VISITATION & PARENTING BEYOND BARS

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Why Support Increased Visitation?

- Help Prevent unnecessarily separating families as it is devastating to children in foster care.
- Support family reunification which is linked to reduced recidivism for parents, greater family stability, and improved emotional response for children.[1]

M.L. and her 3 year old son at WCCW Holiday Event 2014, she gave birth to her sons in jail and she has been successfully parenting from prison. Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Benefits of Prison Visits on Children’s Well-Being

- Provides assurance
- Reduces separation anxiety
- Can reduce the child’s incidence of problematic behavior and improve outcomes
- Provides stabilization
- Maintains parent-child attachment [2]
Better Outcomes for Kids

- Maintaining contact helps children:
  - Allows them to express emotional reactions to separation
  - Promotes a more realistic understanding
  - Reduces child anxiety by knowing their parent is safe[3]
VISITATION AT DOC PRISONS IN WA

Contact Visits and Family Friendly Environment
Visitation and Events at WCCW

- Prison Staff Make Family Friendly Events and Environments-Food, Art, Fun!

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Visitation and Events at WCCW

* pictures from 2015 Christmas Event

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Contact Visits

T.Q. and her 6 year old son, she is successfully parenting from prison since he was a baby and will release in 2019. Photo Credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Contact Visits
Room to Play Freely!

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Ability for Child to Connect with Caregiver and Parent!

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Arts and Crafts with Parent and Caregiver

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Prison Staff Make it Fun!

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
Meet other caregivers and kids in Same Circumstances!

Photo credit: Maria Bryk Photography, 2015
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