

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/blog/gender-and-justice-in-america/womens-history-month-round-up>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

Women and girls are too often invisible in talks of criminal justice and reform.

Although they comprise a minority of people who are incarcerated in the United States, they are a fast growing population, with unique entry points into the system. They also present different needs than men once there. The situation is particularly concerning for women of color, [immigrants, LGBTQ women, and people who are trans or gender non-conforming](#), who must deal with additional implicit and explicit biases.

In addition, the justice system [affects more women than those who pass through it directly](#), such as those who become the sole breadwinner or single parent of their household after other family members are incarcerated, or those who must also cover the cost of criminal-justice related fines, fees, and other costs such as medical care or substance abuse treatment incurred by their justice system-involved loved ones.

These women, both incarcerated and in the community, are an important piece of the puzzle when it comes to addressing mass incarceration and reimagining prisons and jails. At Vera, we've written extensively about their stories in our [Gender and Justice in America](#) blog series and, for Womens History Month, we invite you to read the most popular of these articles:

Through the [Gender & Justice in America](#) blog series, Vera will explore issues facing justice-involved women and girls in the fields of adult corrections, youth justice, immigration, victimization, substance use, and mental health.

Transformative change, sent to your inbox.

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