


# Cumulative Prevalence of Child Protective Services Contact for American Children

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Cornell University

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<sup>1</sup>The collector of the original data, the funder, the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, and Cornell University and their agents or employees bear no responsibility for the analyses or interpretations herein. 

# 1. My argument

# Has two parts

- ▶ The first is that all levels of CPS contact appear rare.
- ▶ The second is that no level of CPS contact – not even termination of parental rights – actually is a rare event.

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## 2. Data and methods

# I make this argument

- ▶ Using the AFCARS and NCANDS data.
- ▶ And synthetic cohort life tables (which I will explain).
- ▶ The core of my focus is on confirmed maltreatment and foster care placement. I also present results on investigations and brand new estimates on termination of parental rights.

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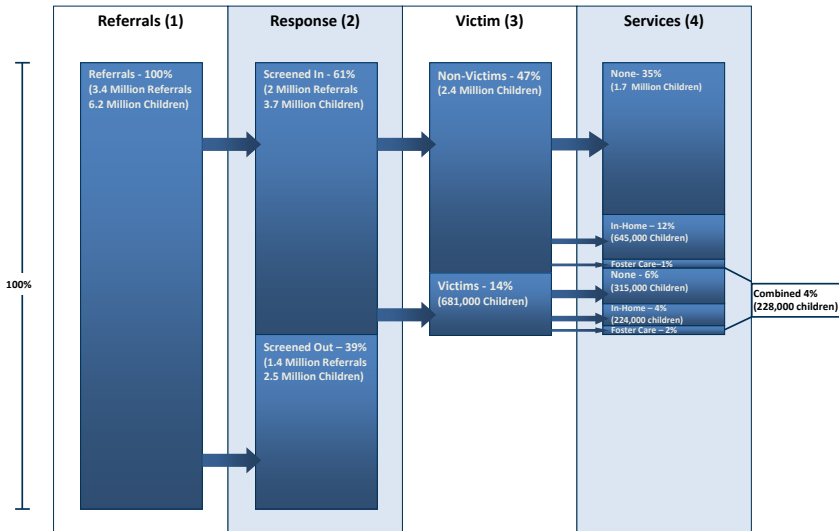


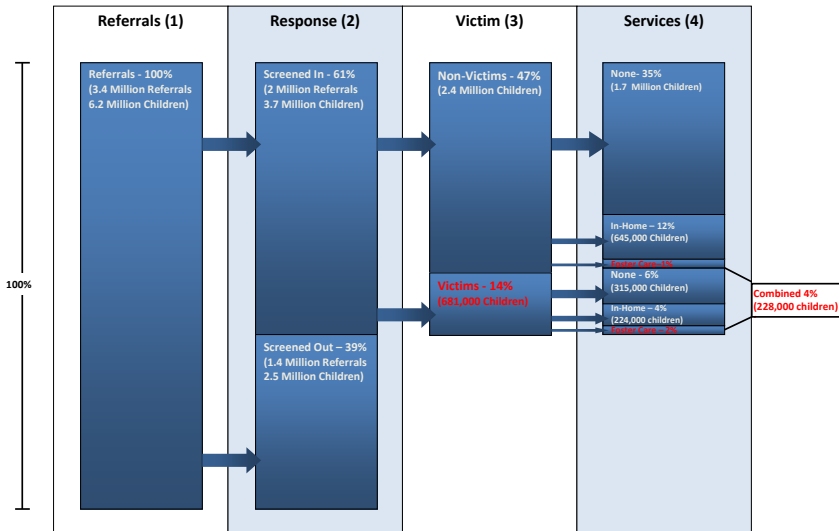
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# NCANDS

- ▶ National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System.

According to the Children's Bureau, "The NCANDS is a voluntary data collection system that gathers information from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico about reports of child abuse and neglect." The data are used to identify trends in child abuse and neglect across the country. Although voluntary, 544 states have reported since 2004.

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- ▶ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.
- ▶ According to the Children's Bureau, "The AFCARS is a national case-level information system of children in foster care, adoption, and other state and tribal title IV-E sponsored care programs, for placement, care or disposition and on children adopted under the authority of the State and Tribal title IV-E agencies." Reporting is not voluntary. All 50 states since 2001.

# AFCARS

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# Synthetic cohort (or period) life tables

- ▶ Tells us what proportion of a hypothetical cohort of children would ever experience confirmed maltreatment if they were subjected to any given year's age-specific first-confirmed maltreatment rates at each age from birth through age 18.
  - ▶ I break all results down by race/ethnicity and sex.
- ▶ There are two small things to be aware of though...
  - ▶ Sensitive to yearly fluctuations (easy to deal with).
  - ▶ Could be double-counting some children (harder to deal with).

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# Building a synthetic cohort life table

Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Age 10, 2005

Age	${}_nD_x$	${}_nN_x$	${}_nAN_x$	${}_nm_x$	${}_nq_x$	${}_0C_x$
1						
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3						
4						
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7						
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9						
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1	1,997					
2	1,071					
3	1,001					
4	957					
5	924					
6	937					
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8	836					
9	763					
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1	1,997	4,095,537				
2	1,071	4,098,288				
3	1,001	4,058,368				
4	957	4,049,968				
5	924	4,052,579				
6	937	3,931,274				
7	905	3,885,471				
8	836	3,890,518				
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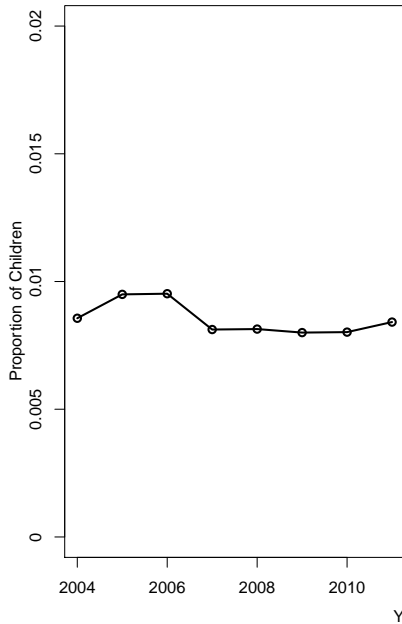
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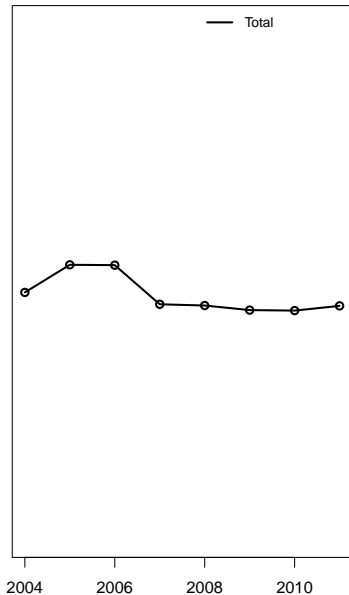
### 3. Argument 1

