

Chat Transcript for Mothers of Bedford

 *Mothers of Bedford* - 95min 27sec

Screening Date: May 8, 2014 7:00pm Eastern Time

URL: <https://ovee.itvs.org/screenings/k5o7q>

6:59:28 PM

Hi and thanks for joining us tonight! We're just one minute away...

- Sharon Wong

7:00:02 PM

Looking forward to it..

- Jenifer

7:00:13 PM

Me too!

- Robin S

7:00:24 PM

me too

- Anonymous A1LY

7:00:25 PM

Excited to be here :)

- Rocio Galarza

7:01:24 PM

I am very old school so its very interesting to experience this process!

♥ 1

- Bobby

7:01:54 PM

Hi Jenifer, Rocio, Bobby, Mona and Nonso!

- Sharon Wong

7:02:03 PM

I am curious how this works? I hope I get it right I amreallyexcited

♥ 1

- Mona

7:02:07 PM

So glad you all are participating. This should be an interesting discussion.

- Natasha Del Toro

7:02:13 PM

This is so great to see and experience prior to Mom's day....

♥ 3

- Anonymous 9H8K

7:02:29 PM

Hi Sharon. Film should be starting soon...?

- Jenifer

7:02:31 PM

Hi Natasha! Glad you could join in tonight as well.

♥ 1

- Sharon Wong

7:02:32 PM

Absolutely

- Rocio Galarza

7:02:36 PM

i have no idea what i'm doing either- do we do something to get it started?

- Anonymous G4IJ

7:02:43 PM

Welcome to WORLD Channel's WatchTogether, Chat Together of Mothers of Bedford from our series, America ReFramed. Joining us for this Mother Day event is Mothers of Bedford filmmaker Jenifer McShane; one of the subjects of M.O.B., Mona Graves; former Director of The Children's Center at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, Bobby Blanchard; Professor Mary Byrne of Health Care for the Underserved at Columbia University School of Nursing; and Sesame Workshop's Maria Galarza, who is part of the team behind the initiative Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration.

- Sharon Wong

7:02:49 PM

Thanks Sharon! It's a privilege.

- Natasha Del Toro

7:03:11 PM

Tonight's screening and chat is co-presented with National Black Programming Consortium (NBPC) with the Director of Digital Initiatives, Nonso Christian Ugbo.

- Sharon Wong

7:03:29 PM

Let's welcome them!

- Sharon Wong

7:03:45 PM

As this is an environment built for engaging questions, positive comments and personal experiences, don't be shy with sharing with the panelists. Now, let's start Mothers of Bedford &

♥ 2

- Sharon Wong

7:04:18 PM

NBPC in the house, and so very thrilled to be here!

- Nonso

7:04:59 PM

Natasha Del Toro is a gem in this series, such a strong voice!

♥ 4

- Nonso

7:05:17 PM

Thanks, Natasha...

♥ 1

- Jenifer

7:05:27 PM

Thank you Nonso! Thanks Jenifer.

♥ 3

- Natasha Del Toro

7:06:14 PM

agreed! so glad you all found her!

♥ 2

- Chris

7:06:19 PM

What a strong statistic that says so much about incarceration in the U.S.

♥ 1

- Sharon Wong

7:07:01 PM

We forget how much this affect children. There are nearly 2.7 million children have an incarcerated parent

♥ 1

- Rocio Galarza

7:07:11 PM

I they do not have a voice..

- Jenifer

7:07:26 PM

Absolutely. Moms and children are invisible

- Rocio Galarza

7:07:42 PM

Thank you all for joining us!

♥ 1

- Monika

7:08:41 PM

Home is where the heart is?

- Sharon Wong

7:08:45 PM

There are some programs struggling to give these mothers and children and their families voice. Unfortunately, they are often kept invisible too -- by inadequate funding among other things.

- Anonymous ANC1

7:09:07 PM

Has the film started, because I don't see anything :(

- Anonymous OPQY

7:09:09 PM

@Sharon Wong, so sorry I have a short window to stay. But loving this!

♥ 1

- Nonso

7:09:10 PM

Very true.

- Jenifer

7:09:33 PM

Anonymous OPQY are you using the latest version of your browser?

- Monika

7:09:50 PM

Yeah, I did the test and everything passed.

