

**System Impacted & System Sustainance:
Looking at the PIC & its Relation to Prison Workers,
Prisoners, Their Families & Beyond**



**Amber Pacheco
Brenda Diaz-Felix
Marissa Howdershelt
Orlando Pareja
Selena Macias**

Law Enforcement and the Community

My project was designed to interview a Deputy Sheriff and Juvenile Parole officer. The objective of this research was to get different perspectives, opinions on programs in jail, and what their department could do to improve the relationship with the community they service. I also wanted to understand, from their personal opinion and experiences, what programs work and what other programs need more funding or attention.

Ms. H has worked for the Riverside jail for 3 years. Her responsibilities go as follow, “book and process people that “allegedly” committed crimes, work in housing units where inmates stay and live for the time being during ongoing cases if they can’t or don't bailout of jail”.

It's important to note that Ms. H joined the Sheriff Department because of the “professionalism of a cop” and “ We didn't live in a great area, so cops were always around. I loved seeing them. I knew that was what I wanted to do”. As a little girl “ I grew up watching the show Cops (a show that was cancel in 2020). So I always wanted to put the bad guys away in jail”. I believe she had good intentions in joining. To make a difference and help by putting the “bad guys” away.

I wanted to know what programs, if any, are available for inmates in jail. I was also interested, in her opinion, of what programs worked. From her personal experience, she mention that the Riverside jail offers Behavior Health Specialist (BHS) that come weekly or daily for any inmate suffering or in her own writing “struggling with depression, anxiety, or occassionally suicide or homocidal thoughts, etc.” Apparently, cells have “ a speaker” that inmates can use to call an **officer** and they can asked to speak to someone. The Jail also include classes for anyone trying to “earn their GED, take anger management classes, or drug recognition classes. Some will speak to a Chaplain and go to weekly church meetings”. In her personal opinion she feels that the BHS is the most important program and when asked, Are there programs that you think should have more funding? Her response was “ Mental health is increasing inside jail, so I think that needs to be focused on more”.

Deputy Sheriff



It is my understanding that our jail and prison system is and has been overpopulated for the last few years. I wanted to know, in her opinion, what are the most common offences? Ms. H responded that the most common offences were “domestic violence, stolen vehicles, drug charges, being under the influence of alcohol/drugs, or warrants for not checking into their parole or probation officers. According to her personal experience, she see a lot of the same offenders coming back “weekly or monthly and sometimes for the same charges”(prison carousel). After learning this I wanted to know if race, poverty, or discrimination may impact crime rates. According to her it is a “person and what they see. What they surround themselves around, or the drugs they take. I feel if someone wants to commit a crime, they will. Unfortunately due to COVID, a lot of repeat offenders know that we are citing out a lot of non-violent felony charges, so many are doing it over and over again”. It seems that Covid, in her personal experience, has given a rise to more crimes because the risk is minimal. While this might be true, it is hard to ignore the fact that the jails and prisons are over capacity, and that this virus is very contagious and deadly, and it is recommended by top official to not gather in big groups. It also interesting to learned that these facilities are giving citations instead of jail time for lower offences. I understand that this will not deter people from committing crimes, but it is an example that mandatory jail time does not have to continue and this can possibly lower the number of inmates. The following questions was for me to gain knowledge on how she sees the relationship between her department and the community they service, programs or initiatives to strengthen those relationships, and what could sheriff or law enforcement due to strengthen trust and mutual respect between the community. She expressed that “ I feel our department has been doing a great job on informing the community on issues that are ongoing in our county. In my opinion, “I believe Sheriff Chad Bianco hss strengthen the department and has the community involved in everything that we do”. As a refresher, Chad Bianco is the County Sheriff of Riverside and was photographed taking a knee along side BLM protesters right before arresting some of the peaceful protesters. I understand that this one event does not represent the work he has done in the community, but I believe it is important to ask what communities is being inform about everything they do.

My last question was regarding the recent pressure from some communities to reduce police department budgets and redistribute those funds towards essential social services that are often underfunded. Some of those programs include after school programs, housing, education, removing the presence of officers from certain schools, and helping with mental youth programs. Do you have other ideas that could improve our current justice system and/or relationships between officers, departments, and the community?

“ I see why they want to defund the police. I understand that not all cops are good. I think we need to get rid of the ones that make cops look bad. We are all the same. It’s a prideful job and I became a cop to help. I believe having more social services available to people is a great idea, but I don’t think law enforcement should be defunded because we want to be there and help when it’s needed. We also want to give the community the appropriate services that are needed for them, but we want to maintain it safe and keep people from breaking the law. You break the law, you know exactly what you’re doing. I believe there should be consequences for someone’s inappropriate actions. People should know we are here to keep the peace and “should” feel a little bit more safe knowing a deputy or an officer is around the corner if needed.”

