

Issue Summary: Women's Prisons

Prisons are separated by sex to keep women safe from male violence. Allowing men to “self identify” into women’s prisons violates the internationally-recognized rights of prisoners, exposing them to an increased risk of sexualized violence.

86%

OF INCARCERATED WOMEN HAVE EXPERIENCED ABUSE

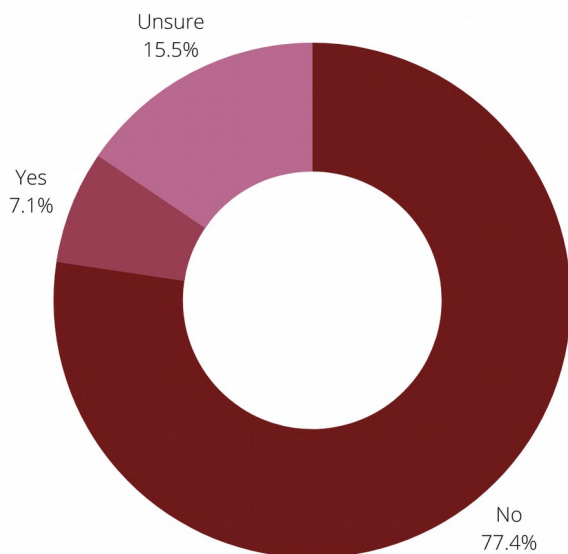
Women’s involvement in the justice system is largely tied to their experiences of male violence. Women are most likely to be convicted of drug or property crimes, and the rates of violent crime committed by women are significantly lower than for men. When women commit violent crimes, it tends to be against an abusive male partner. [\[source\]](#)

Male Criminals Pose a Threat to Women

- There is no evidence that identifying as a woman makes a man less likely to commit violent crimes than the general male population.
- [Swedish longitudinal study](#) found men retain “male level of criminality” even after hormones, surgery.
- A [2009 study from California](#) found 20% of trans-identified inmates were convicted of sex offenses, and 50% of crimes against persons.
- If 1% of prisoners in the US identify as transgender and are housed accordingly, then 15% of inmates in women’s prisons would be male (most [keep their male genitalia](#)).

Polls Show Americans Support Single-Sex Prisons

When asked, “Do you think men who are sex offenders or domestic abusers should be allowed to serve their sentences in women’s prisons?” over 75% of American voters said NO. [\[poll source\]](#)



Examples of Harm to Women in Prisons

These are just a few examples. See [here](#) for more.

- Male inmate who identifies as a woman [rapes female](#) inmate after transferring to [women's prison](#) in [U.S.](#), Costa Rica, [UK](#), and [New Zealand](#)
- Male inmate, imprisoned for “gender-based” violence in Argentina, [sexually assaults and impregnates](#) incarcerated woman
- Man convicted of torturing and raping women placed in California women’s prison, [rapes](#) female inmates.
- Male inmate who identifies as woman demands female guards perform [strip searches](#)

“I am in fear over this. I am a victim of domestic violence and rape. What if one of these sex offenders that have their penises rapes us, what then?” - D. R., currently incarcerated in CA

“Women prisoners shall be detained separately from male prisoners. Women prisoners shall be supervised and searched by female officers and staff.” - The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights training on “essential principles” for prison officials. [\[source\]](#)