- Anonymous OPQY

7:09:50 PM

It's so emotional for me and the film has just started.

♥ 1

- Mona

7:09:55 PM

Heartbreaking and hopeful all at once.

- Victoria

7:10:08 PM

Thanks, Nonso. Glad you are still able to join and represent our partner, NBPC.

♥ 1

- Sharon Wong

7:10:32 PM

FYI I am coming up as Anonymous ANC1 -- don't mind you knowing this is Mary Byrne-

- Anonymous ANC1

7:10:44 PM

A lot about the work of the children's center is heartbreaking and hopeful..

- Jenifer

7:10:47 PM

Hi Mary/ANCI!

- Sharon Wong

7:10:51 PM

Hi Mary

- Jenifer

7:11:01 PM

Here comes MONA!!

♥ 1

- Jenifer

7:11:08 PM

I pulled it up in Chrome - thanks!

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:11:28 PM

Something she needs to let her children know--"I'm not here because I don't love you, I'm here because I made a poor decision." Everyone deserves a second chance.

♥ 2

- Natasha Del Toro

7:11:30 PM

OPQY: Try it using a different browser.

- Sharon Wong

7:12:01 PM

You are amazingly creative, Mona.

- Jenifer

7:12:05 PM

and children need to know that they are loved. beautiful quote

♥ 1

- Rocio Galarza

7:12:25 PM

Our kids got to be kids at the Children's Center

♥ 1

- Bobby

7:12:28 PM

Such a reflection of the teaching job she could have at this very moment

♥ 1

- Nonso

7:12:39 PM

And be excellent at it'

♥ 1

- Nonso

7:12:46 PM

Mona: What do you take away whenever you watch this film again and again?

- Sharon Wong

7:13:49 PM

Love the photos of Mona's boys

- Jenifer

7:14:11 PM

Mona kept at it, and kept at it, and kept at it, that's why she succeeded.

♥ 2

- Bobby

7:14:19 PM

She is so articulate about something so many children feel

♥ 2

- Rocio Galarza

7:14:46 PM

So painful to hear but she echoes what so many kids feel with a parent in prison.

♥ 1

- Monika

7:14:46 PM

some of the most wonderful lines are from the kids..

♥ 1

- Jenifer

7:14:58 PM

agreed

- Natasha Del Toro

7:15:51 PM

Taking care of the caretaker--this has such a great impact on them too!

- Rocio Galarza

7:15:54 PM

"I don't have a mom and everyone else does" -- that says it all. Reminds me of the Sesame Street book in which child w incarcerated Dad is sad about bringing uncle to open school night.

♥ 1

- Anonymous ANC1

7:16:01 PM

every sound, every image, every word, every song delivers such a powerful message-- so many messages-- thank you for doing this and doing it so tastefully...such a complicated imp't topic and so many voices to be heard

♥ 1

- Anonymous G4IJ

7:16:22 PM

Yes, the book is inspired by children missing their parents

- Rocio Galarza

7:17:16 PM

Such bravery and honesty shown by moms and their children....

- Anonymous 9H8K

7:17:43 PM

they were very open with me and I am very grateful for that.

- Jenifer

7:18:17 PM

The film allows you to look at these women as people and not just as prisoners which is a testament to the success of Jenifer and the willing subjects

- Sharon Wong

7:18:26 PM

Seems like a lot of mothers end up in prison because of drug problems at an young age. Is that the right approach?

- Natasha Del Toro

7:18:40 PM

This is a powerful scene

- Jenifer

7:19:04 PM

This is a very important moment. Adults think children don't know...they know...

- Bobby

7:19:06 PM

WOW- we underestimate what children know

- Rocio Galarza

7:19:13 PM

Children often know the truth of the situation

- Jenifer

7:19:15 PM

So pwerful, fuelled by a need to protect mom

- Nonso

7:19:34 PM

♥ 4

Children often know more than given credit for. While knowledge provided has to be age appropriate, secrets are disrespectful of what children know as well as their ability to try to make sense out of it. Left without explanation, children can contrive much worse explanations than what is true.

- Anonymous ANC1

7:20:06 PM

♥ 2

They want to protect Mom, and protect the person who cares for them, and everybody else, if possible

- Bobby

7:20:23 PM

♥ 1

I am saddened by the near-complete absence of dads, boyfriends, husbands -- no support, no help, nothing.

