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NARSOL CHALLENGES CDCR ON BLANKET SO EXCLUSIONS

Sexual offenders being denied visitation privileges

Washington, D.C. | March 5, 2018—In 2016, California enacted a new penal code section extending overnight family visitation to inmates with life sentences. In its rule making process, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) [has unilaterally proposed](#) excluding inmates with sexual offense convictions from these new privileges. [NARSOL](#) – the National Association for Rational Sexual Offense Laws – [strongly protests](#) this blanket exclusion which was not included in the new statute.

[NARSOL](#) is a national advocacy organization that defends and protects the interests of citizens convicted of sexual offenses, and it does not condone sexual abuse or any criminal activity. Neither does it condone blatant and pointless discrimination nor the overstepping of authority by government agencies.

Brenda Jones, NARSOL's executive director, condemns the [proposed new CDCR rules](#) and urges the agency not to move forward with their imposition of this extra-judicial punishment. "[NARSOL will be in contact](#) with the Public Safety Committees in both the Assembly and Senate. The point will be clear—the CDCR will be usurping the constitutional authority of these committees in an attempt to make their own criminal justice policy in California."

Jones continues, "This blanket exclusion by the CDCR is a crystal-clear example of cultural scapegoating and extra-judicial punishment. Cultural scapegoating is singling out a specific group for harsher treatment when there is no justification, evidence, or rational policy to justify this treatment. The second issue is extra-judicial punishment, where the CDCR is meting out harsher treatment above and beyond what the statutes authorize."

Our state and federal constitutions clearly state that our elected representatives make the laws, the judiciary applies them, and agencies such as the CDCR implement them. The rule of law does not allow agencies to fabricate their own laws. "And that," says Jones, "is exactly what the CDCR is proposing."

As Brenda Jones concluded, "NARSOL is aware that culture, politics, and policy overreact when creating proportional sanctions for sexual offenses. A large portion of our membership is comprised of family members of those convicted of a sexual offense; they have seen firsthand the brutal, discriminatory, and unfair treatment of their loved ones."

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RATIONAL SEXUAL OFFENSE LAWS

Fighting to restore dignity & constitutional rights to millions.

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