

Epidemic of Incarceration



Josiah D. Rich, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine and Community Health

The Miriam Hospital, Brown University

The Center for Prisoner Health and Human Rights

www.prisonerhealth.org

FIT 2012

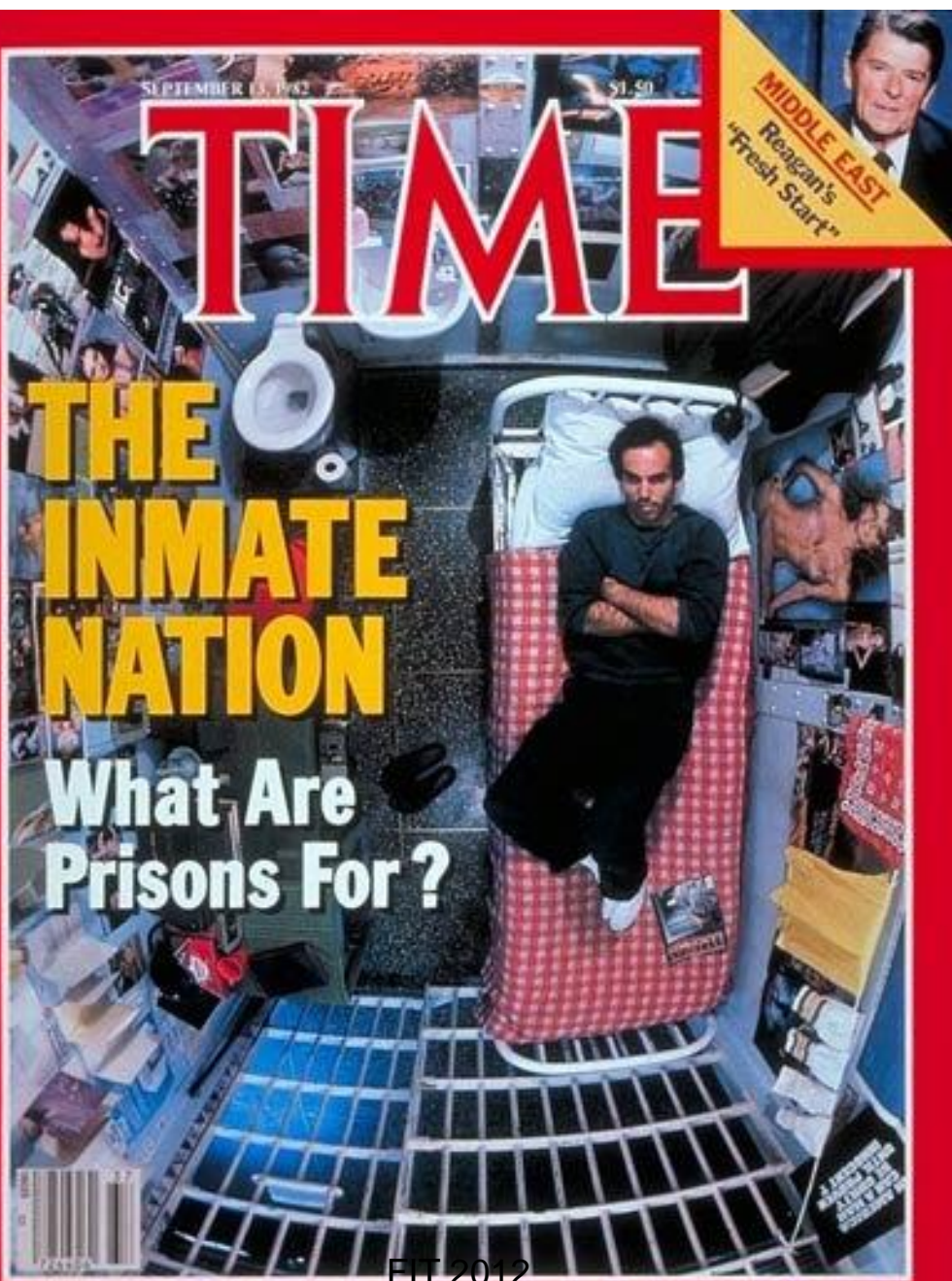
SEPTEMBER 6, 1982 \$1.50

TIME

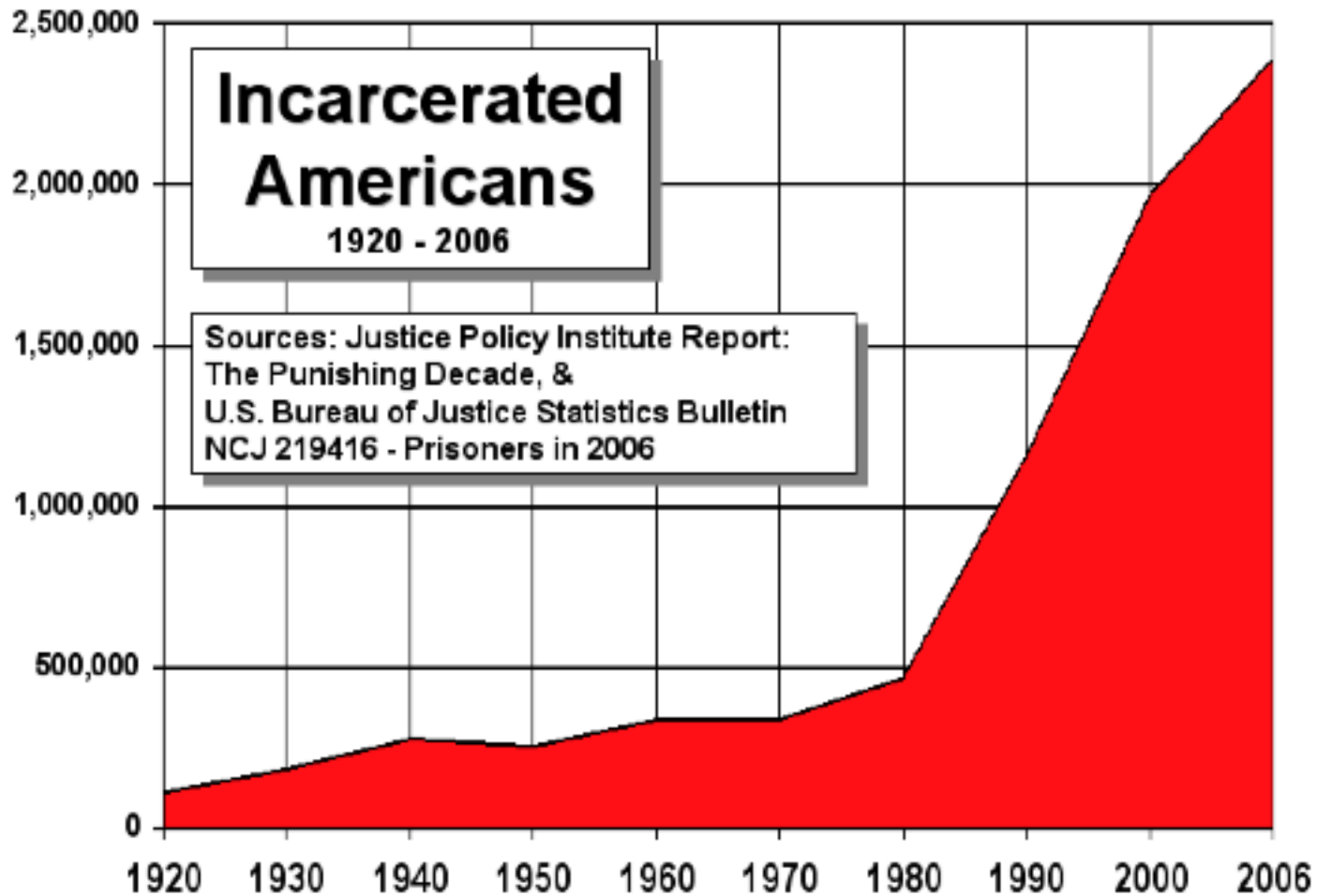
MIDDLE EAST
Reagan's
"Fresh Start"

THE INMATE NATION

What Are Prisons For?

