IAWJ 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference May 26-30, 2016 Washington, DC, USA

The National Association of Women Judges USA is proud to host the 2016 IAWJ Biennial Conference

Women Judges and the Rule of Law:
Assessing the Past, Anticipating the Future



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Justice poised between law and force by Cesare Maccari



## WOMEN AND GIRLS IN DETENTION

## Carla Marina LENDARO President A.D.M.I. - Italian Association of Women Judges

with the collaboration of Ines CASCIARO and Cinzia VERGINE, Members of the A.D.M.I. Ruling Council

IAWJ 13° BIENNIAL CONFERENCE - May 26-30,2016 Washington, DC USA





PRISON IS AN ENTIRELY MALE INSITITUTION,
WITH RIGID, PRE-SET RULES
DESIGNED TO CONTAIN AGGRESSION AND VIOLENCE

 $March\ 31^{st}\ 2016$  Mothers incarcerated together with their children in Italian prisons by nationality

Detention region	Detention Institute	Italian women		Foreign women		TOTAL	
		present	children in tow	present	Children in tow	present	Children in tow
CAMPANIA	AVELLINO "Antimo Graziano" Bellizzi CC	2	2	1	1	3	3
LAZIO	ROMA "Germana Stefanini" Rebibbia Femminile CCF	4	4	6	6	10	10
LOMBARDIA	COMO CC	1	1	1	1	2	2
LOMBARDIA	MILANO "Francesco di Cataldo" San Vittore CCF	1	1	9	10	10	11
PIEMONTE	TORINO G.Lorusso/L.Cotugno" Le Vallette CC	4	5	1	1	5	6
SARDEGNA	SASSARI "Giovanni Bacchiddu" CC	1	1	1	1	2	2
TOSCANA	FIRENZE "Sollicciano" CC	1	1	/	/	1	1
VENETO	VENEZIA "Giudecca" CRF	2	3	3	3	5	6
Total		16	18	22	23	38	41

# IN ITALY AS OF MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> 2016 WOMEN ACCOUNT FOR JUST OVER 4% OF THE TOTAL PRISON POPULATION. OF A TOTAL OF 53,495 DETAINEES 2,198 ARE WOMEN



THEY ARE OFTEN
THE ONLY ONES
RESPONSIBLE FOR
MINORS IN THEIR
CARE

FOLLOWING ARREST
AND DURING
DETENTION THEY
ARE FORCIBLY
SEPARATED FROM
THEM

DETENTION HAS A NEGATIVE
EFFECT ON THE WELL-BEING OF
MINORS WHO ARE SEPARATED
FROM THEIR MOTHERS,
INTERRUPTING THE RELATIONSHIP
AND CUTTING CHILDREN OFF FROM
THE FAMILY NETWORK AND
ENVIRONMENT, FOR WHICH THE
MOTHER IS AN ESSENTIAL
INTERLOCUTOR.

DETENTION OFTEN
COMPLETELY
ANNULS THE RIGHT
TO CO-PARENTING
AND AFFECTION

**PARENTS' RIGHTS** 

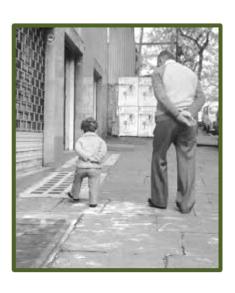
**CHILDREN'S RIGHTS** 



## VERY FEW INCARCERATED MOTHERS CHOOSE TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM UNTIL THE AGE OF THREE

### AS OF MARCH 2016 THERE WERE ONLY 38 WOMEN IN ITALIAN PRISONS TOGETHER WITH THEIR CHILDREN (41)

### THE EXTENDED FAMILY TAKES RESPONSIBILITY





## ALMOST ALWAYS THE GRANDPARENTS





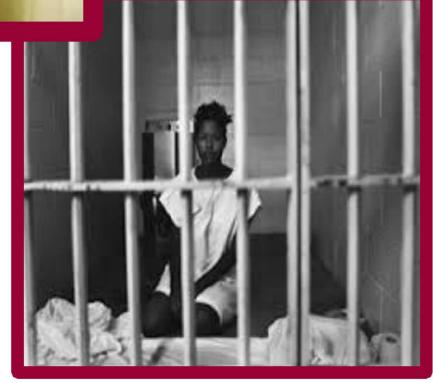


THE PROBLEM AFFECTS
ABOVE ALL FOREIGN
FEMALE DETAINEES

AND THEIR CHILDREN,

AS THEY ARE OFTEN NOT LEGALLY RESIDENT

WITH FAMILY NETWORKS
THAT ARE ABSENT OR
DYSFUNCTIONAL



### ITALIAN LEGISLATION IS HIGHLY SPECIFIC AND PROGRESSIVE IN THIS REGARD

#### **CONCERNING MINORS**

Law 54 of February 8<sup>th</sup> 2006, n. 54 regulates "parental separation and joint custody of children"

### CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND SPECIFICALLY PRISONS, THERE IS

Law 62 of April 21st 2011

"Modifications to the criminal procedural code and to law 354 of July 26<sup>th</sup> 1975, and other regulations to safeguard the relationship between incarcerated mothers and their children when the latter are minors"

## WHILE INVESTIGATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS

PRE-TRIAL
CUSTODY
Article 285
c.p.p.



