The 4th International Conference of Children with Incarcerated Parents

2025 INCCIP Conference
제4회 수용자 자녀 국제학술대회

우리들의 목소리:
수용자 자녀의 회복탄력성

Voices of strength:
Resilience of Children with Incarcerated

July 1Tue–3Thu, 2025, 9:00AM-6:00PM

Hi Seoul Youth Hostel 하이서울유스호스텔

INCCIP

Stand firm
for Children
SEUM

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Welcome Message

Welcome!!
Voices of Strength:
Resilience of Children with Incarcerated Parents

이경림
아동복지실천회 세움 대표

Kyungrim Lee
Founder & President,
Child Welfare Practice
SEUM

여러분, 반갑습니다. 드디어 우리는 서울에서, 이렇게 한자리에 모였습니다.
제4회 INCCIP 국제 컨퍼런스에 오신 모든 분들을 진심으로 환영합니다.

저는 2017년 뉴질랜드에서 열린 첫 번째 INCCIP 컨퍼런스의 감동과 2019년 영국 허더즈필드에서의 반가움을 잊을 수 없습니다. 그 기억이 너무도 선명했기에, 언젠가 꼭 서울로 여러분을 초대하고 싶었습니다. 세움의 간절한 열망과 여러분의 따뜻한 마음이 만나, 우리는 6년 만에 얼굴을 마주하게 되었습니다.

올해는 세움이 창립 10주년을 맞는 뜻깊은 해이기도 합니다. 그동안 한국 사회에서 잘 보이지 않았던 '수용자 자녀'의 존재와 인권, 그리고 지원의 필요성을 세움은 꾸준히 이야기해 왔습니다. 이 길을 걸어올 수 있었던 것은 INCCIP의 국제적 연대와 응원 덕분이라고 믿습니다. 진심으로 감사합니다.

이번 컨퍼런스를 위해 애써주신 모든 분들께 감사드립니다. 한국 측 준비위원장이신 윤현봉 전 브루나이 대사님, INCCIP 의장이신 낸시 루크스, 법무부 교정본부, 기조연설을 맡아주신 연사분들, 발표와 워크숍을 신청해주신 모든 발표자 여러분, 그리고 무엇보다 자신의 이야기를 용기 있게 전하기 위해 이 자리에 함께해 준 수용자 자녀 청년 당사자들에게 깊이 감사드립니다. 아울러 물심양면으로 후원해주신 기업과 재단에도 큰 감사를 전합니다.

세움과 3년을 함께하며 성장한 한 청년이 어느 날 저에게 이런 이야기를 들려주었습니다.

"저는 화분에 심겨진 죽어가던 꽃이었어요.
그런 저에게 세움이 창문을 열어 햇볕을 보게 해주고, 물을 주었어요."

그 말처럼, 여기 모인 여러분 모두는 부모의 수감으로 몸과 마음이 시들어가는 아이들에게 햇볕이 되어 주시고, 물이 되어 주시는 분들입니다.

그러나 이 말이 가능했던 건, 그 청년 안에 원래부터 회복력(resilience)이 있었기 때문이라 생각합니다.
맞습니다. 우리는 아이들이 본래 가지고 있는 회복력을 믿습니다.

이번 컨퍼런스는 그 회복력을 다시 한번 확인하고, 응원하기 위해 준비했습니다. 당사자가 직접 말할 수 있고, 우리가 진심으로 들을 수 있는 열린 공간, 생기 넘치는 컨퍼런스가 되기를 바랍니다.

이번 컨퍼런스를 통해, 한국뿐 아니라 전 세계의 수용자 자녀들이 당당하게 살아갈 수 있도록 우리가 함께 외치는 강력한 목소리가 울려 퍼지기를 진심으로 바랍니다.

감사합니다.

Welcome!

It's an honor to host the 4th INCCIP Conference — a dream I've held since the first gathering in New Zealand in 2017 and the second in the UK in 2019. After six years, we are finally together again, face to face. This year also marks SEUM's 10th anniversary. For a decade, we've worked to bring visibility and support to children with incarcerated parents in Korea. We could not have come this far without the global solidarity of INCCIP — thank you. My heartfelt thanks go to Ambassador Hyunbong Yoon, Chair of the Korean Organizing Committee, and to INCCIP Chair Nancy Loucks, and Korea's Ministry of Justice – Corrections Bureau, our keynote speakers, all those who submitted presentations and workshops, and most of all, the young people with lived experience who came to share their powerful voices. My gratitude also goes to the companies and foundations whose generous support made this conference possible.

One young person who grew up with SEUM once said: "I was like a dying flower in a pot. SEUM opened the window, let in the sunlight, and watered me." This powerful image reminds us: children have an inner strength — a deep resilience — that can bloom when we choose to listen and care. This conference is built on that belief. It is a space where children's voices will be heard — not as victims, but as resilient individuals. Let this be a gathering where their strength is seen, their voices amplified, and their stories spark change — here in Korea and across the world.
Thank you.

Welcome Message

제4회 INCCIP 국제컨퍼런스를 맞이하며

윤현봉
제4회 INCCIP
국제컨퍼런스 준비위원장
전 브루나이 대사

Hyunbong Yoon
Chair of the 4th
INCCIP Conference
Host Committee /
Former Ambassador
to Brunei

제4회 INCCIP 국제컨퍼런스에 함께해 주신 여러분을 진심으로 환영합니다.

영국과 뉴질랜드에 이어, 이번에는 서울에서 수용자 자녀와 함께하는 국제적 연대의 장이 열리게 되어 매우 뜻깊게 생각합니다. 세계 각국의 유관 단체 관계자, 학자, 후원자, 그리고 당사자 청년들이 이 자리에 함께 해주셔서 큰 감사를 드립니다.

우리나라에는 약 5만 명에 달하는 수용자 자녀 청소년들이 있습니다. 그러나 현재 '사단법인 세움'의 지원을 받고 있는 청소년은 약 300명에 불과합니다. 이 아이들이 부모의 수감으로 인한 정서적·경제적 충격을 최소화하고, 가족의 위기를 함께 이겨낼 수 있도록 세움의 손길이 더 넓고 깊게 뻗어나가길 간절히 바랍니다.

이를 위해서는 세움과 같은 소명의식을 가지고 활동해온 INCCIP 회원 단체들의 풍부한 경험과 지혜를 잘 나누고 배우는 일이 중요하다고 생각합니다. 그 지혜를 바탕으로, 한 명 한 명의 아이들에게 진정으로 필요한 도움을 줄 수 있는 길을 함께 모색해 나가야 할 것입니다.

어려운 여건 속에서도 시간과 경비를 들여 귀한 발걸음을 해주신 세계의 친구들과 동료들께 진심으로 감사드리며, 특히 이 자리에 함께한 당사자 청소년들이 서로의 존재를 통해 용기와 힘을 얻게 되기를 진심으로 기대합니다.

이번 컨퍼런스에서 나눈 따뜻한 마음들이 각국 정책 입안자들의 마음에도 닿아, 보다 체계적이고 실효성 있는 지원정책으로 이어지기를 희망합니다.

이번 컨퍼런스의 성공적인 개최를 위해 아낌없는 지지와 협력을 보내주신 **INCCIP 의장 Nancy Loucks**와 수용자 자녀의 현실에 대한 공감과 제도적 기반 마련에 협력해 주신 **법무부 교정본부**에 깊이 감사드립니다.

또한, 이번 컨퍼런스를 위해 헌신해 주신 INCCIP 이사님들, 그리고 이경림 대표를 비롯한 세움 준비위원 여러분께도 깊은 감사를 드립니다.

참석하신 모든 분들께서 컨퍼런스 기간 동안 평안과 축복이 넘치는 시간 보내시길 기원합니다.

I warmly welcome all of you to the 4th INCCIP International Conference.

Following our previous gatherings in the United Kingdom and New Zealand, it is a great honor to host this global gathering in Seoul, bringing together children with incarcerated parents, practitioners, researchers, supporters, and advocates from around the world. I extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has traveled far to be here.

In Korea, it is estimated that over 50,000 children have an incarcerated parent. Among them, only around 300 have been able to receive the support of Child Welfare Practice SEUM. It is my sincere hope and prayer that SEUM's reach and impact will continue to grow, so that all children affected by parental incarceration in Korea can receive the emotional and practical support they need to overcome hardship and thrive.

To do so, we must learn from the wealth of experience and wisdom held by INCCIP member organizations around the world—organizations that, like SEUM, have walked this path with conviction and a sense of mission. By sharing our knowledge and strengthening our solidarity, we can find more effective ways to support each and every child in need.

I am deeply grateful to our international friends and colleagues who have made the effort to attend this conference despite many challenges. And above all, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the young people with lived experience who are here with us today—I hope this space allows you to find strength, courage, and solidarity in each other.

May the warm spirit and discussions of this conference reach the hearts of policymakers, and lead to the establishment of more systematic and effective policies that truly support these children.

I would like to express my special thanks to **Nancy Loucks, Chair of INCCIP**, for her steadfast leadership, and to the **Korean Ministry of Justice – Corrections Bureau**, for their continued support and partnership.

I also thank the INCCIP Board of Directors, Founder of SEUM Leekyungrim, and the entire Korean host committee for their dedication and hard work in preparing this conference.

I wish each of you a peaceful, inspiring, and meaningful time throughout the conference.

Congratulatory Remarks

이인용
사단법인 온율 이사장

Rhee In-Yong
Co-Chairperson,
Onyul Assoc. for
Public Interest Law

안녕하십니까. 사단법인 온율 이사장 이인용입니다.

오늘 이곳 서울에서 수용자 자녀의 권리를 위해 세계 곳곳에서 애써오신 분들을 한자리에 모시게 되어 매우 뜻깊게 생각합니다.

2025 INCCIP 컨퍼런스 한국세션의 개최를 진심으로 축하드리며, 이 자리를 함께 준비해주신 사단법인 아동복지실천회 세움과 관계자 여러분, 그리고 각국에서 함께해주신 모든 참가자 여러분께 깊이 감사드립니다.

이번 컨퍼런스의 주제인 “Voices of Strength: Resilience of children with incarcerated parents”는 수용자 자녀들이 겪어온 현실을 있는 그대로 마주하도록 우리 사회에 요청하고 있습니다. 돌봄의 공백과 사회적 편견 속에서도 묵묵히 자신을 지켜낸 아이들을 단지 보호해야 할 대상으로만 바라보는 것이 아니라, 법과 제도 변화의 주체로 인정하며 그들의 목소리를 경청할 때 변화가 비로소 시작될 것입니다.

사단법인 온율은 2022년부터 2025년까지 아동복지실천회 세움과 함께 수용자 자녀 지원체계 마련을 위한 법제연구를 공동 수행해 왔습니다. 연구 과정에서 현장 실무자와 당사자의 목소리를 담기 위해 표적집단인터뷰(FGI)를 진행하였고, 이를 통해 이들이 겪는 어려움과 실제로 필요한 지원 정책을 파악하고자 하였습니다. 아울러 국내외 입법례를 분석하며 실질적인 대안도 함께 모색해 왔습니다.

그 과정에서 우리는 수용자 자녀들이 존재를 숨긴 채 살아갈 수밖에 없는 구조 안에서 얼마나 깊은 고립과 단절을 경험하고 있는지 가까이에서 확인할 수 있었습니다.

INCCIP 컨퍼런스를 통해 이어져 온 이 국제적 연대는 그동안 들리지 않았던 목소리를 세상에 전하고 근거 기반의 실천과 회복적 접근, 문화 간 협력을 통해 구체적 해법을 나누는 장이 되어왔습니다. 오늘 이 자리가 한국 사회 역시 그 흐름에 본격적으로 합류하는 출발점이 되기를 기대합니다.

온율은 앞으로도 수용자 자녀들이 자신을 설명하지 않아도 되는 사회, 보호받는 것을 넘어 권리를 말할 수 있는 사회를 만들기 위해 여러분과 함께 실천을 이어가겠습니다.

다시 한번 INCCIP 한국세션의 개최를 진심으로 축하드리며 오늘 이 자리에 함께 한 모든 분들의 연대와 실천에 깊은 존경을 표합니다. 감사합니다.

