

## **AFRICAN-AMERICANS**

## Education

- \* Nearly half of African-American teenagers in Chicago fail to graduate from high school.
- \* In Washington, D.C. nearly four times as many African-American men were jailed in the district's prisons as graduated from its public schools.<sup>6</sup>
- \* Mississippi Delta: Sharkey and Issaquena counties: some 60% of African-American people are classified as functionally illiterate, with reading skills at or below the eighth grade level.<sup>7</sup>



"Hiring discrimination against African-American men is entrenched and widespread. For African-Americans and

whites with the same qualifications, whites are three times more likely to get favored in hiring practices, i.e. allowed to submit applications, receive an interview or get a job offer....At any given time, 43% of African-American men are without jobs."



A Department of Housing study indicates that over 6 million people were homeless in the decade of the eighties. Racism in the U.S. puts African-American people's daily existence at risk of being in the streets or already living in the streets. While African-American people are officially counted as being 12% of the U.S. population, they represent at least 48% of the homeless population. In New York State, African-American people are 17% of the total population but 60% of the homeless. The shelter systems for the homeless are similar to the Bantu homelands in South Africa.



## Judicial System

African-American males in the U.S. are jailed at a rate FOUR TIMES that of Black males in South Africa. African Americans in general are also more often the victims of police killings than whites.

Racial and ethnic breakdown of fatal shootings by police in New York City.

Year	White	Black		Year	White	Black
1980	3	19		1985	3	6
1981	8	13		1986	2	9
1982	9	10		1987	0	12
1983	4	16		1988	7	9
1984	5	11		1989	10	10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Economist, April 1991.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Sharkey & Issaquena Challenge Commission, 1989.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Urban Institute Study, May 1991.