

**JUST DETENTION**   
INTERNATIONAL  

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**RAPE IS NOT PART OF THE PENALTY**





**200,000**

men, women, and children

are sexually abused

behind bars

every year in the U.S.

**1 / 2**

**OF ALL SEXUAL ABUSE  
BEHIND BARS IS  
COMMITTED BY STAFF**

“For me, being sexually abused as a child made me an easy target. It was in our file, and the guards can see that. We are easy targets because we learn from a young age to keep our mouths shut. There are repercussions to telling. It is brainwashed into us. It was almost the norm because of how I grew up. I just felt like, ‘Well, here comes another one.’”

Robin, who was sexually abused repeatedly by staff in a women’s prison

**1 IN  
10**

**YOUTH IN JUVENILE FACILITIES  
REPORTED BEING SEXUALLY  
ABUSED DURING A SINGLE YEAR**

“I was 12 years old when I first entered juvenile hall. I was sexually abused by other inmates. Staff members were aware of this abuse, and they turned their heads. They didn’t want anything to do with me, or the abuse. I needed guidance and I was not getting that guidance from staff members.”

Troy, who was raped many times in adult and youth facilities

**MOST SURVIVORS ARE SEXUALLY  
ABUSED AGAIN AND AGAIN — AND  
AGAIN**

“The pain was so bad from the rapes, I turned to alcohol and drugs. I ended up in the street. I lived in a car for ten years. I was in the gutter for 20 years. The pain was so bad that I wanted to kill myself every day. I still do.”

David, who was raped and beaten in a men’s jail



When the government takes away someone's freedom, it takes on an absolute responsibility to keep that person safe. No matter what the crime, rape is not part of the penalty. And yet, in the U.S. today — the richest country in the world, a nation founded on the principles of equality and the rule of law — sexual violence in detention constitutes a nationwide crisis.

More than 200,000 people are sexually abused every year in U.S. prisons, jails, and youth facilities. Despite this crisis, Just Detention International (JDI) is the only organization in the country dedicated to ending rape behind bars.

When we talk about 200,000 prisoner rape survivors, it's easy to feel numb. It's such a large number. But they are real people: mothers and fathers, neighbors and friends, members of our communities whose lives are devastated. Most are assaulted more than once, many again and again — and again. About half are abused by staff; the corrections officials whose very job it is to keep inmates safe, whose salaries we pay through our taxes.

To me, the fight to end prisoner rape is where our commitment to human rights gets tested. Prisoners don't naturally trigger our admiration, sympathy, or compassion. And yet, if every person has equal value — if human rights are inherent and inalienable — we have to care deeply, and do everything we can to make others care too.

Tom Cahill, a dear friend of mine and the former Chairperson of JDI's Board of Directors, was gang raped in a Texas jail after being arrested during an antiwar protest. Tom's life was shattered by the assaults, but he vowed not to let the horror he had endured silence him. He said: "I used to feel shame and humiliation about what happened to me in that Texas jail. Eventually I came to realize that it was not my shame — it was my country's shame."

Sexual abuse in detention is a disgrace, but there is good news: this violence is preventable. There are prisons in the U.S. today where inmates are safe. There are entire countries where prisoner rape is almost unheard of. Clearly, sexual violence is not inherent to prison life.

Levels of abuse aren't predicated on how crowded a prison is, or on whether it's a high-security facility or not. Instead, sexual violence is directly linked to the quality of a prison's leaders. Strong leaders, who hold perpetrators accountable whether they are guards or inmates, who have well-trained staff and good policies and practices in place, keep inmates safe.

That's where JDI enters the picture. As the undisputed leader in fighting sexual abuse in detention, we draft legislation, rewrite prison policies, train prison officials, mobilize public opinion, and provide rape survivors with the help they need to heal. We work inside prisons, jails, and youth facilities across the country. By placing the experiences of rape survivors at the center of our work, we transform prison culture.

A decade ago, corrections leaders claimed that prisoner rape wasn't a problem. Some said it was a pop-culture myth, others insisted it was the work of a handful of bad apple guards, or degenerate convicts — a cultural delusion. I was in the midst of those arguments, where corrections officials flatly denied that sexual violence was a problem. Now, those same officials want to talk about how to solve the problem. They want JDI's help.

Thanks to JDI, we now have binding national standards to prevent sexual abuse in detention. Tens of thousands of staff are trained every year in those standards. Hundreds of thousands of inmates are educated about their right to be safe, and what to do if they aren't.

But despite all this progress, prisoners are still assaulted on a daily basis. Prisoners will only be safe when we all believe that they should be — and demand that they are. If we treat inmates well, if we respect their humanity, all of society will become healthier. If we don't, we all lose.

Thank you for joining us in fighting for justice and for every person's inalienable right to be safe from sexual abuse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lovisa Stannow". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue background.

