
TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE @WU

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

- HB 2002
- SJR 10
- SB 191
- SB 401
- SB 207

BOOK HIGHLIGHT
PODCAST ALERT



TJI Mission:

The mission of the Transformative Justice Initiative is to facilitate a paradigm shift within the Oregon criminal justice system from punishment to accountability and from current criminal justice practice to transformative, healing, and community-based alternatives. We believe Oregon has the potential to serve as a national model for the transformation of criminal justice philosophy and practice, and we work to facilitate this shift in the following ways:

- Supporting the intellectual, artistic, and political expression of people directly impacted by crime and the criminal justice system
- Developing transformative programs and policies within Oregon prisons, as alternatives to incarceration, and during reentry
- Promoting the prevention of institutional and individual violence through engaged peace-building practices on the Willamette University campus and throughout the State.
- Recognizing the myriad ways racial, gender, and economic oppression contributes to our current criminal justice practices.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

HB 2002: JUSTICE REINVESTMENT 2021

- This bill focuses on reforming Measure 11 (1994) by addressing the parts of the system that disproportionately impacts Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- Invests in culturally specific services for crime survivors by allocating funds to these programs across Oregon
- Transforms probation and parole
- This bill is on the House Committee on Judiciary and is scheduled for a public hearing on April 6th, 2021

SJR 10: REMOVING THE SLAVERY EXCEPTION CLAUSE FROM THE OREGON STATE CONSTITUTION

- This bill proposes an amendment to the Oregon State Constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude in all circumstances refers proposed amendment to people for them to vote on it in the next general election
- This bill terminates the classification of Adults in Custody. (AICs) as slaves and removes antiquated language in the Constitution that is racist
- This bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 implementation and is scheduled for a work session on March 31, 2021

SB 401: MEASURE 11 (1994) REFORM

- Converts mandatory minimum sentences for specified felonies to presumptive sentence reductions. It also authorizes courts to impose greater or lesser sentencing according to sentencing guidelines of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission
- This bill is in the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation and is scheduled for a work session on April 7, 2021

SB 207: CORRECTIONS OMBUDSMAN

- An ombudsman is an official appointed to investigate individuals' complaints against maladministration
- this bill directs funds from the general fund to the office of the Governor to reinstate the office of Corrections Ombudsman
- This bill reinstates an administrative position that can investigate any mistreatment in prisons
- The bill passed the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Measure 110 Implementation, and is being transferred to the Ways and Means Committee

SB 191: MEASURE 11 (1994) REFORM

- This bill provides that people sentenced to a mandatory minimum under Measure 11 (1994) for a crime other than murder to be eligible for a reduction in their sentence for good behavior and participation in certain programming or ordered by the court
- This bill is in the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation and is scheduled for a public hearing on April 5, and a work session on April 7.

Did You Know?

ORS. 423.160: BILL OF RIGHTS OF CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

- The Department of Corrections will set guidelines that follow the bill of rights of children of incarcerated parents
- The following rights are guaranteed to children of incarcerated adults:
 - To be protected from additional trauma at the time of parental arrest
 - To be informed of the arrest in an age-appropriate manner
 - To be heard and respected by decision makers when decisions are made about the child
 - To be considered when decisions are made about the child's parent
 - To be cared for in the absence of the child's parent in a way that prioritizes the child's physical, mental, and emotional needs
 - To speak with, see and touch the incarcerated parent
 - To be informed about local services and programs that can provide support to the child as the child deals with the parent's incarceration
 - to not be judged, labeled, or blamed for the parent's incarceration
 - to have a lifelong relationship with the incarcerated parent

QR Code to
more info on
this law!



PODCAST ALERT

MAKING AMENDS: STORIES FROM THE OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY

- *Making Amends* features six men incarcerated at the Oregon State Penitentiary. They share stories about their struggle to atone for the actions that brought them to prison
- *Making Amends* provides an opportunity to hear voices too commonly ignored in conversations about our criminal justice policy. It also challenges listeners to consider how we might better ensure greater accountability for those who commit wrongs. It asks: If we wish to see as many prisoners as possible pursue genuine accountability, do our current practices of punishment help us achieve that goal?



QR Code to the
podcast
website!



BOOK HIGHLIGHT

UNTIL WE RECKON BY DANIELLE SERED

- *Until We Reckon* by Danielle Sered is a book about the cycles of violence, trauma amongst victims and survivors of violence, and the ways in which the criminal justice system is not adequately helping or protecting victims of violence. Sered writes about how most perpetrators of violence are also survivors themselves, and that if we could help victims to heal we would have less harm in the world altogether. With some narratives and examples of individual cases as well as studies on trauma itself, Sered strongly convinces her readers that prison continuously perpetuates harm, rather than helping us all to heal from it.
- “Sered’s ideas, and her practical experience with the Brooklyn-based group Common Justice, struck me as both totally sensible and totally revolutionary”- Tom Jackman, *The Washington Post*
- “The problem is that Numbness, like despair, is what experts call a ‘trauma response’ to an unmanageable excess of fear and terror”-Danielle Sered, *Until we Reckon*

