

» BECAUSE THE CONSEQUENCES AREN'T MINOR «

The 2009 Campaign for Youth Justice Student Paper Competition

The Campaign for Youth Justice is a national non-profit organization dedicated to ending the practice of trying, sentencing and incarcerating youth under the age of 18 in the adult criminal justice system. We believe that youth are better served by the juvenile justice system, where greater emphasis is placed on developmentally-appropriate rehabilitative and educational services. To achieve our mission we work with advocates and policymakers at the federal, state and local levels. We also empower formerly incarcerated youth and their parents and families to speak out against these policies, believing that those most impacted must remain at the heart of what we do. We are also interested in learning about the needs of youth, and so the Campaign is launching its first annual paper competition to spark new research and reward students studying about the needs of youth prosecuted in the adult system.

Call for Papers

The Campaign for Youth Justice will award one prize of \$250 to one undergraduate student and a prize of \$500 to one graduate student for an *original* research paper written on a topic pertaining to youth in the adult criminal system. If there are multiple authors, the award will be divided among the recipients. Papers should uncover new information about the issue of youth tried as adults by predominantly citing primary sources. Papers centered on the following topics are encouraged:

- Historical or political analyses of changes in transfer policies in a particular state (not national trends)
- Conditions of confinement for youth held in adult jails or prisons
- The impact of transfer policies on youth of color
- Collateral consequences (e.g. effect of criminal conviction post-incarceration)
- Girls in the adult system
- Reviews of existing literature are discouraged unless no other review has been conducted on the topic in the previous ten years.

In addition to the monetary award, winning papers may be published as a policy brief, posted on our website (www.campaignforyouthjustice.org) or circulated in our monthly newsletter.

Eligibility

This competition is available to undergraduate students who are currently enrolled or accepted to a university, graduate students who are currently enrolled or accepted to a university, or recent graduates (within one year of graduation from either an undergraduate or graduate program). Any co-authors must also be students; faculty co-authors are not permitted. To ensure eligibility, every author and co-author must submit proof of student or recent student status. Letters from department chairs or an unofficial transcript would suffice. Papers submitted as part of a dissertation are encouraged and may result in additional financial support toward completion of the dissertation.

Criteria

The paper should be an original research paper using primary sources, between 15 and 25 pages double-spaced, with all references, notes and tables. It should be properly footnoted with an acceptable referencing format such as APA. An abstract of 100 words should be included. Papers will be judged on their thoroughness, organization, quality of research as well as inclusion of new data.

Submission

Please submit an electronic copy to Bieta Andemariam (bandemariam@cfyj.org) no later than April 1, 2009. In the reference line, please identify whether this is to be considered for the graduate or undergraduate competition. Applicants will be notified by May 1, 2009. For any correspondence or questions please email, or call (202) 558-3580 ext. 17.