Lovisa Stannow  
Executive Director

# MISSION STATEMENT

Just Detention International is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention.



# JDI

## WHO WE ARE

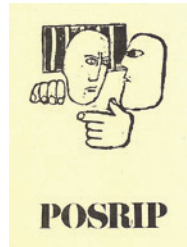
JDI is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. Founded in 1980, JDI is the only organization in the U.S. – and the world – dedicated exclusively to ending sexual abuse behind bars. We hold government officials accountable for prisoner rape; challenge the attitudes and misperceptions that allow sexual abuse to flourish; and make sure that survivors get the help they need.

Sexual abuse in detention is absolutely preventable. Prisons and jails with committed leaders, good policies, and sound practices can keep people safe.

We work with policymakers, advocates, and corrections officials to protect the basic human rights of people in detention, in the U.S. and globally. All of our work is informed by the wisdom and experiences of prisoner rape survivors. We go inside facilities every day to talk directly with prisoners and staff about what they really need to be safe.

### THE BEGINNING OF A MOVEMENT

JDI is founded by a prisoner rape survivor named Russell Smith. The group is known as People Organized to Stop the Rape of Imprisoned Persons, or POSRIP.



### TOM'S HUNGER STRIKE

Desperate to raise awareness of the crisis of prisoner rape, Tom Cahill stages a 63-day hunger strike outside of San Quentin prison.

### A LANDMARK CASE

JDI submits an *amicus brief* to the Supreme Court on behalf of Dee Farmer, a transgender woman who was raped in a federal prison. Dee won the right to sue the Bureau of Prisons for not protecting her, and today the *Farmer* decision stands as a landmark in the fight for the right of survivors to seek redress from government officials.



1980

### SURVIVOR VOICES

JDI becomes the first organization that systematically communicates with people in detention who have been sexually abused. Then and now, their stories form the foundation of JDI's advocacy.



1983



### JDI'S FIRST "OFFICE"

With a shoestring budget and no paid staff, leading activist Tom Cahill runs JDI out of his camper van — the organization's first "office."

1984

### DONNY'S CALL FOR JUSTICE

JDI President Stephen Donaldson, aka Donny, publishes a milestone op-ed in the *New York Times* on the crisis of prisoner rape. Donny, an activist who was raped countless times in prison, writes that this violence will continue "until the public turns its averted eyes back to the walls that were built and are maintained at great expense by taxpayers to promote public safety."

*The New York Times*

1993

1994



### THE ONLY ORGANIZATION OF ITS KIND

Donaldson officially incorporates JDI, then known as Stop Prisoner Rape, as a nonprofit entity. Today, JDI remains the only organization in the world dedicated exclusively to ending sexual abuse in detention.

### SURVIVOR TESTIMONY

Donaldson testifies on JDI's behalf in *ACLU v. Reno*, as part of a successful challenge in federal district court to provisions in the Communications Decency Act (CDA) that would have restricted access to powerful survivor testimony on JDI's website. In a ruling handed down the following year, the Supreme Court decided that the CDA's "anti-indecency" provisions were unconstitutional.



1996



### A BIPARTISAN EFFORT

Inspired by a letter from JDI President Tom Cahill, Representative Frank Wolf leads the bipartisan push in Congress to pass legislation to end the crisis of rape behind bars. Along with Representative Bobby Scott and Senators Ted Kennedy and Jeff Sessions, Wolf introduces the Prison Rape Reduction Act, a bill that would become the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

2002

### SURVIVORS DEMAND ACTION

At a JDI-organized congressional briefing, a group of prisoner rape survivors gather in Washington, D.C. to tell their stories of abuse and urge lawmakers to pass PREA.



2003



### A LIFELINE FOR SURVIVORS

JDI creates a *Resource Guide for Survivors of Sexual Abuse Behind Bars*, the only listing of community organizations that provide legal and counseling services to incarcerated survivors. Since its publication, JDI has mailed the guide to thousands of incarcerated survivors who reach out to the organization for help each year.

### FIGHTING FOR LGBT RIGHTS

Backed by leading LGBT rights organizations, JDI releases *Call for Change*, a set of policy proposals to address the rampant abuse facing this population in U.S. prisons and jails.



2004



### TV SPOTLIGHT ON PRISONER RAPE

60 Minutes broadcasts an in-depth interview with Donaldson, the first-ever television feature on prisoner rape.

### THE LEGACY OF A HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPION

Donaldson dies, having contracted HIV as a result of sexual abuse in prison. His legacy as an activist is still felt today.



### STOP JOKING ABOUT PRISONER RAPE

Backed by a coalition of nearly 100 human rights organizations, JDI forces 7-Up to remove an appalling soda ad that makes light of prisoner rape.

