

Savannah Stokely.m4a

[00:00:00] We're thinking of some kinda alternative to umm just putting women behind bars [sic] at Rose M. Singer. Okay so when you first heard about this program...this campaign...this movement...this or this push, what did you think? What did you think it was going to be like?

[00:00:21] I didn't believe it. I didn't think that it was going to happen. But at the same time I was real excited about it because I feel that it's about time that they do something about umm closing Rose M. Singer down.

[00:00:37] I think that they need to find an alternative to just locking women up, Not just the women, the men too but basically the women. I think they need to find an alternative to just um basically lock them up like cattle. In that dead place over there.

[00:01:00] What was your experience like at Rikers?

[00:01:03] Oh I had, the last time I was there I was in solitary confinement there. I was there for nine months. Then I was in what they call PC. And it was horrific. I had to - I couldn't come out into general population. And I didn't understand that because I think it was the nature of the crime I had. So they wouldn't let me be in general population. So it was it was it was very difficult for me.

[00:01:38] How long were you in solitary confinement?

[00:01:40] For almost eight months close to, yeah about eight months.

[00:01:47] Okay I'm sorry to hear that. I never knew that. What do you think the culture, well because you were in solitary confinement for most of the time you maybe wouldn't. Perhaps you know what the culture of the community was but, just for the other women, could you hear other women in the cells near you?

[00:02:09] Yes I could.

[00:02:11] Did you communicate with them?

[00:02:13] Yes. We talked. And that I could see them for one hour. Rec [creation]. and it was not, it wasn't good. It wasn't good. It was uhhh....

[00:02:22] Describe that. Describe getting up in the morning and...

[00:02:31] Banging on your door. Passing cigarettes under the cell doors. It wasn't, it wasn't nice. It was very uncomfortable coming out on your shower day. If it was your day to take a shower.

[00:02:50] How many women? How many cells do you think there were.

[00:02:54] Maybe 28, 28 - 26 cells or something like that,

[00:02:58] And you had to take turns on different days to take a shower?

[00:03:01] Yes.

[00:03:02] Why do you think that was.

[00:03:08] They just had they had days you could take showers. I think you could only take showers three days out of the week, if I'm not mistaken.

[00:03:14] Were you able come out and wash or did you wash in the sink. Did you have a sink in your cell?

[00:03:18] You had a sink in your cell, yes.

[00:03:21] So that's so dehumanizing that you have someone who has to tell you when you can wash your body.

[00:03:25] Yes. The time you can eat, the time to wash your body, when you can make a phone call, and if you agitate officer you can't make that phone call.

[00:03:36] You were allowed to make phone calls when? How Many days a week?

[00:03:40] I think once a week you can make a phone call.

[00:03:42] Once a week. Did your family know, were you able to tell your family that you were being held in PC?

[00:03:49] You could write letters.

[00:03:52] But they read your letters, right? Wow, did your family ever come and try to advocate for you to come out of solitary confinement?

[00:04:06] Well, yes I had a lawyer. I had....my family was down south at the time. But I had a lawyer and, they were trying to get me out of solitary confinement. Actually I was able to get out of solitary confinement and go into PC, protective custody and it was still like sort of like solitary confinement because I came out of solitary confinement and went into PC and it was just like I couldn't move around. I wasn't locked 23 hours in my cell, but I was locked in the room where I couldn't go out...into the general population but it was just like...uhm.

[00:04:45] Did you go to commissary?

[00:04:46] Yeah I could go to commissary, but I couldn't go outside of that one room - it's just like this one room here - from my cell just into this one room. And I go outside for an hour day. But, I just could only like interact with those women that was on the floor with me. And it became like six women on the floor with me at that time. I think it was. So, it was different, difficult, you know.

[00:05:24] Did you build a relationship with the women. Yes I did. Do you think you have a different relationship with each woman?

[00:05:30] Yes. And then I became and then I was able to eventually get a job working as an SPA, a suicide prevention aide.

