



Language Shifts on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s “Vision and Mission” and “About” Webpages

Content Change Report
October 2, 2018

This report is accompanied by a [blog post](#), providing context for the changes detailed here. It was co-released with a [report](#) about the removal of pages about programs and policy guidance on the OJJDP website.

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Classification of Web content alterations and changes in access to Web resources:

Classification	Changed in this report?
1. Altering or removing text and non-text content	Yes
2. Altering or removing links	
3. Moving an entire webpage or collection of webpages or establishing redirects	
4. Altering or removing an entire pertinent section of a webpage or collection of webpages	
5. Removing an entire webpage or document	Yes
6. Overhauling or removing an entire website	
7. Altering or removing search engines and open data platforms	
8. Altering, removing, or deleting datasets	

The Sunlight Foundation’s Web Integrity Project does not intend to assess any government agency’s intentions in presenting the changes to webpages or other Web content that appear in this report.

Language Shifts on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's "Vision and Mission" and "About" Webpages

Overview

This report analyzes changes to language on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) "Vision and Mission" and "About" webpages between February 2017 and July 2018. Many of the changes were made to language describing juvenile contact with the justice system and the type of programs and services OJJDP supports and provides. Shifts in language include removing text stating that OJJDP supports the development and implementation of "coordinated prevention and intervention programs" and provides "treatment and rehabilitative services" from the mission statement on the "Vision and Mission" page, and replacing the term "justice-involved youth" with "offenders" on the "About" page. Additionally, the motto displayed in the website's top banner was changed from "Working for Youth Justice and Safety" to "Enhancing Safety, Ensuring Accountability, Empowering Youth."

Background

Agency details: According to OJJDP's "[About](#)" page, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act "established OJJDP to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system." As a component within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP "sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming."

Note: This report includes analysis of changes to OJJDP's "About" page cited above. See [Webpage 2](#) for details.

Communications about changes: The office has not proactively communicated about or explained the changes described within this report.

Known archives: No known archives identified for the OJJDP domain. Public Web archives for a few OJJDP.gov webpages have been collected by the Federal Depository Library Program Web Archive and can be found by going to <https://archive-it.org/home/FDLPwebarchive?q=ojjdp&page=1&show=Collections> and navigating to "More Results from www.ojjdp.gov" in the entry titled "Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)." There is no single OJJDP archive collection — the snapshots of OJJDP.gov webpages are included in other collections. None of these collections nor any other archive spanning OJJDP.gov are referenced on the OJJDP website. There are no archives for webpages detailed in this report.

Description of Most Notable Changes

1. The "Vision Statement" on the "Vision and Mission" webpage was altered ([Webpage 1](#)):
 - a. A sentence that previously read, "The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from violence," has been changed. The terms "healthy" and "educated"

- were removed, and the phrase “free from violence” was changed to “free from crime and violence.”
- b. A sentence that previously read, “If they come into contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be rare, fair, and beneficial to them,” has been changed. The phrase “rare, fair, and beneficial” was changed to “just and beneficial.”
2. The “Mission Statement” on the “Vision and Mission” webpage was altered ([Webpage 1](#)):
 - a. Text was removed stating that OJJDP supports the development and implementation of “coordinated prevention and intervention programs” and that it provides “treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.”
 - b. A thumbnail image, text, and a link for a policy flier dated September 2016 were removed. The flier, titled “Studies and Reports that are Informing OJJDP Initiatives” is no longer accessible.
 3. Text that appears in the top banner of the website was altered (described in [Webpage 1](#)):
 - a. The phrase “Working for Youth Justice and Safety” was replaced with “Enhancing Safety, Ensuring Accountability, Empowering Youth.”
 4. Language on the “About” page that previously stated that the Office strives to “hold justice-involved youth appropriately accountable” was altered. The phrase has been changed to read that the Office strives to “hold offenders accountable” ([Webpage 2](#)).

Table of Contents

Report Section	Webpage Title	URL	Page Status
Webpage 1	Vision and Mission	https://www.ojjdp.gov/about/missionstatement.html	Live, Altered
Webpage 2	About	https://www.ojjdp.gov/about/about.html	Live, Altered

Detailed Description of Changes in Content

Note: Throughout the entire report, links to the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine's (IAWM) versions of corresponding pages are provided for reference. IAWM displays time in GMT.