Speaking to Ms. H, who works in the jail system, has allowed me to understand that there is in fact a disconnect between law enforcement and the community. By the responses gathered, I believe she sees that her system could use more improvement, especially when she mentioned the need for more funding in Mental Health issues. When I asked if there should be a national educational requirement to work in her field, her response was “ I think all departments should provide advanced training on mental health awareness”. I was glad to hear someone in her position speak about this growing issue. Verbally we both agree that these people shouldn’t be labeled as criminals or inmates but instead should be patients at a hospital and received the proper treatment they need. Ms. H works a tough job and as a woman she has been spat on by male inmates and in her personal experience “some treat you like a piece of meat and make very dirty comments”. As I ended the interview, Ms. H was being removed from the county jail and moved to patrol. I wished her the best of luck.



**BE THE CHANGE IN
YOUR COMMUNITY**

WWW.JOINPROBATION.ORG

I interviewed a Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO) to get a better understanding on what they do in order to keep the youth away from jails and prisons. Many of my questions the JPO chose not to answer, luckily the questions regarding programs use in order to prevent the youth from becoming repeat offenders were answered.

Are there special programs for kids with developmental disabilities (mental or physical), foster children, kids who have experienced physical or sexual abuse, or kids experiencing mental illness? Are there special officers assigned to these cases that have additional educational backgrounds or receive special training?

- The juvenile probation office consist of low, medium, high, sex offender, drug court, INFO, wraparound, GRACE, and CASE, probation officers. Each probation officer goes to specific trainings to learn how to supervise these youth.
- Youth who have been found true of committing a sex offense are assigned to the probation officer who supervises only these youth. They are required to attend sex offenders counseling and complete the program before their year of probation.
- Drug court is a program that is voluntary and youth are tested at random at least three times a week and attend AA/NA meetings. Additionally, they get more court visits to see the judge about their progress good or bad. During these court hearings, youth who have tested positive could be remanded for as little as 3 days and their days could increase depending on their progress. Youth who have tested negative are given sobriety chips and incentives such as gift cards.
- The INFO program is designed to supervise youth with mental health illnesses and is also voluntary. In addition to a probation officer, the you also has a therapist and a social worker. The therapist meets with the youth and their families in the home weekly or as needed. The social worker provide the youth and their families with resources that they may need in addition to transportation to doctor's appointment or community service.
- Wraparound is similar to INFO however these youth do not have a mental health diagnosis. This too is voluntary. They also have a therapist that works in the home with the families.
- Grace is a program aimed for girls who are in need of positive influences and would benefit from learning alternatives to participating in risky activities such as the ones that placed them on probation. The girls will meet with their probation officer once a week and do activities such as build vision boards, make blankets for the needy, complete an anger management class, victims awareness, or other classes.
- The case program is aimed towards girls who are victims of sex trafficking. These girls are supervised closely and are also assigned a therapist to help them no longer be victims.
- Low, medium and high supervision probation officers supervise youth who choose to not participate in the above programs or do not meet the criteria for the programs.
- Additionally, we have classes such as cognitive life skills, drug and alcohol, anger management, victim awareness, gang education, parenting classes, rehab for those youth who are in need of them, petty theft class and many others

Are the programs for both the juvenile and the parents? If so, are these programs modified to accommodate for single parents who may have less time or resources?

- We have a parent project class that will help parents enhance their parenting skills and complete exercise with their kids.
- The services we provide for both parents and youth will be family counseling

Can you expand on what the relationship is like between your department and the community it serves? What are some programs or initiatives that could be implemented to strengthen this relationship? What could individual probation officers or law enforcement officers do to strengthen trust and mutual respect between the community?

- In my opinion our department has a good reputation with the community. We volunteer in shop with a cop, deliver turkeys and meals to families in need who are on probation or people we know are in need. Additionally, we have helped furnishing community members apartments and provided resources for community members in need. During Christmas time, we gifts to families in need and we try to do monthly family activities in the office free of charge. For example, for Easter we had an Easter egg hunt along with other activities, pumpkin patch, cookie decorating, carnival themed family night and others. In the summer, we do a 30 day summer camp where we take about 30-40 kids on the field trips and also do activities in the office with them.

What do you think the community can do to help lower the juvenile offenses?

- Be a good role model and take time to interact with other community members and be involved in positive activities.

The programs offered by the JPOs and their facility sound great, but I do have to wonder and ask, why are these great programs only available to those who are on probation and those that have been a victim of a crime? After taking this class I feel forced to think more critically about the “good intentions” . For example, in the 1960s the drug dealer by the name of Bumpy Johnson would give away Turkeys on thanksgiving to everyone in his community in Harlem. He would do this to get the trust of the community, while I dont believe theres is a sinister plan behind the JPOs and their department. I must insist on a different approach other than that one. Possible, engaging more with the community to prevent people from ever being supervised or on probation and stopping the mistake before it begins.

