

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

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REGARDING INTERIM CHARGE 5

HOUSE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

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TEXAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE COALITION

The Texas Criminal Justice Coalition is committed to identifying and advancing real solutions to the problems facing Texas' juvenile and criminal justice systems. We provide policy research and analysis, form effective partnerships, and educate key stakeholders to promote effective management, accountability, and best practices that increase public safety and preserve human and civil rights

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Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Ana Yáñez-Correa. I am the Executive Director for the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to present testimony on gender-specific programming. In particular, this testimony addresses this committee's Interim Charge 5 to "Review the range of services provided to females in the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems and recommend changes to ensure responsiveness to gender-specific issues. Review should include institutional and community supervision programs and utilization of correctional facilities that house non-adjudicated populations."

INTRODUCTION

In general, it should be said that there is very little "evidence-based" gender-specific programming for women. That is primarily because women did not present themselves in large enough numbers historically in prisons and jails to necessitate separate women's programming. This has resulted in many relatively new programs for women that are yet, untested. However many women fit into offender categories for whom well-established evidence-based practices have been shown to work well, so applying those techniques to women offenders is warranted.

Please note: The programs discussed throughout this testimony do not comprise an exhaustive list of current gender-specific programming in Texas prisons and jails, throughout community supervision, or in the community. We have merely noted examples of programs that, if properly evaluated for effectiveness and provided sufficient resources, should be considered by policy-makers and criminal justice practitioners for wider replication.

As this Committee will hear testimony from various agencies and associations that have compiled information on other available gender-based programming, that information is not included here.

BIG PICTURE TRENDS

Overall, Texas' criminal justice system has historically had little programming for women; inmate populations in Texas have always been dominated by men. In fact, males are incarcerated approximately 15 times more frequently than women, who make up just under 7% of all incarcerated offenders in Texas.

By contrast, women make up 27% of all Texas probationers, meaning most women convicted in Texas courts are being supervised in the community. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), women comprised "a relatively large proportion of persons sentenced for a property crime in 2006 – about 1 in 4 – compared to the proportion of female felons sentenced for other crimes. Approximately 1 in 5 drug offenders and 1 in 10 violent offenders was female."

For the two decades before the turn of the century, Texas (like the rest of the nation) saw steady growth in the number of women offenders at roughly twice the rate that incarceration among men increased. There is evidence that trend has leveled off recently in Texas state prisons. According to the BJS, the number of sentenced female offenders incarcerated in Texas declined by 8.4% from 2000 to 2008. Even so, Texas' rate of sentenced women offenders overall (87 per 100,000 in 2008) remains high compared to the national average (61 per 100,000).³

Programming aimed at reducing recidivism among women offenders is an especially cost-effective approach to crime reduction. Women tend to have a more difficult time with re-entry and higher recidivism rates than men. This according to a study by the Urban Institute of women offenders returning to Houston:⁴

The unique obstacles that women face during their post-prison reintegration, driven largely by their differences in pre-prison substance use and employment histories, continue to play a role in terms of subsequent criminal behavior. At one year out, women are more likely than men to engage in drug use, to have problems stemming from drug use, and to have partners who drink or use drugs daily. Perhaps not surprisingly, women are almost twice as likely as men to be back behind bars in a year's time, typically due to a drug-related offense or a property offense driven by addiction problems.

As such, to the extent the State can develop effective, recidivism-reduction treatment programs aimed at women, it would get a lot of bang for its buck.

