

MOVING FORWARD: MEETING CHALLENGES OF POST INCARCERATION SYNDROME (PICS)

Presentations: July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7 Presented by Dr. Stephanie Kutzen, LCSW

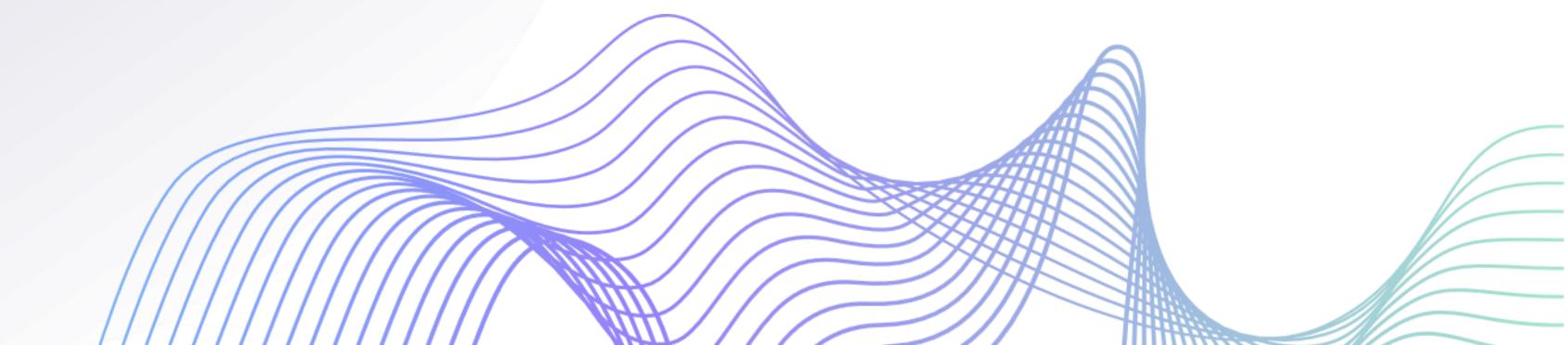
SESSION 1 OBJECTIVES

- To provide updated definition and recent findings on PICS.
- To illustrate how incarceration experiences affect sensory, thinking, and environmental triggers in everyday life.
- To help participants identify the signs and stages of PICS impacting daily life.
- To learn first hand from participants about current PICS impact in re-entry.

FACT:

• It is estimated that 40% of the 600,000 people released annually will have PICS.

*https://joinnia.com



CURRENT DEFINITION & FINDINGS ABOUT PICS

"PICS is a psychiatric disorder and is specific to formally incarcerated individuals re-entering society. A range of psychological, social, emotional, physical, and environmental difficulties result from incarceration."

In 2023, a new term, Post Traumatic Prison Disorder (PTPD) added to the literature.

A TESTIMONIAL OF PICS

"I've been working here for three years and I'm really respected. People don't know that every time I see someone in a uniform talking about security checks, or submit a name for an award or promotions-I spend the night curled up in a ball, sweating with pain in my gut."

