

Nowhere Else to Go:
Incarcerated Survivors with Mental Illness

July 16, 2015
11:00am-12:30pm (Pacific)

JUST DETENTION
INTERNATIONAL
SAFE IS NOT PART OF THE PENALTY
Photo Credit: Arin Ackerman

Today's Moderator

Carolina Aparicio
Program Officer
Just Detention International

JDI's Mission

JDI is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual violence in all forms of detention.

JDI's Core Goals

1. To hold government officials accountable
2. To change public attitudes about sexual violence behind bars
3. To ensure survivors get the help they need



Special Thanks

This project is supported by Grant No. 2011-TA-AX-K030, awarded by the **Office on Violence Against Women**, U.S. Department of Justice.

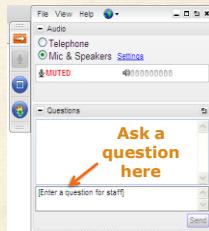


The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this webinar are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



Webinar Logistics

- Self-care
- Questions
- Archived recording
- Resources



Agenda

- I. Overview
- II. Mental Illness Behind Bars
- III. The Mental Health Crisis
- IV. Mental Health Providers and Corrections Staff
- V. What Advocates Can Do



Photo Credit: today.uconn.edu



What do you hope to learn from today's webinar?



Mental Illness Behind Bars



Linda McFarlane
Deputy Executive Director
Just Detention International

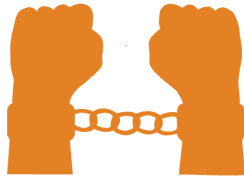


“There’s no therapy for rape victims in prison. The prison system is incompetent to handle the mentally ill, and in fact causes the mental illness that it should be treating.”

— Scott, a survivor of sexual abuse in an Illinois prison

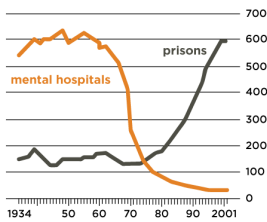


**OVER 2.3 MILLION ADULTS
AND 70,000 YOUTH**
are incarcerated in U.S. prisons,
jails, and youth detention facilities



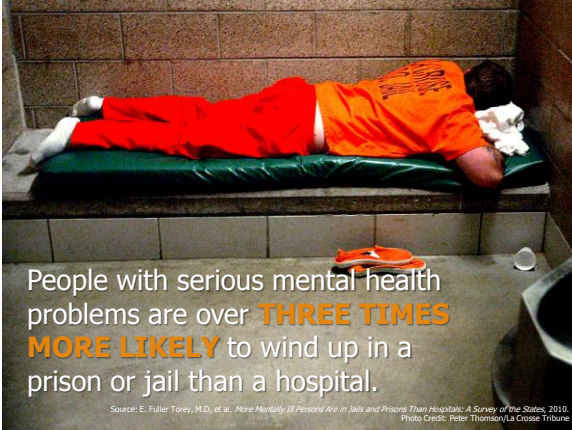
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

**Where America's
Mentally Ill Are Held**

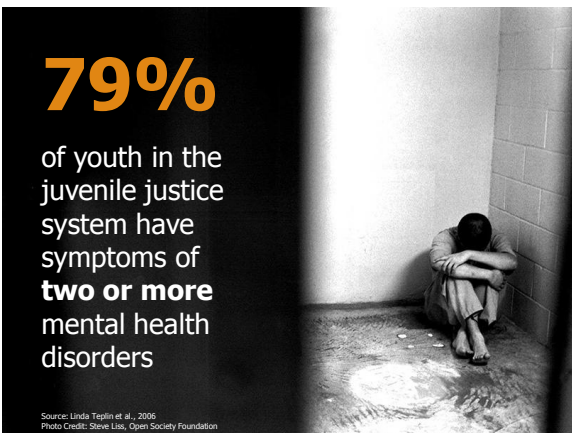


per 100,000 adults
Source: B.E. Harcourt, "An Institutionalisation Effect"











In federal and state prisons, inmates with serious psychological distress are **9X MORE LIKELY** to be sexually abused by another inmate than those with no indication of mental illness.

Source: Allen J. Beck et al, Sexual Victimization in Prisons and Jails Reported by Inmates, 2011-12 (Bureau of Justice Statistics, May 2013); © Just Detention International





80%

of prisoners with a severe mental illness who were abused by another inmate were assaulted more than once.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Photo Credit: Dario Pignatelli, Reuters

Julio's Story



What major themes stood out for you as you heard Julio's story?



