Readings on Abolition

From abolitionistfutures.org:
- Introductory Texts:
  - Mariame Kaba (2020) ‘So You’re Thinking about Becoming an Abolitionist’ [4 pages]
  - Critical Resistance. (no date) What is Abolition? [1 page]
  - David Scott / Open University / BBC Ideas (2020) What would a world without prisons look like? [Video - 5min]
  - What’s Wrong with Reform? What are Non- Reformist Reforms?
- Murakawa, Naomi & #BlackLivesMatter (2015) Liberals, Guns and the Roots of the U.S. Prison Explosion (2015). [Video] The Laura Flanders Show. *Note: For the purpose of the abolition versus reform discussion, the first 14 minutes are key, but if you have time, the first 21 minutes are recommended.
- Abolitionist Futures (2020) Reformist Reforms vs Abolitionist Steps for Policing [1 page]
- Sara Chitseko (2020) Abolition not Reformation. 4Frontproject.org (2 pages)
- Feminist, Queer and Anti-Racist Approaches to Abolition
  - S Lamble (2021) The false promise of hate crime laws AbolitionistFutures.com [4 pages]
- Dean Spade & Reina Gossett (2014) *No one is Disposable: Everyday Practices of Abolition* [videos]
- Lydia Caradonna (2020) *I don’t want my rapists to go to prison* [content note: descriptions of rape]
- Law, Victoria (2014) *Against Carceral Feminism*, JacobinMag.com

- Policing, Anti-Racism and Abolition
  - *Defund the Police* [Video by Project NIA] [4 min]
  - Mediocre Dave (2021) *Policing by Consent* Abolitionist Futures. [8 pages]
  - Sarah Uncles (2020) *The slow pace of urgent change to prevent deaths in police custody*. Open Democracy. [7 pages]
  - *Should I call the Police? Steps to ask yourself before calling the police* [2-pages] [US version for now, but replace with UK version when done]
  - Alex Vitale (2020) *The answer to police violence is not reform: Its defunding, Here's Why*, [3 pages]
  - Koshka Duff and Tom Kemp (2020) *Would ‘Defund the Police’ Work in the UK?* NovaraMedia.com
  - Connor Woodman (2020) *Why do the police exist?* Novara Media [5 pages]
  - John Moore (2021) *Protecting the property of slavers: London’s first state funded police force*, AbolitionistFutures.com
- Lauren O’Neill (2020). *What would happen if we defunded the police?* Vice.com
- MPD150 (2020). *10 actions ideas for building a police-free-future*
- Andrea Ritchie, Mariame Kaba and Woods Ervin (2020) *Defund the Police Toolkit*. InterruptingCriminalisation.com (24 pages)
- UK Black Lives Matter (2021) *Our Platform* ukblm.org
- Abolitionist Futures (2021). *Cops in Culture Series*

**Transformative Justice and Abolition**
- Bay Area Transformative Justice Collective (2014) ‘*Transformative Justice and Community Accountability*’ [1 page]
- Barnard Centre for Research on Women / Project NIA (2020) *The modern roots of transformative justice*. [8 min video]
- Kai Cheng Thom (2020). *What to do when you’ve been abusive*. Truthout. [Also published in Beyond Survival Book] [12 pages]
- TransformHarm.org [Resources Hub on ending violence from transformative justice perspectives]
- Communities Against Rape and Abuse (CARA) (2008) ‘Taking Risks: Implementing grassroots community accountability strategies’ The Revolution Starts at Home: Confronting Partner Abuse in Activist Communities ['zine], p. 64-79

- Everday Abolition
  - Dean Spade (2020) Three Key Elements of Mutual Aid. Mutual Aid: Building Solidarity During this crisis and the next, p. 9-20.

- Good Night Out
  A project to help nightlife and festival spaces to better understand, respond to, and prevent sexual harassment and assault, through specialist training, policy support and an accreditation programme.

  This handbook provides a good model for setting up safer spaces and accountability processes for social centres and venues.

- Hollaback! Bystander Interventions
  Hollaback offers training and resources on how to safely intervene in situations of harassment.

- Fireweed Collective: Crisis Toolkit
  Great resources on how to prepare for and respond to crisis, particularly around mental health needs.
- **Audre Lorde Project: Safer Party Toolkit**
  The “Safe Outside the System” project is based in New York but provides some great resources that can be used more widely, such as the safer party toolkit, wellness and safety planning, safer home toolkit.

- **SWARM: How to support victims of domestic violence without calling the police.**

- **Creative Interventions Toolkit**
  Practical guidance and resources to stop interpersonal violence without relying on police.

- Further Reading/Other Abolitionist Reading Lists:
  - TransformHarm.org
  - Interrupting Criminalisation
  - Black Perspectives: Prison Abolition Syllabus
  - Abolishing Prisons and Police: Five Readings
  - Prison Industrial Complex Essential Reading
  - No One is Disposable Prison Abolition Reading List
  - Resource Guide on Prisons, Policing and Punishment
  - Transformative Justice Reading List
  - Toronto Transformative Justice list
  - Thinking Through the End of Policing
  - Alternatives to Policing
  - What to do instead of calling the police - Resource List
  - Critical Resistance - Addressing Harm, Accountability & Healing
  - Critical Resistance - Abolish Policing Resources
  - Bay Area Transformative Justice Readings & Resources
  - Queer Challenges to the politics of inclusion - Resources on Prison
  - Reading Towards Abolition: A reading list on policing, rebellion and the criminalisation of blackness
  - New to Abolition Study Group Guide

You can also check out...

- [https://aaww.org/a-reading-list-for-abolitionist-imagination-and-practice/](https://aaww.org/a-reading-list-for-abolitionist-imagination-and-practice/)
- [https://operation4mag.com/2021/03/17/abolition-reading-list/](https://operation4mag.com/2021/03/17/abolition-reading-list/)
- [https://scalawagmagazine.org/2022/06/abolition-reading-list/](https://scalawagmagazine.org/2022/06/abolition-reading-list/)
- [https://abolitionjournal.org/studyguide/](https://abolitionjournal.org/studyguide/)
- [https://abolitionnotes.org/books](https://abolitionnotes.org/books)
- [https://www.bostonreview.net/reading-list/abolition-isnt-only-about-police/](https://www.bostonreview.net/reading-list/abolition-isnt-only-about-police/)

And, of course, look through all the material we have at Interference Archive in person, to see how people are advocating for abolition!