

We Are All Students

About Us

We Are All Students (WAAS) was started by a formerly incarcerated scholar at UC Davis. It combines firsthand experience and academic research with digital media to 1) **inform** the public about the ideas and experiences of formerly incarcerated people pursuing education in the shadow of incarceration; 2) **transform** false and misleading narratives about us and our communities into more factual and constructive ones; and 3) **reform** and abolish unjust education and incarceration policies and practices. Find us on Instagram, go to linktr.ee/weareallstudents, or click here to sign up!

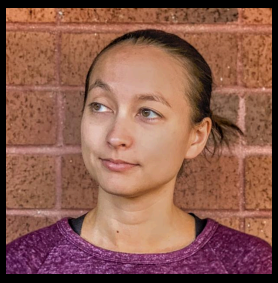
Zachary Psick



Zachary Psick is a formerly incarcerated public scholar of mass incarceration and the wars on drugs and crime. He has a graduate certificate in addiction studies and public health, his doctoral studies were in sociology, and he has a background in communications and marketing. His scholarship focuses on the intersection of the criminal legal system with other institutions, how inequality is (re)produced across time and place, and how educated professionals contribute to social problems they believe they are solving. Read more about his work here.

Michelle Hamline

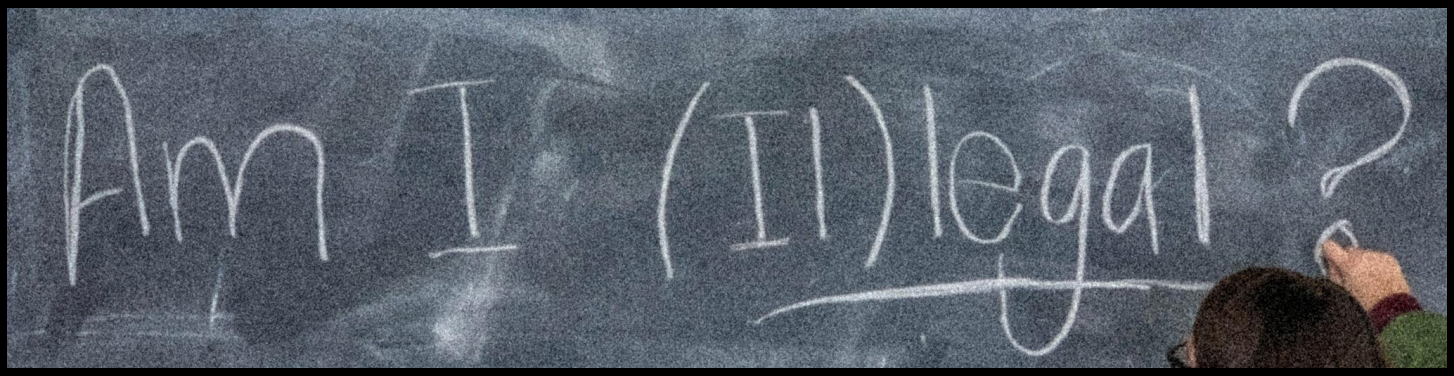
Michelle Hamline, MD, PhD is a system-impacted physician and assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Her doctoral research was in developmental biology, and she earned a Master's in Advanced Clinical Research. She specializes in healthcare quality improvement, patient safety, and health services research. She has an interest in how social and institutional systems contribute to inequities in health and wellbeing. She is Pediatric Medical Director at Lodi Memorial Hospital and Associate Director for Pediatric Quality and Safety at UC Davis. Read more about her work here.



Axl Kaminski



Axl Kaminski is a formerly incarcerated doctoral student in sociology at UC Davis. He is an interdisciplinary scholar having previously earned a JD from UC Law San Francisco. He studies societal responses to social problems and the institutions and actors that attempt to manage them. His current research considers how the social construction of criminality and addiction affects the lives of people who use drugs. He is particularly interested in harm reduction methods as an alternative to criminal legal and medical responses to drug (ab)use. Read more about his work here.


Am I (Il)legal ?