#### YES

ONLY IF THERE ARE
EXCEPTIONAL
CIRCUMSTANCES THAT
REQUIRE DETENTION
Art. 275 co 4 c.p.p
as replaced by Law. 62/11



IN THIS CASE THE JUDGE CAN HOWEVER ORDER DETENTION IN AN ICAM,

a "mitigated custody" institution for imprisoned mothers (article 285 bis c.p.p.) as replaced by Law. 62/11

### **ICAMs**

ARE USUALLY SITUATED OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF A CONVENTIONAL PRISON

THE SECURITY APPARATUS – SUCH AS BARS ON THE WINDOWS – IS OF THE TYPE SEEN IN CIVIL DWELLINGS

THE PRISON OFFICERS DO NOT WEAR UNIFORMS AND ARE ASSISTED BY A SERIES OF OTHER OPERATORS INCLUDING TEACHERS, CHILD-MINDERS AND HEALTH PERSONNEL

# THEY HAVE COMMUNAL KITCHENS, LAUNDRIES AND DEDICATED SPACES – BOTH INDOORS AND OUTDOORS – FOR THE CHILDREN'S RECREATION





### WHILE INVESTIGATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS



# HOME ADDRESS OR OTHER PRIVATE ADDRESS

HOUSE ARREST article 284 c.p.p.



PUBLIC PLACE
OF CARE OR
TREATMENT



FAMILY SHELTER

### ONCE THE APPEALS PROCESS HAS RUN ITS COURSE AND THE SENTENCE HAS BECOME DEFINITIVE

### SERVING THE SENTENCE

# PRISON REGIME DIFFERENTIATED ON THE BASIS OF

age of any children living with the mother

health of children

### SERVING THE SENTENCE

- PREGNANT WOMAN CHILDREN UP TO 1 YEAR OF AGE
- CHILDREN UP TO 3 YEARS OF AGE

- CHILDREN UP TO 10 YEARS OF AGE
- CHILDREN SICK OR HANDICAPPED

• CHILDREN UP TO 1 YEAR OF AGE

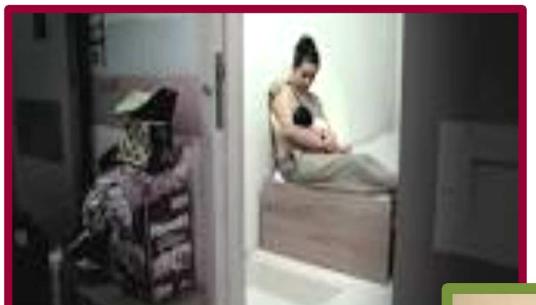
**SENTENCE** POSTPONED article 146 c.p.

### • CHILDREN UP TO 3 YEARS OF AGE

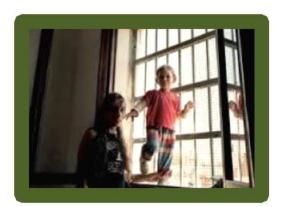
THE CHILD CAN
STAY IN PRISON
WITH THE
MOTHER
Article 11 co. 9 O.P.







## CHILDREN UP TO 3 YEARS OF AGE





# INCARCERATED WOMEN ARE HOUSED IN SPECIAL DETENTION FACILITIES

ITALY HAS FIVE
EXCLUSIVELY FEMALE
INSTITUTIONS

## SERVING THE SENTENCE

FEMALE
WINGS IN
OTHER
PRISONS



# Article 11 O.P. co. 9 "FOR THE CARE OF SMALL CHILDREN APPROPRIATE NURSERIES MUST BE ORGANISED"







### Art. 19 D.P.R. 230/00

- co. 3 "CARE OF THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH IS ENTRUSTED TO PROFESSIONALS SPECIALISED IN PEDIATRICS"
- co. 5 "OBSTETRIC WARDS AND NURSERIES MUST BE ORGANISED FOR THE CARE AND ASSISTANCE OF CHILDREN. THE ROOMS WHERE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN ARE HOUSED ARE NOT TO BE LOCKED, IN ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO MOVE AROUND WITHIN THE WARD OR SECTION, WITH THE PROVISO THAT THEY DO NOT DISRUPT THEIR REGULAR FUNCTIONING"
- co. 6 "AGE-APPROPRIATE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES ARE TO BE PROVIDED. IN ADDITION, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE MOTHER, IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THESE ACTIVITIES, THE CHILDREN CAN BE TAKEN BY SOCIAL SERVICES OR VOLUNTEERS TO EXTERNAL NURSERIES AND INFANTS' SCHOOLS IN THE AREA"

