POST TRAUMATIC
PRISON DISORDER
SHAWANNA W76337 ACT
AN ACT to amend the correction law, concerning mental health services for individuals with post-traumatic prison disorder.

PURPOSE:
To address the mental health needs of individuals incarcerated in New York State and around the country.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:
The passing of this legislation would require the department of corrections and community supervision to develop an individualized "transitional accountability plan" for the rehabilitation of every person put under the custody of the department. Also, the bill requires mental health services to be included in the individuals transitional accountability plan. Mental health re-entry services will also provide screening and assessment, and clinical intervention for post-traumatic prison disorder.

Those who receive intervention for post-traumatic prison disorder shall also receive mental health services, therapeutic programs, family counseling, housing information, job placement information, and money management assistance. Under this law, the department is responsible for developing a plan for all personnel to provide them with essential competencies for mental health trauma.
As Harriet Tubman, Sally Hemmings and many ancestors before me. They were born on plantations as slaves for labor. So, too was I. Born to Joyce Ann Vaughn on April 15, 1978, on the plantation of Corona Institution for Women in Corona, Ca. County of Riverside. The new industrial slave complex. My trauma began upon the exit of my mother's womb from a woman barring life in cruel and unusual torture. Shackled to a hospital bed and chained and born to a mother in captivity, and this the entrance I made under these inhumane conditions and circumstances. And, to complicate matters further, I was born with cocaine in my system. 

A casualty of my mother's disease, she was addicted to multiple drugs and never receiving proper medical treatment such as rehabilitation. Her ethnicity and zip code determined jails, and prisons were the course of her treatment in the population of America. The study shows 1 in 7 African American children in 1978 were born to mothers of incarceration. In present-day, the numbers show 1 in 4 of African American children is born to mothers incarcerated. The intersection to being born to a mother in the industrial slave complex system among 1 in 7 subjected to being born in captivity is the traumatic experiences of being stripped from nurture the first prevalent moments of any newborn's life. And, the trauma continues for the infant who was born to a slave, held by the overseer and leased to the foster care system. So, this is a cycle never-ending of Post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337. Rutgers University shows more than 2.7 million children in the United States have an incarcerated parent; this equates to 1 in 28 children. One in nine African American children which is 11.4%. One in Twenty-eight Hispanics which is 3.5% and Caucasians make up One in fifty-seven which equals for this population 1.8%. The disproportionate numbers tell a story far better than what we could imagine. The expandability of an entire race of people. Post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337. Mass incarceration creates catastrophic outcomes.

The word catastrophic defined by Merriam Webster is, Involving or causing sudden significant damage or suffering. The trauma of minority communities is vast and diverse. More than the crack era in the 70's that the government strategically placed in our neighborhoods. It's more extensive than pipelines to prison. And, surpasses the disenfranchisement we face around this entire country. The root begins with the capture of my ancestors on the coast of Senegal to the shores of Jamestown, Va 1619, in a slave ship named Jesus.
Our traumas are the evolution of the captivity of a people for capitalism in a country that we built for the oppressor. And, the expansion of slavery from 400 years to now with the State of Emergency called Mass Incarceration. An assault on minorities around the country.

Post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337 is due to the word reform that is not identifying mental health within a group of people in this country that have experienced captivity inside institutions of confinement. Jails, detention centers, prisons, solidarity, and isolation. All are forms of torture that create post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337.

If we are seeking practical solutions that would impact Mass incarceration, it would be to heal broken people with effective methods. Offering a holistic approach to healing through mental health issues from Post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337.

Many suffer in Silence, but Silent Cry, we will endure no longer. Help is on the way. If we can pass legislation to build holistic and therapeutic solutions, we minimize Mass incarceration and reentry as it has been framed.

Enslaved by chains that the eye cannot see not metal and binding but the countless minds that are not free

Mass Incarceration has left us with mental difficulties.

~Shawanna Vaughn

#ShawannaW76337
"What we need to understand about Post Traumatic Prison Disorder, is that the needs of people who have had to experience this injustice system in our country and their families, undergo a series of trauma related events that can extend the rest of their lives. It IS our responsibility to DEMAND that our community is healed through action to somehow correct the targeted attempts on our lives called mass incarceration. As a mental health therapist for nearly 20 years, now using that knowledge to help shift the narrative for our people so easily thrown away, I have treated thousands of people. The hardest resource to come across is for humans that have suffered through a jail system with no emphasis on rehabilitation, peace or circulatory love. PTPD as a bill is necessary because it WILL begin to heal harmed people and restore quality of life to those disenfranchised by our current criminal justice system."

“Suffering from trauma can be a lonely and isolating experience. The first step to getting well and learning how to manage your post traumatic prison disorder Shawannq W76337 symptoms is to seek help. If a person does not receive help, they can possibly harm themselves or someone else.”

