

LGBTQ+ People in the Punishment System

Resource Guide

Abolitionist Law Center (ALC)

<https://abolitionistlawcenter.org/about/>

Abolitionist Law Center litigates on behalf of people whose human rights have been violated in prison, educates the general public about the evils of mass incarceration, and works to develop a mass movement against the American punishment system by building alliances and nurturing solidarity across social divisions.

Black & Pink

<https://www.blackandpink.org/>

Founded in 2005, the organization began as an anarchist project—the black represents the flag of anarchism and the pink the power of queer politics and experience. They have since evolved into an abolitionist organization dedicated to uprooting the criminal punishment system, releasing all incarcerated people, including LGBTQ+ persons currently detained in the American penal system.

California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP)

<https://womenprisoners.org/about-us/>

A grassroots abolitionist organization, whose membership comprises both people inside and out the prison system, that focuses on the institutional violence that women, transgender people, and communities of color face within the prison industrial complex.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)

<https://www.glad.org/>

Through strategic litigation, public policy advocacy, and education, GLAD works nationally to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status, and sexual orientation. As part of this work, GLAD handles legal issues involving GLBTQ and HIV-positive prisoners.



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Just Detention International

<https://justdetention.org/>

A health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. One of their priorities is working to ensure the safety and dignity of all LGBTQ+ people in prisons. To do so, they advocate for policies that minimally protect LGBTQ+ people, such as making sure that anyone at risk of abuse is housed where they are safest. They also work with correction staff to provide training on how to work with LGBTQ+ prisoners.

Lambda Legal

<https://www.lambdalegal.org/>

Lambda carries out its work through impact litigation and policy advocacy, Lambda Legal works for the full recognition of the rights of LGBTQ+ people and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Lesbian and Gay Insurrection - LAGAI

<http://www.lagai.org/>

A grassroots organization of radical queers doing direct action and education for structural social change from a queer perspective. Per their statement of beliefs, “we are anti-authoritarian, anti-militarist, pro-feminist and anti-racist, and we demand that queer issues never be put on the back burner.”

LGBTQ Freedom Fund

<https://www.lgbtqfund.org/>

Pays bail to secure the release of individuals in immigration facilities. They also work to address the disproportionately high rate and harm of jailing on LGBTQ+ individuals.



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LGBT Books to Prisoners

<https://lgbtbookstoprisoners.org/>

A donation-funded, volunteer-run organization based in Madison, WI that sends books and other educational materials, free of charge, to incarcerated LGBTQ people across the United States. They have been doing this for over 10 years and have sent books to over 9,000 people in that time.

PFLAG

<https://pflag.org/>

Founded in 1973, PFLAG is the first and largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and their families. PFLAG's network of hundreds of chapters and more than 250,000 members and supporters works to create a caring, just, and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

Prisoner Correspondence Project

<https://prisoner Correspondence Project.com/>

A solidarity project for gay, lesbian, transsexual, transgender, gendervariant, two-spirit, intersex, bisexual and queer people in prisons in Canada and the United States, linking them with people a part of these same communities outside of prison.

Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC)

<https://www.prisonactivist.org/>

PARC is a prison abolitionist group committed to exposing and challenging all forms of institutionalized racism, sexism, able-ism, heterosexism, and classism, specifically within the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC). PARC believes in building strategies and tactics that build safety in our communities without reliance on the police or the PIC.



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National Center for Transgender Equality

<https://www.prisonpolicy.org/>

The National Center for Transgender Equality advocates to change policies and society to increase understanding and acceptance of transgender people. In the nation's capital and throughout the country, NCTE works to replace disrespect, discrimination, and violence with empathy, opportunity, and justice.

Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP)

<https://srlp.org/>

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP) works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination, or violence. SRLP is a collective organization founded on the understanding that gender self-determination is inextricably intertwined with racial, social, and economic justice. Therefore, we seek to increase the political voice and visibility of low-income people and people of color who are transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming.

Transgender Law Center (TLC)

<https://transgenderlawcenter.org/>

Largest national trans-led organization advocating for trans equality through employing community-driven strategies to keep transgender and gender nonconforming people alive and thriving. Their legal work has focused on issues of identity, immigration, health, employment, housing, family law, and prisons and policing most relevantly for our purposes.

In addition, TLC has a very valuable database of state policies from every state related to the treatment of incarcerated transgender and gender nonconforming people.

