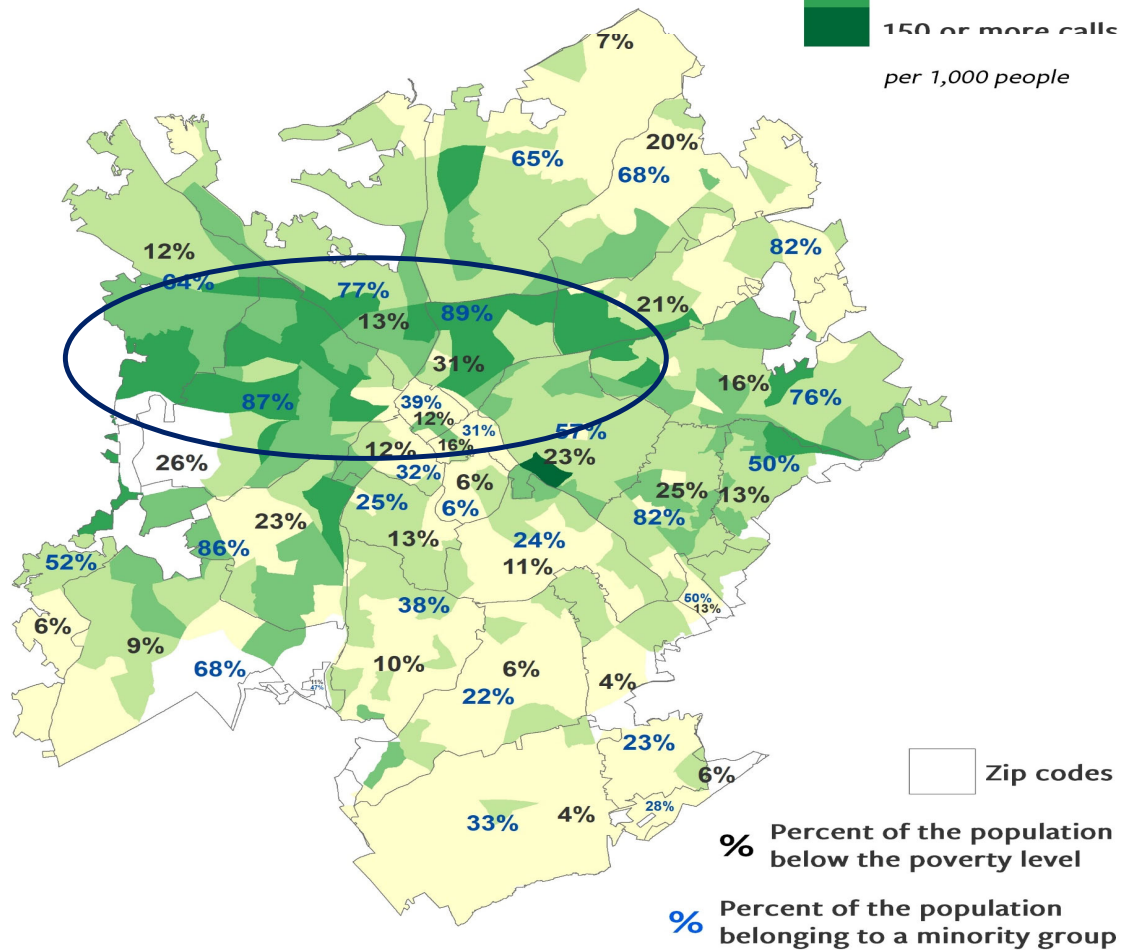
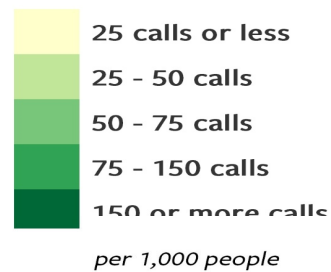


Animal Control Call Rate



Highest concentration of calls are in the highest poverty and minority population areas:

- Poverty is between 26% - 31%
- 88% of the population is in a minority group

Baltimore

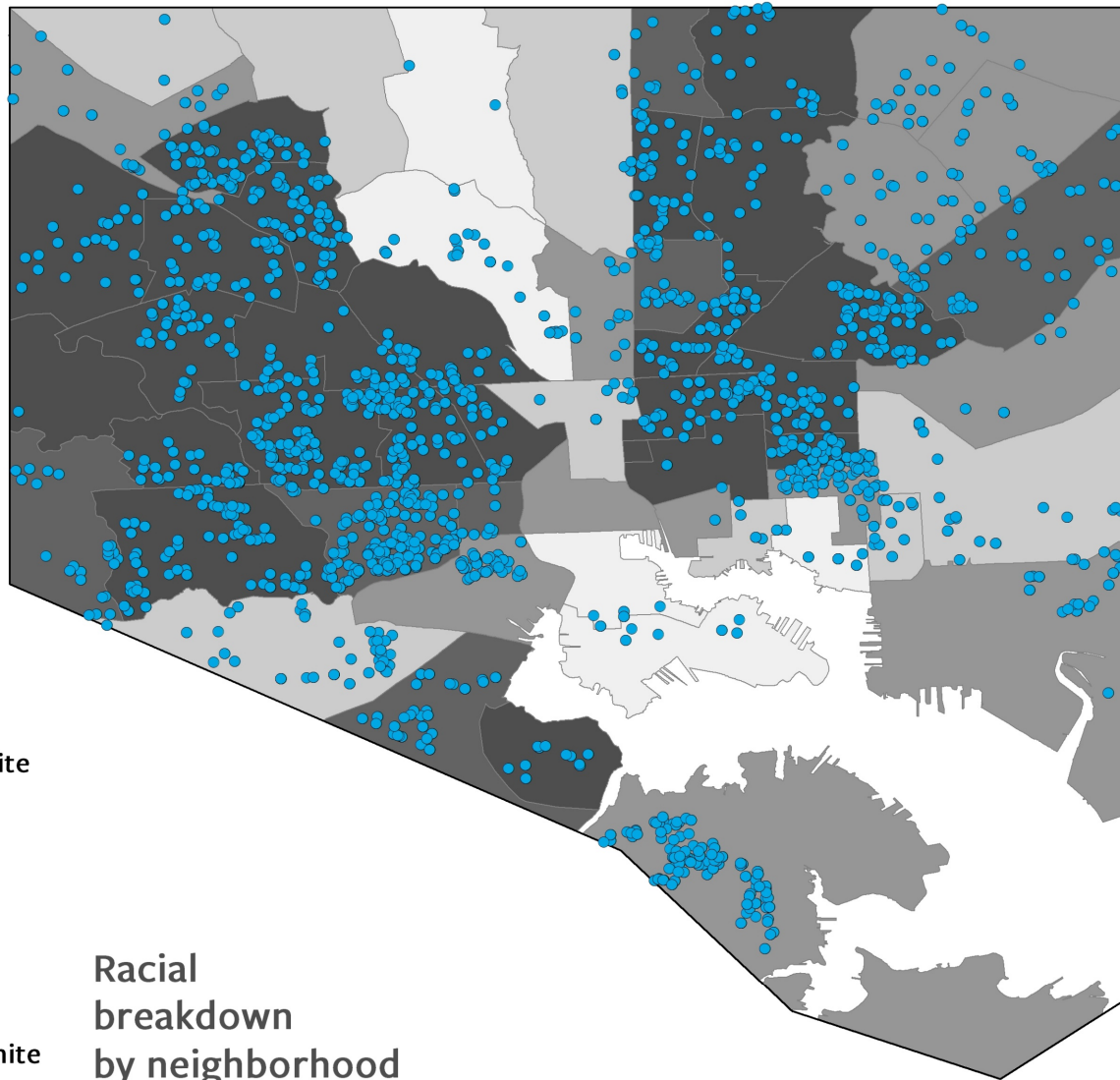
Animal-Related Environmental Citations

Failure to Vaccinate
and Unlicensed Pets

● One citation



Racial
breakdown
by neighborhood



Destabilizing Communities Through Enforcement

- Fines and Civil Citations
 - Civil remedies are still quasi-criminal
 - Non-payment of fines results in jail time
 - Debt traps - promotes financial insecurity for low income people and families which further perpetuates income inequality and the racial wealth gap

“Fines are, technically, punishment. I would locate fines and fees as part of that sort of vicious cycle, a regressive burden imposed on individuals who come into contact with the criminal system.”