[00:05:37] Because a lot of women were sui'... you know, women they came in and on that floor was there for different types of crime, so a lot of them became suicidal, suicidal. You know, so you would say I was able to get a job.

[00:05:52] What did you have to do to be able to get a job.

[00:05:59] That was only job you could get on it that floor. You either get a job cleaning the unit, or suicide aide. Or either like, serving the food because no one really could come inside that unit and work on that unit because of the high classification of women on the floor. So it was like three choices of work that you could do on the floor, you know.

[00:06:23] Well let me ask you a question, how do you think. Savannah ended up on Rikers Island? Not your crime per say. What do you think, how do you think you ended up on Rikers Island?

[00:06:44] I ended up on Rikers Island from my behavior.

[00:06:50] So sometimes if someone asks me, how did you end up being in Rikers Island I say, well my mom and my dad separated when I was four. And I was raised by my grandparents. And my grandfather had all these dogs. And I didn't get to see mom and dad that much and my dad was gonna come back and get me. Stuff like that and you know the anger and the depression and all that just, developed over the years and eventually you know the depression never left and etc. So I was asking you.

[00:07:32] I believe that I grew up, uh for the first 14 years of my life thinking I was an only child in a household. That, like I said, I grew up the first 14 years of my life thinking that I was only child only to find out at 14, that I had a mother that lived in another part of the town. I grew up first 14 years of my life thinking I was an only child, only to find out at 14 I had a mother that lived in another part of the town, and I had two sisters.

[00:08:12] That must have been shocking.

[00:08:14] And it was and trying to reconnect with this mother. Actually I had actually met her before that. I met her like around 7 or 8. And, when I met her, it was like look in the mirror at myself. So. Mommy, the woman who had raised me, reared me all that time that I was actually thinking was my mother, I confronted her about this woman and she told me it was my cousin. So about 14 it really all came out that she, this woman was actually the real biological mother. So trying to get into a relationship with the real mother, and the two siblings that was across town, it never did work. It kind of like threw my whole life in a tailspin. So I think that's what ended up putting Savannah in Rikers Island. Because I spent two years with the real mother, and my life never was the same after that. That's what put Savannah in Rikers Island.

[00:09:16] Is she's still around?

[00:09:17] No, my mother died - I came home in 2013 March, my mother died 2014 March.

[00:09:34] What about your sisters?

[00:09:36] Well, They are live down south and...

[00:09:38] Oh they moved down south?

[00:09:39] They were always down south. I'm from Tennessee.

[00:09:43] Right okay, they're still down there? You have a relationship with them?

[00:09:46] Yes. It is not, not. It was a strained relationship; it was a strained relationship for 30 something years.

[00:09:56] You are older than they are?

[00:09:58] Yes. And uh, I think since my mother has passed it has become a more, a closer relationship. Like, they feel like I should be the matriarch of this family and I should come down south. But my home is in New York. I've been in New York since I was 17 years old.

[00:10:29] The year after me. I came when I was 18. Uhm When I asked you before, I asked you about those six women that you had around you. Would say for a portion of that time that you was you locked up, they were like family, they were like family to you?

[00:11:03] To a certain degree, yes they were. We would, I ate. slept, play cards and everything with them.

[00:11:10] So you don't have to call names, but I want to see if you can single each woman out and tell me...what she represented or meant to you. If anything different if you had like, preferences and special needs that you'd get from one woman that you didn't get from the other. Was any of them like a sister, while another might have been like your mom or like your mother that raised you.

[00:11:34] They were all basically, a lot of them were like kids to me.

[00:11:37] Oh they were younger than you.

