

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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close

Search

close

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by [Aviva Stahl](#) | October 4, 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.

[The Advocate](#) published an interview with Ashley Diamond, a transgender woman recently released from Augusta State Medical Prison in Georgia. It was torture. I might be free now, but I am still strugglingStraight out of solitary confinement, but into another confinement here on parole.

A federal judge has granted prisoners requests [to certify a class-action lawsuit](#) against East Mississippi Correctional Facility in Meridian, Mississippi. One expert witness who visited the segregation unit, former Washington State Corrections Secretary Eldon Vail, called the conditions there barbaric and the worst I have ever seen in 35 years as a corrections professional.

The Senate reached a bipartisan compromise on criminal justice reform legislation, which would establish new federal limitations on placing children in solitary confinement. A number of outlets covered the development, including [Fusion](#), [the Huffington Post](#), and [Mother Jones](#).

[The Colorado Gazette](#) published an in-depth investigation into the use of isolation in juvenile detention facilities in the state, which the outlet termed a secretive program that violated state law. Fabian Quintana, then 14, who spent 22 days in isolation said of the experience, I was kind of losing my mind.

As part of its ongoing series on America Incarcerated, [VICE](#) published an article outlining Why Solitary Confinement in America Needs to Stop.

[The Atlantic](#) published an article entitled Prison: Americas Most Vile Export?, which explores on how the USs supermax hasspread across the globe, including to Brazil, Rwanda, Jamaica and elsewhere.

Fusion unveiled a one-hour documentary named [Prison Kids](#), which looks at juvenile justice in America. The site also urged its readers to sign a petition, addressed to Obama, which calls for an end of the placement of kids in solitary.

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 [Caitlin Konya](#)

October 19, 2022

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 12, 2022

by [Caitlin Konya](#)

October 5, 2022

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