

From: [Daad Sharfi](#)
To: [BOC \(BOC\)](#)
Subject: URGENT: Comment on BOC proposed rules on solitary confinement
Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:06:40 PM

Dear NYC BOC,

I hope this email finds you all well and in good health. I am a resident of Brooklyn, NY and a law student at the NYU School of Law. I am contacting you to express my deep concern with the BOC's proposed rule to end solitary confinement. While the BOC promised to end the torture that solitary confinement over 9 months ago at this point, your proposed rules simply reiterate the violence and isolation that solitary confinement perpetuates. At the end of the day, **solitary confinement is torture** and must be abolished in its entirety in NYC. Instead of doing that, these proposed rules **perpetuate extreme forms of isolation**, even indefinitely. Every single person, regardless of their interactions with the criminal system, should **have access to at least 14 hours of out of cell time** per day in spaces that are conducive for substantive engagement with programming and activities with other people. People should have access to lawyers to help them ensure that these rules are properly implemented and that people are protected.

I implore you to amend the rule pursuant to HALT and JAC's proposed guidelines, which it seems you have almost entirely ignored despite their persistent advocacy. Amongst many other issues, your rule creates an extremely restrictive environment, allows people to be held in isolation indefinitely, and fails to provide access to meaningful programming. Just last week, the New York assembly and senate both passed the HALTsolitary Bill, taking a momentous step towards ending the inhumanity that is solitary confinement. I ask that you do the same by amending your proposed rule.

I hope that you will do the right thing and amend the rules accordingly.

Best,
Daad Sharfi

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