Kindly let me help you or you will drown, said the monkey putting the fish safely up a tree. - Alan Watts

After reflecting upon my interviews and gathered information, I came to the conclusion that there is a significant disconnect between law enforcement and the community. Unfortunately, a part of me expected this, but I needed to hear it and experience it for myself. Despite this, I remain hopeful as both interviewees chose this career in order to help and serve their communities. Ms. H expressed how she is aware of the mental health problems within jail and JPO does her best to help juveniles experience kindness from people in uniforms. After much thinking, I feel that it is important to have a program that creates an environment in which both sides can willingly listen and express to each other their needs and expectations. If not, this endless cycle we live in now will never stop. I also believe that more education should be implemented in both fields. To work as a sheriff, a high school diploma is sufficient, but I agree with Ms. H that some sort of mental health training should be enforced. As a JPO, a bachelors is needed for employment, but there are other courses that would be beneficial if made a requirement. For example, classes such as this one, additional ethnic studies courses such as “Political Economy of Race and Class” which lectures on institutionalized racism in housing, and really any course that forces JPOs to think critically about and make connections between their position, status and their social environment. This may seem like a lot, and if so, I challenge you to reflect on the above Alan Watts quote. How can we help each other if we do not understand each other?

"We do our best to help inmates as well as the community. Our mission is to provide protection by reducing the frequency and severity of criminal and delinquent behavior among those who come within the jurisdiction."

Jamie Diaz



Jamie Diaz earned his bachelor's degree in Criminal justice and has since been with the Monterey County Probation Department since 2012 as a parole officer.

EXAMPLE



Monterey County Domestic Violence Treatment Providers Certified Program Listing

Monterey County Probation Department
20 East Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 784-5799

- ▶ You have been referred by the Court to complete a 52 week program for domestic violence intervention and counseling
- ▶ **The only programs presently certified to provide this counseling in Monterey County are on this list. In order to receive credit, you must attend a program on this list.**
- ▶ You must call the program of your choice and make an appointment to enroll. **You have 10 days to contact a program and schedule an intake appointment.**
- ▶ **The total cost of the program varies from program to program. Each program can advise you what the charge is for the enrollment fee, each weekly session, and whether payment plans are available.**
- ▶ **The Court does not consider the program completed until you have successfully attended all the sessions and have paid your program fees in full.**
- ▶ Failure to enroll in or complete one of these programs may result in a violation of your probation and could subject you to time in jail.

"total costs of the program varies"

Believe that if this is supposed to be a program to rehabilitate people than it should be free or paid by city/government.

"I set up the community service program for offenders, and coordinate the services they receive. It could be individual therapy or in my case since I focus in the family violence services program which means that offenders in parole have to enlist in a certified batterer and intervention and child abusers program. As a probation officer I coordinate weekly check ups, and drug screenings. For the most part it is mostly case management."

Why did you choose that career path?



I became interested in probation and parole work because I wanted to help save lives and keep the community safe. Growing up in the city of Salinas where gang violence was very prominent and coming from an immigrant family, at the time I wanted a career that would make them proud. Growing up police officers and law enforcement were respected by family and community. I was interested specifically in adult and juvenile parole work because their main goal is to help reduce the risk of those going to prison.

