

MOSES



Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity
for Criminal Justice Reform

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MOSES Women Attend Leadership Training

Praise for N'tosake Women's Leadership Center

On September 20-21, three MOSES members attended a Gamaliel training in Clarkston, Michigan, called N'tosake, said to be an African word meaning "she who walks with lions and carries her own things". They submitted the following appreciation jointly:

We have come out of this training as powerful "women of change". We want to thank MOSES for choosing us to go, and to send a heartfelt 'Thank You!' to MG&E for sponsoring our N'tosake Women's Leadership Training. You have made a huge impact on our lives, which will carry over into our organization, and into our community!



My name is Andrea Harris. I am a new member of the MOSES Madison organization. I have two biological brothers who have unfortunately been back and forth to jail and prison for the majority of their lives. My love for my brothers and all the injustice surrounding their incarceration have fueled my passion for criminal justice reform. Attending the N'tosake Women's Leadership Training has motivated me even more. It has inspired me to want to learn more about leadership, and how to begin "claiming my power as a woman to create a movement for positive change".

by Rachel Kincade Morgan, Andrea Harris,
 and Deborah Atkins, MOSES Members



Deborah Adkins, Andrea Harris, and
 Rachel Morgan (front)

My name is Rachel Kincade Morgan. Two of my brothers were previously incarcerated. I am also married to a man who spent almost 30 years in prison and is serving a lifetime of parole. Although I have been involved in MOSES for over four years, N'tosake Women's Leadership Training has strengthened my commitment to challenge the dominant narrative that

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 MOSES Justice System Reform
 Task Force
 Paul Saeman
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Organizer’s Corner

Bracing ourselves for winter...

It’s a cold 50 degrees outside today and I can’t help but dread the impending reality: wintertime is coming. But as much as I might complain about it or try to ignore it, the season is going to come, and I’ve learned that it is better to be prepared ahead of time, instead of waiting until the last minute, hanging on to the last whispers of a season past.

As we approach this particular winter, it is also the time to think about politics, candidates, and issues. Do you know what issues are plaguing your community? Issues that affect your everyday life? Your loved ones? Madison is still one of the worst cities when it comes to racial disparities. People are still being locked up without committing a new crime, merely for breaking a rule of supervision. Seventeen-year olds are still being considered adults and given long sentences. Women are being incarcerated at a higher rate. There was a proposal for a new prison earlier this year; will another one be submitted next year? Will your legislator support not building a new prison? ICE has come through Madison and Wisconsin to impact many lives in a negative way. Does this affect you? Your neighbor? Your child’s best friend? These are some of the issues which affect our community on a daily basis. They affect you and me. Now I ask: Do you know where the candidates stand on the issues that affect you? To be informed is to be aware. And your voice is your vote!

The end of the year is also the season of year-end fundraisers and galas. On December 15th, MOSES will be having its year-end gala extravaganza entitled “Transformation Celebration”. In the season of change and renewal, we will be highlighting the people in our community and organization who bring life to the policies and issues we fight so hard to change. These people have endured poor decision-making, prison, supervision, unnecessary obstacles, solitary confinement, labels, mental health issues, juvenile lockup, etc. Yet, despite it all, they are now role models and pillars of our community. These “transformed” people exemplify why we volunteer our time, knock on doors, donate our money, and fight for policy change – and why every young life is important and worth saving. Come and dance the night away while you snack on some yummy food and support our cause and the future of our community. Registration is coming soon.

A new season is always around the corner. How you prepare for that new season will reflect how you perceive and receive it. Know what affects you. Know how you can contribute to a more positive outcome. Understand that the power you possess over your circumstances and situation is just a choice away. Are you going to complain about it? Ignore it? Or, are you going to go out and get informed, so your choice and voice is noticeable in your actions? ■



Frank Davis
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Transformation Celebration



MOSES Fundraising Gala
December 15, 2018
6:30 p.m.

Women in Leadership continued from page 1

women are to be seen as competition. I will continue to work to replace that narrative by lifting my sisters up and assuring their place in leadership roles to fight for criminal justice reform and to bring about racial equity.

