

Resilience Summer Book Club
August 2020
Inside this Place Not of It by Ayelet Waldman & Robin Levi

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways does this book highlight incarceration as a sexual and domestic violence issue?
2. Through these women's stories, how might we see mass incarceration framed as a reproductive justice issue?
3. Where do we see the prison system as a vehicle for violence as opposed to preventing it?
4. What are some common themes we see across these women's lives?
5. Some of the women's narratives spoke to certain aspects of their incarceration experience as being helpful (ie; education). How do we reconcile these personal experiences with broader systems of abuse and inequity?

**These questions are just to start us off. Feel free to bring your own questions and observations!*

Further Readings:

On Women's Prison:

- ❖ [Sexual Violence in Women's Prisons Reaches "Constitutional Proportions." Will Lawmakers Step In? \(msmagazine\)](#)
- ❖ [Words From Prison: Sexual Abuse in Prison \(ACLU.org\)](#)
- ❖ [Inmates at N.J. Women's Prison Endured Years of Sex Abuse, Justice Dept. Finds \(The New York Times\)](#)
- ❖ [#MeToo Behind Bars: Records Shed Light on Sexual Abuse Inside Women's Prisons \(KQED\)](#)
- ❖ ['No longer human': Women's prisons are a breeding ground for sexual harassment, abuse \(ThinkProgress\)](#)
- ❖ [Reproductive \(In\)justice: Women and Mothers in Prison \(National Women's Health Network\)](#)
- ❖ [What Do Prison's Have to Do with Reproductive Rights? \(Rewire.News\)](#)

Books like *Inside this Place: Not of it*:

- ❖ [The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander](#)
- ❖ [Becoming Ms. Burton: From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women by Cari Lynn and Susan Burton](#)
- ❖ [Inner Lives: Voices of African American Women in Prison by Paula Johnson](#)
- ❖ [Resistance Behind Bars: The Struggles of Incarcerated Women by Victoria Law](#)