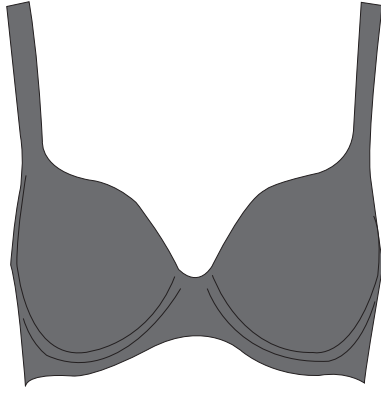
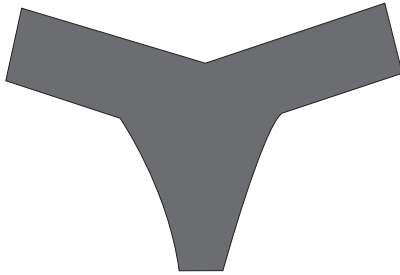


INTERSECTION FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS



GOLDEN
RULES



A Guide To The California Prison System

— An Extension Of The Prison Project —



*Mission Creek Printing
298 Alabama Street
San Francisco, CA 94103*

2008

INTERSECTION FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS

GOLDEN RULES

A Guide To The California Prison System

— An Extension Of The Prison Project —



Intersection for the Arts was founded in 1965 by a group of conscientious objectors, cultural and spiritual activists, and revolutionaries. These heroic men and women believed wholeheartedly that art plays a vital role in civic life. Today, those of us who continue to carry this passionate flame are also deeply committed to the notion that cultural institutions are essential tools in a vibrant and thoughtful democracy. This project, *Golden Rules – A Guide to the California Prison System*, was inspired by serendipity and by the unfathomable truths of our State's system of justice. It was also driven by a handful of extraordinary artists and citizens who believe that together we really can make change.

The story goes like this. In late 2005, an unrelated array of artists, activists and organizations turned up at Intersection with the desire to utilize their creative resources to look at the criminal justice system in our state. With very distinctive artistic and conceptual starting points, each project aimed to consider the effects of imprisonment from different angles and through different mediums. Each intended to unearth diverse narratives that remind us that incarceration affects those

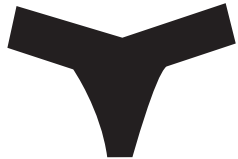
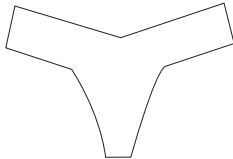
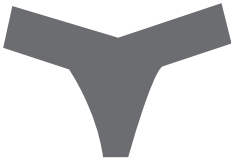
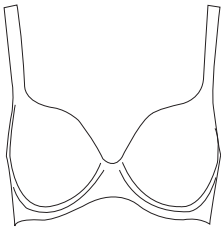
inside and outside of prison and within these complex layers are human beings, families, and communities. In support, Intersection invented The Prison Project to provide a larger community-base through which the depth and breadth of this confluence could be realized. Utilizing our resources as an arts organization, we have made make tangible the profound way that imprisonment manifests and reverberates in our society. Along the way, we have depended on the support of experts, activists, and volunteers who are driven to lend their creativity and time to coax us all toward a more humane and just future. Indeed, the women who made the gorgeous and startling piece of art in your hands did so out of civic and artistic compulsion, out of their profound experience with Intersection's Prison Project, and the reality of our society's broken definition of words like reform and justice.

Golden Rules is artistic and cultural democracy in action. It would not have happened if a few individuals had not been inspired and compelled to try to tell a truth that is incomprehensible.

We are honored to be part of this project and hope that it reverberates.

Deborah Cullinan

Executive Director



YOU

Could be getting dressed

Could be walking your child to school

Could be buying a gift

You may not realize that some of the things you do on a daily basis actively involve the California Prison System.

Many items you may have in your home, wear on your body, use at work, or find in public buildings are being made or assembled in the California Prison System by prisoners being paid as little as 8¢ an hour.