SERVICES FOR PREGNANT INMATES AND NEW MOTHERS IN PRISON

Although we now know a great deal about the importance of mother/child bonding for the future mental health of the child, Texas lags behind other states that have developed prison nursery programs to allow women to keep their babies with them for a certain period of time; Texas is similarly deficient in community-based residential parenting programs that allow women to serve criminal justice sentences with their infants in a non-prison setting. Babies born in prison are taken away from their mothers, kept off site, and given only temporary visitation rights during their earliest weeks, if a mother qualifies to participate in the program.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) does operate a birthing center for pregnant mothers. At the Carole Young medical unit in Texas City, TDCJ allows mothers extra visitation time with their infants during their early weeks, however "extra" means no more than two hours per day. On the other hand, due to the 2007 passage of H.B. 199 by Vice Chairman Madden, Chairwoman Kolkhorst, and former Representative Noriega, TDCJ was instructed to implement a residential infant care and parenting program for mothers confined by TDCJ. The bill instructed the agency to model its program after the successful Federal Bureau of Prisons' Mothers and Infants Together (MINT) program, currently operated under contract in Fort Worth.

Note: According to TDCJ, due to damage caused by Hurricane Ike, finalization of the provider contract was slowed and is currently in progress. However, the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) has made significant progress with Hospital Galveston, as part of the receiving screening/health appraisal, all female offenders at intake are questioned regarding pregnancy and menstrual history.

Once the MINT program is fully implemented, it will ideally offer female inmates mothers and women who are pregnant pre- and post-natal programs and services such as childbirth, parenting, and coping skills classes. In addition, the program will offer chemical dependency treatment, physical and sexual abuse counseling, self-esteem programs, budgeting classes, and vocational/educational programs. Ultimately, mothers will be given an opportunity through the program to bond with their newborn children before returning to an institution to complete their

sentences. Prior to the birth, the mother must make arrangements for a custodian to take care of the child; institution staff and community social service agencies will aid the inmate with placement.

Inmates will be eligible to enter the program if they are in their last two months of pregnancy. It is up to the discretion of the correctional facility staff to decide whether to refer the inmate to the MINT program.⁵

OTHER GENDER-SPECIFIC SERVICES IN PRISONS

Again, both of the programs discussed below are excellent examples of gender-specific programming that, if tested and proven effective, should be funded for broad replication.

• Truth Be Told

This program began at the Lockhart Prison Facility. It has an evolving curriculum that integrates the expressive arts of public speaking, writing, and movement with a guided process of personal story telling and transformation.

Curriculum objectives include the following:

- Deepening participants' self-understanding and wise use of freedom of choice;
- Improving participants' communication skills through writing, speaking, and respectful listening;
- Developing participants' tools of self-expression using movement, song, storytelling, and stillness;
- Encouraging participants' to become mentors both to new class members and in other relationships; and
- Providing support and serving as role models as participants learn to support each other.

Women's Storybook Project of Texas

This is a volunteer program that started in Austin in 2003. It targets the children of women who are imprisoned at Gatesville prisons.

By encouraging the development of strong relationships between mothers and their children, this project strives to reduce the likelihood that children of the incarcerated will go prison. Specifically, it supports the connection of incarcerated woman with their children through literature.

SERVICES AT COUNTY JAILS

Below are further examples of gender-specific programming that, if tested and proven effective, should be funded for broader replication.

Family Friendly Programming in Bexar County Jail

The problem of keeping inmates, particularly women, connected to their families during incarceration is also an issue at county jails. In that vein, a program in the Bexar County Jail deserves wider replication:⁶

MATCH/PATCH: stands for Mothers and Their Children and Papas and Their Children. The program teaches parenting and life skills to inmates in the correctional system.

These parents attend class every day and earn a one-hour visit with their children on Fridays.

The MATCH/PATCH combination encourages participation in parenting/life skills classes and provides extra opportunities to maintain family ties. This is a particularly encouraging approach that should be copied where possible in both state prisons and county jails. Inmates should also have opportunities to earn extra phone privileges (so they can call their children) through good behavior or participation in parenting classes or other related programming. This has already be implemented in the juvenile system.