Dear distinguished guests,

My name is Rhee In-Yong, Chairperson of Onyul. It is a great honor and privilege to welcome you all here in Seoul, as we gather with dedicated advocates from around the world who have long worked to uphold the rights of children with incarcerated parents.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations on the opening of the 2025 INCCIP Conference in Seoul, Korea and my sincere gratitude to the Child Welfare Practice SEUM and all those who have worked tirelessly to make this event possible. I am equally grateful to each of you who have traveled from near and far to be part of this important dialogue.

The theme of this year's conference, "Voices of Strength: Resilience of children with incarcerated parents," calls upon our society to confront the realities of these children with honesty and urgency.

True change will only begin when we move beyond viewing children who have endured gaps in care and social prejudice merely as subjects to be protected and instead recognize them as agents of legal and institutional change, whose voices deserve to be heard.

Since 2022, ONYUL, a non-profit legal organization, has been jointly conducting legislative research with SEUM to establish a support system for children with incarcerated parents. As part of this research, we conducted focus group interviews (FGIs) to incorporate the voices of both practitioners in the field and the directly affected individuals, aiming to identify the challenges they face and the types of policy support that are needed. In parallel, we have analyzed domestic and international legal frameworks to explore practical policy alternatives.

Through this process, we witnessed firsthand the profound isolation and disconnection experienced by children of incarcerated parents, who are often left in an environment that forces them to conceal their identities.

The international solidarity fostered through the INCCIP Conference has served as a vital platform for amplifying these previously unheard voices and for sharing concrete solutions through evidence-based practices, restorative approaches, and cross-cultural collaboration.

We hope that today marks a meaningful starting point for Korea to fully join this global commitment.

At Onyul, we will continue our efforts to build a society where children with incarcerated parents are not required to explain themselves – one where they are not only protected but also empowered to speak up for their rights.

Once again, we sincerely congraturate the opening of the INCCIP Conference in Seoul Korea and extend our deepest respect to everyone here today for your solidarity and dedication. Thank you.

Welcome from the Chair

Professor
Nancy Loucks OBE
Chair, INCCIP

낸시 럭스 교수 OBE
국제수용자자녀연대
(INCCIP) 의장

I am delighted to welcome you all to the 2025 conference of the International Coalition for Children with Incarcerated Parents, this year hosted in Seoul by our colleagues from SEUM as part of the celebrations for their 10th anniversary.

This is INCCIP's first in-person conference since 2019, when we gathered at the University of Huddersfield in England. Since that time, we became officially constituted as a global network in November 2019; gathered online for a global conference hosted from Washington DC in 2021; contributed to numerous events, consultations, and research; delivered several webinars on key topics; and in June 2025, we were thrilled to be recommended for UN Consultative Status (final decision at the end of July 2025).

This will be my last conference as Chair of INCCIP. It has been an honour to serve the network on the board since 2018 and as Chair since 2019. INCCIP's board has worked tirelessly to fulfil the network's vision "to see the wellbeing of children with an incarcerated parent addressed in all nations and at all levels of society" since our founder, Francis Ssuubi, first presented his proposal to the International Prisoners' Family Conference (now Connecting 4 Justice International) in 2015. A network shows its strength when its vision is shared, and I am very happy to 'pass the torch' to others to take forward.

None of us who has been involved in INCCIP ever truly leaves. Participation in this network stems from passion for the subject and true dedication to the cause. I look forward to continuing to serve in whatever way I can, starting with ensuring that this conference in Seoul is our best yet. Thank you for your participation and your commitment to children with incarcerated parents. Your efforts are what make change possible.

2025년 국제수용자자녀연대(INCCIP) 학회에 여러분을 진심으로 환영합니다. 올해 학회는 세움의 창립 10주년을 기념하여 서울에서 열리게 되었으며, 세움의 따뜻한 환대에 깊이 감사드립니다.

이번 학회는 2019년 영국 허더즈필드 대학교에서 개최된 이후 INCCIP가 처음으로 대면으로 모이는 자리입니다. 2019년 11월에는 INCCIP가 공식적인 국제 네트워크로 조직되었고, 2021년에는 워싱턴 DC에서 전 세계를 연결하는 온라인 학회를 개최했으며, 그동안 수많은 행사와 자문, 연구 활동에 참여해왔습니다. 또한 주요 주제를 다룬 웨비나들을 진행했고, 2025년 6월에는 UN 협의지위 부여를 권고받는 영광을 안았습니다(최종 결정은 2025년 7월 말 예정).

이번 학회는 제가 INCCIP 의장으로서 함께하는 마지막 학회가 될 예정입니다. 2018년부터 이사회 위원으로, 2019년부터는 의장으로 섬겨온 시간은 제게 큰 영광이었습니다. 창립자 Francis Ssuubi가 2015년 국제 수감자 가족 컨퍼런스(현 Connecting 4 Justice International)에서 INCCIP 설립을 제안한 이래, INCCIP 이사회는 "수용자 자녀의 복지가 전 세계 모든 국가와 사회의 모든 층위에서 다뤄지도록 한다"는 우리의 비전을 실현하기 위해 헌신적으로 일해왔습니다. 네트워크의 힘은 그 비전을 얼마나 많은 이들이 공유하느냐에 달려 있으며, 이제 그 바통을 다른 분들께 기꺼이 넘기려 합니다.

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Keynote Speakers

Dr. Mikiko Otani

Dr. Mikiko Otani is a leading international human rights lawyer based in Tokyo, Japan, specializing in the promotion and protection of women's and children's rights across global legal frameworks. She has served on the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child since 2017 and was elected Chair of the Committee from 2021 to 2023. As the first Japanese national to hold this position, Dr. Otani has played a pivotal role in advancing child participation and access to justice at the global level. In 2023, she was appointed the Rotating Honorary Chair in Enforcement of Children's Rights at Leiden University, where she has been actively engaged in bridging theory and practice in international human rights law.

Her recent work focuses on the protection of child victims in the context of armed conflict and humanitarian crises, exploring how legal frameworks can better serve children's rights under duress. She has also worked extensively with global organizations including Child Rights Connect, UNICEF, and the International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates, shaping policy on cross-border family issues, including child abduction, custody, and transnational family breakdown. Dr. Otani's unique combination of legal expertise, field experience, and academic leadership positions her as a powerful advocate for systemic reform in child rights enforcement worldwide.

Dr. Julie Poehlmann

Dr. Julie Poehlmann is the Dorothy A. O'Brien Professor of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a nationally recognized expert in child clinical psychology. Her research bridges developmental science, psychology, and social policy, with a central focus on understanding the mechanisms of risk and resilience in children and families facing adversity. Over the past two decades, she has led groundbreaking studies on the developmental outcomes of children affected by parental incarceration, substance abuse, foster care, and economic hardship.

In recent years, her work has expanded to explore the intergenerational dynamics of grandparent-led households, the role of supportive caregiving in mitigating trauma, and the systemic barriers that contribute to health disparities across racial and socioeconomic lines. Dr. Poehlmann-Tynan has served on national committees shaping family support policy and has testified before the U.S. Congress on the needs of vulnerable children. Her work not only informs academic scholarship but also directly impacts practitioners and policymakers seeking to build more equitable and compassionate systems for children and their families.

Dr. Koen Maurice Sevenants

Dr. Koen Maurice Sevenants is a global leader in child protection and mental health in humanitarian settings, currently serving as a senior advisor on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) at UNICEF. With over 25 years of field experience in complex emergencies—including in North Korea, Cambodia, Ukraine, and Greece—Dr. Sevenants has led the development of global MHPSS frameworks that integrate mental health into multisectoral emergency responses for children and families.

His recent initiatives include co-authoring UNICEF's Global Multisectoral Operational Framework for MHPSS, which is now a cornerstone document for practitioners working in conflict- and disaster-affected areas. His work emphasizes community-based approaches, culturally sensitive interventions, and the inclusion of youth voices in program design and evaluation. Dr. Sevenants also advises governments, NGOs, and international organizations on scaling trauma-informed systems of care. His expertise combines academic rigor with hands-on operational leadership, making him a vital figure in advancing psychosocial resilience and healing in fragile contexts.

Dr. Rachel Brett

Former Representative (Human Rights & Refugees), Quaker United Nations Office – Geneva

Dr. Rachel Brett is a globally respected expert in international human rights and refugee issues. For over two decades, she served as the Representative for Human Rights and Refugees at the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in Geneva, where she played a key role in influencing global policy on child soldiers, juvenile justice, and the rights of children with incarcerated parents.

Her groundbreaking work has contributed to significant developments at the United Nations, particularly in integrating child rights into international legal and humanitarian frameworks. She has advised UN bodies, governments, and civil society networks, and continues to be a passionate advocate for vulnerable children and families affected by incarceration and conflict.

Dr. Brett brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to justice, peace, and human dignity, making her a powerful voice in the global movement to protect the rights of children in challenging circumstances.

Dr. Ji sun Lee

Professor Jisun Lee is a professor in the Department of Social Welfare at Ewha Womans University, South Korea. Her research focuses on child welfare, family policy, and the rights of marginalized children and families. Over the years, Professor Lee has led numerous studies on the experiences and needs of children with incarcerated parents in Korea—an area that has received limited academic and policy attention.

She has worked closely with *Child Welfare Practice SEUM*, Korea's leading organization supporting children with incarcerated parents, to generate research-based evidence that informs public discourse and policy reform. Her recent work highlights the emotional and social challenges these children face and emphasizes the importance of systemic support and community-based care.

Professor Lee is committed to advancing inclusive social welfare policies that uphold the dignity and rights of all children, especially those who have been historically overlooked. Her work bridges academic scholarship and grassroots advocacy, contributing meaningfully to both national and international conversations on child welfare and justice.

Director. Young-sik Kim

Director Youngsik Kim leads *Somang Correctional Institution*, South Korea's only privately operated correctional facility. Known for its rehabilitative approach and emphasis on dignity and human rights, Somang Prison is recognized nationally for implementing innovative correctional programs that prioritize the emotional and social reintegration of inmates.

With a strong belief in restorative justice, Director Kim has introduced family-centered initiatives within the prison—particularly programs aimed at maintaining and restoring relationships between incarcerated parents and their children. Under his leadership, Somang has collaborated with community organizations and child welfare experts to support children of incarcerated parents, recognizing their unique needs and vulnerabilities.

Director Kim's work reflects a deep commitment to humane correctional practices and intergenerational healing. His efforts contribute to a broader conversation about the role of prisons not only in punishment, but in restoration, reconciliation, and social responsibility.

Director Sung-Taek Lim

Sungtaek Lim is the Director of *Duroo – Public Interest Law Foundation*, one of South Korea's leading organizations dedicated to advancing human rights and public interest law. With a background as a human rights lawyer, Mr. Lim has long worked at the intersection of law, justice, and social equity, representing marginalized communities and advocating for systemic legal reform.

Throughout his career, he has engaged in wide-ranging efforts to improve the Korean criminal justice system, including work on juvenile justice, prison reform, and the rights of detainees and their families. Under his leadership, Duroo has expanded its initiatives to include legal advocacy for the children of incarcerated parents—recognizing them as an often-overlooked population in both legal and policy discourse.

Mr. Lim's commitment to public interest law has helped shape national conversations on justice, fairness, and dignity in the legal system. His work continues to inspire new generations of lawyers dedicated to transformative justice in Korea and beyond.