-- Alexandra Natapoff, Professor Loyola Law School

Destabilizing Communities Through Enforcement

- Collateral Consequences
 - Housing
 - Job opportunities
 - Drivers license suspension
 - Personal relationships
 - Parental rights
 - Mental and emotional stress

“We need to recognize that our justice systems have put many so deep in a hole that there is no stable foundation upon which to build. We need to fill the massive holes created by unjustifiable fees and fines, and end decades-long policies that criminalized poverty and racialized crime. “

--Tirien Steinbach, UC Berkeley School of Law

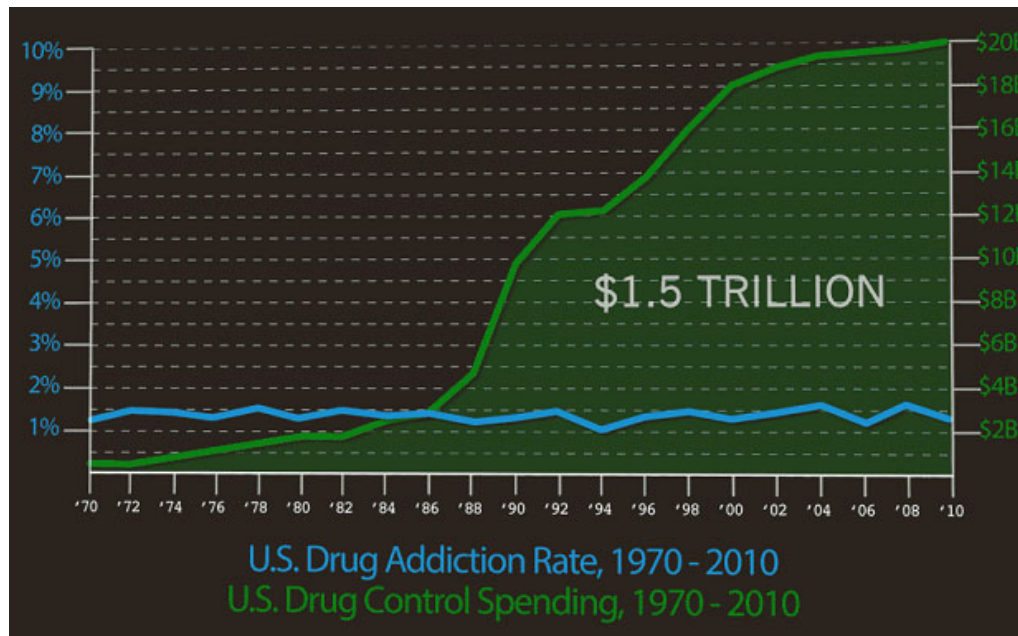
Support Instead of Punishment

“Research suggests that Philadelphia could put the narcotics market out of business by diverting resources from futile efforts to police and incarcerate, and instead investing heavily in economic opportunity for vulnerable neighborhoods.”

--Larry Krasner, Philadelphia District Attorney

Learn from Others

- Domestic Violence turn to enforcement as a primary response
 - Scope of problem remains the same even after decades of deep legal response
 - “Enforcement approach exacerbates social inequalities by diverting more power and resources toward a fundamentally flawed criminal justice system, further harming victims, perpetrators, and communities alike.” --Aya Gruber, Professor of Law at University of Colorado
- War on Drugs
 - Drug use has not gone down

