

**a discussion guide to
a sentence of their own**

written by

Alvina Mathis

Department of Correctional Education
Virginia Correctional Center for Women

for

a film by

Edgar A. Barens

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For more information on **A Sentence of Their Own** please contact:

Edgar A. Barens
Columbus Circle Station
P.O. Box 20843
New York, NY 10023

E-Mail: asentenceoftheirown@yahoo.com
Online: www.asentenceoftheirown.com

Tapes of **A Sentence of Their Own** are available for purchase by schools, libraries and other institutions by contacting:

American Correctional Association
Attn: Customer Service
4380 Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, MD 20706-4322

Phone: 800.222.5646, ext. 1893
Fax: 301.918.1886
E-Mail: cservice@aca.org
Online: <http://www.aca.org>

For more information on developing a guide for your project please contact:

Alvina Mathis
Department of Correctional Education
Virginia Correctional Center for Women
Post Office Box One
Goochland, VA 23063

Phone: 804.556.4322

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Credits

Edgar A. Barends..... Producer, Director, Camera
Ira Meistrich..... Editor
Marsha Moore Editor
Karl Dawson..... Additional Editing
Brian T. Tibbs..... Original Music
Ellen Barry Project Advisor
Founding Director
Legal Services for Prisoners With Children
Creasie Finney Hairston, Ph. D. Project Advisor
Dean and Professor Jane Adams College of Social Work
University of Illinois at Chicago
Mary Cotter..... Researcher
Galma Janic Researcher
Noel Pinero Researcher
Jason Rogers..... Transcriber/Logger
Samira Seidu..... Transcriber/Logger
Chad Wheelles Production Assistant
Kate Black..... Project Intern
Bill Seary Sound Edit/Sound Mix
Alex Noyes..... Sound Edit/Sound Mix
Mercer Media Sound Edit/Sound Mix
Frank Cernese On-line Editor

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Summary of the Video

In July of 1996, Becky Raymond's world was shattered. While her husband faced a felony conviction and a seven-year prison sentence, she and their two sons were left to contend with the aftermath.

A Sentence of Their Own chronicles one family's annual pilgrimage to a New Hampshire State Prison and reveals the damaging impact incarceration has on families.

A Sentence of Their Own makes visible what is rarely seen, the gradual descent of a family "doing time" on the outside, and calls for a closer examination and deeper understanding of our growing use of incarceration and its impact on families, communities, and our culture at large.

Running Time: 64 minutes

Genre: Cinema Verité Documentary

What is a Cinema Verité Documentary?

A cinema verite documentary involves a method of shooting and presenting material that preserves the spontaneity and flavor of the real event. This means that Cinema Verité is able to carry a strong message, without any artificial input.

The basis of Cinema Verité is the idea that cinema exists to make us see the world as it is, allowing the viewer to discover its visual texture and to let us understand the place of man within it. Cinema Verité relies on the situation to provide the interest, rather than creating the interest for the purpose of the camera.

Audience Focus

Educational: Jr. High School, High School, After-School Youth Programs, University Students and Education Professionals, Departments of Social Work, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Libraries.

Correctional: Juvenile and Adult Correctional Institutions, Prison Pre-Release Programs, Prison Parenting Programs, Juvenile Aftercare Programs, Domestic Violence Programs, Anger Management Programs, Community Correction Programs, Drug Treatment Programs, Family Reunification Programs, Life Skills Programs, Relapse Prevention Programs, Substance Abuse Programs, At-Risk Youth Programs, Prison-based High School and Secondary Education Programs, Correctional Officer Unions, Probation and Parole Agencies, Parolees.

Professional/Community: Mental Health Agencies, Faith-based Organizations, Academic Researchers, Social Service Agencies, Law Enforcement Agencies, Faith-Based Organizations, Health Care Providers, Women's Support Groups, Visitors to Prisons and Jails, Half Way Houses, Community Discussion Groups.

Methods of Viewing

Single Viewing: View the video and discuss questions and comments made by the viewers. Discussion questions are listed sequentially, corresponding to the flow of the video. Use some or all of the discussion questions for your group.