Women's Courses in Travis County Jail

Very little gender-specific programming goes on in Texas' county jails, in part because most of these inmates are being housed awaiting trial and have little incentive to participate in programming that a court has not mandated. One notable exception is a volunteer-run women's program at the Travis County Jail called PRIDE (People Recognizing the Inherent Dignity of Everyone). The four-week intensive program offers 24 women at a time the opportunity to take classes and workshops together while sharing a special dorm. Women in the program focus on three areas: Emotion Coaching/Parenting, Beyond Abuse with SafePlace, and Seeking Safety. They can also choose from other courses including Money Management and Women's Health. "Since the PRIDE Program began, on February 14, 2008, 219 women have entered the program and 79 have graduated. The program started out with a weekly discussion group for women, and then snowballed into its full four-week form," reported the Texas Jail Project.⁷

The curriculum used seems on its face to address many of the most common barriers to success for women leaving jail (or prison). How to successfully shoulder parenting responsibilities, avoid abusive relationships, handle money and health issues. It is crucial that there be tracking of offenders in the program to measure recidivism results and evaluate what does and does not work about such programs before being more widely replicated. The State would be well-served if the Texas Commission on Jail Standards was provided sufficient funding and manpower to evaluate this and similar programs. (See the Recommendations section below.)

SERVICES IN COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

A proposed new program for women run by the Bell County Community Supervision & Corrections Department is called C.A.R.E. (Community Awareness and Resource Empowerment for Women) allows participation in a 10-week program which will vary slightly according to each individual's needs assessment and will focus on parenting, anger management, relationships, and

communication – a curriculum not unlike the Travis County effort discussed above. Incentives will be used to encourage successful participation: "Clients will be rewarded by getting hours spent in the program deducted from their community service obligation. Clients who successfully complete the program may not have to complete their community service hours."

It would be a tremendous missed opportunity if Texas neglected the chance, while these innovative programs are rolling out, to evaluate their methods and results to determine if they should be replicated elsewhere. Specifically, CJAD should be equipped with the tools to provide technical assistance and monitor these types of programs to determine efficacy.

Note: Probation departments should be encouraged and rewarded for implementing such programs.

SERVICES THAT ADDRESS WOMEN'S VICTIM/OFFENDER STATUS

A number of studies have found that many women caught up in the criminal justice system had themselves been victims of physical or sexual abuse, particularly sex-trade workers. The complex victim-offender conundrum that confronts abused women argues strongly for considering novel approaches to justice in certain types of cases based on a restorative justice model where the primary goal of the justice system is making victims whole. This will hold women simultaneously accountable for their crimes but at the same time, their situation is not further worsened by excessively, futilely punishing women who have already been brutalized.

Dallas' new prostitution court and Dallas Police Department's innovative truck stop prostitution program arguably represents the most innovative approach in Texas so far in regards to recognizing this dual victim/offender status and giving women options to get out of the business. As described by the Dallas Morning News: 10

One night every month, authorities erect a temporary staging area, usually near the truck stops. For several hours, Dallas officers spread out and make arrests for prostitution and other crimes.

But unlike most other nights, those arrested don't go straight to jail. Instead, prostitutes can get a full health screening and are given a chance to commit to a comprehensive rehabilitation program.

The Dallas program gives women arrested for prostitution a choice between a 45-day stay in the jail or a somewhat longer commitment to the program. If a woman is ready to choose a different path, one is available.

Not many young girls would tell you they want to be prostitutes when they grow up. Instead, the path that leads them there frequently involves poverty, physical or sexual abuse, addiction, alcoholism, or some combination of all of those factors. Often women committing prostitution crimes, particularly on the low end of the economic scale, arguably are the primary victims in the situation, even if they are also criminal offenders.

So far, according to the program's annual report, the Prostitution Diversion Initiative (PDI) has produced only limited results within the first year of operation. The PDI has contacted 175 prostitutes in Dallas and diverted 51 (29%) to treatment services appropriate for addressing alcohol

and drug abuse, mental health disorders, and physical health care. Nine are currently on track toward permanently exiting prostitution."¹¹

Those initial numbers are not encouraging, but more time will be required to give the program a fair trial run. These women's lives will not be turned around overnight. On the other hand, the city's past, enforcement-only tactics had failed miserably; Dallas' truck-stop prostitution problem had led to it be dubbed the nation's syphilis capital. Thus Dallas law enforcement was forced to try these alternative methods that will be worth emulating if they produce better outcomes. To know if that is the case, though, someone must be measuring those outcomes.