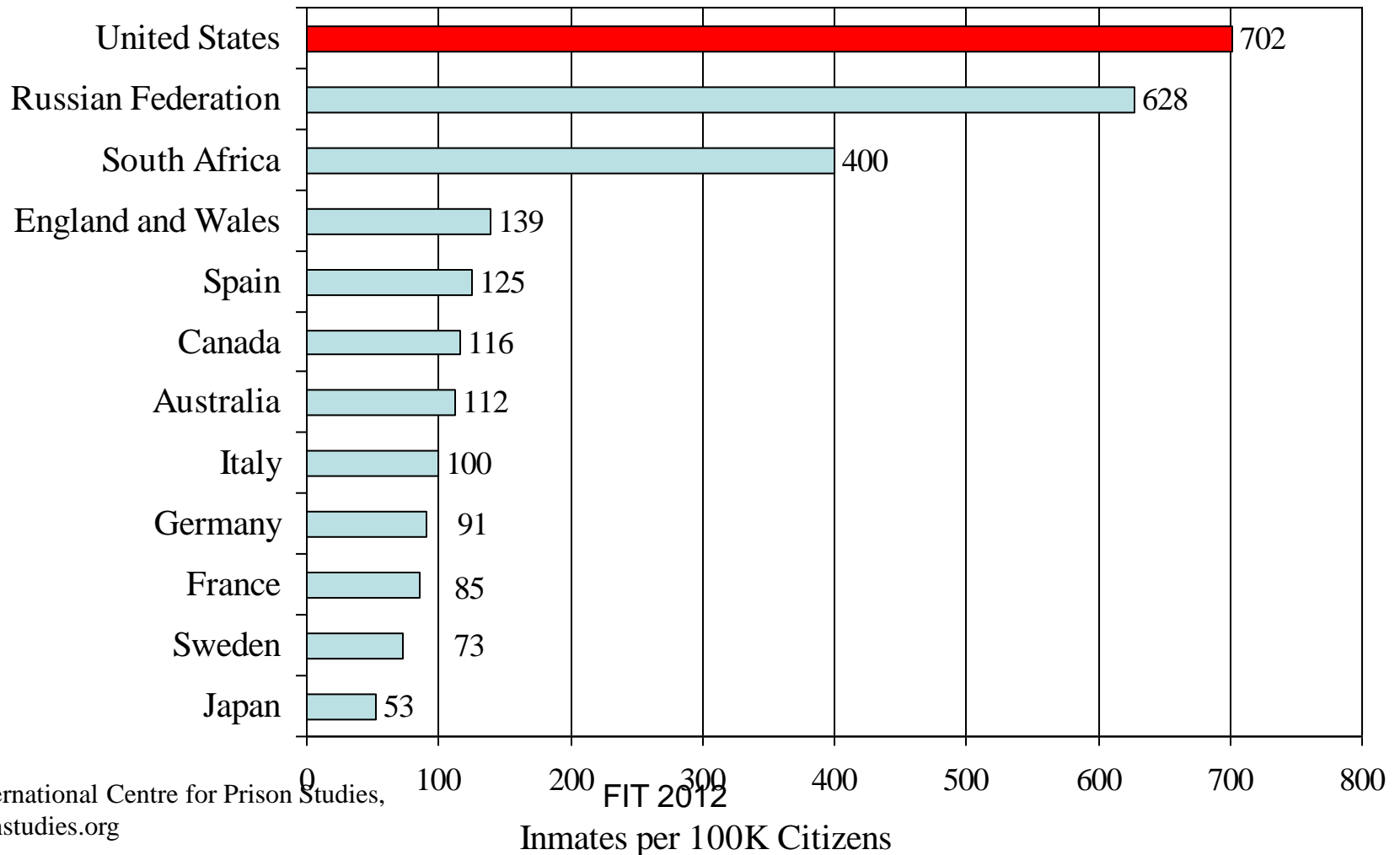


Epidemic of Incarceration



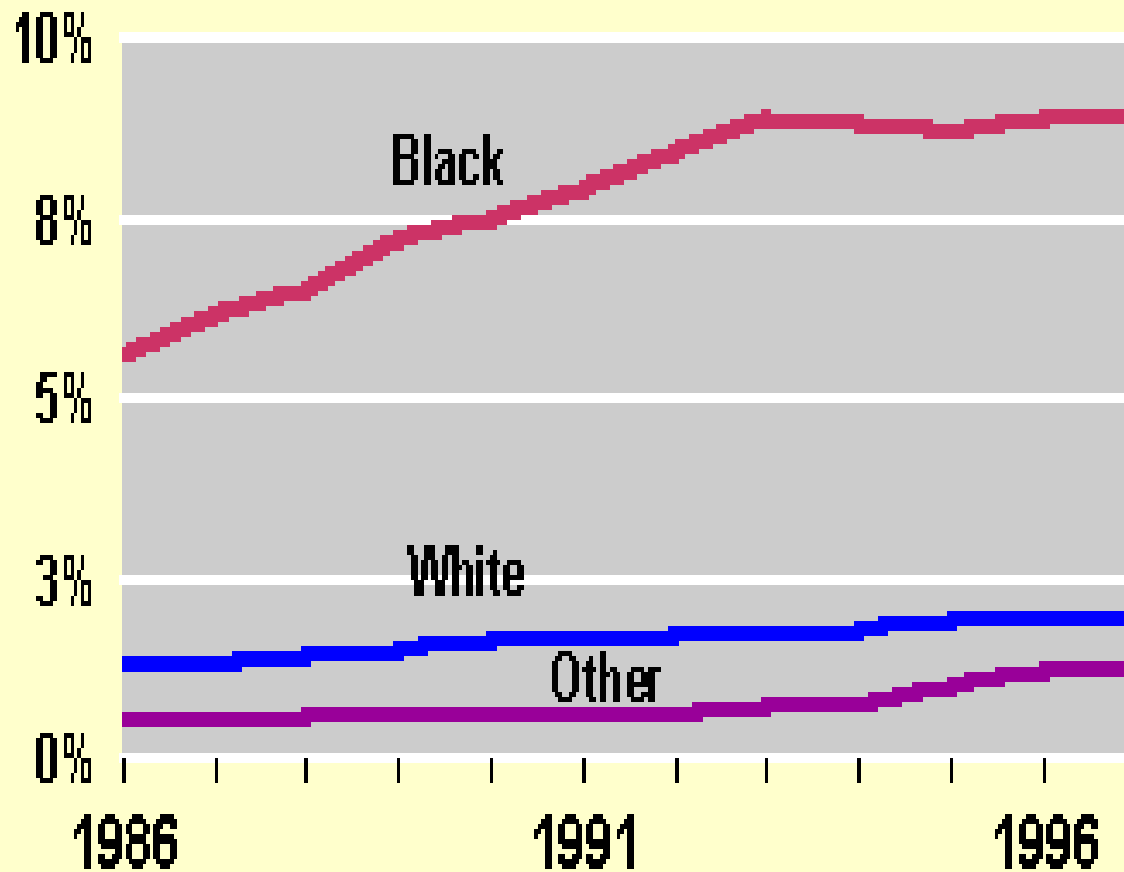
In 2010, 2.3 million persons are incarcerated in the U.S.

The U.S. imprisons more people per capita than any other country in the world. In the 1990s alone, our inmate population grew by 239%.




Adults under correctional supervision by race, 1986-97

Percent of adults



Epidemic of Incarceration

- Untreated mental illness and substance abuse
- Deinstitutionalization / dissolution of mental health care facilities
- Criminalization of drug use
 - War on Drugs (mandatory minimum sentencing, etc)




Injection drug user hospitalized with endocarditis

MSM, HIV, intermittent meth,
? ART

A photograph of a brick building with a balcony. A person is visible on the balcony. In the foreground, there is a chain-link fence. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Hospitalized patient, suspected illicit drug use

Hospitalized patient on methadone, can't reach program



HCV treatment in
HIV/HCV co-infected
patient, still using?

A photograph of a person lying in a hospital bed, being attended to by a healthcare worker. The person is wearing a blue hospital gown. The healthcare worker is wearing a white lab coat and is holding the person's hand. The background shows a hospital room with a toilet and a bed with a blue blanket.