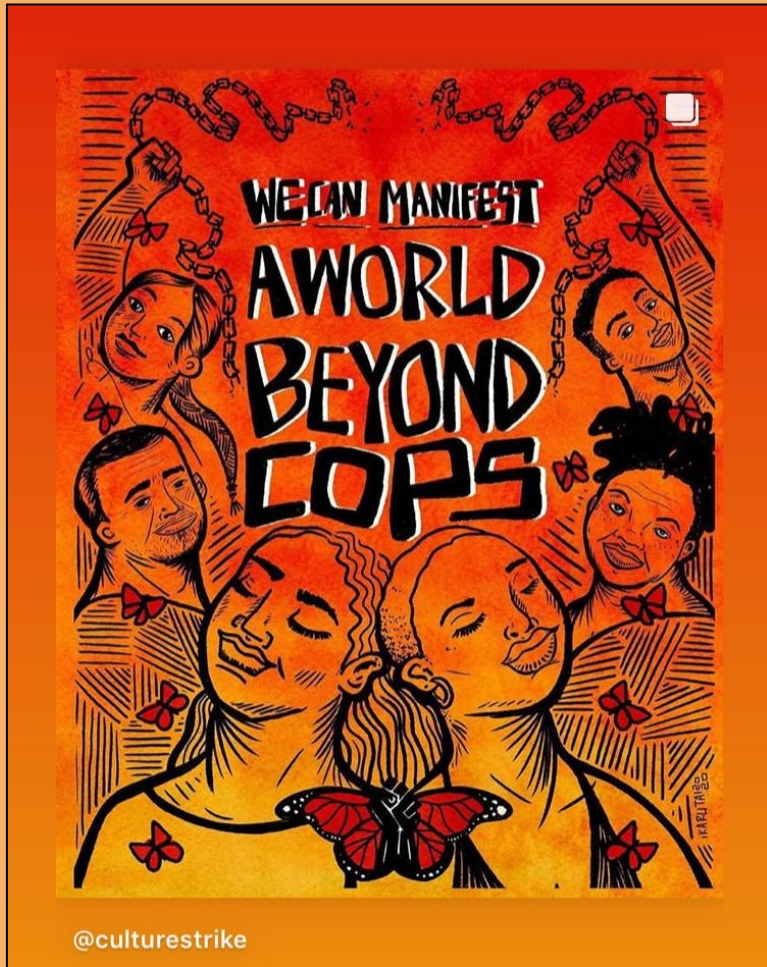
Do you still feel the same, way? Are you content with the work you have done?

Yes, I still feel the same way but I realize there is a lot of information you learn over the years that can hinder how you feel about the work you do especially when things do not go how you want them or an offender falls back into prison. As an officer we try our best to manage and schedule an offender's time. Get them to attend programs, complete their community service, but people are unpredictable. In the job, I have to be quick on my feet and good with problem solving because often it is about completing timeframes. I am proud of the work my team and I have made in the correctional facility and I believe they are just as essential and important.



“Every year, over 650,000 people are released from prisons in the United States, returning to their communities after serving time for the crime they committed. However, the U.S. Department of Justice reports that over two-thirds of these individuals will be re-arrested within three years from the time they are released. Two professionals work to reduce this high level of recidivism: parole officers and probation officers.” - [study.com](https://www.study.com)

**Should those working in a Correctional Facility Department
be made responsible for the Prison Industrial Complex?**



What are the alternatives?

Photo courtesy of @culturestrike on Instagram.

Looking at Juvenile Detention from a different lens...

Marisa Lagos, a reporter at NPR, recently interviewed Elijah Ramirez, a former inmate at a California Juvenile Detention center. He is directly impacted by the juvenile justice system & its neglect to rehabilitate children here in the state of California.

Elijah Ramirez arrived at a juvenile detention center at the age of 16, where he began his sentence for attempted murder. During his interview with Ms. Lagos, Ramirez stated that the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) “rehabilitated me [Ramirez] in a way that showed me how NOT to be, so I don’t think that is a healthy approach” (NPR, 2020).

Children are sent to detention centers not for rehabilitation, but rather for punitive reasons. Lagos states that a DJJ “leaves [children] worse off by isolating youth from their families and exposing them to violence” (NPR, 2020).

This interview provides perspective on the interview with the JPO, as they believe that they provide programs and opportunities for juveniles, such as the INFO, drug court, GRACE & CASE programs. Would access to these resources change Elijah’s perception of the juvenile system? Or would the underlying truth still ring true, that rehabilitation and healing cannot exist in a carceral space?

DJJ “rehabilitated me in a way that showed me how NOT to be, so i don’t think that is a healthy approach” (NPR, 2020).



Can healing exist in carceral spaces?

Disability and mental illness have been criminalized in the carceral system since the 1800s. Chapman et. al (2014) argues that “criminalization and class oppression were central to the earliest forms of confining disabled people” (p. 3). Even Ms. H, the Riverside sheriff, recognizes that there is a gap in education regarding mental illness, as she believes that there should be advanced trainings for officers. Furthermore, she also believes that inmates struggling with mental illness should instead be treated at hospitals, instead of prisons.

The historical incarceration of disabled “others” of society can be attributed to a broader system of dividing society into the productive and unproductive, under the guise of global capitalism. Historically, to attribute someone as “cured,” would mean “their readiness for economic freedom” (Chapman et. al, 2014, p. 7). Furthermore, there began to be a push for “sorting productive from unproductive” (Chapman et. al. 2014, p. 7). I argue that despite recent efforts to address the disproportionate amount of inmates with mental illness and police training on mental health care, the existence of the carceral system sustains the idea that those deemed “unproductive” in society must be pushed away via incarceration.

“Every time we insist on accessible and affirming healthcare, safe and quality education...we are doing abolition.

Abolition is about breaking down things that oppress and building up things that nourish” (Bassichis et. al, 2011, p. 37).