Over the next couple of years, the Legislature should ensure this pilot is amply funded both for its core functions and for formal evaluation to assess its viability for use in other jurisdictions. The program should be monitored closely, and its participants' results should be compared with prostitution offenders who did not go through the program, both in Dallas and in other cities, to see whether this novel approach generates a positive public safety impact.

SERVICES FOR FEMALE INMATES IN THE TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

Growth in referrals of girls to the juvenile justice system may be partly traced to increased use of the criminal justice system to replace traditional school discipline. In 2007, 27% of female high school students told surveyors they had been in a fight in the previous year, and 9% said they had had a fight on school property. In years past, many of these incidents would have been handled on campus as internal school discipline problems. Today, schools are more likely to have a police officer on site and more quickly look to arrest and criminal prosecution as their preferred solution to youth behavior problems.

Despite the upsurge in female inmates at TYC, a recent evaluation of their treatment programming noted that, until recently, the agency had "no gender-specific programming" for girls at all.¹³ Then, the successful capital and violent offender treatment program was expanded to include girls in September 2009, a program which has consistently generated positive results among boys.

Furthermore, in December 2009, TYC's girls unit in Brownwood began using the "Girls Circle" program, which is also used at several Texas juvenile probation departments. This nationally recognized curriculum is one of the few gender-specific programs of its type for adolescent girls. However, even though initial evaluations of this relatively new program were "promising," according to their website, outcomes have not yet been tested rigorously enough to consider the program "evidence-based." (This is another area where the State would do extremely well to monitor new programming with an eye toward evaluating results.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Allow more time for incarcerated mothers to spend with their new infants.

TDCJ should work towards fully realizing the legislative intent of H.B. 199, which mandated the establishment of a residential infant care and parenting program for mothers confined by TDCJ.

TDCJ should also provide mothers with the means to more closely interact with their infants, including through consideration of the 2007 policy posed by former Rep. Noriega, H.B. 1770, which would have allowed infants born to mothers in TDCJ to stay with their mothers until one day after their first birthday. Specifically, the State should invest in prison nurseries – proven to work in other states – to keep new mothers and their infants together longer.

> Invest in community-based residential parenting programs and education services.

No matter how good the in-prison programming, no baby benefits from being born in a correctional facility, so the Legislature should also seek to minimize by policy the number of pregnant women doing time in Texas prisons. Instead, alternatives to incarceration should be utilized to the greatest extent possible for pregnant women in the months leading up to and immediately after birth. We agree with last year's recommendation from the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice (IWCJ) that:

Community-based residential parenting programs can prevent mother-child separation while allowing mothers to address the issues that contributed to their criminal justice involvement in a real-world setting. These programs allow mothers to practice positive responses to the challenges of parenting and the challenges of everyday life. These programs also keep children out of foster care and provide children the stability of a consistent primary caregiver. ¹⁵

IWCJ also helpfully recommended that, "Family reunification should be a priority in women's discharge planning, and women should be educated about their rights and responsibilities as parents from the time they enter the facility."

> Track the number of incarcerated pregnant women to inform future programming.

Until recently, Texas did not know how many pregnant women it was housing in its prisons and jails. Legislation passed in 2009 requires Texas jails to count the number of pregnant women under their care and report that data to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards (TCJS), as well as develop a medical care plan for each pregnant inmate. TCJS should publicly report this data and whether or not, during their inspections of jails, medical plans were on file for all pregnant inmates. The Legislature should provide oversight to make sure those medical plans are a) individualized, and b) followed.