If all of the discussion questions are used, you may want to divide the group into teams. Each team can talk about their assigned questions and formulate their responses. If time is limited, select several questions for the entire group to discuss.

Multiple Viewing: If time permits, it is highly recommended the film be viewed more than once. After the first screening the group can review the discussion guide and discuss their initial impressions of the issues presented in the film.

After the second screening the group can revisit some of the more problematic issues that may have surfaced during the first discussion. The multiple viewing method is suggested due to the multi-layered characteristics inherent to a cinema verite documentary.

Four-Act Viewing: The video has been edited into a four-act structure, with each act ending with a fade-to-black. Since the video addresses many issues, it is advised to view the video, one act a day, over the course of a school week.

The four-act viewing method allows the viewer time to think about what they had just watched and provides them with ample opportunity to discuss the video with others in the group and answer the questions in the guide. At weeks end the entire film can be screened from beginning to end, culminating in a healthy and comprehensive classroom discussion. In both the multiple and four-act viewing methods, you may choose to assign homework and have participants answer the questions in writing.

The four-act viewing method is highly recommended due to the multi-layered characteristics inherent to a cinema verite documentary.

Before Viewing

To prepare the viewers, an introductory discussion can help generate a more active learning experience. One way to jump-start a more active learning experience is to briefly discuss the following statistics before viewing the video:

- 1.5 million children in the U.S. have a mother or father in prison. Incarceration of a parent affected at least 336,300 families in 1999 [1].
- Over 5,000,000 children have parents who have been incarcerated at least once. That is over 6% of all children in the United States [2].
- Over 55,000 children end up in foster care during the incarceration of their parents. Most of these children change their foster placement at least twice while their parents are in prison [3].
- Over 50% of current inmates come from single headed families, or were raised by other family members and in foster homes [4].
- 78% of women are mothers when entering the prison, and 64% of men are fathers when entering the prison. Additional 6% of women are pregnant when entering the prison. Most are separated from the newborns soon after the birth [5].
- Half of the incarcerated parents are NEVER visited by their children [6].
- Prior to incarceration 85% of prisoners earn less than \$25,000 a year, with three out of ten earning less than \$10,000 [7]. The vast majority of families of prisoners live in poverty even prior to incarceration.
- Families of prisoners spend as much as \$250 a month on telephone calls, while trying to maintain contact with their incarcerated loved ones. This is mainly due to high surcharges on collect calls from prison imposed by telephone companies, who are required to pay high “commissions” to the state government.
- In 1997-1998 fiscal year, New York state made a profit of \$21 million on prisoner collect call “commissions”; California made \$15 million, Ohio and Florida \$14 million each, Virginia \$10 million etc [8].
- The divorce rate among couples where one spouse is incarcerated for one year or more is 85%. [9].
- Children of the incarcerated are at risk for poor academic achievement, substance abuse, delinquency and criminal activity that can lead to their own incarceration. At present, approximately 50% of the children of inmates are expected to enter the juvenile justice system before they are eighteen. [10]

After Viewing

After viewing the video and answering the questions in the discussion guide, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the changes that a family goes through when a member is incarcerated.
- Evaluate the effects of incarceration on family members.
- Describe healthy ways to cope with the separation and loss of a family member who is incarcerated.
- Discuss practices that can be beneficial to a family throughout the time of separation.
- Understand and appreciate in a non-judgmental manner the different ways families deal with emotional trauma, economic hardship, and mental illness.

