**Just Speak Fact Sheet**

**Criminal Justice System : Youth Justice**

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| **Overall comment**  There have been some positive developments since UPR2.  However, Aotearoa New Zealand still has significant work to do to reduce the harm our justice system can cause | **Positive developments on children’s rights since UPR 2:**   * **Work** to reduce the harms imprisonment has on the next generation * **Inclusion** of most 17 year olds in the justice system * **Increased** consideration of evidence based criminal justice policy |

**Overarching recommendation to reduce and address the impacts of crime and criminal justice penal policy**

**We call on States to strongly recommend to the New Zealand Government to:**

*Address the harms that exist within our current criminal justice landscape. We have one of the largest prison incarceration rates in the developed world. This affects Maori in a disproportionate way it affects their whanau and it affects our children and young people.*

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| **Mass incarceration of Māori within the Criminal Justice system**  Māori are disproportionately affected at every stop, search and intervention the state has in the criminal justice system.  **Statistics**:   * Māori represent 15% of New Zealand’s entire population * 50% of men population in prison is Māori * 60% of Women population in prison is Māori * 70% of Youth population in youth justice is Māori | **Recommendations**  **Continue** to address the overrepresentation of Māori within the criminal justice system.  **Reform** legislation which inflate prison populations and those that systematically affect Māori the most such as the Bail amendment act (2013) which has exponentially increased our remand in custody population since.  **Encourage** government to commit to reducing Māori |
| **Children’s right to be held in an appropriate custodial environment**  Children and young people are held in police cells for often long periods of time.  **Statistics**:   * Over 70% of these children are Māori | **Recommendations**  **Take urgent steps to address and prevent:**  The remand and detention of children and young people in police cells.  **Ensure** that there are always alternatives for these children to be placed that do not breach their human rights. |

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| **Prevent further death and serious injury of children in police pursuits**  We know that it is young people that are more likely to flea on police pursuit  **Statistics :**   * Between 2015 and July 2018, 9 children have been killed and 36 seriously injured in police | **Recommendations**  **Urgently** review police pursuits to prevent further death and serious injury. |