# Proportion of Children with Confirmed Maltreatment

For Males

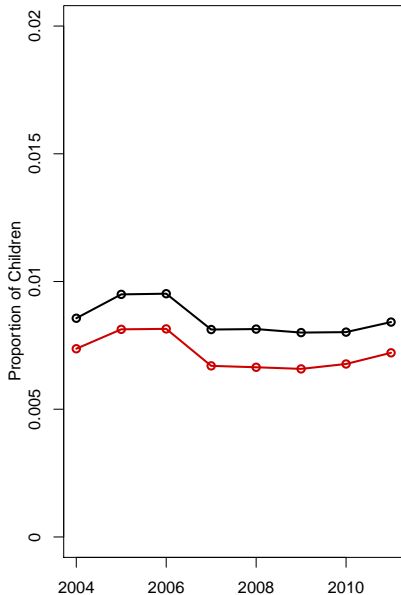


For Females

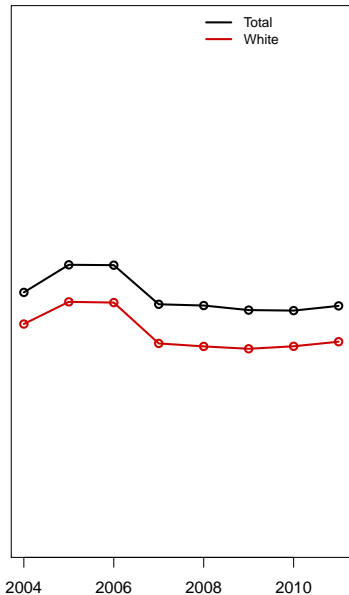


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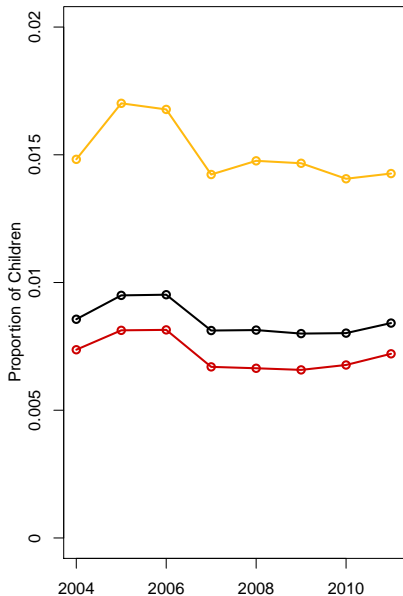
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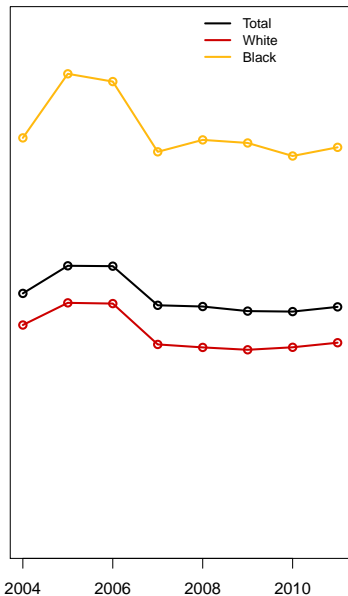


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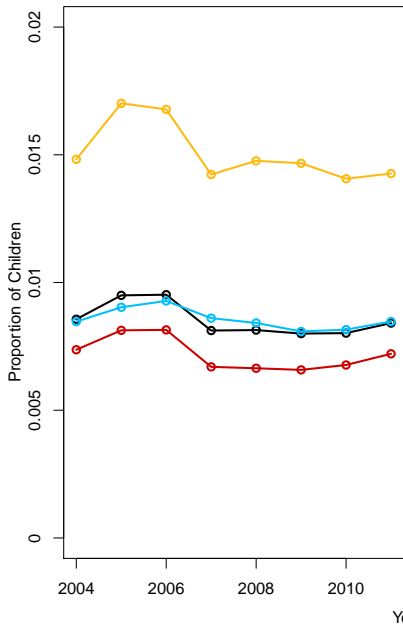


For Females

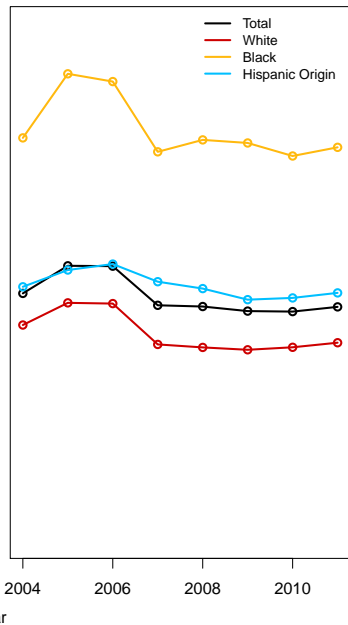


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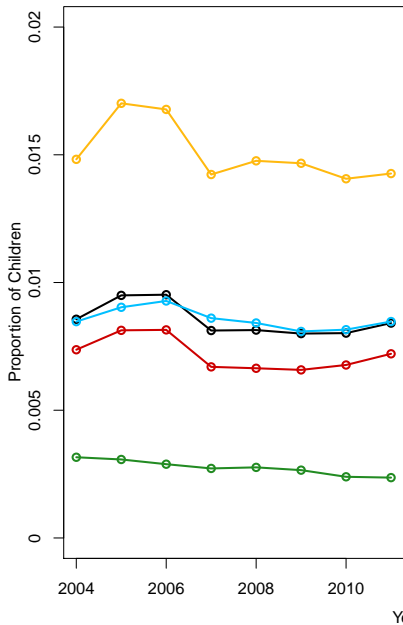


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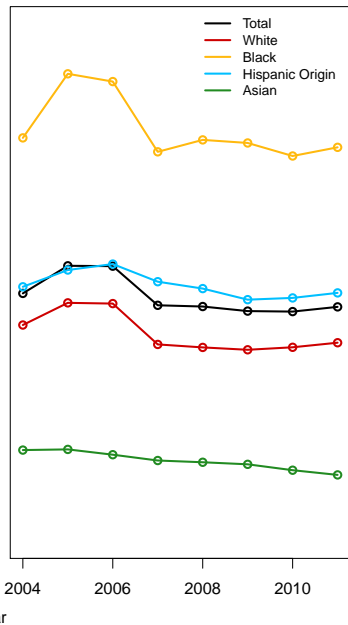


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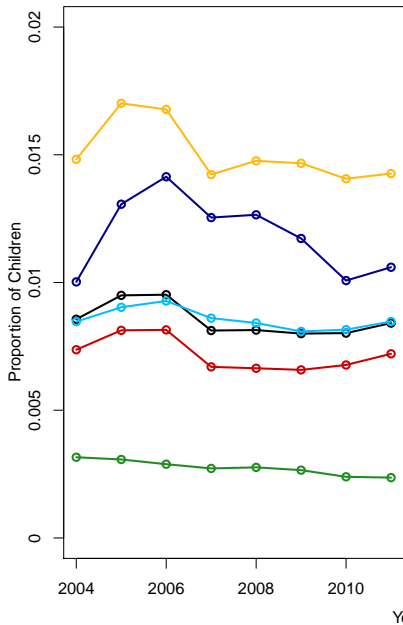


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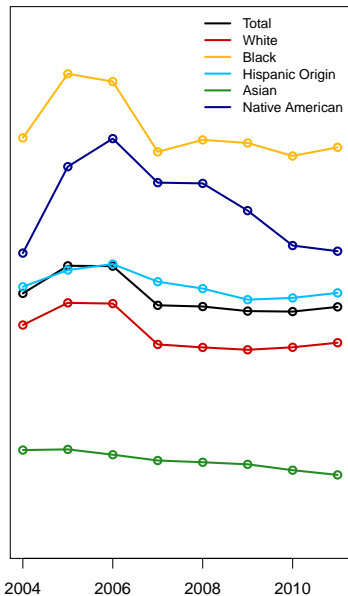


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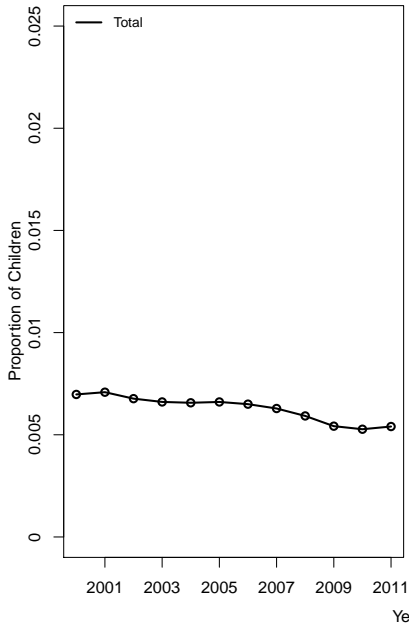


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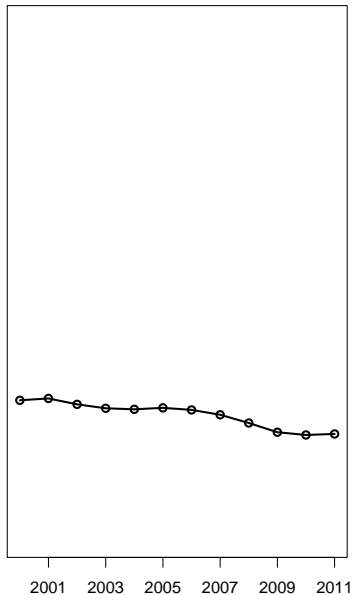