Conference Schedule

Welcome/Closing/Plenary Sessions will be held at the Diamond Room (Grand Auditorium) B1

Symposium Presentations will be held at Trista Room 2F

Paper Presentations will be held at Jubilee Room 2F

Workshop Presentations will be held at Halfmoon Room 2F

Artworks and Interviews by Youth with Incarcerated Parents will be showcased at Oval Room B1

<table>
<tr><th colspan="5">Tuesday, 1 July 2025</th></tr>
<tr><th>Time</th><th colspan="3">Sessions</th><th>Offering</th></tr>
<tr><td>9:30-
10:00</td><td colspan="3">Welcome
Opening Ceremony
Kyungrim Lee (SEUM)
Nancy Loucks (INCCIP)

Plenary 1
Young Person with incarcerated parents (Korea)</td><td rowspan="4">Morning & Afternoon Tea</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:00-
10:30</td><td colspan="3">Plenary 2
Mikiko Otani
Call for a holistic child rights approach to children of incarcerated parents</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:30-
11:00</td><td colspan="3">Morning Tea</td></tr>
<tr><td>11:00-
12:30</td><td>Symposium 1

1. Monica Dhawan (India)-Children of Vulnerable Families - Travails and Triumphs</td><td>Papers 1

1. Jan Höltge (Canada)-Context Shapes the Experience of Parental</td><td>Workshop 1

1. Charlotte Robertson (New Zealand)- Teachers' role supporting children of</td></tr>
</table>

	2. Nancy Loucks /Ben Raikes (UK)-ASPIRE: Improving Wellbeing and Educational Outcomes for Children in Wales Affected by Parental Imprisonment	Incarceration: A Comparative Analysis of Resilience Mechanisms in Youth from Canada and South Africa **2. Miaomiao He (Austrailia)-**The impact of witnessing parental arrest on children: A scoping review	prisoners **2. Chaeyeon Songyi Han, So Hee Kim, Na Eun Kim, Yunseo (Louisa) Kim, Myungjin (David) Oh, Yoonjae (Ashley) Na (Korea)**-Beyond the Stigma: Elevating Awareness for Children Affected by Parental Incarceration	
12:30-13:30	Lunch			
13:30-15:00	**Symposium 2** **1. Bahiyyah Muhammad, Jaelah Muhammad, Jian Muhammad, Muntaquim Muhammad (USA)-**Project Iron Kids: Working to Empower Young Children of Incarcerated Parents with Coloring Parties and the Prison Alphabet **2. Hiroko Goto (Japan)-**The Rights of Children of Prisoners in Japan	**Papers 2** **1. Catherine Flynn (Austrailia)-**Living with a parent in prison: learning from young people **2. Megan Bell (Austrailia)**-Multiple risks for children of incarcerated mothers **3. Peter Njenga Kamau (Kenya)-**The Socioeconomic Impact of Parental Incarceration on Child Development: A Case for Restorative Justice	**Workshop 2** **Lorna Brookes (UK)-**That Girl: A drama inspired by real life stories about a girl whose mother goes to prison.	
15:00-15:30	Afternoon Tea			
15:30-16:30	**Plenary 3** **1. Young-sik Kim (Korea)-**Rehabilitation of Inmates Begins with Family Restoration **2. Sung-Taek Lim (Korea)-**The State's Responsibility for the Rights of Children with Incarcerated Parents: The Korean Perspective			
16:30-	**Special : Korean Session**			

18:00	**Welcome: In-Yong Rhee (Chairperson of Onyul)** **1.Jee-youn Lim (Korea)-**Development and effectiveness of a metaverse-based education platform (MEP) for diverse families and Children With Incarcerated Parents: A Case of School Classes **2. Hye-Sun Um (Korea)-**Recovery and Social Reintegration of Families of Inmates: A Case Study of the SeumON Counseling Center (2019–2025) **3. Ki-Chul Han (Korea)-**Plays and relationship skills that open children's minds **4. Sujin Kim (Korea)-** Beyond Protection, Toward Restoration: A Policy and Social Impact Analysis of the Child Welfare Organization 'SEUM' **Interpretations will be provided for the Q&A session (질의응답 통역제공)**	

Wednesday, 2 July 2025				
Time	**Sessions**			**Offering**
9:00-11:00	**Young Adults Session** (Young Adult Participants Raise Their Voices)			Morning & Afternoon Tea
11:00-11:30	Morning Tea			
11:30-12:30	**Symposium 3** **Yung Prodigy (Australia)-**Nothing About Us Without Us: Youth-Led Solutions to Parental Incarceration	**Papers 3** **1. Ben Raikes (UK)-**The Experiences of Children and Young People in State Care with a Parent in Prison **2. Lorna Brookes (England)-**"Collateral damage"? Open court reporting and its impact on the children of defendants	**Workshop 3** **Bahiyyah Muhammad (USA)-**Centering COIP Expert Narratives: Allowing Children of Incarcerated Parents To Tell Their Own Stories of Success	
12:30-13:30	Lunch			
13:30-14:30	Move to National Assembly			
15:00-17:30	Forum at National	**15:00–15:20** <National Anthem & Opening Ceremony>		

	Assembly	Welcoming Remarks: • Hon. Jeoung-ae Han (Member of the National Assembly) • Director General, National Assembly Research Service • Nancy (Representative of International Partners) Congratulatory Remarks: Hon. Wonsik Woo, Speaker of the National Assembly Introduction of Honorary Guests **15:20–15:30** <Commemorative Group Photo & Seating Arrangement> **15:30–16:30** <Keynote Presentations> Moderator: To be arranged by a Member's Office Chair: Prof. Kyungsoo Park (Dept. of Social Welfare, Hanyang Cyber University) (1) Dr. Mikiko Otani-Call for a holistic child rights approach to children of incarcerated parents (2) Dr. Rachel Brett – International human rights jurisprudence on children whose parents are in conflict with the law and its use to advance their rights (3) Prof. Jisun Lee – Findings on Children with Incarcerated Parents in Korea (4) National Assembly Research Service – Overview of Korea's Policy Landscape **16:30–17:00** Panel Discussion & Q&A Session **Simultaneous Interpretations will be provided (동시통역제공)**	
17:30-evening	Dinner at National Assembly (Cafeteria)		

<table>
<tr><th colspan="5">Thursday, 3 July 2025</th></tr>
<tr><th>Time</th><th colspan="3">Sessions</th><th>Offering</th></tr>
<tr><td>9:00-
10:30</td><td>Symposium 4

1. Lorna Brookes (England)- Witnessing the arrest of a parent. The experiences of children and young people, and what law enforcement officers can do to help minimize their trauma
2. Kelly Lockwood (UK)-The experiences and support needs of children with a parent in prison with whom they have limited or no contact</td><td>Papers 4

1. Christina Bellasalma (USA)- From Incarceration to Reentry: A Holistic Approach to Creating a Better Future for Children of Incarcerated Parents, Families, and Communities
2. Katie Kramer (USA)- Being the Father Our Children Need: Program Overview and Evaluation Results of the Dads Back! program in Los Angeles, California</td><td>Workshop 4

1. Rachna Narwekar (India)-Nanhe Kadam: Building Safer Prisons and Advancing Holistic Development for Children in Custodial Settings
2. Brenda Robinson (USA)-Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: A Collaborative Approach for Families with an Incarcerated Parent</td><td rowspan="6">Morning & Afternoon Tea</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:30-
11:00</td><td colspan="3">Morning Tea</td></tr>
<tr><td>11:00-
11:30</td><td colspan="3">Plenary 4
Julie Poehlman-Centering the Child: Children’s Experiences of Parental Incarceration in 5 Countries</td></tr>
<tr><td>11:30-
12:00</td><td colspan="3">Plenary 5
Koen Maurice Sevenants-From Prison Walls to Childhood Scars: Rethinking Root Causes in Child Protection</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:00-
13:00</td><td colspan="3">Lunch(INCCIP Member's Meeting)</td></tr>
<tr><td>13:00-
14:30</td><td colspan="2">Symposium 5

1. Lina Cui (China)-Social Relationships of Children with Incarcerated Parents
2. Tzu-Wei Lin (Taiwan)-Considering the Rights of Defendants’ Minor Children in Criminal Sentencing: Insights from Taiwan’s Experience</td><td>Workshop 5

Lorna Brookes (UK)-8 Hours There and Back</td></tr>
</table>

	3. Bahiyyah Muhammad, Jaelah Muhammad (US)-Highly Successful Educational Experiences Among Children of Incarcerated Parents		
14:30-16:00	**Symposium 6** **1. Megan Capp (Canada)-**Considering the Best Interests of the Child when Sentencing Parents - Lessons from British Columbia **2. Catherine Flynn (Austrailia)-**Mapping the needs and experiences of children affected by parental imprisonment: Findings from an Australian survey **3. Jan Höltge (Canada)-**Resilience is Not Their Responsibility: Reflections from an Intersectoral Conference About What Fosters the Resilience of Children with Incarcerated Parents	**Workshop 6** **1. Deborah L.K. Spencer-Chun (USA)-**Redirectional Therapy: An Approach to Reduce the Risk of Future Offending and Incarceration **2. Sandra Barnhill (USA)-**Navigating Challenges with Strength: A Resilience Workshop on Developing Programming for Children Impacted By Parental Incarceration	
16:00-18:00	**Afternoon Tea/Conference Closing** **Nancy Loucks(INCCIP)** **Ambassador Hyun-Bong Yoon (SEUM)**		

Friday, 4 July 2025		
Time	**Sessions**	**Offering**
TBA	**Field Trip to Correctional Institution (For Registered Participants Only)** 8:00 Leave the Venue 10:00 Yeoju Correctional Institution 13:00 Somang Private Correctional Institution 15:00 Head back to Seoul 17:-00~ Arrive at Venue Please bring the copy of PASSPORT	Lunch

Abstracts for Plenary Sessions

Plenary 1: July 1st 9:30-10:00

Presenter: Young Person with incarcerated parents (Korea)

Plenary 2: July 1st 10:00-10:30

Presenter: Dr. Otani Mikiko

Title: Call for a holistic child rights approach to children of incarcerated parents

Focus on children of incarcerated parents as the theme of the Day of General Discussion of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 2011 greatly contributed to raising awareness and more informed recommendations in the country reviews by the UNCRC. While continuing being addressed as a specific issue concerning family environment and alternative care in the country reviews by the UNCRC, the UN Global Study on children deprived of liberty in 2019 highlighted another dimension, namely, deprivation of liberty of those children. My presentation will provide overview how the approach of the UNCRC to children of incarcerated parents has developed in the country reviews, with an aim to suggest a more holistic and comprehensive approach from a broader child rights perspective. It will identify several aspects which requires more attention, such as data collection, non-discrimination, right to development, early childhood development and education and right to play. I will conclude with some recommendations for further advocacy and actions: need of hearing and integrating voice of children, collaboration with policy-makers, academia and experts in the area of criminal policy, and training for judges, prosecutors, lawyers, law enforcement and child protection officers.

Plenary 3: July 1st 15:30-16:30

Presenter 1: Kim Young-shik (Warden, Somang Correctional Institution)

Title: Rehabilitation of Inmates Begins with Family Restoration

In the early 20th century, German criminal scholar Berthold Freudenthal presented his inaugural paper as president of Frankfurt University, titled The Legal Status and Rights of Inmates. In it, he emphasized that "inmates are deprived of freedom, not of family relationships." At the time, this was a groundbreaking and progressive view of human rights.

Yet even today, despite growing awareness, correctional institutions still have much work to do in this regard. The families of inmates—especially their children and spouses—often become hidden, secondary victims of crime. Many are unable to voice their suffering and instead live in an emotional prison, burdened by shame and social stigma. Since 2007, Korea's Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Correctional Headquarters has actively promoted initiatives to restore family relationships for inmates. Facilities across the country have implemented various family support programs, including family visitation rooms, "Family Love Camps," and crisis counseling for children. Additionally, partnerships with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF), Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), Ministry of Interior and Safety (MOIS), and the National Police Agency (NPA) have further strengthened support for inmates' families.

Somang Correctional Institution, the world's only nonprofit private prison, is deeply committed to its founding vision: A Born-Again and Restorative Community. We continuously pursue the most effective rehabilitation practices—ones that encourage inmates to rethink their values and rebuild relationships through genuine care and commitment.

Through years of experience, I have observed that many distorted thought patterns and broken relationships stem from issues within the family. That's why I firmly believe that restoring family bonds is not only essential but also one of the most effective ways to prevent recidivism.

Somang Correctional Institution has designed educational programs that guide all new inmates to reexamine their relationships from their family members' perspectives and to develop healthy communication skills. We have also expanded opportunities for face-to-face meetings between inmates and their families to foster deeper empathy and mutual understanding.

Furthermore, under the guidance of professional family therapy counselors, inmates and their loved ones who desire reconciliation are invited to participate in a process of mutual apology and forgiveness. These efforts help repair broken family ties and cultivate a greater capacity to

empathize with and forgive others—both of which are vital in reducing the risk of reoffending.