My name is Deborah Adkins. Many of my family members have been in jail/prison. My partner of four years was incarcerated for 20 years of his life. The N’tosake Women’s Training meant so much to me. I learned how to take back

my power. I also learned that women have always had power; we just don’t use it. I also learned how to do one-on-ones. As I shared, I learned that it feels good to talk about things that are hard to talk about because when you speak trauma out loud, it relieves the pain, and builds real relationships.. I joined MOSES because of how the people I love were affected by incarceration. I will speak until laws have been changed and justice has been done. ■

Upcoming MOSES Events

Fundraising Luncheon: Women in Prison Breaking the Chains

Tuesday, October 16, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Bethel Lutheran Church

Race to Justice: Knocking on Doors in the Bram’s Addition neighborhood

Saturday, November 3rd. Meet at Damascus Road Church at 10:00.

Annual Fundraising Gala: Transformation Celebration

Saturday, December 15th, 6:30 pm.

Meetings

WISDOM conference calls (605) 468-8012

- Old Law: October 13 and November 10 at 8:30 am (code 423950)
- Solitary Confinement: October 9 and November 13 at 4:00 pm (code 423950)
- Prison Prevention: October 9 and November 13 at 5:00 pm (code 423950)
- Post-Release: October 25 and November 29 at 7:30 pm (code 423951)

MOSES Religious Leaders Caucus (RLC)

- RLC Monthly Meeting: October 10 and November 14 from 8:30-10:00 am
St. Luke’s Episcopal Church (Jericho Room)

MOSES Task Force: Justice System Reform (MJSR)

- MJSR Monthly Meeting: October 11 and November 8
6:30-8:30 at Madison Police Station South District, 825 Hughes Place

Next MOSES monthly meeting

Sunday, November 4, 3:30-5:30 pm
Door Creek Church
6602 Dominion Dr
Madison, WI 53718

Joining one or more of the WISDOM conference calls is easy and can be very informative.
At the appointed date and time:

- Call (605) 468-8012
- Enter the code after the beep
- State your name and that you are from MOSES after the greeting
- Listen, learn, and contribute as you wish

Old Law Parole: code 423950#
Solitary Confinement: code 423950#
Prison Prevention: code 423950#
Post-Release: code 423951#

MOSES Diversions Focus Group Presses for Implementation of Resolution 556 Recommendations

by Barbie Jackson, MOSES Secretary

MOSES' Diversions focus group recently selected three recommendations from Dane County's Resolution 556 in order to explore how MOSES might aid ongoing efforts to fulfill these recommendations. The group focused on recommendations of the Alternatives to Arrest and Incarceration Workgroup which align with the goals of its diversions work. Exploration of two of these has now begun.

Expanding restorative justice

One of the selected recommendations is "Expand Restorative Justice Models Throughout Dane County." This calls for:

- expansion of community restorative justice for juveniles and adults,
- allowing direct law enforcement and community-based referrals,
- expansion of geographical service areas, and
- expansion of the criteria for eligibility.

Diversions focus group members Karen Julesberg and Barbie Jackson met with Dane County Community Restorative Court (CRC) coordinators Ron Johnson and Stephanie Morino last August, having been present for the latter's progress report to the Criminal Justice Council (CJC) in July. Karen and Barbie had also attended Peacekeeper Training offered by the CRC last spring. Judge Nicholas McNamara was part of the work group that had asked for this information. He said there are strong reasons for having an interest in this data.

Dane County's CRC aims to divert young people 17-25 years of age from the criminal justice system by providing a way to resolve their charges and purge their record from the CPAC system. The program has a high success rate for helping people avoid future mistakes and experiences low recidivism. This approach has been shown through national research to be very effective at prevention.

At the July CJC presentation, Stephanie had presented detailed statistical analyses, indicating they have 120 open cases at any time, with about 400 total cases per year. To handle more they will need more staff provisions in the budget. Based on their comments, there is broad support for this program among CJC members, who would like to see the program expanded throughout Dane County to a broader range of cases, including criminal cases. In addition to the Dane County municipalities already being served by the program, others have recently been trained, and Ron plans to expand



Dane County Jail, City County Building
photo credit: Wisconsin State Journal

training to all municipalities by the end of 2018. This is important, because referrals cannot be diverted to the CRC in towns which have not yet received CRC citizen training. Pursuing state and local sources of funding, in addition to county funding, will be important to sustain and expand the program.

Ron and Stephanie encouraged Karen and Barbie to promote the importance of this program to MOSES, with the following suggestions for direct action:

- Become an integral part of restorative justice by attending Peacekeeper Training, which is a prerequisite for being selected for a restorative circle;
- Support a 2018 budget request to Dane County to expand the program by including funding for another staff person in 2019, which is expected to pass, and perhaps seek additional expansion of the program in the 2019 budget.