Prison Carousel

The prison industrial complex is carefully calculated in a way that ensures its sustenance in society. Wang (2018) discusses how “it is easier to imagine the end of the world than it is to imagine a world without prisons” (p. 297). Recounting on instances such as the repeat offences that Ms. H witnesses as a Sheriff, it reflects the failure of the system to successfully rehabilitate the incarcerated. We can think of this constant cycle as a sort of “prison carousel,” in the sense that repeat offenders go on and off the carousel with no intervention, dooming it a never ending ride.

But what if rehabilitation was never the goal? The prison system and the criminal “justice” system as it exists deems justice served through punitive measures. Angela Davis raises important questions in her book, *Are Prisons Obsolete?*, as she asks “How can we take seriously strategies of restorative rather than exclusively punitive justice? Effective alternatives involve the transformation of the techniques for addressing ‘crime.’” (Davis, 2011, p. 21). If we wish to effectively abolish prisons as they currently exist, then we must re-imagine a society so that it sees justice as restorative and rehabilitative, rather than punitive.

“We see a lot of the same offenders coming back weekly or monthly, and sometimes for the same charges” -Ms. H (Riverside Sheriff)



**“The people are the idea. The respect and dignity of the people, as they move toward their freedom, are the sustaining force which reaches into and out of the prison. The walls, the bars, the guns and guards can never encircle or hold down the idea of the people”
-Huey P. Newton, 2003, p. 81**



Social Media's Influence VS. the LAPD in Los Angeles, California



Photo by Chava Sanchez/ LAist

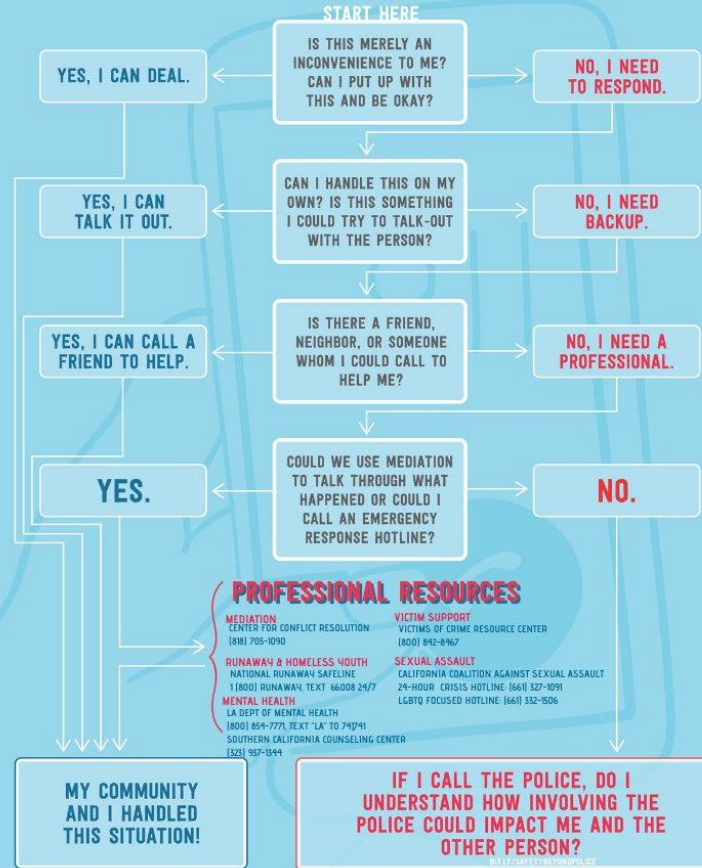
Police brutality has not gone away. The subversive tactics used to support cops has not gone away. The hate for the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ community has not gone away. But most important of all, the people who provide aid, information, and organization to fight against these injustices have not gone away either.

Particularly in the Los Angeles region, the fight against the LAPD has continued on with daily protests aimed at dismantling this institution's corrupt power and its involvement in unfair housing discrimination, prejudice against the homeless community, and its blatant involvement with the racist attacks against the BIPOC community. These mutual aid organizations and freelance journalists reach audiences far and wide throughout SoCal, and their popularity spiked dramatically during the George Floyd protests during 2020. While many of these activists are "boots-on-the-ground" oriented, they have been able to reach large audiences through the use of social media, and in this case, specifically through Instagram. While there are the threats of shadow-banning, doxxing, and account removal, the activists have multiple backup accounts activated and the community of followers perpetually share all the information provided to their own circles. This creates a large echo chamber that keeps tabs on all the events and aid being distributed throughout Los Angeles County.

