University of Nebraska - Lincoln
DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

10th Annual National Conference (2005): Different Perspectives on Majority Rules

People of Color in Predominantly White Institutions

11-1-2005

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Incarceration and the Family Today

Suzanne Mayo-Theus
Doctoral Student, School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/pocpwi10

Part of the Race, Ethnicity and post-Colonial Studies Commons

Mayo-Theus, Suzanne, "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Incarceration and the Family Today" (2005). *10th Annual National Conference (2005): Different Perspectives on Majority Rules* . Paper 24.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/pocpwi10/24

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the People of Color in Predominantly White Institutions at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in 10th Annual National Conference (2005): Different Perspectives on Majority Rules by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Incarceration and the Family Today

Abstract
This presentation will 1) provide knowledge and theory of caregivers as it relates to incarceration, 2) lead the participants through a description of the societal concern of grandparents raising grandchildren as caregivers, and 3) encourage participants to share their own experiences and ideas associated with care giving for children with parents incarcerated.

Suzanne Mayo-Theus
Doctoral Student, School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University

More children today than ever before are living with grandparents and other relatives while their parents are imprisoned. *Incarcerated Parents and Their Children,* The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report published in 2000, indicates that in each state federal prison approximately 600,000 children have parents who are incarcerated (BJS, 2000). According to these figures, more than one child in fifty has an incarcerated parent and millions will face this crisis at some point in their young lives. With the country's incarcerated populations growing at an average rate of 60% per year (BJS, 2000), the number of children with parents in prison will continue to increase. The trend in both law and policy regarding children in out-of-home care is toward early termination of parental rights and placement of foster care or adoption. As the rate at which adults are being incarcerated in the United States escalates, childcare providers, child welfare professionals and educators are experiencing growing numbers of children who have parents in prison. Law enforcement administrators estimate that more than 2 million children have at least one incarcerated parent, and thousands of others have experienced the incarceration of a parent at some point in their lives (U.S. Census, 2000)

Presenter
Suzanne Mayo-Theus is a professional fundraiser and strategic planner, with over 25 years of experiences, who specializes in building donor loyalty and surpassing revenue goals. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Grambling State University, a Master's degree from the University of District of Columbia, and is currently a PhD student in Family Studies at Kansas State University. A compelling speaker and fundraiser, with an easy charm, she foster confidence and motivates donors to give at phenomenal levels. Suzanne has been responsible for raising over $50 million for universities and nonprofit organizations. An expert who speaks and consults for organizations in transition, she has been responsible for innovative strategies and keeping ahead of the competition