

Emotions and Carceral Spaces

Jennifer Kilty, Rachel Fayter and Justin Piché

SPECIAL ISSUE EDITORS

Jennifer M. Kilty, PhD – Professor and Chair, Department of Criminology,
University of Ottawa

Rachel Fayter – PhD Candidate, Department of Criminology, University of
Ottawa

Justin Piché, PhD – Associate Professor, Department of Criminology,
University of Ottawa

SPECIAL ISSUE THEME

The *Journal of Prisoners on Prisons* (JPP) invites submissions for a special issue on the theme of “Emotions and Carceral Spaces”. Experiences of imprisonment or living and working in various carceral settings are isolating, punitive, and at times traumatic, all of which influence the emotional experiences of both prisoners and staff. Carceral spaces are neither uniform nor orderly, and the way emotions are felt and expressed differs significantly depending on the specific setting, lived experiences, and interpersonal interactions. Different carceral environments can produce multiple emotional experiences, which can also differ based on gender, race, sexuality and other markers of difference. Individuals’ age, past experiences, length of sentence, and security level can also impact one’s emotions.

We encourage authors to share and critically reflect on their emotional experiences within carceral environments or how different physical spaces in jails, prisons, treatment centres, detention centres, psychiatric facilities, halfway houses or other sites of confinement affect prisoners’ moods and behaviours. Submissions that reflect how emotions are organized and expressed in prison, along with where and how it is appropriate to express oneself emotionally in the culture of prison and the policy context are especially welcomed. We hope to better understand how carceral spaces can shape people’s emotional experiences, while also impacting or being impacted by interpersonal relations among prisoners, as well as between prisoners and staff.

Additionally, we invite submissions concerning how emotions contribute to prison spaces being perceived as a heightened ‘HIV risk environment’. As the history of HIV/AIDS is structured by emotions such as fear, disgust,

shame and pride, we seek to foreground the lived experience of HIV-positive people to explore how they manage their emotional selves in/outside the prison and how everyday decisions in these settings are affected by an ‘emotion culture’ that reflects the thoughts, feelings and perceptions of the emotional capacities of others. Thinking about carceral space as an ‘HIV risk environment’ can help with understanding the interplay of the physical, social, economic, and policy environments, and to consider how they affect the transmission of HIV. For example, considerations of the availability or unavailability of harm reduction measures and how the debate around these options (e.g., condoms, needle exchanges) are shaped by emotions are welcome. Through this process we invite contributors to explore how emotions can structure harm reduction policy debates, and to better understand how emotions challenge and/or contribute to HIV risk behaviours in prison.

We welcome submissions from current and former prisoners, criminalized people, or pieces co-authored with people who have a lived experience of incarceration and allies, advocates, practitioners, and scholars from a multidisciplinary perspective. We invite submissions drawing on lived experience and/or a wide range of fields and perspectives, including but not limited to socio-legal studies, sociology, criminology, psychology, Indigenous studies, feminist and gender studies, critical race studies, queer studies, social work, philosophy, and artistic/creative interpretations of emotions and carceral spaces. Submissions from current and former prisoners who are willing to draw on their personal narratives and lived experiences to expand understanding of emotions in prison are particularly encouraged.

PAPER FORMATS

This special issue welcomes contributions from a wide range of scholarly work including:

- Auto-ethnographic accounts that examine experiences of imprisonment to illuminate broader issues faced by incarcerated people;
- Theoretical, critical and analytical essays;

- Scholarly research articles based on quantitative, qualitative, arts-based and/or mixed- methods research;
- Book reviews;
- Artistic content – photo or graphic essays, digital art, poetry, etc.;
- Interviews or discussions transcribed from recordings; or
- Commentaries.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

At the *JPP*, we support incarcerated people’s right to exercise freedom of expression pursuant to section 2 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and embedded in national constitutions elsewhere across the world. We believe that publishing the writing of incarcerated people is a necessary tool to facilitate transparency in carceral settings. We welcome submissions from all current and former prisoners, and are eager to hear your input on the above-mentioned issues. Please share this notice with anyone who may be interested in contributing to our journal. We ask that those who choose to submit include a short biographical statement and let us know if you would like to be published anonymously. We look forward to reviewing your submissions that follow the journal’s guidelines below and hope to hear from you soon.

- The Journal will not publish any subject matter that advocates hatred, sexism, racism, violence or that supports the death penalty.
- The Journal does not publish material that usually focuses on the writer’s own legal case, although the use of the writer’s personal experiences as an illustration of a broader topic is encouraged.
- The Journal does not usually publish fiction and does not generally publish poetry. Illustrations, drawings and paintings may be submitted as potential cover art.
- Articles should be no longer than 20 pages typed and double-spaced or legibly handwritten. Electronic submissions are gratefully received.
- Writers may elect to write anonymously or under a pseudonym.
- For references cited in an article, writers should attempt to provide the necessary bibliographic information. Refer to the references cited in past issues for examples.

- Editors look for developed pieces that address topics substantially. Manuscripts go through a preliminary reading and then are sent to review by the Editorial Board. Those that are of suitable interest are returned to the author with comments or suggestions. Editors work with writers on composition and form, and where necessary may help the author with referencing and bibliographic information, not readily available in prisons. Selected articles are returned to authors for their approval before publication. Papers not selected are returned with comments from the editor. Revised papers may be resubmitted.
- Please submit biographical and contact information, to be published alongside articles unless otherwise indicated.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submissions by authors:	1 May 2023
Editorial decision and reviewer comments to authors:	1 July 2023
Revised manuscripts:	1 October 2023
Final editorial decision to authors:	1 December 2023
Publication date:	2024

SUBMISSIONS

Via email to jpp@uottawa.ca or by mail to the address below:

Journal of Prisoners on Prisons
c/o Department of Criminology
University of Ottawa
120 University Private – Room 14049
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1N 6N5