### VICTORY!

After unanimous passage in both the House and Senate, President George W. Bush signs PREA into law. The first federal civil law to address sexual abuse behind bars, PREA affirms that such abuse constitutes a crisis — and that it is the government's duty to stop it.



### AN OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTH AFRICA

A group of dedicated officials at a notorious prison in Cape Town, South Africa, contact JDI for advice on stopping sexual abuse in their facility. The resulting collaboration marks the beginning of JDI's work in South Africa.

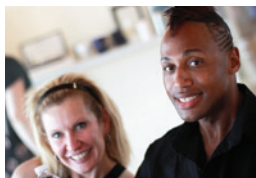


### BRINGING RAPE CRISIS COUNSELING TO PRISONS

JDI develops *Paths to Recovery*, a groundbreaking program that, for the first time, brings community rape crisis counselors into prisons in California to provide confidential services to incarcerated survivors. The project's success proves that it is possible for outside experts to give lifesaving support within prison walls.

### SURVIVOR SUMMIT

JDI holds its first Survivor Summit, in Los Angeles, to help formerly incarcerated survivors develop the skills to share their own stories of abuse and become powerful human rights advocates.



### JDI SURVIVOR COUNCIL FORMS

JDI creates its Survivor Council, a formal advisory board made up of currently and formerly incarcerated survivors who are dedicated to fighting for every person's right to be free from sexual abuse.

### JDI IN THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS

JDI's Executive Director and Board Chair write the first in a series of articles for the *New York Review of Books*. The series, published over a four-year period, is widely credited as game-changing in raising awareness of this issue.



### WORDS OF HOPE

JDI launches *Words of Hope*, its lifesaving holiday card campaign that allows our supporters to send inspirational messages to incarcerated survivors.

### JDI AND THE UNITED NATIONS

After JDI submits a shadow report to the UN Committee Against Torture, the Committee urges the U.S. government to address the crisis of prisoner rape.



2005



### HISTORIC LAW IN CALIFORNIA

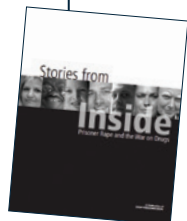
California passes the Sexual Abuse in Detention Elimination Act, which JDI helped draft. This law includes specific provisions aimed at helping the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation keep inmates safe.

2007



### HUMAN RIGHTS IN U.S. PRISONS

JDI starts a sexual abuse prevention training program for California prison officials that is based on international human rights principles.



### PRISONER RAPE AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

JDI publishes *Stories from Inside*, an eye-opening report on the devastating link between the war on drugs and sexual abuse in detention.

2008

### NEW NAME, SAME MISSION

The organization's name is changed from Stop Prisoner Rape to Just Detention International, affirming our commitment to fight all forms of sexual abuse in all forms of detention, in the U.S. and beyond.



JUST DETENTION INTERNATIONAL  
RAPE IS NOT PART OF THE PENALTY

2009



### SAFER PRISONS NOW

Along with state agencies and other advocacy organizations, JDI helps initiate a pilot program to make condoms available to prisoners in California — a commonsense public health measure that many survivors report could have helped them protect themselves, even in the context of sexual abuse.

2010

### LEADERS ON THE INSIDE

JDI creates an innovative project in two California state prisons that gives prisoners a leadership role in sexual abuse education. Peer education is now recognized nationally as one of the most effective ways to teach prisoners about their right to be safe and to transform the culture of prisons.



### RAISING THE BAR

JDI founds the Raising the Bar Coalition, a partnership of more than 60 organizations from all points on the political spectrum, including leading progressive advocacy organizations and conservative faith-based groups, united in support of strong national standards to address sexual abuse in detention.



## A BOLD PROJECT IN MIAMI

JDI embarks on a bold initiative to help Miami-Dade County turn around its huge and troubled jail system. Together, JDI staff and the county's corrections leaders put in place lifesaving reforms, focusing on LGBT inmate safety, confidential support services for incarcerated survivors, and inmate peer education programs.



2011

## SURVIVORS TO DOJ: STOP PRISONER RAPE

In response to the Department of Justice's unacceptably weak draft national standards, JDI mobilizes advocates — including its Raising the Bar Coalition — and more than 100 currently incarcerated survivors to demand tougher rules.



## OBAMA'S MEMO

On the same day the national standards are released, President Barack Obama issues an executive memo ordering all federal agencies with confinement facilities — such as immigration detention facilities — to adopt their own standards addressing sexual abuse.

2012



## FINALLY!

Thanks to pressure from JDI and a coalition of survivors and advocates, the Department of Justice finalizes the national standards to address sexual abuse in detention. Binding on prisons, jails, youth facilities, police lockups, and community corrections, the standards are a marked improvement over the Department's previous draft, and include lifesaving reforms long championed by JDI.



