THE DEPAUL HUMANITIES CENTER CONDEMNATION: JUSTICE, PRISON, PUNISHMENT, PERSECUTION PRESENTS

A History of White Privilege and Docile Bodies

PRISONS, SCHOOLS, AND THE INSTITUTIONS OF DOMINATION

FEATURING

"Crucibles of Dominance and Discontent: Race and Racism in America's Earliest Prisons."

Taja-Nia Henderson

Associate Professor, Rutgers School of Law – Newark Visiting Fellow, DePaul Humanities Center "Prisoner in Perpetuity: Education, Housing, Law Enforcement, and the Future of Black Life"

David Stovall

Associate Professor of Educational Policy Studies and African-American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago

There are more African American men in prison or on probation today in the United States than were enslaved in this country in 1850. The institutions around us shift and change their faces, but the ideology driving them seems to remain constant, with white privilege at the heart of the American experiment. A greater focus on education is often argued to be one possible solution, but this overlooks the way in which the institutions of education participate in the same ideology. If, as Foucault would tell us, discipline is about the way in which institutions and practices embody power, forcing subjects to become appropriate inhabitants of those institutions and practices, then how are we to go about rethinking the current institutions of discipline that seem to be designed to create docile bodies-of-color and perpetuate white privilege? Join us for an interdisciplinary discussion of these important issues as we conclude our yearlong programming series, "CondemNation: Justice, Prison, Punishment, Persecution."

