

Not Just a Ferguson Problem

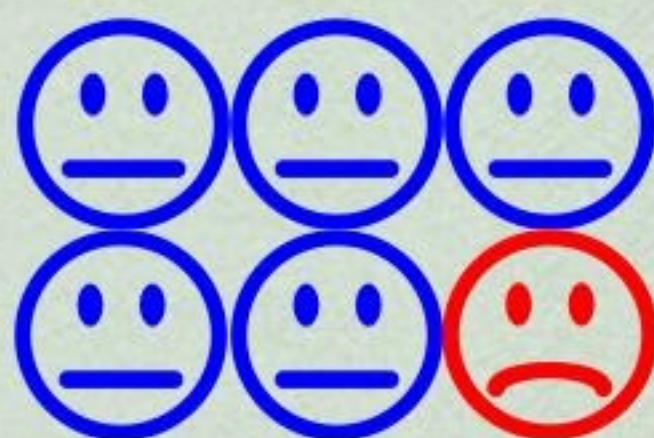
How Traffic Courts Drive Inequality in California



Ticket Received
Whether for rolling a stop sign, jaywalking, or littering

by law, fines increase automatically
a \$100 ticket instantly costs \$490

courthouse doors are closed
after one missed deadline to appear or pay



1 in 6 licenses is suspended in California
affecting over 4 million people

driver's license suspended for unpaid fine
reinstatement only upon payment in full

fine increases again
regardless of the reason for the missed deadline
\$100 ticket now costs \$815

42% lose their jobs*

Only 45% find new jobs

*NJ Study, 2007

88% with new jobs have lower wages



suspended licenses lead to lost jobs and decreased wages

increased social and economic costs
need for public benefits and social services, costs to courts and law enforcement, and uncollected debt all go up

inequality grows
communities of color are disproportionately affected, and the harmful impact of poverty is passed on to the next generation



for California

For more information, view the report:
www.lccr.com/trafficcourt