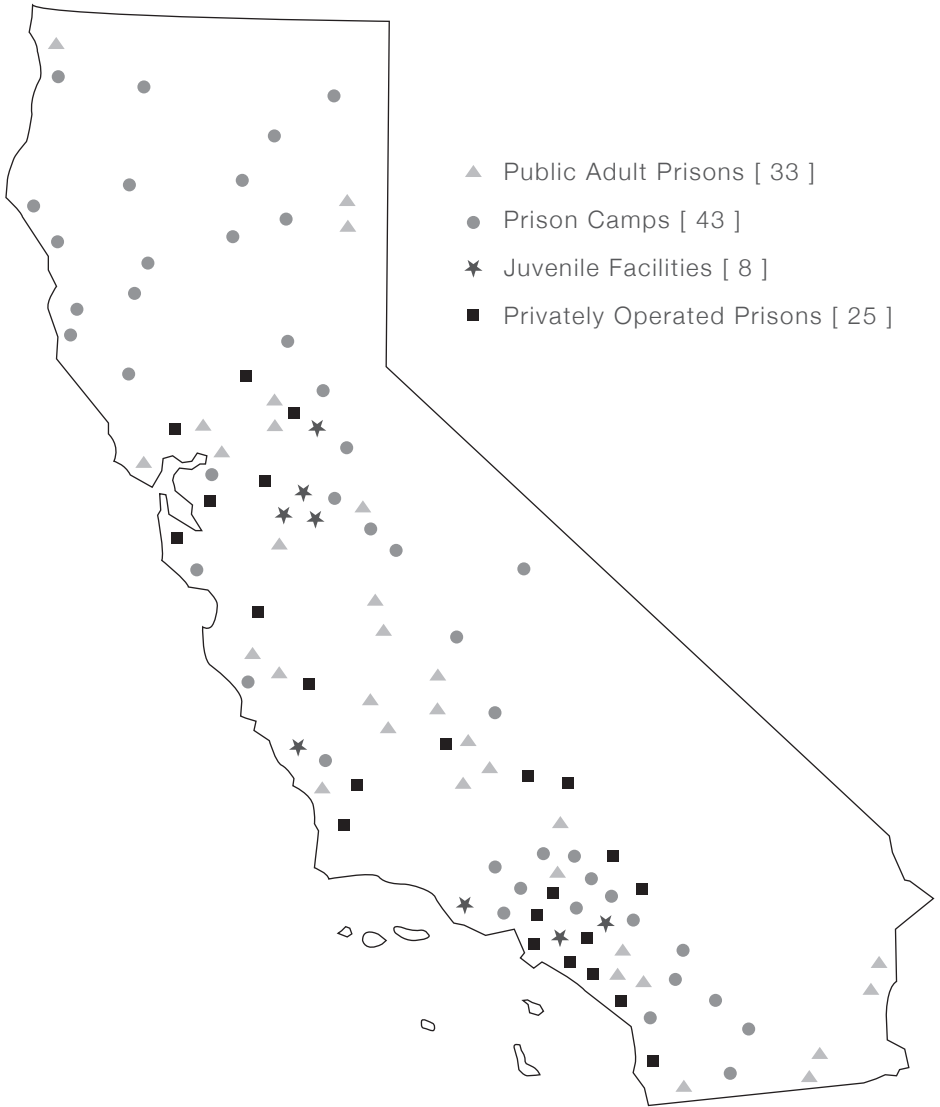
You Live Near a Prison

SINCE 1984 CALIFORNIA HAS BUILT ¹

5	Mother-Prisoner Centers
5	Prison Camps
13	Community Correction Facilities
23	New Prisons <i>at a cost of \$280-350 million each</i>

“...a person driving along Interstate 5 from Mexico to Oregon is never more than an hour from a California prison. Pilots can even navigate by the facilities’ locations.”

- John Pomfret, The Washington Post ²



CALIFORNIA'S PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PRISONS ³

————— *As of 2008* —————

The Golden State

California's prison system makes up the second-largest system in the nation after the federal Bureau of Prisons. ⁴

California has the highest expenditures in the nation on corrections but ranks **43rd** in funding education. ⁵

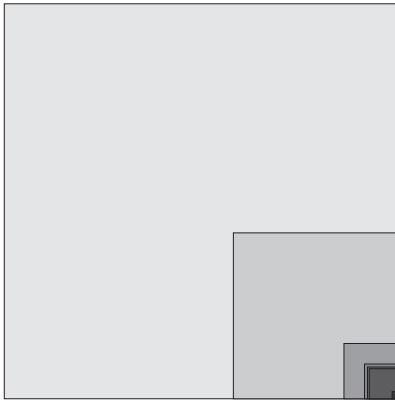
California holds the largest women's prison population in the world. ⁶

“Over 1.8 million people are currently behind bars in the United States. This represents the highest per capita incarceration rate in the history of the world. ”

