



COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCES

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Center for Policy Studies

# Punishment Beyond Prison

## The Effects of Collateral Sanctions

a discussion with  
**Michael Shields**  
Policy Matters Ohio

**March 29, 2019      12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Dampeer Room, Second Floor, Kelvin Smith Library**

**The consequences of a criminal conviction can extend far beyond the sentence imposed by the court. Laws that take away voting rights are one well-known consequence, but the deepest effects on individual lives involve restrictions on employment.**

**In Ohio, access to about one in four jobs can be limited by such *collateral sanctions*, and nearly a million (one in nine) adults have a felony conviction. The overall pattern of sanctions is a major public policy adopted with little focus on its merits and effects.**

There are legitimate reasons for some restrictions. We probably do not want someone who has been convicted of bribery to hold a public job with significant discretion, or persons convicted of violent crimes to join police forces. But reducing peoples' ability to make a legitimate living can also trigger a cycle of repeat offenses. The large racial and class disparities in conviction rates also mean that collateral sanctions intensify the challenges of poverty and race.

In December of 2018, Policy Matters Ohio and the Ohio Justice and Policy Center issued a [report](#) that identifies key issues policy-makers and citizens should be considering. How widespread are these sanctions? Who is affected, and how is that shaped by systemic inequality before the law?

What is the evidence about appropriateness of specific sanctions, such as limits on health care employment, and are some especially questionable? What is the cost to individual communities?

Join us as Michael Shields, one of the report's co-authors, joins us to share the findings and discuss alternatives.

The **Friday Public Affairs Discussion Lunch** is an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, emeriti and other members of our communities to learn and question each other about public policy issues at the international, national, and local levels. Faculty and other speakers share their research and experience to get beyond the headlines and repetition in the mass media, and the wild rumors of the internet. Lunch is brown bag, but cookies and some beverages are provided by the Center for Policy Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

<http://fridaylunch.case.edu/>