

OVERVIEW

Collective housing journeys of gender and criminalization

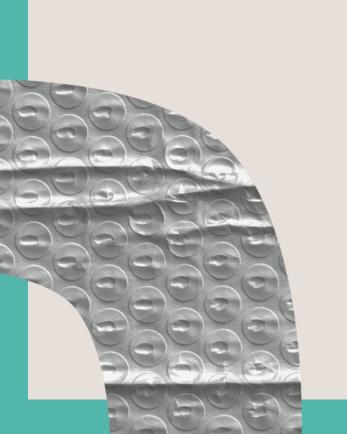
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Challenges to/with institutional frameworks for community-engaged scholarship





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Mapping collective housing journeys of gender and criminalization





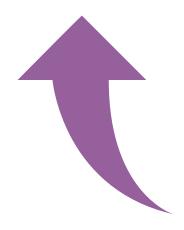




THE 'REVOLVING' DOOR

Housing insecurity

is a pathway to involvement with the criminal justice system







Criminalization

is an experience that impacts accessing and retaining housing

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

01.

Complex representations of the role housing, or lack thereof, plays across diverse experiences of criminalization and/or experiences of transitioning back into community.

02.

Critical understanding of the existing knowledge, capacity, and barriers to accessing and retaining adequate housing.

03.

Collective visions and speculations about what housing would be like in a world without prisons & what role safe and stable housing can play in moving us towards decarceral futures.



Neigh-ha] noun

Neha is a concept meaning 'our ways.' It describes a way of life that is open, peaceful, supportive, and healing. Neha will be a space where everyone can share their experiences and work together towards solutions.

Addressing housing barriers and insecurity among women and gender-diverse people impacted by criminalization

Summary report of findings and recommendations of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies (CAEFS) Housing Project, November 2021 to December 2022

Prepared by Dr. Sarah Gelbard, University of Ottawa
On behalf of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies

Submitted to the Neha Review Panel on the Government of Canada's failure to prevent and eliminate homelessness amongst women and gender-diverse people, and particularly those who are Indigenous.

ACTION Any people or population at risk of Survivors of REASON trauma or violence NOISIV being left behind Rights **Holders** Indigenous peoples: First Nations, Inuit & Métis people Diverse families, youth & children KNOWLEDGE



The factors and risk indicators for both criminalization and housing insecurity...