- Eve Goldberg and Linda Evans, Global Exchange ⁷

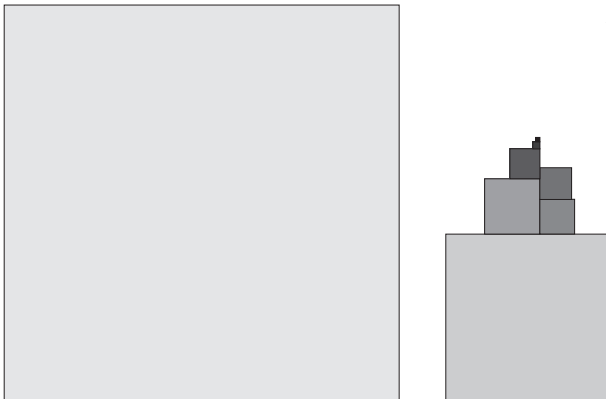
A Global Leader

Global Incarceration Comparison ⁸



All incarceration totals shown in comparison to each other.

USA	○
2,033,331	
Russian Federation	○
864,590	
Brazil	●
284,989	
South Africa	●
180,952	
Iran	●
163,526	
Mexico	●
154,765	
Canada	●
36,024	
Australia	●
22,492	



Incarceration totals of The Russian Federation, South Africa, Mexico, Iran, India, Australia, Brazil and Canada shown together in comparison to the USA

The United States has the most inmates, and the highest incarceration rate, of any nation in the world.

The United States incarcerates more people than the Russian Federation, South Africa, Mexico, Iran, India, Australia, Brazil, and Canada combined. ⁹

Prison Towns in California

California State Run Adult Institutions - *year opened*

Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP) - 2005

Delano, CA

California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF) - 1997

Corcoran, CA

Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP) - 1996

Soledad, CA

High Desert State Prison (HDSP) - 1995

Susanville, CA

Valley State Prison for Women (VSPW) - 1995

Chowchilla, CA

Pleasant Valley State Prison (PVSP) - 1994

Coalinga, CA

Ironwood State Prison (ISP) - 1994

Blythe, CA

Centinela State Prison (CEN) - 1993

Imperial, CA

North Kern State Prison (NKSP) - 1993

Delano, CA

California State Prison, Los Angeles County (LAC) - 1993

Lancaster, CA

Calipatria State Prison (CAL) 1992

Calipatria, CA

Wasco State Prison (WSP) - 1991

Wasco, CA

Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) - 1990

Chowchilla, CA

Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP) - 1989

Crescent City, CA

Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (CVSP) - 1988

Blythe, CA

California State Prison, Corcoran (COR) - 1988

Corcoran, CA

Northern California Women's Facility (NCWF) - *Deactivated*

Stockton, CA

R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility at Rock Mountain (RJD) - 1987

San Diego, CA

Mule Creek State Prison (MCSP) - 1987

Ione, CA

Avenal State Prison (ASP) - 1987

Avenal, CA

California State Prison, Sacramento (SAC) - 1986

Represa, CA

California State Prison, Solano (SOL) - 1984

Vacaville, CA

Sierra Conservation Center (SCC) - 1965

Jamestown, CA

California Correctional Center (CCC) - 1963

Susanville, CA

California Rehabilitation Center (CRC) - 1962

Norco, CA

California Medical Facility (CMF) - 1955

Vacaville, CA

California Men's Colony (CMC) - 1954/1961

San Luis Obispo, CA

Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) - 1953

Tracy, CA

California Institution for Women (CIW) - 1952

Corona, CA

Correctional Training Facility (CTF) - 1946

Soledad, CA

California Institution for Men (CIM) - 1941

Chino, CA

California Correctional Institution (CCI) - 1933/1954

Tehachapi, CA

Folsom State Prison (FOL) - 1880

Represa, CA

San Quentin State Prison (SQ) - 1852

San Quentin, CA

California State Run Juvenile Institutions

N. A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility - 1991

Stockton, CA

DeWitt Nelson Youth Correctional Facility - 1971

Stockton, CA

O. H. Close Youth Correctional Facility - 1966

Stockton, CA

Heman G. Stark Youth Correctional Facility - 1960

Chino, CA

Southern Youth Correctional Reception Center/Clinic - 1954

Norwalk, CA

El Paso de Robles Youth Correctional Facility -1947

Paso Robles, CA

Ventura Youth Correctional Facility - 1942

Camarillo, CA

Preston Youth Correctional Facility - 1892

lone, CA

Private Prisons in California

GEO GROUP (GEO)

www.thegeogroupinc.com

Western Region Detention Facility

San Diego, CA

Desert View Modified Community
Correctional Facility

Adelanto, CA

Taft Correctional Facility

Taft, CA

Central Valley Modified
Correctional Facility

McFarland, CA

McFarland Community
Correctional Facility

McFarland, CA

Golden State Modified Community
Correctional Facility

McFarland, CA

CORRECTIONS CORP. OF
AMERICA (CXW)

