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Times Hides Crime Facts

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Newspaper, Not Police, Is Biased

"The New York Times is at it again," the Manhattan Institute's [Heather Mac Donald reports](#), with yet another story alleging police are racially biased against minorities. But it is the Times, she reports in [City Journal magazine](#), which is biased — against the police.

Last week, [the newspaper reported](#) that "[b]lacks and Latinos were nine times as likely as whites to be stopped by the police in New York City in 2009, but, once stopped, were no more likely to be arrested."

The paper [also produced](#) a graphic that shows blacks, at 23 percent of the population, constitute 55 percent of all stops, while Hispanics, 32 percent of the population, had 28 percent of stops. Whites, who are 35 percent of the population, made up 10 percent of stops.

The point of the story is obvious: to show that New York police are "profiling" blacks and Latinos. Using data from the leftist [Center for Constitutional Rights](#), the newspaper quoted the usual left wing suspects questioning the "effectiveness" of the stops.

Problem is, [Ms. Mac Donald writes](#), "when the Times gets around to mentioning crime rates ... it does so only because the NYPD raises them in its defense, not because the Times deems them independently worthy of note." In other words, while the Times peddles data from a left-wing source as fact, it offers arrest data from the police as opinion. But "[y]ou cannot properly analyze police behavior without analyzing crime," she rightly observes.

That analysis shows the following: "[B]lacks committed 66 percent of all violent crimes in the first half of 2009. ... Blacks committed 80 percent of all shootings in the first half of 2009. Together, blacks and Hispanics committed 98 percent of all shootings. Blacks committed nearly 70 percent of all robberies. Whites, by contrast, committed 5 percent of all violent crimes in the first half of 2009, though they are 35 percent of the city's population. ... They committed 1.8 percent of all shootings and less than 5 percent of all robberies. The face of violent crime in New York, in other words, like in every other large American city, is almost exclusively black and brown."

[Ms. Mac Donald explains](#) that the Times and its leftist allies expect arrest and census data to coincide; i.e., that whites, blacks and Hispanics should be arrested in rates comparable to their population size. But unless whites start committing more crimes, that isn't going to happen.

Indeed, the [Times' data show](#) that the conclusion it wants a reader to draw — that police are racially biased — is flatly wrong. Whites, after all, are arrested at the same rate as minorities after a stop.

"It is crime, not race," [Ms. Mac Donald concludes](#), "that leads to more stops in minority neighborhoods."

But given the Times' [obvious bias](#), of course, such news is not fit to print.

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