Incarceration is an Opportunity to

- Diagnose
- Treat (including linkage to treatment in the community after release)
- Prevent (education and risk reduction)

Reentry: *But They All Come Back*

- 95% of prisoners are released to their communities
- 735,000 individuals released from state and federal prisons in 2008
- Approximately 9 million individuals are released from jail each year

Hughes, T. & D.J., 2002

West, Sabol, & Cooper., 2009

Beck, A.J., 2006

Travis, J 2002

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Post Release Dangers

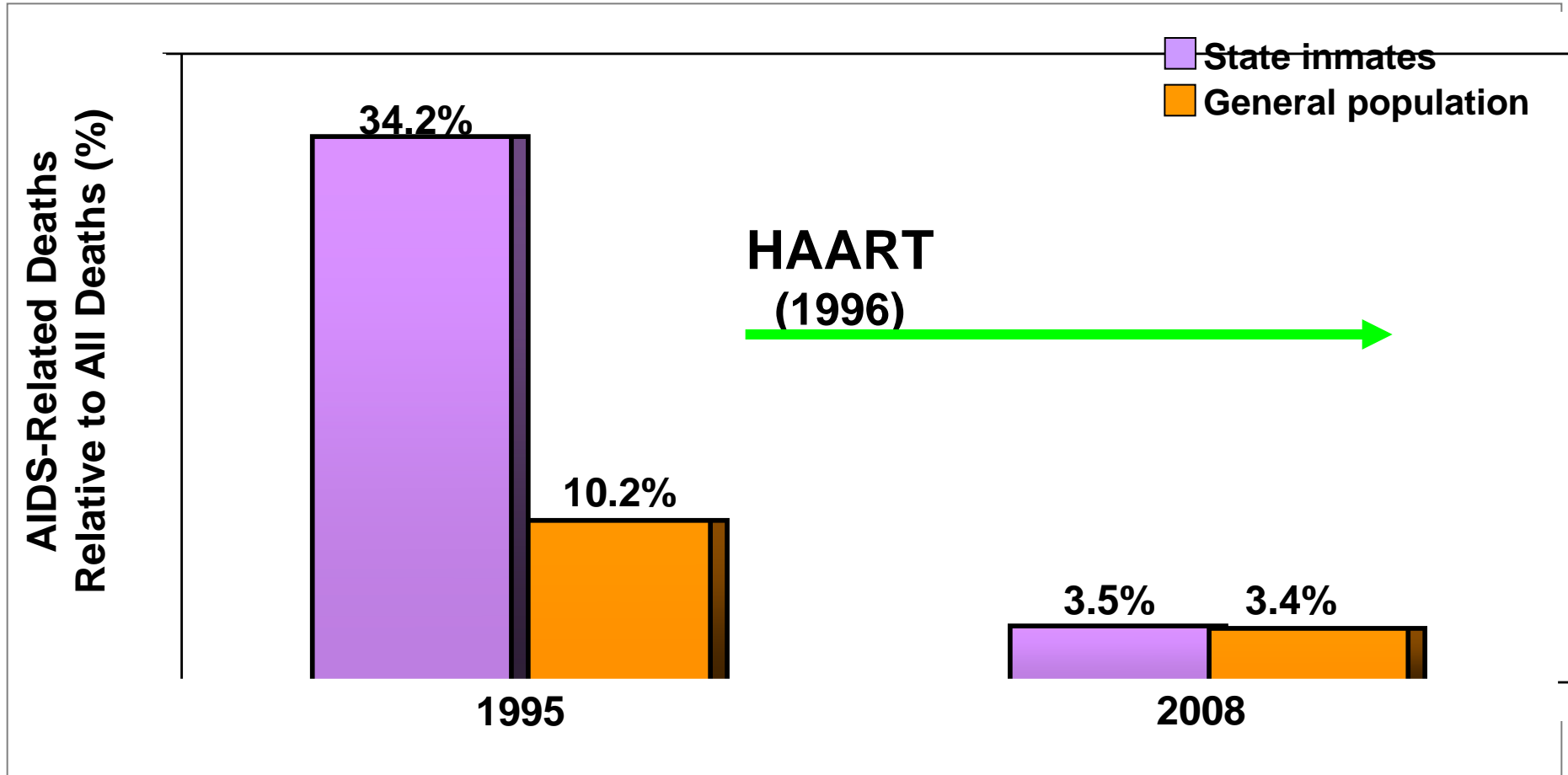
- Mortality
- Overdose
- Communicable diseases
- Relapse
- Re-incarceration



