

# Advocacy For All: Including Incarcerated Survivors in Our Work

---

June 21, 2016



# Welcome

---



**Jessica Serrano Seipel**  
**Senior Program Officer**  
Just Detention International



**Jeannette Page**  
**Training & Technical Assistance**  
**Coordinator**  
CALCASA



# Workshop Agenda

---

- I. Framing today's discussion
- II. Naming the problem
- III. Making a movement for all survivors
- IV. Resources



# Framing the Conversation



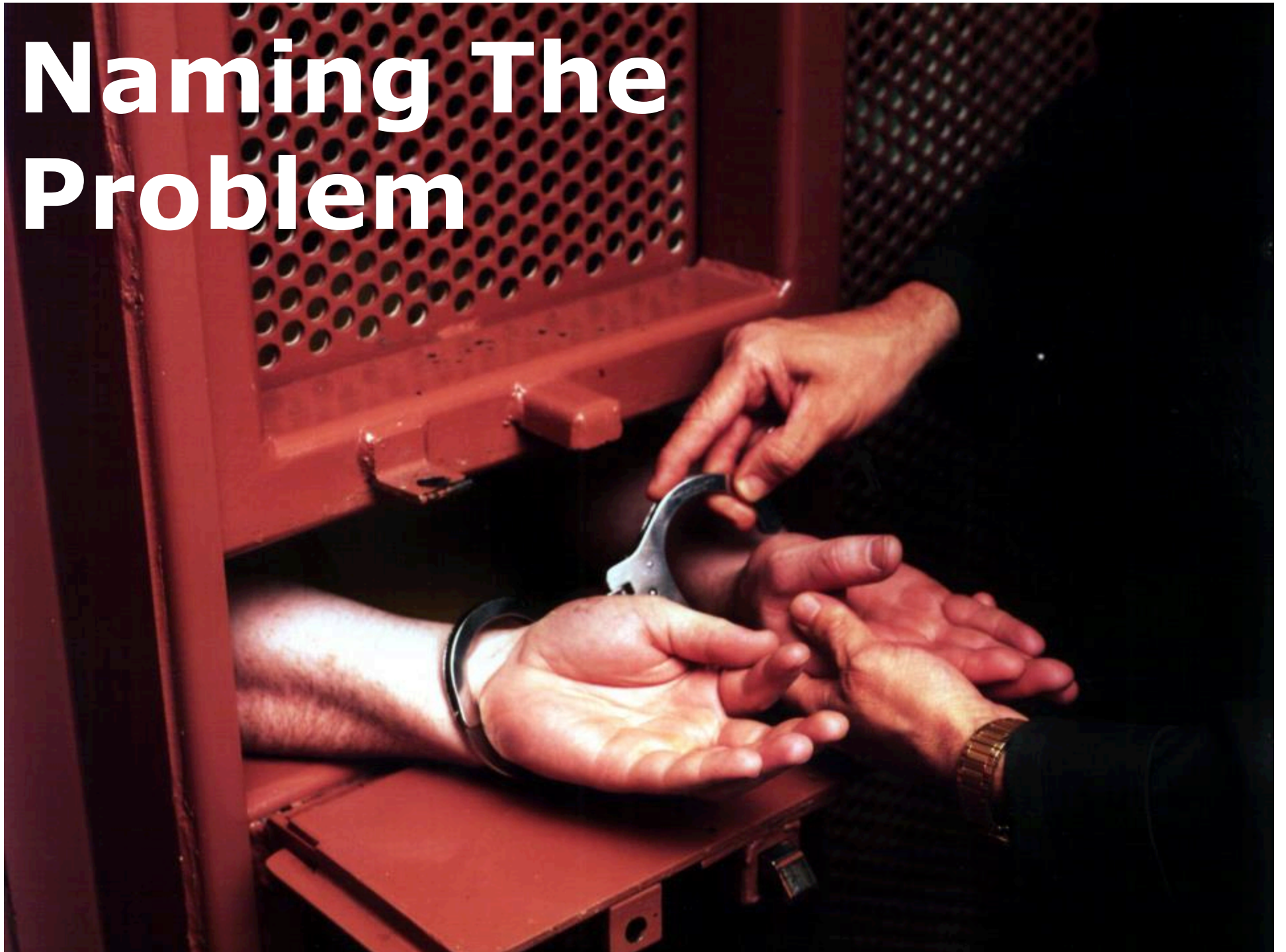
Photo credit: Jason Eppink



HT LAS  
EEK TOM  
HT LAS  
ST WCD  
NIGHT I



# Naming The Problem



# Small Group Discussion

---

What reactions have your staff and volunteers had in response to your agency serving incarcerated survivors?



