



## Getting Down to Basics: An Overview of Sexual Abuse in Jails

Part 1 of 3  
January 9, 2013  
11am – 12:30pm PST




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### Today's Moderator



**Vivian Jojola**  
Program Director  
Just Detention International




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### Today's Speakers



**Christine Kregg**  
Senior Program Officer  
Just Detention International



**Derek Murray, MPA**  
Senior Program Officer  
Just Detention International




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## Mission and Core Goals

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

### 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




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## Support from the Office on Violence Against Women

This project is supported by Grant No. 2011-TA-AX-K100, 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.




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## Webinar Agenda

- I. Call to Action
- II. Prison Rape Elimination Act Overview
- III. Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Jails
- IV. Survivor Conversation: Dynamics
- V. Survivor Conversation: Impact
- VI. Question and Answer




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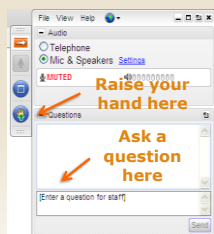
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## Webinar Logistics

- Use the **question box** to submit requests for help, questions, or comments
- An archive of this webinar will be emailed to you in the next few days
- It will also be posted on the JDI website:  
[www.justdetention.org](http://www.justdetention.org)




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## A Call to Action from Tom Cahill




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## A Call to Action from Tom Cahill



Tom Cahill (left) and JDI former president Stephen Donaldson. At right is the truck Tom used to run JDI out of when it was then known as People Organized to Stop the Rape of Incarcerated Persons (POSRIIP).




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## A Call to Action from Tom Cahill



*At the PREA signing ceremony with (from left) President George Bush, the late Sen. Edward Kennedy, and Tom Cahill, prisoner rape survivor and former JDI President.*




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How many of you have worked with a survivor of sexual abuse in jail?

**(Use the raise hand button to answer)**




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## None of Us Can Put an End to Sexual Abuse Behind Bars Alone

**Sexual violence in detention requires a multi-disciplinary response involving:**

- Corrections/Law Enforcement
- Prosecutors/Judiciary
- Health Care Providers
- Sexual Assault Advocates
- Community Members



*Corrections officials, rape crisis advocates, and JDI staff present at the 2011 NSAC Conference*




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## Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

- Passed in 2003
- First federal law to address sexual abuse in detention
- Requires funding for corrections agencies, yearly research on prevalence, and the creation of national standards




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## PREA Standards

- Released by the Department of Justice on May 17, 2012
- Apply to all corrections facilities
- Comprehensive set of guidelines related to all aspects of custodial sexual abuse, including:
  - ❖ Prevention
  - ❖ Detection
  - ❖ Response
  - ❖ Monitoring




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## Standards and Service Providers

### Jails should:

- Offer survivors forensic exams and emergency and ongoing care
- Attempt to make available a victim advocate from a rape crisis center



*Members of JDI's Survivor Council at the Department of Justice*




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## Standards and Service Providers

### Jails are also required to:

- Allow survivors access to rape crisis advocates in as confidential a manner as possible
- Provide ongoing medical and mental health treatment consistent with the community standard of care
- Attempt to enter into working agreements with community service providers




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## Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Jails




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When you hear the term ***inmate***, what are the first words or images that come to mind?

*Please be as specific as possible and submit your answers in the question box.*




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**When you hear the term *survivor*, what are the first words or images that come to mind?**

*Please be as specific as possible and submit your answers in the question box.*




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### Demographics of Jail Inmates

- Approximately **750,000** people are in jail
- Nearly **13 million** people are admitted to jails every year




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### Demographics of Jail Inmates



**The average jail inmate is:**

- Adult man
- Person of color
- Not charged with a crime
- Incarcerated in large facilities with 1,000 or more inmates




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### Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Jails




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### Prevalence of Staff Sexual Abuse

**SURVIVOR**



**PERPETRATOR**



Most survivors of staff sexual misconduct are men.  
Most perpetrators are women.




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### Prevalence of Staff Sexual Abuse




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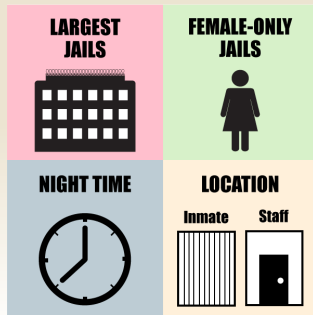
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## Facility Factors




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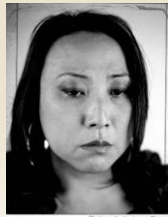
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## Jail Perpetrators Tend to Target:

- Female inmates
- Biracial or multi-racial inmates
- Younger inmates
- College-educated inmates
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) inmates
- Inmates who experienced prior sexual abuse



*Cecilia Chung, a survivor of sexual abuse in jail and JDI Board Member.*




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## Dynamics of Sexual Abuse in Jails




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## Surviving Sexual Abuse in Jail: Frank's Story




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## Contributing Factors

- Ineffective leadership and accountability
- Lack of awareness and staff training
- Institutional culture and dynamics
- Transient, unstable population




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## QUIZ: Consent vs. Coercion

In the following scenarios, indicate whether you think the sexual contact is **consensual** or **non-consensual**.