Marginalized identities

Indigenous people

Women

2SLGBTQ* folk

Black folk

People of colour

Conditions and experiences

Mental health

Substance use

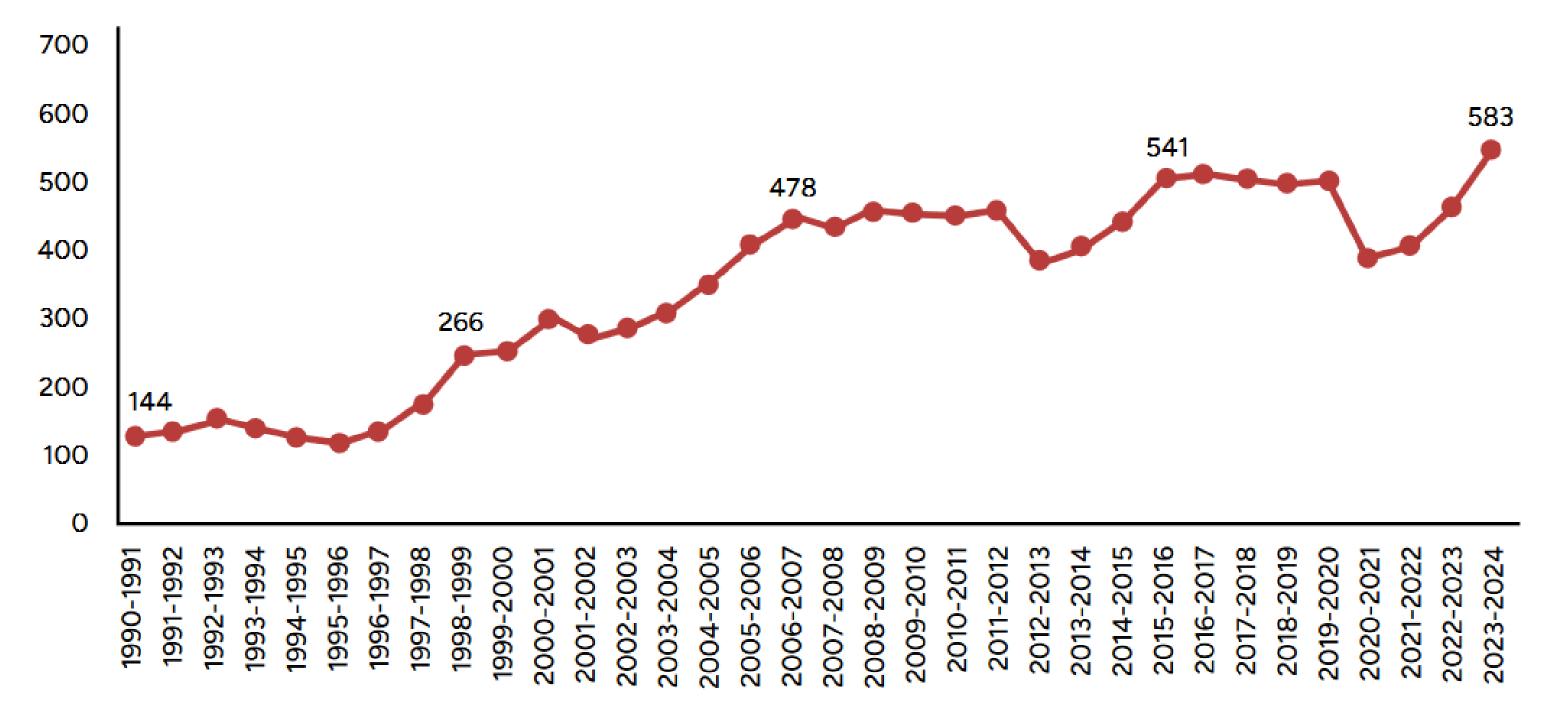
Disability

Violence and trauma

Poverty

... are <u>systemic</u>, <u>intersecting</u>, <u>and compounding</u> forms of oppression.

GRAPH 2. ADMISSIONS OF FEDERALLY SENTENCED WOMEN (1990-91 TO 2023-24)



Office of the Correctional Investigator. Office of the Correctional Investigator Annual Report 2023-2024.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

01.

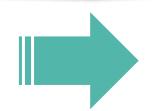
Complex representations of the role housing, or lack thereof, plays across diverse experiences of criminalization and/or experiences of transitioning back into community.

- CAEFS Housing Report and submission to the Neha Panel and Federal Housing Advocate
- Neha Panel dialogues in provincial and federal prisons in Nova Scotia

CO-DESIGN

02.

Critical understanding of the existing knowledge, capacity, and barriers to accessing and retaining adequate housing.



WORKSHOPS

03.

Collective visions and speculations about what housing would be like in a world without prisons & what role safe and stable housing can play in moving us towards decarceral futures.

MAKING A TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING JUSTICE ZINE

TRANSFORMING JUSTICE / TRANSFORMER LA JUSTICE

A Joint National Conference of Critical Perspectives: Criminology and
Social Justice and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Justice Studies

May 14th to 16th, 2025. University of Victoria, Victoria BC



PART 1: Collection & prompts

- Write 4-6 speculative design prompts
- Cut-out images, words, phrases, etc.
 from magazines related to prompt

PART 2: assemblage & response

 Assembling the cut-out images, words, phrases, etc. into a 2-page spread collage to respond to the speculative design prompts.



In a world without prisons, housing would ______

Co-Authorship [light]

Compensation

\$50 honoraria for contribution and time.

Option to decline and/or donate to support other conference attendees with lived experience.

Attribution & Ownership

All contributors acknowledged on contribution page.

We collectively chose to release the zine under Creative Commons license [BY-NC-SA].