[00:11:38] Most of them were like, younger than me. And, it was crazy. Matter of fact, three of them had crimes that were kind of crazy for me. But I at one time, I used to look down, frown on those crimes. But I've got to understanding and got to know those women, and eventually, because I did a significant amount of time, I got to understand those girls, and I kinda, I became close with him. You know, a couple of them I went up upstate before and a couple I went, they came upstate after me. So, I got to learn something about me, in dealing with them, and I got to learn something about the nature of how people are able commit different type of crimes.

[00:13:00] Okay we'll come back to that later. While you were on Rikers Island did you ever have connections with any service providers? Were there like, I would say therapists and doctor, case manager?

[00:13:17] Case managers, no. Other than like regular doctors. GYN, you know, yeah I had those type of doctors. But the doctors did think that I could have really used, like mental health providers and stuff like that. No I didn't have those.

[00:13:40] You didn't have a case manager help you make phone calls home.

[00:13:43] No.

[00:13:44] None of that stuff?

[00:13:44] No.

[00:13:44] How long ago were you on Rikers Island?

[00:13:47] 2006.

[00:13:49] 2006, okay. Alright. What About the quality of...okay,lets go back to the officers. How did they treat you?

[00:14:10] Umm, I had some good officers and I had some bad officers.

[00:14:14] What was a good officer like?

[00:14:16] I had some good old time. Older. I guess we call them the O.G. officers that were good. Female wise. I had some, how can I say uhhh, I was involved with some officers where I was involved with I.G. Some bad officers.

[00:14:54] What would you consider, OK so you were involve some officers. You mean like there was an investigation?

[00:15:00] Yes.

[00:15:03] And because you got involved, you were involved with some good officers some way around along the lines you found that their real side was really bad.

[00:15:11] Yes.

[00:15:13] What was that like for you? Found out that the people, okay they were supposed to be responsible in helping you get your life together, rehab, you know. Watching over you, making sure that you were in a state of mind where you wouldn't try to hurt yourself because it can be stressful. Day after day the same monotony. You know, not being able to reach your family. And so how do you feel about the officers that were bad. How did you find out they were bad. What would made them bad to you?

[00:15:46] Well, what made a bad for me is when they're not able to manipulate you get, get their way with you. They had my cell tossed. They had me locked. Because eventually like I said, I came out of protective custody and I came into population because I fought for it. I got my lawyer to get the judge to take the restraint off me so I could come to population because I knew I was coming upstate for a little while. And I did not want to do all my time in PC. And when I came out I had an office in there. And me and the officer were really close. But I had a female friend that was you know that was my partner from the street.

[00:16:44] And I had the officer that was, also me an officer was like tight. And I think what happened was she was making trouble for my, my, my partner from the street. So somehow it got out, I don't know if my partner called I.G. on her or what. But I got in a whole lot of trouble. And they moved me from one unit to another. And it was just a big...they set me up with all this stuff in my cell. And nobody coulda did it but the officer. But the shit backfired, and she, the officer got in trouble because they knew that I couldn't of brought all this stuff in, you know from the streets. But I found out that there could be some really mean, devious officers, you know.

[00:17:29] Because she tried to throw you under the bus.

[00:17:35] But she got in trouble because the I.G. knew I could'na brought all those things in.

[00:17:50] What was that cell like, that solitary confinement cell. What was it like? See if you can take me back there and describe that cell to me.

[00:18:03] It was hot and stuffy.

[00:18:19] Did you have a bed?

[00:18:20] It was nothing in there but a bed and a locker.

[00:18:26] What kind of bed?

[00:18:27] Just a steel bed with holes on the bottom and a flat mattress. That's it and a woolly blanket.

[00:18:34] No blanket?

[00:18:38] A woolly blanket.

[00:18:39] Oh a woolly blanket.

[00:18:40] A sheet?

[00:18:40] Yes.

[00:18:45] Did it smell?

[00:18:45] Aww... Well in the wintertime it did because you really couldn't really open the windows too much because it was cold, you know.

[00:19:02] Did you smell despair?

