

MYTH VS. FACT

Youth Transfer Laws

MYTH # 1

Youth violent crime, including murder, is on the rise.

FACT

Today's youth are less likely to be implicated in murder than youth in the 1990s. The number of known youth homicide offenders in 2010 was 1/3 the number in the 1994 peak.

MYTH #2

More youths are using firearms to commit crimes.

FACT

The number of youthful offenders who committed their crime with a firearm fell 30% between 2007 and 2010.

MYTH #3

Youth transfer laws deter crime and prevent recidivism.

FACT

Studies show that youth transfer schemes have no proven deterrent effect on crime and have caused increases in recidivism across many jurisdictions.

MYTH #4

The public wants harsher punishments for youth.

FACT:

The public (90%) supports a focus on prevention and rehabilitation rather than imprisonment, and strongly endorses a variety of rehabilitation programs.

The above information was gathered from OJJDP & UCLA Law.
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