Percent of Total Burden of Infectious Disease passing through Corrections, 1997

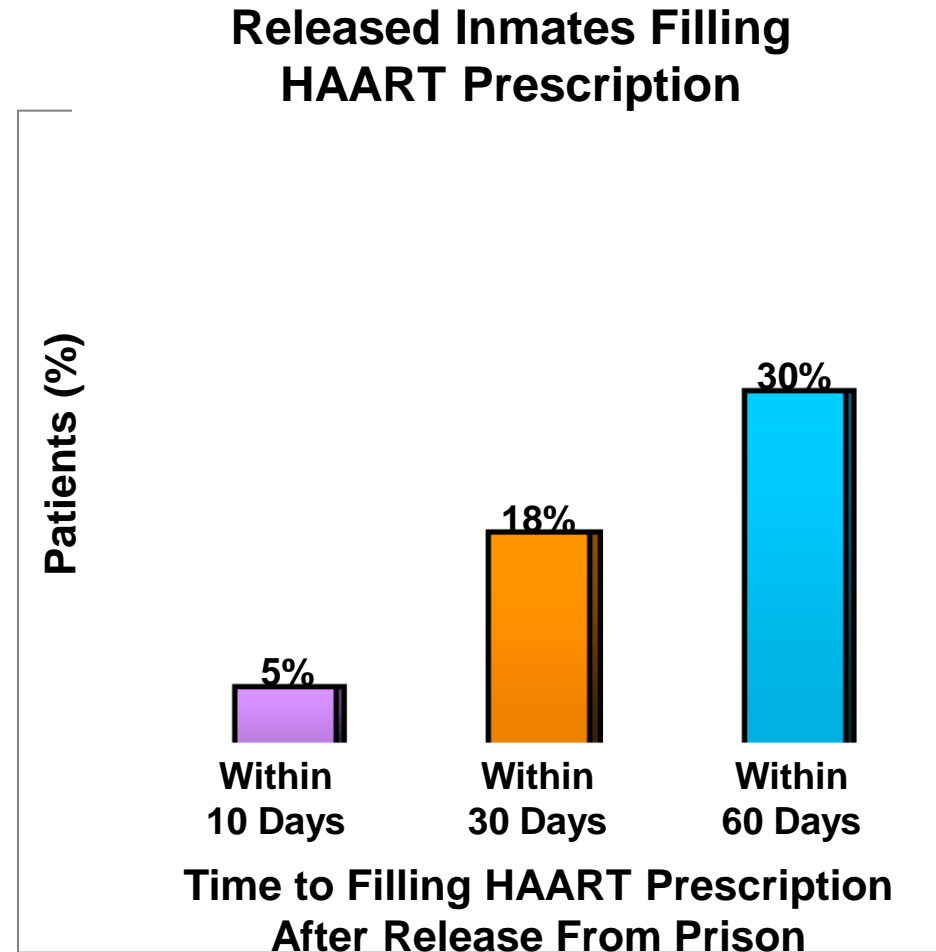
- AIDS 16%
- Total HIV/AIDS 20-26%
- Chronic Hepatitis B 12-16%
- Hepatitis C 29-32%
- TB Disease 38%
- *Hammett et al AJPH 2002*

AIDS-Related Mortality Achieves Parity in Prisons and the General Population



Accessing HAART Following Release From Prison

- Retrospective cohort study (2004-2007)
 - All HIV-infected inmates released from Texas Department of Criminal Justice prison system (n=2112)
 - Texas ADAP program
 - ADAP program not convenient
- $\geq 90\%$ of the former inmates experienced a treatment interruption
 - Treatment interruptions lasting
 - ≥ 30 days: $>70\%$
 - ≥ 60 days: $>60\%$