[00:19:02] Yes !!! And That's why I think they should close it down, close Rikers Island down because you know, they have a tendency of locking women in their cells for twenty-three hours for the most ridiculous reasons. You know um, and people can lose their mind; they lose themselves when they're locked in those rooms like that. It's bad enough you're in prison. But you know and then to be in prison within a prison?

[00:19:49] Do you think, do you think you gained any strength from it, from that experience?

[00:19:53] (NO ANSWER.)

[00:20:01] Is there anything that you that you thought you could have done, you couldn't do before you went to Rikers; before you went into prison, that you found, that you had been you surprised to find that you had the ability to do it later on in life.

[00:20:15] It taught me how to be by myself.

[00:20:23] That was a problem for you before you went to jail?

[00:20:28] It wasn't a problem for me but...I, I don't believe it was a problem but...

[00:20:29] Before you went to Rikers, did you like to hang out?

[00:20:29] Yes.

[00:20:29] Have Fun?

[00:20:46] You know, look for your girls, look for your family to hang out?

[00:20:48] Yes. I did that. But now it's more easy for me to isolate now. I find that today I have no problem with isolating myself from the world or from people, so.

[00:21:01] Is That a good thing?

[00:21:09] I think it's a bad thing. To be honest, I think it's a bad thing because I do it quite frequently. And I never thought about it until you just asked me that. But I do it a lot.

[00:21:30] Yeah. You used to be at WORTH, and then I wouldn't see you and I would just happened to run you someplace and you'd be glad yo see me. But then I would see you again for another long time, and I'm like, you know she doesn't come out much. She doesn't come around much. That's sad because I know you enjoyed your sisters at WORTH. But you've also learned to, like you said, isolate, be me alone, be alright with that. I don't know if that's comfortable for you. Is it?

[00:22:06] It has become comfortable me. And then until you just said that. I never looked at that.

[00:22:11] Okay what about your community relationships, The women at the Women in People in prison The Women in Prison Project and you come out for the committees and stuff like that. Do you talk about your experiences in Rikers Island there. They don't ask?

[00:22:27] No.

[00:22:27] Do you ever have flashbacks?

[00:22:27] Yes.

[00:22:28] Do do you talk about in the moment.

[00:22:34] No.

[00:22:37] Do you go to therapy.

[00:22:41] No, but I'm getting ready to get a therapist now.

[00:22:46] What made you decide you need a therapist?

[00:22:48] Because I'm gonna go a lot of stuff right now and uhm.

[00:22:50] It's on Your mind. Great, you have to take care of yourself.

[00:22:58] Yes.

[00:23:05] What about the civilians on Rikers Island. You know you get the civilians in the kitchen. or of you work. You know they do their job the officer watches you all while you work alongside the civilians. What was that or what were those relationships like.

[00:23:24] I didn't really have a problem with the civilians.

[00:23:29] Did you get close to any of them?

[00:23:37] No.

[00:23:38] Okay, you talked, you talked about women and some of their crimes. And at one point you may have looked down on certain crimes. You know you didn't understand it or you might have you know. You've gotten some experience and you've changed your perspective on how you think about your sisters and what gets them locked up. Tell us a little bit about that. A little more.

[00:24:22] Well, in the beginning uhh.

[00:24:27] Where you raised a certain way by the lady who raised you?

[00:24:32] Yes.

[00:24:32] So we can start there. How did she raise you?

[00:24:39] Well, how I looked at the crimes. But that question has nothing to do with how I was raised because Mommy, the woman who raised me, she was into bootlegging and stuff like that but she raised me to be like a lady and all this. That has nothing to do with it. But I'm saying that how I looked at certain crimes. I looked at certain crimes especially when it had to do with children and stuff like that I've kind of looked down on that but because I have a drug history. Because I came from a place where I was abandoned. And also because I ended up abandoning my children, I had to broaden my scope of how things can happen. And in the interim of dealing in being around these women, and then looking at my own life. Just in those months being around these women I could no longer. I had already been upstate before. But I'm said on this this this bid here. I took in, in retrospect I have to look at everything I have been through and what I was going through now, and I looked at who am I to judge somebody? Because it could have been me. In that same situation. I could have been. That person. These women. So, I just didn't judge anymore.

