**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
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**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.  |