

**Title:** Is the Criminal Justice System Biased against Marginalized Communities, and How Can This Be Addressed?

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# Introduction

The criminal justice system has long been biased against people from marginalized communities, including racial minorities and long-oppressed groups such as LGBTQ-identifying people and people of color. People from these communities are often treated as second-class citizens, with judgments passed based on racial profiling.

## Thesis Statement

Marginalized groups receive more radical punishments compared to “high-profile” groups that include heterosexual, wealthy, upper-class, Caucasian assailants.

## The Flaws of Criminal Justice

The criminal justice system has major flaws concerning oppressed and marginalized groups. The system denies equal treatment to individuals coming from one of the disadvantaged groups based on their physical appearance, income, race, or sexuality (Nadal, 2020). Consequently, such people face harsher punishments and are more likely to be severely persecuted. Institutional racism and cultural bias are to be blamed for unfair treatment, making it harder for these communities to get justice.

## Other Instances of Unfair Treatment

Despite the international courts declaring non-discrimination based on one’s ethnic origin, sexual identity, race, or gender, there have been reports of female defendants being treated with a more pronounced bias compared to male defendants of the same race. LGBTQ defendants, defendants of mixed ethnic origins, and non-white accused have been subjected to harsher punishments in global courts under the guise of not having enough evidence to

support their innocence (DeWeaver, 2025). These instances have never been addressed by upper-class citizens, and justice has never been restored.

## Conclusion

The issues existing in the current legislation system around the world make it impossible to judge marginalized groups fairly, resulting in systematic oppression of the said groups.

Furthermore, the oppressed groups are affected by unfair treatment triggered by their social and economic status in our society.

## References

Emile Suotonye DeWeaver. (2025). *Ghost in the Criminal Justice Machine: Reform, White Supremacy, and an Abolitionist Future*. The New Press.

Kevin Leo Yabut Nadal. (2020). *Queering Law and Order: LGBTQ Communities and the Criminal Justice System*. Lexington Books.