

Indian Law Institute, New Delhi
in collaboration with
Centre for Comparative Studies in Personal laws,
National Law University, Delhi

National Seminar on Children of Incarcerated Parents
at
Indian Law Institute, Bhagwandas Road, New Delhi
[March 27, Delhi]: Submit by March 18

The Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi and the National Law University(NLU), Delhi are jointly organising a half day Seminar on “**Children of Incarcerated Parents in India: Issues and Challenges.**”

Date: 27th March, 2019, Wednesday

Venue: Indian Law Institute, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi

Timing: 2:00 pm onwards

Children of Incarcerated Parents in India: Issues and Challenges

Background

Interest in the effect of parental incarceration on children is relatively recent phenomenon, for this reason, some of criminologists have referred to the children of incarcerated individuals as ‘invisible’ victims of crime. The extent of invisibility of the children of incarcerated parents in India is evident from the fact that till date we have no data to confirm the exact number of the children who have their parents in jail i.e. we do not have any protocol to enquire from the people who come in conflict with our law agencies about the children they have left behind. As per Prison Statistics India, 2015 published by National Crime Records Bureau we had 4,19,623 prison inmates (convicts and under-trial both) as on 30.12.2015. Out of which 1,77,929 were in the age group of 18-30yrs, 1,83,019 were in the age group of 30-50 yrs and 55,264 were 50 years or more. Now even if we assume that only fifty percent of the prisoners above the age group of 30 years were married and had two children each then we can say that the number of children with incarcerated parents in India as on 30.12.2015 was at least 2,38,238 and the figures must have gone higher keeping in the mind the growth in the number of prisoners i.e. 4,75,641 currently. Considering the estimated figures it will not be an exaggeration to say that such children are everywhere, hidden somewhere in the midst of us. However due to the lapse in our

system the rights of such children remain largely unacknowledged within criminal justice systems and such children often fall into the gaps between government agencies.

Over the last decade, efforts have escalated at the international level to create policies specifically geared towards addressing the situation of the young children of incarcerated parents. India taking the lead from there has begun work in this direction being a signatory to many of these treaties and incorporating their spirit in its domestic laws like National Charter for Children, 2003 which says “All children shall have the right to meet their parents and other family members who may be in custody”. Additionally, the Indian Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Code requires the police to inform the relatives of the arrestee of what happened and the arrestee has also been given the right to have a relative or a friend named by him informed of his arrest and the location of his imprisonment. Indian judiciary also at various instances has come strongly in rescue of such children, like in *Re- Inhuman Conditions in 1382 prisons v. Director General of Prisons, State of Andhra Pradesh* [2016 (10) SCC 17], *R.D Upadhyay v. State of U.P* [1996 (3) SCC 422] where the Supreme Court vigorously took up the cause of improving the condition of such children. Allahabad, Gujarat, Bombay, Kerala and many other High Courts have also from time to time ruled in the favour of this vulnerable group.

Taking their cause forward, the present seminar aims at highlighting different issues related to these children i.e. children of incarcerated parents from human rights perspective and our criminal justice system’s initiative to resolve such issues. The seminar will provide anyone who works with children and families affected by incarceration a unique opportunity to gather, share views and engage in a meaningful discussion. We are considering this seminar as a platform to initiate a RIGHT discourse, expecting thought provoking, multidisciplinary, quality research papers.

Call for Papers & Themes for the Seminar

- Parental Involvement with the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on Their Children.
- Children of Incarcerated Parents: Legal Framework.
- Human Rights and Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents.
- Children of Offenders and the Cycle of Intergenerational Incarceration.
- The Child’s Constitutional Right to the Family Relationship.
- Parental Prisoners: The Incarcerated Individual’s Constitutional Right to Parent.
- Understanding the Interaction of Children of Incarcerated Parent’s with the criminal justice machinery in India.
- Safeguarding the Children of Arrested Parents: Developing Parental Arrest Policies.
- Child and Family Contact Visits in Jail.
- Lack of Collaboration Between the Child Welfare System and the Criminal Justice System Contribute to the Unmet Needs of Families.

- Policies and Programs for Children of Incarcerated Parent's in India and Their Effectiveness.
- Comparative Study on Policies and Laws for Children of Incarcerated Parent's.

Note: These Themes are not exhaustive; Authors are open to work on any topic related to above-mentioned theme.

Procedure for Submission of Abstracts

Abstract (of about 250 words) should be sent as an attachment in a word file. Abstracts will be peer reviewed before they are accepted. The following information, in the given format, should be sent along with the Abstract:

- Name of the Participant
- Official Designation/Institution Details (if any)
- Address and Email id
- Title of Abstract
- Abstract
- Name and details of Co-author, if any.

The subject line of Email should read as 'Abstract Submission for National Seminar on COIP'.

Guidelines for Paper Submission

Please follow Journal of ILI (JILI) Rules of footnoting and citation style only (available on ILI website).

How to apply?

Interested participants may submit soft copy of the abstracts and full papers to the organising committee on the following email address: coip27march@gmail.com.

Registration Fee for Presentation/Participation of Paper

- Faculties/Professionals/Research Scholars/Students/Others: Rs. 200/- (Rupees Two Hundred)

Important Dates

- Submission of Abstract: 18th March, 2019
- Confirmation of Abstract selection: 20nd March, 2019
- Submission of the Draft Paper: 25th March, 2019
- Registration: On the spot registration available
- Seminar Date: 27th March, 2019 (Wednesday).

Note: The date for the submission of Full Paper will be given shortly after the Seminar to allow the participants to revise their papers in the light of the discussion on the day of the Seminar

Contact

Seminar Coordinators

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