

Resources

Books

Abolition Labor: The Fight to End Prison Slavery—Andrew Ross, Tommaso Bardelli, Aiyuba Thomas

Bleak Walls Bleak Truths—ed. Sue Hutchins

Bleak Walls Bright Minds—ed. Sue Hutchins

Death by Prison: The Emergence of Life Without Parole and Perpetual Confinement—Christopher Seeds

Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California—Ruth Wilson Gilmore

Incarceration Nation--Baz Dreisinger

Inside Voices: A Prison Choir, My Mother, and Me—Amy Kolen

Mass Supervision: Probation, Parole, and the Illusion of Safety and Freedom—Vincent Schiraldi

Music-Making in U.S. Prisons: Listening to Incarcerated Voices—Mary L. Cohen & Stuart P. Duncan

A Place to Stand--Jimmy Santiago Baca

Profiles in Parole Release and Revocation: Examining the Legal Framework in the United States: Iowa—Alexis Lee Watts, Julie Matucheski, Kevin R. Reitz, Edward E. Rhine, and Mariel E. Alper

Rap and Redemption on Death Row—Alim Braxton & Mark Katz

Redemption Songs—Andy Douglas

Remaking Achilles (poetry)—Carol Tyx

Seven Doors In—Beth Rondeau*

Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II--Douglas A. Blackmon

Until We Reckon—Danielle Sered

Waiting for an Echo—Christine Montross

We Do This Til We Free Us: Abolitionist Organizing and Transforming Justice—Mariame Kaba

Writings from Behind the Bleak Walls of Prison—ed. Sue Hutchins

Articles

“34 criminal legal system reforms that can win in 2025,” Prison Policy Initiatives Update, Dec.4, 2024

“Candidates for office use jail and prison as ‘one size fits all’ policy solutions. Here’s how to push back”—Wanda Bertram, *Prison Policy Initiative*, Sept.24, 2024

<https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2024/09/24/incarceration-elections/>

“Cedric Theus Made a Film-Festival-Selected Documentary—from Prison”—Rachel Chase, *Des Moines Register*, Oct.8, 2022

“Coe College receives grant for prison learning initiative,” Feb.15, 2023

<https://www.coe.edu/why-coe/news/coe-news/coe-college-receives-grant-prison-learning-initiative>

“Curious Iowa: How Do Inmates Pay Restitution?”—Emily Andersen, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, March 18, 2024

<https://www.thegazette.com/curious-iowa/curious-iowa-how-do-inmates-pay-restitution/>

“Despite Challenges, We Continue to Create Communities through Music”—Mary L. Cohen, *Iowa City Press-Citizen*, Feb.1, 2023:

<https://www.press-citizen.com/story/life/2023/02/01/despite-challenges-we-continue-to-create-communities-through-music/69856889007/>

“Editorial: Parole Consideration for those sentenced to life behind bars 25 years ago? It’s the right thing to do”—The Times Editorial Board, *The Los Angeles Times*, Aug.27, 2024

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2024-08-27/editorial-california-reform-life-without-parole>

“FCC Votes to Slash Prison and Jail Calling Rates and Ban Corporate Kickbacks”—Wanda Bertram, *Prison Policy Initiative*, July 18, 2024

“Here’s How People Incarcerated in Iowa Prisons Access Books”—Emily Anderson, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, March 19, 2024

https://www.thegazette.com/news/heres-how-people-incarcerated-in-iowa-prisons-access-books/?ml_sub=2439265009033811693&ml_sub_hash=o9l8/?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=shareArticleButton&utm_campaign=shareArticleButton

“How Clarence Maclin Went from Sing Sing to ‘Sing Sing’”—Adam Iscoe, *The New Yorker*, July 29, 2024

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2024/08/05/how-clarence-maclin-went-from-sing-sing-to-sing-sing>

“How solitary confinement drove a young inmate to the brink of insanity”—Jeff Coen & Stacy St. Clair, *Chicago Tribune*, June 5, 2019

