

## What concerns do you have about our system?

US has the highest incarceration rate in the world\*  
the large numbers of people incarcerated  
i am concerned about the incarceration rate, and sheer number of people involved- our justice system is its own industry

Imbalance of races  
the systemic problem of bias toward incarcerating a large number of people of color  
overrepresentation of minorities  
Prison systems used to further racial inequities/Used for continued slave labor.

Unjust incarcerations (became aware from reading *Just Mercy*)

poor reading skill strongly associated with incarceration

Innocent people in jail  
Bail system means those without means are in prison without a trial

overcrowding  
medical concerns for people in jail  
violence during incarceration

consequences of incarceration stay with people their whole lives  
Strip people of their rights to vote and participate fully in society.  
voting rights after release

is it as effective as it could be?

## What questions do you have?

how much of the prison system is about rehabilitation vs punishment?  
how do we improve rehabilitation?

has the rate of minorities changed over the years?  
how do incarceration rates compare across different communities?

what is the recidivism rate? how do we reduce recidivism?

how do we move former felons back into jobs?

how do we get beyond the symptoms to get to root problems of this country's high incarceration rate?