Webpage 1: Vision and Mission

- URL: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/about/missionstatement.html>
- Changes occurred between [June 27, 2017](#) and [July 16, 2018](#).
- No known archives identified.
- **Note:** This analysis focuses on the top banner and the content in the main body of the webpage. The sidebar was excluded from the analysis.
- **Note:** **Red** highlights indicate removed text and **green** highlights indicate added text.

Webpage 1 Details:

1. The following content was changed on the "Vision and Mission" page between [June 27, 2017](#) and [December 23, 2017](#) ([Screenshot 1.1](#)):
 - a. **Altered** text under the section titled "Vision Statement":
 - i. **From:** The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from violence.
To: The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from **crime** and violence.
 - ii. **From:** If they come into contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be **rare, fair**, and beneficial to them.
To: If they come into contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be **both just** and beneficial to them.
 - b. **Altered** text under the section titled "Mission Statement":
 - i. **From:** OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds **justice-involved** youth appropriately accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.
To: OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds youth appropriately accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.

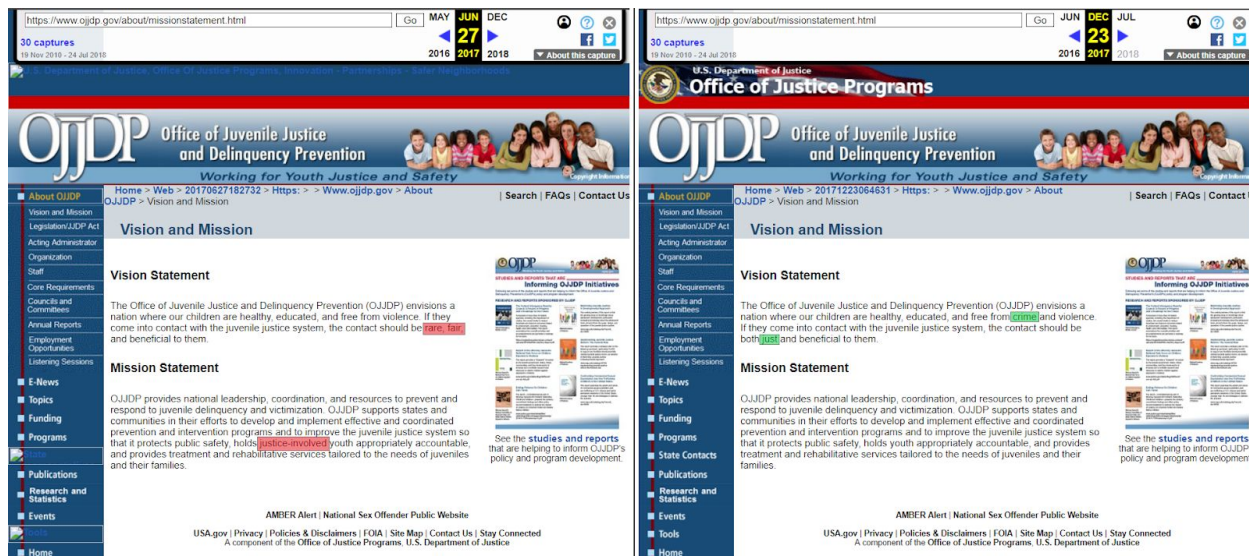
2. The following content was changed on the “Vision and Mission” page between [December 23, 2017](#) and [July 16, 2018](#) ([Screenshot 1.2](#)):
- a. **Altered** text under the section titled “Vision Statement”:
 - i. **From:** The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are **healthy, educated, and** free from crime and violence.
To: The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) envisions a nation where our children are free from crime and violence.
 - ii. **From:** “If they come into contact with the **juvenile** justice system, the contact should be both just and beneficial to them.”
To: “If they come into contact with the justice system, the contact should be both just and beneficial to them.”
 - b. **Altered** text under the section titled “Mission Statement”:
 - i. **From:** OJJDP supports states and communities **in their efforts** to develop and implement effective and **coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the** juvenile justice system so that **it protects** public safety, **holds** youth appropriately accountable, and **provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.**
To: OJJDP supports the efforts of states, **tribes**, and communities to develop and implement effective and **equitable** juvenile justice systems that **enhance** public safety, **ensure** youth **are held** appropriately accountable **to both crime victims and communities**, and **empower youth to live productive, law-abiding lives.**
 - c. **Removed** content about a flier titled “Studies and Reports that are Informing OJJDP Initiatives.”
 - i. **Removed** a thumbnail image of the flier.
 - ii. **Removed** the following text from below the thumbnail image:

“See the [studies and reports](#) that are helping to inform OJJDP’s policy and program development.”