"Decades of incarceration in a cell made for one Housed by two. I still have trouble sleeping without the light on. I live with an unmitigated Anger and mood swings. I live my life, always placing my back up against the wall in every setting I attend."

"The inhumane treatment of those incarcerated carry's deep-seated Trauma that lasts long after the term of incarceration."

Shanequa M. Charles

Dr. Vanessa Guyton

Arthur Rambert

Served 25 Years
True rehabilitation is the transforming of one’s mind. Every individual who has been incarcerated has a need for proper mental health care treatment. Incarceration is a very traumatic experience and without proper mental health care one can not be fully rehabilitated. Post-traumatic prison disorder Shawanna W76337 addresses the mental health needs of the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated. As a person who has spent the last twenty-plus years incarcerated without any attention being paid to my mental health, I welcome the implementation of the PTPD Shawanna W76337 bill; it is greatly needed.

Quentin Jones

As a family man who has been impacted by the criminal justice system I know that PTPD is a real mental effect on not only the person incarcerated but the entire family dynamic as a whole. It has to be treated in a holistic manner and change how we cope of the effects of mass incarceration and build back healthy families.

Derek Perkinson
The only strategy to address such an endless cycle of human exploitation is to address mental illness comprehensively. Starting with inmates that are almost often overly medicated and sedated as the only form of therapy and, conversely, the formerly incarcerated that are released without any support. There is a pattern of systemic weakening of such population consistently denied essential resources, allowing for mental illness to develop, to proliferate and thrive in entire communities. Families are abandoned to a cruel fate, mental illness in loved one going to jail and coming out only escalates because it is never treated at the root. Solitary confinement and the abusive and severe inhumane conditions of American jails are breeding grounds for trauma and mental illness and, sadly, such a high rate of recidivism that we see in our country today. Many men and women self medicate and become addicts trapped into a criminal lifestyle that always comes with drug use. It's a mass victimization rather and one that has decimated the black and brown community for decades. Compassion for the human condition while accepting and validating the cold hard facts is the beginning of a mass healing and an overall mass

Post-traumatic prison disorder is the result of inhumane treatment and a correctional system that rather punish and restrain then re-educate with care. ~Linda Bonanno

ABOUT MASS INCARCERATION AND MENTAL HEALTH:

It's a vicious cycle of injustice! A mixture of poverty, inequality causes most mental health issues, and deep trauma that drives many to desperate measures often punished beyond reason. It is clearly a trend to mass incarcerate the struggling population that is resourceless and, of course, mostly composed of brown and black human beings. The injustice and severe emotional injuries sustained by all these vulnerable individuals, leave deep spiritual wounds that exacerbate into full fledge mental illness.
In recent years, there has been a great deal of research and attention brought to PTS, as it impacts our Service Members and Veterans. It is widely understood that unprocessed trauma and loss can lead to devastating emotional and social consequences. Unfortunately, there is a dearth of awareness and resources dedicated to post-traumatic stress disorder (and related subtypes) in the context of incarceration and post-incarceration experiences. To add to this, therapeutic approaches to mental and emotional health are frowned upon both in prison and in the African-American and Latino communities. As a result, latent mental and emotional health issues fester, often leading to breakdowns in communication, destabilized families and communities, and high rates of incarceration. Shawanna Vaughn's bill, as well as her on the ground efforts, seek to rectify and to remedy this dire reality. As a society, we must seriously address the need for healing in our most vulnerable communities, both because it is the right thing to do, as well as for the future of our public safety and health. Shawanna Vaughn is on the frontlines. The passage of her bill will bring much-needed hope and positive change, which will benefit us all.”

Shawanna Vaughn is a champion for survivors. As a trauma survivor previously diagnosed with C-PTSD, I am no stranger to the negative aftermath of traumatic experiences. However, after serving nearly 19 years in state prison on a wrongful conviction, since being released I have quickly come to understand the myriad and nuanced my trauma was both inflicted in new ways and re-experienced through surviving the horrors of the carceral system where trauma and violence are a routine business and an integral part of daily existence inside. Ms. Vaughn has recognized, named, validated, and strives to enact change for this very real debilitating problem; Post Traumatic Prison Disorder affected thousands of post incarcerated people. PTPD Shawanna Vaughn W76337 is a catalysis for positive change. May we be silent no more, may our cries not be in vain.
Prison is real, and so are its effects. Knowing the devastating effects of extensive time spent in jail, why are there no state-specific programs catered towards impacted citizens returning into society? With the average recidivism rate hovering around 50% from state to state, it's imperative that we support incarcerated and returning citizens suffering from PTPD. PTPD is real.

#PassPTPD
#SupportW76337

Returning citizens deserve a chance at a successful life while attempting to transition back into society. The state should rehabilitate at every level throughout a citizen's transition. PTPD would require the department of corrections and community supervision to develop an individualized "transitional accountability plan" for the rehabilitation of every person put under the custody of the department.

#PassPTPD
#SupportW76337