

- *What is a poster session?*
- *What is the purpose of a poster?*
- *What are the elements of an effective poster?*
- *What are the considerations for a Showcase poster?*

## WHAT IS A POSTER SESSION?

- Event where researcher presents visual display of research/project on a poster board
- A summary of what you did, how you did it, what you learned
- Short text, mixed with tables, graphs, images on a poster board
- An event where the researcher stands by the poster display during an assigned time so attendees/visitors can come and view the presentation and talk with the researcher

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A POSTER?

- To illustrate an explanation of your project to a viewer while you're there
- To explain your work when you're not there
- To make people want to read your paper or hear more about your research

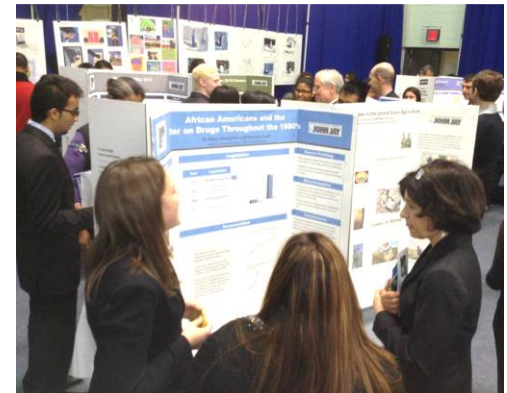
## WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE POSTER?

- Focused on single message
- Use of graphics—images/ graphs can help tell the story, use text sparingly
- Ordered—keep sequence ordered and obvious
- Concise, short, and straightforward writing—long, complex sentences are too difficult for viewers to read and process

## WHAT ARE THE CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SHOWCASE POSTER?

To take advantage of the support provided for poster preparation and poster printing, make sure you:

- Use PowerPoint to create your poster
- Set up the page size at 48" width and 36" height
- Leave a one inch-margin on all sides
- Include the John Jay logo and the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) logo (see example to the right)
- For logos and poster templates, email [cpreda@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:cpreda@jjay.cuny.edu)



Click to see poster

### African Americans and the War on Drugs Throughout the 1980's

By Alyssa Mazzarella and Raevana Sawh  
First Year Seminar '09, Ethnic Studies 101, Professor Julia Rowe

#### Introduction

African Americans are a colored minority group that have received injustice and discrimination. Throughout the 1980's in the midst of the war on drugs, African Americans faced injustice due to improper legislation, racial profiling, and discrimination. By analyzing incarceration rates of this time period, its plan to see a huge disparity between African Americans and other racial groups.

#### Method

- Research was conducted online on sites such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Case Reference Resource Library to find legislation and incarceration rates.
- Research offered assistance as to teachers a class on the War on Drugs and how it affects African Americans in our research of why the legislation failed and why African Americans were targeted.
- Research was conducted using various newspapers and magazines for an enhanced understanding of discrimination.
- Documentation such as "Racist Back" were viewed for an increased understanding of how the War on Drugs affected New York City.

#### Legislation

Year	Legislation
1972	Rockefeller drug law
1984	Comprehensive Crime Control Act
1986	Anti-Drug Abuse Act
1990	Crime Control Act

#### Racial Profiling

- Many people believed African Americans were more likely to carry drugs out of any other race.
- Negative articles and newspapers featured pictures and stories of African Americans being arrested.

#### Discrimination

- Job discrimination kept African Americans from providing for themselves and their families which led to increased desperation which led many to a life of crime.
- African Americans received longer and harsher sentences for drug violations than any other race.

#### Conclusions

Throughout the 1980's African Americans were subjected to a plethora of injustice and cruelty. Police, the media, and even the communities targeted them as the source of the drug problems. Despite government legislation, racial profiling, discrimination, and incarceration ultimately aided in the creation of a permanent underclass society. It was a lack of emphasis on rehabilitation that helped perpetuate these injustices throughout the 80's.

#### Sources

Cook, David. 1986. *Racial Discrimination: How and where in the American criminal justice system.* New York: New Press.

New York Civil Liberties Union. 2008. *The Rockefeller drug laws: unjust, inhumane, ineffective.* New York: New York Civil Liberties Union.

Smiley, Howard B. 2013. *Arrest in the United States: Review of Justice Statistics (December 2013).* NCJ 248759. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

#### Incarceration

- Arrest rate for drug possession (rate increased by 80% between 1980 and 1989)
- In NY state, drug arrest rates for African Americans went from over 12,000 to over 70,000 by 1990
- Most of those in NY state prisons hailed from 7 neighborhoods: South Bronx, Harlem, Brownsville, East New York, South Jamaica, Bedford-Stuyvesant, and Manhattan's Lower East Side