

From: [Leyana Dessauer](#)
To: [BOC \(BOC\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on proposed solitary confinement rules
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:37:17 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to urge you to revise the proposed restrictive housing rules. The proposed rules as they stand do not live up to the Mayor and Board of Corrections' promises to end solitary confinement in NYC.

Numerous studies and anecdotal experience show that solitary confinement is inhumane, harmful and does not help rehabilitate people, but rather causes them more trauma and puts them at risk for depression and suicide. The UN even classifies prolonged solitary confinement as torture. And yet the proposed set of restrictive housing rules would not meaningfully change conditions for incarcerated people - it is still solitary confinement by another name. It does not offer programming, at least 14 hours per day of free movement outside of the cell area, outdoor access or a time limit on solitary conditions. It also does not protect especially vulnerable populations such as the young, the elderly, people with mental illness, people with disabilities and pregnant people from the harms of solitary confinement.

Therefore, the BOC should revise these rules to truly end solitary confinement and bring NYC into the 21st century by getting rid of this cruel and unnecessary practice.

Sincerely,
Leyana Dessauer