

Restorative Justice and the Criminal Legal System...

Can Restorative Justice Exist Within Our Criminal Legal System?

There can be no true restorative justice in our criminal legal system
But we can build our own restorative justice

Restorative Justice
To heal



- ### 4 Important Characteristics
- Voluntary Nature
 - Safe/Protected Space
 - Free from Externally-Imposed Rules
 - All Are Equal

The Criminal Legal System
The Bronx (An Example)



Incarceration in the United States



What is the Purpose of the Criminal Legal System?
To Punish



A Job of the System



Preexisting Circles
Sustainability
Duration of Need
Community Interest



There should be a "restorative" thought in the criminal justice system to change the way we think about crime and justice.



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and the
Criminal Legal System...*

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Restorative Justice

To heal

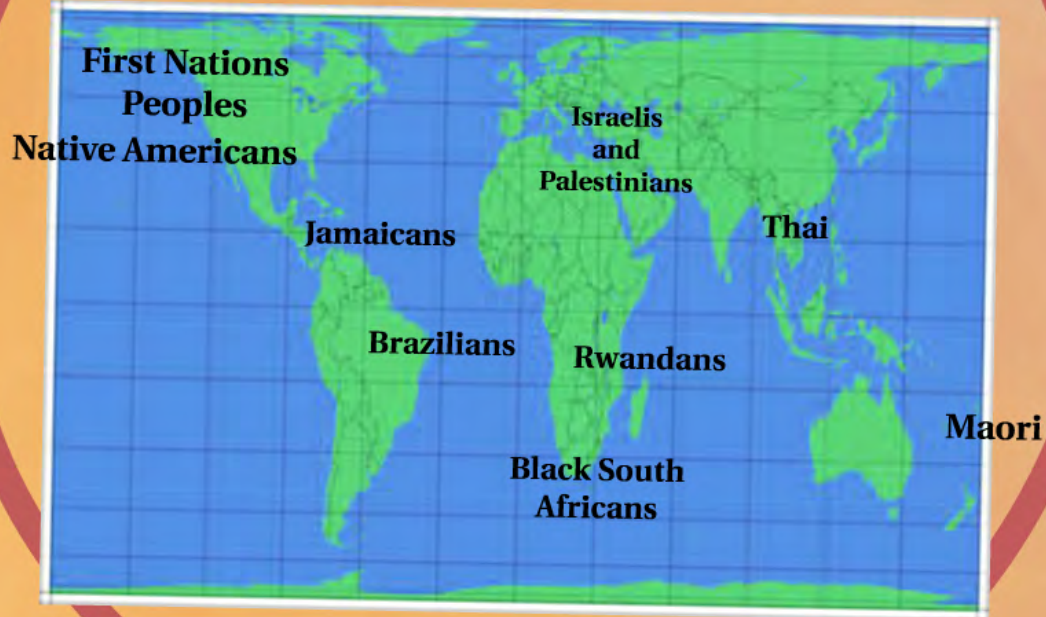
Restorative Justice

To heal

To make whole

To repair a harm

An Ancient Practice, A Global Practice

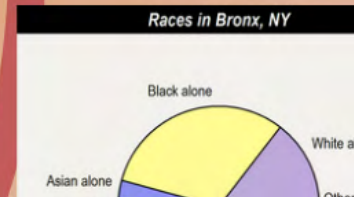
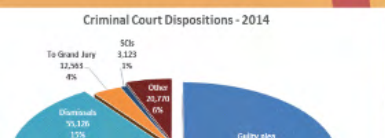