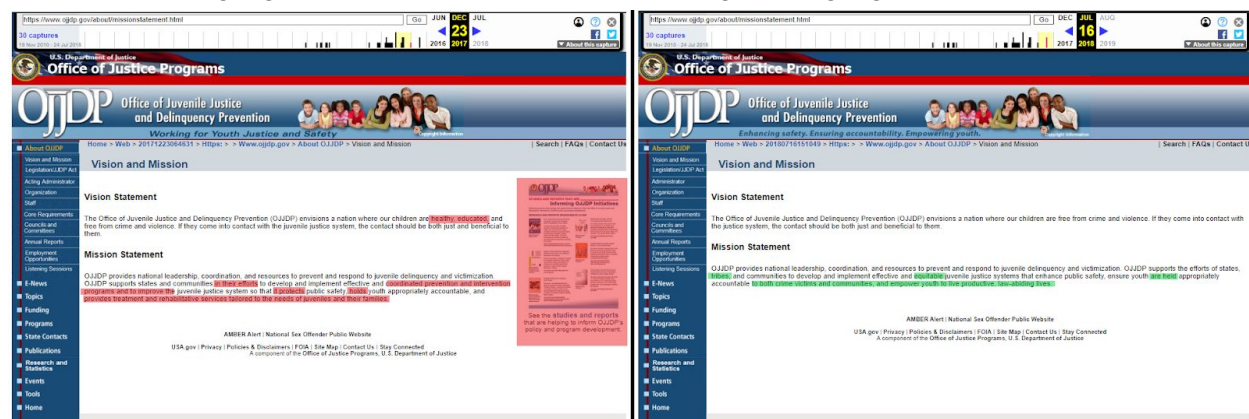
 1. The thumbnail itself and the “[studies and reports](#)” link previously linked to a PDF of the policy flier. The link URL <https://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/policyflier.pdf> currently leads to a “404 - File or Directory not found” error message.
 - d. **Altered** text displayed within the top banner:
 - i. **From:** **Working for Youth Justice and Safety**
To: **Enhancing Safety, Ensuring Accountability, Empowering Youth**

Note: *This change occurred in the top banner, which appears across the entire OJJDP domain and is not content exclusive to the “Vision and Mission” page.*

Screenshot 1.1: A side-by-side comparison of the [June 27, 2017](#) version and the [December 23, 2017](#) version of the “Vision and Mission” page, as captured by Internet Archive’s Wayback Machine. Red highlights indicate removed content and green highlights indicate added content.



Screenshot 1.2: A side-by-side comparison of the [December 23, 2017](#) version and the [July 16, 2018](#) version of the “Vision and Mission” page, as captured by Internet Archive’s Wayback Machine. Red highlights indicate removed content and green highlights indicate added content.



Webpage 2: About

- URL: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/about/about.html>
- Changes occurred between [February 1, 2017](#) and [April 26, 2017](#).
- No known archives identified.
- **Note:** *This analysis focuses on the top banner and content in the main body of the webpage. The sidebar was excluded from the analysis.*
- **Note:** *Red highlights indicate removed text and green highlights indicate added text.*

Webpage 2 Details:

1. The following content was changed on the “About” page between [February 1, 2017](#) and [April 26, 2017](#) ([Screenshot 2.1](#)):
 - a. **Altered text:**
 - i. **From:** Juveniles in crisis—from **those who commit serious and violent offenses** to victims of abuse and neglect—pose a challenge to the nation.
To: Juveniles in crisis—from **serious, violent, and chronic offenders** to victims of abuse and neglect—pose a challenge to the nation.
 - b. **Altered text:**
 - i. **From:** The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold **justice-involved youth appropriately** accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.
To: The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold **offenders** accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.

Screenshot 2.1: A side-by-side comparison of the [February 1, 2017](#) version and the [April 26, 2017](#) version of the “About” page, as captured by Internet Archive’s Wayback Machine. Red highlights indicate removed content and green highlights indicate added content.

