience tools
  - c. create communal spaces
  - d. support cultural and racial socialization to support mental health
  - e. provide community-defined evidence and promising practices prevention and early intervention mental health programs
  - f. offer mental health and health screening and referrals



# Racial Terror

## Recommendations to Build A Culture of Repair

Rehabilitation

6. Require the CA Dept of Public Health to issue guidance on strategies under Medicaid and CHIP to increase African American mental health and substance use disorder care **provider education, training, recruitment, and retention.**
  
7. Conduct a comprehensive audit of CA County Departments of Mental Health regarding their management of MHSA funds to date
  - a. To what extent are funds dispensed to the communities as intended by MHSA?

# Racial Terror

## Recommendations to Build A Culture of Repair

Restitution  
of Community Safety  
Disrupted by Racial  
Terror

8. Fund community driven solutions to decrease community violence at the family, school, and neighborhood levels
  - a. (Possible funding source: MHSA dollars dispensed by County Depts of Mental Health)
  - b. Place emphasis on prevention as well as early intervention, environmental change strategies, and promotion of resilience in the face of stress

# Chapter 8

## Pathologizing the Black Family

WHITE FAMILIES AS EXEMPLARS OF SOCIAL STABILITY



BLACK FAMILIES AS EXEMPLARS OF SOCIAL INSTABILITY

# Pathologizing the Black Family

## The Context

1. The Racialized Narrative: Black families are in disarray and were better off under slavery
2. Impressions of Black families often inspired from the news, television, movies, and music videos
3. Governmental agencies and institutions implement policies and practices grounded in the racialized narrative
4. “At the root of so much of what ails our community is the toxic idea that our lives are less valuable than the lives of others. Overcoming and overturning that idea is the key to transforming our lives.” Enola Aird, President, The Community Healing Network

**Implicit  
Bias**



Pathologizing  
the African  
American  
Family

**Subject Matter**

**Images/Associations**

Poverty/  
Welfare

Black  
families

Child abuse  
Absentee  
fathers

Black  
families

Crime

Black  
families

# Pathologizing the Black Family

## Recommendations

Guarantees of  
Non-Repetition

1. Reduce (eliminate) racial disparities in the removal of African American children from their homes and families
  - a. Audit removals by county child welfare departments statewide including use of neglect as reason for removal
  - b. Implement procedures and annual state audits to address implicit racial bias (contributing to disproportionate investigations and removals of Black children and termination of parental rights)
  - c. Reinvest in promising child welfare community-based prevention practices that involve CBO support
2. \*Policy related to: Overdiagnosis of African American children in schools using a diagnosis of Social Emotional Disturbance

# Pathologizing the Black Family

## Recommendations

Guarantees of  
Non-Repetition

3. Curtail law enforcement activity in California schools and determine alternate methods to increase school safety
4. Institute implicit bias and de-escalation training for school based personnel (particularly law enforcement)
5. Eliminate or reduce charges for phone calls between those in custody in county jails and their families – consistent with California’s recent elimination of call fees for state prisoners
6. Eliminate interest on past-due child support and eliminate past-due child support owed to the government for non-custodial parents

# Pathologizing the Black Family Recommendations

Guarantees of  
Non-Repetition

7. Amend Section 5845 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health whereby the Governor would appoint an additional member to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) who has knowledge and experience in reducing mental health disparities, especially as they relate to African American communities.



# Pathologizing the Black Family Recommendations

Rehabilitation

8. Pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code Section 5840.7 (a) (6), prioritize for adoption PEI spending on Community Defined Evidence Practice (CDEP) services at both the state and County levels
  - a. The inclusion of CDEP language provides local jurisdictions with a concrete example of strategies that constitute culturally competent and linguistically appropriate prevention and intervention for Black residents of CA.
9. Increase the pipeline of funded culturally qualified CBOs to provide in CDEPs including provisions for technical assistance and program evaluation support.

# Pathologizing the Black Family

## Recommendations

Rehabilitation

10. Establish and fund early intervention programs that address intimate partner violence (IPV) within the African American community
  - a. Support the victim(s), the abuser, and minor children within the family exposed to the violence
11. \*Policy related to addressing the disproportionate number of African Americans who are homeless and pathologized due to their unhoused status



# Discussion