

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/research/chicago-ideas-the-community-reimagines>**

## Policy Issue Resources

The Vera Institute of Justice teamed up with Chicago Ideas to envision the American prison system and imagine a society in which prisons serve as rehabilitation facilities for communities and citizens, rather than as crippling institutions. The conversations combined performance, first-person testimony, and compelling dialogue that looked into not only how the American prison system causes civil death, but also what everyday citizens can do to help reshape the way in which incarceration affects the country.

Part Three: The Community Reimagines is a conversation and a call to action around how communities, public institutions, and the private sector can work for justice and embrace practices that enhance safe and successful reentry for returning citizens.

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Launched as part of Prison Visiting Week for Vera's Reimagining Prison initiative, this explainer video focuses on alternative approaches to incarceration in use by countries such as Germany. Comparatively, tough on crime practices in the U.S. have been ineffective. We spend \$80 billion on incarceration per year, yet more than half the people who ...

A Report of the Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons

The Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons a national group of civic leaders, corrections administrators, scholars, advocates, police officers, religious community members, and former prisoners authored this report following a year-long study of jail and prison conditions in the U.S. The Commission, finding high volumes of violence and ...

Vera @ Chicago Ideas - Part I

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