Advocates Cheat Sheet

- Respond to feelings without validating delusions
- Believe the survivor, even if his/her experiences are not based in reality
- Understand complex experiences

28

Mental Health Crisis



Robert Dumond
Mental Health Practitioner
Consultants for Improved
Human Services

Challenge: High Rates of Mental Illness



Photo credit: Elemental Behavioral Health

Challenge: Prison as Dumping Grounds



Cook County Jail,
Chicago



Riker's Island,
New York



Twin Towers Jail,
Los Angeles

Challenge: Impact of Incarceration

- Overcrowding
- Violence
- Enforced solitude
- Lack of privacy
- Nothing to do
- Isolation
- Insecurity about future
- Inadequate health services

Challenge: Stigma and Discrimination

I have
~~mental health~~
problems
*with oppression
and stigma*

Challenge: Limited Resources



A mentally ill prisoner at the Los Angeles County Twin Towers Jail. Photo credit: Patrick T. Fallon/Bloomberg

The Role of Mental Health Providers

- Providing mental health care
- Creating treatment plans
- Creating discharge plans



Photo Credit: Jacob Jones, Insider

Challenging Work Conditions

- Understaffed and large case loads
- Inadequate training on trauma
- Limited confidentiality



Different Points of View

Security Staff View of Mental Health Staff:

- No respect for security
- Inmate lovers
- Not skilled enough

Mental Health Staff View of Security Staff:

- Don't want to work harder than they have to
- Not supportive
- Lazy and callous

What Advocates Can Do



Working Together

- Understand treatment philosophy
- Recognize challenges
- Collaborate with staff
- Be sensitive about caseloads
- Ask questions



Photo Credit: Chris Huber, Rapid City Journal

Advocate Checklist

- ✔ Focus on the survivor as a complete person
- ✔ Allow enough time
- ✔ Understand complex experiences
- ✔ Believe, even if delusional
- ✔ Respond to feelings



Photo credit: https://youtu.be/8Bt_DWAukZM

Jamie's Story



Photo credit: The Guardian

Self-Care

- Maintain healthy boundaries
- Be clear about your limits
- Prepare yourself

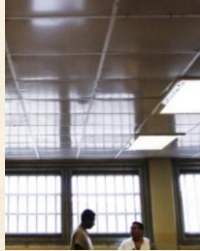


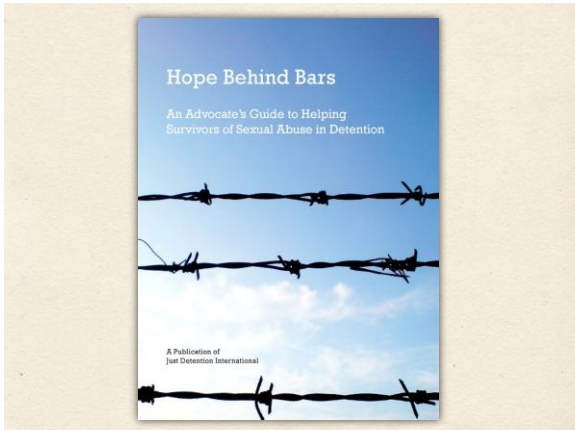
Photo credit: Jim Young / Reuters

“Getting in contact with my advocate saved my life. She was the person who said it wasn’t my fault. That was a real turning point for me.”

— Joe Booth, member of JDI’s Survivor Council







Advocate Resources

- Advocates Manual
- SART Toolkit
- Archival Requests
- PREA Resource Center: prearesourcecenter.org

Advocate Resources:

www.justdetention.org/advocate-resources

Resource Guide for Survivors

Add your agency to JDI's **Resource Guide for Survivors of Sexual Abuse Behind Bars:**

bit.ly/VDap7i

Upcoming Webinar

The World of Corrections (Part 2): CONversations

Date: Thursday, August 6, 2015

Time: 11am-12:30pm Pacific

Registration information TBA

Thank you for joining us today!

Please complete a brief evaluation of today's webinar.
Your feedback is very important to us.

www.justdetention.org/en/nowhere-evaluation.aspx

41


For More Information

For additional information, please visit JDI's Advocate Resource page:
www.justdetention.org/advocate-resources

Direct questions to: advocate@justdetention.org

For more information about **Just Detention International**, visit
www.justdetention.org.

Connect with JDI:

 www.facebook.com/JDIonFB

 www.twitter.com/justdetention

42