In carrying out these programs, Somang Correctional Institution is privileged to work with dedicated and trustworthy partners such as World Vision and Seum. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for their ongoing support. Through this International Forum on Family Support for Inmates, I sincerely hope that those around the world who have been hurt or marginalized by crime will find healing, restoration, and renewed hope.

Presenter 2: Sung-Taek Lim (Duroo)

Title: The State's Responsibility for the Rights of Children with Incarcerated Parents: The Korean Perspective

Children with incarcerated parents face significant social, psychological, and economic challenges, yet their rights and needs have long been overlooked in Korea's legal and policy frameworks. This keynote address will examine how Korean state have approached the human rights issues of these children and analyze critical gaps in their protection.

Before delving into the Korean context, this address will first explore how the rights of children with incarcerated parents should be considered at the national level. The rights of these children must be systematically accounted for at every stage of the criminal justice process—from arrest, investigation, trial, and sentencing to imprisonment. Special attention must be paid to the initial phase of separation, at the moment of a parent's arrest and detention, where appropriate measures should be taken to assess the child's caregiving environment and, if necessary, connect them to child protection services. Sentencing decisions should consider the presence of minor children, and during incarceration, visitation policies must be structured in ways that prioritize the best interests of the child. Correctional facilities should be designated and arranged with a child-sensitive approach, ensuring more humane visitation environments. Additionally, comprehensive state-led support systems, including mentoring and psychological counseling, must be institutionalized. The state also has a responsibility to shift societal perceptions, ensuring that children do not suffer stigma or discrimination due to their parent's incarceration. To fulfill these responsibilities, Korea must develop an integrated administrative plan, conduct regular assessments of the situation, and establish inter-agency cooperation mechanisms among key governmental bodies such as the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior and Safety, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, and the judiciary.

Over the past years, Korea has taken several steps to address the human rights of children with incarcerated parents:

• 2017: National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK) conducted a survey on the human rights conditions of children with incarcerated parents.

• 2019: NHRCK issued policy recommendations on protecting the rights of children with incarcerated parents at different stages of the criminal justice process.

• 2019: The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child included issues related to children with incarcerated parents in its Concluding Observations on Korea.

• 2019: The National Assembly amended the "Act on the Execution of Sentences and the Treatment of Inmates," introducing provisions to inform newly incarcerated individuals about child welfare protection measures (Article 53-2) and allowing children to meet with their incarcerated parents in visitation areas without physical barriers (Article 40-3).

• 2019: The National Police Agency revised the "Criminal Investigation Rules" to mandate measures that minimize psychological harm to children during the arrest of their parents, but this provision was repealed in January 2021.

• 2020: The Prosecutorial Reform Committee recommended policy improvements for protecting the rights of children with incarcerated parents.

• 2020–2021: The Ministry of Justice established a Task Force on the Protection of Children with incarcerated parents and conducted a nationwide survey on their status.

• 2022: The Ministry of Justice launched regional support teams for children with incarcerated parents at local correctional administrations.

• 2023: NHRCK recommended improvements in the treatment of incarcerated mothers raising their children in correctional facilities.

Despite these developments, most of the initiatives have been led by NHRCK through recommendations to the government, with limited legislative action. The only amendments made to the "Act on the Execution of Sentences and the Treatment of Inmates" were in 2019, allowing for information-sharing on child protection measures and improving visitation conditions. Meanwhile, the 2019 amendment to the "Criminal Investigation Rules" that required appropriate measures to minimize trauma during parental arrests was repealed in 2021.

Recently, opposition lawmakers have proposed amendments to the "Act on the Execution of Sentences and the Treatment of Inmates," the "Criminal Procedure Act," and the "Medical Treatment and Custody Act" to address these issues.

• The proposed amendments to the "Act on the Execution of Sentences and the Treatment of Inmates" introduce a requirement to establish a basic plan for children with incarcerated parents, mandate an assessment of their caregiving environment, and allow for prison assignments considering the location of the child's residence.

• The proposed amendments to the "Criminal Procedure Act" require prosecutors and investigative officers to determine whether an arrested or detained suspect has children and to take necessary protective measures if the child qualifies as being at risk.

These legislative efforts remain in the early stages, and it is uncertain when they will be passed. The current legal framework in Korea remains insufficient in protecting the rights of children with incarcerated parents. This keynote address will examine what institutional measures are needed at each stage of the process and discuss ongoing policy debates in Korea.

Special Korean Session July 1st 16:30-18:00

Presenter 1: Jee-Youn Lim (National Youth Policy Institute, Korea)

Title: Development and effectiveness of a metaverse-based education platform (MEP) for diverse families and Children With Incarcerated Parents: A Case of School Classes

[Purpose] The purpose of developing a metaverse counseling, activity, and education platform (MEP) is to promote understanding and support services for diverse families and children of incarcerated parents. The characteristics of MEP are that it is designed based on providing various contents, active learning, and a sense of learning presence.
[Method] The design and construction process of MEP was analyzed, and the results of a pre- and post-survey on learning effectiveness for participants who visited MEP were compared and analyzed.
[Results] The results of the analysis of design and construction and learning effectiveness showed that there was a high overall change in knowledge, attitude, and behavior for diverse families, including incarcerated children. Through the participants' comments, we can see the active learning effect through benefits, fun, and experience.
[Conclusion] This study discussed MEP design elements and ways to utilize it as a learning tool, such as improving learning effectiveness and linking it to the curriculum.

○ Discussion of Utilization Methods
1) Expanding the network for diverse families and children with incarcerated parents to schools, organizations, and individuals
2) Establishing a policy system for expanding sustainable participation and reflection and feedback in a virtual space that transcends time and space
3) Utilizing school classes linked to the curriculum: Utilizing MEP as a learning tool

○ The specific research questions are as follows:
1) How was the Metaverse Counseling, Activity, and Education Platform (MEP) designed and developed to support diverse families and incarcerated parents?
2) How did MEP affect participants' learning outcomes (knowledge, attitudes, behaviors)?
3) How is MEP utilized?

Keywords: metaverse-based education platform, diverse families, children with incarcerated parents

1) Metaverse education platform(MEP) address : https://bit.ly/seum_on
Developing MEP' using Gathertown, a 2D-based metaverse platform

Presenter 2:Hye-Sun Um (SEUM)

Title: Recovery and Social Reintegration of Families of Inmates:A Case Study of the SeumON Counseling Center (2019–2025)

This study analyzes the psychological recovery and social reintegration processes of families of inmates (children and adolescents, caregivers, and formerly incarcerated parents) who received counseling at the SeumON Counseling Center from 2019 to 2025. Using Grounded Theory (Strauss & Corbin, 1998), the study exafmines the counseling experiences of clients and explores the impact of family-based counseling on the lives of inmates' families.

Presenter 3: Ki-Chul Han (PARANNARA)

Title: Plays and relationship skills that open children's minds

This presentation addresses play-based approaches and practical relationship-building techniques to open the hearts of children of incarcerated parents and foster rapport. Play serves as a friendly medium for children facing psychological and social challenges due to their parents' incarceration, helping to build trust and connection. Additionally, essential relationship-building skills are required to establish rapport with these children. This presentation will propose practical alternatives centered on play exercises and case sharing related to this topic.

Presenter 4: Sujin Kim (Korea Social Impact Valuation)

Title: Beyond Protection, Toward Restoration: A Policy and Social Impact Analysis of the Child Welfare Organization 'SEUM'

Seum has gone beyond mere protection to offer integrated support aimed at alleviating the emotional and social isolation experienced by these children and promoting the recovery of family functioning. Using a multi-dimensional approach, the study synthesizes qualitative interviews with participating children and families, quantitative satisfaction surveys, and policy analysis data to assess Seum's impact. The findings indicate that Seum has made significant contributions to emotional stability, improvement in learning environments, and the restoration of emotional bonds within families. Furthermore, Seum has played a catalytic role in mitigating social stigma toward incarcerated families and fostering public discourse for institutional reform. This study highlights how a multifaceted approach to supporting socially marginalized groups can lead to meaningful change and offers valuable implications for the design and expansion of future support programs for vulnerable populations.

Plenary 4: July 3rd 11:00-11:30

Speaker: Dr.Julie Poehlman (Professor, Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Title: Centering the Child: Children's Experiences of Parental Incarceration in 5 Countries

The INCCIP was awarded funding from the Global Health Institute of the University of Wisconsin-Madison to estimate the number of children affected by parental incarceration across the globe and to interview affected children in 5 countries that have been underrepresented in research. The presentation focuses on the voices of children with incarcerated parents from the 5 participating countries. As we move forward with plans to understand and support families affected by parental incarceration, it is essential to center the voices of children with lived experience.

Plenary 5: July 3rd 11:30-12:00

Speaker: Dr. Koen Sevenants (PhD – Child Mental Health Specialist)

Title: From Prison Walls to Childhood Scars: Rethinking Root Causes in Child Protection

In this presentation, Dr. Koen Sevenants draws upon his extensive field experience from numerous deployments with UN agencies and international NGOs to highlight a largely overlooked root cause of many child protection issues: parental imprisonment. Across the child protection sector, practitioners encounter a wide array of concerns—ranging from child abuse, trafficking, and labor, to child marriage, teenage pregnancy, school dropout, substance abuse, children associated with armed groups, and institutionalization, including orphanage tourism.

Through observational data gathered during his deployments, Dr. Sevenants notes that in each of these domains, there is a recurring yet often undocumented factor: the incarceration of one or both parents. Despite its apparent relevance, parental imprisonment has rarely been identified or systematically studied as a common underlying factor contributing to child vulnerability.

Dr. Sevenants calls on child protection professionals, researchers, and policymakers to recognize this blind spot and invites conference participants to join a collaborative research initiative. The goal is to investigate the role of parental imprisonment as a structural driver of child protection challenges, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where systemic responses and data are often lacking.

Abstracts for Forum at the National Assembly

Presenter: Dr. Otani Mikiko (Former Chair, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child International Human Rights Lawyer, Japan)

Title: Call for a holistic child rights approach to children of incarcerated parents

Focus on children of incarcerated parents as the theme of the Day of General Discussion of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 2011 greatly contributed to raising awareness and more informed recommendations in the country reviews by the UNCRC. While continuing being addressed as a specific issue concerning family environment and alternative care in the country reviews by the UNCRC, the UN Global Study on children deprived of liberty in 2019 highlighted another dimension, namely, deprivation of liberty of those children. My presentation will provide overview how the approach of the UNCRC to children of incarcerated parents has developed in the country reviews, with an aim to suggest a more holistic and comprehensive approach from a broader child rights perspective. It will identify several aspects which requires more attention, such as data collection, non-discrimination, right to development, early childhood development and education and right to play. I will conclude with some recommendations for further advocacy and actions: need of hearing and integrating voice of children, collaboration with policy-makers, academia and experts in the area of criminal policy, and training for judges, prosecutors, lawyers, law enforcement and child protection officers.

Presenter: Dr. Rachel Brett (Former Representative (Human Rights and Refugees), Quaker United Nations Office Consultant on International Human Rights Law, Switzerland)

Title: International human rights jurisprudence on children whose parents are in conflict with the law and its use to advance their rights.

The major international human rights law reference point in relation to children of incarcerated parents is the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. However the Committee on the Rights of the Child has yet to decide any individual cases on this subject. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights has decided two cases. However, the most active has been the European Court of Human Rights which has decided 18 cases. These have addressed a broad range of issues from arrest of parent, care of child when both parents are arrested, contact with parent in pre-trial detention and during imprisonment, visiting conditions, child living in prison with mother, language of communication between parent and child, and return of child to acquitted parent. In the course of these considerations, the European Court has become increasingly aware of the rights of children in these situations and the need to take these rights into account. Both within and outside Europe, this case law can be used to encourage greater consideration of the rights of the children in these circumstances.

Presenter: Dr. Ji Sun Lee (Seum Research Center/ Ewha Womans University)

Title: Findings on Children with Incarcerated Parents in Korea

This keynote highlights findings from Seum, Korea's only organization dedicated to supporting children with incarcerated parents. Since 2015, Seum has directly supported over 8,900 children through economic aid, counseling, visitation assistance, and advocacy. A recent social value assessment shows Seum's work led to lower recidivism (5.7% vs. national 25%) and significant cost savings in criminal justice and mental health systems.