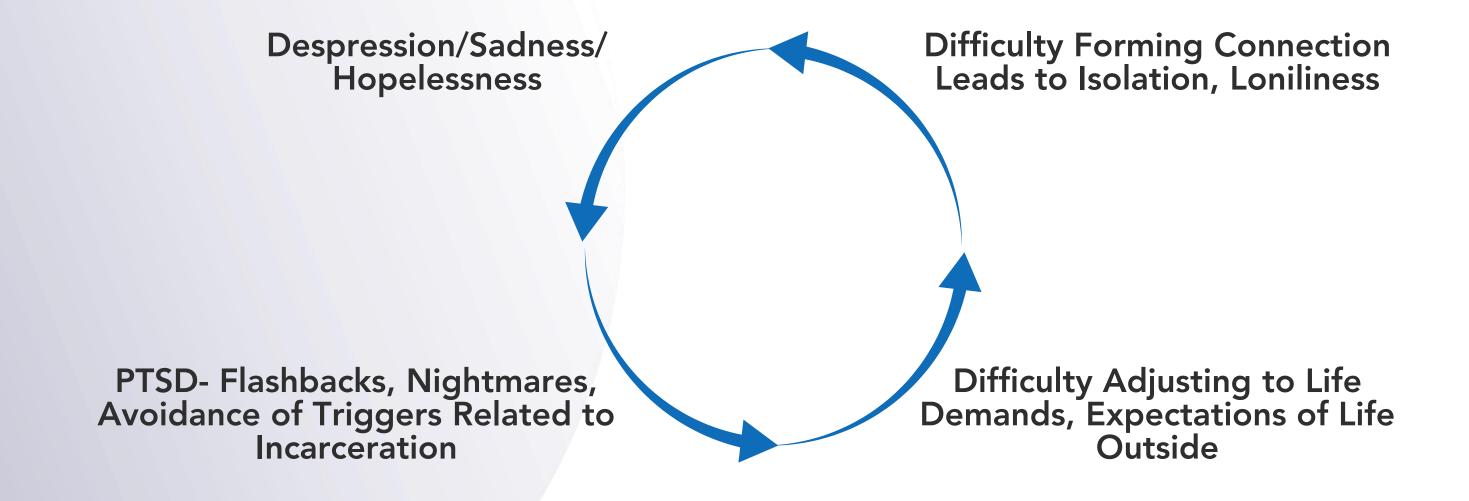
*Participant Reaction to Testimonial





RESULTS OF PICS PRE-QUESTIONNAIRE

(A.) SIGNS AND STAGES OF PICS ARE COMMON



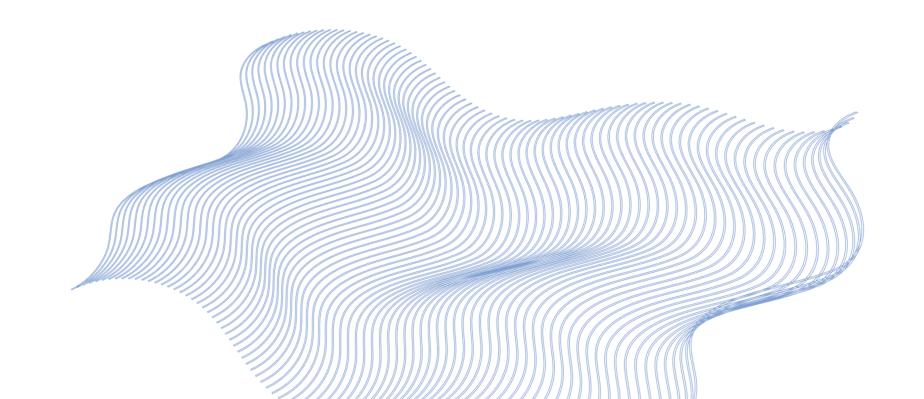
(B.) STAGES OF PICS

STAGE 1: HELPLESSNESS, HOPELESSNESS, NO PLAN FOR COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY **STAGE 2: INTENSE FEAR, IMMOBILYZED** STAGE 3: EMERGING ANGER, RAGE, FLASHBACKS, PTSD SYMPTOMS STAGE 4: REACTIVE, IMPULSIVE BEHAVIORS WITHOUT PROVOCATION STAGE 5: EFFORT TO AVOID ACTING OUT RESULTS IN ISOLATION TO **AVOID TRIGGERS.** STAGE 6: INTENSE FLASHBACK, SLEEP, EATING PROBLEMS RESULT FROM ISOLATION.

A TESTIMONIAL OF PICS

"Incarceration is extremely hard. It warps your whole world view. You see the total disregard for basic human life- but after effects can be worse."





CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF PICS

A. Causes:

- Prison Trauma- High risk for PTSD, anxiety, depression, potential for poor life adjustment re-entry.
- Loss of family support, friends, connectionsm resources.
- Loss of skills/knowledge, interrupted education impacting employment.
- Stigma- facing personal, family, community, society, shamebased responses.
- Lack of resources is a big barrier to positive re-entry.

CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF PICS

B. Consequences of PICS on Re-Entry:

- Not finding employment or underemployment leads to poverty.
- Lack of inadequate housing.
- Becoming socially marginalized.
- Loss of personal productivity.
- Limits to healthcare, social services.
- Estrangement from family/friends/social supports.

PARTICIPANT OPEN-MIC & SUMMARY

- Observations
- Feedback
- Areas of Interest for Further Study

NEXT SESSION- JULY 17TH TOPIC: SOCIAL CHALLENGES

Thanks for attending our session. Your contributions are essential to our learning process.