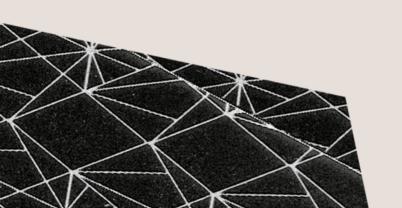




Image source: https://www.raceforward.org/

"Housing justice is the idea that everyone deserves safe, affordable, and health-promoting housing regardless of race, income, gender, ethnicity, ability, and more."



Transformative justice is a community-based approach for addressing the systemic reproduction of harm and generating meaningful, transformative solutions by centring the knowledge, experience, capacity, and strength of those most affected.

Image source https://generatorto.com/blog/transformative-justice-intro

"In zines, everyday oddballs were speaking plainly about themselves and our society with an honest sincerity, a revealing intimacy, and a healthy "fuck you" to sanctioned authority [...] writing for an audience of likeminded misfits."

Duncombe (1997). Notes from the underground: Zines and the politics of alternative culture. p2.

Zines are a small-format, non-commercial publication with a long tradition in activist spaces and marginalized communities.



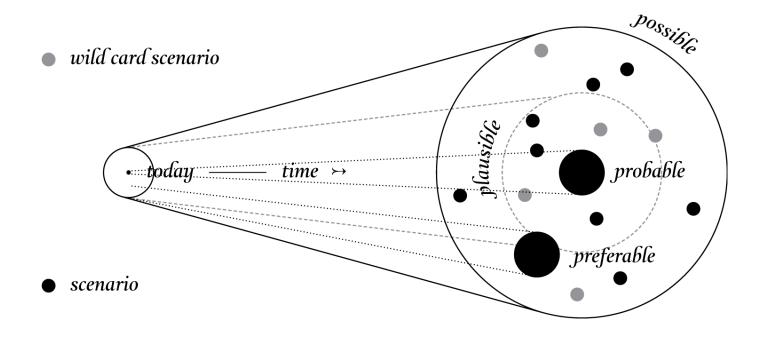


Image source https://speculative.hr/en/introduction-tospeculative-design-practice/

The Purpose and Goals of Speculative Design

1. Questioning the Present:

Speculative Design acts as a tool for questioning and reflecting on the current state of the world. It encourages us to think critically about the present-day design practices, consumer culture, and the societal, ethical, and environmental impact of technology.

2. Exploring Future Possibilities:

This design discipline stretches our imagination to consider possible, probable, and preferable futures. It creates narratives and artifacts that depict future scenarios, making abstract concepts tangible and open for discussion.

3. Sparking Debate:

By presenting hypothetical scenarios, Speculative Design provokes discussion and debate about the direction in which society is heading. It's not about predicting the future but about exploring a range of futures to better understand the present and inform decision-making.

4. Ethical Considerations and Responsibility:

It raises awareness about the ethical implications of design and technology. This aspect of speculative design is crucial in an era where technology is advancing rapidly, often outpacing our ability to fully understand its longterm impact.

How collage co-creation worked as an abolitionist practice of transformative housing justice

ACCESSIBLE & VISUAL COMMUNICATION AID

CREATING NEW WORLDS FROM THE PIECES

POWER TO TRANSFORM THE MEANING

TACTILE AND MATERIAL

In a world without prisons, housing would feature opportunities Connections with nature, and other spaces	for_
Connection and Contemplation	In a world without prisons, housing would be a place 6+ healing.
In a world without prisons, housing would delicious food 8 Spaces to cock Seat together	1 c mminity
	C Shared or Communal (iving)
In a world without prisons, housing would be community + Cave or	
In a world without prisons, housing would be safe, well maintained and accessible.	





Dissemination

CHALLENGES OF DOING

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP WITHIN / AGAINST INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS POSSBARCH EINIGS BOARD ROSSBARCH EINIG BO

Relationship building

- Co-researcher or participant?
- Protecting "vulnerable populations" / deferring to lived experience

Timelines

- Administrative delays
- Inviting alternative formats within the conference constraints
- Postdoc precarity
- Aligning work flows

Value created

- Beyond the research product/output
- The conversations I wasn't part of