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2019/01/02/how-solitary-confinement-drove-a-young-inmate-to-the-brink-of-insanity/>

“In Iowa, A Commitment To Make Prison Work Better For Women”—Joseph Shapiro, *All Things Considered*, Oct.17, 2018

<https://www.npr.org/2018/10/17/656972806/in-iowa-a-commitment-to-make-prison-work-better-for-women>

“Inmate attack leaves guards injured at Iowa State Penitentiary, union says”—Kevin Baskins, *Des Moines Register*,

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/crime-and-courts/2024/09/24/union-guards-injured-in-inmate-attack-at-anamosa-state-penitentiary-iowa/75365427007/>

“Iowa prison official was fired for disclosing inmate phone calls and emails”—Clark Kaufman, *Iowa Capital Dispatch*, January 8, 2022

<https://iowacapitaldispatch.com/2022/01/08/iowa-prison-official-was-fired-for-disclosing-inmate-phone-calls-and-emails/>

“Iowa again ranks among worst for racial disparity behind bars”—Trish Mehaffey, *The Gazette*, Oct.29, 2023

https://www.thegazette.com/crime-courts/iowa-again-ranks-among-worst-for-racial-disparity-behind-bars/?ml_subscriber=2336346652928906788&ml_subscriber_hash=i6d3

“New federal court program in NM supports inmates after incarceration, celebrates first graduation”—Annalisa Pardo, *New Mexico News*, Oct.8, 2024

<https://www.krqe.com/news/new-mexico/new-federal-court-program-in-nm-supports-inmates-after-incarceration-celebrates-first-graduation/>

“‘The Strike’ wins first San Quentin Film Festival award”—David Greenwald, Vanguard News Group, Oct.22, 2024

<https://davisvanguard.org/2024/10/the-strike-wins-first-san-quentin-film-festival-award-highlights-horrors-of-solitary-confinement-at-pelican-bay/>

“Study shows incarcerated women experience different conditions than men”—Meg Anderson, *All Things Considered*, June 27,2024

<https://www-s1.npr.org/2024/06/27/nx-s1-4888069/study-shows-incarcerated-women-experience-different-conditions-than-men>

“The U.S. Prison Population Is Rapidly Graying”—Meg Anderson, *NPR Morning Edition*, March 11, 2024:

<https://www.npr.org/2024/03/11/1234655082/prison-elderly-aging-geriatric-population-care#:~:text=The%20proportion%20of%20state%20and,will%20be%20geria>

“What Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood* Reveals about Its Author’s Intentions”—Rachael Hanel, *Backstory Magazine*, July 8, 2024

<https://lithub.com/what-truman-capotes-in-cold-blood-reveals-about-its-authors-intentions/>

“Worthy Now Connects Incarcerated UUs with Spiritual Community”—Christian Schmidt, *UU World*, April 4, 2024

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/prison-ministry-incarcerated-people-worthy-now-unitarian-universalist>

Films & TV Shows

Documentary

Beyond Walls (2023)

Daughters (2024)

District of Second Chances (2024)

Exposing Parchman (2023)

The Inside Singers (2019)

JustUs (2021)

Sanson and Me (2023)

The Strike (2025)

Fiction/Drama

Birdman of Alcatraz (1962)

Caged (1950)

Orange is the New Black (2013-2019)

The Shawshank Redemption (1994)

Sing Sing (2024)

A Time to Kill (1996)**

Websites

((holding the wHole))—Anthony Rhodd: anthonyrrhodd.substack.com

YouTube Channel: Iowa Prison Perspectives (hosted by Sue Hutchins):

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=iowa+prison+perspectives

Podcasts

Everyday Injustice Podcast Episode 262: The Strike

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/49l95lLLsSNlaoNV1OMZiO>

*Enrique Garcia (Anamosa State Prison) is referred to as Shorty in the book; Aaron Wolf is making it into a film.

**Michael Blackwell (Ft. Dodge Correctional Facility) admires the way this film presents race relations