## JDI INSIDE

The federal government begins funding JDI's work with staff and inmates inside prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities in jurisdictions nationwide.

2013



DETENTION JUSTICE FORUM

## BUILDING A MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

JDI becomes a founding member of the Detention Justice Forum in South Africa, a coalition of human rights organizations committed to ending rape in detention.

## JDI-SA OPENS ITS DOORS

JDI-South Africa (JDI-SA) is established as an independent organization to build on the work that JDI began in South Africa in 2004.



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

JDI-SA begins a project at Leeuwkop Correctional Centre to implement training and policy reforms aimed at addressing sexual abuse. The project marks the first time a South African prison has joined forces with an advocacy organization to end sexual violence inside.

## THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS UP FOR SURVIVORS

At a speech in Philadelphia, President Obama decries sexual abuse in detention and issues an impassioned call for an end to jokes about rape in prison.



2014

## RICK WAS WRONG

Texas Governor Rick Perry attempts to derail the national standards — but his effort goes nowhere thanks to JDI's advocacy.



2015

## ALL SURVIVORS DESERVE COUNSELING!

After a decades-long battle, JDI wins the fight to overturn a federal rule that blocked rape crisis centers from using Victims of Crime Act grant money to work with prisoners.



2016



## JOE AND MORGAN AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Survivor Council member Joe Booth and JDI staff member Morgan Givens speak at a historic briefing at the White House on LGBT and HIV criminal justice issues.

## WE MAKE PRISONS AND JAILS SAFE

JDI fights for laws and policies to end prisoner rape — and puts these rules into practice. Our efforts go far beyond fixing bad policies. We change the culture of prisons and jails, so that every person can keep their dignity while serving time.

We change attitudes and conditions that make people unsafe — like sexually harassing language and routine humiliation of gay and transgender inmates. We teach staff how to respond to abuse with professionalism and compassion, helping them recognize that building inmates' trust in staff keeps everyone safer.

We make sure prisoners get help for any sexual abuse they have experienced, no matter when or where it occurred. For it's a sad fact that U.S. prisons are filled with men and women who endured devastating trauma before they were ever locked up. Trapped in violent facilities, they suffer additional pain that makes it nearly impossible to return home successfully upon their release.

JDI's advocacy has led to unprecedented changes. We reversed a federal law that blocked rape crisis centers from helping prisoners; we crafted rules to prevent sexual abuse in immigration facilities; and we won vital protections for LGBT inmates. We make sure that everyone whose job it is to keep inmates safe — at the federal, state, and local levels — takes that responsibility seriously and is held accountable.

One of our signature victories was the release of binding national standards to address sexual abuse in detention. Issued by the Department of Justice in 2012, these standards spell out lifesaving reforms — such as safe housing for transgender prisoners, access to confidential counseling for rape survivors, and limits to invasive pat searches.

We helped craft these standards, and set out to prove that they work. We go inside facilities; from a small lockup in Washington State, to the massive jail in downtown Miami, to state prisons in California, South Carolina, and Georgia — to name a few. We train prison officials how to prevent and respond to sexual abuse — and teach inmates about their right to be safe and how to get help if they are not.



“JDI’s approach is unique. They’re in it for the long haul, providing inmate and staff training and education. They are there to assist in changing the actual culture of the institution. This ensures that staff understand their role in keeping inmates safe.”

**Dawn Davison**

Warden, California Institution for Women, and member of JDI’s Board of Directors



“Working with JDI sometimes makes me want to pull my hair out — the little hair I have left — but it’s still worth it. We need to collaborate with advocates to make our prisons as safe as possible.”

— **Jim Gondles**, Executive Director, American Correctional Association



“JDI made us all change. Sometimes jail staff forget that inmates are human beings, but the JDI team wouldn’t let us. JDI shocked us, molded us, and praised us. And it worked.”

— **Sanya Houston**, Officer, Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department



“I am a survivor of prisoner rape. I’m also an advocate to stop prisoner rape. Everyone needs to realize that sexual abuse happens in detention. But we have the power to stop it. We must stop it.”

— **Jan Lastocy**, member of JDI’s Board of Directors and Survivor Council



“While people are in custody, it is our job to keep them safe and that includes sexual abuse. The partnership with JDI will help us do that job even better.”

— **David Lindsay**, Captain (ret.), Los Angeles Police Department



“I already accept that I’m going to die, but before I do I want to see justice in the prison system. The only way to help me now is to put an end to rape in prison.”

— **Bryson Martel**, prisoner rape survivor and advocate. Bryson, who contracted HIV as a result of the attacks, passed away in 2010.

## WE TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT PRISONER RAPE

Many people believe sexual abuse in detention is inevitable, as much a part of prison life as barbed wire and cell blocks. Some even think that anyone who breaks the law deserves this punishment. As the saying goes, “If you can’t do the time, don’t do the crime.” These harmful attitudes are fueled by portrayals of prison life in pop culture. Television and films often take for granted that people are raped in prison or, even worse, use this violence as a punchline.