Discussion Questions

ACT ONE

1. *"I was in an abusive relationship. Alan came in to take care of me. I was pregnant and having a rough time with pregnancy so he was there and he stayed. He's been there for the passed ten years."*
 - What kind of man is Alan? Explain your answer.
 - Do you think Becky feels indebted to Alan for rescuing her from the abusive relationship she had with her first husband?
2. *"Currently I'm poor – I'm very poor now! I wasn't before; we had everything in the world, comfortable. We knew where our meals were coming from. We knew how the rent was going to get paid."*
 - Becky was suddenly plunged into the role of mother, father, and provider once Alan was incarcerated. During your life, have you had to change you life so radically? If so, how did you manage?
 - What would you do if you were in the same situation as Becky?
 - Does Becky seem helpless? Explain your answer.
3. *"Families doing a sentence, families are doing time right along with their men - if you're sticking it out you're doing their same sentence - family pays - he might be paying but I don't think as dearly as his family is."*
 - Do you think the judicial system knows that when a parent is sentenced, the families left behind are being sentenced as well?
 - Are there advocacy groups who offer assistance to families with incarcerated members? Who are the groups?
 - Have you ever used the services provided by any of the groups? If so, which ones? Were they helpful?
 - What are some issues the Raymond's face that are common to other people who have an incarcerated loved one?
 - What pressures might Becky feel as a wife of a prisoner?
 - Most women with a husband in prison are ashamed to call themselves a "prisoner's wife" and prefer to be seen as a single mother. Do you think the term "prisoner's wife" is appropriate for Becky? Why or why not?
 - How do the challenges faced by a wife of an incarcerated person compare with those of a single mother? How are they different?

4. *When the whole family went out to eat pizza, Alan told his boys that his impending incarceration was “No big deal. It’s like I’m going on vacation, like when I went to work and you’d get out of school and I wasn’t there, and on weekends I was there - well I’m just gonna be away on weekends too.”*
- Why do you think Alan downplayed his eventual incarceration?
 - What would you do in the same situation?
 - Does downplaying incarceration affect the level of trust children have for their incarcerated loved one? If so, how?
5. *“Donnie broke down crying. His heart was broke. It was broke because to him, it was like daddy died. And then trying to explain to him that your dad’s gonna come home when you’re eighteen. You’re not gonna have him for your childhood but you’re gonna have him when you’re eighteen years old. That didn’t work because kids can’t see that far in the future. So to him – Daddy’s just not coming home.”*
- Do you think Becky correctly explained to the boys that their dad would be gone longer than they expected? If not, how would you have done it differently and why?
 - Have you ever had to explain a long period of time to your children?
 - How did you do that so they could understand?
6. *“He built with rage and he didn’t have any place to vent that anger. He couldn’t be mad at the police because the police did their job. He couldn’t be mad at the court either. Your dad did something wrong and they had to do what they had to do. So you can’t be mad at them. And he couldn’t be mad at his dad either because Dad was so perfect to him!”*
- Has this problem ever occurred with you or anyone that you know? If so, how was the situation handled?
 - How could Becky have helped Donnie vent some of his anger?
 - Is it okay for a child to be mad at a parent when the parent commits a crime?
 - Should the “perfect dad” syndrome be eliminated from a child’s thoughts?
 - How can the incarcerated parent help in this situation?

7. *"He was leaning further and further into psychosis. He was hearing bad voices. Voices telling him to die. Kill himself. Kill his brother. Kill his family. Voices that had him drawing pictures of himself in a coffin and the word DIE was written up in the word balloon! He had a suicidal edge going to him - and a very violent one. I brought him to the doctor and this all was enough to put him on anti-psychotics (drugs)."*

- Is it normal for a teenage boy to make statements like this?
- Do you think Becky did the right thing? If not, what should she have done?
- If a child is feeling violently suicidal, how can a parent help?
- Has this ever happened with your child? If so, what did you do to help your child?
- Are you aware of agencies in the community that help children and their families?
- If so, what are those agencies?
- How do you feel about a child taking psychotropic/anti-psychotic drugs? Explain your answer?

8. *"He (Josh) doesn't understand hurt. Doesn't understand pride. Doesn't understand anything emotional that we understand. So it comes out to him in misbehavior."*

- How does a child show you that they've been hurt?
- How can you help children deal with their hurt, pain, and anger?
- What have you known children to do when they cannot or are not allowed to show their hurt, pain, or anger?

9. *"Being a single mother with two boys is not an easy thing to be. Discipline is a big thing - Moms get walked over real easy. So, I want to make sure for the kids' sake, when I say, 'Oh your dad's gonna hear about that' - they know - we don't want dad to be upset. When Josh brings home a behavior slip, I handle it. But I also turn around and say this is gonna get sent to your dad! We're going to photocopy this and this is gonna get sent to your dad!"*

- How should a behavioral problem with a child be handled if one of their parents is locked up?
- Should the parents act together to solve this type of concern?
- Have you faced similar problems with your children while you or your partner was, incarcerated? What action did you take?
- Will children still respect a parent if that parent is in jail or prison? Explain your answer.

