No Way Out
Crime, Punishment & the Capitalization of Power

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CHART BOOK
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Figure 1
Income Share of the Top 10% of the U.S. Population

NOTE: Income is defined as ‘market income’, including capital gains; it excludes government transfers. Grey areas indicate periods during which the 5-year moving average of the data series exceeded 45%. The last data point is for 2010.

SOURCE: The World Top Incomes Database
NOTE: The correctional population consists of adults in prison, in jail, on probation and on parole. For years prior to 1980, systematic data are available only for adults in prison and jail. For those earlier years, the total correctional population is estimated in two steps: first, by computing the average ratio between the total correctional population and the number of adults in prison and jail during the period 1980-1989 (=5.98); and second, by multiplying for each year the number of adults in prison and jail by this average ratio. The last data points are for 2010.

SOURCE: The income share of the top 10% of the population is from The World Top Incomes Database http://g-mond.parisschoolofeconomics.eu/topincomes/ (retrieved on September 19, 2012). Data on the correctional population are from Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics Online (till 1979: Table 6.28.2009 (http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/csv/t6282009.csv); from 1980 onward: Table 6.1.2010 (http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/csv/t612010.csv). Population data till 1929 are from the Historical Statistics of the United States: Earliest Times to the Present, Millennial Edition (online) (series code: Aa7); from 1930 onward, the data are from the U.S. Bureau of the Census through Global Insight (series code: N@US).
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Figure 5

U.S. Unemployment and the Correctional Population

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Decomposition

1. \( \frac{\text{correctional population}}{\text{overall population}} = \text{correctional population} \times \text{overall population} \)

2. \( \text{correctional population} = \frac{\Delta \text{correctional population}}{\text{correctional population}} \)
\[ = \frac{\Delta \text{correctional population}}{\text{crime}} \times \frac{\text{crime}}{\text{overall population}} \times \frac{\text{overall population}}{\text{correctional population}} \]
\[ = \frac{\text{intensity of punishment} \times \text{crime rate}}{\text{correctional population as a share of the overall population}} \]
NOTE: The serious crime rate consists of Part I Index Crimes of the FBI Unified Crime Reporting (UCR) expressed in relation to the overall population. Part I Index Crimes include criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft. The last data points are for 2010.

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