At JDI, we believe that common stereotypes about prisoner rape — and prisoners themselves — are an obstacle to ending this crisis. We combat ill-informed views by providing clear, fact-based analysis that is grounded in human rights principles. In so doing, we promote public attitudes that recognize prisoner rape as a serious — and preventable — crisis, and which value the safety and dignity of all people.

The best way to shed light on the reality of rape behind bars is to hear from survivors themselves. We help prisoner rape survivors amplify their voices by publishing their accounts on our website and sharing their stories in popular media outlets. Survivors’ first-hand accounts illustrate the human cost of this crisis with greater clarity than any press release or policy paper ever could. With our support, survivors have become leading advocates for change, educating policymakers, the press, and the public about sexual abuse in detention — and what can be done to stop it.

“I’ve never, when I impose a sentence, said that that individual is to be raped when they’re incarcerated. So it’s not a part of the sentence. Plus, the impact is significant on those who are incarcerated when they get raped, and then they’re going to come back.”

**Judge Reggie B. Walton**

Senior Judge, United States District Court for the District of Columbia



“We should not be tolerating rape in prison. And we should not be making jokes about it in our popular culture. That’s no joke. These things are unacceptable.”

**President Barack Obama**

July 2015

**MEDIA ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**The New York Review**  
of Books

The Rape of American Prisoners  
by David Kaiser & Lovisa Stannow

**BBC**

Prison rape: Is the US doing  
enough to protect inmates?

**theguardian**

US prohibits imprisoning  
transgender inmates in cells  
based on birth anatomy

**THE**  
**Nation.**

Why Americans Don't Care About Prison Rape

**PRO PUBLICA**

Report Cites Failure to Act Against  
Abusers of Juveniles in Detention

**AP**

More sex abuse at understaffed  
juvenile facilities

**THE**  
**NEW YORKER**

This Is My Jail

**Slate**

The Dark Secret of Juvenile Detention Centers

**BuzzFeedNEWS**

This Charity Sends Christmas Cards  
To Prison Rape Survivors

**Vox**

After 11 years, states are finally  
committing to fight prison rape

**The Washington Post**

The Justice Department should pressure  
states to comply with prison rape law

**The New York Times**

Grandstanding on Prisons in Texas

**npr**

Immigration Detainees Seek Rape Protection

## WE MAKE SURE SURVIVORS GET THE HELP THEY NEED

All sexual abuse survivors need and deserve compassionate support, but incarcerated survivors of rape are exceptionally isolated. While survivors on the outside are usually able to talk with family or friends, call a hotline, or meet with a rape crisis counselor in person, people in detention rarely have the same options. For many, the only way to reach out for help is to write letters — to lawyers, advocates, even government officials. Sadly, most of those letters are ignored. When survivors do get a return letter, it usually confirms that no help is available.

JDI has a different approach to letters from prisoners. We respond to every single person who writes to us — always. We receive more than 2,000 letters each year from survivors in prisons and jails across the country who are desperate for help. We provide basic self-help materials to each of them, including information about sexual abuse in detention, common reactions to abuse, the healing process, survivors' rights, and — whenever possible — referrals to local organizations that can provide sensitive services to prisoners. In many cases, we advocate for individual survivors by contacting wardens, mental health staff, prison ombudspersons, and oversight agencies.

Again and again, survivors have told us that the information and support they receive from JDI is a lifeline — the only opportunity they have to learn that they are not alone, that they are not to blame, and that they can get help.

A core part of our work is to make sure that, in addition to the support we provide, incarcerated survivors can get high quality, ongoing services from local rape crisis counseling centers. We believe that any survivor in detention should be able to get the same help as someone on the outside, including medical care, a rape kit, access to legal resources, and confidential counseling.

In 2005, we pioneered the first-ever program that brought community-based rape crisis counselors into a prison to provide confidential counseling to inmates. Since then, we have trained thousands of counselors to help survivors inside prisons and jails — a setting where many counselors have very limited experience. As part of that training, we introduce them to their local corrections officials, building strong, lasting partnerships to provide survivors the support they need to heal.



“I wrote hundreds of letters when I was locked up — and the only supportive response I got was from JDI. If you had offered me a bar of gold for that letter, I wouldn't have traded it. JDI held my hand through the mail. Without them, I'm not sure I would have made it.”

**Joe Booth**

Prisoner rape survivor, California,  
JDI Survivor Council



“There is much more to my story than just hopelessness and despair. In recent months, I’ve taken steps on the path to healing. Last year, Just Detention International helped link me up with groups that provide services to survivors like me. JDI and these advocates also encouraged me to write about my story, which I’ve found helpful and cathartic.”