10. *"Joyce lives in the next trailer in front of me. Joyce and her son Malcolm are a big part of my life. Joyce is my best friend and has stood by my side through all of this. I met her when I came down here to Georgia - and she has stood by my side and Malcolm has stood by my kids."*

- What is beneficial about having a close friend that you can count on?
- How can children benefit from having close friends?
- Do you think Becky's friendship with Joyce is unique in that region of the country?

11. *"Dad oh dad, it makes me sad to see you in jail. But you did the crime so you do the time - and then I will see you again. Oh dad it breaks my heart to see us apart. Dad oh dad oh man!! P.S. I love you - peace and love forever!"*

- Should Donnie mail the poem to his dad?
- Is it healthy for a child to write to their incarcerated parent?
- Should his dad respond to his poem in writing?

12. *"Dear Donnie - how are you doing son - well Easter is almost here, I hope that you have a good Easter. I have enclosed your Easter card and also your birthday card along with this letter - oh I swear I wish I could be there for your birthday - but as you already know I can't - I hope that you have a good birthday and remember that you are always in my heart son."*

- How could writing and sending cards strengthen the bond between a father and son?
- Do you receive letters from a loved one in prison? If so, how do you feel about receiving their letters?
- Do you write them back as often as they write you? If not, why?

13. *"Everything about Josh that you see is all that Alan created and molded and put in to that boy. I'm not dad, I don't fit that spot, I'm not on the right side of the couch - that's not what he wants. He lugs around his tools and his stupid little helmet and goes and takes things apart."*

- How do you think Becky is feeling when she is saying this? Explain your answer.
- What are some possible outcomes of Josh's inability to show how he feels about his dad's absence?
- What are some things that Becky can do to fill in, not replace, Alan in her sons' lives?
- Does the relationship between the two brothers seem like a healthy one? Why or why not?
- Which brother is affected more by the absence of the father? Explain your answer.

14. *"Josh needs a man. There's not a whole lot I can do for Josh. Josh needs to get out there, the riding bike thing you know, have male contact, swimming, playing ball, wrestling, all these things that I just physically, unfortunately, can't do."*

- How much can Becky actually do to “be there” for her son?
- Do you think Becky is doing enough for her sons? If not, why?
- Does Becky’s physical disabilities dismiss her responsibility to her son?

15. *"Whenever anything ever went wrong in my life there was always an animal that I could turn to. I found that animals don't betray you, they usually don't leave you - they certainly don't get drunk and commit stupid mistakes. If my animals were to be gone, the home wouldn't be happy."*

- What life lesson do Donnie and Joshua learn when Becky discovers the family’s cat (Sammy) in the hole?
- What role do animals play in Becky’s life and in the lives of her children?
- Have you ever depended on an animal to get you through hard times?
- What are some drawbacks (if any) of having pets in this situation?

16. *"Donnie, I ain't got no groceries in this house. And I have to stay off my feet today so I can't go down to the store and get nothing right now. We got potato and that's what we eat!"*

- Can you think of certain things you would do without if you were in Becky’s situation? What sacrifices would you be willing to make?
- Is it responsible for Becky to have allowed the family's food run out?
- How can Becky get help from other sources to feed her children and herself?
- Do you think families with incarcerated loved ones should be assisted in any way by the government? If so, how should the government help these families?

17. *"The only father to those children, the only husband I have is a voice, once a week! In order to keep the family together, you figure that's all there is."*

- How important are Alan’s phone calls to his family?
- Can the family survive without Alan’s telephone calls? If so, at what cost?
- What options have you used to keep your telephone bill to a minimum, and were the options helpful to your family?

18. *"My trailer park is run down. It's not a place to show your friends, but everybody that lives there are my friends and they all live the same - so I guess that works."*

- Did you have to drastically change your living situation because of the incarceration of a loved one?
- Is living in a substandard trailer park better than moving in with relatives? Explain your answer.
- Have you ever been ashamed of where you lived?