- Anonymous 9H8K

7:20:27 PM

This film could be a powerful advocacy tool. NYS has much more progressive laws than most states.

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:21:01 PM

Sharon, honestly every time I see the film I feel a sense of guilt for those I left behind that remain incarcerated. Also I become saddened regarding the budget cuts and all the other factors that have negatively affected the programs.

- Mona

7:21:13 PM

A big part of our work at the Children's Center was helping mother's create a new script

- Bobby

7:21:21 PM

♥ 3

We are showing the film in states across the country....hoping for positive change!

- Jenifer

7:21:45 PM

♥ 1

So sweet how the boys are dressed in their Sunday best.

- Monika

7:21:50 PM

♥ 2

Being a mom doesn't ever go away- so easy for others to forget it. We need to support moms and caregivers in this journey for everyone's benefit

- Rocio Galarza

7:22:19 PM

Do you notice Rosa's mom tells driver that they are visiting her daughter "in the country"? Technically true..

- Jenifer

7:22:34 PM

I know- being honest with the kids is so hard

- Rocio Galarza

7:22:36 PM

This was what we did all the time...it kept us alive

♥ 1

- Bobby

7:23:03 PM

That is why we motivate families by giving them talking pts on how to explain where parents are

♥ 1

- Rocio Galarza

7:23:10 PM

The state of Tennessee is about to imprison pregnant women who are substance abusers. Write to the Governor. In the absence of programs incarceration is just destructive to the woman, her child, her family.... Research shows that not only programs but integrated programs addressing mental health, substance abuse, and trauma together are what such women need.

♥ 3

- Anonymous ANC1

7:23:18 PM

"We incarcerate more people than any other country in the world..." There's a problem!

♥ 1

- Natasha Del Toro

7:23:26 PM

Jen that's interesting...I wonder what she would consider Albion LOL

- Mona

7:23:51 PM

Our system is the product of a culture of punishment, not rehabilitation.

- Anonymous 3V1M

7:23:55 PM

These children are forced to grow up so quickly.

- Natasha Del Toro

7:23:56 PM

Albion is another planet.

- Jenifer

7:24:34 PM

"The prison picture is not good, because you punish the children"!!

- Natasha Del Toro

7:24:40 PM

♥ 1

Bedford and its Children Center is not the norm for most correctional facilities. Can't imagine the disadvantages for mothers and their children at other prisons.

- Sharon Wong

7:24:46 PM

♥ 2

This woman is a revolutionary.

- Natasha Del Toro

7:24:55 PM

tell it

- Bobby

7:25:04 PM

♥ 3

They aren't any bars in existence that can separate their love...

- Jenifer

7:25:23 PM

I thought this was such a powerful idea Bobby

- Monika

7:25:29 PM

LOVE that photo of the mom and son in green shirts!!!

- Anonymous G4IJ

7:25:35 PM

Mary and Bobby: Tell us about your work at Columbia University.

- Sharon Wong

7:26:01 PM

Mona: do you miss making those???? LOL

- Jenifer

7:26:49 PM

♥ 1

Someone mentioned the absence of men/fathers - there was a great Ted Talk about a father/daughter dance in prison http://www.ted.com/talks/angela_patton_a_father_daughter_dance_in_prison

- Monika

7:27:03 PM

Long lines are a constant issue. Very demoralizing.

- Jenifer

7:27:18 PM

♥ 1

For after the film!

- Monika

7:27:18 PM

And for young children- it is so hard to wait

- Rocio Galarza

7:28:27 PM

None of the fathers were playing in active role with my five characters and I chose to focus on the generational piece - the caregivers.

♥ 2

- Jenifer

7:28:54 PM

"Choosing drugs over me" -- I think a lot of children must feel this.

- Jenifer

7:29:15 PM

Caregivers recognize the value of the prison. What else would have stopped the trajectory? Its hard to think that way?

- Bobby

7:29:27 PM

Mona rocks!

♥ 3

- Monika

7:29:34 PM

Yes she DOES

- Jenifer

7:30:15 PM

This was a very stressful shoot. We had two camera crews and the administration really rushed us out...

- Jenifer

7:30:26 PM

Bobby- how do you motivate moms to remember they are mothers without programs like this one?