[00:26:41] First, you had been upstate before. The first time you went upstate, did you go to Rikers Island first and then you went upstate?

[00:26:48] Yes.

[00:26:48] Can you tell me, did you notice the difference between the first and the second. I'm not just talking about the solitary confinement just. When you get off the bus. And you come into that room. Rikers Island.

[00:27:04] Rikers Island, Yes!

[00:27:07] Was different from the first. Yes. Yes. It was different.

[00:27:12] What Year was the first time you came?

[00:27:14] The first time was in the 19... In the 70s.

[00:27:25] Okay, so when you came the first time, the women were still, the women were being housed at the men's prison?

[00:27:29] Right.

[00:27:30] Right.

[00:27:32] And believe it or not, the 70s was a bit better they were more, a little more organized.

[00:27:47] More organized at Rose M. Singer?

[00:27:49] Yes. Opposed to when I got to Rosies. When I got to Rosies they were laying all on the floor. Women were laying on the floor. They were just throwing the sandwiches in the pen to them. It was just like they were treating like savages opposed to when I came in, in the 70s. They had a little more class about the way they treated the weomen. From the 70s to 2006. By 2006, they were treating them like savages you know like the women were laying on the floor. They were laying in their own waste. They were laying in the bull pens for two or three days at a time before they seen a doctor. And then at that point in 2006 if you don't want to see the GYN you wouldn't, you didn't have to. Where in the 1970s when I came in, you had to see the doctor. It was mandatory that you see the GYN. In 2006 if you didn't feel like seeing the GYN, forget it! You didn't have to. So now we will be exposed to women coming in with all kinda stuff. This is how by the time we got upstate, women were giving each other herpes and all these other STDs, crabs and lice and everything because Rikers was no longer doing their jobs. They're telling the women you don't gotta see GYN if you don't want to. You can said that you don't want to. So they go to prison pop, Rikers Island's prison and they're having sex with each other. And they're not medically cleared! Because they're not seeing a GYN, you understand what I'm saying? So they're having sex with the other females and they're passing off this stuff and a lot of them are going home from Rosies, and the other ones that might have seen a GYN, are going upstate. So you have so many upstate that have herpes and all these other things that they have contracted from...

[00:30:18] Women that met in jail.

[00:30:19] Right. So yes. It's a big change from the old house to the new Rose M. Singer.

[00:30:32] If we were to close Rose M. Singer, what would that look like for you?

[00:30:37] It would look, it would look really nice because if you're going to. I think they need to close it because like I just told you what's the big shift? For when I first came in you could not go into a bed without seeing a GYN.

[00:30:58] Taking a shower?

[00:30:58] Taking a shower, getting liced down and all that. When I first was arrested, when I first came to New York in 1975. I got arrested in 1976. Matter of fact, I got arrest for transporting firearms over state lines.

[00:31:18] Transporting what?

[00:31:19] Fire arms.

[00:31:19] Fire arms.

[00:31:24] The first time? And you we're 17.

[00:31:30] Right. I flew here on a plane and I sent our guns through the mail.

[00:31:35] I got arrested. So it took em' a couple a couple of weeks before they caught me and they called me down to the Port Authority to pick up the gun. So when I arrested.

[00:31:48] Okay so, although I had to...

[00:31:51] They sent you up here to pick up to accept the guns and once...

[00:31:54] Now when I went now I went to pick the gun up so anyway this is what happened. When I get to Rikers. From the Port Authority to arrested me. And there was a lot of prostitutes and everything was there. They took me to Rikers to wait for bail but in the process, but while waiting for bail I had to see the doctor, that's GYN. I seen the GYN everything and everything like that but I still got out before the results came back. But I seen the GYN. But fast forwarding it to now in 2006, date when I went in in 2006 they said do you want to see GYN, I said yes. But next person that was beside me said. "Oh I don't want to see GYN because I'm getting out in two days; I only got five days. So they they didn't let her see the GYN. You understand the difference?"