# Roots of the Problem

---

- Fear of incarcerated people
- Negative media representation
- Rigidity around definition of a victim or survivor
- Sexual violence against incarcerated people not seen as “our problem”





# Addressing Our Bias

---

- Necessary to unlearn messages we receive about incarcerated people
- Not always comfortable
- Essential to our work



# We Have To Support All Survivors

---

- Necessary to reach ultimate goal of ending sexual violence
- Part of dismantling oppression
- Sexual abuse of incarcerated people is our problem



**“So long as some 200,000 people are sexually violated in detention centers annually, rape will never really retreat into the realm of the unthinkable, no matter how many perpetrators we turn into victims”**

- Elizabeth Stoker Bruenig, “Why Americans Don’t Care About Prison Rape,”  
The Nation, March 2015



# A Movement For All Survivors



# Start the Conversation

---

- Use the readiness tool
- Identify internal barriers to dismantle
- Identify training needs
- Connect with community partners



# Tips For Creating Change

---

- Slow, but crucial process
- Set clear expectations
- Incorporate into all work
- Navigate challenges directly



# Using Our Mission Statements As A Guide



# Mission/Vision/Values

---

“...actively supports the right of **all** people to live their lives free from interpersonal violence.”

“We will provide a nurturing non-judgmental environment to **all.**”





# Mission/Vision/Values

---

“...mission is to advocate for **all** victims and survivors of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.”

“...we strive to provide survivor centered, supportive services to people of **all** ages, genders and circumstance who have been affected by sexualized violence.”



# JDI's Core Belief

---

No matter what  
crime a person  
may have  
committed,  
rape is not part  
of the penalty.

**JUST DETENTION**  
INTERNATIONAL  
RAPE IS NOT PART OF THE PENALTY

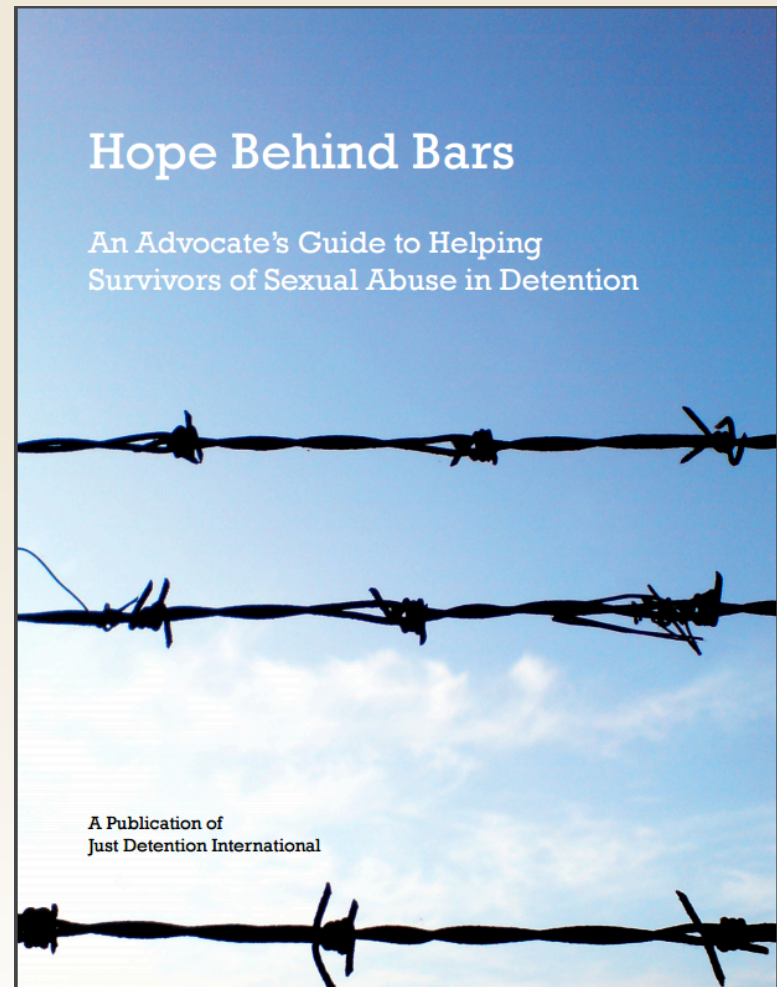


# Resources

---

**Just Detention International**  
**[justdetention.org](http://justdetention.org)**

Hope Behind Bars: An  
Advocate's Guide  
Hope for Healing: Information  
for Survivors  
Archived Webinars  
Other publications



# Resources

---



**Jessica Serrano Seipel**

[JSeipel@justdetention.org](mailto:JSeipel@justdetention.org)



**Jeannette Page**

[jpage@calcasa.org](mailto:jpage@calcasa.org)

**Look for upcoming regional trainings throughout California!**



QUESTIONS?

