

# Mass Incarceration

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## Advocacy letter

**Name**

**Pick the date**

Mass incarceration is one of the leading civil rights injustices of recent time. It is high time America needs to rethink how it uses prison as a knee-jerk castigation for a number of crimes. America has the highest incarceration rate in the globe with more than 2 million individuals behind the bars. Most amazingly, America has less than 5 percent of the global population but almost 25 percent of it is in prison (Thompson, 2010). America requires crucial reform to release political prisoners and those on minor offences, but it also need to keep its nation secure and safe. It is imperative for the U.S to eliminate the prison for lower level offenses. Not only this, minimum and maximum duration of sentence should also be reduced to free political leaders. These reforms are dire need of hour and will definitely save millions of dollars without posing any risk to the public safety.

The first and foremost reform must be taken in the form of elimination of prisons for lower level crimes. According to a report 39 percent of detainees, that is almost 6 lac individuals, in the jails do not need to be there for the reason of public security (Cullen, 2016). For a few, mostly less intensive and non-violent criminals, jail is a extravagant and out of line endorse. For other people, they have completed their penalty duration in the prison and can be securely discharged. Jail is usually the default criminal justice sanction when somebody oversteps the law. It should not be in this way. For the individuals who carry out a lower-level wrongdoing like trivial robbery, medication ownership or selling cannabis, jail is not only unjust, but also an awful assent for the humanity to great extent. Jail costs \$31000 per detainee every year, and usually fails to forestall recidivism for such wrongdoings (Alexander, 2020). Trial, initial warning, treatment or community services are on the whole progressively apposite for some, less intensive wrongdoings,

also a lot less costly. More importantly, trial and probation is ten times more affordable than prison. Congress and State councils should alter sentencing acts to make options in contrast to jail the default punishment for several lower-level offences, such as frivolous robbery and drug possession (Christine A. Christle, 2008).

Reduction in sentence minimums and maximums is a need of the hour to release political prisoners. Commonly incarceration has three motives: castigation, dissuasion and restoration. However number of studies asserted that these purposes can be attained by shortening the sentence duration. Even, if sentences protract, their deterrent impact will decay. Furthermore, undoubtedly, the steady contrast between a ten year sentence and a seven year sentence is not substantial to decision making. Nevertheless, these additional three years of jail could cost the country more than 1 lac dollar. On the basis of this data, it is suggested to decrease 25 percent in sentences for number of grave offences. Such reduction would discharge 212000 individuals including political prisoner (Cullen, 2016). Consolidating this with the utilization of alternative penalties, for instance, community service would bring about almost a 40 percent reduction in the population who is detained in jail, with practically no serious danger to society (Campbell, 2018).

To conclude, these two major reforms prove how it is plausible to conclude mass incarceration. These measures ensure the freedom of political prisoners and lower level offenders from detention. These solutions would remove not less than 5 lac individuals from the jail, spare several billions of dollars, and pose no danger to the public safety. Indeed, even with these changes, the U.S. would remain sound over its democratic peers in detainment rate. However, these proposals would cut mass incarceration to great extent and could conclude this issue without putting nation in danger.

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