# Proportion of Children in Foster Care on September 30

For Males

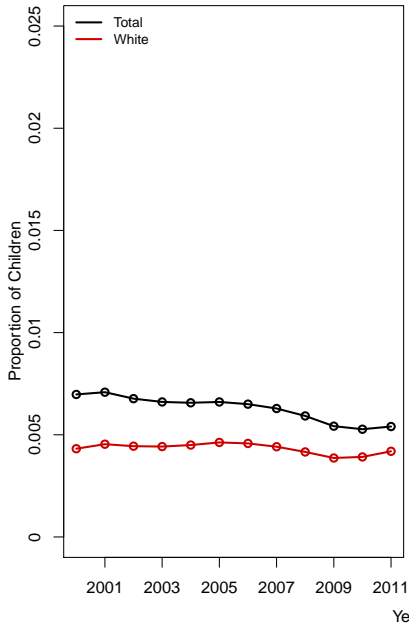


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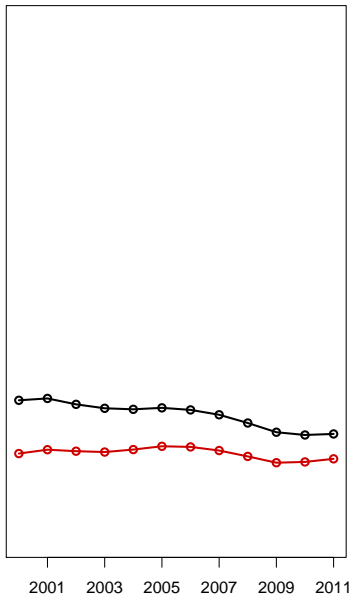


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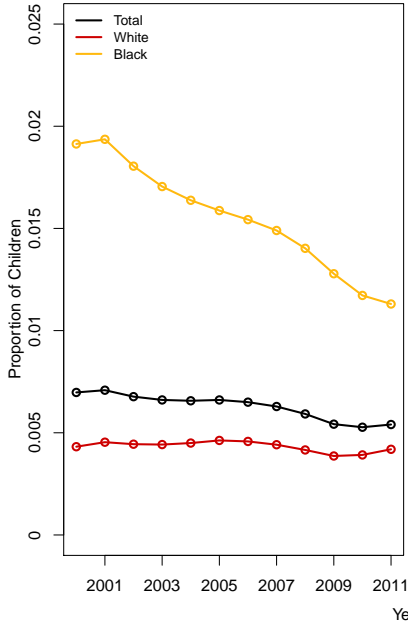


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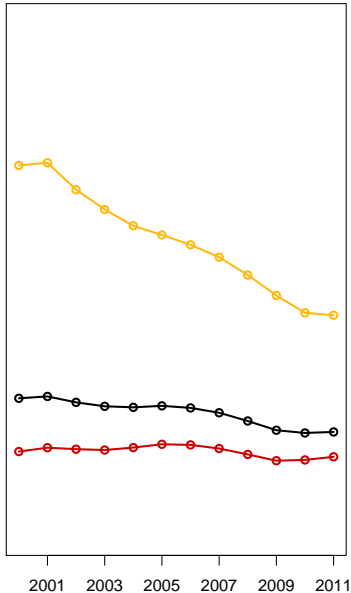


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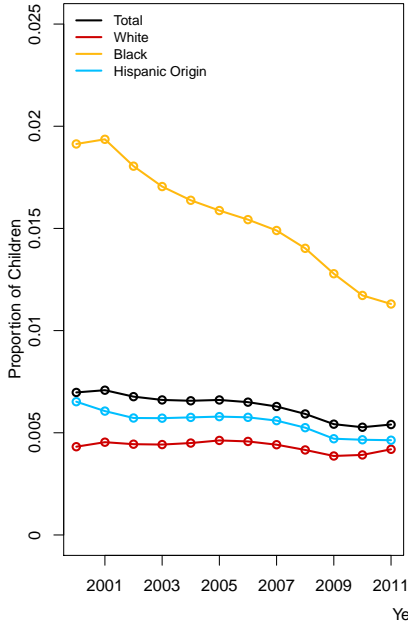


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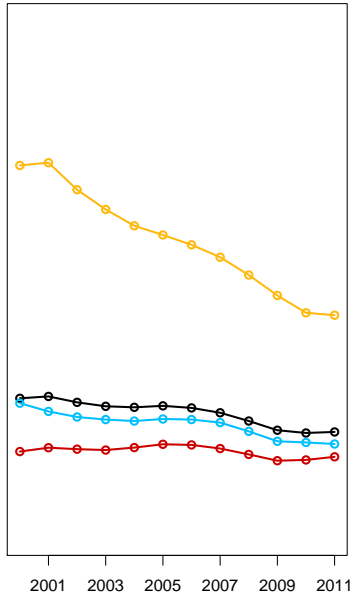


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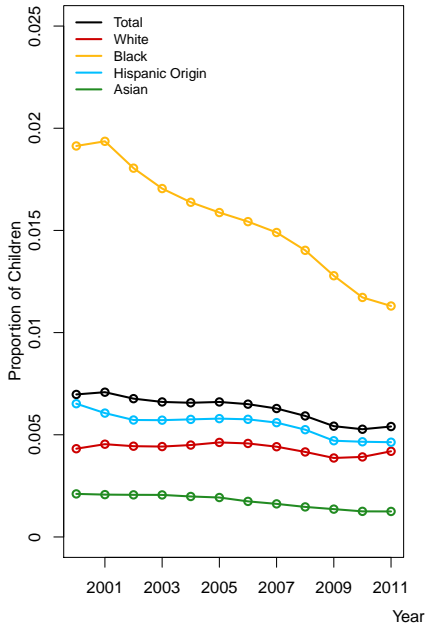
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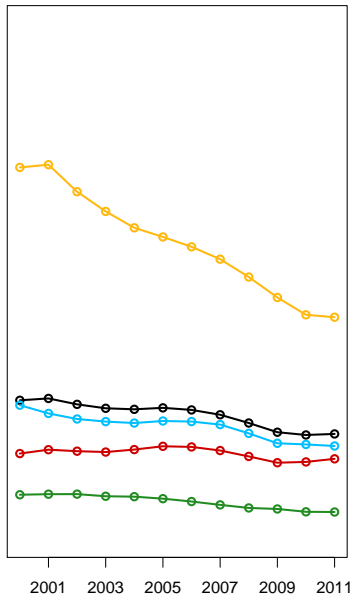


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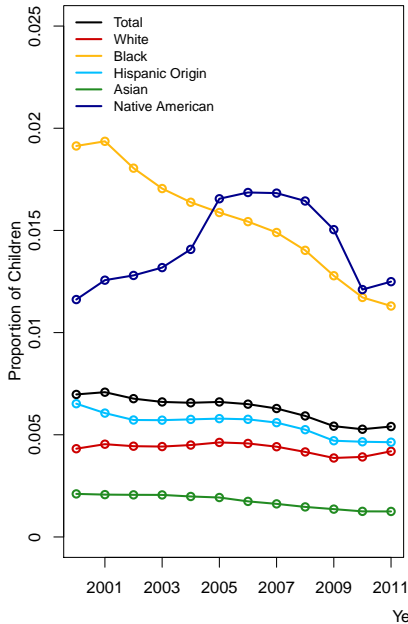


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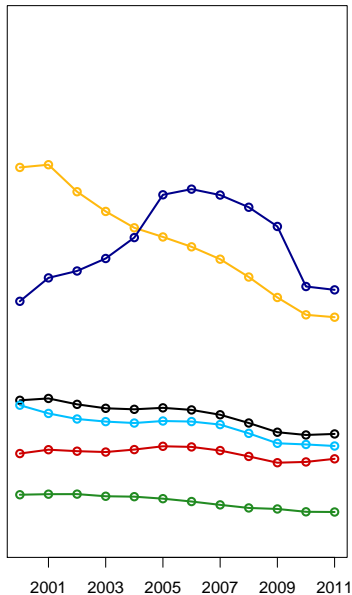