- Rocio Galarza

7:30:57 PM

Mother's Day is very emotional day for these women.

♥ 1

- Jenifer

7:31:26 PM

I am doing small group work right now in two prisons...believe me they know they are Mamas!

♥ 2

- Bobby

7:31:33 PM

In my experience it isn't about remembering that they are moms, they always remember that,

- Kim Coe

7:31:37 PM

♥ 5

i think i might appreciate this mother's day more than any other of the past 25 in my own life!!

- Anonymous G4IJ

7:32:32 PM

To answer Jen's request: Since 2000 I had the privilege of inviting women in the prison nursery at Bedford to participate in research. I was funded by various sources as a professor at Columbia U. First I did ethnography -- that means we viewed the nursery as a community -- then descriptions of women themselves and infants, and from 2003 we followed 97 women with 100 infants for all time on nursery and first year out. This is the first longitudinal study ever done for prison nursery. For that and following studies I had NIH support -- very credible. And I had a team! Including Bobby! Then we were able to find more than half of these women and children and followed them in community thru at least child's 8th birthday.

Mary

- Anonymous ANC1

7:32:38 PM

Its feeling they continue to be worthy of the title

- Bobby

7:32:43 PM

♥ 2

Mothers day was always a magical day for all of us...It was "our day" and we were proud

- Mona

7:33:05 PM

As were we

- Bobby

7:33:12 PM

You helped make it magical!

- Jenifer

7:33:35 PM

The title never goes away- it is just the isolation is so difficult like she is describing

- Rocio Galarza

7:33:39 PM

Such amazing insight!

- Sharon Wong

7:34:04 PM

My favorite scene ever

- Bobby

7:34:09 PM

"It's not a jail it's a school!"

- Jenifer

7:34:20 PM

That's it

- Bobby

7:34:36 PM

Where can I read more about the research done at Columbia U?

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:34:45 PM

That's what meant earlier about being saddened ... I

- Mona

7:35:00 PM

Hear you

- Bobby

7:35:33 PM

Send email to me at mwb4@columbia.edu and I'll see that you get a list of our publications.

- Anonymous ANC1

7:35:42 PM

copy of Mary Byrne's research is on the Mothers of Bedford website resources page

- Jenifer

7:35:44 PM

This is hard for me too for some reason!

- Bobby

7:35:50 PM

<http://www.mothersofbedford.com>

- Jenifer

7:36:13 PM

Rocio: Talk about Sesame Workshop's initiative.

- Sharon Wong

7:37:23 PM

Having walked some dark streets myself I wish I could have been with her that night -- the fear is palpable.

- Anonymous ANC1

7:37:38 PM

♥ 2

We created Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration with resources to help children, parents, and caregivers going through the incarceration of a parent.

- Rocio Galarza

7:37:54 PM

It is a great resource.

- Jenifer

7:38:00 PM

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/incarceration>

- Sharon Wong

7:38:01 PM

♥ 2

LOVE these two grandparents.

- Jenifer

7:38:05 PM

♥ 1

Scared people do scary things....Woman from support group at Taconic CF

- Bobby

7:38:15 PM

Tanika's parents are amazing.

- Monika

7:38:19 PM

♥ 1

we wanted to children to learn that they are not alone. and give i

- Rocio Galarza

7:38:22 PM

SesameStreet.org/Incarceration.

- Rocio Galarza

7:38:25 PM

♥ 1

Awesome grandparents! Love this scene, their closeness, their love

- Anonymous ANC1

7:39:03 PM

and give caregivers practical things that can make a big difference in their relationship with their children

- Rocio Galarza

7:39:03 PM

♥ 4

I just want all of these advantages that I was offered to continue, which profoundly impacted me and my children's relationship throughout the years....It all carried us through such difficult times

- Mona

7:39:43 PM

♥ 3

Mona hadn't seen a cell phone and now she is live chatting!

- Monika

7:39:46 PM

♥ 1

good place to put your energy

- Bobby

7:40:26 PM

amen

- Natasha Del Toro

7:40:44 PM

movie paused -- any fixes?

- Anonymous ANC1

7:41:18 PM

Mary: It may be buffering but try refreshing your page.

- Sharon Wong

7:41:20 PM

Mona, your parenting class! PURPOSE is so important.