Peacekeeper Training is offered for four hours on each of four evenings over a two-week period. MOSES members are encouraged to consider participation in this valuable program. For more information on the program and training opportunities, here's a link to the CRC website: <https://crc.countyofdane.com>

Seeking Better Jail Data

The second Resolution 556 recommendation the Diversions focus group chose to explore is: "Require the Department of Corrections (DOC) to report weekly to the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive, as to

who is on a probation or parole hold." This calls for the DOC to provide the sheriff's office with length-of-stay data that include date of birth, sex, race, and reason for the hold.

An initial inquiry to Supervisor Paul Rusk led to a follow-up conversation with CJC Coordinator Colleen Clark and then, following her guidelines for raising an issue with the Council, a statement at a CJC meeting last summer about MOSES' interest in learning more about the status of these data reports.

Response to this statement indicated that the data have not yet been reported. An enthusiastic discussion by members of the CJC ensued about the importance of receiving this data as a means to discern length-of-stay information, to learn about potential racial inequities, to inform possible measures to make improvements, and to work toward reducing holds as the most promising approach to reducing the population in the jail.

Judge McNamara had been a part of the work group that

had asked for this information and said there are strong reasons for having an interest in this data. He indicated that perhaps provision of the data would require extra work from the DOC, but that the work group asking for the data thought this might improve the hold situation. He acknowledged that reasons for some of the holds are complex.

Colleen Clark said the DOC was not represented at the meeting that day because of a reassignment of the former member and that they were waiting for a new appointment to the Council.

MOSES' Diversions focus group will continue to explore how MOSES might support this effort and will share with MOSES members as it learns more. ■

An Introduction and Welcome to the Post-Release Task Force

by Carol Rubin, MOSES Member

In MOSES and WISDOM, our work on issues of mass incarceration is usually performed through task forces. Ideally, everyone who is a MOSES participant would be working on a task force. Unlike the Criminal Justice Task Force, which is our local county task force, the other main task forces are statewide WISDOM groups. The WISDOM Post-Release Task Force includes about ten MOSES members, including myself as co-chair, and other people statewide, especially Micah members in Milwaukee.

After former governor Tommy Thompson wrote an op-ed in April proposing his new approach to employment training for incarcerated people, we met with the director of the Tommy Thompson Center on Public Leadership in an effort to work with more conservatives who were also seeking ways to prevent recidivism. Unfortunately, the scope of the Center's current activities is quite limited, and they were not open to jointly considering any of our Task Force's issues. We are still considering possible collaboration with them around the issues of revising statutory barriers to occupational licensing, so that more people can find employment after release.

One of our key issues involves crimeless revocation (when a formerly incarcerated individual is sent back to prison by the DOC merely for a violation of their parole rules, not for a new crime). We met with the head of the DOC's Division of Community Corrections (DCC), who asserts that they have written

guidelines and retrained agents to apply lesser sanctions other than revocation in many cases. Unfortunately, despite these changes, the rate of crimeless revocation has not decreased. In fact, Wisconsin exceeds the national average for crimeless revocations. Our next step will be to work with the Legislature to require changes in the DOC's rate of crimeless revocations.

A couple of years ago, the MOSES members of the Post-Release Task Force were successful in getting the City of Madison to pass an excellent Ban the Box ordinance. Several other Task Force members across the state moved to do the same in their local communities. The Task Force is hoping that a change in legislative control in the November elections will be a new basis from which to advocate for a statewide Ban the Box statute applicable to all public and private employers, as 11 other states have done. The current high rate of employment makes this an opportune time to seek greater restrictions against employment discrimination based on prior arrest or conviction.

The Post-Release Task Force has important advocacy to pursue, and we welcome more participants. In addition to our advocacy with policymakers, we meet once a month by conference call, on the 4th Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. Please join us by calling (605) 468-8012, code 423051#. ■

Women Behind Bars: Breaking the Chains

MOSES fundraising luncheon

by Rachel Morgan, MOSES Fundraising Team

Join MOSES for a luncheon to learn about the increasing number of women in prison, racial disparities, and the gender-specific issues incarcerated women face, and at the same time enjoy a delicious meal catered by Chef Steve Nelson with music from Andrea Harris.

Melissa Ludin, President of EXPO (Ex-incarcerated People Organizing) and Sarah Ferber, Associate Director of EXPO will present on incarcerated women from both personal experience and an advocacy perspective.



