

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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by [Aviva Stahl](#) | March 29, 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.

Federal investigators have concluded that Baltimore City [illegally placed teens in solitary confinement](#). One youth spent 143 days in isolation.

The New York Times Magazine [published an in-depth article](#) about the federal supermax facility, ADX Florence. The same issue [featured a piece](#) on The Radical Humaneness of Norway's Halden Prison.

At a House Appropriations subcommittee hearing, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy [said](#) that solitary confinement literally drives men mad. He and Justice Stephen Breyer [called for reforms](#) to the criminal justice system.

Aakash Dalal, 22, has [been held in solitary confinement for three years](#) as he awaits trial for allegedly firebombing four synagogues in New Jersey. The states Supreme Court is considering a change of venue in the case.

NET, Nebraskas PBS & NPR stations, [published an interview](#) with Scott Frakes, Nebraskas new director of Department of Correctional Services. Today, roughly 700 inmates are held in some form of segregation, out of a population of 5300. So that is a pretty significant ratio. I would want to see that number a couple of years from now I would hope to see that number at least halved, if not less, he said.

[The Vera Institute of Justice announced](#) that it will work in collaboration with jails and prisons in five states with the aim of reducing the use of solitary confinement. Nebraska, Oregon, and North Carolina, along with jails in New York City and Middlesex County, New Jersey, will engage in the two-year process.

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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