

Dear Friend,

Thank you for writing to GLAD. Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) is **New England's** leading legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression.

GLAD is unable to provide substantive legal information or assistance to people in prison outside of New England, because most laws relating to sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV/AIDS status, as well as prison laws and policies, vary from state to state.

You may wish to contact one or more of the organizations listed below for assistance with issues of violence and maltreatment in prisons and jails, or regarding prisoner medical care.

As a general rule, it is a good idea to document your situation as fully as possible. If you believe you are being mistreated, either by fellow prisoners or members of the prison administration, you might consider filing formal grievances within the prison to register your complaints. While filing grievances may be met with a certain amount of hostility from the prison administration, following the established complaint procedure can be valuable in the long run, by showing that the administration was fully informed about the harassment and turned a blind eye or otherwise responded inappropriately.

Additionally, try to keep all correspondence and paperwork between you and the prison administration or others regarding the matter. Keep a log of the harassment or other problems you face, with an emphasis on facts—who did and said what, when and where any incident(s) occurred, whether there were witnesses, etc.

Good luck in pursuing your rights. We hope these ideas and resources are of service.

Legal Advocacy

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

National Prison Project
915 15th St., N.W., 7th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005
Gay and Lesbian Rights Project
125 Broad St., 18th floor, New York, NY 10004

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project*.

Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
1540 Market St., Suite 490, San Francisco, CA 94102

LSPC is an advocacy group focusing on female prisoners and their families, and on the role of race in incarceration. They provide information, legal advice and referrals. Publications, including the *Incarcerated Parents' Manual*, may be requested through the mail.

Prison Policy Initiative
PO Box 127, Northampton, MA 01061
www.prisonpolicy.org

Documents the impact of mass incarceration and provides information and resources to prisoners including lists of legal resources by state.

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
Special Litigation Section, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

This agency enforces the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), protecting residents of institutions from conditions that deprive them of their constitutional rights. Also enforces Title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits race discrimination in public facilities. The Special Litigation Section has been active in prisoners' rights cases, focusing on conditions of confinement, law enforcement misconduct, and access to reproductive health facilities and places of religious worship.

Legal Resource and Information

**Columbia Human Rights Law Review—
Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual**
435 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027

The JLM is a handbook developed for inmates, to inform them of their legal rights and how to secure them. To purchase the Manual and Supplement, contact Columbia Human Rights Law Review.

Human Rights Watch Prisoner Resources
www.hrw.org/prison-resources

A listing by state of resources for prisoners and ex-offenders.

National Lawyers Guild

Prison Law Project, 132 Nassau St., Room 922, New York, NY 10038

Publishes *Jailhouse Lawyers Handbook* and *Women's Appendix*.

Prison Legal News

2400 NW, 80th Street, #148, Seattle, WA 98117

This monthly publication reviews and analyzes prisoner rights, court rulings and reporting on prisoner news.

Prison Policy Initiative

PO Box 127, Northampton, MA 01061

www.prisonpolicy.org

Provides information and resources for prisoners including lists of legal resources for prisoners by state.

Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC)

PO Box 70447, Oakland, CA 94612

www.prisonactivist.org/resources

PARC produces a directory free of charge to prisoner upon request.

Prisoners' Self-Help Litigation Manual

Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Road, Cary, NC 27513

This excellent resource includes information on federal and state legal systems, legal terminology, legal research and procedures. It also has directories of courts and legal assistance organizations.

Political Advocacy

Amnesty International, U.S.A.

5 Penn Plaza – 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001

Amnesty International is a worldwide movement working for international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of prisoners of conscience, and advocates for fair trial for political prisoners.

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE)

National Headquarters

P.O. Box 2310, National Capitol Station, Washington, D.C. 20013-2310

Organizes prisoners, their families, and other concerned citizens to achieve reforms in the criminal justice system.

Social Services & Counseling

Fortune Society

29-76 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11101
(212) 691-7554 No collect calls

Ex-offender self-help program offering general counseling, HIV/AIDS programming, court advocacy, public education, alternative to incarceration services, housing placement assistance, career development, treatment services, also targets at-risk youth.

NAACP- National Prison Project

4805 Mt. Hope Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215

The National Prison Project's mission is to bring rehabilitation upon incarceration through various life skills programs. Availability varies by state.

Stop Prisoner Rape, Inc.

3325 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 340, Los Angeles, CA 90010
(213) 384-1400, FAX (213) 384-1411 Collect calls accepted

SPR provides information about surviving in prison, facts on RTS, offers counseling via telephone for survivors at no cost and provides family counseling as well. Also provides advocacy, legal assistance, and referrals.

Family Resources

Family and Corrections Network

93 Old York Road, Suite 1 #510 Jenkintown, PA 19046

(434) 589-3036 No collect calls

www.fcnetwork.org, fcn@fcnetwork.org.

FCN provides information on programs for families in the correctional system. Also: training, parenting programs, prison visiting, returning to the community, the impact of the justice system on families, and prison marriage.

HIV/AIDS & Health Resources

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

To order publications:

CDC- NPIN, Attn: Publications Department

PO BOX 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003

The CDC is a government agency that works with national, state, and local organizations to conduct research, publish findings and develop programs to promote health and well being. The CDC publishes information on policy, prevention, surveillance, co-infection, and testing among other topics.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care

1145 W. Diversey Pkwy. Chicago, IL 60614

Publishes standards for health services for jails, prisons, and juvenile confinement facilities, develops programs for training correctional and health care personnel, acts as a clearinghouse on correctional health care, conducts research on selected aspects of correctional health care.

National Minority AIDS Council—Prison Initiative

1931 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009

The Prison Initiative's HIV/AIDS education, technical assistance, and national advocacy programs publish materials for inmates, care providers, and case managers. Inmates may also access a Resource List for HIV and Corrections, updated bimonthly.

POZ

500 Fifth Avenue, Suite 320, New York, NY 10110

POZ is a magazine about the HIV epidemic, including profiles and updates on treatment. It is published in English and Spanish and is free for people who cannot afford it.