www.correctionscorp.com

California City Corrections Center

California City, California

San Diego Correctional Facility

San Diego, CA

CORNELL COMPANIES (CRN)

www.cornellcompanies.com

Baker Community Correctional Facility

Baker, CA

Leo Chesney Community
Correctional Facility

Live Oak, CA

Alhambra City Jail

Los Angeles

Baldwin Park City Jail

Los Angeles

Downey City Jail

Los Angeles

Garden Grove City Jail

Los Angeles

Montebello City Jail

Los Angeles

El Monte Center

El Monte, CA

Marvin Gardens Center

Los Angeles, CA

Oakland Center

Oakland, CA

Taylor Street Center

San Francisco, CA

Mesa Verde Community
Correctional Facility

Bakersfield, CA

SCI - San Luis Obispo

San Luis Obispo, CA

SCI - Santa Maria

Santa Maria, CA

SCI - Stockton

Stockton, CA

Ontario City Jail

Ontario, CA

Fontana City Jail

Fontana, CA

The Future: Bill AB 900

AB900 is a prison expansion bill, passed by the California Senate and Assembly on April 26, 2007 and signed by the Governor on May 3, 2007. ¹⁰

AB 900 will build **53,000 new prison and jail beds** at an astounding cost of \$15 billion to taxpayers solely for construction. (AB900 will cost \$7.4 billion in construction costs alone. Using lease revenue bonds means that taxpayers actually will pay about double the amount borrowed or \$15 billion.) **The \$15 billion price tag does not include operation costs.** ¹⁰

AB 900 was passed without a single public hearing, public participation, much less a public vote. In fact, legislators did not even have the bill language written up before they voted to approve AB900, a mere 24 hours after the deal was agreed to and made public. ¹⁰

Interest payment to finance the new construction (AB900) will amount to **\$330 million** a year by 2011. ¹⁰

“This will be the largest single prison-building project in the history of the world.”

– Californians United for a Responsible Budget ¹⁰

CALIFORNIA PRISONER POPULATION
— RACE CONFIGURATION —



38% Hispanic



29% Black



27% White



6% Other



Who Is Inside?

If you are a Californian, chances are you know someone inside. 1 in every 5 new prisoners in the United States came from California. ¹¹

Race ¹²

On June 30, 2006, almost **5%** of all **Black men** were in prison or jail, compared to **0.7%** of **white men** and **1.9%** of “**Hispanic men**”. More than **11%** of **Black men** ages 25-34 were incarcerated.

*Black men comprised 41% of the more than **2 million** men imprisoned.*

Black women were imprisoned at nearly 4 times the rate of white women.

Across age groups, black men were between 5.7 and 8.5 times more likely than white men to be imprisoned.

Youth ¹³

The average age of CYA parolees upon release is 21, which excludes them from the state’s responsibility to provide a public education.

In 2001, only 11.5% of CYA students passed the California High School Exit Exam.

There is a **91%** recidivism rate of CYA (California Youth Authority) parolees.

*The CYA estimates that 45% of male wards and 65% of female wards in 2000 had **mental health** problems. Over 65% of wards have **substance abuse** problems.*

Women ¹⁴

Though African-American women make up roughly 7% of California's female population, they constitute 29.8% of California's female prison population.

Approximately 80% of women prisoners are **mothers** of dependent children.

Despite the fact that drug addiction is a reality for many women entering California's prisons, there is no comprehensive support structure for detoxification when a female addict enters the prison system.

At the end of 1986, women in California's prisons totaled 3,564. In 1998, the population numbered 10,897—**an increase of 305%** in twelve years due to mandatory-sentencing laws that went into effect in the mid 1980's.

As of December 31, 2005, **65.7%** of women in California prisons were imprisoned for **non-violent** offenses, the majority of which were drug-related.