So, you might be asking, “What does this have to do with the LAPD? What does this have to do with the police institution in general?” This is where the freelance journalists play a crucial part. The freelance journalists continuously record and report on the abuse of power the LAPD exerts towards the community. These reports often focus on the LAPD’s lack of action towards the racists that attack the protesters, evidence on what the police fund money really goes towards, exposes the practice of police department gangs and their “initiations”, and reveals LAPD’s Sheriff Villanueva’s predatory behavior towards the marginalized communities. Instead of working with other government sanctioned institutions such as the FBI (who also have tendencies to uphold corruption), these freelance journalists often choose to report to the public through posts, links, and blogs that are shared through Instagram and thrown into their followers feed.

The mutual aid organizations provide aid to the members of the community that need help such as the homeless or those that are fighting to retain their rights to their apartments during the Pandemic. They provide food, care, and community towards groups that are clearly targeted by the city that uses the LAPD to threaten these community members. They also provide other resources such as emergency first aid classes, free legal help, community bonding , and alternative organizations to call instead of the police. The alternative organization hotlines provide a crucial resource to the abolitionist movement because it keeps the involvement of the police out and educates the community on what qualifies as an emergency and what type of help is actually needed for the specific situation. The goal is to rely on the community for help rather than the police and the prison institutions. The resources are shared through Instagram and kept in a continuous rotation that has influenced many L.A residents to advertise these alternative hotlines and prompted other large California cities to create their own versions.

STEPS TO ASK YOURSELF BEFORE CALLING THE POLICE





Picture courtesy of @artbolition on Instagram

Being completely transparent, I was on the fence to participate in any form of activism because I was scared of what might happen to me and what I felt I had to lose; it was from a selfish place and it took a lot of identity work to transition from an “armchair activist” to an actual ally. It is a process I am still working with today. I was one of the people who jumped on the social media trend by following local activists from Instagram but little did I know how influential they would be towards my growth. Following accounts like the mutual aid accounts and the freelance journalist accounts based in L.A. showed me every day what was happening in my community and exposed me to the reality of the situation I was living in. Police brutality and corruption was not just something talked about on just on college campuses, it was happening real time. I started to work to become more familiar with what was being shared by these accounts and help expose and educate others of the reality of the situation as well as be an active participant as well.

I think the most important piece of information that was shared with me was the alternative hotlines to the police. The police are a threat to a large portion of the community I grew up with police as members in my family and it took a lot of unlearning to understand that they were not protectors; they were perpetrators. Being older and encountering very terrible situations, I know now that involving the police cause more harm than good. Police aim to arrest people and intimidate the community, not protect and serve. Rather, the community aims to protect and serve which is why mutual aid, freelance journalism, and education is so important to keep the abolitionist movement going. There does not have to be police involvement, communities can thrive without them.

-Selena Macias

Freelance Journalists

These are some of the most active reporter and journalists that work on exposing injustices committed by the LAPD

abolitionandy

1,338 Posts 2,715 Followers 1,078 Following

(ANDY)
Digital Creator
Humxn ❤️
& Creative Director
Yaangna 📍 (LA)
V H B o t C R M 2020-👏
#AbolishPolice
He/Him/They
Venmo // activistandy 🙏
www.gofundme.com/f/help-a-black-comrade-with-...
Followed by **strawberriefeels, suppitsoxxx** and **13 others**

Following Message

Grid of posts including: a text post about Sheriff Villanueva, a GoFundMe post for a Black comrade with a car accident, and a video post about Officer Air Conditioner.

acatwithnews

906 Posts 6,172 Followers 1,216 Following

Sean Beckner-Carmitchel
Video Creator
Sean Beckner-Carmitchel. Los Angeles
Videographer. Venmo: @Carmic2 CashApp: \$acatwithnews
Followed by **strawberriefeels, suppitsoxxx** and **14 others**

Following Message

Highlights

Grid of posts including: a video post with a 'RACISM' sign, a video post with a 'Home' sign, and a video post of a person walking at night.

vishal.p.singh

2,459 Posts 10.6K Followers 1,713 Following

Vishal Pratap Singh
Journalist
Gonzo anti-fascist/anti-racist reporter 🇺🇸
Documentary post production 📺 | He/They ❤️...
more
linktr.ee/transnormativity
Followed by **strawberriefeels, suppitsoxxx** and **14 others**


Following Message

Highlights

Grid of posts including: a text post about an Anti-Asian murder spree, a video post about a protest site, and a video post about a protest.

Mutual Aids and Organizers


← healingisresistan... 🔔 ⋮




19 Posts 590 Followers 206 Following

Healing is Resistance
We create healing & celebration spaces for LA protesters, organizers, and community members.
venmo donations @healingisresistance_la
bit.ly/TransFolk4Abolition
Followed by **covenmutualaid**, **deeeeeezyyy** and **6 others**


Following ▾ Message ▾




food



speakers&mu...



healers




laughs & danc...