— **Rodney**, prisoner rape survivor, Louisiana



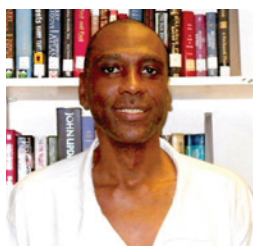
“JDI made me strong. I’ve never stood up for myself before – and then finally I did because I knew JDI wasn’t going anywhere. I knew that JDI was going to stand firm when the peer education program needed them.”

— **Maribel**, prisoner rape survivor, JDI Survivor Council, California



“I always thought that when given the option, most people would choose to treat others with dignity. My experiences in prison have altered those thoughts. But JDI has restored my confidence in humanity. JDI has helped me begin to take back my life from depression and anxiety. So once again, thank you JDI.”

— **Gregory**, prisoner rape survivor, Illinois



“If it weren’t for JDI I wouldn’t be alive. I would have given up. Maybe what happened to me can open up doors to prevent rape from happening to others. Prisons need to be safe. We can make them safe.”

— **Dwight**, prisoner rape survivor, Texas



“The sexual assaults left me feeling devastated. But I also became committed to ensuring that no one ever has to go through what I did. To find the strength to fight back, I needed the support of a movement behind me — a movement made up of people on the outside who care about human rights. Thank you so much for believing in me!”

— **Nicole**, prisoner rape survivor, JDI Survivor Council, California

## HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

### PORTRAIT OF COURAGE: TOM CAHILL

Jailed for an act of civil disobedience in 1974, Tom Cahill was locked in an overcrowded cell where he was beaten and raped for 24 hours. The inmates attacked him after guards lied to them, saying Tom was a child molester and promising special privileges for “teaching him a lesson.” Despite suffering long-term emotional and mental trauma, Tom became a leader in the fight against prisoner rape, including serving as a Board member and President of JDI for many years. His efforts culminated in the passage of the landmark Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003.

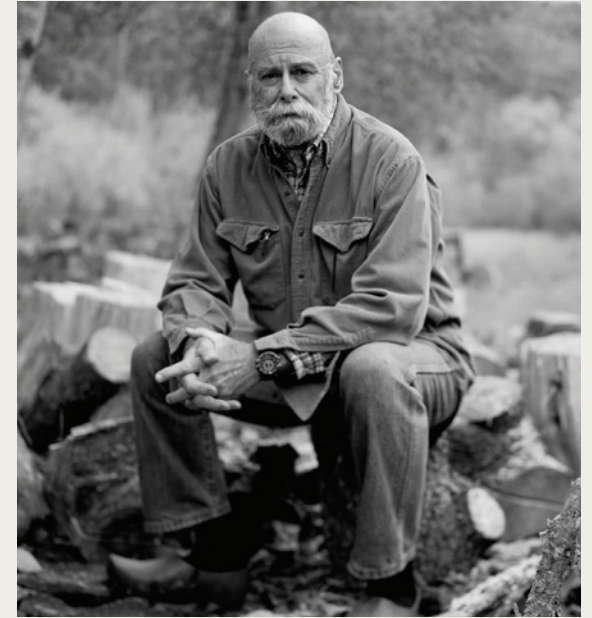
Tom’s vital role in PREA’s passage was recognized by Senator Ted Kennedy, one of the law’s original sponsors. In a letter to Tom, Kennedy wrote:

*All of us in Congress are grateful for your role in helping to pass the Prison Rape Elimination Act. It was a brilliant achievement and I’m optimistic that your passionate advocacy and the first national survey, the initiation of which owes so much to you, will result in the actual elimination of the horrible abuse that has afflicted so many inmates in correctional facilities throughout the United States. The nation owes you a huge debt of gratitude for this impressive reform.*

“You have given not only voice to the voiceless, but real power to the powerless. We are eternally grateful for your courage, your dedication and your labors in developing the movement, the climate and the legislation to eliminate the blight of prisoner rape as a tolerated occurrence in our nation’s prisons and jails.”

**Representative Bobby Scott**

In a letter to Tom Cahill on his retirement from JDI’s Board of Directors



“I used to feel shame and humiliation about what happened to me in that Texas jail. Eventually, I came to realize that it was not my shame — it was my country’s shame.”

**Tom Cahill**

Former JDI President and current member of JDI’s Survivor Council





**ESMERALDA SOTO** was forced to perform oral sex on an immigration detention official. Esmeralda, a transgender woman, came to the U.S. seeking asylum after being raped many times in Mexico. Testifying before the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission, she said “To this day, the thought of what that immigration officer did to me makes me nauseous and fills me

with fear, disgust, and anger. It is difficult to comprehend how a federal employee could abuse his authority in such an appalling manner. Little did I know that the person I needed to fear was an officer who was supposed to keep me safe.” Esmeralda has spoken out about the abuse she endured to government officials and to journalists.