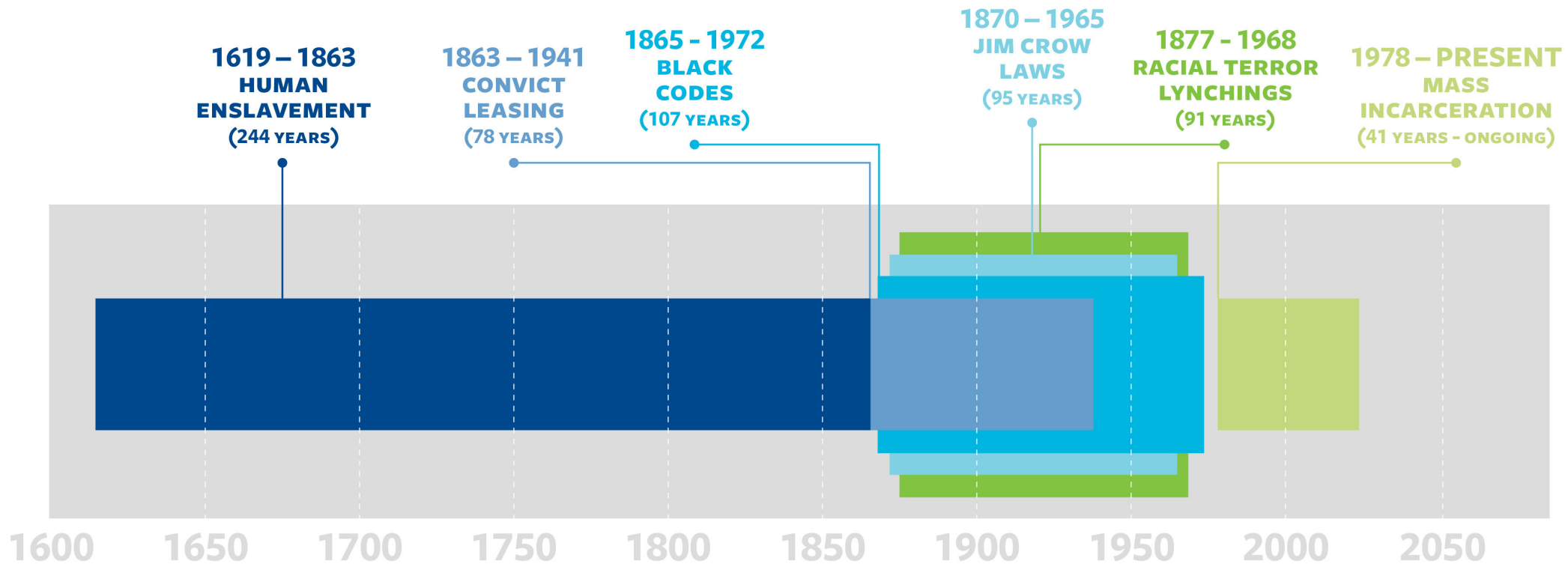


Hunting and Agriculture Exemptions

- Racially discriminatory
 - 2% of hunters are African American and 2% are Latinx according to US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - 95% of farmers are White – US Department of Agriculture
- Violate principles of equal protection of the law?

What Works

- Understanding history and the human condition
- Using our moral authority responsibly – shining a light on systems of oppressions and not participating in upholding those systems



Over the past few years we have become increasingly focused on providing supportive services and less focused on punitive enforcement. The shift in approach has made our interactions with citizens less stressful for everyone involved and our ACOs and our agency, in general, are viewed more favorably. As a result, ACOs now tend to be approached more frequently than before by citizens seeking information or services. It has enabled us to be consistent in serving people and animals across all areas and titles in our operation.

--Chris Fitzgerald, Rochester Animal Services

When the Brant County SPCA began offering more supportive services within our community, the positive results were instantaneous. We now see the same individuals who were previously being investigated, fined or even sent to court come out to our events. They use our pet food pantries, participate in wellness clinics and have developed comfortable relationships where they have no problem talking to staff and volunteers about their pets asking advice on day to day care or medical concerns. It's wonderful to see their comfort level grow and how they have come to trust our program and reach out to us whenever they need to.

--Niki Melo, Brant County SPCA

"Rescuing" animals means we have to provide daily care, cleaning, feeding, veterinary care, adoption prep, adoption counseling, etc. The cost to shelter an animal is much higher than the cost to support a pet that is already in a home. As we have stripped away the policies, fees, practices that prevented pets from staying with their families we have found greater success.

--Aldwin Roman, Charleston Animal Society

Many of the calls and requests that our law enforcement team receive that are around cruelty or neglect are actually a lack of access to resources for pet owners. Our outreach team has begun to go out on calls with our law enforcement officers or on their own to respond to these calls and assist owners in accessing the care or resources they need for their pets.

---Alyssa Krieger, MSPCA





Cost Efficiency

- Rochester Animal Services
 - Average Cost of Support - \$160
 - Average Cost of Care in Shelter - \$375/dog and \$300/cat
- Salt Lake City Animal Services
 - Average Cost of Support - \$116
 - Average Cost of Care in Shelter - \$426

Considerations

- Are we criminalizing poverty?
- Are we destabilizing communities which hurts more animals in the long term?
- Are we separating animal welfare from other social justice and criminal justice reform movements?
- Are we exacerbating economic and racial divides?
- Are laws the most effective way to having fewer tethered dogs?
- If we recognize there are real issues in the criminal justice system – that inequity and discrimination exists – how can we uphold or grow that system without regard to the consequences?
- Is animal welfare exempt from contributing to systems of oppression?