

TROOP 1500

A FILM BY ELLEN SPIRO & KAREN BERNSTEIN
GIRL SCOUTS BEYOND BARS



An estimated 1.5 million children have incarcerated parents and ninety percent of female inmates are single parents. While the daughters of these inmates are six times more likely to land in the juvenile justice system, these highly at-risk girls rarely receive sufficient support from educators, counselors, and other youth workers. *Troop 1500: Girl Scouts Beyond Bars* is an eye-opening look at an innovative Girl Scouts program designed to help girls with incarcerated mothers reach their full potential and rebuild their compromised mother-daughter relationships, in the hopes of breaking the cycle of crime within families.

Revelatory and poignant, the film is both an analysis of the U.S. criminal justice system and its effects on children, as well as an important documentation of a transformative program that offers effective intervention and support to the girls. The film explores the painful context of families shattered by parental incarceration, and powerful insight comes from interviews shot by the girls themselves that reveal their conflicted feelings of anger and joy, abandonment and intimacy—as well as the deep influence their mothers still have on them. A must-see film for social workers, educators, and those interested in psychology, sociology, law, and criminal justice.



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“Reveal[s] something never seen before on film until now... *Troop 1500* is a precious resource to understand how incarceration affects families.”

Darlene Grant, Ph.D.


*Dean of Graduate Studies & Professor of Social Work
University of Texas, Austin*

“Heartwarming and heartrending... the film shines a light on an ignored segment of society and considers how America can prevent the children of the incarcerated from feeling punished themselves.”

O, The Oprah Magazine

“Recommended... Poignant... Emotional journeys unfold as seven young girls meet with their mothers and social workers in an attempt to rebuild broken relationships, explore feelings of abandonment and anger, and (hopefully) break 'the cycle'.”

Video Librarian

Distributed in cooperation with Girl Scouts of the USA.  **Girl Scouts**
For further information about Girl Scouts Beyond Bars, visit www.girlscouts.org

