

**Women  
don't  
belong  
in cages**


80% of imprisoned women are inside for poverty related offences.

90% of Aboriginal and 82% of all women in prison are survivors of incest, rape or physical assault.

The number of women in prison increased 200% in the past 15 years.

**prisons are the real crime**

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**Stop the State Sexual Assault of Women**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

We are appealing to you to stop the strip-searching of women in Australian prisons; a practice too often experienced as sexual assault. As I am sure you are well aware, most women in prison are survivors of abuse, assault and/or incest, and strip searching only heighten experiences of trauma while subjecting women to further degradation, humiliation and despair. The practice of strip searching continues at alarming rates despite evidence that shows that strip-searching a woman fails to prevent contraband from entering the prisons. The sexual assault of women at the hands of the state must stop now if we are truly committed to the healing of individuals and communities.

Women have a basic right to their bodies.  
Anything less, anytime and anywhere  
is nothing short than criminal.

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