

## Suggestions for documentaries on the CJS, JJS, or corrections in general:

- *The Kalief Browder Story*
- *The Plea*
- *King of Devil's Island* - This is a Swedish feature film with English subtitles. I know what you are thinking. This is a tough sell to a bunch of undergrad, but surprisingly, they really seem to enjoy the film and I very rarely get any negative feedback. It is great for highlighting the history of the JJS and concepts like *parens patriae*. Even though it takes place in Norway, much of what is depicted parallels the US system. This film used to be available on Netflix, but is now only available on Amazon Prime I believe. I went ahead and bought it so I can keep access to it as it is one of my favorites.
- *Prison Kids* - I have used this film in the past and it is great for showing the racial disparities in our JJS. It is available on YouTube for free.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NifPxtGi-Ns>.
- *Dropout Nation* - This is a Frontline PBS doc and it is perfect for highlighting the school-to-prison pipeline.
- *Raised in the System* - This is an episode from the HBO series, *Vice*. This is the first year I will be showing it and I am really looking forward to it as it hits a lot of great notes.
- *Imperial Dreams* - This is another feature film, but US based. While the focal character, Bambi, is an adult, his experiences really help highlight the transition from adolescence to adulthood and how incarceration interrupts adolescent development. It is a great piece to use for developmental and life course theories.
- *Girl Trouble* - This is an independent doc that you would probably have to purchase. I used my start up funds, but you could contact your library to see if they would spring for it. It is perfect for launching a discussion on gender and the JJS. Here is the link to get the video:  
<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/girltrouble/video.html>
- *Kids for Cash* - This doc is available on Amazon Prime and is great for talking about the contemporary JJS, especially the courts.
- *Raised in the System* – An HBO special available on YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yq3uVJQN8Gw>
- *What I Want My Words to Do to You* - There are educator links on PBS, but it touches on education, the Puppies in Prisons programs, there are some "infamous" individuals in the documentary, and it opens the door to talk about MANY other system-related topics. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yq3uVJQN8Gw>
- *The Sentence*
- *Roll Red Roll*
- *Crime and Punishment* – now on Hulu
- *The Life and Death of Sandra Bland*
- *Girls on the Wall*
- *They Call Us Monsters*

Links to lists of documentaries:

- Paste's list of 5 powerful documentaries about America's Criminal Justice System: <https://www.pastemagazine.com/articles/2017/03/5-powerful-documentaries-about-americas-flawed-cri.html>
- PBS Frontline items on the topic of Criminal Justice: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/topic/criminal-justice/>
- Odyssey's list of 5 documentaries on prison reform and racial justice: <https://www.theodysseyonline.com/documentaries-to-watch-for-reform-and-justice>
- Bustle's list of 21 social justice documentaries available on Netflix <https://www.bustle.com/p/21-social-justice-documentaries-on-netflix-to-watch-36378>

Of course, documentaries about abuse of many kinds, a variety of types of crimes like the young woman jailed for killing her mother after living as a disabled child for a long time (mom had Munchausen's by proxy most likely) - that is, films that up to and about the system and looking at all the actors in the system seems important. I thought there was a list being compiled as this request comes up again and again. Maybe there is a CJ librarian who'd like to help with such an effort.

Even a Google Form/Sheet to collect the stories and main themes and year might be a great start. I did this (doing this) for social work right now and, frankly, not a lot of people adding but started in the summer so my ask might not have been great.

Thanks all who post regularly from a lurker most of the time,