The NYPD’s stop-and-frisk program is ineffective and out of control:

In 2011, NYPD officers conducted 685,724 street stops, a more than 600 percent increase since Mayor Bloomberg’s first year in office when officers conducted 97,000 stops. More than 4 million people have been stopped under this administration.

The massive spike in street interrogations has done little to remove firearms from the streets, the ostensible reason behind the stop-and-frisk regime. Instead, the wholesale violation of civil rights has sown mistrust between police officers and the communities they are supposed to protect.

Nine out of 10 people stopped are totally innocent, meaning they are neither arrested nor ticketed. No gun is retrieved in 99.9 percent of stops.

The proportion of gun seizures to stops has fallen sharply — only 780 guns were confiscated last year, not much more than the 604 guns seized in 2003, when officers made 160,851 stops.

Though they account for only 4.7% of the city’s population, black and Latino males between the ages of 14-24 accounted for 41.6% of the stops in 2011.

The number of stops of young black men exceeded the entire city population of young black men.

Stop-and-frisk targets black and Latino New Yorkers:

Young black and Latino men are the targets of a hugely disproportionate number of street interrogations.

In 70 out of 76 precincts, black and Latinos accounted for more than half of the stops, and in 33 precincts they accounted for more than 90 percent of stops. In the 10 precincts with black and Latino populations of 14 percent or less, black and Latino New Yorkers accounted for more than 70 percent of stops in six of those precincts.

Black and Latino New Yorkers are:

- More likely to be frisked than whites and less likely to be found with a weapon.
- Far more likely to have police force used against them than whites.

The Community Safety Act is a first step toward ending discriminatory practices like stop-and-frisk:

The NYCLU and our partners in Communities United for Police Reform are working to pass the Community Safety Act, a series of civil rights bills currently before the City Council.

The legislation will create a real ban on racial profiling; protect New Yorkers from unlawful searches; and require that police officers identify themselves and explain their actions when they stop people.

For more information, visit www.nyclu.org