Note: TCJS presently does not have sufficient regulatory staff with medical expertise to evaluate the adequacy of jail health including prenatal care. Policy-makers should invest in TCJS staff increases to meet this demand.

Improve the ability of incarcerated mothers to interact with their children.

Programs to strengthen and improve a mother's relationship with her child(ren) fit into what is already known about successful approaches to reducing recidivism. In terms of crime-reduction potential, this is an area that has been too long ignored and under-resourced. It is highly likely that, because of that long-term institutional neglect, significant anti-recidivism gains could be had for relatively small investments in encouraging maintenance of family ties by inmates.

Aside from any sentimental arguments, the State has two overriding interests that should encourage it to maximize offenders' interaction with their children (except, of course, in cases where the child has been victim of an abusive relationship): 1) Stronger family ties reduce recidivism rates for parents upon re-entry from prison, and 2) Reducing collateral damage to children of incarcerated parents will reduce crime in the future, particularly if the State focuses scarce criminal justice resources toward diverting youth in this risk group from crime.

Incarceration punishes more people than just the individual locked up and, in particular, innocent children are frequently unintended victims when the State punishes their parents' misdeeds. Even when parents, especially mothers, were never particularly good parents, with few exceptions their children still love them and want/need to maintain a connection to their incarcerated loved one. Denying that connection frequently leads to worsened behavior by youth that in turn spurs their involvement with the juvenile justice system and sets them down the path toward the same, self-destructive behaviors that got their parents in trouble.

Ultimately, incarceration frequently runs in families. About half of men and more than two-thirds of women prisoners are parents of minor-age children. Sadly, children of incarcerated individuals are 6 to 8 times more likely to be incarcerated than children whose parents are not incarcerated. Indeed, at the Texas Youth Commission (TYC), "Over half of the juveniles confined in a secure institution had a parent that has been or is incarcerated," according to TDCJ. In part, this can be caused by children not being told the truth about their parents' incarceration, leaving them confused and untrusting. Moreover, because their contact with their parents is limited, the result is strained relationships whereby children are rebellious while their parents are inexperienced and unfamiliar with their child's needs. In

According to the National Institute of Corrections, "most" women inmates had "primary responsibility for child rearing" and legal custody of their children before going to prison. In Houston, 74% of female inmates with children "were providing financial support for their children in the months leading up to their incarceration." It is imperative that the State develop programming to help these children economically and emotionally and divert them away from a life of crime. In fact, these youth represent such a high risk group that the State would be wise to make significant investments to ensure they have needed support, access to visitation, and opportunities to go to college or receive vocational training to set them on a path toward success in the job market.

Besides benefiting their children, research shows that women inmates' maintenance of family ties can help reduce their own recidivism. According to the Urban Institute, "women who reported higher levels of help from their families were less likely to return to prison in the first year following release." What's more, "When asked what they were most looking forward to upon release from prison, the single largest response among women was reuniting with children." This finding led the Urban Institute to call women's relationships with their children "a compelling motivator for reentry success." 20

A small minority of Texas' 112 prison units have special programming aimed at inmate parents.²¹ Most are basic parenting classes or programs for parents to read books on tape that are then sent to their children. However, many kids have trouble getting transportation to visit their loved ones at all.

TDCJ should make every effort to locate offenders in units as close to their home as possible, renovate visitation spaces to better accommodate parents interacting with their children, and require each unit to periodically hold family-oriented events. Ideally, the State should team up with nonprofit programs like Girl Scouts Beyond Bars, perhaps using federal grant money, to actively provide children of incarcerated parents transportation assistance to come visit.

Jails and prisons should also provide extra visitation or free phone minutes to call their children as rewards for good behavior or completion of related programming, as with the Bexar County MATCH/PATCH program.

Such family-oriented programs and policies would be especially beneficial for women inmates, but the suggestions are not limited to them. Investments in helping inmates maintain family ties both assist in reducing recidivism and potentially mitigate damage to their children from their parents' incarceration.