Transgender People

200-2,000

Approximate number of transgender and gender variant (people who defy gender norms but do not identify as transgender, such as effeminate gay men) people in California prisons at any given time. This figure is derived from estimates by the Transgender, Gender Variant & Intersex Justice Project. The California **Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation does not recognize transgender people**, and therefore does not track this information. ¹⁵

Percentage of transgender people in California prisons who in 2006 reported being raped while in the custody of the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation. ¹⁶

50%

59% percent of transgender people in California prisons in 2006 reported being sexually assaulted while in the custody of the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation. This percentage is nearly 15 times the rate reported by the larger general prison population. ¹⁷

Life Inside

Unhealthy Conditions

In California state prisons... “Indigent” female prisoners (those with less than five dollars in their prison account) are provided a total of five sanitary pads per month. The prison commissary sells such items at two to three times the market rate... Such practices combined with the repressive pay scale create an environment where women will barter sex or other acts in order to acquire their most basic necessities. ¹⁸

The Department has been so disorganized in response to the Hepatitis C epidemic, that it had to return to the State of California **\$1,760,000** of a **\$2,000,000** grant for Hep C care because it couldn't figure out how to spend the money usefully. ¹⁹

Medical issues in prisons have worsened in recent years, pointing to prisoners' difficulty in gaining medical treatment. One federal judge identified at least 1 known preventable death per week due to medical neglect. The medical health/delivery system is now under federal control. ²⁰

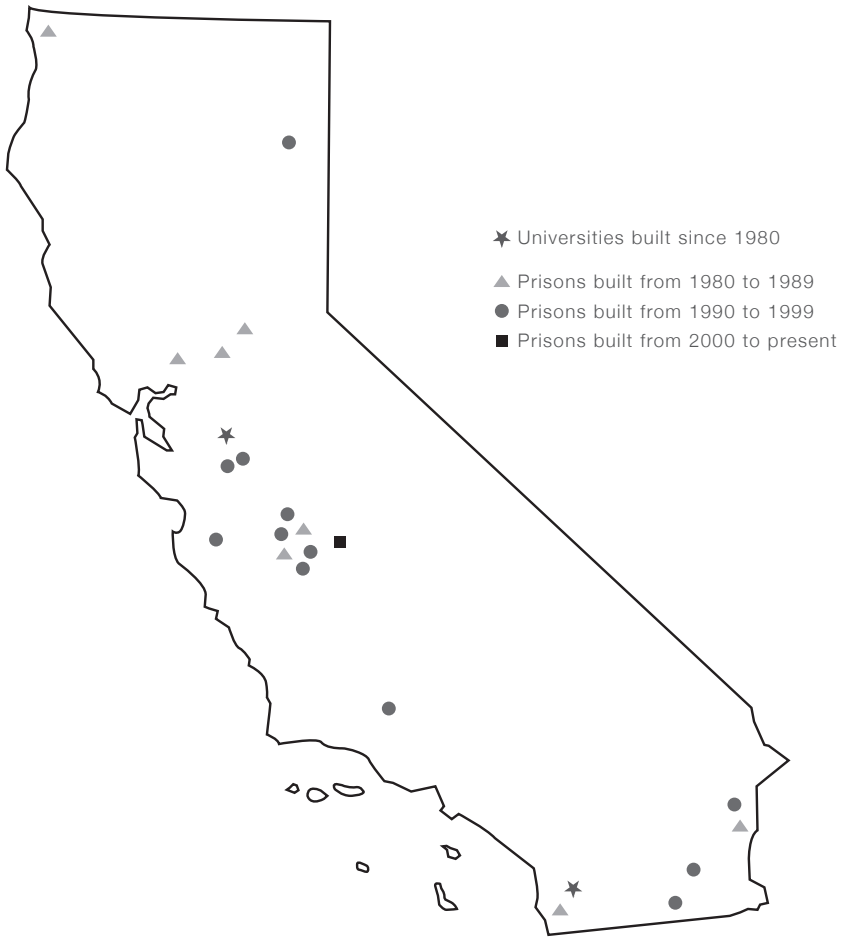
Solitary

& SHU's (Security Housing Units)

At Pelican Bay State Prison prisoners are kept in their windowless cells for a **minimum of 22 1/2 a day**. They never see the sun directly. There is no education, no job training, no work, no religious services, or hobby materials. No communal activities of any kind are allowed. All meals are eaten in-cell...²¹

69% of last year's suicides occurred in units where inmates are isolated for 23 hours a day...²²

These units are meant to maximize sensory deprivation. The alternative is lock down in the cell for months at a time, sometimes applied to entire racial groups at once. Solitary confinement is reserved for prisoners who speak out, are political, have chronic infections, or otherwise gain "institutional notoriety." Possible to be confined for life, one example being a prisoner who was confined to 30 years lock down. ²³



“Today, education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments... In these days, it is doubtful that any child may reasonably be expected to succeed in life if he is denied the opportunity of an education.”