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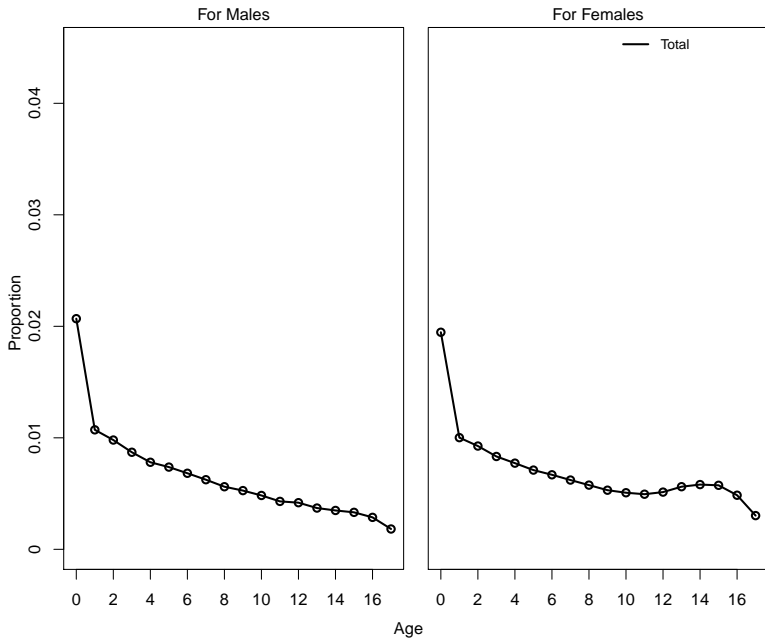


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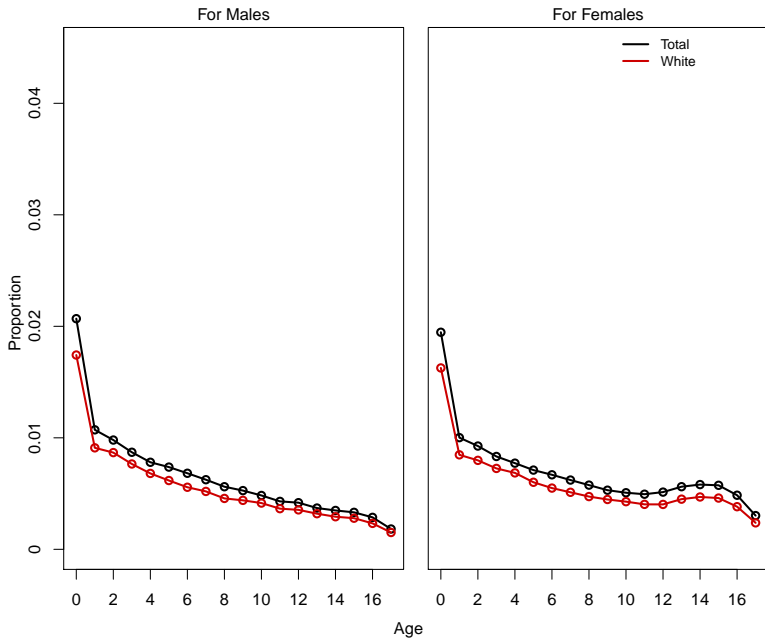


4. You can't go back in time (a prologue to Argument 2)

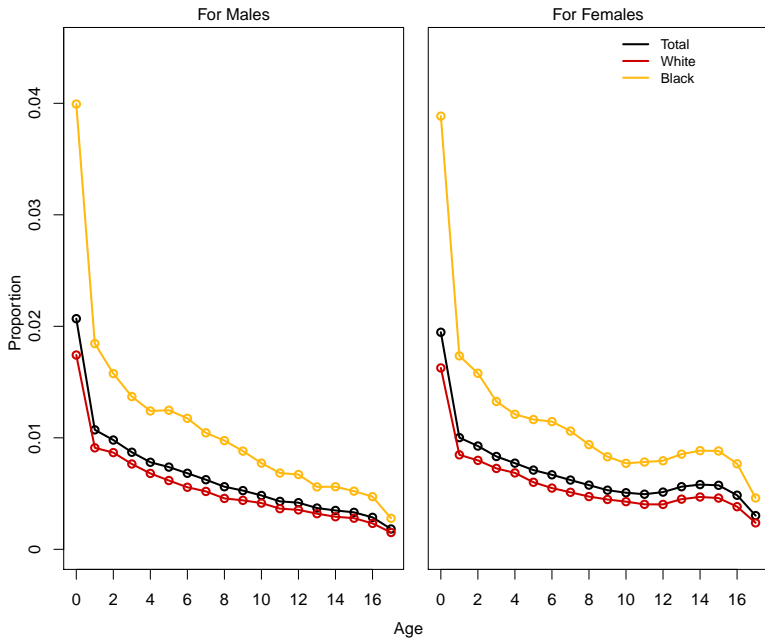
# Age-Specific Risk for First Confirmed Maltreatment, 2005



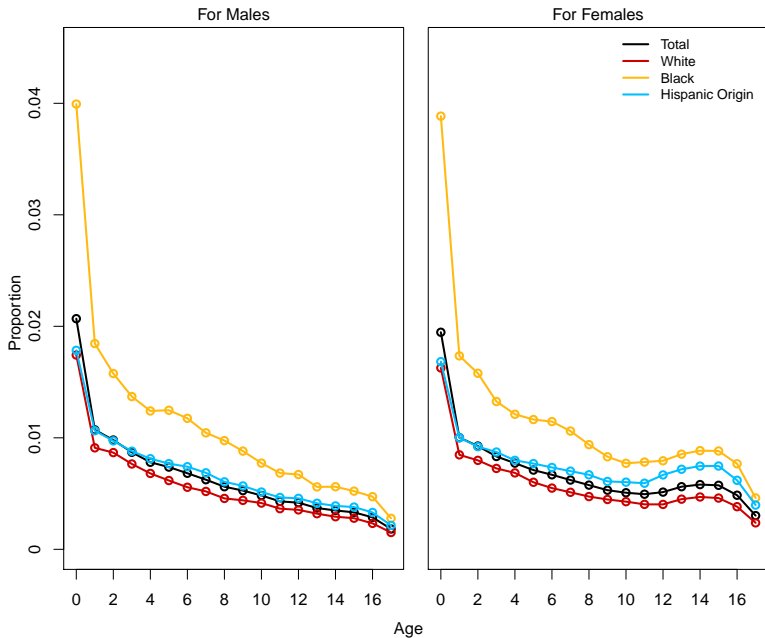
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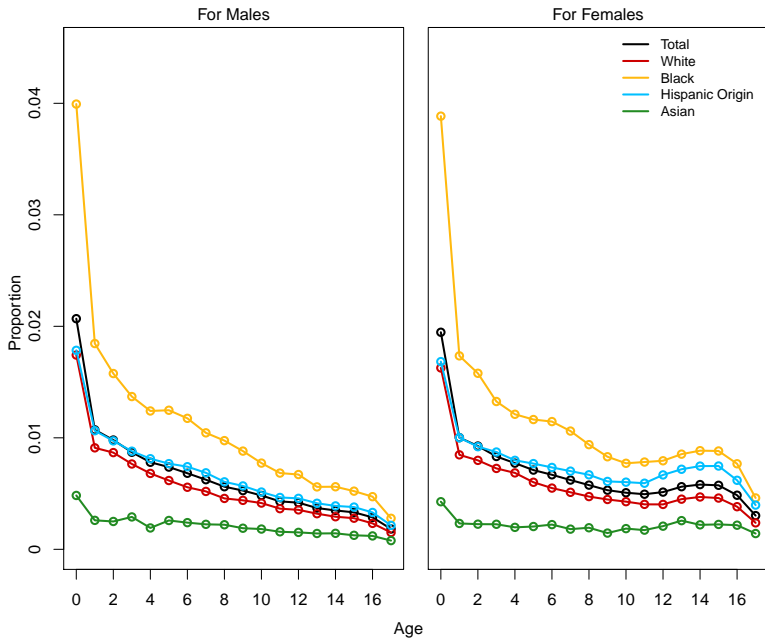
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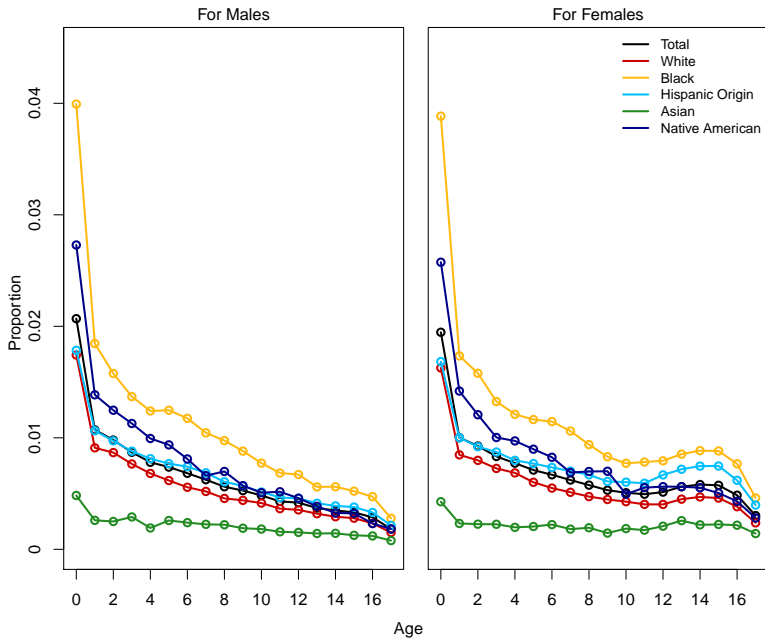


