

Incarceration Resources

Title: *Pregnant inmates still being shackled in Massachusetts, report finds*

Author: Shira Schoenberg

Year: 2016

Massachusetts passed a law (Anti- Shackling Law) in 2014 that promoted incarcerated women's health. However, women are still being shackled and mistreated by corrections officers who are not adhering to the bill. A major issue found was written policies at the various jails or prisons in MA, are contradicting and violate aspects of the statute. For more information, find the report [here](#).

Title: *The Effectiveness of Parenting Programs for Incarcerated Mothers: A Systematic Review*

Author(s): Monique D. Tremblay, Jessica E. Sutherland

Year: 2017

There was a systematic review about parenting programs in women's prisons. Although they are being implemented in 90% of correctional facilities across the United States- they may not be helping incarcerated mothers and their children as much as they could be. For more information, find the report [here](#).

Title: *Mothers Behind Bars: A state-by-state report card and analysis of federal policies on conditions of confinement for pregnant and parenting women and the effect on their children*

Author(s): The Rebecca Project for Human Rights, The National Women's Law Center

Year: 2010

The Report Card analyzes the policies (State and Federal) on prenatal care, shackling and alternative sentencing programs. It grades the states on whether they are helping or harming their pregnant incarcerated women. The goals are: (a) to help states better recognize how their policies affect incarcerated pregnant women and their children, (b) reevaluate the policies if they are lacking, (c) and the encouragement for people to take action on behalf of this population. For more information, find the report [here](#).

Title: *The Shackling of Incarcerated Pregnant Women: A Human Rights Violation Committed Regularly in the United States*

Author(s): Evan Feinauer, Aaron Lee, Julia Park, Tessa Walker

Year: 2013

Pregnant and incarcerated women are still being deprived of their human rights regardless of whether or not their states have passed laws and policies in favor of those rights. Not only are most incarcerated women guilty of non-violent crimes, but also pregnant and or postpartum women are considered to be of low flight and safety risk. Shackling is both harmful to the woman and the child, and the arguments in favor of shackling these women during transport, labor and postpartum are not justified. For a link to the article with more information, please click [here](#).

Title: *Photovoice: A Participatory Action Research Strategy Applied to Women's Health*

Author: Caroline C Wang, Dr. P.H., MPH

Year: 1999

This study expands on the concepts of photovoice as well as the positive changes it can bring to public policy issues involving women's health. For more information, click [here](#).

Title: *Jailcare: Finding the Safety Net for Women Behind Bars*

Author: Carolyn Sufrin

Year: 2017

This book talks about the experiences of incarcerated pregnant women, the jail guards and the health providers who care for them. It also focuses on the idea that jail is not just a place of punishment but also a safety net for some women. If interested in reading the first chapter, follow this [link](#).

Organization: *Association for Justice- Involved Females and Organizations*

This organization holds a conference that focuses solely on women and girls that are involved with the criminal justice system. It brings together a diverse group of people from all over the United States, Canada and other countries. To learn more about this organization and the conference, follow this [link](#).

Website: *National Resource Center for Justice Involved Women*

The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) works to support and provide guidance to criminal justice professionals as well as help to improve the outcomes of women involved in the criminal justice system. To find resources and to learn more about the NIC, follow this [link](#).

Title: *Incarceration, Maternal Hardship, and Perinatal Health Behaviors*

Author(s): Dora M. Dumont, PhD, MPH, Christopher Wilderman, PhD, Hedwig Lee, PhD, Annie Gjelsvik, PhD, Pamela A. Valera, PhD, MSW, and Jennifer G. Clarke, MD, MPH

Year: 2014

This article discusses incarceration as a social determinant of health for maternal health outcomes. This study found that when women or their partners are incarcerated the year before birth, they have more negative outcomes as it relates to perinatal behaviors, maternal hardships and disparities in early childhood development. For more information, find the article [here](#).

Website: *American Psychology Association*

For a link to the APA's statement about ending shackling as well as their recommendations, click [here](#).

Title: *Health Care for Pregnant and Postpartum Incarcerated Women and Adolescent Females*

Author(s): Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women

Year: 2011

This article gives ACOG's recommendations for perinatal health care for incarcerated women and the barriers to their care. For more information, find the link [here](#).

Title: *Best Practices for use of Restraints with Pregnant Women and Girls Under Correctional Custody*

Author(s): Bureau of Justice Assistance U.S. Department of Justice

Year: 2011

The National Task Force on the Use of Restraints with Pregnant Women Under Correctional Custody (convened by the U.S. Department of Justice) gives their recommendations and

principals that are relevant regardless of jurisdictional differences. For more information, click [here](#).

Title: *Women's Health Care in Correctional Settings*

Author(s): Adopted by the Commission on Correctional Health Care Board of Directors

Year: Reaffirmed with revisions in 2014

To find the position statement by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, click [here](#).

Title: *Options for Pregnant Inmates*

Author: Jamie Markham

Year: 2011

This blog references an article titled: *Perinatal Care for Incarcerated Patients: A 25-Year-Old Woman Pregnant in Jail*. The article begins with the inmate's perspective on being incarcerated and pregnant. The article takes the liberty to elaborate on what the US correctional system currently looks like, statistics regarding incarcerated women and incarcerated pregnant women, antepartum, postpartum and intrapartum care, health outcomes of pregnancies behind bars and how to improve the medical care of incarcerated pregnant women.

Additionally, the blog shares a link to the North Carolina Department Of Correction Division of Prisons' (DOC) policy and procedure for inmate maternity leave. It also lists various programs that work to unite mothers with their young children so they are able to live together while the mother is incarcerated. For more information, find the blog [here](#).

Title: *Shackling of Pregnant Women in Custody*

Author: The Rebecca Project for Human Rights

Year: (no date found)

This resource gives a short overview of important topics that relate to pregnant and incarcerated women. These topics include: shackling, The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) on the number of births behind bars, The American Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) statement on medical harm, and various legislation in the United States as well as the international law through the United Nations (UN). For more information, find the link [here](#).

Title: *State Standards for Pregnancy-Related Health Care and Abortion for Women in Prison*

Author: ACLU

Year: Website last updated in 2018

This resource includes an interactive map of the United States allowing you to individually click on each state to view DOC contact information, a link to the DOC website and links to DOC policies and/ or state laws.

The article also goes into detail to explain the guidelines or standards given by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), ACOG, and the American Public Health Association (APHA). It also contains state laws and policies, federal laws and policies and federal agency policies. For more information on this source, follow this [link](#).