



# To Serve This Present Age

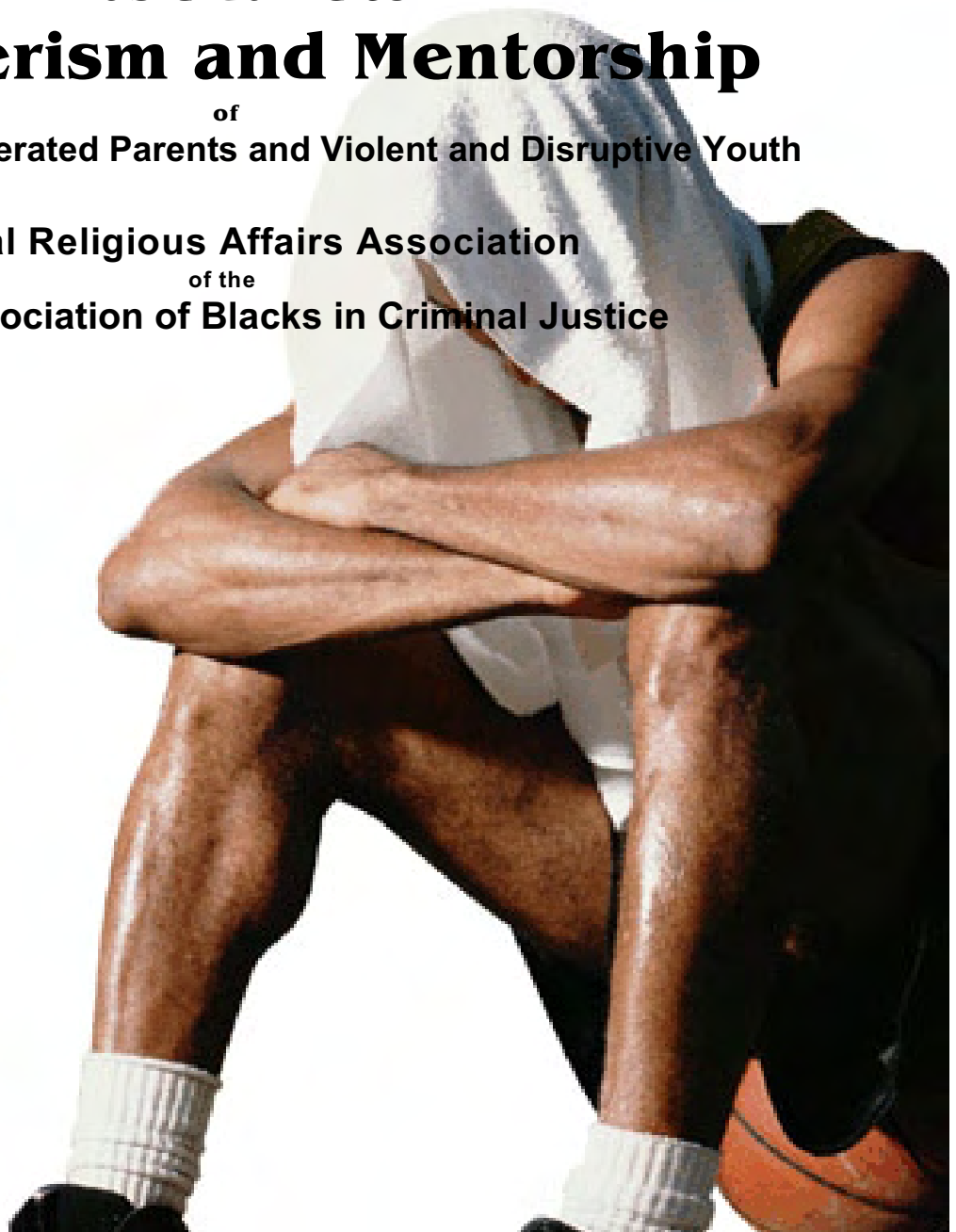
## A Basic Guide to Volunteerism and Mentorship

of  
Children With Incarcerated Parents and Violent and Disruptive Youth

National Religious Affairs Association

of the

National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice



# Topics Covered

## 1. Rallying the Armies of Faith, Justice and Compassion .....

- The growing need for faith and community based involvement in criminal justice intervention
- Complex barriers between grassroot and professional providers or reentry and mentoring training
- Opinions of the faith community regarding service to juvenile offenders, children of incarcerated parents and their families
- Motivation for this specialized and user-friendly training approach
- Basic need and value of culturally competent training which is more realistic to the demographics of incarceration
- Common reasons why religious institutions, particularly in communities of color, may stagnate in their outreach in this arena



