

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/publications/beyond-innocence-toward-a-framework-for-serving-all-survivors-of-crime>

Policy Issue Resources

Publication

Our media, our culture, and even some of our statutes continually reinforce the idea that in order to be deserving of care, a victim of crime has to be innocent. However, this idea excludes a wide range of people from services and limits the options and resources available to those who survive serious harm. In this series from Veras *Current Thinking* blog, you'll hear from service providers who have experience working with survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, young men of color harmed by street violence, LGBTQ survivors, survivors with disabilities, survivors engaged in sex work, survivors of human trafficking, and others. Together, these writers explore the limitations imposed by our existing framework of innocence and point to ways forward that better uphold the values of equity, public safety, and human dignity.

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