- Jenifer

7:41:33 PM

♥ 3

people are not their convictions...we are not how we have been judged...we are ourselves

- Bobby

7:41:49 PM

So inspiring Mona that you found purpose in helping other moms stay connected to their children.

- Monika

7:42:14 PM

♥ 2

LOVE this part...

- Jenifer

7:42:31 PM

♥ 2

this film, these women have changed the way I do my work and implement our programs. You have taught us so much.

- Kim Coe

7:42:38 PM

A sacred place here!

- Jenifer

7:43:27 PM

A sacred place... circle of intention...it can be created anywhere!

- Bobby

7:43:29 PM

Do you see a difference in how incarceration affects boys vs. girls?

- Sharon Wong

7:43:41 PM

"this is a sacred place here..." Love that! If only more policy makers, funders, etc etc got that

- Anonymous QF32

7:44:09 PM

should we have sacred places in prisons? thats what they will ask

- Bobby

7:44:33 PM

my favorite scene

- Bobby

7:44:42 PM

It was harder to get boys to open up about their emotions though Joey was very articulate.

- Jenifer

7:44:47 PM

When we were doing the materials, we tried having a visit like this one represented, but parents would tell us that unfortunately in many places children couldn't touch their parents while they visited.

- Rocio Galarza

7:45:11 PM

Just visited prison in MN and they had a NO touch policy.

- Jenifer

7:45:24 PM

How do you tell a toddler not to touch their parent???

- Jenifer

7:45:33 PM

didn't know what to say to her and she didn't know what to say to me...we all go through that with our kids...

- Bobby

7:46:12 PM

In many ways, Luecrezy is the heart of the film. She had such heart.

- Jenifer

7:46:15 PM

Is there going to be another free screening of this sometime soon

- Anonymous 3V1M

7:46:23 PM

heart and hope.

- Jenifer

7:46:24 PM

Yes, to sacred places especially if the outcome is to see these women succeed as people and mothers outside of prison.

- Sharon Wong

7:46:31 PM

I know what they mean by that....!

- Bobby

7:46:45 PM

♥ 2

Impact of drugs cannot be underestimated. Addiction remains mysterious -- so little known about cause so treatment is uncertain. But research does direct us to some effective programs and they need to be implemented and offered widely -- starting in community -- early early on pathway to prison so the path can be avoided...

- Anonymous QF32

7:47:07 PM

Yes, drugs pervade most of these stories.

- Jenifer

7:47:15 PM

♥ 2

3V1M: WORLD Channel will be streaming Mothers of Bedford starting tonight on our Website. Information to follow after the chat.

- Sharon Wong

7:47:24 PM

♥ 2

The film will be available online for a month at this link: bit.ly/BedfordMoms

- Monika

7:47:48 PM

I'm a certified substance abuse prevention specialist -- there is a lot known about how to prevent addiction in the first place before treatment is needed!

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:48:45 PM

share 4OR2

- Bobby

7:49:18 PM

♥ 1

thanks for inserting that -- I completely agree that prevention is the best place to begin. Please add more.
- Anonymous QF32

7:49:19 PM

♥ 2

Criminalizing drugs punishes families, especially economically impoverished ones, in unjust ways. They need help but is prison the answer?
- Natasha Del Toro

7:49:21 PM

Tanika and her Mom truly tried to co-parent her sons

- Bobby

7:50:25 PM

this mom's story breaks my heart

- Natasha Del Toro

7:50:40 PM

how come?

- Bobby

7:51:34 PM

they break my heart too

- Bobby

7:52:09 PM

Who pays the ultimate price? Mother/prisoner? Parents? Child?

- Sharon Wong

7:52:18 PM

because her daughter was a good kid that just got caught up in the wrong stuff. and it must be so hard for a mom to see her daughter behind bars.

- Natasha Del Toro

7:52:46 PM

Mary: what do you think of the nursery at Bedford??

- Jenifer

7:52:52 PM

♥ 2

Risk and protective factors for substance abuse can be found at this link:
http://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/Prevention/programs/spfsig/pdfs/IOM_Matrix_8%205x11_FINAL.p
- Anonymous 4OR2

7:53:08 PM

such a long and large consequence for one impulsive act -- not minimizing loss of life but thinking of how it happened and all the suffering

- Anonymous QF32

7:53:15 PM

thanks for posting the link

♥ 1

- Natasha Del Toro

7:53:31 PM

I think the child plays the the ultimate price but so does the incarcerated parent.