*Please submit your answers in the question box and include your profession.*

*Example: Consensual (Police Officer)*




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### QUIZ: Consensual or Non-Consensual?

**Scenario #1:** Adrianna is a transgender woman who is arrested for prostitution. During intake, an officer asks if he can feel her genitals to see if her "plumbing still works." She assumes this is a standard procedure for transgender inmates and agrees.

**Is this consensual or non-consensual?**

Please submit your answer in the question box and include your profession.




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### QUIZ: Consensual or Non-Consensual?

**Scenario #2:** Johnny is high when he is arrested. During the night, he is propositioned for oral sex by another inmate. Johnny agrees and falls back asleep. The next morning, the inmate thanks Johnny for the "favor." Johnny claims he has no memory of it, but laughs it off.

**Is this consensual or non-consensual?**

Please submit your answer in the question box and include your profession.




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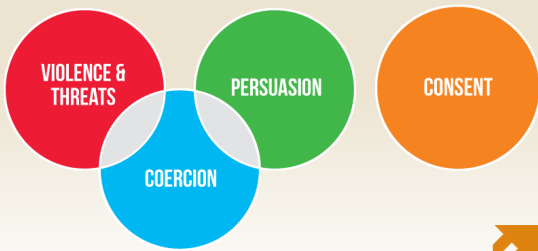
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### Consent in a Custody Setting




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### Sexual violence in jail may include the following dynamics:

- Sexual harassment
- Protective pairing
- Sexual exploitation
- Sexual abuse
- Abuse during searches
- Ritual/gang abuse
- Domestic violence/battering
- Rape




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### Perpetrators may use any of the following methods:

- Offers of protection
- Threats
- Coercion
- Authority
- Extortion
- Medication/drugs
- Force




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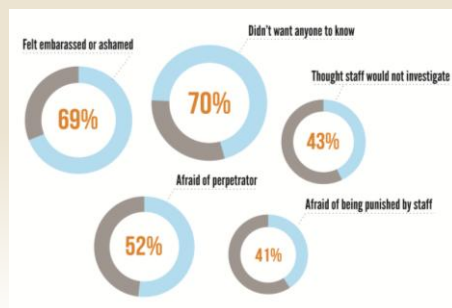
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### Barriers to Reporting




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### Impact on Survivors: A Conversation with Chance Martin




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### Common Effects of Sexual Abuse in Jails

- Rape Trauma Syndrome and PTSD
- Sexually transmitted diseases and HIV
- Increased suicidal thoughts or attempts
- Worsening of psychiatric disorders



*Michelle, a survivor of sexual abuse in jail*




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### Impact of Detention

- Jails tend to be very chaotic, stressful environment
- Survivors in jail often have little control over their bodies or their surroundings
- Survivors may be punished or placed in isolated housing after reporting




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## Access to Services

- Sexual abuse in jails can result in extensive injuries and exposure to sexually transmitted infections
- Inmates often have limited access to medical, mental health, and rape crisis services
- Some jails may only offer limited services




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## Safety Concerns

- Survivors may experience retaliation by inmates or staff
- Incarceration almost always involves ongoing contact with the perpetrator(s)
- Anyone who has been targeted for sexual assault in jail may be seen as an “easy target” by others for revictimization




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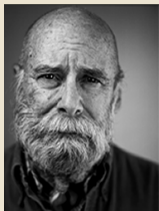
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JUST DETENTION

“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, prisoner rape survivor  
and former JDI President

Access to rape crisis services can be one of the single most important factors in survivors’ healing.

**If you aren’t there for these survivors,  
who will be?**




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## Discussion



Christine Kregg, JDI



Derek Murray, JDI



Chance Martin




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## Upcoming OVW Webinars

### ***It Can Happen Anywhere: Responding to Sexual Abuse in Small, Rural Jails***

- January 23, 2012 at 11:00AM (PST)

### ***The Right Response: Addressing Sexual Abuse in Large, Urban Jails***

- February 6, 2012 at 11:00AM (PST)




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## For More Information

For more information about the **Sexual Abuse in Detention Resource Center** and additional resources, visit:  
[www.nsvrc.org/projects/sexual-abuse-detention-resource-center](http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/sexual-abuse-detention-resource-center)

Direct questions to: [info@justdetention.org](mailto:info@justdetention.org)

For more information about **Just Detention International**, visit [www.justdetention.org](http://www.justdetention.org).

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[www.twitter.com/justdetention](http://www.twitter.com/justdetention)




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## Thank you for joining us today!

Please complete a brief evaluation of today's webinar. It will take just three minutes of your time and your feedback will help us to better assist you in the future!

Here is a link to the evaluation (we will also email it to you shortly). [www.justdetention.org/en/getting-down-to-basics-evaluation.aspx](http://www.justdetention.org/en/getting-down-to-basics-evaluation.aspx)

Please forward it to others who may have joined you.

**THANK YOU!**



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