**JAN LASTOCY** was raped several times a week for seven months by an officer at a Michigan state prison. He told Jan that if she ever reported the abuse, he would delay her release. Desperate to return to her husband and children, and terrified of her rapist, Jan stayed quiet. Today, Jan is a leading advocate for prisoners’ rights. As a member of JDI’s Board of Directors

and its Survivor Council, she has met with high-level government officials, written op-eds for national media outlets, and served as a guest speaker at trainings and conferences nationwide. She lives in Michigan with her family. “I’m a survivor of prisoner rape. I’m also an advocate to stop prisoner rape. Everyone needs to realize that sexual abuse happens in detention. But we have the power to stop it. We have to stop it.”



**FRANK MENDOZA** was brought to a Los Angeles jail after being arrested for public drunkenness. He was scared; he’d never been to jail before, and he was openly gay. Instead of protecting him, staff taunted and threatened him. One night, an officer came into Frank’s cell and sexually assaulted him. Frank was released a few days later and filed formal complaints, but nothing was

ever done. He has spoken out against sexual abuse behind bars at conferences, Congressional briefings, and to top media outlets. “Even though I was never convicted of a crime, I received a life sentence of pain and hurt from the abuse I suffered at the hands of a guard.”



**TROY ISAAC** was just 12 when he was sexually assaulted by older boys at a California youth facility. Staff did nothing. Troy’s life spiraled out of control and he spent decades in and out of detention. He suffered continued sexual abuse at the hands of both staff and other prisoners. “Finally, my life started to change for the better on April 22, 2004. That’s when I wrote

my first letter to JDI. Amazingly, JDI responded immediately. I think about that a lot, about JDI writing me back. To this day, it brings me to tears.” Today, Troy is proud of the volunteer work he does with JDI, training corrections officials and police officers. “When I talk to them about what happened to me they understand that I was once just like many of the kids they’re dealing with every day; troubled kids who need and deserve a chance to turn their lives around.”

## WHAT OUR DONORS SAY



**DAVID KAISER** Chair, JDI Board of Directors and President, Rockefeller Family Fund Board of Trustees

I work with many organizations but I don't know of another organization anywhere in the world that is doing as much good as JDI with as little money – that gives its donors as great a return on their philanthropic investments. JDI's staff is incredibly effective, focused, and courageous. Many people think sexual abuse in detention is inevitable; JDI proves them wrong, showing that this violence is absolutely preventable. If you want to look U.S. injustice in the eye, you have to acknowledge the horror playing out in our prisons. More than 200,000 people are sexually abused in U.S. detention every year. JDI has stuck with this enormously unpopular cause, and is transforming our prison system.



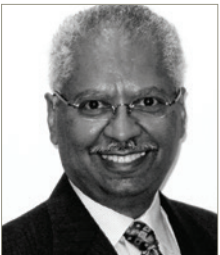
**JOHN KANEB** Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, HP Hood LLC

As a business executive and philanthropist, I look for results and long-term commitment and I have found both in JDI. Its laser focus is matched only by its impact. JDI has been the engine behind the criminal justice reform we have seen in the U.S. over the past 15 years. JDI recognized the crisis of sexual abuse in detention long before anyone else. The government is supposed to take away inmates' freedom, not their dignity and safety. When we put people in prison, we make them vulnerable to all kinds of injustice. To me, prisoner rape is an abomination, the worst kind of bullying, an unacceptable failure of American justice. I am proud to be one of JDI's long-time donors. This is an organization that deserves your support.



**JENNIFER AND PETER BUFFETT** Co-Presidents, NoVo Foundation

Misogyny and homophobia are universal problems, manifesting in appalling violence against girls and women – and anyone perceived as not living up to masculine ideals. This epidemic of violence is playing out everywhere, including in prisons, jails, and youth facilities. The NoVo Foundation is proud to support the work of JDI as it advances the inalienable right of all people, including prisoners, to be safe from sexual abuse. It doesn't matter who you are or how you have lived your life – nobody should be subjected to sexual abuse, ever. By working together, we can ensure that every last girl and boy, man and woman, is treated with the dignity they deserve.



**REGINALD WILKINSON** Former Director, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Back in 2003, when Congress passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act – which JDI helped draft – many corrections leaders were angry. I was one of them. We didn't like this legislation and we didn't like the outspoken advocacy by JDI. I wrote in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, "Correctional jurisdictions don't need this law to prove what we already know; sexual assault in prison is highly exaggerated." My story could have ended there, but it didn't. I changed my mind. I came to recognize that the Prison Rape Elimination Act provides an important structure for running safe prisons, and that JDI is essential to protecting the safety of inmates. JDI is an incredibly effective human rights organization. I have gone from being an outspoken critic of JDI to becoming one of its donors. Now, that's saying something!