- Jenifer

7:53:34 PM

Those with online resources, please share.

- Sharon Wong

7:53:48 PM

What about inmates whose families don't have the funds to pay for healthier meals and phone calls? I imagine that is the reality for many more.

♥ 1

- Anonymous 3V1M

7:54:16 PM

Definitely, many women did not even get visits or packages.

- Jenifer

7:55:13 PM

Mona always told me it was so hard for the women who had no family support on the outside.

- Jenifer

7:55:16 PM

I wish I could give thoughtful responses to the questions I can address. Its a bit overwhelming.

- Bobby

7:55:26 PM

Children react in so many different ways.

- Rocio Galarza

7:55:27 PM

There has been research done on the economic impact on families...

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:55:44 PM

I'm curious about audience opinions of Orange is the New Black in contrast/comparison with this documentary. Thoughts?

- Anonymous 3V1M

7:56:12 PM

Share what you can, Bobby. Every response is a good response.

♥ 1

- Sharon Wong

7:56:43 PM

As you might imagine, I prefer seeing real women telling their authentic stories.

♥ 3

- Jenifer

7:57:17 PM

meant to say sharing not telling

- Jenifer

7:57:28 PM

Incarcerated parents can play an important role in their children's lives....

- Bobby

7:57:32 PM

I learned a lot at this conference at U of M last year: <http://www.sph.umich.edu/rwjhsymp/symposium/>

- Anonymous 4OR2

7:57:43 PM

I agree with Jenifer, each woman's backstory tells you so much more about race, class and social issues, and each mother is so relatable on a human level.

♥ 1

- Monika

7:58:22 PM

many universal themes of mothering...

- Jenifer

7:58:34 PM

Sally Fay was an amazing advocatæ for the mothers and children!!! The BEST

♥ 1

- Bobby

7:58:59 PM

That is something Bedford has that ALL prisons need: volunteer advocates

♥ 1

- Jenifer

7:59:03 PM

♥ 2

We asked incarcerated parents to tell us what they would say others going through this situation. They said to tell others that what they do or don't do matters to their children.

- Rocio Galarza

7:59:35 PM

♥ 2

Rosa got out a few months ago.

- Jenifer

8:00:47 PM

yes, what they do or don't do inside matters...I say their children are sitting on their shoulders!

- Bobby

8:01:02 PM

So powerful, one of my favorite scenes, her pride in her son and her knowledge that she is why he is a compassionate person.

- Monika

8:01:30 PM

A lot of great stuff happening in that classroom

- Jenifer

8:01:32 PM

What a great teacher!

- Rocio Galarza

8:01:43 PM

HE is amazing.

- Jenifer

8:01:54 PM

So wise, that young man.

- Jenifer

8:02:18 PM

the past is the past but the past also travels with you into the future...

- Bobby

8:02:28 PM

♥ 2

In gratitude for a grace-filled film!

- Anonymous 5HQI

8:02:38 PM

♥ 1

need more teachers like Joey had. Too often kids have to hide this pain in school to avoid stigma.

- Anonymous QF32

8:03:15 PM

yes

- Bobby

8:03:19 PM

♥ 2

More and more schools are asking us to screen Mothers of Bedford. Children Defense Fund is screening for their next teacher training.

- Jenifer

8:03:19 PM

Many teachers are using the materials from Sesame to understand what their student might be going through. I think this film is an important resource for this purpose too.

- Rocio Galarza

8:03:52 PM

♥ 1

I love Luecrezy

- Jenifer

8:04:31 PM

"You got to forgive to move on". How true is that??

- Jenifer

8:04:41 PM

I love the way L explains this to make it more acceptable to her GD Powerful

- Bobby

8:04:51 PM

Concern of this young teen for her grandma (was he mean? i know he was mean) and solid kind explanations of grandma --so clear thinking in her sobriety

- Anonymous QF32

8:05:23 PM

♥ 1

What a strong woman!

- Rocio Galarza

8:05:54 PM

How do you move past the guilt? For these women, it was a sense of purpose.