[00:33:00] Was that because if you saw GYN this time you had wait for the results for them to let you out?

[00:33:06] No, they just telling them they don't have the GYN. You have an option. If you want to see GYN you do, if you don't you don't. So in other words.

[00:33:14] You see GYN you get tested and you find out what's wrong with your body and they were telling women you have an option of not doing that.

[00:33:18] Right, but so how did they get medically cleared to go into population? So you letting them in population, they're screening for crabs, crab em down. but they tell em they don't have to go GYN. So you letting them go into the population.

[00:33:40] Who screens them?

[00:33:41] The nurse. So they don't want to see GYN they don't have to. Long as they spray for crabs, that's all they worry about. For lice I mean.

[00:33:52] So you say you think they need to close Rosies.

[00:33:54] Yes they need to close it.

[00:33:56] So, like you said you don't look down on any women for the crimes they commit but you realize seems like you say they need a close it do you think this should be over with. Do you think that they should not have a place to incarcerate women. Or do you think that some women need to be incarcerated?

[00:34:12] Yes, we have people, people are committing crimes, women are committing crimes. They need some place.

[00:34:23] What would that look like for you?

[00:34:34] If their gonna, Somebody's always gonna commit crimes, Carole, we both are clear about that. But Rikers Island is just not the place that they need to house these women at. They need to get a place that if you're going to house women, it has to be a place where they're going to give the best care. And the best, umm I can't find the word and I'm looking for. Like they need case managers. They need the best, what you call those reports for these women? Make sure that they find out their status, for their drugs status. Let's not just throw them in there without knowing exactly what's going on with them, you know. The medical history, the drug history, all these

diseases you know we need to know really what's going on with them.

[00:35:44] You think they screen for mental illness?

[00:35:48] Right, that's what I'm saying, we need to know everything that's going on with them. You know what you call that report?

[00:35:53] The bio-psych-social?

[00:35:55] Right! We need all that. We know we need to know everything is going on with them. When you build this new jail. We need all these..

[00:36:05] Where. Where would this new jail be?

[00:36:13] I don't know where it should be at.

[00:36:16] Should it be one, two, three? One in every borough?

[00:36:18] Maybe one in every boro is good.

[00:36:18] Why?

[00:36:18] Cause they're committing crimes in every boro. Maybe uhhh, I don't know, What do you think?

[00:36:40] Well, I don't think we live in a lawless lawful or lawless community. As you said people are going to commit crimes because that's the nature of how society is today. People are hungry. People need jobs. People have children. They have to feed the children. They have to pay their rent. And if you can't give them a legal job, people are going to throw bricks. And so when they get busted, they're going to use that as a means of keeping other people employed. So, I think that in a lawful society we may have to accept the fact that there are going to be some prisons. There are going to be some jails. But what's humane? You know? What what what is prison for. Is it about punishment only or is it about rehabilitation? It's about changing your life? It's about sitting out and having the opportunity to go to school. Or have an opportunity to see your family regularly so you realize what you missed. What you've lost by hanging out in the street with your boys and being talked into doing things that you shouldn't be doing. You know, your kids, you know? Do you finally get a chance to know your kids and do they get a chance to know you? I Don't know what's that look like. I just know that what we have now is not working.

[00:38:18] It's not working, right. What is that. I said the probation report. I'm saying when we do the probation report on these people. We need to, like you said, we need to have the psych-social, the drug history, the mental health, all those things have to be in place.

[00:38:46] In Rikers Island you should if you're in jail, you should be, you should have something to do. Instead of just killing time and you should, um, there should be incentives for you to do those things that are going to make you a better person going maybe lessen the chance that you're gonna recidivate. Get some education, get a degree. Get the ability to get a job you didn't have before.

