



Based on evidence that establishes that solitary confinement is extremely detrimental to prisoners' health, does not reduce prison violence, and has been denounced by the UN and Amnesty International as torture, the Illinois Coalition Against Torture (ICAT) joins the national movement to end solitary confinement by calling directly on Governor Quinn and Attorney General Madigan to end solitary confinement in Illinois.

Here is how you can help:

- Sign and send the petition to family and friends (see below);
- Contact your state legislators and ask them to support legislation to end solitary confinement www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx;
- Canvass your neighbors and ask them to sign the petition.

For additional background information

Solitary confinement's invisible scars www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/oct/30/solitary-confinement-invisible-scars/print
Torture: the Use of Solitary Confinement in U.S. Prisons

<http://ccrjustice.org/solitary-factsheet>

Is it Time to Ban Solitary Confinement? [www.prisonlegalnews.org/\(X\(1\)S\(0qnrbsmp3yitam455rk1i5nd\)\)/displayArticle.aspx?articleid=21835&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1](http://www.prisonlegalnews.org/(X(1)S(0qnrbsmp3yitam455rk1i5nd))/displayArticle.aspx?articleid=21835&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1)

Sign the Petition to End Solitary Confinement

www.credomobilize.com/petitions/end-solitary-confinement-in-illinois

For more information visit: <http://illinoiscat.org>



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SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

the hole, seg, lockdown, etc., the box

No matter what the practice is called, prisoners are:

- Locked up 23 hours a day in a 7'x10', soundproof, windowless, cement cage;
- Denied exercise, visitors, phone calls, and virtually all material possessions;
- Subject to invasive strip searches;
- Forced to eat unhealthy food shoved through a hole in the door of their cell.

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IS TORTURE

Isolation in conditions of reduced environmental stimulation, even for relatively short periods of time, can cause serious psychological harm.

- Individuals suffer anxiety and depression.
- Some experience perceptual distortions and psychosis.
- Some bite into their own veins and cut off their fingers or testicles.

Half of all prison suicides occur in solitary confinement.

AND MUST END NOW

- Currently, 80,000 U.S. prisoners are confined in solitary.
- Confinement ranges from weeks to years and even decades. In Illinois, more than 350 prisoners have been confined to solitary for more than a year.

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