

SCHIZOPHRENIA DIAGNOSIS, COMPULSORY DETENTION, PRISON & SCHOOL EXCLUSION

Suman Fernando

**European Centre for Study of Migration & Social
Care (MASC), University of Kent at Canterbury
Department of Applied Social Sciences, London
Metropolitan University**

ETHNIC ISSUES BRITISH FINDINGS

Black / Ethnic Minorities more often:

Diagnosed as schizophrenic

Compulsorily detained under the Mental Health Act

Admitted as 'offender patients'

Held by police under S. 136 of Mental Health Act

Transferred to locked wards

Not referred for psychotherapy

Given high doses of medication

Sent to psychiatrists by courts

DIAGNOSIS OF 'SCHIZOPHRENIA' AFRICAN-CARIBBEANS IN BIRMINGHAM FIRST ADMISSIONS: 1980 - 1983

Rates compared to those among indigenous white people

	Men	Women
Immigrants	X 5	X 4
British-born	X 7	X 14

Ref: McGovern, D. & Cope, J. (1987) 'First psychiatric admission rates of first and second generation Afro-Caribbeans', *Social Psychiatry*, 122, 139-49

DIAGNOSIS OF 'SCHIZOPHRENIA' AFRICAN-CARIBBEANS IN NOTTINGHAM 1984 - 1986

Rates compared to general rates

	Age Group	
	16-29	30-44
Immigrants	X 10	X 12
British-born	x18	

Ref: Harrison, G. et al., (1988) 'A prospective study of severe mental disorder in Afro-Caribbean patients', *Psychological Medicine*, 18, 643-57

COMPULSORY DETENTION ('SECTIONING') AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN MEN IN BIRMINGHAM CIVIL ORDERS (SECTIONS 2, 4 & 3 MHA) 1980-1983

Compared to white indigenous population

	Age Group	
	16-29	30-44
Immigrants	X 17	X 7
British-born	X 9	-
Asian	X 1.5	X 3

Ref: McGovern, D. & Cope, R. '(1987) 'The compulsory detention of males of different ethnic groups, with special reference to offender patients', *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 150, 505-12

COMPULSORY DETENTION ('SECTIONING') AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN MEN IN BIRMINGHAM COURT ORDERS (SECTIONS 37, 38, & 41 MHA)

Compared to white indigenous population

	Age Group	
	16-29	30-44
Immigrants	X 25	X 7
British-born	X 5	-
Asian	-	-

Ref: McGovern, D. & Cope, R. (1987) 'The compulsory detention of males of different ethnic groups, with special reference to offender patients', *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 150, 505-12

SE LONDON, NOTTINGHAM, BRISTOL

AGED 16 - 64: SEPT 1997 TO AUGUST 1999

PEOPLE PRESENTING TO PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES AND DIGANOSSED AS 'PSYCHOTIC'(N=568)

'INCIDENCE RATES' COMPARED TO WHITE BRITISH (=1.0)

(no age or 'generational' effects)

	SCHIZOPRHENIA (m-f)	ALL PSYCHOSES (m-f)
AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN	9.1 (7.9-11.4)	6.7 (5.6-8.1)
BLACK AFRICAN	5.8 (5.3-6.8)	4.1 (4.0-4.2)
ASIAN	1.4 (0.9-2.8)	1.5 (1.3-1.9)
OTHER	3.5 (3.5-3.2)	2.6 (2.4-2.9)
MIXED	2.6 (2.8-2.1)	2.7 (2.7-2.7)
WHITE OTHER	2.5 (2.5-2.4)	1.6 (1.7-1.5)

**COMPULSORY DETENTION ('SECTIONING')
OF PEOPLE GIVEN DIAGNOSIS OF PSYCHOSIS
CIVIL ORDERS (SECTIONS 2, 4 & 3 MHA)
South London, 1993**

Ethnic Group	Relative Risk*
Whites	1.0
Others (Asians)	1.1
Africans	1.62
African-Caribbean	1.67

* ethnic differences were independent of socio-demographic differences

Ref: Davies, S. et al. (1996) 'Ethnic differences in risks of compulsory psychiatric admission among representative cases of psychosis in London', *British Medical Journal*, 312, 533-7

