

||| WE ARE ALL ||| ||| CRIMINALS |||

One in four people in the U.S. has a criminal record.
This is the other 75%.

Participants in We Are All Criminals tell stories of crimes they got away with. The stories range from humorous to humbling, but all have one thing in common: they are privately held memories without public stigma. Each shows that often times the only thing separating *clean* from *criminal* is who gets caught.



PRIVATE MEMORY:
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY;
TERRORISTIC THREATS

I was working at a retail shop and saving up for our summer wedding. My boss asked me to work overtime and we were happy to have the extra cash.

With double shifts, the days were long. I cut out early one day; my fiancée was not expecting me, and I knew as soon as I saw my neighbor's shoes that the bum was cheating on me.

I could hear them going at it, so I slipped into the kitchen and grabbed a knife and headed out to our driveway.

One stab per tire and he was on flats.

At this point I was no longer trying to be quiet. I wanted them to come out. But I guess they were too busy to hear me. So I crossed the yard to her house and slashed her tires, too. Still nothing. I started calling and texting telling them to come outside so I could kick their asses, but got no response.

IN THE NEWS: WOMEN IN PRISON

During the first decade of the 2000s, growth in women's incarceration rates far outpaced that of men's. [A new report](#) sheds light on the unique societal concerns raised by the incarceration of women.

First, between 85 and 90% of incarcerated women are victims of violence such as domestic violence, rape, sexual assault and child abuse. And girls and women of color who have survived such abuse are more likely to be processed by the criminal justice system and labeled offenders than white girls and women, who are more likely to be treated as victims and referred to appropriate social services.

[Second](#), about 80% of women in the criminal justice system were using drugs prior to their arrest, yet less than one-quarter of those in prison or on probation receive any type of drug treatment. And drug use, while stable across racial demographics, fuels racial disparities in incarceration. In Minnesota, women of color make up more than one-quarter of those serving time for drug-related offenses, but comprise just 5% of the state's population.

Finally, sixty-five percent of incarcerated women have minor children at home, and more than 75% of incarcerated mothers were the primary child-care providers for these children. However, over one-half of all incarcerated women are serving time more than 100 miles from their families and more than one-third won't see their children at all during their incarceration.

Keep updated on these and other issues impacting women behind bars with the [Correctional Association of New York](#).

ON THE DOCKET:

||| Minneapolis Civil Rights Dept |||
Minneapolis, MN, 3.10

||| MN Youth Intervention
Programs Association |||
St. Paul, MN 3.13

||| Justice and Peace Studies at
UST |||
St. Paul, MN 3.19

||| Reception for Art Exhibit at
Unity Unitarian |||
St. Paul, MN, 4.3

PUBLIC RECORD: FELONY DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

In 2009, she came home to find her husband in bed with a neighborhood friend. She packed up her three-year-old daughter and left, deliberately keying his new truck on the way out.

Now with felony damages to property on her record, she's been denied housing at every turn. She and her little girl are currently living in a shelter, unable to find a place that will rent to a "felon."

WAAC THANKS:

Thanks to HIRED, Minnesota Department of Human Rights Commissioner Kevin Lindsey, Josh Esmay, Brother Shane Price, Michael, and Duvall for a fantastic joint presentation.

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READ THE FULL STORY AND GET INVOLVED AT: www.weareallcriminals.org

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