## 2. Criteria for Volunteering .....

- Foundation for volunteering
- Complexities of work with juveniles and disruptive youth
- Basic hourly value of volunteering
- Three criteria for volunteering
- Qualities and why volunteers are needed to work with this specialized population
- Value and usage of in-kind contributions

## 3. Mentoring: What Am I To Do? .....

- Fundamentals of being a mentor
- Differences and complexities in mentoring youth as opposed to adults
- Specialized requirements of persons who choose to mentor juveniles, disruptive or violent youth, and youth whose parents are incarcerated
- Attributes that are required in a sound mentor/mentee relationship
- Some of the dynamics of race to race or cross-cultural mentoring
- Issues unique to youth of color

## 4. The Top 10 Tools for Effective Listening .....

- Technical elements of communication (training provides opportunities to apply techniques)
- Better understanding of the elements of communication
- Understand and experience the value of listening and the sensitivities of concerns with which mentors might encounter in offender relationships
- Ability to provide support to mentees by engaging in more effective communication techniques

## **5. To Be Or Not To Be .....**

- Possible issues faced by family when member is arrested
- Possible issues faced by family when member is convicted
- Possible issues faced by family when member is incarcerated
- Attitudes and escapes developed by family
- Mentor attitudes and reaction

## **Children With Incarcerated Parents**

## **6. What About The Children .....**

- Guardian-care for children whose parents are incarcerated
- Common developmental aspects of children of offenders
- Challenges to be experienced by their parents upon release from prison
- Consequences of parental incarceration upon the children
- Congressional views on this issue
- Ideal assets and possible conditions for children whose parents are incarcerated

## **7. The Three Bears .....**

- The impact of a mother's incarceration on daughters
- Challenges which stifle communication between a parent in prison and the child
- Placement issues of black and Latino youth
- Temptations and youthful rationale to commit crimes while parents are incarcerated
- Contrasts in child and family life between past and present generations
- Common themes between fairy tales and a child of an offender
- Is it possible for a child of an offender hope to live happily ever after?



## **8. Network to Freedom Academic Mentoring .....**

- Crime prevention and intervention using civic education and history to mentor
- Use of faith-based volunteers as mentors to replicate history
- How history can be used to educate youth and adults
- How to involve volunteers with unique occupational specialties as mentors
- The value and under-appreciation of freedom
- Attitudes and escapes developed by families when a member is incarcerated
- Use of experiential and intergenerational learning techniques in mentoring special needs youth populations
- The psychology of slavery

## **9. Background and Security Investigations: Is This Really Necessary? .....**

- Methods to secure background investigations
- Security issues necessary in handling confidential information
- Laws which govern the use of background information
- Special conditions which apply to background investigations when working with youth
- Faith community precautions

## **Training to Serve the Present Age of Disruptive and Violent Youth and Juveniles**

### **10. Taking It To the Streets To Serve This Present Age . . . . .**

- Determining suitability, style, and safety in conducting street ministry to youth
- Understanding risks
- Examples of what might be encountered with this choice
- Language barriers
- Recruiting partners for the army of compassion
- Common ground between cops and clergy
- Self-quiz

### **11. The Young and the Restless . . . . .**

- Bridging and understanding the communications gap between youth and the church
- Recognizing the meaning and messages of hip-hop culture
- Exploitations and misrepresentations of faith in some rap
- Understanding the psychology and consequences of external influences
- Gangsta terminology and the church
- Defining the role of the black male to himself and others
- Getting real with issues of crime and youthful behavior
- What next?

### **12. How To Reach the Masses . . . . .**

- Practical ways to serve this present age
- Developing a strategic plan for working with special needs youth and their families
- Encouraging relationships between people of faith and education
- How to reach the masses of black youth

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Individual copies are available for \$39 each. Copies of this workbook are available for \$30 each for bulk orders of 10 copies or more.