

The Effects of Parental Incarceration on Children

Over half of all prisoners have children under 18.

American children are at increased risk of having an incarcerated parent.

Problem worst for children whose parents haven't finished high school:

- 62% of black children will have a parent incarcerated before age 18.
- 15% of white children will have a parent incarcerated before age 18.

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But problem also exists for children whose parents have a high school education:

- 16% of black children will have parent incarcerated before age 18.
- 4% of white children will have parent incarcerated before age 18.

Parental incarceration as a life cycle stage.

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Consequences:

- More physically aggressive behavior.
- Attention problems.

Why?

- Separation.
- Family instability
- Stigma

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What can be done?

San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents
Partnership.

www.sfcipp.org

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Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Bill of Rights.



I HAVE THE RIGHT...

- 1. TO BE KEPT SAFE AND INFORMED AT THE TIME OF MY PARENT'S ARREST.**
- 2. TO BE HEARD WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT ME.**
- 3. TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT MY PARENT.**
- 4. TO BE WELL CARED FOR IN MY PARENT'S ABSENCE.**
- 5. TO SPEAK WITH, SEE AND TOUCH MY PARENT.**
- 6. TO SUPPORT AS I FACE MY PARENT'S INCARCERATION.**
- 7. NOT TO BE JUDGED, BLAMED OR LABELED.**
- 8. TO A LIFELONG RELATIONSHIP WITH MY PARENT.**