

Speaker Bio

Danyelle Solomon

Vice President, Race and Ethnicity Policy

Danyelle Solomon is the vice president of Race and Ethnicity Policy at American Progress. Previously, she served as policy counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice's Washington, D.C., office, where she focused primarily on criminal justice issues, including sentencing reform, corrections reform, policing reform, commutations and pardons, and racial disparities in the justice system. Prior to joining the Brennan Center, Solomon served as legislative counsel at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy within the Office of Legislative Affairs, where she focused on federal drug policy. Solomon also served as counsel to Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD), then the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee. Solomon was responsible for a wide array of policy issues, including sentencing reform, juvenile justice reform, civil rights, and executive branch nominations; she also served as the principal counsel to Sen. Cardin during the U.S. Supreme Court confirmation hearings of Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan.

Solomon has been published in *The Hill*, written congressional testimony, and is the co-author of "Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Jails: Recommendations for Local Practice," published by the Brennan Center in 2015.

Solomon obtained her J.D. from the Pennsylvania State University and graduated from the University of Miami with a B.A. in political science.