- Sharon Wong

8:06:42 PM

"Guilt can not become us". Taconic CF

- Bobby

8:07:03 PM

She is a hoot.

- Jenifer

8:07:05 PM

2100 wipes

- Bobby

8:07:27 PM

growing up with her had to be a mixed bag

- Anonymous DKUT

8:07:30 PM

LOL- grandparents

- Rocio Galarza

8:07:51 PM

yes!

- Jenifer

8:08:09 PM

"Don't tell anyone my granddaughter's wearing such a cheap dress."

- Monika

8:08:10 PM

got to love them :)

- Rocio Galarza

8:09:59 PM

a mature mama

- Bobby

8:10:31 PM

♥ 1

Tanika is talking about something we heard a lot. Understanding where children are developmentally.

- Rocio Galarza

8:11:00 PM

♥ 2

Peer support is critical...

- Bobby

8:11:36 PM

she has learned to be a great listener! so important for women to share with each other.

- Jenifer

8:11:52 PM

♥ 1

Mona- how many women did you help? You were such a strong supporter of other moms

- Rocio Galarza

8:11:55 PM

Where is Tanika now Jenifer?

- Monika

8:12:53 PM

♥ 1

Support is key.

- Sharon Wong

8:12:56 PM

she was transferred to Albion and is not thriving, sadly

- Jenifer

8:13:42 PM

♥ 2

such normal moments created inside this prison setting -- we need to understand this is rare -- but does not have to be. thinking of earlier comment that this prison is a school -- but many are not at least not in good sense. All are places of learning. But learning what -- forgiveness or disgrace? recovery or more loss of esteem? as well as skills which make a difference in reentry....

- Anonymous DKUT

8:14:01 PM

very little programming in Albion. She is re-applying for parole in June

- Jenifer

8:14:02 PM

♥ 2

I myself felt a strong sense of guilt for being away from my sons. I knew I belonged with them, and had been a good mother I would have been. I believed it to be a form of neglect, and I beat myself up over the years due to the guilt.

- Mona

8:14:49 PM

I make it clear at Q&A's this is rare but shouldn't be

- Jenifer

8:15:26 PM

part of why we go to Albion in the film is to show the vast difference.

- Jenifer

8:15:30 PM

another corrections issue that needs better thinking. "drafting" out to distant facilities and without programming -- crazy

- Anonymous DKUT

8:16:08 PM

♥ 1

Mona can speak to the awful contrast between Albion and Bedford

- Jenifer

8:16:34 PM

Bedford is the exception and Albion seems to be the norm.

- Sharon Wong

8:16:34 PM

"Drafting" rules are ridiculous. Bobby can you explain what draft is?

- Jenifer

8:16:49 PM

Yes, Sharon, that is a fair assessment.

- Jenifer

8:18:02 PM

So stressful to be in dormitories, sounds like immigration detention centers.

- Monika

8:18:26 PM

Tanika said there are 60 women in her dorm

- Jenifer

8:18:46 PM

and not enough heat and rats...

- Jenifer

8:18:50 PM

Draft is transfer...based on security status which is years to serve.

- Bobby

8:20:11 PM

Women welcome draft it in most cases because to go the parole board from a less secure prison is better.

- Bobby

8:20:27 PM

♥ 2

Mona = HOPE

- Anonymous DKUT

8:21:24 PM

Albion is the end of the sentence but seems like it could be a setback for the women without the support they've been receiving at Bedford.

- Sharon Wong

8:22:12 PM

I think it has been very rough for Tanika and Mona would agree, I think? Right, Mona?

- Jenifer

8:22:45 PM

Yes, a blow. Counterproductive. Reinforces what has been called "the pains of prison"

- Anonymous DKUT

8:23:47 PM

The way she holds the phone is a reminder how long she was away

- Jenifer

8:25:38 PM

Love the shot of Anneathia reading the signs - such love.

- Jenifer

8:25:51 PM

many of the women I met thru my studies shared their desire to help others on reentry esp young folks -- some realistic, some less so, but all altruistic

- Anonymous DKUT

8:26:34 PM

Yes, part of the success or programs at Bedford is that they are almost all inmate run.

- Jenifer

8:28:07 PM

Anneathia said it but the question is "What are the hopes and the fears of mothers when they are released and have to become a full-time parent?"

