

Pregnancy while in custody

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Background

Pregnant people in custody do not have adequate access to healthcare. It is still legal in certain areas to shackle people during birth and postpartum

“Pregnant incarcerated people are one of the most marginalized and forgotten groups in our country” (Lambert 2019).

Base Case

The First Step Act

87% of all incarcerated people are held in state facilities and are completely unaffected by this act.



The Guardian Reports,

23 states do not have laws
against shackling of
incarcerated pregnant
people

Stigma

- A big reason change is slow to be enacted is stigma surrounding incarcerated people
 - Rights are taken away
 - Voting, International travel, Employment restrictions
 - Becomes inaccessible to live a *normal* life

Stigma

“There’s a lack of recognition of systemic issues that play a role in a woman’s path to prison: poverty, a history of abuse, racism and discrimination — the outcomes of what happens when oppression is not addressed.”

What can be done?

- Volunteer your time
 - Even though Delaware has regulations you can still volunteer your time at local correctional facility
- Educate Others
- Actively work against biases you have against incarcerated people.



References

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