Despite these impacts, all support has been driven solely by civil society, with no public system. In 2024, Seum conducted a qualitative study with children, caregivers, and experts. Key findings revealed barriers in identifying affected children, weak public support structures, and systemic challenges tied to legal guardianship and poverty. Drawing on these findings, we propose a comprehensive policy framework that includes: legal mandates for identifying and protecting children at the arrest and sentencing stages; systematic national data collection on children with incarcerated parents; establishment of a public support agency dedicated to integrated services; strengthened cross-sector collaboration; policy and administrative reforms to ensure accessibility, anonymity, and continuity of care.

Policy must recognize the rights of these invisible children. This speech calls for urgent government responsibility and structured systems to ensure that children with incarcerated parents in Korea grow up with dignity, safety, and hope.

Presenter: Dr. Minsook Heo (Research Officer, National Assembly Research Service)

Title: The Role and Challenges of the National Assembly and Government of South Korea in Supporting Children with Incarcerated Parents

South Korea has made notable progress in supporting children with incarcerated parents since 2020, introducing new laws, expanding support programs nationwide, and conducting annual surveys to identify and assist at-risk children. The Ministry of Justice connects families to welfare services and provides emergency aid. Despite these advances, only about 32% of children maintain in-person contact with their incarcerated parent, and legislative improvements are still needed to fully protect their rights and welfare.

Abstracts for Symposium

Symposium 1: July 1st 11:00-12:30

Presenter 1: Monica Dhawan (India Vision Foundation)

Title: Children of Vulnerable Families - Travails and Triumphs

The incarceration of parents, particularly mothers, presents significant challenges for children, who are the "forgotten victims" of the justice system. In India, children under the age of six can reside with their mothers in prison, exposing them to environments detrimental to their development. To mitigate the negative impacts of parental incarceration, Delhi-based India Vision Foundation, in 1996 launched the Children of Vulnerable Families (CVF) program. The program provides educational assistance, healthcare awareness, and psychosocial support to children of incarcerated parents, with the broader goal of breaking the intergenerational incarceration cycle.

An independent impact assessment of the CVF program, conducted by Grant Thornton Bharat LLP for the financial years 2022–2024, employed the OECD DAC principles to evaluate the program's outreach and effectiveness. Using qualitative methodology, researchers engaged with key stakeholders across three locations.

The study revealed significant positive outcomes across three core areas—education, health, and psychosocial well-being—each receiving average ratings of 4 or higher on a 5-point scale. The program has improved school attendance and performance through remedial classes and career counselling, while health and hygiene initiatives have fostered healthier lifestyle practices. Additionally, mental health education has enhanced children's resilience, helping them cope with the emotional impact of parental incarceration.

Overall, the assessment underscores the CVF program's success in mitigating the adverse effects of parental incarceration on children through a holistic, community-centric approach, highlighting its potential as a model for broader implementation.

Presenters 2: Nancy Loucks (Families Outside) **/Ben Raikes** (INCCIP)

Title: ASPIRE: Improving Wellbeing and Educational Outcomes for Children in Wales Affected by Parental Imprisonment

The Welsh Government recently commissioned research to consider what a national model of support might look like to improve wellbeing and educational outcomes for children in Wales affected by parental imprisonment, with a particular interest in collaboration between prisons and schools. Central to the ASPIRE project (Actioning a Schools and Prisons Independent Research Evaluation) were children's rights, listening to the voices of children and families, multi-agency collaboration, evidenced based practice, and solution-focused development. Numerous studies highlight the potentially devastating impact of parental imprisonment on children, but limited literature exists regarding what works in improving outcomes for children. Further, there is a disconnect between prison-focused policies promoting family contact and policies relating to the needs and rights of children. Few UK policies refer to the needs of children with a parent in prison, and the rhetoric remains focused on the prevention of reoffending or on 'breaking the cycle' of offending and imprisonment within families. Positive pockets of support were evident in prisons, schools, and communities, but more work was needed to build on existing practice, promote existing services/resources and support collaboration. This presentation reviews the project's findings, published in March 2025, and its implications for practice and models of support throughout the UK and beyond.

Symposium 2: July 1st 13:30-15:00

Presenter : Bahiyya Muhammad (Howard University), **Jaelah Muhammad** (Howard University), **Jian Muhammad** (DME Homeschool Academy), **Muntaquim Muhammad** (Project Iron Kids)

Title: Project Iron Kids: Working to Empower Young Children of Incarcerated Parents with Coloring Parties and the Prison Alphabet

Project Iron Kids is an educational consulting firm that creates accessible and realistic books for young minds and their families. Project Iron Kids specially developed books such as “The Prison Alphabet” to empower children to gain a better understanding of the experience of their loved ones behind bars, show children with parents in prison that they are not alone, and provide resources for caretakers to use to create opportunities to openly discuss the child’s feelings and help them cope with their parents’ absence. This symposium will include Project Iron Kids staff (including teenage and pre-teen youth ambassadors) to discuss programming, experiences, outcomes and the importance of highlighting the resilience among the children of incarcerated parents they worked with in schools, churches and community centers. This symposium will include global work in Cambodia, Uganda, Europe and the USA.

Presenter 2: Hiroko Goto (Chiba University)

Title: The Rights of Children of Prisoners in Japan

There is little discussion in Japan about the children of prisoners. Many parents do not want their children to know that they are incarcerated, and in fact, if the children are young, they often grow up without ever learning this fact. In Japan, children's rights are not adequately protected and there is no discussion regarding children's right to information about their parents. This report examines the current situation of children of incarcerated persons in Japan and explores the right to information about their parents in relation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Symposium 3: July 2nd 11:30-12:30

Presenters: Yung Prodigy

Title: Nothing About Us Without Us: Youth-Led Solutions to Parental Incarceration

Yung Prodigy is a youth-led organisation based in Australia, working at the intersections of justice, lived experience and community care. As a settler colony where First Nations people are the most incarcerated population on the planet, addressing parental incarceration requires an approach that is not only trauma-informed but fundamentally decolonial. This symposium, led by those with lived and professional expertise, will explore the ways in which youth-led leadership generates innovative, community-driven responses to harm.

Acknowledging the impact of colonial systems and their ongoing displacement of cultural structures, we recognise that incarceration extends beyond just parents. It disrupts entire kinship networks. For First Nations and other racialised communities, parental incarceration often means the incarceration of multiple family members across generations as a result of ongoing systemic violence. By centring those directly impacted, we challenge mainstream service models that exclude lived expertise and instead foster pathways towards liberation through five key pillars: mentorship, education, research, advocacy, and nourishment.

This discussion invites open dialogue on dismantling colonial legacies in justice work, strengthening grassroots efforts and amplifying young people's leadership in reimagining justice beyond punitive measures that ripple onto communities. This discussion will spark action towards solutions rooted in truth, ensuring a unified approach to addressing the impacts of parental incarceration across the International Coalition for Children with Incarcerated Parents and beyond.

Symposium 4: July 3rd 09:00-10:30

Presenter 1: Lorna Brookes (LJMU & Time-Matters UK)

Title: Witnessing the arrest of a parent. The experiences of children and young people, and what law enforcement officers can do to help minimize their trauma

Law enforcement officials have an opportunity to protect the rights of children during their parent's arrest, protect their well-being and promote their rights.
This research reports the testimonies of 5 children and young people from the UK who had witnessed their parent get arrested and taken into custody. As well as sharing their experiences of trauma, these young people also make useful suggestions about what police officers could do, or should not do, during these times to help reduce the trauma endured.
Their experiences and suggestions were then edited into a training resource that has been shared both Europe and the UK
The training video created will be shared during this presentation, as well as some feedback from officers about how this resource impacted them and their practice.

Presenter 2: Kelly Lockwood (University of Salford)

Title: The experiences and support needs of children with a parent in prison with whom they have limited or no contact

The importance of family contact during custody is acknowledged in research and policy in the UK. However, it is estimated that half of children with a parent in prison in the UK do not have contact during their parents' sentence, with others having limited contact. Drawing on data from interviews with children with a parent in prison, their parent/carer and nominated professionals working with the family, this presentation will highlight the preliminary findings from an international project specifically exploring the unique experiences and support needs of children with a parent in prison with whom they have 'no' or 'limited' contact. We will explore the reasons for, experiences of, and support needs in relation to no or limited contact. Centring these missing perspectives the findings from this study will aim to inform/influence policies and practices.

Symposium 5: July 3rd 13:00-14:30

Presenter 1: Lina Cui (Ewha womans university)

Title: Social Relationships of Children with Incarcerated Parents

This study aimed to understand the social relationship experiences of children with incarcerated parents from an environmental and contextual perspective. The guiding research question is: "What are the social relationship experiences of children with incarcerated parents after incarceration?" Using a qualitative case study approach, this research explores not only the relationships between incarcerated parents and caregivers but also the broader social relationships these children experience within their primary environments. The study aims to propose service and policy improvements from a child rights perspective and, in the long term, to inform social welfare practices that support the healthy development and quality of life of children of incarcerated parents.
The study focused on the experiences of adolescents aged 13 to 18 with incarcerated parents, without limiting the reasons or durations of incarceration. In-depth interviews were conducted with the consent of both the participants and their legal guardians. The participants included 10 adolescents (3 males and 7 females) with an average age of 16. The duration of parental incarceration ranged from 4 months to 11 years. Among them, three participants had both parents incarcerated, three had only their fathers incarcerated, and four had only their mothers incarcerated. Seven participants experienced a change in their primary caregivers. Data collection spanned six months, from August 2023 to January 2024, with each participant engaged in two in-depth interviews. Using Creswell and Poth's (2018) within-case and cross-case analysis framework, the recorded interviews were transcribed and analyzed. Coding was conducted with MAXQDA 24, involving iterative revisions and categorizations to develop higher-order codes. Relationships between concepts and categories were analyzed and integrated into overarching themes, culminating in the derivation of a central theme that encompassed meaningful units and categories. Through cross-case analysis, the study identified five overarching themes, 17 sub-themes, and 40 meaningful units. The first overarching theme, “The burden of family borne alone”, reflects participants' early experiences with their incarcerated parents and remaining family members. This theme includes the sub-themes: “Relationships broken by wounds”, “Pain from witnessing the suffering of the remaining family”, and “Struggling alone with suppressed emotions”. The second overarching theme, “Defensiveness in interpersonal relationships shaped by secrets and wounds”, focuses on participants' interpersonal experiences during the early stages of parental incarceration. Sub-themes include “The existence of unspeakable secrets” and “Defensiveness shaped by wounds”. The third overarching theme, “Filling the void step by step”, examines the supportive systems that helped participants adapt to social relationships after parental incarceration. Sub-

themes include “Communicating with the incarcerated parent despite environmental limitations”, “The caregiver's dedicated care”, “Solidarity and shared responsibility with siblings”, “Friends who share the burden of secrets”, “Warm attention from teachers”, and “Informational and emotional support from organizations”. The fourth overarching theme, “Finding oneself amidst anxiety and fear”, analyzes interpersonal relationship experiences during the adaptation phase. Sub-themes include “Disappointment in love and anxiety in relationships” and “Building relationships as one's true self”. The fifth overarching theme, “Pursuing one's path through safe relationships”, explores the process of reconstructing social relationships and finding a personal path. Sub-themes include “Anticipating daily life with parents”, “Choosing to sever ties with parents for self-protection”, “A desire for loving and being loved”, and “A journey of growth shaped by hope”.

Based on the within-case and cross-case analyses, the study identified a central theme encapsulating the participants' experiences. Parental incarceration caused emotional distress, severed family ties, financial burdens, and social stigma for the children. Participants expressed feelings of resentment and betrayal toward their incarcerated parents, often avoiding visits or choosing to sever ties altogether. In some cases, the absence of a parent forced them to take on adult responsibilities at a young age, such as caring for their family. To cope with the stigma, they often concealed their parents' incarceration, exhibited defensiveness in friendships, and struggled to form deep relationships due to past betrayals. Despite these challenges, support systems, including caregivers, siblings, teachers, friends, and civil organizations, brought positive changes to their lives. Regular communication with incarcerated parents strengthened emotional bonds, while caregivers provided stability through financial and emotional support. Empathy from friends and warm attention from teachers offered psychological relief, and mentoring from civil organizations provided practical help and restored self-esteem. Ultimately, participants either reconciled with their incarcerated parents or chose to sever ties, carving out their own paths in life while striving for independence and growth within their social relationships.