4 Important Characteristics

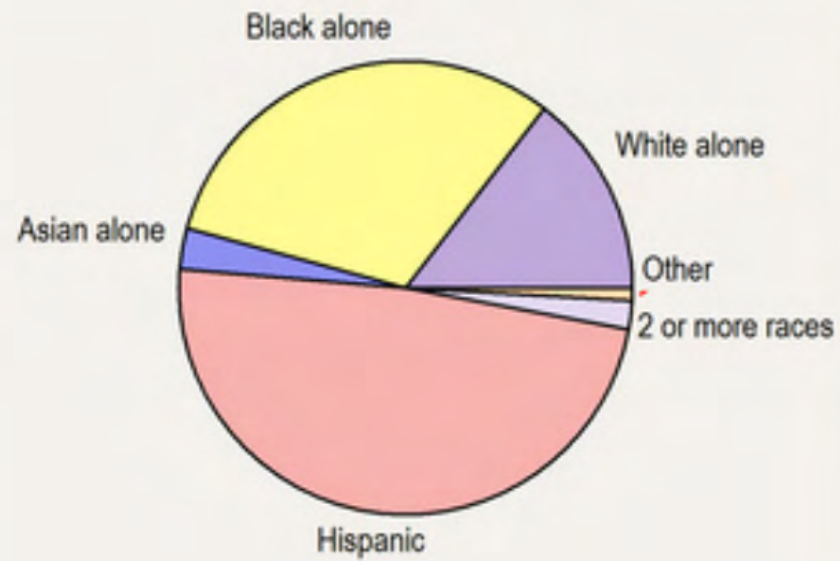
- **Voluntary Nature**
- **Safe/Protected Space***
- **Free From Externally-Imposed Rules**
- **All Are Equal**

The Criminal Legal System

The Bronx (An Example)



Races in Bronx, NY



city-data.com

Top 5 Arraignment Charges in NYC

Top 5 Arraignment Charges in NYC

1. Misdemeanor assault
2. Theft of services (hopping train)
3. Misdemeanor drug possession
4. Petit larceny (petty theft)
5. Misdemeanor possession of MJ

Statistics from Crim Court of City of NY Annual Report 2014

Court date after court date after court date...

As of Jan. 2013:

- 4,755 pending felony cases
- **952** over 2 years old

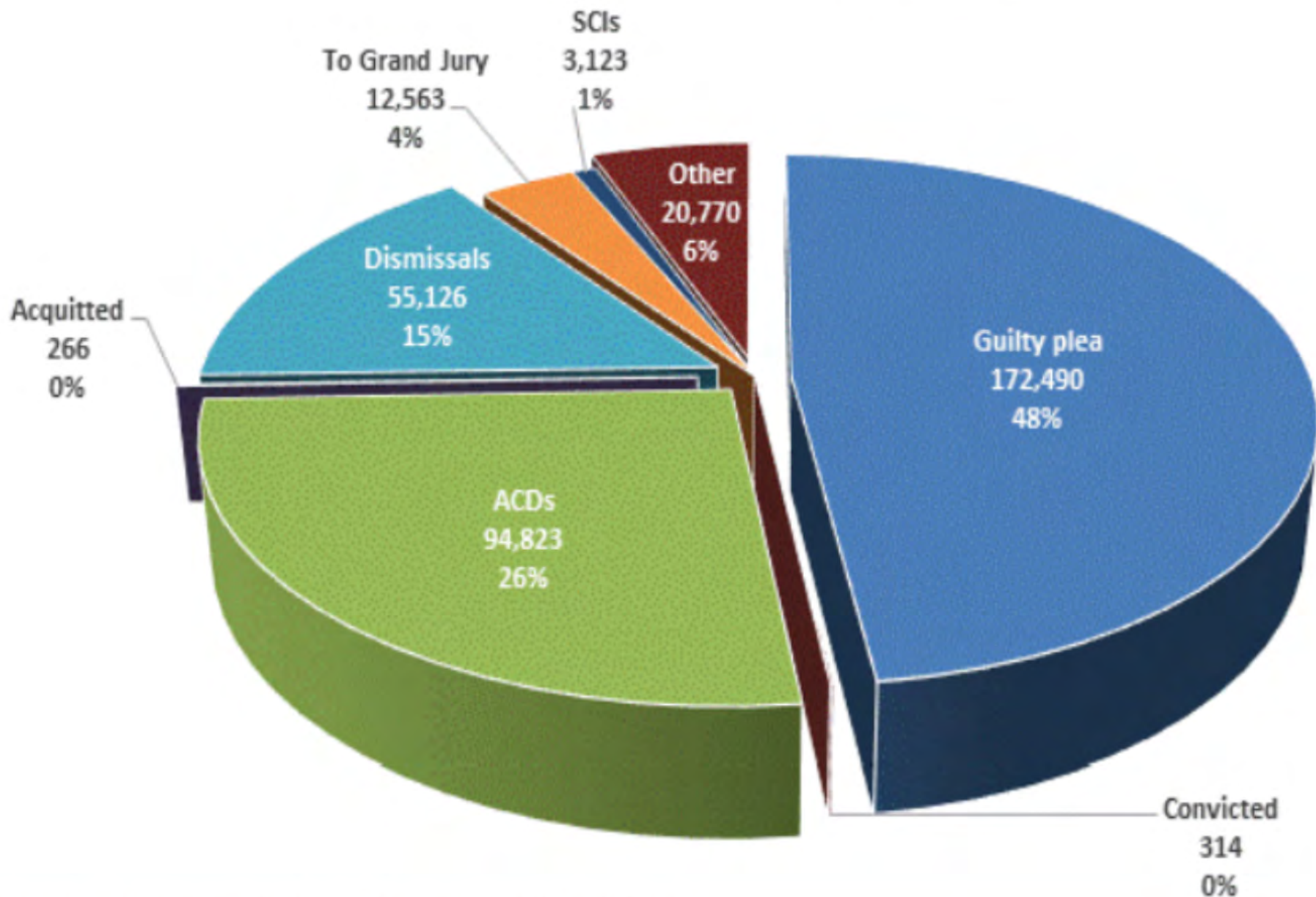
Statistics from Crim Court of City of NY Annual Report 2014; N.Y. Times articles on Bronx backlog





