



Are the Kids alright?

COVID-19 + YOUTH

RESEARCH. POLICY. PRACTICE. ADVOCACY.

COVID-19 & JUSTICE SYSTEMS II: YOUTH SUPPORT, SAFETY, & ACCOUNTABILITY INNOVATIONS

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2020**

Josh Rovner

The Sentencing Project

Josh Rovner manages a portfolio of juvenile justice issues for The Sentencing Project, including juveniles sentenced to life without parole, the transfer of juveniles into the adult criminal justice system, and racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice.

His work has supported reforms in numerous states through research and testimony. He is the author of several papers and fact sheets for The Sentencing Project, including *How Tough on Crime Became Tough on Kids: Prosecuting Teenage Drug Charges in Adult Courts* and *Racial Disparities in Youth Commitments and Arrests*, and has had opinion pieces published in the *Atlantic*, the *Washington Post*, the *Houston Chronicle*, and the *Hartford Courant*.



Rovner has tracked the incidence of COVID-19 in juvenile detention, correction, and other residential facilities among incarcerated youth and the staff employed therein since March 2020. This work has been cited by United States Senators, the *Washington Post*, National Public Radio, NBC News, the Associated Press, and other sources as the definitive source of information on the incidence of COVID-19 in juvenile facilities.

Rovner has worked on juvenile development issues, such as access to primary and mental health care, tobacco prevention, and comprehensive health education. He previously worked at the School-Based Health Alliance, Metro TeenAIDS, the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and the Council of the District of Columbia.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Rochester and a Master of Public Policy from the George Washington University.

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A virtual forum hosted by the



**Youth Justice
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