

20-CRIM-01

From: [Pauline Stang](#)
To: [RulesCommittee Secretary](#)
Subject: Releases during virus
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:16:54 PM

I think the courts should take into account the behaviour of inmates aged over the age of 55 and if they have proved they are not a threat anymore they should be allowed to go home on home detention or released. Especially if there is a medical issue.

Pauline

From: [Hayley Phillips](#)
To: [RulesCommittee Secretary](#)
Subject: Rules Suggestions
Date: Friday, May 08, 2020 10:29:33 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I have a loved one who is incarcerated. I hear about what the rules mean for the men in the facility and how the rules do not match the science about the virus.

The scientists have said that sunlight can disinfect a surface area in 3 min. Keeping the men locked up without any rec yard time means that you miss the opportunity to have their clothes disinfected. It also means that tensions rise, cases of depression rise, and idling hands are the devil's play things. If the men could get rec time for 1 hour every other day, they could at least get the vitamin D they need, some fresh air, and workouts to keep them mentally and emotionally healthy.

If you bring out one building at a time (no cross building contamination) on sunny days, then there is no risk of cross- contamination.

Now, let's talk about "sex offenders". There needs to be a separation in how child molesters are treated versus guys who had pictures of their girlfriends or even young wives. I know that the regulations say that even if the virus is at a facility, and the offender has less than 2 years of their sentence and are at high risk of death, they are not released even under supervision, if they are a sex offender. There are some terrible people who harmed kids - and I don't think anyone wants them out. But, there are also guys who made stupid mistakes when they were in their early twenties and there was no rape or molestation involved. For those guys (the no touch cases), they should be considered for release when they are at high risk.

Do you think that a 19 yo with asthma should be at risk of death, because he had a consensual photo exchange with a 17 yo girlfriend? What if that young man was caught 2 years later, has been in prison for 10 years of his 15 year sentence and is now 31 yo? Should that 31 yo who made a mistake when he was 19 be sentenced to death by COVID-19 (or bird flu, or whatever the next one may be), because his girlfriend was willing to send him pictures? Not every sex offender raped or molested a child. In fact MOST of them did not. Keep the child molesters in prison, but not the guys who just had pictures of willing participants.

Thank you for considering these points.
Warm Regards,

Hayley Phillips
Concerned Public Citizen

From: [araT nosreteP](#)
To: [RulesCommittee Secretary](#)
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 5:46:57 PM

I strongly believe the prisoners that are locked behind bars should all be released unless they are in due to murder or pedifiles that rape any child under the age of thirteen they should do same for juveniles and shut down all the lockups on them along with closing all treatment centers change consent laws to 13-14 and legally old enough to leave home at 16 shut down drug task force from setting people up and worry about it When they brake the law sentence guidelines also need to be lowered along with fines and restitution leaning towards a more realistic fine and punishment also to put a stop to cps destroying families and stop taking kids away just because 1 parent is dirty just because they use when kids ain't around does not make them bad parents together we are suppose to stand together United but how can we When government has big part in destroying our family's and for what to get a bigger pay check.... Were is the love have we all become so cold that we carry no feelings no more I pray god will bless us all and everyone will be able to look in and open up there hearts god bless you

From: [Mary Dirkx Jorn](#)
To: [RulesCommittee Secretary](#)
Subject: Urgent Rules Suggestion: Compassionate Release
Date: Sunday, May 31, 2020 10:09:45 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Please add my voice to the many calling for compassionate early release of prison inmates, whose lives and health are compromised by the necessity of communal living, in this time of the deadly coronavirus pandemic. This needs to be quickly accomplished for lives to be saved. Studies in the medical, humanitarian, civil rights, and legal fields have uniformly found this release to be urgently necessary.

I would also ask you to please be aware of one critical aspect of the issue of early release. This issue is the category of sex offender.

The definition of sex offender is broad, and unfortunately the term is used for both a person convicted of sending illegal nude pictures electronically, and someone who is convicted of crimes of violence such as rape.

I do not suggest that actions on the lower level of the category of sex offenses are not crimes, nor that punishment and treatment are not necessary. But I believe that a person incarcerated for this level of crime, where no touching was ever involved, a person close to the end of his sentence with no history of violence, someone who also has a medical condition which would leave him susceptible to the worst effects of the coronavirus -- I believe such a person must be a candidate for compassionate release under today's fearsome pandemic circumstances. Please take these points into consideration instead of dismissing compassionate release for all sex offenders.

I hope many more inmates may be released to their families soon, protecting their lives and health, and the lives and health of prison staff.

Sincerely,
Mary Jorn