➤ Invest more fully in other in-prison, gender-based programming.

For those women who are already behind bars, correctional facilities should implement genderspecific programming that, in part, addresses previous victimization while increasing the overall likelihood of women's success upon re-entry. This programming should include the following:

- psychological assessments;
- trauma recovery and trauma-informed treatment plans;
- individual one-on-one therapy and counseling;
- parenting and family management classes, cognitive thinking classes, anger management classes, and self-esteem reinforcement training; and
- alcohol and substance abuse treatment, as needed.

Treatment should also occur in all-female settings, where the environment is more nurturing, supporting, and comfortable for speaking about such issues as domestic violence, sexual abuse and incest, shame, and self-esteem.

Finally, TDCJ should develop comprehensive treatment programs for women who suffer from substance abuse. These programs should address the many complicated physical, emotional, and social factors that affect women's abuse and recovery. Ultimately, treatment programs should be part of a comprehensive continuum of care that continues after each woman's release from custody.

> Strengthen gender-specific programming in community supervision.

The State should strengthen the ability of Community Supervision & Corrections Departments to provide specialized treatment options for women who have been diagnosed with a drug addiction or mental health issue.

Additionally, women in community supervision programs should be provided a supportive environment created through site selection, staff selection, program development, content, and

material that both reflects an understanding of the realities of women's lives and addresses the issues of the women participants.

In order to ensure that the largest amount of women can take advantage of such appropriate, specialized programming as possible, they should undergo a proper assessment to identify their particular needs. Where necessary, their programming should include education and job placement services, wrap-around services, childcare, etc. In addition to being at best-case scenario, this is potentially the least expensive option when dealing with a growing women's prison population.

> Utilize existing treatment programs to address specialized needs.

Nationally, 52% of incarcerated women are sentenced for drug sentences.²² Most women with a drug conviction go on probation, making them quite typical potential candidates for drug courts. Similarly, women disproportionately suffer from severe mental illness and could benefit from tailored approaches in mental health courts – 14% of male defendants and 30% of women suffer (at some point) from severe mental illness, according to researcher Jennifer Skeem, and 72% of those have a co-occurring substance abuse disorder.²³ Such cases may be usefully processed through one of Texas' new mental health courts.

Arguably, though, this concept could be taken even further. Texas recently established veterans courts based in part on the notion that soldiers suffering from post-traumatic stress should be processed through a system that is cognizant of and not counterproductive to the defendants' mental health needs. To a very real extent, battered and abused women who themselves commit crimes and end up in the justice system have special mental health needs (including post-traumatic stress) that seem particularly likely to benefit from stronger, evidence-based supervision methods.

> Target pre-release populations.

Women transitioning out of confinement should undergo programming that includes the following components:

- economic planning;
- parenting training;
- communication skills training;
- cognitive thinking training;
- assistance in building self-esteem;
- assistance in strengthening self-care skills;
- provision of basic information on legal rights in regards to reuniting with children;
- provision of basic information on dealing with domestic violence and building skills against
 it:
- referrals to other agencies for assistance with housing and areas of particular importance to women with children; and
- support services and emergency assistance for basic necessities.

In addition to offering such programming, TDCJ should enter into inter-agency agreements with relevant child welfare agencies to increase the likelihood of family reunification upon release.

Ensure post-release follow-up.

Providing after-care and follow-up is key to ensuring successful re-entry. Building upon prerelease training and skills building will decrease the likelihood of recidivism and strengthen families.

Analyze programs to test what works.

Many existing gender-specific programs and services have not been independently evaluated. The State would benefit from its own research staff capable of evaluating outcomes from gender-specific and other treatment programs at Texas prisons and jails to improve current programs and determine whether practices are producing desired outcomes in real-world incarceration or probation settings.

* * *

I appreciate the opportunity to testify before this Committee and to offer our organization's ideas about this important issue.

