

# OUR STATE, OUR KIDS

LIVES  
IN THE  
BALANCE

Kids with concerning behavior often receive the most harsh, punitive, exclusionary discipline, and kids in Tennessee are no exception.

For a very long time, we've known that detention, suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, restraint, seclusion, and arrests are harmful. They are not an effective way to help anybody. They're our kids, and they should be treated in ways that are compassionate and effective. Otherwise, we end up losing them and they end up costing our state and our local school systems a fortune.

## The numbers in TENNESSEE



**4,996**

**MINORS ARRESTED**

at school or referred to law  
enforcement for behavior  
issues annually

**1,423**

**KIDS SECLUDED**

or restrained in  
schools annually

**140,595**

**KIDS SUSPENDED**

from school for behavior  
issues annually

**3,765**

**KIDS PADDLED**

at schools annually

Lives In The Balance is devoted to helping caregivers use evidence-based practices that are non-punitive, non-exclusionary, proactive, and collaborative. For the kids' sake and yours, we invite you to explore proven alternatives.

Access our free web-based resources  
at [livesinthebalance.org](https://livesinthebalance.org)

