

## What is Racial Profiling?

### 1. What is racial profiling?

Racial profiling occurs when law enforcement agents impermissibly use race, religion, ethnicity or national origin in deciding who to investigate.

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### 2. What are some examples of racial profiling?

In general, profiling occurs when the government or police take action—investigate, stop, search, etc.—against someone based on that person’s race, ethnicity, nationality or religion instead of evidence of the person’s criminal behavior.

**In the space below, write some examples of profiling.**

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### 3. Why does racial profiling matter?

Racial profiling is illegal.

Racial profiling makes members of certain groups vulnerable to unjust treatment by law enforcement officials.

Racial profiling leads to the disproportionate arrest and conviction of members of certain groups.

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### 4. How prevalent is racial profiling?

67% of African Americans, 63% of Hispanic Americans and 50% of non-Hispanic whites believe racial profiling is widespread in traffic stops. (Source: 2004 Gallup Poll)

Low-income Latino immigrants in the South are routinely the targets of wage theft, racial profiling and other abuses.

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