2008-2009 STATISTICS (compared to 2007-08) ADMISSION AND SECTIONING

Numbers of inpatients

Fell by 3.0 % overall

Rose by 5.3% for Black/Black British

Compulsory detention of inpatients

53 % Black/Black British were sectioned

31% White were sectioned

Numbers detained as inpatients

Fell by 1.6% for White

Rose by 9.7% for Black/Black British

**Reference: *Mental Health Bulletin, The Health and Social Care Information
Centre, NHS , 25 November, 2009***

PRISON POPULATION IN THE UK 2000 ETHNIC STATISTICS

Rates compared to rate in white population

	Males	Females
Black	x 10	x 16
Asian	x 1.5	x 0.6

Ref: *Prison statistics England and Wales 2000* Cited in *Race and the Criminal Justice System*, Home Office, London, 2002. [<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/index.htm> (downloaded 27 Sept. 2004)]

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND 'RACE' HOME OFFICE STATISTICS 2000

BLACK PEOPLE COMPARED TO WHITES:

More likely to be stopped and searched

More likely to be arrested

Less likely to be cautioned (and let off)

AND WHEN CHARGED:

More likely to plead not guilty

More likely to be remanded in custody

More likely to be acquitted

AND WHEN FOUND GUILTY:

Less likely to be fined / discharged

More likely to receive a sentence

**Ref: Variety of sources cited in *Race and the Criminal Justice System*, Home Office, London, 2002.
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds.index.htm>**

ATTAINMENT AT PRIMARY SCHOOL AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN CHILDREN IN BIRMINGHAM 1998/9 STATISTICS

BASELINE ATTAINMENT = 20 % ABOVE AVERAGE

(ATTAINMENT DECLINED AT EACH KEY STAGE)

ATTAINMENT AT KEY STAGE FOUR = 21 % BELOW AVERAGE

“Available evidence suggests that the inequalities of attainment for African-Caribbean pupils become progressively greater as they move through the school system; such differences become more pronounced between the end of primary school and the end of secondary education”

Ref: Gillborn, D. & Mirza, H. (2000) *Educational Inequality - Mapping Race, Class and Gender - synthesis of research evidence*. London OFSTED.

EXPERIENCE OF BLACK CHILDREN MULTIRACIAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS EARLY 1990s STUDY

“The typical experience for African-Caribbean pupils was one of high teacher expectations for bad behaviour and high incidence of teacher disapproval, criticism and control”

Wright, C. (1992) ‘Multiracial primary school classrooms’ in D Gill et al. *Racism and Education - Structures and Strategies*. Sage, London.

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL 1997/8 ETHNIC STATISTICS

As percentage of all school-age children in each ethnic group

All ethnic groups	0.18%
Black Caribbean	0.76%
Black African	0.29%
Black Other	0.57%

(Total number of all exclusions=12,076)

Ref: Annual Schools' Census 1999 cited in L. Appiah and N. Chunilal (eds.) *Runnymede Trust Briefing Paper December 1999*. Runnymede Trust, London 1999.

ATTAINMENT AT PRIMARY SCHOOL AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN CHILDREN IN BIRMINGHAM 1998/9 STATISTICS

BASELINE ATTAINMENT = 20 % ABOVE AVERAGE

(ATTAINMENT DECLINED AT EACH KEY STAGE)

ATTAINMENT AT KEY STAGE FOUR = 21 % BELOW AVERAGE

“Available evidence suggests that the inequalities of attainment for African-Caribbean pupils become progressively greater as they move through the school system; such differences become more pronounced between the end of primary school and the end of secondary education”

Ref: Gillborn, D. & Mirza, H. (2000) *Educational Inequality - Mapping Race, Class and Gender - synthesis of research evidence*. London OFSTED.

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL 1997/8: ETHNIC STATISTICS

Total number = 12,076

Black 10.1%

South Asian 3.1%

Chinese etc 2.8%

Ref: Annual Schools' Census 1999 cited in L. Appiah and N. Chunilal (eds.) *Runnymede Trust Briefing Paper December 1999*. Runnymede Trust, London 1999.

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL 1997/8 ETHNIC STATISTICS

As percentage of all school-age children in each ethnic group

All groups	0.18%
Black Caribbean	0.76%
Black African	0.29%
Black Other	0.57%

(Total number of all exclusions=12,076)

Ref: Annual Schools' Census 1999 cited in L. Appiah and N. Chunilal (eds.) *Runnymede Trust Briefing Paper December 1999*. Runnymede Trust, London 1999.

OFFENDING AND SCHOOL EXCLUSION

Two thirds of the population of Youth Offender Institutes (YOIs) had left school or been put out of school at age of 13 or under.

Home Office Research

“The 13,000 young people excluded from school each year might as well be given a date by which to join the prison service some time later down the line.”

Martin Narey - Director General of the Prison Service (2001)

Ref: John, Gus (2004) ‘Behaviour, mental health and underachievement’, Talk given at Conference *Sustainable Recovery, Rehabilitation and Prevention*, held at Manchester 20-21 September, 2004.