

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IS TORTURE

Help End it in New Jersey

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood 113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ

“Whatever you think hell is, that’s what solitary confinement is — 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. It’s a system that seems designed to break a man’s will to live.”

Anthony Graves spent 18-1/2 years in prison, including 16 in solitary and 14 on death row for a crime he did not commit. He was exonerated and released in 2010. www.AnthonyGravesFoundation.org

State Senators Raymond Lesniak and Peter Barnes introduced a bill in the NJ Senate in 2014 to reform the use of solitary confinement (2016 Bill numbers are S51 and A547). The Senate version passed in June 2016. The Assembly version should get into Committee this fall— let’s be sure it is passed by the full Assembly quickly! Sponsors of A547 are Pinkin, Sumter, Huttler, Gusciora and Muoio. **You can go to www.raymondlesniak.com/endsolitaryconfinement/ to add your support to the passage of this bill.** Significant features of the bill include the prohibition against isolation unless there is reasonable cause to believe that an inmate poses a serious and immediate risk of harm to self or others, and only when all less restrictive interventions are insufficient.

**Experience that
confinement by
stepping into a
life-sized replica
of the cell**



The solitary confinement cell replica will be open on three consecutive Sundays: September 11, 18 and 25 9 - 10am and 11am - 1pm. Also open by appointment.

the
UNITARIAN
SOCIETY of
RIDGEWOOD



For further information or to schedule a time for groups to see the cell, email the USR office at usr.secretary@gmail.com.

Co-sponsored by the Racial Justice Committee and the Social Responsibilities Council of USR and the UU Legislative Ministry of NJ.