

May 27, 2018
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Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am concerned about incarceration. As you know this country is essentially alone in keeping nearly one percent of the population behind bars which leads to problems from ex-prisoners being ostracized from work, voting and sometimes entire neighborhoods through sex offender registries to disruptions of families and communities. Since blacks suffer disproportionately the system reinforces racism both by keeping black individuals and neighborhoods poor (the recent findings on income regression for black boys who grow up well off sees this as a contributing factor) and by feeding the racist criminal narrative used to attack social services. The minimum sentences from the 80s drug panic having increased imprisonment by a factor of six and while the past twenty years have seen bipartisan support for shifting sentencing at least back in the direction of every other western country little has actually passed with the 2016 attempt derailed by Senator Sessions who has now moved his pro-prison agenda to the Justice Department.

Please assure me that you will join Senator Harris in calling out HR 3356 as a sham.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our government of laws.

s Sincerely,
Eric Babson