

Suspect Citizens

What 20 Million Traffic Stops Tell Us About Policing and Race

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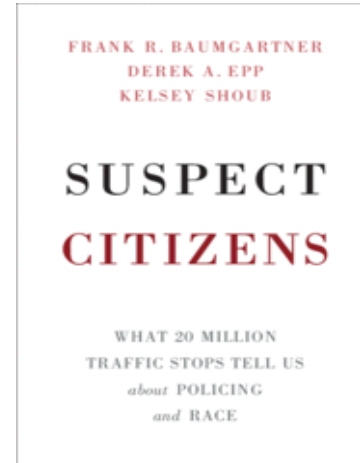
Suspect Citizens offers the most comprehensive look to date at the most common form of police-citizen interactions, the routine traffic stop. Throughout the war on crime, police agencies have used traffic stops to search drivers suspected of carrying contraband. From the beginning, police agencies made it clear that very large numbers of police stops would have to occur before an officer might interdict a significant drug shipment. Unstated in that calculation was that many Americans would be subjected to police investigations so that a small number of high-level offenders might be found. The key element in this strategy, which kept it hidden from widespread public scrutiny, was that middle-class white Americans were largely exempt from its consequences. Tracking these police practices down to the officer level, *Suspect Citizens* documents the extreme rarity of drug busts and reveals sustained and troubling disparities in how racial groups are treated.

1. Suspect citizens: fighting the war on crime with traffic stops; 2. A legislative mandate to address concerns about racial profiling; 3. Who gets stopped? 4. What happens after a stop? 5. Finding contraband; 6. Search and arrest patterns by officer and agency; 7. Profiling Hispanics, profiling blacks; 8. Black political power and disparities in policing; 9. Reforms that reduce alienation and enhance community safety; 10. Conclusions.

Advance praise

'Racialized policing is one of the most pressing civil rights issues of our day. Through a meticulous analysis and sweeping examination of North Carolina's multiyear data on traffic stops over time and across place, agency, and groups, *Suspect Citizens* is a deep dive into the causes and injurious consequences of racialized policing. Avoiding easy answers and delivering bold, actionable findings, Baumgartner, Epp, and Shoub capture an essential insight: that aggressive policing strategies exact a high price in community alienation but deliver precious few benefits in public safety. This book arrives at a time when our nation desperately calls out for policy solutions to racially targeted policing.'

Vesla M. Weaver, Bloomberg Distinguished Associate Professor, The Johns Hopkins University



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£17.99	£14.39
\$24.99	\$19.99

'By focusing on every traffic stop in the state of North Carolina from 2002 to 2016, *Suspect Citizens* provides unassailable evidence of racial bias in routine police-citizen interactions. This book represents a monumental scholarly accomplishment that may also lead to important public policy reforms.'

Vincent L. Hutchings,
Hanes Walton, Jr. Collegiate Professor, University of Michigan



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