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# Mass Incarceration in America Angelica Aranda Fregoso

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## Abstract

Mass incarceration is describing how the U.S. continues to incarcerate parts of its population into jails and federal prisons. This is important because it not only affects one person, but it could and will eventually affect a whole community as a whole. It has been found that single parent households, families living in poverty, and minorities have a higher possibility of being victims to mass incarceration.

## **Key Points**

- Incarceration negatively affects mental health, i.e. depression, anxiety, hostility etc.
- Children with previously incarcerated parents are more likely to act out/get incarcerated themselves.
- Formerly incarcerated individuals will suffer more health problems since healthcare providers tend to not believe them.

## Conclusion

It's important to try and stop mass incarceration since it has proven to become a sort of domino effect with the children of those incarcerated, becoming imprisoned themselves. Having information about how imprisonment not only affects one person but the whole community, should help refocus research into learning how to flatten the imprisonment curve. Along with learning to flatten the curve the main focus of research should also be, helping people recently released from jails or federal prisons by getting them acclimated back into society.

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