The main discussions based on these findings are as follows: First, children of incarcerated parents were compelled to develop independence and maturity in the absence of their parents. Although they took on responsibilities such as family care, this often led to emotional isolation and stress. Second, participants experienced emotional isolation in social relationships due to the secrecy surrounding their parents' incarceration, often suppressing emotional expression and hindering openness with others. Third, repeated negative experiences in social relationships, including feelings of betrayal and loss due to parental absence, hindered participants' ability to form healthy relationships in the present and future. Lastly, participants often avoided revealing their parents' incarceration and maintained defensive attitudes in social interactions, primarily due to societal prejudice and mistrust. These barriers made it difficult to build healthy relationships. Consequently, parental incarceration posed long-term challenges to the children's interpersonal relationships and self-identity. Addressing these challenges requires emotional support and societal awareness to help children of incarcerated parents grow in a safe and supportive environment.

Based on these findings, the study proposes several practical implications. First, programs are needed to address and recover from the trauma experienced by children of incarcerated parents. Tailored counseling and recovery programs based on psychological treatment methods such as TF-CBT (Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy) and FT (Forgiveness Therapy) should be developed to help children of incarcerated parents overcome trauma and achieve psychological growth. Second, support for strengthening bonds with incarcerated parents should be expanded, including increased visitation opportunities, family-friendly programs, and counseling services. Collaboration between government and civil organizations is essential to ensure the sustainability of such programs. Third, support for rebuilding relationships with caregivers is necessary, as caregivers play a critical role in the psychological stability and development of children. Caregiver education, counseling, and community-based services should be implemented. Fourth, addressing the fear of revealing parental incarceration requires teacher sensitivity training and support, including case studies and response strategies to support children with incarcerated parents, along with counseling manuals and guidelines. Lastly, counseling for children should be conducted in a confidential and safe environment to alleviate fears of stigma and prejudice. Strengthening connections with external counseling institutions and providing anonymous, secure platforms are vital. Furthermore, expanding the role of civil organizations with government and community support can create a system where children feel free to seek help.

The policy implications are as follows: First, it is necessary to establish a support system for mentoring programs that facilitate the formation of positive interpersonal relationships. Mentoring has a positive impact on improving self-esteem, emotional stability, and social skills, helping children of incarcerated parents heal from past negative experiences and build stable social relationships. Therefore, measures to enhance the sustainability of mentoring programs are required. Furthermore, it is necessary to address funding gaps by utilizing existing resources, such as the Crime Victim Protection Fund, or by creating a separate fund. Second, social awareness must be improved. Public campaigns and awareness-raising activities are essential to eliminate the stigma and discrimination faced by children with incarcerated parents. Through these efforts, it is crucial to establish a social foundation that allows them to grow in a safe and inclusive environment.

Presenter 2: Tzu-Wei Lin (School of Law, Fujen Catholic University, Taiwan)

Title: Considering the Rights of Defendants' Minor Children in Criminal Sentencing: Insights from Taiwan's Experience

Children of incarcerated parents are often referred to as "forgotten children" or "invisible victims." In Taiwan, when a parent or primary caregiver is sentenced to imprisonment, the rights and interests of

their children remain largely overlooked. Since Taiwan incorporated the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into domestic law in 2014, there has been a clear mandate—under the CRC and other human rights instruments—to consider the best interests and rights of these children. This study examines Taiwan's progress and shortcomings in this regard.

This study analyzes criminal court rulings from the past decade (2014–2024) following the domestic incorporation of the CRC, alongside Taiwan's relevant legal framework, particularly sentencing laws. The aim is to assess whether, and how, courts consider the interests of minor children or dependents when sentencing parents or primary caregivers. The findings indicate a growing willingness among courts to consider the rights and welfare of these children in sentencing decisions, leading to reductions in sentences (or probation) in some cases. In certain instances, courts have even sought assistance from child psychology or developmental experts to evaluate the specific interests of the children involved—an important and pioneering development in Taiwan's legal practice.

However, this study also identifies persistent legal constraints. Taiwan's current legal system lacks flexibility in criminal sanctions, limiting courts' ability to implement alternative measures to incarceration or to prevent parent-child separation, as recommended by the CRC. Based on these findings, this study proposes several legislative recommendations to enhance the protection of children's rights in the context of criminal sentencing.

Presenter 3: Bahiyyah Muhammad (Howard University), **Jaelah Muhammad** (Howard University)

Title: Highly Successful Educational Experiences Among Children of Incarcerated Parents

Deficit-based perspectives are dangerous in that they elicit a sense of fear in the hearts of individuals. This fear is then used to cast blame on the innocent bystander, those children of incarcerated parents who deserve to live without the negative labelled placed on them because of their status as offspring to incarcerated or formerly incarcerated loved one's. This research project has uncovered many reasons why research must pivot and begin to focus on resilience to balance the dialogue about those children and young adults who are not truthfully described through the literature. The young adult COIP who participated in this study were role models, community leaders, college graduates, trustworthy friends, loving children and just all-around exemplary citizens. They are solving the issues that research fails to address, and they continue to reach back and help those who have been unable to help themselves. This presentation will highlight the national research to points to the important pathway of many highly successful children of incarcerated parents.

Symposium 6: July 3rd 14:30-16:00

Presenter 1: Megan Capp (International Center for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy)

Title: Considering the Best Interests of the Child when Sentencing Parents - Lessons from British Columbia

In Canada, the criminal justice system often overlooks the rights and well-being of children whose parents face criminal sanctions. For the past decade, the International Center for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy (ICCLR) has been working to address this gap by advocating for a systemic shift in how courts, prosecutors, and defense counsel consider the best interests of the child in sentencing and bail decisions. This cumulated with the creation of an Overview document that details the legal principles, and other considerations, when sentencing a person with caregiving responsibilities. Through the implementation of this project, key lessons have emerged, including the importance of judicial awareness, the role of defense counsel in presenting child-centered arguments, and the challenge of balancing the rights of both parents and children, as independent rights holders. This presentation will explore practical insights gained from applying these principles in real cases, highlighting successes, obstacles, and opportunities for further reform in Canada and internationally.

Presenter 2: Catherine Flynn (Monash University)

Title: Mapping the needs and experiences of children affected by parental imprisonment: Findings from an Australian survey

Children who experience parental imprisonment are known to be among the most disadvantaged and overlooked in our community. They often experience multiple and compounding disadvantages, with long-term consequences, but receive no specialised assistance. Rigorous knowledge about these children and their families is lacking in Australia and is required to inform policy development. The aim of this study was to improve understandings about the characteristics, needs, and experiences of children with a parent in prison. Data were gathered via an online anonymous survey with 94 caregivers of dependent children with an imprisoned parent. Survey responses indicate that, while families may be quite connected to the imprisoned parent, children experience considerable

stressors, which affect their daily lives and their engagement with the community. Caregiver participants described the children in their care to be young, living in stressed households, and regularly absent from school. When they did attend school, internalising and externalising behaviours created further challenges. Experiences of anxiety and
bullying created barriers to school attendance; conversely, engaging in bullying or other violence then led to children being suspended or expelled at rates far higher than the wider community. Caregiver reports of children having contact with the police and/or youth justice agencies was at a higher rate than the general youth population. These findings highlight clearly that families with children experiencing parental imprisonment need immediate support and attention.

Presenter 3: Jan Höltge (Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University)

Title: Resilience is Not Their Responsibility: Reflections from an Intersectoral Conference About What Fosters the Resilience of Children with Incarcerated Parents

Children with incarcerated parents (CIP) are systemically invisibilized across sectors and marginalized by the public in Canada. There are no evidence-based practices for supporting the resilience of these children because of the almost non-existent research on this topic in Canada. On March 5 and 6, 2025, a conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, brought together individuals with lived experience of the impact of parental incarceration on children, leading Canadian and international academics, and service providers from social work, justice, and specialized support organizations from across Canada. The aims of the conference were to explore the lived experience and needs of CIPs with a focus on essential protective and promotive factors that foster their resilience, as well as to explore a research program in the best interest of CIPs. Participants included diverse ethnic groups—Black, Indigenous, and White. Panels provided an insight into the distinct risks these children encounter, their well-being, and the protective factors supporting their resilience. Group activities identified essential next steps and highlighted ways how research can actively support policy and practice advancements. This presentation synthesizes common themes that emerged from the panels and group work, highlighting the importance of addressing the basic needs of all children and the necessity for culturally and contextually responsive approaches in research and practice tailored to children's diverse backgrounds. A central consensus underscored decarceration as the ultimate long-term goal in the best interest of the children. In parallel, immediate strategies are

needed to equip key figures—such as teachers, caregivers, and social workers—with improved understanding and tools to effectively bolster these children's resilience and overall well-being, change how children are involved in the sentencing process of their parents, and change how society treats these children. Overall, the conference underscored that resilience should not be viewed as the child's responsibility, but rather as a collective duty to shape environments that meet and nurture their needs.

Abstracts for Papers

Papers 1: July 1st 11:00-12:30

Presenter1: Jan Höltge (Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University)

Title: Context Shapes the Experience of Parental Incarceration: A Comparative Analysis of Resilience Mechanisms in Youth from Canada and South Africa

Parental incarceration significantly challenges a youth's development and well-being. Yet, the impact of parental incarceration on youth and the resources needed to protect and promote their well-being may vary across sociocultural settings. Using secondary data analysis, this study examined resilience outcomes in youth (N=127, ages 14–24, mean age=18.50; Canada n=73, 60.3% female; South Africa n=54, 50% female) who experienced the incarceration of a parent or caregiver during childhood (YIP). Matched samples by age and sex were identified within each country to compare groups on mental, physical, educational, and behavioral outcomes, risk factors (family adversity), and protective and promotive resources (individual, caregiver, community resources, benevolent childhood experiences, neighbourhood characteristics). While the Canadian youth with lived experience showed significantly poorer scores across outcomes, risk factors and resources compared to their matched peers, the South African youth demonstrated fewer significant differences to their matched peers, suggesting differential contextual impacts of parental incarceration. A higher proportion of South African YIP than Canadian YIP demonstrated mental and physical health resilience. Regression analyses highlighted a central role of individual-level and caregiver resources for youth mental health resilience in both countries, while sex, benevolent childhood experiences and neighbourhood characteristics showed country- specific patterns. Findings underscore the importance of considering contextual peculiarities of the effects of parental incarceration on youth, taking into account multisystemic resources to foster resilience, and contextualizing resilience interventions and support systems to meet the diverse needs and resilience pathways of youth with incarcerated parents.

Presenter 2: Miaomiao He (Monash University)

Title: The impact of witnessing parental arrest on children: A scoping review

The arrest of a parent can be a pivotal moment for their children. While providing opportunities to identify children in need, children may be placed at particular risk when they are physically present at the point of arrest. Purpose and methods. This scoping review synthesizes results from existing research on the impact of witnessing parental arrest on children. Searches were conducted in three databases and two search engines, retrieving 6454 studies, 29 of which met criteria for inclusion. One additional reference was identified through citation search. Results. The implications for children of witnessing parental arrest are twofold. At the individual level, children experience emotional and behavioural difficulties, elevated posttraumatic stress (PTS) symptoms, physiological stress, poor school performance and developmental delays. At the interpersonal level, their family relationships, as well as attitudes to and perceptions of police officers, are likely to be negatively affected. Furthermore, children who witness arrest are more likely to be exposed to other forms of violence, compared with those who did not witness this event. Conclusions. This scoping review identifies mitigating factors that can influence the impact of parental arrest on children present. These factors should be examined in future research, preferably with primary data collected, with due consideration given to the data source which is relied upon to capture children's reaction/s, and with the aim of generating context-specific knowledge. Implications for policy development and implementation are discussed.