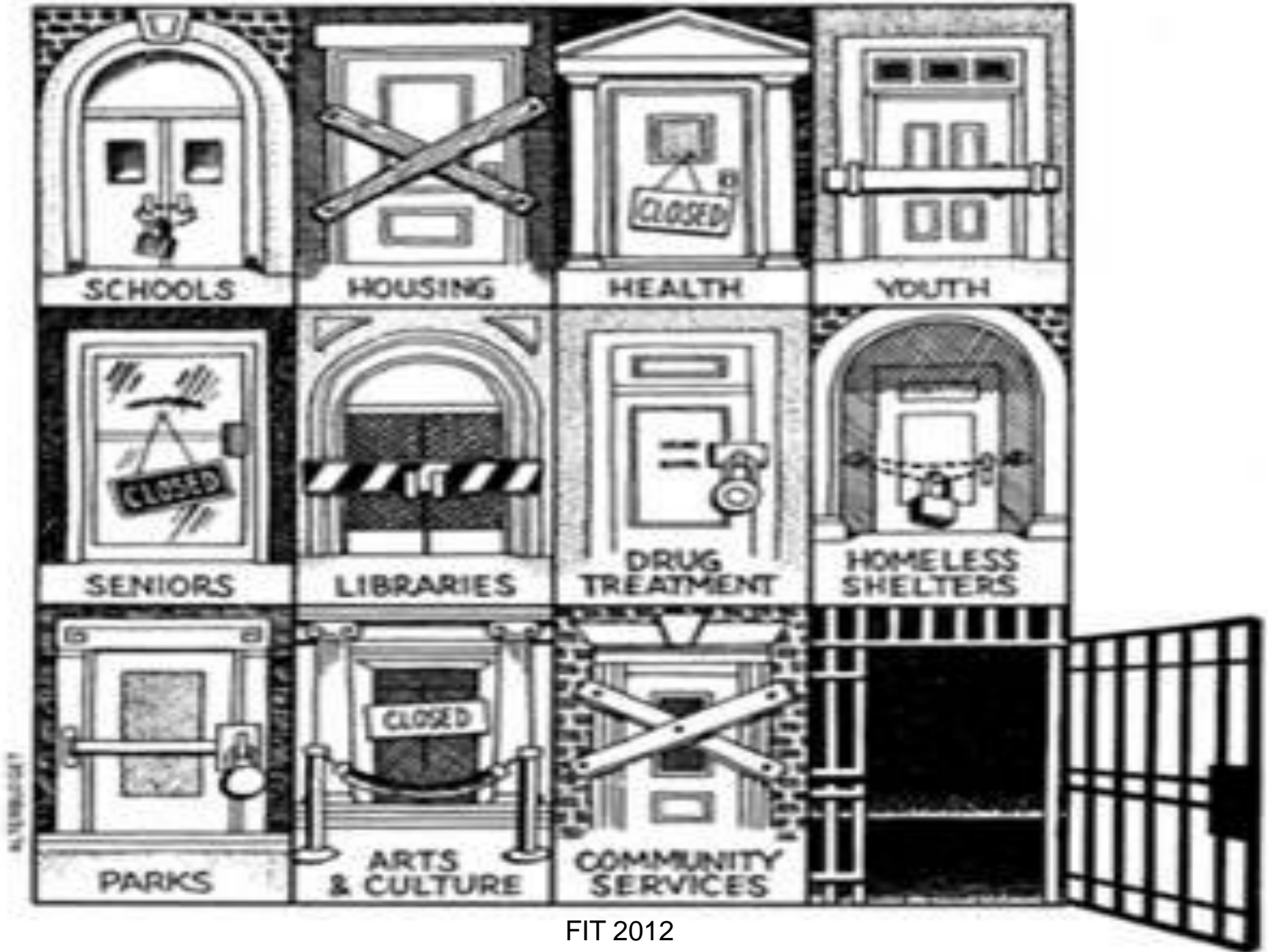


Prisoner Health and Human Rights

- The landmark 1976 Supreme Court case *Estelle v. Gamble* found that not providing community standard of care constituted cruel and unusual punishment.
- For many, the medical care they receive while incarcerated is life-saving, yet correctional facilities are fundamentally designed to confine and punish.

What Can We Do?

- Capitalize on public health and medical opportunities to address the complex medical and other needs of a disadvantaged, minority population
- Advocate for diversion strategies, policy reform, linkage to care, and increased public awareness of this crisis to address the collateral consequences of incarceration.



Welcome to America, home to
5% of the world's people &
25% of the world's prisoners.

Let's build a better America together. NAACP.org/smartandsafe