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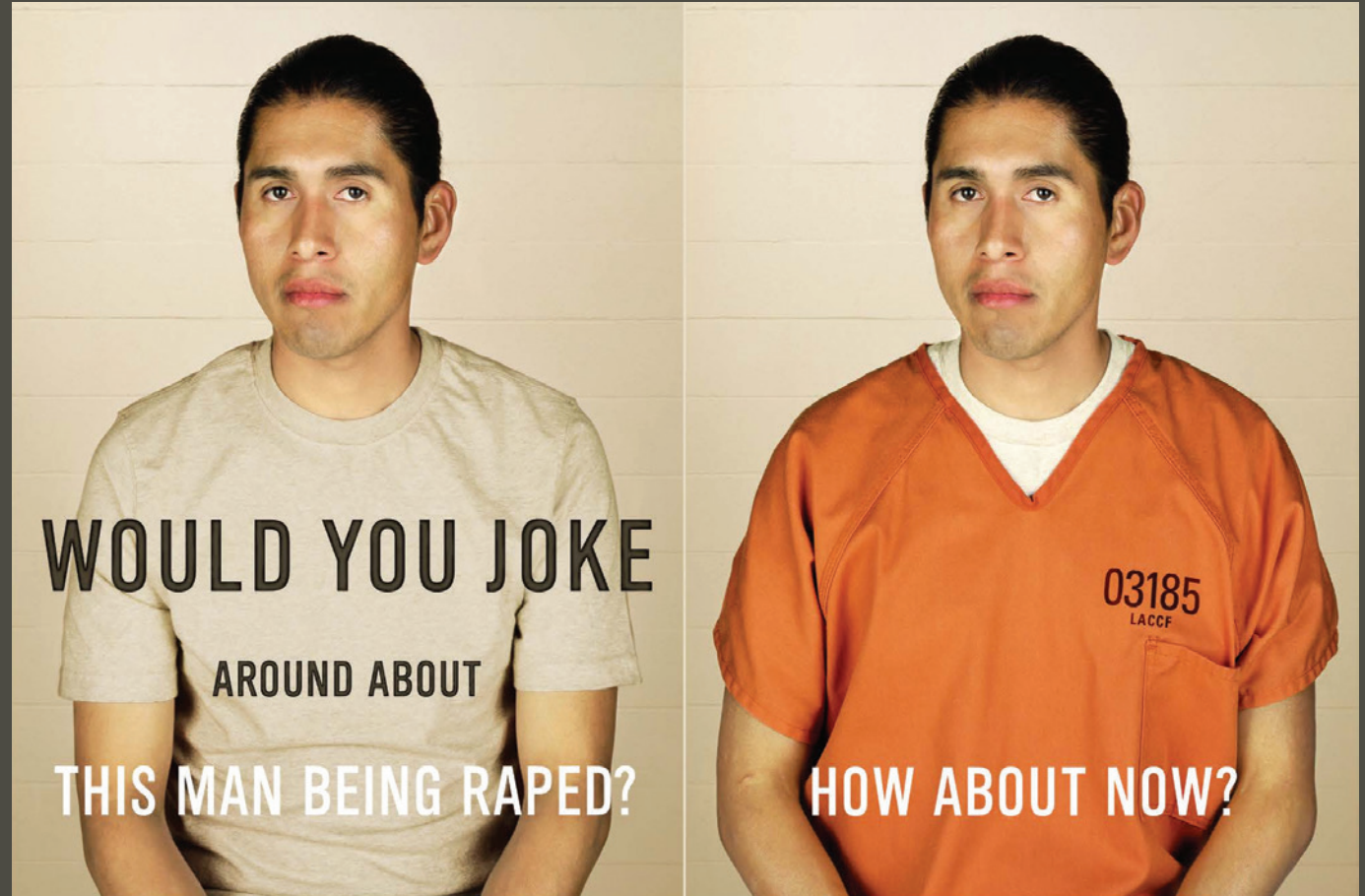
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# JUST DETENTION

INTERNATIONAL 

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RAPE IS NOT PART OF THE PENALTY

## HEADQUARTERS

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## EAST COAST OFFICE

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JDI is proud to have earned Charity Navigator's top four-star rating for seven consecutive years. Of every dollar we spend, 87 cents go directly to program work. You can find detailed financial information, including audited financial statements, here: [www.justdetention.org/financial-statements](http://www.justdetention.org/financial-statements).

The photographs on the front and back covers are of currently and formerly incarcerated survivors of prisoner rape, who have courageously spoken out about their abuse so that no one else will suffer as they did. The series includes photos taken by JDI, Tamela Kemp, and James Stenson, as well as personal snapshots sent to us by survivors.