-U.S. Supreme Court, *Brown vs. Board of Education*, 1954

The Pipeline

California continues to make its priorities clear. In the 1990s, African American enrollment in higher education in California declined, as 50,000 new African American inmates were added to the prison system. That means for every African American male subtracted from a University of California or California State University campus, 57 were added to a state correctional facility. During the same period, three Latino males were added to the prison population for every one added to California's four-year public universities. ²⁴

18-to-24 year old male high school dropouts have an incarceration rate 31 times that of males who graduated from a four-year college. ²⁵

IN THE LAST 10 YEARS CALIFORNIA HAS: ²⁶

Built **20** prisons

Built **1** state university campus and **1** UC campus

Added **26,000** jobs to various state corrections departments

Lost **8,000** jobs in higher education

IN THE LAST 20 YEARS AT THE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS: ²⁶

Spending on K-12 education rose **33.4%**

Spending on incarceration rose **571.4%**

The number of K-12 teachers fell **8%**

The number of guards rose **250%**

The number of K-12 schools rose **2.6%**

The number of lockups rose nearly **200%**

The number of students graduating high school fell **2.7%**

The number of people in prison and jail rose more than **400%**

Why? Who Wins?

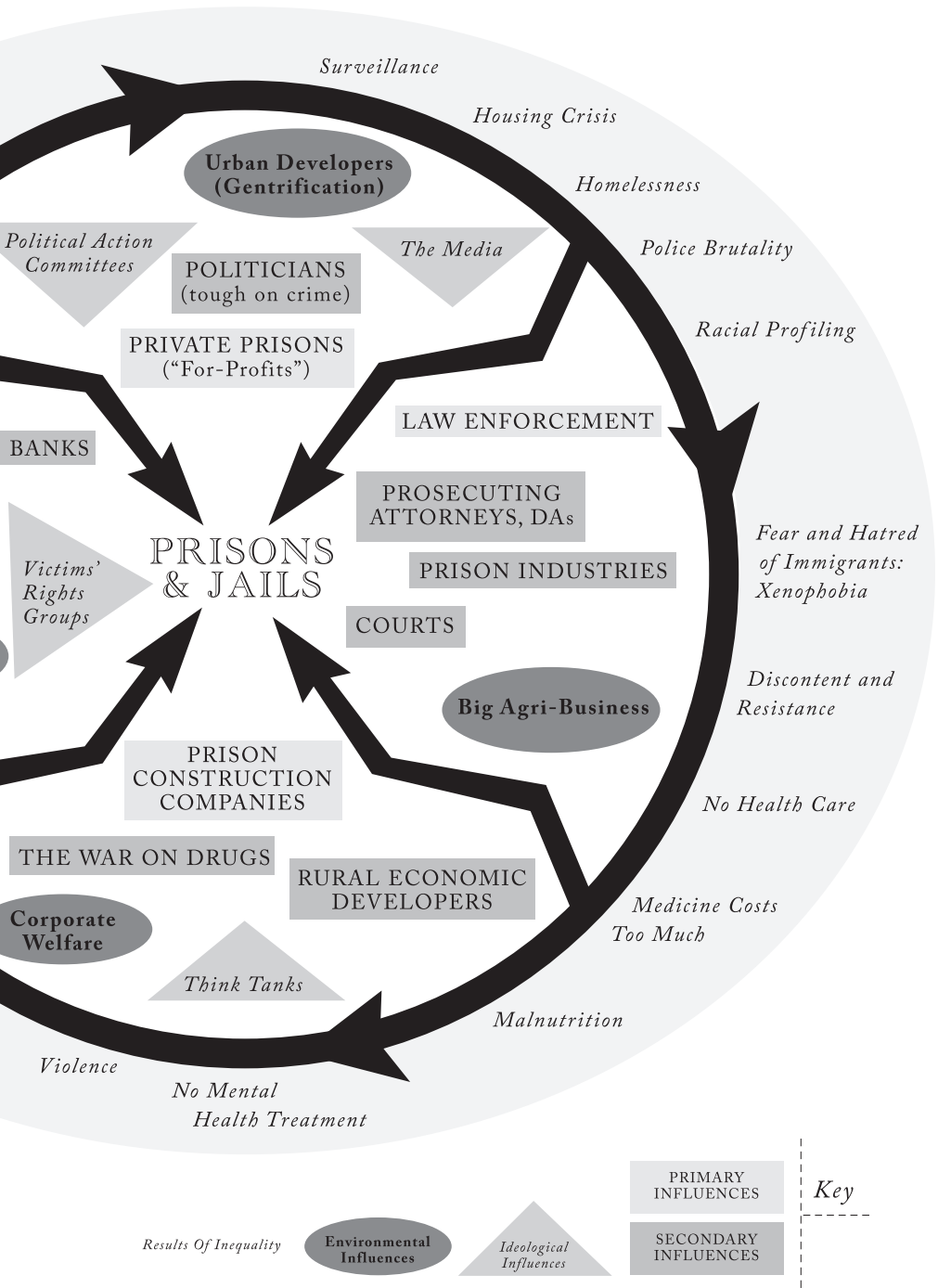
The Prison Industrial Complex

The prison industrial complex (PIC) is a complicated system situated at the intersection of governmental and private interests that uses prisons as a solution to social, political, and economic problems. The PIC depends upon the oppressive systems of racism, classism, sexism, and homophobia. It includes human rights violations, the death penalty, industry and labor issues, policing, courts, media, community powerlessness, the imprisonment of political prisoners, and the elimination of dissent.²⁷

“The lure of big money is corrupting the nation’s criminal-justice system, replacing notions of public service with a drive for higher profits. The eagerness of elected officials to pass tough-on-crime legislation -- combined with their unwillingness to disclose the true costs of these laws -- has encouraged all sorts of financial improprieties.”

- Eric Schlosser, The Atlantic, December 1998²⁸





MAP OF PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX ²⁹

You can purchase stock in California prisons

Three publicly traded corporations currently operate facilities
in California:



Corrections Corp. of America (CXW)
www.correctionscorp.com



GEO Group (GEO)
www.thegeogroupinc.com



CORNELL
People Changing People
Cornell Companies (CRN)
www.cornellcompanies.com

