Last year, the Los Angeles Police Commission ordered the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and California Policy Lab (CPL) to analyze and report on LAPD stop data collected under the Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) of 2015. Released in October 2020, the two reports confirm what community members most harmed by policing have long known.

The reports show severe racial disparities in every aspect of LAPD policing but at the same time, it must be remembered that the underlying data is self-reported by police and cannot be taken at face value. The true number of searches is likely much larger, and more alarming. In fact, the OIG estimates that LAPD did not document nearly a quarter of searches.

In addition to this police-generated data, LAPD Annual Complaint Reports show Angelenos filed 4,882 complaints of biased policing between 2010-2019, with reports reaching a high of 734 in 2019, a year in which 68% of biased policing reports were filed by Black people. Yet LAPD tossed out all of these complaints, sustaining zero of them.

Those most impacted by police violence have been sounding the alarm about racist stops for decades, but LAPD pretends nothing is wrong.

Worse, police engage in gaslighting, dismissing peoples’ experiences of racism as “perception” not based in reality. But the reality could not be more clear.

### Some Report Findings

**LAPD targets Black people for stops at vastly higher rates than white people.**

City of Los Angeles, 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Black Residents</th>
<th>Stops of Black Residents</th>
<th>White Residents</th>
<th>Stops of White Residents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Residents</td>
<td>354,182</td>
<td>183,632</td>
<td>1,134,179</td>
<td>123,460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAPD made 672,569 officer-initiated stops in 2019, meaning the stop was not in response to a call for service. **Black people are 9% of the city population yet made up 27% of those stops, while white people are 29% of the population and 8% of stops.**

Additionally, while Black and Latinx people are far more likely to be stopped, **stops of white people were more likely to find contraband** and to lead to arrest.

**Stops are also used by police to gather an individual’s personal and physical information**, which is recorded on a Field Interview (FI) card and stored in databases accessible to LAPD and other police departments. There is no retention limit on FI card data, which is notoriously rife with police lies.
These forms of escalation are invasive and dangerous, and show the predatory nature of policing that feeds off of the dehumanization of Black people.