Papers 2: July 1st 13:30-16:00

Presenter 1: Catherine Flynn (Monash University)

Title: Living with a parent in prison: learning from young people

Children who experience parental imprisonment are known to be some of the most disadvantaged and overlooked in our community. They are rarely consulted about their experiences or opinions. This study utilised a strengths-approach to hear directly from children with lived experience of parental imprisonment. It focuses on their observations and learnings about who or what can be most helpful to children in this situation.

Data were gathered via two focus groups facilitated with existing groups of children/young people connected to support programs offered by community organisation SHINE for Kids in Australia. Each group was attended by five young people, all were aged between 11 – 15 years. Thematic analysis was used to define key themes from the transcribed data. Participants described relying mainly on informal family supports but suggested that teachers have potential to be a strong source of support. Interestingly, participants had little comment to make about adults in policing, courts, the justice system and prison, indicating that these adults remain absent from children's view. Study findings indicate the need for adults and adult systems to ensure children feel connected, are communicated with in inclusive and respectful ways, and find ways to support them to have a childhood.

Presenter 2: Megan Bell (University of Western Australia)

Title: Multiple risks for children of incarcerated mothers

This retrospective cohort study uses a population sample to describe the extent and mix of risk factors to which children of incarcerated mothers are exposed. Administrative data from health, justice, child protective services, births, and deaths were merged and risk ratios calculated for birth complications and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) for children exposed to maternal incarceration compared to those not exposed, adjusted for sociodemographic factors. A multiple risk score summed the number of recorded risk factors (0-17) for children with and without maternal incarceration exposure. Compared to unexposed children, children of incarcerated mothers had a higher risk of preterm birth, low birthweight, and all ACEs, including a 15-times (95%CI 14.2, 16.3) higher risk of exposure to maternal substance use disorders and 18-times (95%CI 16.8, 20.7) higher risk of placement in out-of-home care. Only 1% of children of incarcerated mothers did not

experience any of the included risk factors, compared to 26% of unexposed children (p<0.001). Children of incarcerated mothers disproportionately experience multiple risks, especially maltreatment, placement in out-of-home care, and maternal substance use. There is a significant public health opportunity to identify and address the needs of children of incarcerated mothers at the points of maternal arrest, sentencing, and incarceration.

Presenter 3: Peter Njenga Kamau (Jesus Exaltation Centre)

Title: The Socioeconomic Impact of Parental Incarceration on Child Development: A Case for Restorative Justice

Parental incarceration significantly impacts children's psychological, social, and economic well-being. This paper explores the far-reaching consequences of parental imprisonment on child development, including emotional trauma, educational setbacks, and financial instability. Drawing on case studies and empirical research, the paper examines how different societies address these challenges and the role of restorative justice in mitigating harm. The study argues for policy reforms that prioritize child welfare through community-based interventions, family-centered rehabilitation programs, and educational support systems. By integrating perspectives from criminology, psychology, and social work, this research advocates for a shift from punitive approaches to restorative solutions that safeguard the rights and future of children with incarcerated parents.

Papers 3: July 2nd 11:30-12:00

Presenter 1: Ben Raikes (INCCIP)

Title: The Experiences of Children and Young People in State Care with a Parent in Prison

This paper is based on a small scale research pilot project that I undertook in Northern England in 2023, as well as research with social workers in other projects. Although the literature on children with parents in prison is now quite extensive there is very little research on children with a parent in prison who are in state care. Children in state care face a range of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) e.g. abuse, parental substance misuse and witnessing domestic violence, in additional to parental incarceration. Therefore the issues relating to having a parent in prison are often overlooked by professionals due to the focus being on the other ACEs which resulted in them being cared for by the state. This means generally little support is provided by the state as 'corporate parent' regarding having a parent in prison. These children and young people are especially vulnerable due to the issues that led to them being removed from their families. In some situations safeguarding concerns will mean children in care cannot have contact with their parent in prison. However for many of these children, where there are no safeguarding issues, nobody is championing their right to contact with their imprisoned parent. Social Workers tend to not to see parents in prison through a strengths based lens as an asset, but rather have an 'out of sight, out of mind' attitude for the duration of their sentence, with little regard to the right that children have to maintain contact. As they are living away from their families it is harder for these children and young people to receive information about their parent in prison, as is their right, depending how conscientious the staff or foster carers supporting them are.

My paper will consider the position of these children and suggest ways in which professionals can support them. It will highlight findings from my research that suggest that awareness of the issues pertaining to children with parents in prison is often very limited amongst staff acting a 'corporate parent'. On a more positive note it will also focus on some positive and proactive practice by staff working in children's homes regarding these issues.

Presenter 2: Lorna Brookes (LJMU & Time-Matters UK)

Title: "Collateral damage"? Open court reporting and its impact on the children of defendants

This presentation will look at research that has been conducted in the UK since 2023, led by Lorna Brookes (School of Education) and Fran Yeoman and Tom McCooey (Journalism) at Liverpool John Moores University.

The research has gathered the views of children impacted by parental imprisonment (N=6), and non-offending community-based adult family members (N=6) on their experiences of parental crime being reported in the press.

The research has also gathered the views of journalists (N=5); three interviewees with extensive experience of court reporting, and the final two interviewees were representatives of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (the press regulator and administrator of the Editor's Code), and the National Union of Journalists. We also carried out a content analysis to obtain a picture of how much detail tends to be published which affects children of people sentenced to custody. We took samples of stories from three regional titles and two nationals over a period of three weeks between 12th June and 2nd July 2023.

Overall, this research highlights the tension between Open Justice and the Impact of Court Reporting on Children of Prisoners. Open justice is seen as a vital component to a democracy and journalists act as the public's eyes and ears in a courtroom, otherwise secrecy could hide injustice. But as journalists and people who have experienced the justice system know, court cases rely on details which impact more than just the person in the dock, most potently when it comes to identifying a defendant.
The research highlights the need for both parties to have a better understanding of each other's 'worlds'; for children and families affected by parental imprisonment to have a clearer understanding of what journalists can and can't do and what their rights are if they want to make a complaint, and also for journalists to understand more about the 'collateral damage' that is caused to children when parental crime is reported.

In the next stage of this project, which is funded by Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership, the research team hopes to establish a dialogue between the news media and the children of prisoners, through support groups such as Time Matters, founded by co-Principal Investigator Dr Lorna Brookes. The team is also in the process of developing resources to help explain the principles and processes of court reporting to those young people, as well as best practice guidelines for court reporters.

Papers 4: July 3rd 9:00-10:30

Presenter 1: Christina Bellasalma (Florida International University and Silent Victims of Crime)

Title: From Incarceration to Reentry: A Holistic Approach to Creating a Better Future for Children of Incarcerated Parents, Families, and Communities

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss an academic, qualitative research study done in conjunction with Florida International University on Silent Victims of Crime's (SVC) wraparound, family-driven services provided to children of incarcerated parents since 1996. The organization's vision is to reduce the risk of future offending and incarceration. The "Five Circles of Support" will be introduced, an interactive, holistic approach created and implemented to assist children of incarcerated parents, their families, and communities. Four primary types of programming emerged as the most crucial for facilitating the organization's mission and vision: (1) Parental Prison Visitation Programs, (2) CARE Court, (3) Family Unification Events, and (4) Advocacy. Particular attention will be paid to the specialized pilot jail visitation program that was recently developed and implemented with cross-sector partnerships to strengthen the likelihood of successful reentry, reintegration, and reunification. The study's results and policy implications will be discussed.

Presenter 2: Katie Kramer (The Bridging Group)

Title: Being the Father Our Children Need: Program Overview and Evaluation Results of the Dads Back! program in Los Angeles, California

Too often, parenting and reentry programs focus almost entirely on the incarcerated parent. The Dads Back! Academy FIRE (DB!AF) program in Los Angeles County, has a 3-pronged approach that focuses on the returning parent, their relationship with their children, and with the children's co-parent(s). This presentation will provide a program overview, including curricula developed by Ann Adalist-Estrin, and innovative child/parent engagement strategies. It will also provide results from an evaluation study completed with 565 DB!AF participants. The study examined if adding additional program content including reentry-focused parenting sessions and family-focused case

management to an existing reentry fatherhood program has any associations with:

1. improved knowledge of and techniques for responsible fatherhood;
2. improved father engagement and relationships with their children;
3. strengthened communication and satisfaction with co-parent relationships.

Abstracts for Workshops

Workshop 1: July 1st 11:00-11:30

Presenter 1: Charlotte Robertson (New Zealand)

Title: Teachers' role supporting children of prisoners

What is a teacher's role in supporting children with a loved one in prison?
What would be valuable for teachers to know and understand? What helps build resiliency for these children in an educational setting?
While some teachers have an understanding what children and families impacted by justice and corrections systems face many are unsure how to respond to and support these children and their families.
This workshop will explore these questions and share some insights gathered from international research. A digital book that was written for children with a loved one in prison and to encourage teachers to open conversations with children will be shared.

Presenters 2: Chaeyeon Songyi Han, So Hee Kim, Na Eun Kim, Yunseo (Louisa) Kim, Myungjin (David) Oh, Yoonjae (Ashley) Na (1-5 Design Lab)

Title: Beyond the Stigma: Elevating Awareness for Children Affected by Parental Incarceration

From 2018 to 2023, I organized annual art exhibitions aimed at raising awareness.
During the COVID-19 pandemic, I created and distributed coloring books for children to engage with at home. I understand that these initiatives may not directly alter the course of these children's lives or provide substantial aid, and I am aware that I cannot fully grasp their pain and life challenges. Nevertheless, I hope these children know they are not alone and that many people care about their struggles.

In 2017, my husband met Lee Kyung-rim, the director of the Child Welfare Practice Group Seum,

at the Asan Nanum Foundation. He shared profound stories about the children in Seum's care and the foundation's mission. Initially, the concepts surrounding the rights of prisoners' children felt distant to me, but one story struck a deep chord: a 7-year-old girl left with strangers due to her father's imprisonment, suffering overwhelming abuse. My heart ached as I thought of my own three children. At 12, I began studying in the United States, navigating life without my parents. At 15, tragedy struck when my 16-year-old sister was involved in a car accident and declared brain dead after ten days in a coma. She wished to donate her organs, saving five lives before we returned to Korea for her funeral. This experience transformed my family's perspective on life, instilling in me a deep gratitude for my time and abilities. As I raised my own children, I recognized the importance of love and support that
many children of incarcerated parents lack. After speaking with Director Lee, I realized my background in design could help raise awareness. This INCCIP event will be a valuable opportunity for 1-5 students and teachers who played an important role in tackling this social agenda to discuss their realizations or challenges related to the exhibition experience.

Workshop 2: July 1st 13:00-15:30

Presenter: Lorna Brookes (LJMU & Time-Matters UK)

Title: That Girl: A drama inspired by real life stories about a girl whose mother goes to prison.

The ‘drama’ film is 20 mins long and then interviews with the young adult consultants who inspired the film follows – which is also about 20 minutes. Thus the film is around 40 mins in total. Lorna Brookes will discuss the making of the film and Olivia Quarless (aged 24yrs – lived experience of maternal imprisonment), one of the film consultants would be able to do a live Q and A after this about why this is an important educational resource.

Workshop 3: July 2nd 11:30-12:30

Presenter: Bahiyyah Muhammad (Howard University)

Title: Centering COIP Expert Narratives: Allowing Children of Incarcerated Parents To Tell Their Own Stories of Success

This workshop with highlight the work of the editors of "Social Revolution: Black Children of Incarcerated Parents Speak Truth To Power" (2024, Routledge Press). The editors of the award winning anthology discuss the process of working with children of incarcerated parents to tell their stories of success through written narratives, creative works, poetry and artwork. As part of the anthology creation editors held "writing circles" that allowed adult and youth children of incarcerated parents to come into a zoom room to talk freely about the topics they were writing, to connect with one another and empower each other. In addition, editors will share how their experiences with directly impacted populations allowed them to incorporate an unapologetic stance on centering and empowering COIP throughout the editing process.

