

# [The criminal justice system today and the three strikes law](https://assignbuster.com/the-criminal-justice-system-today-and-the-three-strikes-law/)

[Law](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/law/), [Crime](https://assignbuster.com/essay-subjects/law/crime/)

Trina Trelles Criminal Justice 141 Phase 2 the Criminal Justice System Today DB Habitual Offender Laws are made to target poor minority groups. More than half of California’s adult male population is Latino or nonwhite (55%), but three of every four men in prison are Latino or nonwhite: 41% are Latino, 29% are African American, and 6% are of another race.   All Contents © Public Policy Institute of California 2012 | New York Times Report Of 1/8/2007 found those with private attorneys served an average of 5 yrs. Less than those with Public Counsel. Like most mandatory sentencing laws, the Habitual Offender Law followed the aftermath that came when a few high profile cases were broadcast and the public’s outcry’s turned to hysteria. And in California I can’t help but believe the riots that following the acquittal of 4 white policemen in the Rodney King case didn’t play a big part. I’m not sure about what if any affect it had on other states, but mine will never be the same. On April 29. 1992 throughout California race lines were drawn. For the first time middle to upper class white people were seeing how defenseless the LAPD were in controlling mayhem. Thus seeing innocent people dragged and beaten from cars while no one came to their aid. The streets of LA were a war zone. Public option of Law Enforcement forever changed that day. As was seen in later cases such as OJ Simpson Trial. 10/3/1995 Frontline@pbs. org Charles J. Obletreb Jr. The Trials Significance and Lasting Effects. To this day Rodney King is described as some kind of heroic icon by some people. The Rodney King Beating: 20 Years Later. In a recent interview with CNN, Rodney King discussed the event that would change his life forever. Yet if you were to look at his rap sheet the Habitual Criminal law was written with him in mind. He would have been serving life the night of his beating had they been in effect. NOT that I agree with it (the law) for him either. But instead he even went on to win a lawsuit of 3. 8 MILLION even though the video clearly shows he wouldn’t comply with police commands. Which takes us back to the dilemma, if the Police can’t use force on a KNOWN violent felon, what are they supposed to do in a situation like that. Say its cool we just suggest people follow our commands; you go and have a couple more drinks we’ll be on our way. Even though they act like dicks doesn’t mean their wrong. How many times were you punished in life where you though hey he was cool, not that I’m defending the officers for their comments. They were out of line but until I’ve walked in their shoes I can’t get America’s attitudes toward people from Middle Eastern country are following 911. Then I imagine what it is like to be at deacon 5 every day at work. Police are human and humans err. They are also witness to things we have nightmares just hearing tad bits of and who’s to say their attitudes aren’t what helps keep them alive. Personally I would have shot Rodney King, but then that’s probably one of the reasons I don’t have a gun. Instead it was decided put them all away behind bars, FOR LIFE!! Out of sight out of mind. Is that more companionate than my choice? I’ll be brutally honest. I don’t feel anyone should receive a lengthy prison sentence. On the other hand I do believe in the Death Penalty. You’re either a waste to society or we should be doing something to make you more presentable in society. Life without Parole should be off the books as far as I’m concerned. Its cruel and usual treatment. Three violent crimes or two a jay walking, I’m sorry but I haven’t heard of Ted Bundy reoffending. Or even of Mason family members being considered seriously for parole. So how is someone who commits not 1 not 2 but 3 heinous crimes given an opportunity? And the few murderers who were released in the late 80s early 90s to have bought on our tough on criminals actions, would they have ever seen a 3rd? Or was their 2nd always have been life anyway? Psychology and Law Tredoux, Foster, and Alfred 2006. Which comes to what is a strike offence to me. In order for it to be a strike to me it should entail a person causing or having caused great bodily harm against another. And YOU means YOU not were with, it has to have been your intent to cause the harm. And not their property. I can’t say I know of a car in the world worth a mans life etc. It must be clear that’s what’s being handed down. You are condemning a life with striking them out, is it really as bad as all that? The ABCs of Three Strikes by Alex Ricciardulli December 2003 DailyTrina Trelles Criminal Justice 141 Phase 2 the Criminal Justice System Today DB Habitual Offender Laws are made to target poor minority groups. 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