

## **SOUNDING THE ALARM – POLICY CENTER CALL TO ACTION**

All girls deserve to be safe at home, at school and in their communities. But, for Black Girls, their safety is jeopardized by school and justice systems that consistently punish them more harshly than their peers. In Florida, Black girls account for one in five girls, but they account for over half of girls suspended, arrested and incarcerated.

The trauma is often perpetrated by those who are charged with guarding their safety and well-being. Recent news reports include:

- 6-year old Kaia Rolle [arrested at school](#) while pleading with Orlando officers for a “second chance”
- 9-year old girl in Rochester, NY [being pepper sprayed by police](#) while pleading for her father
- 16-year old Taylor, an Osceola County, FL girl, [body slammed by a school resource officer](#)
- 15-year old, Grace [incarcerated in Michigan](#) for not doing her homework

The Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center remains keenly focused on the impact of racial injustice on girls in our communities, many who are hurting and unsafe, their plights seemingly invisible to the wider society. Join this growing movement to see girls in the context of their life experiences. Activate support in your circles of influence, and raise your voice to elevate the unjust experiences of Black, Indigenous, and Girls of Color. Stand with us as we work to dismantle the institutional barriers and structures to bring about racial and gender equity.

### **THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW:**

#### **Get Informed:**

- [Read the Research](#)

#### **Get Involved:**

- [Share information](#) with your personal and professional networks
- Meet with local school board, elected officials

#### **Get Connected:**

- [Join the Policy Center’s mailing list](#)
- Follow and support Policy initiatives this legislative session