

If only child welfare policy and practice could be informed by science! Those of us who work in the child welfare system are too often subjected to changes in policy that require changes in practice that are well meaning, but based on ideology, not on research. The goal of reducing disproportionality in the child welfare system is a goal we all share. To be successful, we must carefully study what causes the problem, develop policy and design interventions that reflect that knowledge. Actions based on what we think or believe, not science, can be harmful to the children we are supposed to protect.

Judge Cindy S. Lederman