

**JJCC Meeting November 2, 2021  
Public Comments Submitted via E-mail  
Agenda Item V.**

1. George Rio

I am very concerned with the direction advocates are forcing on law enforcement, the direction these councils want to go. They are not good for County or for our state.

In brief, these meetings are filled with people who do not serve Los Angeles County.

The safety of the citizens of what studies County is not what the advocates and committee members want to address. They want to address justice reform by focusing only on juveniles. In particular, this meeting is focused on the most violent of juvenile offenders, offenders sent to prison for murder and attempted murder rape and other serious violent crimes.

How did they want to address this? In our recent will proposal, committee members now suggest that the diversion be a viable option for the small population of juveniles.

In California, diversion is defined as ensuring the accused does not spend any time in jail. If a court case is started, that it be sealed and dismissed as if it never happened. The lack of consequence will not stop in undesired habitual behavior from forming. Juveniles are already engaged in his criminal crimes are now facing far less consequence than ever before. If diversion is allowed, and it probably already has, it will only exasperate the situation.

These actions and recent district attorney policy, has sparked a very alarming rise in violent crime. There are stories on the news reports detailing brazen acts of violence and other crimes, followed by the DA's assertion that no criminal charges will be filed because they are juveniles. This trend is going to continue in the future.

To the citizens of Los Angeles, your voice only be heard when you vote in a new Board of Supervisors.

2. Sophia Cristo

Good afternoon my name is Sophia Cristo and I'm a youth advocate with Anti Recidivism Coalition and a formerly incarcerated youth. I'm here to speak on item 4A. I am extremely concerned that for the past 5 months, multiple youth have been stuck in the compound without any progress in their rehabilitation plan. This leads to another concern surrounding their lack of opportunity and chance to enter a step down facility when their 6 month review comes around. We need to take care of our youth and this isn't the way to do it. Youth inside shouldn't be holding their breath for a better opportunity, waiting on probation to come up with a plan that will effectively help them. These youth need to get to Kilpatrick right away, and be able to focus on their rehabilitation plan with those that support them, as well as providing them with effective resources. These youth need to be provided with the needs and access it takes to be part of a step down program. Credible messengers are what these youth need to assist and support them in their progress and reentry. Transformative mentoring, even the idea of it needs to be removed. Instead we need to focus on credible messengers and the support and connections they are able to provide. As someone who was directly impacted by the system, I know first hand how effective credible messengers were in my reentry. I was able to connect with someone who understand what I had been through, trust them to provide support, and rely on resources they may have sought for themselves that worked for them. I wasn't reluctant or worried that the person I was discussing my concerns with could only go based on teachings and training to try and connect with me. We have to make sure we do better for our youth, and we know the necessary actions and steps to take. Lets make it happen.