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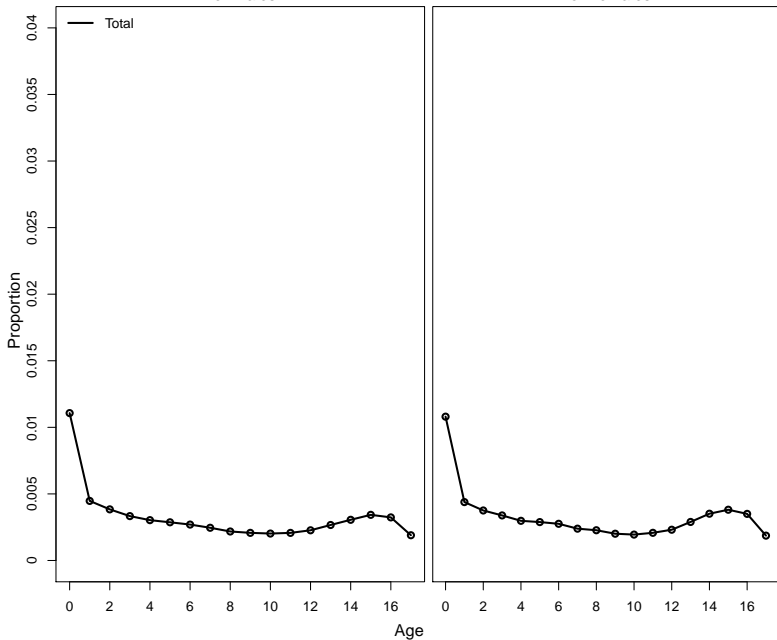
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# Age-Specific Risks of First-Time Foster Care Placement, 2005

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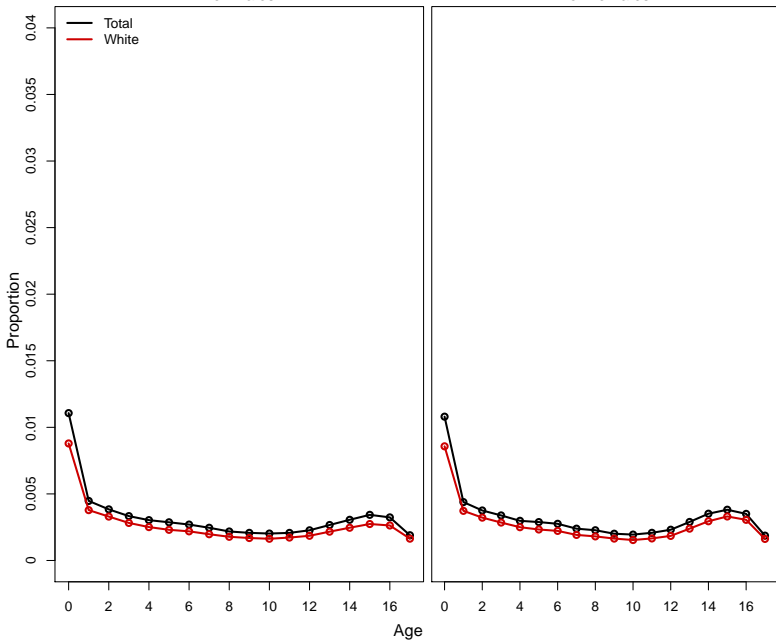
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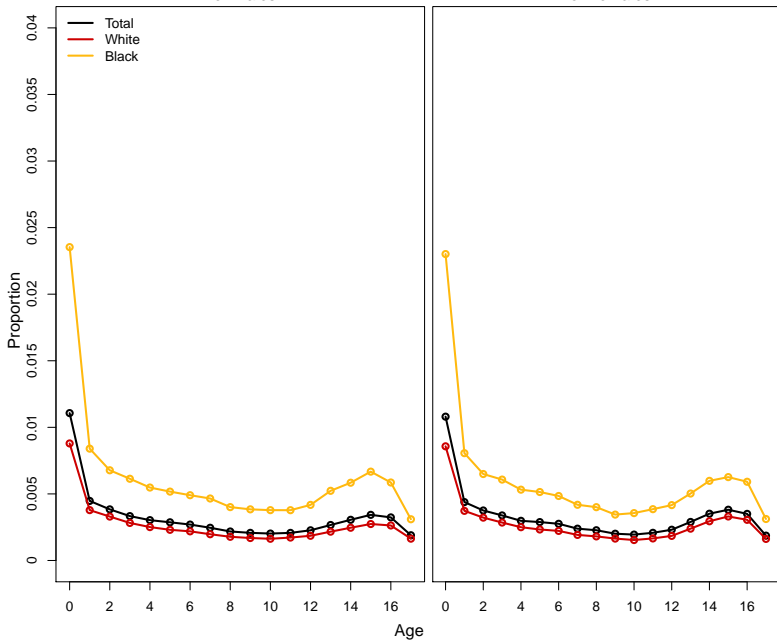
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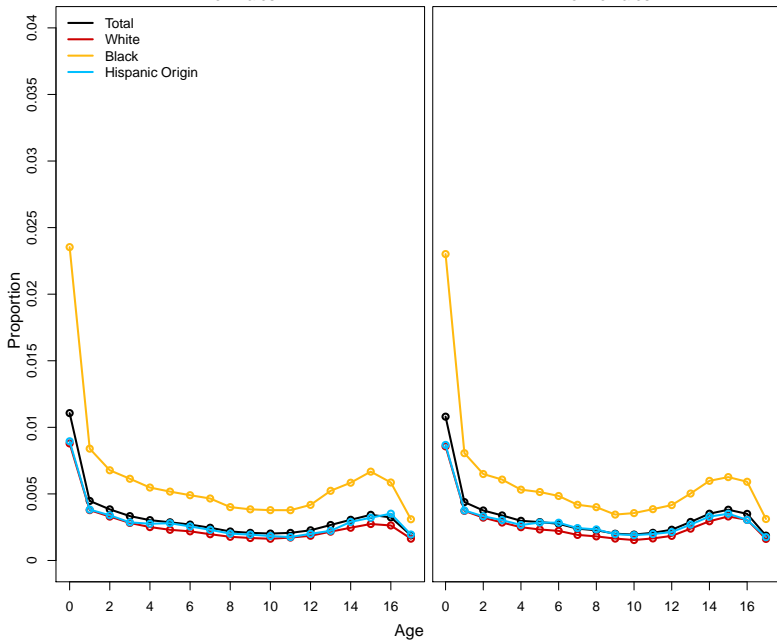
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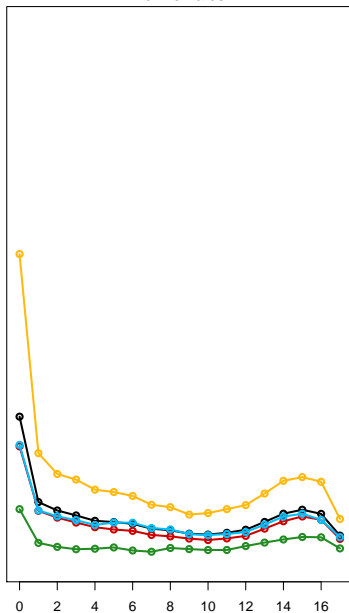
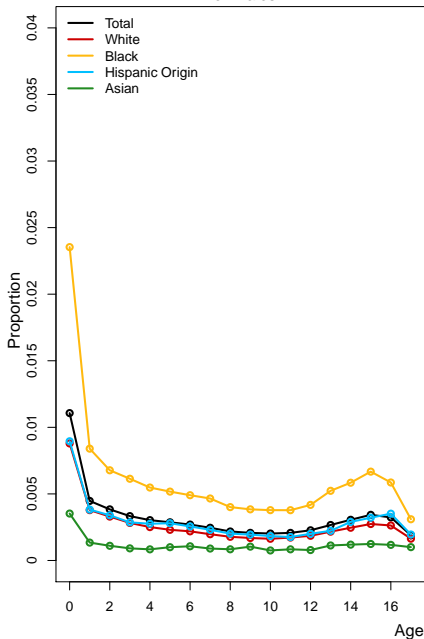
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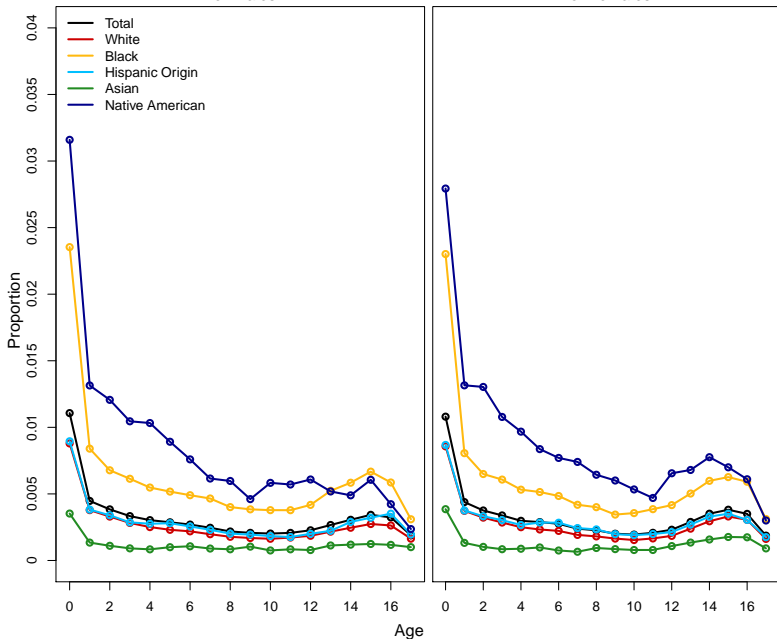
For Females



