

# THE VIEW MAGAZINE

*for women with conviction*

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

## **When will women in prison women get their roadmap for lifting the CJS lockdown?**

If you thought COVID lockdown was hard for you, imagine how it would be if you were locked in your room for 23 ½ hours every day, with no sunlight, no exercise and going days without a shower. And while everyone else is seeing their families via ZOOM, you don't even have a telephone to speak to your children. That is the harsh reality for women prisoners residing at Her Majesty's Prisons.

The Spring 2021 edition of [The View Magazine](#) highlights many injustices within our criminal justice system (CJS) and calls on the government to focus on a lockdown lifting roadmap, to reform a process that systematically discriminates against women.

With the insights and experiences of women with conviction, human rights experts and campaigners, this edition of The View scrutinises the harmful and discriminatory process of incarcerating women for non-violent crimes – taking into account the cost to society, the mental health impact on women prisoners and their families, while offering no real alternatives solutions to custody, for women.

The Rt Rev Bishop Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester and Anglican Chaplain of HMP speaks passionately about the plight of many women held unnecessarily in our prisons. Confirming her opinion, we share the findings of a survey commissioned by The View which reveal the extent of the injustices, abuse and discrimination, women, particularly BAME women, experience from our justice system and support services in our report, *We are Invisible*.

Discrimination against minoritised women is reaching public awareness across all aspects of society, we are honoured to speak with Jen Reid, a BLM activist, as she campaigns to see black history become part of the mainstream school curriculum.

The View is a campaigning platform and a printed magazine by and for women in and after prison and we strive to amplify the voice of these women and to provide an outlet for their creativity. In this edition, we are proud to once again showcase their striking artwork and hard hitting poetry.

As we honour the artistry of our sisters in prisons, we speak with Alison Lapper, artist and disability rights campaigner, who dug deep in her article *Fabulous Monsters*, which describes the horrific victimisation of disabled people in prison.

The View, which is available as a print edition and is priced at £5, also provides practical advice on the functioning and navigation of the criminal justice system to support families and friends as well as legal advisors, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and charities in the criminal justice sector.

### **Notes to Editors**

For further information please contact Clare Simms at The View Magazine: 07591 185151 / [hello@theviewmag.org.uk](mailto:hello@theviewmag.org.uk).

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### **About The View**

Launched in early 2020, [The View](#) is a social enterprise campaigning group which publishes a quarterly magazine written by and for women in the criminal justice system. It gives these women a chance to explain their experiences with the system using prose, poetry and art, with powerful pieces laying bare the troubling experiences that some women have in prison. It pays women for their submissions. There is also content from leading human rights and public law solicitors.