Factors that Influence Mass Incarceration among African-Americans **Ayobami Egunyomi**<sup>1</sup> and Carlton Waterhouse<sup>2</sup>

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Mass incarceration refers to the high rate of imprisonment among a certain racial group. The problem of mass incarceration is common among African-Americans. The main objective of this study is to identify the major factors that lead to the high rate of incarceration among African-Americans. For years, the issue of mass incarceration has been a subject of controversy. While some believe mass incarceration is a subtle form of racism against African-Americans and a post-effect of slavery, some others view it as an adaptation to the demands of the society. Due to these different assertions on the issue of mass incarceration and also the impact of mass incarceration on the society, it is imperative to conduct research on the causes of mass incarceration prevalent among African-Americans. My primary method of research was through analyzing statistical information while referring to scholarly articles and literature. This study aims at examining the factors that have led to mass incarceration with the hope that it will help minimize the number of African-Americans in incarceration. The goal of this research is to influence subsequent decisions and policies of the key players in the American Criminal Justice System on issues concerning incarceration of African Americans.

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