

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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by [Aviva Stahl](#) | January 18, 2015

The following roundup features noteworthy news, reports and opinions on solitary confinement from the past week that have not been covered in other Solitary Watch posts.

New York Citys Board of Corrections voted to implement strict restrictions on the placement of young people in solitary confinement at Rikers Island but they also moved to create a new isolation unit, called Enhanced Supervision Housing unit (ESHU). Victoria Law provided detailed coverage of the vote on [Waging Nonviolence](#) (also covered by [Slate](#), [NPR](#) and other outlets).

[Vanity Fair](#) published an article entitled, From Gitmo to an American Supermax, the Horrors of Solitary Confinement.

The Childrens Defense Fund-California [published a report](#) calling for significant changes to Los Angeles Countys juvenile justice system, including the use of solitary confinement. One of the young people who contributed to the report said, Solitary confinement has long been one of our societys more primitive methods of addressing misbehavior.

California State Senator Mark Leno [introduced a bill](#) that would establish specific, limited circumstances in which state and county juvenile correctional facilities would be permitted to place someone in solitary confinement. SB 124 will be read in the states policy committees this spring.

[Mother Jones](#) published a longform investigation into the experiences of children held in solitary confinement. The article opens with the story of 17-year-old boy, Kenny, who spent 82 days in the hole over a period of six months.

Solitary Watchs Victoria Law published an in-depth article on [Truth-Out](#) about womens experiences in isolation. She writes, despite the increasing attention being paid to solitary in mens prisons far less attention has been paid to the practice in womens prisons.

Aviva Stahl is a Brooklyn-based reporter who writes about science/health at the intersection of mass incarceration, national security, and trans rights. Shes written for the New York Times, Wired, BuzzFeed News, Solitary Watch, and other outlets. Find her [@stahlidarity](#) and at [stahlidarity.com](#).

Accurate information and authentic storytelling can serve as powerful antidotes to ignorance and injustice. We have helped generate public awareness, mainstream media attention, and informed policymaking on what was once an invisible domestic human rights crisis.

Only with your support can we continue this groundbreaking work, shining light into the darkest corners of the U.S. criminal punishment system.

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 26, 2022

by [Caitlin Konya](#)

October 19, 2022

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 12, 2022

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