📧 📷 📍




← covenmutualaid 🔔 ⋮




9 Posts 907 Followers 332 Following

The Coven
Just a group of enby and femme witches with radical love for our neighbors & the magic of mutual aid.
Tongva Land/Los Angeles
Venmo: covenmutualaid
Followed by **strawberriefeels**, **suppitsroxx** and **11 others**


Following ▾ Message ▾



2/14 Event






1/31 Event



11/29 event

📧 📷 📍




← mutualaidla 🔔 ⋮




49 Posts 5,076 Followers 1,295 Following

Mutual Aid Network LA
We are a grassroots community initiative organizing mutual aid in the LA community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.... more
campsite.bio/mutualaidla
Followed by **coco_chatelle**, **vishal.p.singh** and **4 others**


Follo... ▾ Message Email ▾




\$ PERSON2P..



FOOD RESO...



RESOURCES




OUTREACH

📧 📷 📍



Mutual Aid Organizations


← **inthisotogether_la** 🔔 ⋮



427 Posts **140K** Followers **194** Following

In This Together Los Angeles
Community Organization
growing solidarity, support, & mutual aid in la 🌻
protest submission form & resources below
linktr.ee/inthisotogetherla
Followed by **agitpropdoll**, **faeryspirit** and **33 others**

Following ▾ Message ▾



Care Not Cops raffles wear a mask Protest Flyers

🏠 📅 📷




THURSDAY * 3/18 *
Direct Actions
Los Angeles marches, rallies, protests, & gatherings
Virtual Events

stop anti-asian racism

6 ASIAN WOMEN WERE KILLED IN A MASS SHOOTING. THE ASIAN HATE MUST END.


← **cosmeticplague_...** 🔔 ⋮



63 Posts **1,548** Followers **241** Following

Cosmetic Plague Mutual Aid
Community
Accomplices & Mutual Aid to our SOCAL BIPOC & LGBTQ+ community.
Solidarity not Charity... more
linktr.ee/cosmeticplaguemutualaid
Followed by **strawberriefeels**, **strawberriefeelsforever** and **5 others**

Follo... ▾ Message Email ▾



Ⓐ WHO IS COSMETIC PL... MUTUAL AID

🏠 📅 📷



INCARCERATED LIVES MATTER

Police Alternatives for Los Angeles County

Los Angeles County

<https://dontcallthepolice.com/los-angeles/>

<https://www.lamag.com/citythinkblog/alternatives-to-police-los-angeles/>

Families of the incarcerated

- Because of the stigma that surrounds those who are incarcerated, oftentimes those stigmas carryover onto their families and other loved ones.
- Behavioral problems in children who have an incarcerated parent are often blamed on family patterns. Because of this most children with incarcerated parents are often guarded, mistrustful, and sometimes angry.
- Once people are aware of the fact that someone has an incarcerated loved one their behavior towards them becomes different and it often feels as something people could use against them. Some people abandon the families once they learn of the incarcerated loved one.
- The families of those incarcerated are often treated as the crime their loved ones committed. Making everyday activities overwhelming for them which is why only 15 percent of children who have had an incarcerated father, and 2 percent of those with an incarcerated mother, earn a college degree.

Families of the incarcerated cont.

- One in 9 black children in this country has had an incarcerated parent, compared with 1 in 28 Latino children and 1 in 57 white children.
- Some research studies indicate children of incarcerated parents are up to three times more likely to enter the criminal justice system themselves. While others show the trauma experienced compares to the trauma associated with child abuse, domestic violence and divorce. It can often lead to behavioral problems, low self-esteem and drug or alcohol abuse.
- Most communities create further stigmatization of the families rather than helping to create a healing process that can help them move on and reclaim their lives.
- Children with incarcerated parents are often not expected to do things such as graduate from high school, obtain a college degree, abstain from criminal behaviors, among other things.

Children of the incarcerated

Bound by blood: Children of incarcerated parents



Percentage of U.S. prison inmates who are parents with children, including more than 120,000 mothers and 1.1 million fathers:



1 in every 28 children

— or 3.6 percent — has a parent incarcerated. That's a total of 2.7 million children, up from 500,000 in 1980.