“With increased confidence in what we believe should be a continuation in increased bed capacity, higher occupancy levels, and better margins over the next two years, we are maintaining our ‘Overweight’ rating on Corrections Corp. - the leader in the private prison industry.”

-Jeff Kessler, Lehman Brothers analyst ³⁰

Corrections Corp. of America paid **\$1.3 million** to lobby the federal government – in the first six months of 2007. ³¹

PRIVATE PRISON PROFITS FOR 2006 ³²

CXW	\$357.19M
GEO	\$142.70M
CRN	\$85.81M

Prisoners Produce Consumer Goods and Services

There are two main labor organizations operating in CA's prisons; (CALPIA) the California Prison Industry Authority and (JVP) Joint Venture Program (adult)/Free Venture Program (youth).

JVP & FVP ³³

Established in 1990, the Joint/Free Venture program is a labor agreement/contract between the state of California, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and private industry business owners.

Participating businesses
get a **10%** tax credit.

Training is unpaid.

They do not have to pay
overtime, worker's compensation,
vacation or sick leave.

CalPIA

CALPIA provides work assignments for approximately 5,900 inmates and operates over 60 service, manufacturing, and agricultural industries at 22 prisons...produces a variety of goods and services including: flags, coffee, shoes, printing services, signs, binders, eye wear, gloves, office furniture, license plates, clothing, cell equipment, and much more. ³⁴

Their products are only available to other government entities. ³⁴

Court-ordered restitution/fines are deducted from the wages earned by CALPIA inmates and are transferred to the Crime Victims' Restitution Fund. ³⁴

*“PIA lost **\$10.2 million** in 2002-03 and **\$5.5 million** in 2003-2004, even though it sold nearly **97%** of its **\$144 million** annual output to state agencies - **47%** of that to itself.”*

- Marvin Mentor ³⁵

CALPIA inmates receive wages between **\$.30 to **\$.95** per hour, before deductions.** ³⁴

“Prison Industries Loses Money and Fails to Demonstrate Rehabilitative Success”

- California Auditor ³⁶

VICTORIA'S SECRET



Cole Haan



Wilson



Eddie Bauer



BED BATH &
BEYOND



Brand Recognition

Through researching the CorpWatch (an organizations that investigates and exposes corporate violations of human rights, environmental crimes, fraud and corruption around the world) archives, a list was compiled of 59 companies who have or currently utilize the incarcerated as a low wage labor force. Prisoners perform a large variety of tasks from making uniforms to booking reservations for corporate enterprises, including the businesses listed on the previous page. From September to October 2007 the media relation departments of these 59 companies were contacted on a regular basis and asked for their thoughts and statements on employing prisoners. Due to one reason or another, these companies successfully dodged communicating a response. Out of these 59 companies, only one formally responded to our letters, emails and phone calls.