19. *"It gets expensive; I mean that's half the reason why I can't get a better place to live is because the only way to keep the marriage together is the stupid telephone. I mean I've paid a lot of heavy-duty phone bills. My past bill was an \$850.00 bill!"*

- Do you agree with Becky on the importance of being able to talk to your incarcerated loved one?
- How much do you think the average collect phone call from prison costs?
- Do you agree with Becky's decision to sacrifice a better place to live for their weekly phone calls from Alan?

ACT TWO

20. *"Very few people really care about an inmate's family — 'cos they basically figure you're just as bad as the inmate. You know, if you can accept his crime and stick with him then you're just as bad."*

- How do you feel about this comment? Do you think what Becky is saying is true?
- Have you ever felt discriminated against because you had an incarcerated loved one? If so, please share your experience.
- Do you think the incarcerated individual and/or their family can ever "live down" the fact that they were involved in the criminal justice system?

21. *"In Georgia families are kind of a big thing. A single mother is never viewed on positively. But it's worse when they find out that you're a single mother because your husband is in prison."*

- Have you ever felt inferior because you or your spouse were in prison?
- What can you say to your children in order to help boost their self-esteem in light of having a loved one in prison?
- Do people have negative preconceptions about families who have an incarcerated loved one?
- Did you have stereotypes about families who have an incarcerated loved one before seeing the film? If so, have any of them changed?

22. *"I felt it very important for my kids to learn that being in jail is not cool. It's not a good thing."*

- How would you let your children know that it is not cool to be in prison?
- Even though jail is not a good thing, how can a parent tell a child that their parent is still a good person even though they have made mistakes in their lives?
- Is it important for the child to know that their parent is in prison, or is it better to tell them their parent is away for some other reason?

23. *"Josh is also afraid of being arrested. He's afraid of that because he knows - daddy's in jail and HE never sees mama - once in a while HE sees mama - so if Josh goes to jail - Josh ain't going to see mama no more either. So that part scares him."*

- Is fear the thing that will prevent a child from going to prison or jail?
- Have you ever tried the scare tactic approach? Did it work? If it didn't work, why do you think it failed?
- Do scared kids usually stay out of trouble?

24. *"I bet you my kids aren't gonna go to jail."*

- Do you think this is a realistic assumption on Becky's part? Explain your answer.
- Can having a parent in prison have a positive effect on a child? Explain your answer.
- Have your children learned a lesson from your incarceration? Explain your answer.

25. *"It's a long, hard trip and to make the kids do anymore than once a year would be totally impossible"*

- Is it important that a family visits a loved one while that person is incarcerated?
- How often would you be able to visit an incarcerated loved one if they were 1,000 miles away?

26. *Josh and Donnie show Joyce and Malcolm the barbed wire fences around the prison. Becky says, "It's kind of sad I guess when your kid really understands the prison rules - they're not supposed to have to do that."*

- How can knowing and understanding prison visitation rules be beneficial to a child?
- Would you take your children to visit their incarcerated parent? Explain your answer?

27. *“I could so easily have walked away. I mean our van was packed. Everything was ready to go. He had money in the bank because his last pay check was deposited. He was behind bars. I could have taken my kids and gone. I had the money and everything! It was that easy! I decided I was going to stick by him and whatever came to I was going to stay with him.”*

- If you found yourself in a similar situation, knowing what you know now about waiting for someone to be released from prison, would you make the same choice as Becky? Why or why not?
- What are some of the benefits and/or pitfalls of waiting for someone to be released from prison?

28. *“After incarceration I guess our relationship really didn’t change – because I don’t think what he did was so severe as to destroy a relationship that was perfect. We had such a great relationship”*

- Does it sound realistic that Becky thinks their relationship didn’t change after Alan was incarcerated? How has their relationship changed?
- How have your relationships with your spouse, children, or parents changed after your incarceration?
- Does the perfect relationship exist for you? If so, describe it.