N.Y. Times

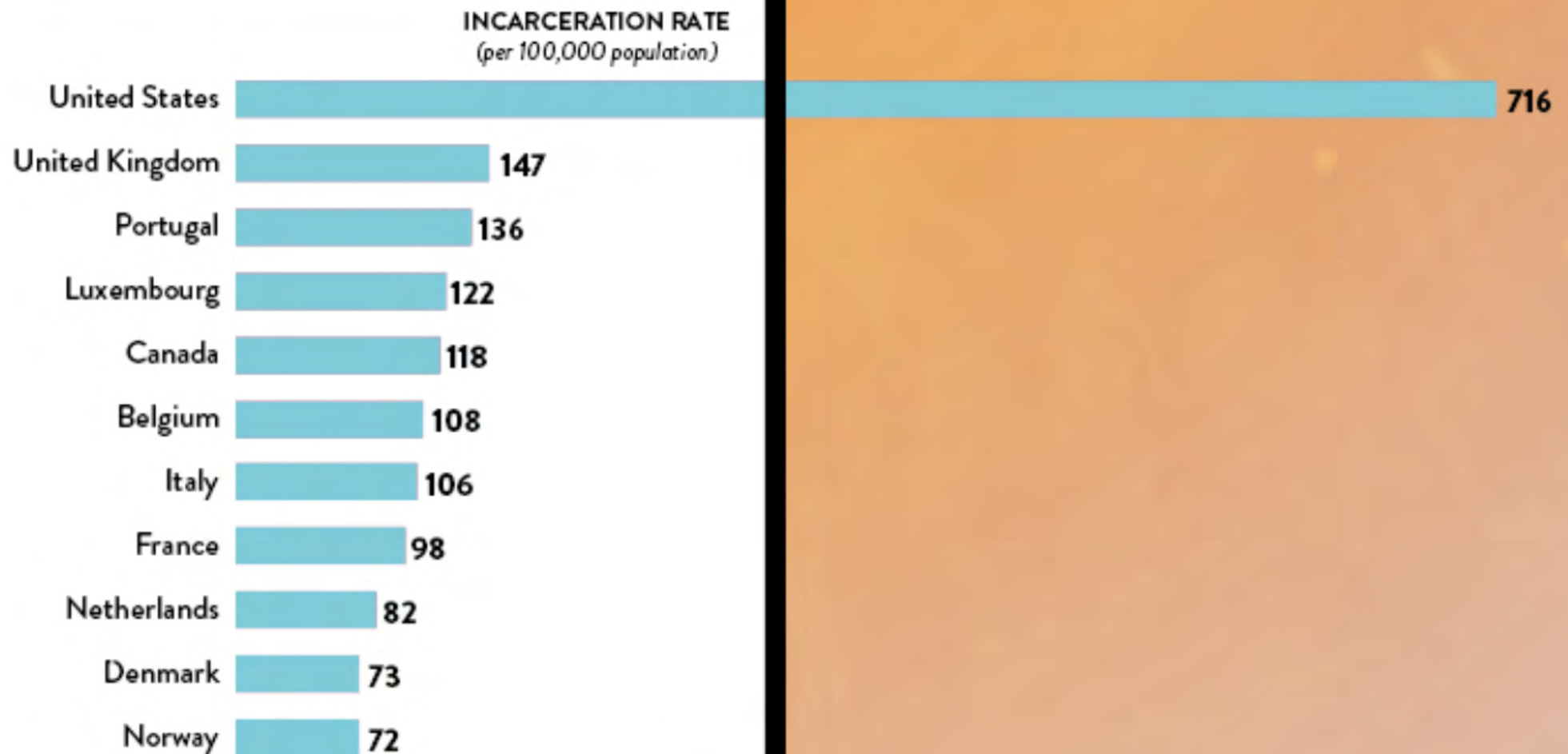
Criminal Court Dispositions - 2014



Incarceration in the United States

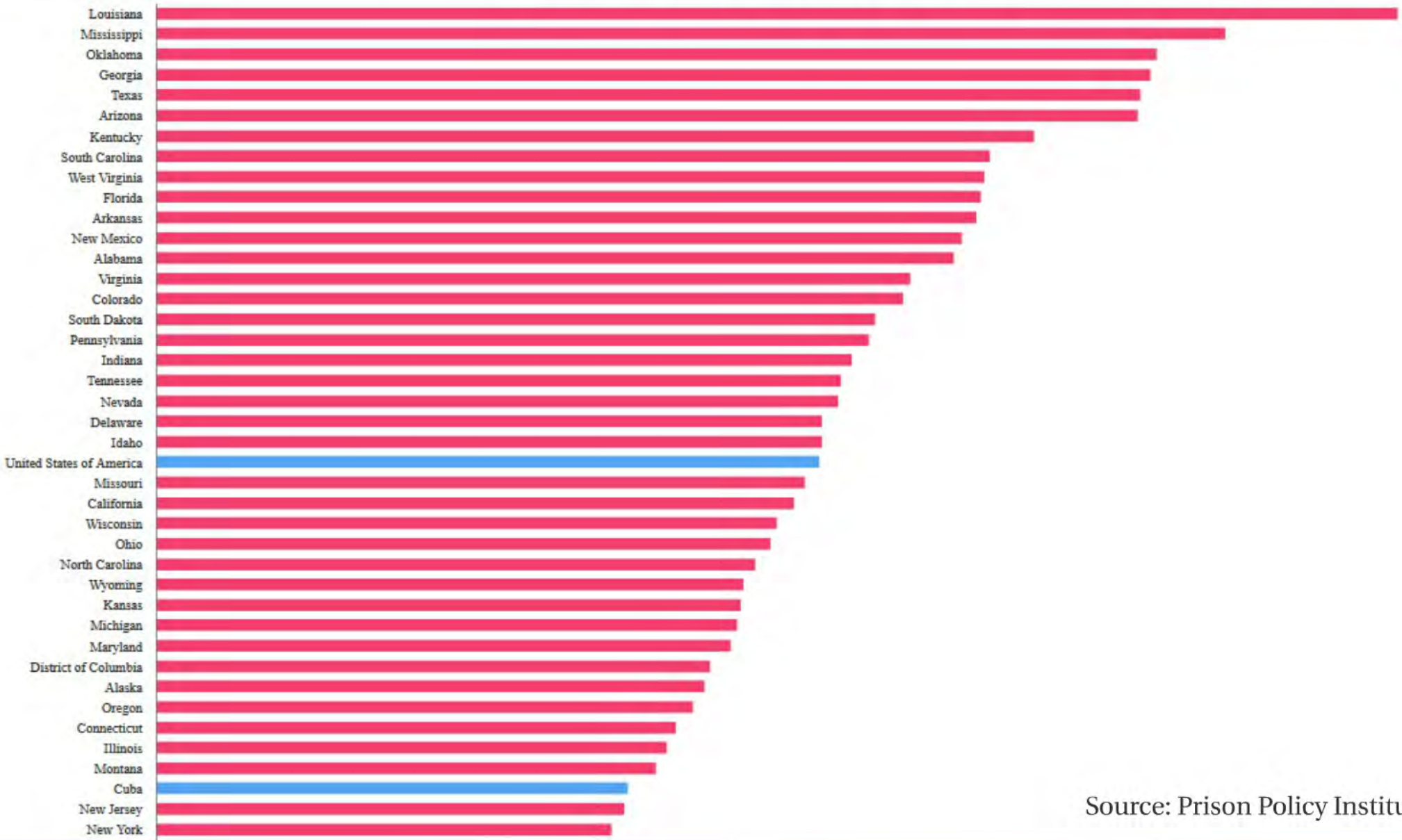
INCARCERATION RATES

AMONG FOUNDING NATO MEMBERS



Source: <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/global/>

World Incarceration Rates If Every U.S. State Were A Country



Source: Prison Policy Institute

*What Is The Purpose of
the Criminal Legal
System?*

To Punish

L
M
O

K
South
West

New

C
South
Penn

T

E

United States of
C
W

North
W

M
District of C

Co

N

*What Is The Purpose of
the Criminal Legal
System?*

To Punish

Restorative Justice

- Voluntary
- Safe Space
- Free From Outside Rules
- All Are Equal

Criminal Legal System











A Tale of Two Systems

So What Do We Do?

Follow your heartbreak.

- Andrew Harvey



Freestanding Circles

Intentionally:

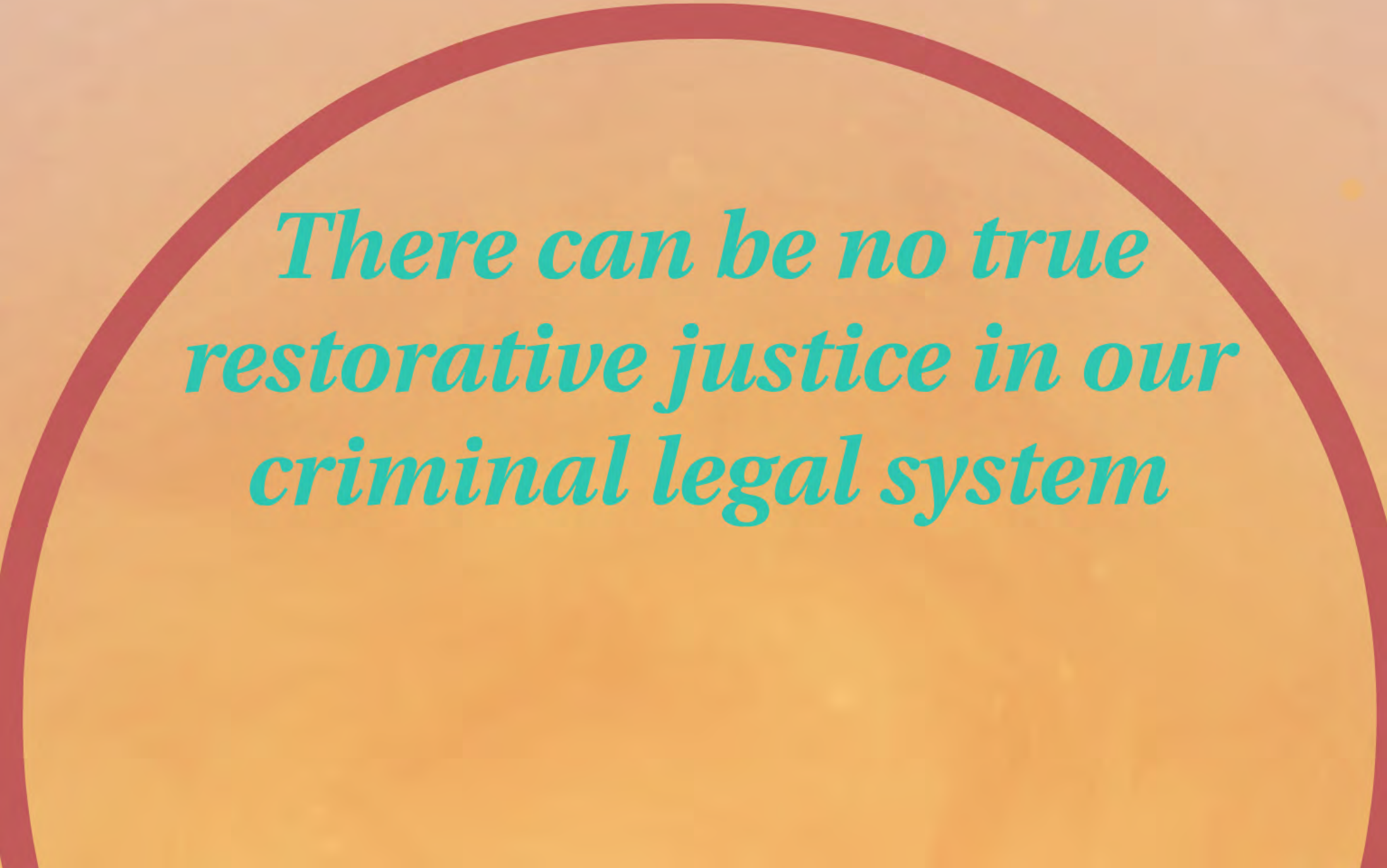
Independent

Community-based

Community-owned

It Is Possible




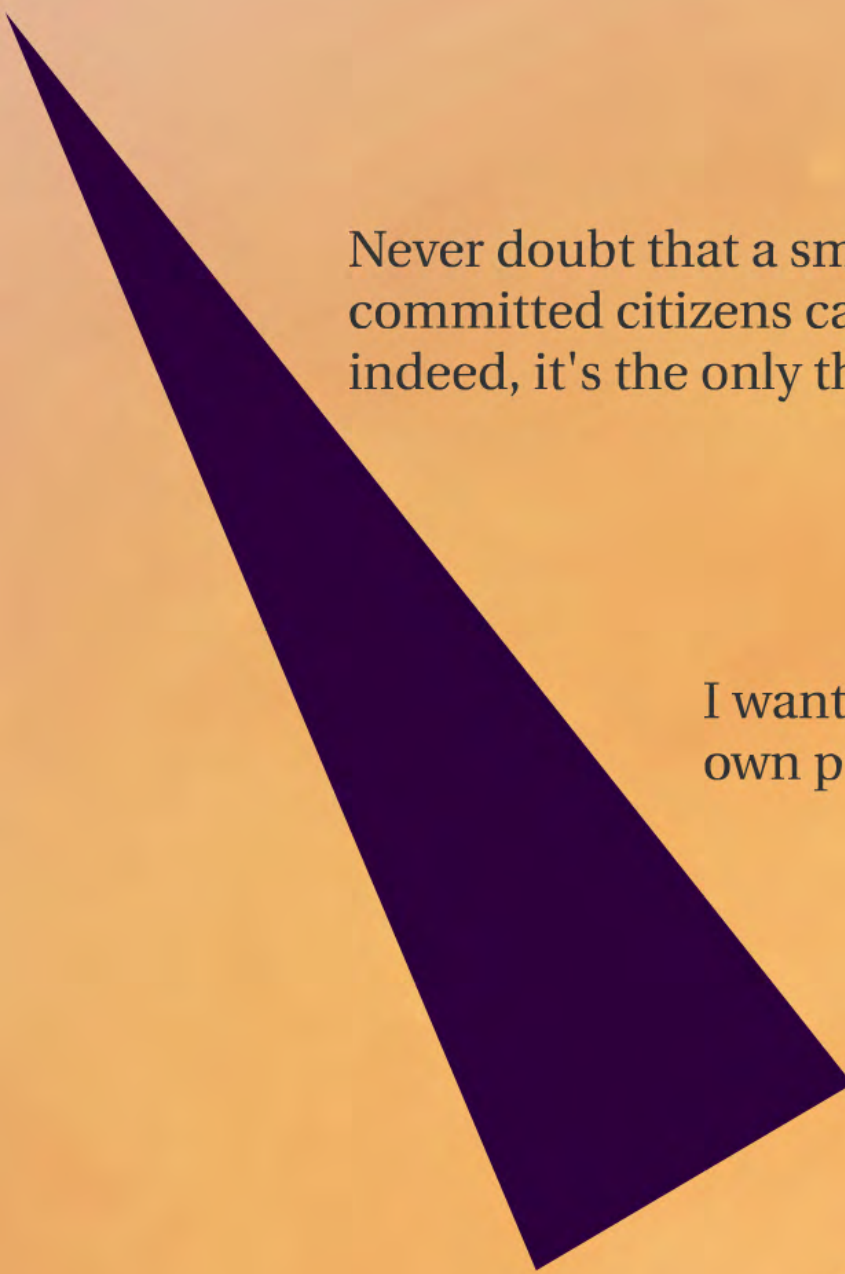


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criminal legal system

*But we can build our own
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committed citizens can change the world;
indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.



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- Margaret Mead

I want people to see their
own power.

- Ai Wei Wei

Prezi created by Cynthia Pong, October 2015

