



Between Criminalization and Care: Reimagining Social Work's Role in the Carceral State

Guest Editor:

Dr. Sandra Leotti

Division of Social Work, College
of Health Sciences, University of
Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071,
USA

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The unique experiences of criminalized women at the intersection of the criminal legal system and social services must be focused on. These range from gender-specific forms of violence and abuse to the unique responsibilities and challenges of motherhood under state supervision. These obstacles are further amplified by systemic factors such as racism and are often exacerbated by social service systems, intensifying their marginalization and vulnerability.

Despite social work's commitment to social justice, the discipline faces the critical task of scrutinizing the potential harm and unintended outcomes resulting from current interventions. This invites us to engage in reflective critique, aiming to align our methodologies and pedagogies more closely with the lived experiences of criminalized women.

This Special Issue calls for contributions that dissect the complex relationship between criminalization and care. We welcome empirical research, critical theoretical examinations, and reflective practice narratives that can deepen our understanding of this pivotal issue.





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Editor-in-Chief

Emeritus Prof. Nigel Parton
School of Human and Health
Sciences, University of
Huddersfield, Huddersfield HD1
3DH, UK

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Social Sciences Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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