



END MASS INCARCERATION GEORGIA NETWORK MEETING

“Owning Your Right to Vote”

SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

1:00 PM

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network



- ❖ **Belief Statement:** All children and families are of infinite value and potential--giving and deserving care, justice and support. This belief ensures an understanding that all strengthen the mosaic of life.
- ❖ **Action Statement:** In order to break the cycle of generational criminal and juvenile justice involvement, there must be an intentional, collective investment in schools, communities and appropriate supportive services for children and adults to ensure that all children and families can succeed.

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network



What does EMI Georgia Network do?

- ❖ **PROVIDE FOR COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SESSIONS** on the issues of the juvenile and criminal justice systems, and agencies and organizations that provide supports and services at the local, state and federal levels;
- ❖ **COMMUNICATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY'S ROLE** in understanding and participating in juvenile and criminal justice reform;
- ❖ **FACILITATE OPPORTUNITIES** for the community to adopt a conversation of accountability and transformation, rather than retribution and punishment;
- ❖ **ADVOCATE FOR VIABLE, SOLUTION-BASED RESPONSES** for the end of mass incarceration; and
- ❖ **ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT** in and of the End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network.

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network – Agenda

September 28, 2020



- ❖ 1:00 p.m. - Video by YelloPain “My Vote Don’t Count” – a civics lesson in the structure of American government
- ❖ Welcome & Introductions – Anika Jones
- ❖ Poll: What do I know about voting? – Pamela Perkins Carn
- ❖ Voter Education Presentation - Simone Price, REFORM Alliance
- ❖ Plan Your Vote Simulation - Debbie Hillman, Newton County NAACP
- ❖ Wrap-Up (Additional Materials and Action Steps)
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ 2:30 p.m. - Closing

End Mass Incarceration Georgia – JUSTICE REFORM

(initial info provided Jan. & Feb. 20)



RESTORING VOTING RIGHTS

SB 414 (2019-2020), sponsored by Senator Harold Jones of Augusta, seeks to define "moral turpitude" as involving one of more than 70 offenses involving serious violence, treason and human trafficking -- to name a few of the categories.

Support SB 414 and restoring the right to vote to Georgia citizens who have committed nonviolent offenses, served their time and paid their debt to society.

Voting Rights For Georgians In Legal Debt Left Unclear By State Agencies

<https://www.wabe.org/georgia-state-agencies-foster-confusion-over-voting-rights-for-people-in-legal-debt/>

End Mass Incarceration Georgia – JUSTICE REFORM

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BACKGROUND for SB 414 (2019-2020)

Georgia is one of 22 states where persons convicted of a felony lose their voting rights during incarceration and for a period of time afterward. WRDW in Augusta reported in January 2019, that “In Georgia, the two exceptions to your right to register to vote and vote are if you're a person completing a felony sentence or if a judge finds you mentally incompetent. That means if you're incarcerated, on parole, on probation or even if you have unpaid fees for a felony charge, you're wiped from the voter rolls until you complete your sentence.”

“The only exception is those that may be sentenced as a first offender. Other than that, there is no distinction made between the type of felony,” said Augusta-Richmond County \ Elections Director Lynn Bailey.” <https://www.wrdw.com/content/news/New-Georgia-bill-could--505054851.html>

In the 2019 legislative session, the Senate Study Committee on Revising Voting Rights for Nonviolent Felony Offenders was formed and charged with providing a definition for “felony involving moral turpitude” to resolve this issue. The Study Committee met over the course of 2019 and, at the end of the year, released a report of their recommendation to take no action.

Despite their legislative charge and the disenfranchisement that the lack of clarifying language causes for thousands of Georgians, the Study Committee adjourned without providing a proper definition for a “felony involving moral turpitude.”

2020 State Elections and Voter Registration Calendar

Elections	Voter Registration Deadline	Election Date
Presidential Preference Primary, General Primary Election, Nonpartisan General Election, and Special Election	May 11, 2020	June 9, 2020
General Primary Runoff, Nonpartisan General Runoff, and Special Runoff Election for Local and State Offices	May 11, 2020	August 11, 2020
General Primary Runoff Election for Federal Offices	July 13, 2020	August 11, 2020
General Election and Special Election	October 5, 2020	November 3, 2020
General Election and Special Election Runoffs for Local and State Offices	October 5, 2020	December 1, 2020
General Election Runoff for Federal Offices	December 7, 2020	January 5, 2021

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network – STPP



Safe School Climates and the School to Prison Pipeline: Unraveling the connection between safety in the form of harsh disciplinary measures, law enforcement, racial disproportionality and safe and healthy schools. What are viable advocacy actions that the community can take? Do we need a “changing hearts and minds” **campaign to combat the dehumanization and adultification of children of color?**

“If they knew you, they would be ashamed.” Mrs. Jackie Robinson to her husband in the film “42”

- Dehumanization of Children of Color: Schooling and the Recent, Rapid Rise in Black Children's Suicide Rates, Brown, Sheandra; Davis, Matthew D.; Hernandez, Jennifer; Ming, Miranda, 2019
- Ending the Effects of Adultification Bias

After 'Egregious' Violation, Judge Orders Census To Count Through Oct. 31 For Now



Census 2020 Update

The 2020 Census counts every person living in the United States and five U.S. territories. The U.S. Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

The count is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands).

Go online to <https://2020census.gov/> to respond today!



Census 2020 Update

If you are filling out the census for your home, you should count everyone who is living there as of April 1, 2020. This includes anyone—related or unrelated to you—who lives and sleeps at your home most of the time.

Please be sure to count roommates, young children, newborns, and anyone who is renting a space in your home. If someone is staying in your home on April 1 and has no usual home elsewhere, you should count them in your response to the 2020 Census.

If someone such as a college student is just living with you temporarily due to the COVID-19 situation, they should be counted where they ordinarily would be living on April 1, 2020.

Please count everyone living in your home. Where there are more people, there are more needs. An accurate count helps inform funding for hospitals, fire departments, schools, and roads for the next 10 years.



Census 2020 Update

FUNDING:

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

POLITICAL REPRESENTATION:

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.



Announcements

- ❖ EMI Georgia Network Meeting Date: October 27, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- ❖ IMAN Atlanta Hosts National Edition: Grassroots Power Hour - Police Violence, Voter Suppression, Artist-Organizers & YOU, Wednesday, October 7, 2020. 6:30-7:30pm CST | 7:30-8:30pm EST | 4:30-5:30pm PST. Virtual Event via Zoom

Register in advance for the event [here](#).

Guest panelists:

Cariol Horne: Activist and former Buffalo, NY police officer who was fired from her job 19 years ago after preventing another officer from killing an unarmed Black man in a chokehold.

Drea d'Nur: Acclaimed singer/songwriter, nonprofit executive director, IMAN Roster Artist and Sacred Cypher Creatives fellow, and one of the main organizers attempting to pass "Cariol's Law".

Dr. Intisar Rabb: Tenured professor of law and history at Harvard Law School, faculty director of the Program in Islamic Law at Harvard Law School, and a formal legal representative for Cariol Horne.



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