When: October 16th, 11:30 –1:30
Where: Bethel Lutheran Church
312 Wisconsin Avenue
(between Gorham & Johnson)
Parking in ramp on Carroll
(between Johnson and Dayton)
Buses--#3,10; 5,4; 6,3
MOSES friends and members are encouraged to spread the word about this luncheon. You may register through Eventbrite using the link on the MOSES website Event Calendar. Cost is \$30 and includes lunch, dessert, and the program. ■

Equity Statement

Being formed by WISDOM and affiliates

by Barbie Jackson, MOSES Secretary

WISDOM’s Racial Justice Core Team is leading a process to develop an equity statement for WISDOM and all affiliates. The purpose is to create a touchstone to guide us as we pursue our goals toward a more just society. At WISDOM’s face-to-face leadership meeting in Green Bay on September 8th, each of the affiliates was asked to participate in developing this statement, following the process introduced there.

MOSES’ September meeting used our Racial Justice Circles to continue the process by asking each circle to address the following topics:

- Name racial inequities within WISDOM and affiliates;
- Express your dreams/vision/hope of what equity within WISDOM would look like;
- How can an equity statement help us achieve our hopes & win our issues?

Results of this exercise were shared with the WISDOM Racial Equity Core Team, which will incorporate responses and results from a survey sent to all affiliate members into the formulation of an equity statement for all of WISDOM. The process will continue at WISDOM’s retreat in early 2019, and final results will be shared with all affiliates. ■

Convicted

this Woman
whom they judge
suffers and forgives
in her stubborn conviction
she pleads for love
with a heart broken into infinite pieces
of scrap metal
&
withering olive branches

from *Buried Alive: poetry born of a life sentence*
a new volume of prison poetry by Rudy Bankston.

Available at iAmWeClassics.com

Youth Justice Forum II – Meeting the Act 185 Challenge

by Alison Mix, MOSES Vice President

On September 12th, some 40 people met at Damascus Road Church to hear a panel of experts discuss Dane County’s evolving response to DOC Act 185, the legislation that will close Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake juvenile detention facilities and, by January 2021, transfer care of the youth currently housed there to the counties. Jim Moeser, retired Dane County Juvenile Court (DCJC) Administrator and a long-time worker on youth justice, moderated the panel. Ed Pearson, another panel member, runs the current juvenile detention facility in the City County Building, where the average length of stay is a little over a week. He sees Act 185 as a blessing. Referring to Lincoln hills, he said, “Some kids don’t even get visits from their family because of the distance. The way to lose kids is to not involve their family.”

Under Act 185, what happens to youth who are arrested will depend on whether or not there is a court order. (A court order, also known as a correctional order, occurs when a court adjudicates a young person for an act that would be punishable by six months or more for an adult — a felony offense or a Class A misdemeanor.) If there is no court order, there can be treatment alternatives and diversion services.

Progress on diversion

Panel member Andre Johnson, Youth Justice Manager at Dane County Department of Human Services, explained that diversion services are much more available since 2011, when there was a major change in Dane County’s youth justice system, designed to divert juveniles away from the correctional system. The result, he said, is that “about 40 percent of Dane County youth are currently diverted from the correctional system.”

Johnson provided some current data: “Last week there were 450 kids under supervision in the community, with only a small fraction in corrections. Another 52 kids are in some kind of residential facility. So that’s a credit to staff who put a lot of time and energy into assessing youth and families.” The year 2015 saw the use of more restorative justice systems. A ticket can be held in abeyance while young people take the opportunity of being part of a restorative peer court or circle, where they examine the harm they have caused and develop a “repair harm agreement.”

But what about youth who cannot be diverted, who are the subject of a court order? “I don’t want to lock kids up,”



said John Bauman, Dane County Juvenile Court Administrator. “Neither does Andre, but there remains a subset of kids who continue to hurt people.” These youth are the subject of Act 185. Right now, unless they have mental health issues, the only place for them is Lincoln Hills. There are currently 13 Dane County youth at Lincoln Hills, a DOC-run “Type 1” facility with fences, locked doors and 24/7 supervision. Under Act 185, the old options will effectively remain, but one new one will be added:

- Those with mental health issues will continue to be sent to the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (operated by the Department of Health Services). Indeed, the Act will expand Mendota by at least 29 beds.
- Offenders classified as “serious juvenile offender” (SJO), those who have been tried as adults or those deemed “no other resource”, will still be sent to one or more new Type 1 facilities run by the DOC. Act 185 provides \$25 million for such a new facility (or new facilities) to be built. Its/their location is still to be decided.