# Age-Specific Risks of First-Time Foster Care Placement, 2005

For Males

For Females

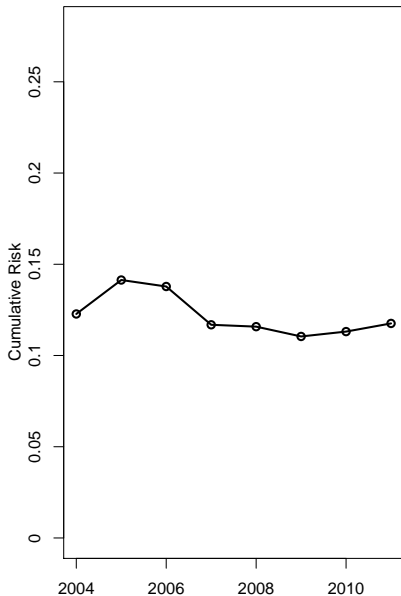


## 5. Argument 2

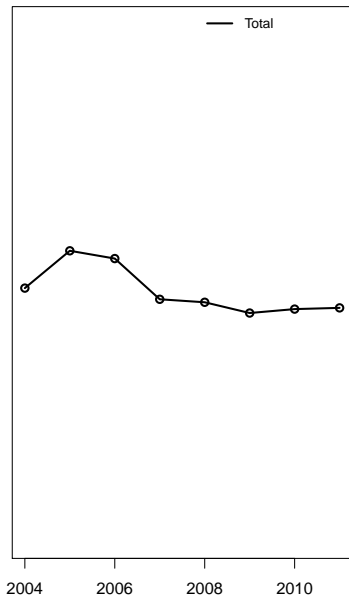


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males

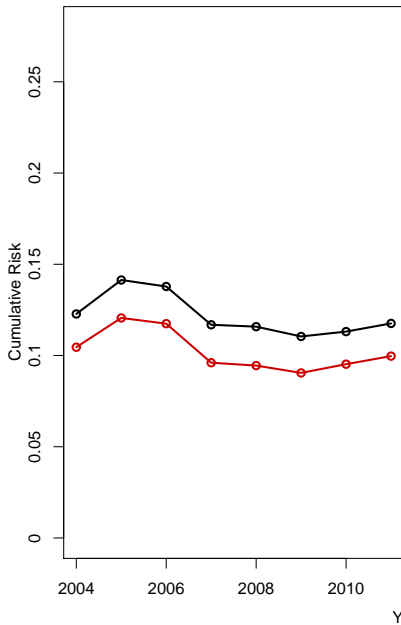


For Females

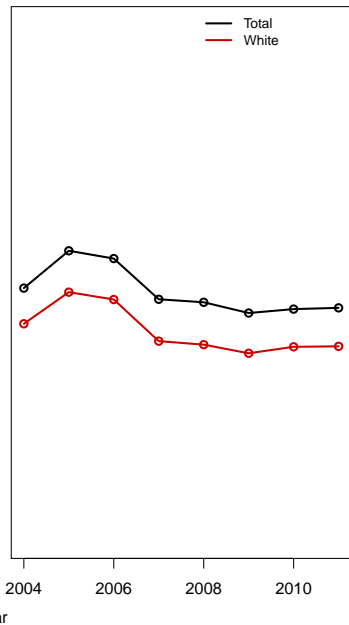


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males

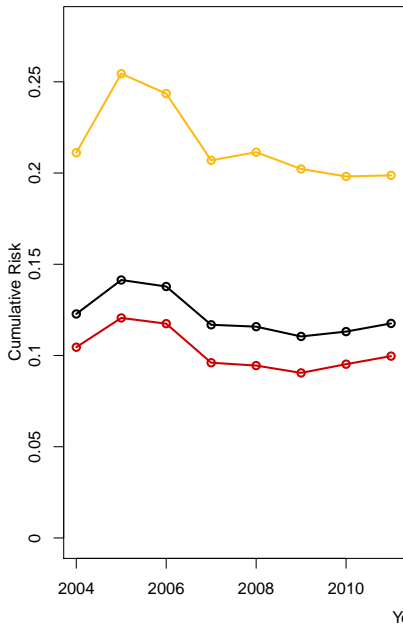


For Females

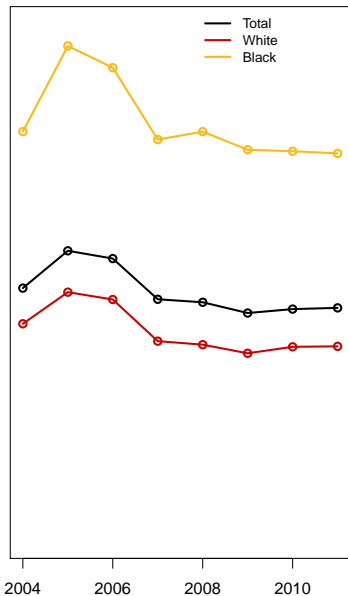


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males

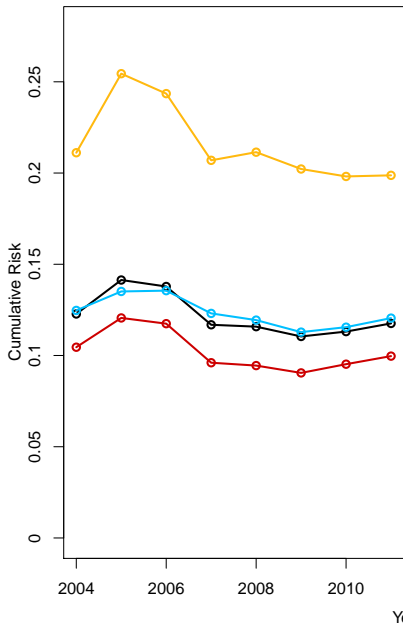


For Females

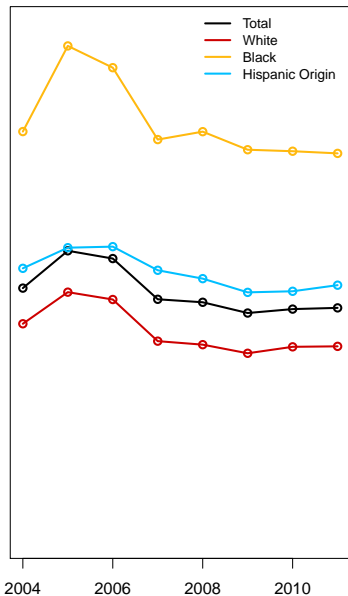


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males

