

No on Prop 36

Keep Our Communities Safe and Stable

We all want to live in safe and stable neighborhoods. But the big corporations, right-wing interests, and prison lobby behind Proposition 36 are putting profit over the health of California's communities.

Prop 36 will expand mass incarceration, which will cost Californians billions and will not deter crime.

Prop 36 seeks to increase penalties for low-level offenses like drug possession and petty theft, sending more people to prison and for longer. Every year, Prop 36 would:

Send
150,000
more people
to jail

Send
10,000
more people
to prison

Add
\$5
billion more
in costs to lock people up

source: Californians for Safety and Justice
(<https://perma.cc/NLA9-9PWS>)

Black and Latinx Californians will be especially harmed by Prop 36, as they are already more likely to be incarcerated.

In California, Black and Latinx people make up:

45% of the population

68% of people in jail

73% of people in prison

source: Prison Policy Initiative
(<https://perma.cc/5S59-83RY>)

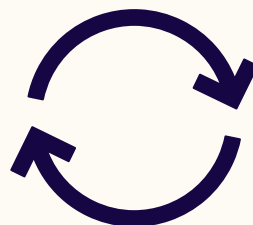
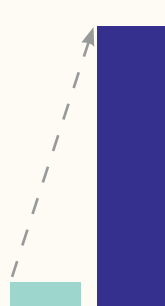
Prop 36 will make homelessness worse.

We need to make it easier to get people housed. Jail and prison make it harder. Research shows that even 23 hours in jail is so destabilizing that it makes someone significantly more likely to be arrested again.

Formerly incarcerated people are

10 times

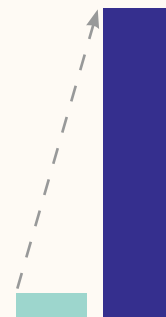
more likely to experience homelessness



People who are unhoused are

11 times

more likely to be arrested



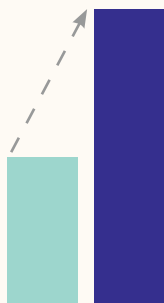
Sources: Arnold Ventures (<https://perma.cc/ARF2-K4VE>); Prison Policy Initiative (perma.cc/2JST-EEJC); National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (<https://perma.cc/NT7W-TDTH>)

Prop 36 won't reduce retail theft or drug use.

Prop 36 would add harsher sentences for drug possession or low-level theft, especially if someone has previous convictions, but research shows this won't work to stop crime.

Putting people in jail or prison will not fix California's drug problems.

Overdoses in California prisons have more than doubled in recent years.



People released from jail or prison are up to 129 times more likely to die of a drug overdose.



sources: New England Journal of Medicine (<https://perma.cc/L49X-7MZ7>); LAist (<https://perma.cc/VT3W-DXLG>)

Prop 36 will defund programs proven to make us safer.

Over the next ten years, Prop 36 would take away:

\$750M

from successful drug treatment and homelessness prevention programs

\$300M

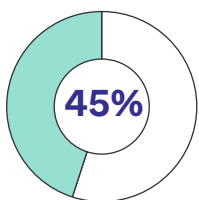
from services that help survivors of crime recover

\$10M

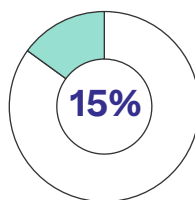
from school-based violence prevention programs

source: Californians for Safety and Justice (<https://perma.cc/NLA9-9PWS>)

Prop 36 would defund programs that have successfully reduced crime.



Roughly 45% of Californians who leave prison have a new conviction within three years...



...But only 15% of those who receive reentry services that would be cut by Prop 36 face a new conviction.

source: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (<https://tinyurl.com/bscceval>)

Vote no on Prop 36. We have tools that can get California on the right track, but Prop 36 would take us further away.

Californians deserve real solutions that prevent crime and improve everyone's quality of life—like affordable housing, good jobs, and access to mental health and drug treatment.

Vera INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

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Paid for by Vera Institute of Justice