Twitter Thread by Wagatwe Wanjuki ■■ ■■



Wagatwe Wanjuki ■■ ■■
@wagatwe

many points of this list boil down to MORE money for cops.

they’re asking for ONE BILLION DOLLARS in additional funding for the rape kits ALONE.

> Survivors deserve policies that protect them and support their fight for justice. As President Biden and Vice President Harris take office, we\u2019ve sent them a letter outlining the actions we\u2019d like to see their administration prioritize over the next 4 years. @rainnaction 1/5 pic.twitter.com/dAuhCslVTm
>
> — RAINN (@RAINN) January 26, 2021

notice many of these points are about giving more money to the state so they can put more people in jail.

i’ve long said the concept of a “rape kit backlog” is copaganda. it helps cops look like they’re not the ones actively sabotaging rape cases AND justify get more $$ for an issue they don’t care about.

"as you know, this means that thousands of sexual offenders remain at large, free to reoffend"

Carceral.

1. Eliminate the Rape Kit Backlog

President-Elect Biden, as both a senator and the vice president, led efforts to pass the Debbie Smith Act (DSA) and the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI). This funding for the analysis of rape kits at state and local crime laboratories has turned out to be one of the most successful crime-fighting efforts in existence. Forty-two percent of all matches in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) DNA system, CODIS, are a result of DSA funding. As of September 2020, CODIS had produced more than 533,268 hits assisting in more than 521,562 investigations.[1] That's more than 200,000 investigations aided as a result of DSA.

As a result of this success, and growing public and law enforcement awareness of the value of using DNA to solve old, as well as current, rape cases, demand for testing has grown: between FY 2011 and FY 2017, the demand for testing increased by 85 percent.[2] That means that the backlog of untested evidence has not yet been eliminated, despite the funding DSA and SAKI have provided. In fact, while some states has reduced or cleared their backlogs, it is estimated that hundreds of thousands[3] of rape kits still sit untested in police stations and crime labs. As you know, this means that thousands of sexual offenders remain at large, free to reoffend.

Recommendation: As Vice President-Elect Harris has proposed, we support a $1 billion infusion, over four years, to eliminate the rape kit backlog. This funding should be in addition to currently authorized amounts.

Ah, yes, trauma-informed abuse ■

Notice how they use "strongest predictor of arrest" as a metric for success. So it isn't even about victims...its about the system throwing more people in jail. They keep talking about rapists being "at large#"

6. Prioritize Trauma-Informed Training for Law Enforcement

Victims of sexual violence have a right to expect that, if they report a sexual assault to their local law enforcement agency, the response they will receive will be trauma-informed and respectful. However, research and experience show us this is not always the case.

Studies have shown that victim cooperation is the strongest predictor of arrest in sexual assault investigations.[21] If a victim's first encounter with law enforcement—or previous experience with law enforcement—is negative, this diminishes the likelihood of cooperation, resulting in the potential for serial offenders to remain at large.

Translation: since cops are abusive assholes to victims, let's give them more money!!!

> **Recommendation:** Every state is responsible for establishing training standards for its law enforcement officers. These state standards and required training curricula come under review every several years. The Biden-Harris Administration should support the establishment of a grant program to incentivize states to revise their standards to include mandatory trauma-informed victim interviewing training for law enforcement officers. In addition to detective-level training, these standards should require training for all patrol officers, who are often the first to engage with a victim of sexual assault. This will ensure that victims are more likely to receive responses that are centered around their well-being. This training will also ensure that law enforcement is able to obtain the information and evidence necessary for a successful prosecution.

Neoliberalism is one of the biggest barriers to justice for survivors and abuse prevention.

Black organizers asked to defund the police based on our experiences and a white, well-funded organization basically shits on Black communities asking to REALLY FUND THE POLICE

Anyway i have a long ass thread with tons of evidence showing why cops should not be in charge of handling rape https://t.co/xoAc40k0DB

> I know long threads are hard, so I compiled all of the studies and linked them in one place for easier reference: https://t.co/6qTavjvFpN
>
> — Wagatwe Wanjuki \U0001f1f0\U0001f1ea \U0001f1e7\U0001f1f8 (@wagatwe) July 5, 2020

Shout out to Biden for being such a pioneer in using VAW, which disportionately impacts Black and Indigenous people, to justify giving more money and power to predominantly white, male institutions!

https://t.co/51tB2tY1QT

> Another side effect of VAWA: deradicalizing orgs, promoting a shift from treating VAW as a symptom of a gender oppression to...playing whack-a-mole with abuse where most victims dont get help from the state, but state efforts are deemed "successful" by its own parameters. pic.twitter.com/N5Zoi68EBB
>
> — Wagatwe Wanjuki \U0001f1f0\U0001f1ea \U0001f1e7\U0001f1f8 (@wagatwe) September 2, 2020