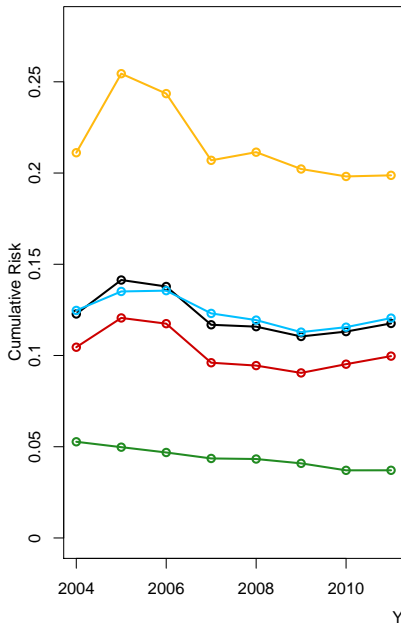


For Females

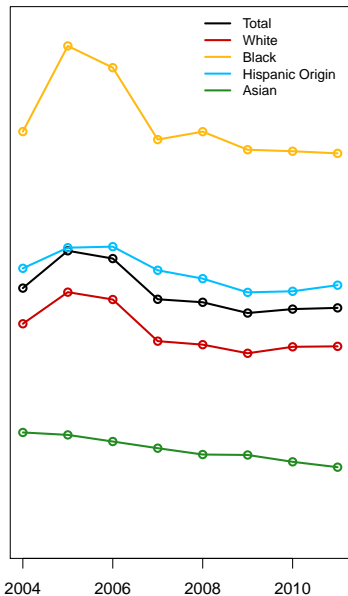


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males

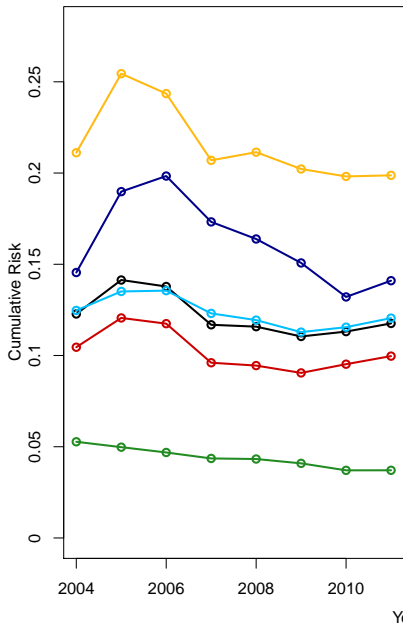


For Females

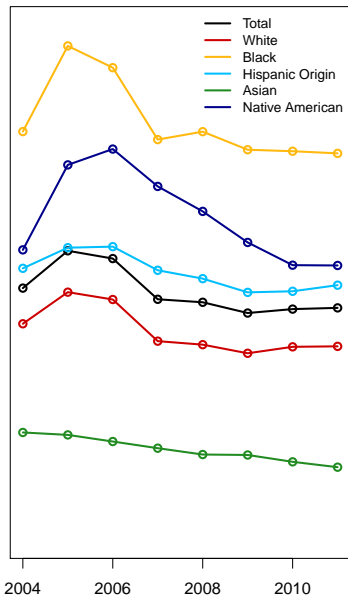


# Cumulative Risk of Confirmed Maltreatment by Demographic Group

For Males



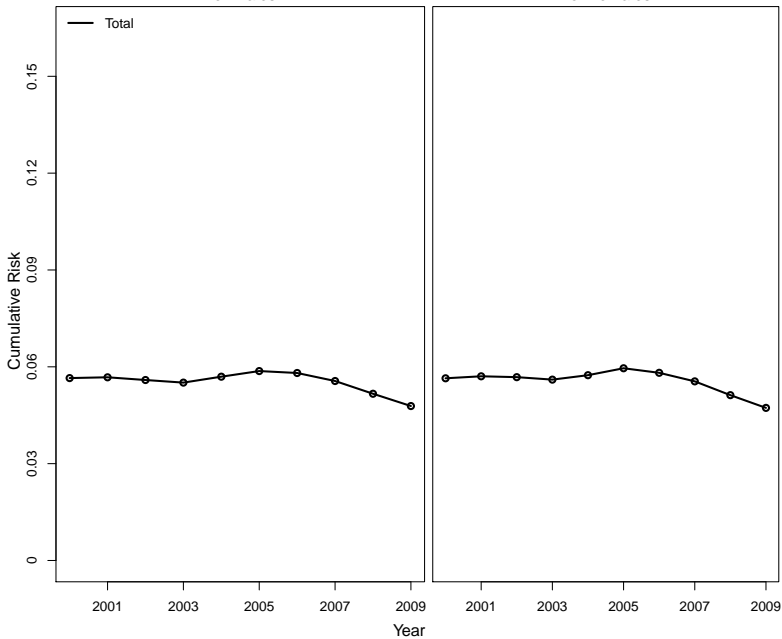
For Females



# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

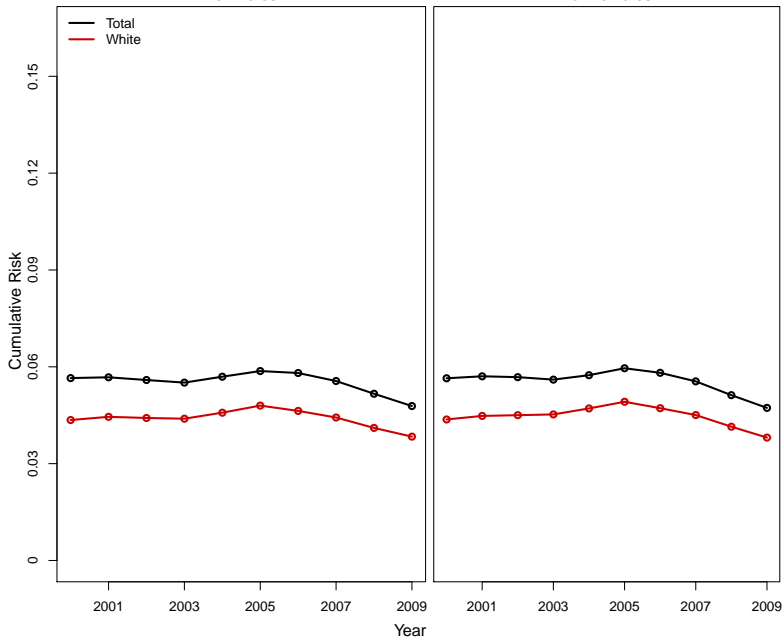
For Females



# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

For Females

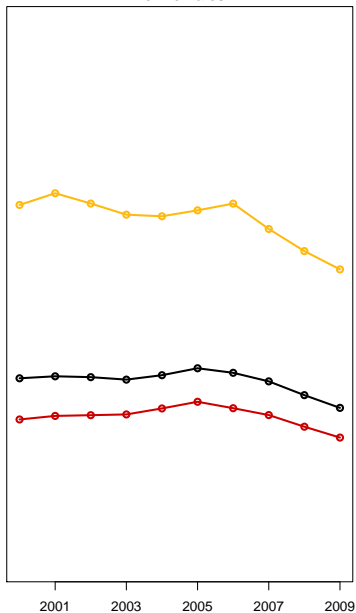
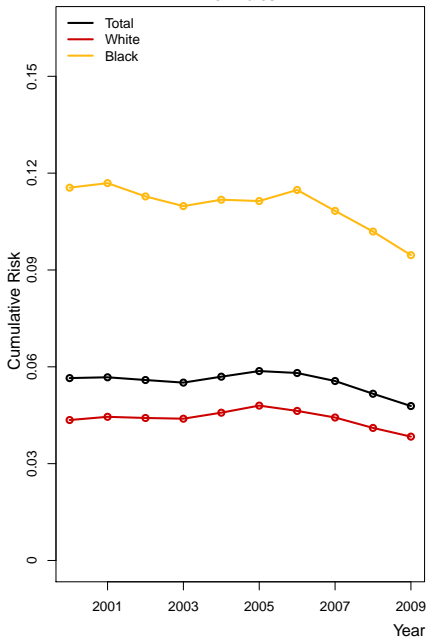




# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