Workshop 4: July 3rd 09:00-10:30

Presenter 1: Rachna Narwekar (Rachna's Funclub Foundation)

Title: Nanhe Kadam: Building Safer Prisons and Advancing Holistic Development for Children in Custodial Settings

The incarceration of mothers raises critical concerns about the development, safety, and rights of their young children residing in prison environments. *Nanhe Kadam* is a pioneering initiative transforming prison crèches across Maharashtra—including Pune, Mumbai, Nashik, Nagpur, and Thane—into inclusive, developmentally appropriate spaces. These crèches serve children of incarcerated mothers and prison staff, ensuring equitable access to care, play, and learning within custodial settings.

At the core of *Nanhe Kadam* is a trauma-sensitive curriculum that integrates cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. Designed for children aged 0–6, it emphasises resilience, maternal bonding, and early learning through low-resource, context-sensitive activities. Grounded in Supreme Court guidelines and global child rights frameworks, the initiative operates through a public-private partnership under the Citizen Child Rights Movement.

This presentation highlights how the curriculum is embedded into daily routines, fostering measurable developmental gains while promoting safety and dignity. It also addresses systemic challenges, including policy inconsistencies, limited resources, and staff training gaps.

Nanhe Kadam exemplifies how even in restrictive environments, children can thrive when supported through rights-based, child-centric interventions. By reimagining prisons as nurturing spaces, the initiative uplifts children and shapes broader reform agendas. This session invites a global conversation on integrating care, protection, and early development in justice systems to ensure no child is left behind.

Presenter 2: Brenda Robinson (Children's Law Center of California)

Title: Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: A Collaborative Approach for Families with an Incarcerated Parent

There are approximately 2.7 million children in the US with an incarcerated parent. Approximately 5 million children have had a parent incarcerated at some point in their lives. Parental incarceration creates significant barriers to the reunification process in child welfare proceedings, which can ultimately end in the loss of parental rights at a disproportionate rate.

One of the questions on the ACES questionnaire is, "Have you ever lived with a parent/caregiver who went to jail/prison?" Given incarceration is so integral in ACES, understanding a person's ACES score is critical to working with them collaboratively and allowing their experience to be amplified in their voice.

Family time, often referred to as visitation, is a critical component of reunification in the child welfare system and when a parent is incarcerated this time can be limited for a variety of reasons. Innovative ideas are vital in ensuring families get time to spend with one another even when a parent is incarcerated. Through case examples, speakers will demonstrate how different interventions were implemented to help facilitate family time for children and incarcerated parents in Los Angeles County. The program will also emphasize the interdisciplinary and cross-system work being accomplished between the child welfare agency, the courts, the lawyers, and service providers.

In Los Angeles County, the Incarcerated Parents Working Group, (IPWG) has worked to eliminate barriers for incarcerated parents to reunite and their children and to participate in the reunification process. This collaborative working group brings child welfare stakeholders, service providers, and correctional facilities staff together to create better outcomes for these children and their parents by creating training for all parties and changing a culture that once meant going to jail and losing your children.

Learning Objectives: 1) Apply the understanding of ACES and trauma-informed interviewing techniques when communicating with youth whose parent(s) are incarcerated. 2) Integrate the importance of frequent contact between the parent-child to support the bond and ongoing connection between the child and the incarcerated parent. 3) Identify Los Angeles County's efforts that have resulted in better outcomes for families with an incarcerated parent regarding family time and current Department of Children and Family Services training on this topic, and 4) Apply programs and/or training that can be taken back to their colleagues and jurisdictions.

Learning Activity: Time will be reserved to have a brainstorming discussion with participants on how to integrate the Los Angeles County workgroup model into their jurisdiction.

Workshop 5: July 3rd 13:00-14:30

Presenter: Lorna Brookes (LJMU & Time-Matters UK)

Title: 8 Hours There and Back

"8 Hours There and Back" is a critically acclaimed play based on research by Dr Lorna Brookes (School of Education), written and directed by All Things Considered Theatre Company.
Over 60 testimonies from young people with lived experience of parental imprisonment informed the script.
Police, prison, and probation officers have praised the live performance as an outstanding training tool. It effectively engages audiences, drawing them into the real-life stories and fostering deep empathy. This experience serves as a powerful reminder to professionals of the daily challenges faced by children and highlights the profound impact that their actions and decisions can have on these individuals' lives.
Broadway World described the show as powerful; Arts-city Liverpool praised its sensitivity and use of young people's voice; the British Theatre Guide notes that it highlights the daily struggle and resilience required to cope with the challenges of a having an incarcerated parent, and Theatre-Reviews North described it as an intentionally thought-provoking show.
This would be a recording of the play - aprox 60 mins long (not a live performance).

Workshop 6: July 3rd 14:30-16:00

Presenter 1: Deborah L.K. Spencer-Chun (Adult Friends for Youth)

Title: Redirectional Therapy: An Approach to Reduce the Risk of Future Offending and Incarceration

Youth with incarcerated parents often fall prey to negative behaviors. In our case, gang activities, which often include fights, guns, drugs, and other criminal behavior. Adult Friends for Youth's (AFY) goal is to provide children of incarcerated parents with a voice to change the narrative around them and instill the self-determination to break the intergenerational cycle of incarceration. Through their specialized counseling services, AFY helps Hawaii's highest-risk youths develop the confidence to believe they can write their own life stories as opposed to being indoctrinated by society with the self-fulfilling prophecy that they are destined to follow in the same footsteps as their incarcerated mother or father.

AFY's approach utilizes group and individual counseling sessions in a nonjudgmental, safe space where violent youth gangs and gang members can share their thoughts and feelings with adult mentors who listen and genuinely care about their past, present, and future. Counseling sessions combine discussions and activities that help participants find their gifts and provide them with the tools to apply them.

AFY's services are culturally informed to resonate with the youth they serve, predominantly of Polynesian and Oceanic (Micronesian) descent. With nearly four decades of experience working with high-risk youth, AFY has come to understand that supporting the needs of children who have incarcerated parents is a significant systemic gap in the services that are available in Hawaii.

Presenter 2: Sandra Barnhill (Foreverfamily, Inc)

Title: Navigating Challenges with Strength: A Resilience Workshop on Developing Programming for Children Impacted By Parental Incarceration

This interactive, hands-on workshop focused on providing practical tools for those who work with youth is led by Sandra Barnhill, JD, the founder and former CEO of Foreverfamily, Inc., a national nonprofit based in Atlanta, Georgia, that has worked with children and families affected by parental incarceration for 38 years and served approximately 45,000 children. Sandra is also the author of Tough Mind, Tender Heart: Reflections on a Black Woman's Activist Journey.
The goals of the workshop:
• Participants engage in hands-on activities, discussions, and collaborative learning
• Participants explore, ideate, and consider their solutions
• Participants learn from each other and apply their new knowledge
• Participants work together to achieve the desired outcome

Skill-building opportunities in the workshop:
• Participants are introduced to youth development principles in a culturally competent community setting.
• Participants can develop new skills for building resilience in youth with a parent in prison and practice them in real-time.
• Participants can ask questions and get immediate answers from the workshop instructor, who has almost four decades of frontline practice experience. Her work is recognized nationally for getting results in working with children and families of the incarcerated.
• Participants can exercise their creativity and come up with new ideas.

Based on the framework the instructor developed and used at Foreverfamily, workshop participants will be introduced to the long-term goals of community-based youth development which is to improve the long-term life chances
of young people with a parent in prison:
• To become economically self-sufficient,
• To be healthy and have good family and social relationships, and
• To contribute to their community.

During the session, the instructor will share common sense indicators of the long-term objectives listed above and discuss what support and opportunities nonprofits working with these youths must

provide.

The instructor's approach emphasizes building on young people's strengths and assets, rather than solely focusing on problems and behaviors, by providing opportunities to develop youth's key life skills like leadership, critical thinking, and resilience.

Participants will have an opportunity to discuss their programs and identify ways to enhance the resilience factor in their programs serving youth impacted by parental incarceration.

Conference Venue

Hi Seoul Youth Hostel
200 Yeongshin-ro, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul
Postal Code: 07244
Personal Reservation: 02-2677-1779 | Group/Club Room Reservation: 02-2677-1744
FAX: 02-2677-1776 | E-MAIL: hiseoulyh@gmail.com

Transportation information

By Subway

- **Line 2** 11-minute walk from Exit 4 of Yeongdeungpo-gu Office Station
- **Line 5** 7-minute walk from Exit 1 of Yeongdeungpo Market Station
- **Line 9** 15-minute walk from Exit 9 of Dangsan Station

By Bus

■ Hi Seoul Youth Hostel Bus Stop

- Local Buses: 5, 5-1, 60, 60-1, 60-3, 88
- Feeder Buses (Green Buses): 5616, 5714, 6514
- Main Arterial Buses (Blue Buses): 605, 661, 760
- Express Buses (Red Buses): 700, 9000, 9030

■ Aha! Sexuality Education & Counseling Center for Youth Bus Stop (Nearby)

- Feeder Bus: 670

From Incheon International Airport to Hi Seoul Youth Hostel

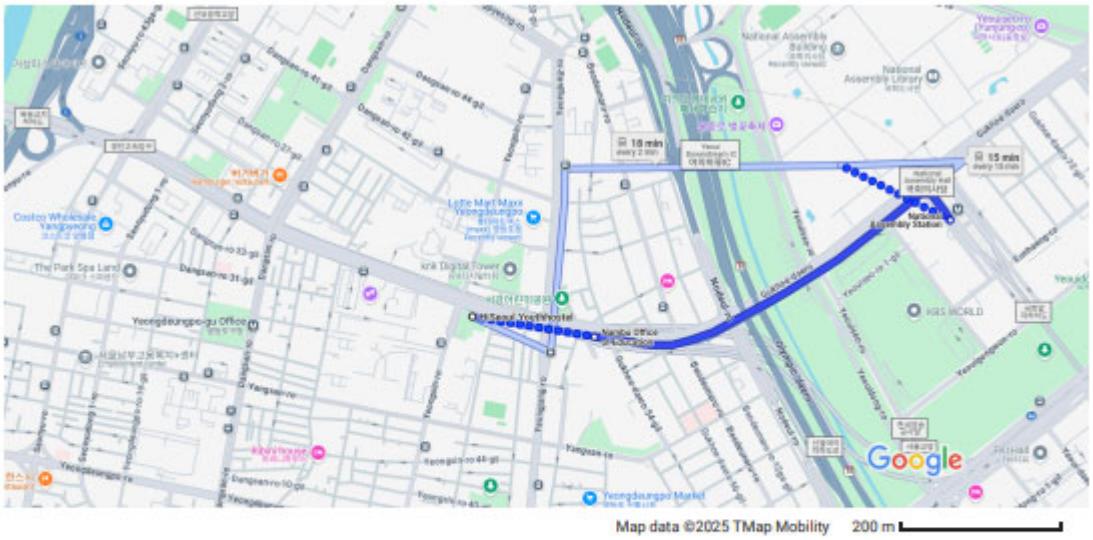
- **Bus Route**: Airport Limousine Bus **No. 6007**
- Boarding Location: Terminal 1, 1st Floor Exit 6A or 12B
- Travel Time: Approximately 2 hours
- Bus Interval: Every 15–20 minutes
- **First Bus**: 04:40 (from airport) / 05:35 (to Yeongdeungpo Market Entrance)
- **Last Bus**: 21:00 (from airport) / 23:00 (to Yeongdeungpo Market Entrance)
- Get off at: Shinhwa Hospital stop (a 1-minute walk to Hi Seoul Youth Hostel)

Car

- The parking space is small, so please use public transportation as much as possible.
- Nearby public parking lot: Public Dangsan Parking Lot – 3-ga, Dangsan-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul (within 5 minutes foot)

To the National Assembly on July 2nd

Conference Room 1, Members' Office Building, National Assembly
(국회의사당 국회의원회관 제 1소회의실)



12:03 PM HiSeoul Youthhostel
200 Yeongsin-ro, Yeongdeungpo District, Seoul

Walk
About 5 min, 350 m

Use caution - may involve errors or sections not suited for walking

Walk
350 m

12:08 PM Nambu Office of Education

70-2 국회의사당역
4 min (non-stop)
Service run by 경기도버스운송사업조합

12:12 PM National Assembly Station

Walk
About 6 min, 300 m

Use caution - may involve errors or sections not suited for walking

Walk
300 m

12:18 PM Members' Office Building

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