29. *“You really have to have nerves of steel. You’ve got to be strong. And your partner has to understand. He has to understand that there are going to be times when you just don’t want to go to that visiting room. There are times when you just don’t want to be bothered with the fact that he’s there.”*

- Explain what Becky means by “nerves of steel”.
- Why would a loved one not want to go into the visiting room?
- Have you or your family members ever “not wanted to be bothered” by the incarcerated family member? Share your experience.

30. *During the camp-out/fishing, Becky spends time with her sons.*

- What benefits can Becky and her family receive from fishing together?
- What other activities can bring the family closer together?
- Share some of the beneficial activities that you or your family members have participated in while a loved one was incarcerated.

31. *“Josh might behave now - because he wouldn’t let go of his dad. The kids picked right back up with Alan and Josh might behave now cause he wouldn’t let go of his dad. I had to separate them a few times actually so they could play games.”*

- Why do you think Becky assumes that Josh will behave now that he’s had the opportunity to be with his dad?
- When children behave/misbehave after seeing an absent parent, what messages are they sending to their parents?
- Has your child ever experienced this behavior change? Did you talk to the child about it? What was the outcome?

32. *“Alan was better about saying goodbye this year. He did it casually with the kids. Not a long goodbye. Not a whole bunch of “take care of your mom” and “do this and do that” - he made it a goodbye like he was gonna see them again real soon.”*

- What do you think is the best way to say goodbye?
- What is wrong with Alan telling the boys take care of your mom?
- If you knew you wouldn’t see your spouse for several more months, how would you say goodbye?

33. *“People have to understand - they make home out of prison – all prisoners do. They settle down, they get three meals a day, they don’t have to worry about anything. They make home out of prison. It’s the ones on the outside that can’t make a home!”*

- Do you agree with the statement that all prisoners make a home out of prison? Explain your answer.
- As an incarcerated person or as an ex-offender, do you agree with Becky’s statements?
- While incarcerated, did you worry about things at home?
- Can a prisoner help their family on the outside cope with feelings and emotions surrounding their incarceration?
- Have you met people in prison who couldn’t care less about their families? If so, how do you feel about them?

ACT THREE

34. *“For a little while I got to be a wife. Starting tomorrow I go back to long distance friendship. You got to keep a separation, a close friendship and a love going but I got to realize that I’m not a typical wife. So I’ve got to step out of that role for a while.”*

- Have you ever been incarcerated far from home?
- Did you “feel” like a wife/husband when your spouse was incarcerated?
- Is it possible to keep a separation and a close friendship and love going at the same time? Explain your answer.
- If Alan were transferred to Georgia from New Hampshire, how would the family’s relationship benefit?
- What may be some practical reasons why Becky and the boys live in Georgia and not closer to the prison in New Hampshire?

35. *“My kids are dealing with a phantom. They know they have a father, they have seen him before, they know he exists somewhere, they hear his voice every once in a while. But that’s something like when you dream you hear the voice and you wake up they’re gone.”*

- What are some things that the parent at home can do to help children deal with the “phantom” parent who is still locked in prison?
- Do you think it would have been better for Becky and her sons to sever their connection with Alan? Explain your answer?

36. *“My loving husband – it was so hard to leave that prison. I cried all the way to the van and couldn’t drive right away!”*

- Has your family expressed to you how difficult it was/is to leave a family member in prison?
- Why are good-byes hard for families when they leave a relative in prison?
- Have you tried something that makes saying good-bye easier? If so, what did you try?

ACT FOUR

37. *The next day after their return from New Hampshire, Becky is on the phone trying to find out whether or not the school is serving free breakfast and lunch. She says she doesn't have any money and that her kids got free lunches last year.*

- How far in advance should a parent inquire about free lunches? Does Becky have a special circumstance?
- What could Becky have done if the children could not get free lunches on the first few days of school?
- It is very hard for any parent to reach out for help, especially those who feel guilt or shame about their situation. What types of stigmas do you think Becky and her children may feel due to Alan's incarceration?

38. *"I don't have a right to complain 'cause I chose this – but my kids didn't and they didn't deserve any of this!"*

- Share your thoughts about Becky's choice and why she must feel the way she does.
- Do you think the boys regret the choice their mother made in staying with their father through his incarceration? If so, why?