Dollars and Sense

The 2007-08 Budget includes a **8.7%** increase on Youth and Adult Corrections, versus a **0.5%** increase on K-12 Education. ³⁷

2006-07 Budget for Corrections:

\$8.75 billion

COST TO CALIFORNIANS ³⁸

\$35,587 per inmate/year

\$4,338 per parolee/year

Content and Design

Design by Kelly Beile

Website Design by Emily Wright

Design production by Chelsi Nakano

Prison Industrial Complex Map by Ashley Hunt

Written By Kimberly Olofsen, Prison Project Assistant and Bekey Chapman, Arts Training Internship Program participant.

Golden Rules logo inspired by Kirk Stoller's design for the dance and theater performance 51802, presented by ESP. 

Special Thanks To:

Nina Billone and

The Prison Project Community Advisory Network

The Prison Project was a year-long series of events and programs exploring the California prison system. With this project, an array of artists working in fields as broad as visual art, theatre, dance, poetry and jazz challenged us to recognize that incarceration is a fundamental part of the fabric of contemporary Californian, and U.S. society. Incarceration affects those inside and outside of prison and within these stories are human beings, families, and communities that make up a large cross-section of California's population.

INTERSECTION FOR THE ARTS STAFF

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Deborah Cullinan Executive Director

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RESIDENT ARTISTS

Campo Santo (founding members Margo Hall, Luis Saguar, Sean San José & Michael Torres), **Scott Chernis**, **The Living Word Project** and **Marc Bamuthi Joseph & Chinaka Hodge**, **Erika Chong Shuch** and the **Erika Shuch Performance Project**, **Weston Teruya & Michele Carlson**, **Howard Wiley**, and **Dan Wolf**.

For more information about this topic, please contact a member of our Community Advisory Network:

County Public Library/Write 2 Read

<http://www.aclibrary.org/services/jailsServices/default.asp?topic=JailsServices&cat=JailsServicesAlameda%22>

All of Us or None / Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

<http://www.allofusornone.org/>

Building Bloc Collective

<http://www.buildingbloc.net/>

California Coalition for Women Prisoners

<http://www.womenprisoners.org/>

California Prison Focus

<http://www.prisons.org/>

Community Works West / The San Francisco Sheriff's Dept.

Women's Reentry and Restorative Justice Center

<http://www.community-works-ca.org/>

Critical Resistance

<http://www.criticalresistance.org/>

Education Not Incarceration

<http://www.ednotinc.org/>

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights / Books Not Bars

<http://www.ellabakercenter.org/>

Freedom Archives

<http://www.freedomarchives.org/>

Justice Now

<http://www.jnow.org/>

The Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women / Cultural Odyssey

<http://www.culturalodyssey.org/>

Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC)

<http://www.prisonactivist.org/>

Prison Radio

<http://www.prisonradio.org/>

TGI Justice Project

<http://www.tgjip.org>

William James Association

<http://www.williamjamesassociation.org/>

Write & Rise

<http://www.writeandrise.com/>

End Notes

- 1 Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007).
- 2 John Pomfret, "California's Crisis In Prison Systems A Threat to Public: Longer Sentences and Less Emphasis On Rehabilitation Create Problems," *Washington Post*, 11 June 2006, 2 Jan. 2008
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<<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/10/AR2006061000719.html>>
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- 7 Eve Goldberg and Linda Evans, "The Prison Industrial Complex and the Global Economy", *Global Exchange*, 2 Jan. 2008.
<<http://www.globalexchange.org/countries/americas/unitedstates/pic>>
- 8 Roy Walmsley, "World Prison Population List (sixth edition)", International Centre for Prison Studies, King's College, February 2005.
- 9 Public Safety Performance, A Project of the Pew Charitable Trusts, "State and Federal Prison Population", 2 Jan. 2008.
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10 All information quoted directly from “Fact Sheet on AB900: California’s Massive Prison Expansion Deal”, Californians United for a Responsible Budget, May 2007.

<www.curbprisonspending.org>

11 Directly quoted from “2006 Prison and Jail Statistics”, Critical Resistance, 2006.

<www.criticalresistance.org>

12 All statistics under “Race” were directly quoted from “2006 Prison and Jail Statistics”, Critical Resistance, 2006.

<www.criticalresistance.org>

13 All statistics under “Youth” were directly quoted from Michele Byrnes, Daniel Macallair, And Andrea D. Shorter, “Aftercare As Afterthought: Reentry And The California Youth Authority”, August 2002.

<<http://www.cjcb.org/pdf/aftercare.pdf>>

14 All statistics under “Women” were directly quoted from “Facts About California Women's Prisons”, California Coalition for Women Prisoners, March 2007, 2 Jan. 2008.

http://www.womenprisoners.org/resources/critical_statistics.html

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