[00:39:12] The same day with the prison system, and this is sad. When you have women that's did 10, 15, 10 years or better and then he come out and they don't have a GED. That shouldn't be. That should not be. The same thing. If you have someone that's doing a city doing. Doing a city year, you should be enrolled in a GED program. At that city facility. And, if you're not enrolled in that GED

program. Then, good time should be taken off for you. You know, like you say incentives this should be some type of something you should be working on rewards. Yes. And this will stop people from going to jail. If you put somekind of pressure on them. It will make them stop going to jail. You have to do something to make them stop going to jail. If you say well, you have a city year with a stipulations and these are the stipulations with your city year.

[00:40:47] Okay, were you able to improve yourself or better any skills while you were upstate?

[00:41:01] Yes I went to college while I was there. I was a teacher's aide. I did a lot while I was there.

[00:41:08] Very good. That's very good.

[00:41:17] I didn't do anything there. I mean I was there. I did some time here and some time there. But when I came on I realize I wanted to go to school. I went to treatment, when I was in treatment and ATI I started my education. So yes that's what I was asking about your overall vision now that Rosies is going to be closed. You know what type of place should exist for women. A place where we can get our you know, get our kids back and have our kids visiting us. Where we can get some education. Learn education, learn working skills to build and support our families. In a manner that is comfortable with us. There was an article in the paper not too long ago about a woman who said Rikers Island saved her life. Because she was able to get treatment while she was there. What do you think about that?

[00:42:21] I think that some women, maybe it has benefitted some women. I think wherever you go it's all about what you put into it. You're only going to get whenever you put in. So you know, because they have some programs there.

[00:42:53] Do you feel you have a sense of community and a support network despite the fact you like to be alone?

[00:42:58] Yes I do.

[00:43:00] Could be improved.

[00:43:03] Yes.

[00:43:03] What in your world, could happen for you before that would have kept you from going to Rikers Island. If you could have envisioned something that would have kept you from going to Rikers Island what would that look like maybe your life might have been different.

[00:43:23] If I hadda' gotten into recovery.

[00:43:28] Recovery. Very good answer. Did you feel free to express your identity to your fullest. Did you feel free to express yourself. Did you feel like you had to hold anything back. Did you feel nervous.

[00:43:47] No.

[00:43:47] I'm trying figure out what it would take for us to make this happen. You know closing Rosies, having women who don't need to be in Rikers Island or in jail, back, back in the community, or those who really really have not learned how to function in a healthy way and without huting anybody in the community. Having places for them. And I just wonder what you

know how would it be different from men's prison.

[00:44:37] Say that again?

[00:44:38] How would it be how would we differ with from mens'? If we have to have places for women, how would it be different from men's prison.

[00:44:48] We have to meet the challenges that women are facing in our society today. Like one of the biggest challenges that women are facing is homelessness. That's a challenge for women is like finding some place to live. You know like when...especially in New York. And not just you know like finding shelter for our women is a big problem.

[00:45:27] What about for men? You think easier for them?

[00:45:34] I don't believe that it's easy but I don't believe it's as hard as it is for women.

[00:45:44] What type of physical space is more supportive to you?

[00:45:48] Physical place. What Kind of place is most supportive. What have you found that's most supportive to you. Since you since you've been home?

[00:46:03] As far as housing is concerned?

[00:46:06] Anything, what makes you feel supported. Where are you when you feel the more supported?.

[00:46:13] I would have to say it's with my friends and it's with my recovery. My recovery first and then I'll say a select few friends I have.

[00:46:36] Is there anything else you want to say in wrapping it up. Have I made you think about anything besides the isolation that you realize about yourself or realized or thought about in a long time?

[00:47:07] No.

[00:47:07] Thank you.

[00:47:07] Thank you.