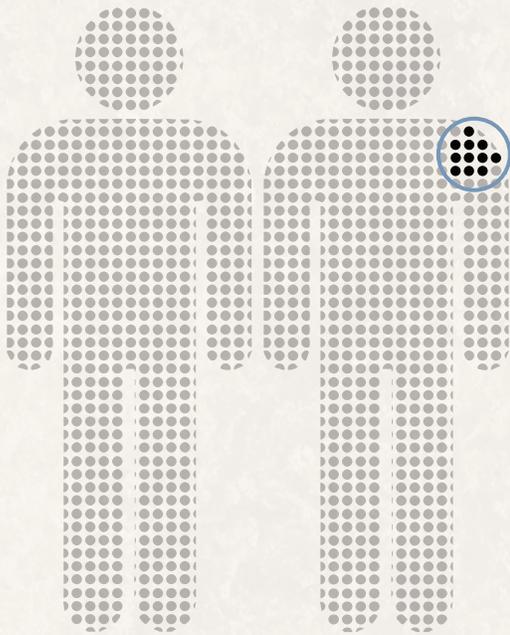
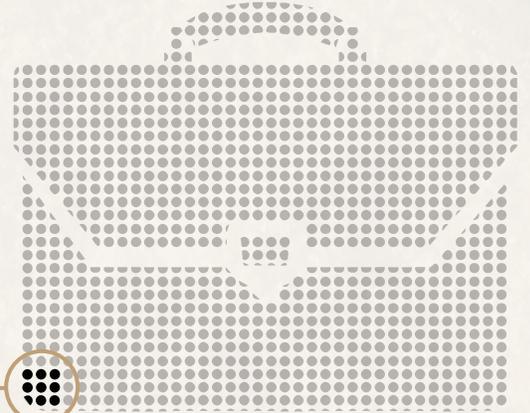


# What Is the Likelihood of a Braider Receiving a Complaint?

Much lower than even these rare events

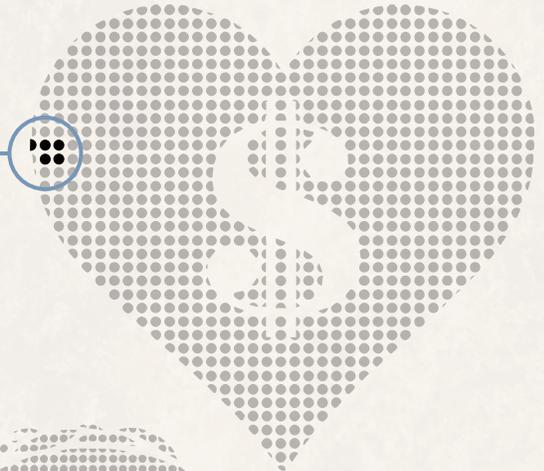


Chances of  
Being a Twin  
11 out of 1,000



Chances of  
Getting Audited by the IRS  
8.6 out of 1,000

Chances of  
Dating a Millionaire  
4.6 out of 1,000



Chances of  
Licensed/Registered Braiders  
Receiving a Complaint  
3.4 out of 1,000



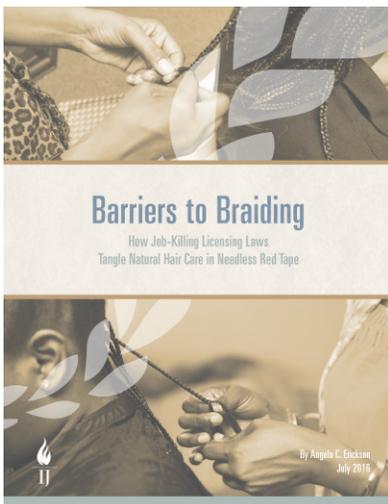
Chances of  
Licensed/Registered Braiders  
Receiving a *Consumer* Complaint  
.035 out of 1,000



# Barriers to Braiding

## Job-Killing Licensing Laws Are Tangling Natural Hair Care in Needless Red Tape

African-style hair braiding is a time-tested and natural craft, and for many, it provides a path to entrepreneurship and self-sufficiency. Yet most states force braiders to get a government license and take hundreds or even thousands of hours of classes to work legally. Research from the Institute for Justice finds that such onerous licensing has nothing to do with protecting public health and safety. Instead, it just keeps braiders out of work.



[www.ij.org/report/barriers-to-braiding](http://www.ij.org/report/barriers-to-braiding)  
Available on Kindle

### Braiding Is Safe

- It is extremely rare for braiders to have a complaint filed against them. And it is even rarer for a complaint to be filed by a consumer.
- Overwhelmingly, complaints come from licensing boards or already-licensed competitors and are about unlicensed practice—not health or safety.
- Most states that provided data saw no complaints concerning health or safety at all, despite training requirements that varied from zero to 600 hours.

### Onerous Licensing Keeps Braiders Out of Work

- The more training hours a state demands, the fewer braiders it has.
- Louisiana requires 500 hours of training and had a mere 32 licensed braiders in 2012. Neighboring Mississippi, which scrapped licensing in favor of simple registration, had over 1,200 registered braiders—despite a smaller black population.

### More States Are Eliminating Job-Killing Licensing for Braiders

- As of January 18, 2018, braiders are able to work without a license in 23 states.
- Twelve states have put an end to licensing for braiders since 2015.

Increasingly, research concludes that the costs of licensing outweigh any purported benefits. Eliminating needless licensing can help put more people—braiders and others—back to work.