New: a secure residential care facility in Dane County

The third option, however, will be a smaller, county-run Secure Residential Care Center (SRCC). This will be for youth with correctional findings or a county (versus state) correctional order. While still being regulated by the state, these facilities will give counties more autonomy in how they serve youth with correctional orders.

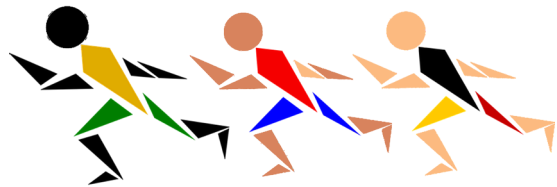
The plan is to have a 14-bed facility for youth, boys only,

continued on page 8

with a separate school, an outdoor recreation space, and some additional space. There will be a social worker, treatment plans, coordinated family meetings, family engagement. The panel said they hope the SRCC will create an environment where young people have more power and opportunity to practice new behaviors. “The whole notion of institutional control, managing behavior, has to be flipped on its head”, said Moeser. “This is counter-intuitive, but important.” There will be the opportunity for youth to be furloughed out. They might spend six months in the SRCC, then “graduate” to be allowed out in the community but under a correctional order. If they get into trouble, they can be sent back to the facility. All staff will have been trained in trauma-informed care. It is estimated that about 80 percent of those in the juvenile system have trauma and 70 percent have some kind of mental illness. Said Moeser: “We still have a long way to go in identifying the trauma and putting resources and services out there.”

Racial disparities still shocking

While juvenile arrests have been on the decline in Dane County (from more than 10,000 arrests annually in 1988 to about 2,800 now), the disparities have roughly doubled during that period, from three times as many African-Americans as whites arrested then, to six times as many now. About three-quarters of Madison citations are issued to youth of color. Of about 1,600 referrals, well over 1,000 are youth of color. Said Bauman: “There are many disparities in Dane County in every area. The benefits for many in this community don’t go out to all. Unfortunately, we are reactionary. We wish we could affect prevention, but we can’t.” Andre Johnson’s group has been working to reduce disparities. While acknowledging that there is much more work to do in this area, he said: “There has been a drop of 20 percent in citations of youth of color in one year. We are excited about that.” ■



Knocking on Doors

Join our Integrated Voter Engagement campaign
in the Race for Justice.

Saturday, November 3, 2018

Meet at Damascus Road Church at 10:00 a.m.

How a Governor Tony Evers Would Reform the Criminal Justice System

by Carolyn Moynihan Bradt, MOSES Member

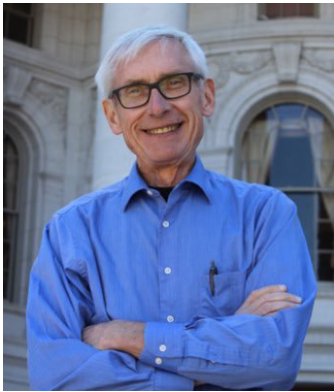
As we approach the November 6th elections, it is worth reminding ourselves of the written responses that gubernatorial candidate Tony Evers submitted at the June 11th WISDOM Candidate Forum in Pewaukee (which he was unable to attend) that highlight his positions on issues of concern to MOSES members. A request to Governor Walker to respond to the same set of questions went unanswered.

If you are elected governor, will you direct the Department of Corrections to end the use of incarceration for crimeless rule violations?

Yes, but that’s only one piece of the puzzle. If we truly want to see the elimination of crimeless revocations, there are other steps we must take action on at every single level of our correctional system. This includes actually talking about systemic racism in our correctional system, passing rehabilitative, not punitive, laws and administrative rules, ensuring adequate staffing levels to eliminate burnout and counterintuitive tactics, working with both the community and staff on the ground to enforce guidelines and rules to ensure this practice truly ends, once and for all.

If you are elected governor, will you work with the #CLOSEMSDF Campaign Coalition to develop a plan to decarcerate Wisconsin, close Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility (MSDF) and reinvest resources saved to build safer, stronger, and healthier communities?

Yes. We must look to states like Texas that have implemented progressive, rehabilitative programs that result in lower incarceration levels, reductions in recidivism, and lower costs. From finally addressing the abuse and overuse of solitary confinement to more community-based treatment programs to eliminating the incarceration of 17-year-olds in our adult corrections system—there is so much for us to do, and we need a leader who can bring people and communities together to get it done.



Gubernatorial Candidate Tony Evers

If you are elected governor will you immediately call for complete, independent review of every case of a person eligible for parole, with the goal of releasing all those who can be released safely?