39. *"It's a hard life but they still have a dad. To take their dad away completely and say OK that's it – all the time your dad had with you, everything he did, all the memories we had – they ain't worth nothing now. I know the boys needed him; I needed him. One way or another he's gonna be in our lives and he's gonna come out someday."*

- Share your thoughts about Becky's choice not to "take their dad away".
- What happens to memories when a loved one gets incarcerated? Do you still consider your memories worthy?
- Do you think Becky will eventually not need Alan as much as time goes by? Explain your answer.

40. *"Mrs. Raymond I asked you to clean up around the trailer and not to put the cord out of the window for #12 (Joyce's trailer) You have not done anything new. Any questions come to the office and tell me."*

- What do you think about Becky's failure to adhere to the instructions from her landlord?
- Do you think it was fair for the landlord to single out Becky for not picking up her yard considering the trailer parks over-all state of disrepair?
- Would you share electricity with you next-door neighbor? Why/why not?

41. *“That’s how my life goes. You don’t ever depend on anything. There’s little that you can depend on so you just learn not to depend on anything. You learn to depend on your own self, plan for the next catastrophe ‘cause I know it’s gonna happen. Always does.”*

- Do you empathize with Becky in this situation? Explain why or why not.
- Do you agree that you can never depend on anything?
- Do you always plan for catastrophes? Explain your answer?

42. *“When he comes home we’re gonna forget the other marriage. That was the inmate. I’m married to someone else now. When he comes home, I’m gonna marry the man I knew – the man I fell in love with ten years ago. This is just a section our life that we’re gonna pick up and move aside and it’s over and done with.”*

- Is forgetting problems in a relationship possible?
- How is Becky’s current life different from her previous life with Alan?
- What aspects of their lives do you think have remained the same?
- How could trying to relive the past cause trouble for Becky and Alan?
- Is it realistic for Becky to believe their relationship will be okay when Alan comes home? Do you understand why Becky would feel this way?
- Will Alan’s incarceration ever truly be over?
- What new challenges will the family face once Alan returns from prison?

Notes:

Statistical Sources

[1] Estimation based on formula for calculating number of children of incarcerated parents by Johnson, D. [(1995). Effects of parental incarceration. In Gabel, K. & Johnson, D. (eds.). Children of Incarcerated Parents, p.62., New York, NY: Lexington Books]; and prison and jail population statistics from U.S. Department of Justice [USDJ. (2000). Prison and jail inmates at midyear 1999. Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin.].

[2] Butterfield, F. (April 18, 1999). Children bear burden of jailed parents. New York Times, p.A34.

[3] Estimation based on estimated number of children (see footnote 1) and percentage of children placed in foster care [Johnston, D. (1995). The care and placement of prisoners' children. In Gabel, K. & Johnson, D. (eds.). Children of Incarcerated Parents, p.62., New York, NY: Lexington Books, p.109].

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[7] USDJ. (1993). Survey of State Prison Inmates, 1991, p.3. Bureau of Justice Statistics. USDJ. Office of Justice Programs.

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[10] Child Welfare League of America, October 2, 1997 News Release, Washington, DC., "Parents in Prison: Children in Crisis."

A Sentence of Their Own - USER'S GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____

Title _____

Name of Your Organization _____

Who was included in viewing the video and answering the questions? You may need to select more than one choice.

Children in Special Programs

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Incarcerated Juveniles

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Incarcerated Adults

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Substance Abuse Treatment/Aftercare Programs

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Adult Students

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Halfway House

Male/Age Group _____

Female/Age Group _____

Both/Age Group _____

Private Program _____

Program Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip Code _____

Was our video and workbook helpful for your intended purposes?

How was the workbook used?

What did you use to measure change in the participants' awareness after viewing the video?

Do you have suggestions for ways to improve our video/workbook? If so, list your ideas below.

Do you have ideas for any other different types/subjects for video projects? If so, give us an idea of what you might want us to focus on?

We value your opinions, ideas, and suggestions. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to the address below.

Edgar A. Barens
Columbus Circle Station
P.O. Box 20843
New York, NY 10023

E: asentenceoftheirown@yahoo.com
W: www.asentenceoftheirown.com