BY RACE

African American children

1 in 9

11.4%

Hispanic children

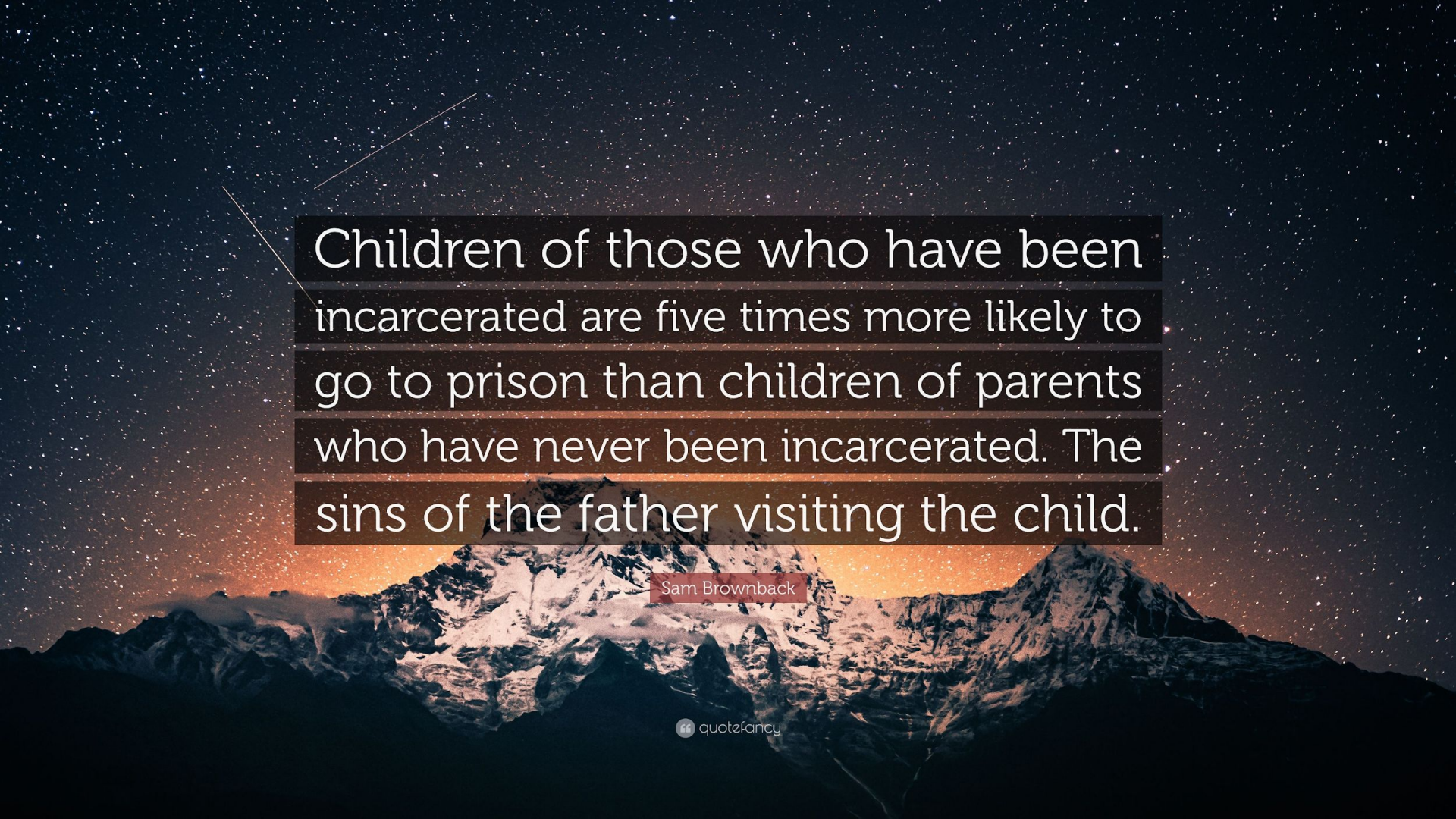
1 in 28

3.5%

White children

1 in 57

1.8%



Children of those who have been incarcerated are five times more likely to go to prison than children of parents who have never been incarcerated. The sins of the father visiting the child.

Sam Brownback

CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

A BILL OF RIGHTS

1. I have the right **TO BE KEPT SAFE AND INFORMED AT THE TIME OF MY PARENT'S ARREST.**
2. I have the right **TO BE HEARD WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT ME.**
3. I have the right **TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT MY PARENT.**
4. I have the right **TO BE WELL CARED FOR IN MY PARENT'S ABSENCE.**
5. I have the right **TO SPEAK WITH, SEE AND TOUCH MY PARENT.**
6. I have the right **TO SUPPORT AS I FACE MY PARENT'S INCARCERATION.**
7. I have the right **NOT TO BE JUDGED, BLAMED OR LABELED** because my parent is incarcerated.
8. I have the right **TO A LIFELONG RELATIONSHIP WITH MY PARENT.**

SAN FRANCISCO
CHILDREN OF
INCARCERATED
PARENTS PARTNERSHIP

poetry
quote

QUOTE FROM "THE FORGOTTEN VICTIM"
familyfriendpoems.com/poem/18999



*Families
of prisoners
are the forgotten victims.*

- ALISON HENDERSON



familyfriend
POEMS

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