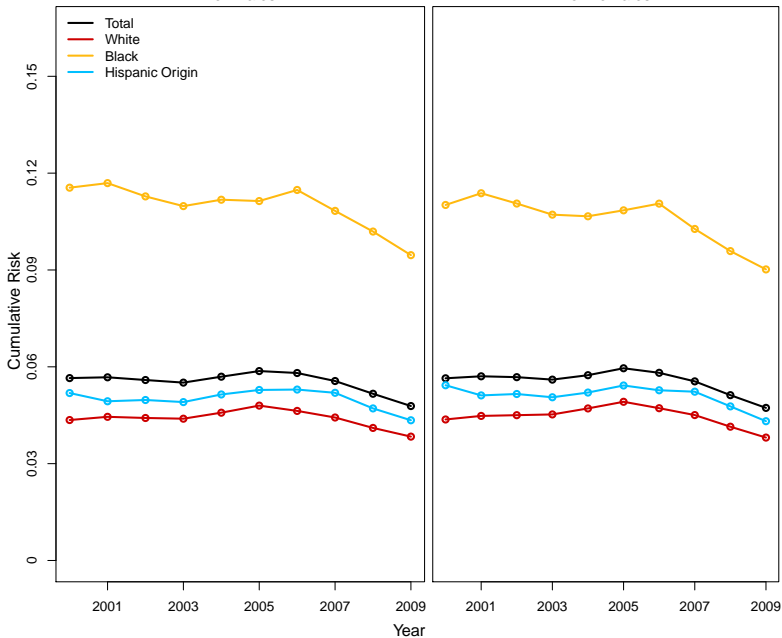
For Females



# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

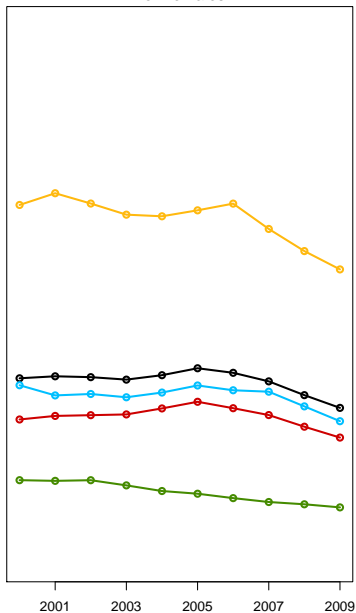
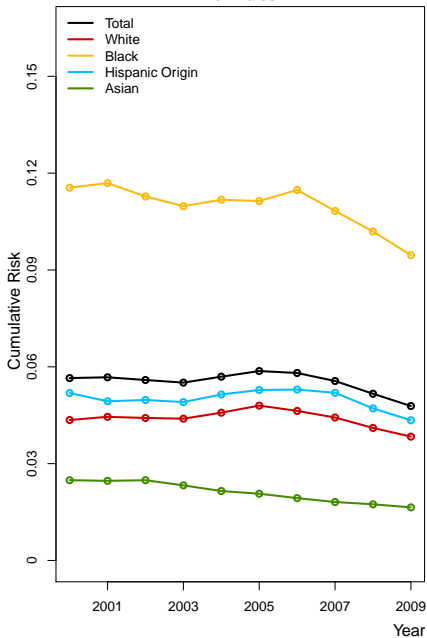
For Females



# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

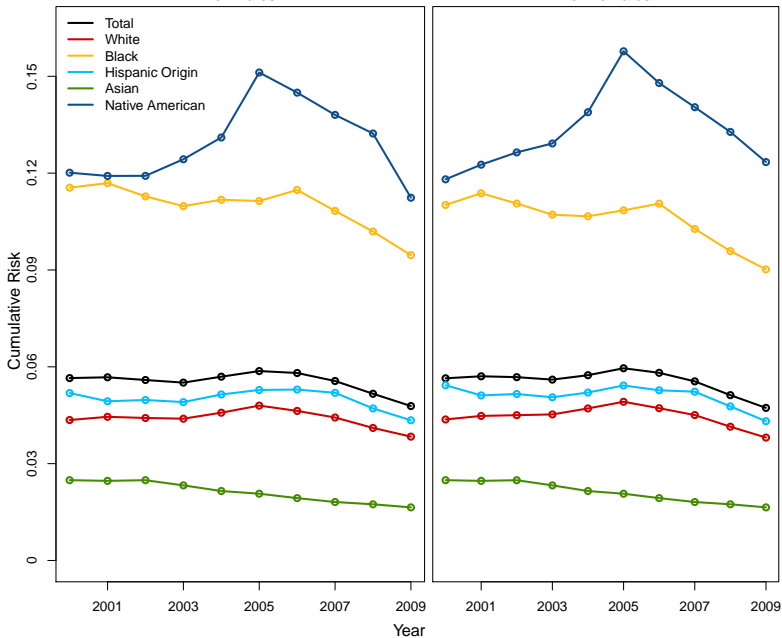
For Females



# Cumulative Risk of Foster Care Placement by Age 18

For Males

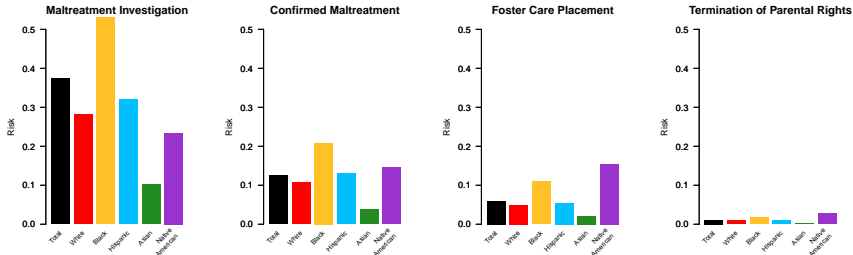
For Females



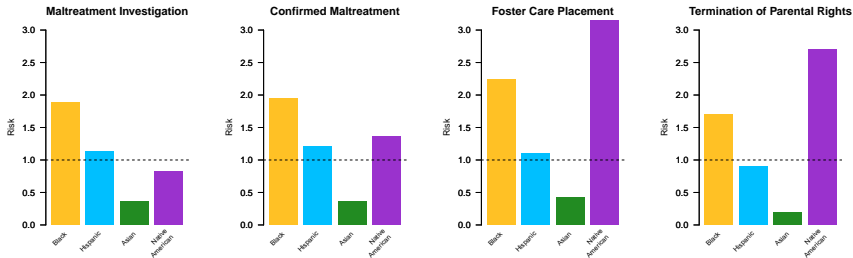
## 6. Earlier and later too (An epilogue to Argument 2)

# Inequality in the Cumulative Prevalence of Child Welfare System Contact

## Cumulative Prevalence by Race



## Inequality in Risk by Race (Compared to White Children)



7. Thanks so much for your time