# FAMILY MEETINGS PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DETAINEES' AFFECTIVE RELATIONS

# HOWEVER THERE ARE MANY MOTHERS WHO FOREGO THESE MEETINGS BECAUSE

- THE MINOR IS NOT ABLE TO MANAGE THEIR FEELINGS OF ANGER AND ANXIETY ARISING FROM THE IMPRISONMENT OF THE PARENT

- THE NEW SEPARATION AT THE END OF THE VISIT IS TOO PAINFUL FOR THE CHILD







## "ITALIAN CHARTER OF THE CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS"

### Memorandum of Understanding signed on March 21st 2014 by Ministry of Justice

### Watchdog Agency for Childhood and Adolescence Bambinisenzasbarre ONLUS (NGO)

safeguarding the rights of the 100,000 children and adolescents entering Italian prisons.

The Charter of the Children of Incarcerated Parents formally recognises the right of these minors to the continuity of their affective connection with the incarcerated parent and at the same time affirms the right to parenthood. The Charter sets up a permanent committee composed of representatives of the three signatories and provides for the periodic monitoring of the implementation of the points envisaged by the Charter, promoting cooperation between institutional and non-institutional partners and facilitating the exchange of best practices on a national and international level.

 CHILDREN **UP TO** 10 YEARS **OF AGE** 

**PRISON** SENTENCE (OR REMAINDER OF SENTENCE) **NOT ABOVE 4 YEARS** 

> IF THE PERSON **DOES NOT REPRESENT A DANGER TO SOCIETY**

**HOUSE ARREST** article 47 ter **O.** P.

at

**HOME ADDRESS** 

**OTHER PRIVATE ADDRESS** 

**PUBLIC PLACE OF CARE OR TREATMENT** 

For some types of crime **FAMILY SHELTER** 

PRISON SENTENCE (OR REMAINDER OF SENTENCE) NOT ABOVE 4 YEARS

AFTER SERVING 1/3
OF THE SENTENCE
or 15 YEARS IN THE
CASE OF A LIFE
SENTENCE

IF THE PERSON DOES NOT REPRESENT A DANGER TO SOCIETY

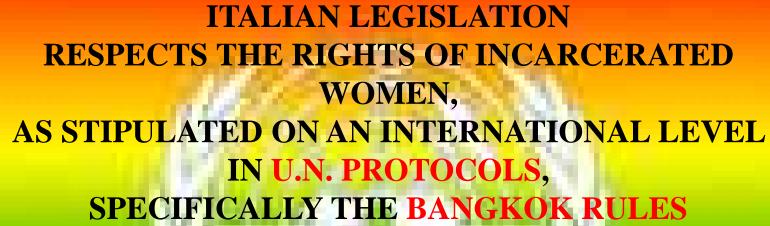
IF THE MOTHER CAN GO BACK TO LIVING WITH HER CHILDREN AGAIN "SPECIAL"
HOUSE
ARREST

- home address
- other private address
- place of care or treatment
- family shelter where available

article 47 quinquies O.P

• CHILDREN UP TO 10 YEARS OF AGE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE SUPERVISING MAGISTRATE, WHO MUST ASSESS THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE PRISONER IN TERMS OF HER REHABILITATION AND WEIGH THE RISK OF HER REOFFENDING







AND THE PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED TO SAFEGUARD MINORS BY THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD **CONCERNING NON-DISCRIMINATION AND THE** RIGHT TO HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT. ITALIAN LEGISLATION AFFIRMS THE CRITERION BY WHICH 'IN ALL ACTIONS **CONCERNING CHILDREN, WHETHER** UNDERTAKEN BY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOCIAL WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, COURTS OF LAW, **ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES OR** LEGISLATIVE BODIES, THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD SHALL BE A PRIMARY **CONSIDERATION'** 

### I diritti dell'infanzia

e dell'adolescenza

IN 2011 THE CONCLUDING
OBSERVATIONS OF THE UN COMMITTEE
FOR MONITORING THE APPLICATION OF
THE CRC PRAISED THE LATEST ITALIAN
LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES IN THE
FOLLOWING SECTORS

CIVIL LAW
CRIMINAL LAW
THE PRISON SYSTEM
WHICH DIRECTLY AFFECT
WOMEN AND MINORS

2014-2016



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