I commend this Committee's efforts to protect the rights of women and their children, and to ensure a safer Texas for generations to come. We hope that this Committee will strongly consider our policy recommendations that strengthen families and assist women who have been caught in the criminal justice web.

NOTES

¹Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, "Probation and Parole in 2008," December 2009, online at http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/ppus08.pdf. Texas' rate calculated from data in Table 6. The national averages for women's proportion of inmates and probationers are 7% and 24%, respectively.

² Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, "Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2006 – Statistical Tables," December 2009, available online at http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/fssc06st.pdf.

⁴ Urban Institute, "Women on the Outside," June 2009, available online at:

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411902 women outside houston.pdf.

⁵ U.S. Department of Justice, "Legal Resource Guide to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 2010," p. 22.

⁶ BreeAnna Montoya, "Bexar County Maintains Inmate Family Ties," The Ranger Online, Feb. 17, 2008. Available online at: http://texasjailproject.org/node/15.

⁷Texas Jail Project, Rachel Garringer, "How Travis County helps women inmates," June 15, 2009, available online at: http://www.texasjailproject.org/node/38.

⁸"Proposeal for 'C.A.R.E. For Women' (Community Awareness and Resource Empowerment for Women)," Bell County CSCD, Dec. 16, 2009.

⁹See Dallas Observer, "Courting Hookers," July 9, 2008, available online at:

http://www.dallasobserver.com/2008-07-10/news/courting-hookers/.

¹⁰⁶Dallas PD to collect DNA for database to identify prostitutes who become victims," Nov. 3, 2009, available online at:

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/110309dnmetdnaprostitute.42e67 98.html

¹¹Dallas PD, Prostitution Diversion Initiative Annual Report October 2007 – September 2008," March 2009, available online at:

 $\frac{http://www.centerforcommunityhealth.org/Portals/14/Reports/PDIAnnualReport\ March\%202009\ 2\%5B}{1\%5D.pdf}.$

¹²BJS, Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2009, p. vii. Available online at:

http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/iscs09.pdf.

13TYC, "2009 Annual Review of Treatment Effectiveness," p. 22, available online at:

http://www.tyc.state.tx.us/about/Treatment Effectiveness Annual2009.pdf.

¹⁴See Girls Circle's "Findings From Our 2007 Research Effort" page on their website

(http://girlscircle.com/research.aspx), specifically "Is Girls Circle an evidence based program?" Bottom line, not yet: "We are a 'promising program,' committed to research to show scientific evidence of the effectiveness of Girls Circle programs."

¹⁵ Institute on Women and Criminal Justice, "Mothers, Infants and Imprisonment: A national look at prison nurseries and community based alternatives," May 2009, available online at:

http://www.wpaonline.org/pdf/Mothers%20Infants%20and%20Imprisonment%202009.pdf.

¹⁶ TDCJ Go Kids home page, available online at:

http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/pgm&svcs/gokids/gokidshome.htm.

¹⁷ Win Sisson, "Don't Forget About the Children: Parenting Education Behind Bars," Corrections Today, Dec. 2006, Vol. 68 Issue 7, p 54-57.

¹⁸ National Institute of Corrections, "Women in Jail: Classification Issues," 1997, available online at: http://www.nicic.org/pubs/1997/013768.pdf.

¹⁹ Urban Institute, 2009.

³ Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, "Prisoners in 2008," December 2009, Appendix Table 9, online at http://bjs.oip.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/p08.pdf. Oklahoma, Mississippi and Louisiana have the highest women's imprisonment rates. OK's rate of women incarcerated is 132 per 100,000, MS: 121, LA: 109.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ See TDCJ's GO Kids Institutional Programs page for a comprehensive list at: http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/pgm&svcs/gokids/gokids-facilities-list.htm.

²² BreeAnna Montoya, 2008. The proportion of women incarcerated for drug offenses was calculated from data in Appendix Table 17.

²³ Comments to the Judicial Advisory Commission's Nov. 20, 2009 Sentencing Conference - author's notes.