Smarter Choices ... 
... Safer Communities

Richard Jerome, Project Manager
Public Safety Performance Project
America’s Prison Population at an All Time High

2.3 Million and Counting

National incarceration rate

1 in 100 adults now behind bars

1 in 31 adults under some form of correctional control
## Who’s Behind Bars?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Incarceration Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult women</td>
<td>1 in 580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult white men</td>
<td>1 in 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult black men</td>
<td>1 in 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young adult black men</td>
<td>1 in 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The World’s Incarceration Leader

U.S. has 5% of the world’s population and 23% of the world’s prisoners
Policy Choices Drive Growth
PENALTY FOR LITTERING
UP TO $1000 AND PRISON
Correctional Costs Have Exploded

General Fund Expenditures for Corrections

Inflation Adjusted

1987: $10.6 Billion
1990: $20.2 Billion
1995: $25 Billion
2000: $35 Billion
2005: $45 Billion
2010: $51 Billion

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Prisons Dominate Spending

**CORRECTIONAL POPULATION**

- Prisons
- Probation and Parole

**CORRECTIONAL SPENDING**

- Prisons
How It All Stacks Up

One day in prison costs more than 23 days on probation

$3.42 Average

Probation Agencies

$78.95 Average

Prison Systems
Return on Investment: A Tale of Two States

Prison Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>New York</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>49,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>85,000</td>
<td>46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>37,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>105,000</td>
<td>34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>31,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crime Rate

- Florida: 28.2%
- New York: 29.2%

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States Can Have Less Crime at a Lower Cost

- United States: 14% incarceration rate, -24% crime rate
- Maryland: -2% incarceration rate, -28% crime rate
- New Jersey: -12% incarceration rate, -37% crime rate
- New York: -15% incarceration rate, -39% crime rate

1997-2007
A Window of Opportunity

- Advances in supervision technology
- Advances in the science of behavior change
- More accurate risk assessments
- Increasing focus on cost-benefit analysis
- Public support for prison alternatives
BIPARTISAN RESEARCH TEAM

- POS: McCain, R governors
- BSG: Obama, unions

FOCUS GROUPS

- Greenville, SC Rural County
- City of Detroit
- Denver Suburb

NATIONAL SURVEY

- 1,200 registered voters (March 2010)
- Margin of error: +/- 2.83%
It does not matter whether a nonviolent offender is in prison for 21 or 24 or 27 months. What really matters is the system does a better job of making sure that when an offender does get out, he is less likely to commit another crime.

STRONGLY AGREE: 75%
TOTAL AGREE: 91%
Underlying Attitudes

“What percent of people currently in prison in the United States do you think could be released from prison who would not pose a threat to overall public safety? 22%
Policy Solutions: Less Prison, More Accountability

“Reduce prison time for low-risk, non-violent offenders and re-invest some of the savings to create a stronger probation and parole system that holds offenders accountable for their crimes.”

STRONGLY FAVOR

TOTAL FAVOR

52%

87%
Policy Solutions: Reinvestment Support Strong Across Party Lines

- **Total Favor**
  - **GOP**: 87%
  - **Independent**: 85%
  - **Democrat**: 90%
- **Strongly Favor**
  - **GOP**: 50%
  - **Independent**: 53%
  - **Democrat**: 66%
A Window of Opportunity

- Advances in supervision technology
- Advances in the science of behavior change
- More accurate risk assessments
- Increasing focus on cost-benefit analysis
- Public support for prison alternatives
- Budget pressure
Diverse States Pursuing Reinvestment Strategies

- South Carolina
- Texas
- Alabama
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Ohio
- New Hampshire
- Arkansas
- Louisiana
- Colorado
- Michigan
- Kentucky
- Wisconsin

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## Business Leaders Speak Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Business Leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Kentucky| Dave Adkisson  
President & CEO, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Chairman of the Board, American Chamber of Commerce |
| Florida | Barney T. Bishop III  
President and Chief Executive Officer, Associated Industries of Florida |
| Illinois| Frank H. Beal  
Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020  
Board Member, Business and Professional People for the Public Interest |
| Michigan| James R. Holcomb  
Vice President for Business Advocacy and Associate General Counsel, Michigan Chamber of Commerce |
| Oregon  | Erin Hubert  
Vice President and General Manager, Entercom Radio  
Board Chair, Citizens Crime Commission |
“...Conservatives are known for being tough on crime, but we must also be tough on criminal justice spending...”

- Newt Gingrich, *American Solutions for Winning the Future*
- Grover Norquist, *Americans for Tax Reform*
- Edwin Meese III, *former U.S. Attorney General*
- William J. Bennett, *former Education Secretary, “Drug Czar”*
- Asa Hutchinson, *former U.S. Attorney, DEA Administrator*
- Pat Nolan, *Justice Fellowship, former CA House Republican leader*
- David Keene, *American Conservative Union*
- Richard Viguerie, *ConservativeHQ.com*
- Chuck Colson, *Prison Fellowship Ministries*
- Tony Perkins, *Family Research Council*
- Ward Connerly, *American Civil Rights Institute*
- John J. DiIulio, Jr., *University of Pennsylvania*
A Rare Moment in Time