



JOURNAL OF PRISONERS ON PRISONS

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR A SPECIAL ISSUE ON DESISTANCE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND LIVED EXPERIENCE

Special Issue Editors

Katharina Maier, PhD – Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, University of Winnipeg
Rosemary Ricciardelli, PhD – Full Professor, Sociology, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Shadd Maruna, PhD – Professor, Social Work, Queen’s University Belfast

Special Issue Theme

The *Journal of Prisoners on Prisons* (JPP) invites submissions for a special issue on the theme of “Desistance, Social Justice, and Lived Experience”. Desistance (from crime) has become a ubiquitous concept among scholars of criminology and criminal justice. As a concept, desistance draws attention to people’s individual journeys and trajectories—how people “go legit”—rather than on measurable treatment outcomes or rates of re-offending. In other words, the focus is on “how” things work, as perceived by desisters themselves, not “how well” things work or ought to work from the viewpoint of the penal apparatus. Thinking about desistance, thus, is not about “fixing” people that society and social systems label as “broken”, “deficient” or “bad”. Rather, desistance is about recognizing people’s talents, strengths and personhood, by understanding how people act, change, and cease crime in empowered ways despite disempowering social structures.

We welcome submissions from criminalized people or pieces co-authored with advocates and allies, legal, social, along with other practitioners, community-based groups, and scholars. We invite submissions representing a range of disciplines and frameworks, including legal, criminological, anthropological, feminist, philosophical, social work, and artistic interpretations of desistance. We also encourage authors to creatively apply and/or theoretically expand current theorizations of desistance. Submissions that offer insight and analysis of “desistance-focused” programs and policies, or that reflect on the nature and promises of “desistance” versus “offence” focused interventions and policies are also welcome. Moreover, we invite submissions that consider recent legal changes and how current legislation may facilitate and/or hamper desistance.

Overall, we encourage authors to reflect on the future of desistance research and practice, by considering how scholars, activists, and practitioners can chart a path toward “desistance-informed” futures, along with social and legal justice. Submissions from former and current prisoners, particularly those willing to share their insights and/or personal experiences of desistance, including (but certainly not limited to) their internal narratives of desistance and efforts toward desistance (e.g. the material and penal conditions and struggles shaping desistance journeys), are particularly encouraged.

Paper Formats and Submission Guidelines

Fundamental to the *JPP* and this special issue are the accounts, experiences and criticisms of criminalized populations. Prisoners and former prisoners, along with other co-authors (where applicable) are encouraged to submit papers, collaborative essays, discussions transcribed from tape, book reviews, and photo or graphic essays. The Journal will not publish any subject matter that advocates hatred, sexism, racism, violence or that supports the death penalty. The Journal does not publish material that usually focuses on the writer's own legal case, although the use of the writer's personal experiences as an illustration of a broader topic is encouraged. The Journal does not usually publish fiction and does not generally publish poetry. Illustrations, drawings and paintings may be submitted as potential cover art. Submissions must be original work not published or submitted elsewhere for review. Articles should be no longer than 20 pages typed and double-spaced or legibly handwritten. Electronic submissions are gratefully received. For references cited in an article, writers should attempt to provide the necessary bibliographic information. Refer to the references cited in past issues for examples. Writers may elect to write anonymously or under a pseudonym. Please submit biographical and contact information, to be published alongside articles unless otherwise indicated. We appreciate the enclosure of a brief abstract.

Important Dates

Submissions by authors:	1 July 2020
Editorial decision and reviewer comments to authors:	1 September 2020
Revised manuscripts:	1 December 2020
Publication date:	2021-2022

Submissions

Via email to k.maier@uwinnipeg.ca or by mail to the address below:

Katharina Maier, PhD
Department of Criminal Justice
University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue – Room 3C49
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
R3B 2E9