- Sharon Wong

8:28:12 PM

I love that...so honest...being with my kids 24 hours a day...it gonna be some getting used to

- Bobby

8:28:58 PM

The Christmas scene goes straight to the heart every time

- Anonymous DKUT

8:29:19 PM

Anneathia comes back to this theme when we come back and see her 2 years later

- Jenifer

8:30:02 PM

Such love and hope. People NOT affected by incarceration need to realize the humanity that exists...

- Jenifer

8:30:07 PM

♥ 1

Luecrezy just created a beautiful new tradition. We like encouraging caregivers/parents to do this. It helps children feel safe and secure to have routines and family traditions

- Rocio Galarza

8:30:38 PM

Did we lose Mary?

- Jenifer

8:31:42 PM

Jenifer: I think we did but she may jump back on.

- Sharon Wong

8:32:13 PM

No right here but I do have to keep rebooting the film and I get a new ID each time! Mary
- Anonymous DKUT

8:32:50 PM

"I used that pain to turn into a beautiful creature"

- Natasha Del Toro

8:33:47 PM

Albion is a huge facility, afraid of change, the administration didn't see a need for programing focused around parenting....or should I say would not assist or approve anything I suggested

- Mona

8:34:12 PM

Mona, so glad you love yourself. You are truly lovable

- Anonymous DKUT

8:34:32 PM

Mona, your wonderful ending is coming up!

- Jenifer

8:35:23 PM

♥ 1

It's amazing to see the relationships between the different generations and all of the healing.

- Monika

8:36:40 PM

So very honest to know that life is hard -- and brave to choose it and work at it

- Anonymous DKUT

8:37:25 PM

that gives me chills

- Natasha Del Toro

8:37:54 PM

Me too! It was an amazing scene to shoot!

- Jenifer

8:38:15 PM

What a powerful film. Thank you for bringing us these amazing stories.

- Natasha Del Toro

8:38:21 PM

Bye

- Bobby

8:38:22 PM

Thank you, Jenifer!

- Rocio Galarza

8:38:23 PM

The teams at WORLD Channel, America ReFramed and National Black Programming Consortium want to thank our panelists as well as participants for this lively screening and chat of Mothers of Bedford. To learn more about America ReFramed, go to <http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>. The film is also available for streaming at <http://worldchannel.org/programs/episode/mothers-of-bedford/>. And to keep posted on everything Mothers of Bedford, go to <http://www.mothersofbedford.com/index.php>. Thank you again and be sure to join us in our next live chat (to be scheduled)!

- Sharon Wong

8:38:34 PM

BUDGET has been slashed. Got to <http://www.mothersofbedford.com>

- Jenifer

8:38:44 PM

Thanks for screening Mothers!

♥ 2

- Jenifer

8:38:47 PM

Thank you Jenifer, Bobby, Mona, Mary, and Rocio!

♥ 2

- Monika

8:38:58 PM

Thank you!

- Kim Coe

8:39:22 PM

What a pleasure to share on this new platform. FYI: Mona's computer cut out.

- Jenifer

8:39:28 PM

Really fun live chat. I learned a lot! Please join us again next time.

- Natasha Del Toro

8:39:31 PM

This is my second time to watch. I love the film and everyone involved.

♥ 2

- Anonymous 5HQI

8:39:34 PM

Thank you so much. I'm a childbirth educator and taught at Rikers as a volunteer. If anyone is interested in this work, contact Faith Groesbeck at havefaithg@aol.com. Amazing film!

♥ 1

- Anonymous 4OR2

8:39:58 PM

Thanks, please tell others about it!

- Jenifer

8:40:01 PM

We will have special encore broadcast of MOTHERS OF BEDFORD Tuesday at 8p Eastern - please tell your friends and families!

♥ 2

- Monika

8:40:32 PM

Goodnight and happy Mother's Day!

- Monika

8:40:43 PM

Happy Mother's Day!

- Sharon Wong

8:40:48 PM

Let people know they can watch on the 13th or stream until June 6th at <http://worldchannel.org/programs/episode/mothers-of-bedford/>

- Jenifer

8:41:04 PM

Happy Mother's Day to everyone one inside and out xoxo

- Jenifer

8:44:05 PM

If you enjoyed the film please post a comment on the Mothers of Bedford Facebook page...!

- Jenifer