Yes. As Governor, I would want a complete evaluation of those policies and the individuals impacted by them.

If you are elected Governor, will you direct your Secretary of Corrections to end all use of solitary confinement for more than 15 consecutive days before the end of your first term?

As you indicate in your question, this is not a problem that can be solved overnight. However, ramping down the use of solitary confinement in both our adult correctional facilities AND our juvenile facilities is a top corrections priority of mine. Too many in our system already face mental health challenges, and solitary confinement merely exacerbates the problem.

If you are elected, will you include at least a \$15 million per year increase in TAD (treatment alternatives and diversions) in your first budget?

Yes. It is more than just funding, though: we have to work with communities across Wisconsin to develop programs, relationships and resources for those who need rehabilitation, not punishment.

If you are elected governor, will you ensure the dignity of women who are incarcerated by proposing and supporting legislation eliminating the use of shackles during labor and after childbirth?

Without a doubt. This practice is wrong. It is inhumane, and, as Governor, we will end this disgusting practice. But it’s not just about shackling; we have to make sure these women have access to quality pre-natal care so that both mother and baby are healthy. ■

Book Review–A Country Called Prison: Mass Incarceration and the Making of a New Nation

reviewed by Pamela Gates, MOSES Communications Team

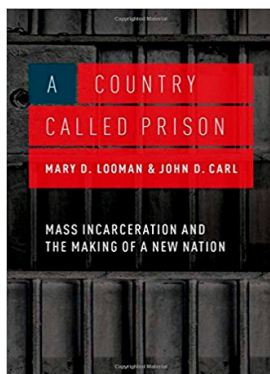
by Mary D. Looman & John D. Carl

Mary Looman and John D. Carl have worked professionally in the U.S. prison system for over 30 years between them, and what they see is a system badly in need of change. Their title makes clear what is troubling them: The U.S. has established within its borders a country with its own separate governance, its own rules and laws and codes of conduct. Migrating between this Country Called Prison (CCP in this article) and the U.S. is fraught with pitfalls.

Many who leave the CCP fail to make a successful transition and end up returning to where at least they know the rules and how things are done. The authors say they become legal aliens in the U.S. as they cross the border into the CCP: legally here but essentially aliens in their own land, a situation that could well continue for the rest of their lives.

The CCP, the authors declare, has a larger population than half the countries in the world; it is the 22nd largest country in the world *and*, the authors say, the fifth-largest *state* in the U.S., just behind Florida and larger than Illinois. They point out that the 16 million in prison have families who also suffer the effects of their imprisonment: absence of a parent/caregiver, loss of income due to that absence, adjustment to the CCP as normal, “the way life is.” In many respects, the authors say, the normalization of prison is a travesty of the modern age.

How did we get here? In the late 1970s, the authors say, the U.S. began experimenting with large-scale incarceration in an effort to curb crime. Our total prison population at the time was about 300,000. Now it’s well over 1.5 million, and if you include supervision – probation and parole – and local jail populations, the number “explodes,” as they put it, to 6.9 million. One in every 33 people, or three percent of the U.S. population, is under some form of supervision for criminal



activity at any given time. A disproportionate number are people of color, and overall are likely to share a common history of poverty, abuse, and alienation from U.S. culture. About half have committed crimes that don’t scare us, as the authors put it, but that “make us mad.”

All this is pretty dismal and does not make us look good as a nation. The authors don’t just leave us hanging, though. They present the facts, thoroughly documented, and then offer detailed suggestions as to how we can get ourselves out of this mess. They have the background to do so:

Looman has been a prison psychologist for many years and is a college professor; Carl is also a professor, a social worker, and a sociologist. Both have studied and taught about crime, criminal justice, and criminology for years.

The chapter titles are a good outline of their approach: “What Makes Prisons a Country?” “Who Are the People in the CCP?” “Living in, Visiting America from, Emigrating from, and Assimilating the CCP” (four different chapters). In an appendix, they offer a summary of their proposals for righting the errors we’ve made in creating a Country Called Prison within the borders of the United States of America.

In the assimilation chapter, the authors suggest “going back to old ideas and adding a few new ones”: old ideas such as that all people are created equal, and that all have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They advocate humanizing prisons, so that both residents and employees can develop their full potential, and offering programs so that people being released are really prepared for the world outside prison. We’ve got an “incarceration mountain,” they say, but seem confident it can be torn down, one piece at a time. They leave us with this challenge: “What piece are you willing to pick up?” ■

Thanks to our sponsors!

