

“Prostitution is like rape...”

# Inmate Rape

**This sexual abuse has been ongoing for decades... this from 1992:**

## **Abuse Of Women Inmates Called A Nightmare -- Georgia Prisoners Allege Rape, Forced Abortions**

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By **Eric Harrison**  
*Los Angeles Times*

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. - Outside, the prison resembles nothing so much as a low-lying suburban office park or a modern middle school. It sits in a wooded area far off the main road south of Milledgeville, a central Georgia town of antebellum mansions and a distinctly Southern air.

Five prisons are clustered here, not counting a youth detention facility, making the care and feeding of convicts the economic lifeblood of the area. In such a setting, the Georgia Women's Correctional Institution is an utterly unremarkable presence.

Its appearance is at odds, however, with the image conjured by stories of late - stories of rape, of pregnancies and forced abortions, of women prisoners left stripped and bound for weeks.

**The women - Jane Does, they are called - have been coming forward for months, almost 200 in all. They tell of women treated like dogs, bound and fed from dishes shoved under their faces; of guards photographing women engaged in sex acts; of inmates being taken off the grounds to work as prostitutes.**

The allegations, in their totality, suggest a prison out of control, a place where even the men in charge tolerated, if not condoned, rampant abuse for at least 13 years.

"They allowed this whole culture of abuse," says Robert Cullen, a legal-services attorney representing the inmates in a class-action lawsuit. **"Abuse was OK. It didn't matter. . . Everybody became sort of inoculated to the abuse that was ongoing."**

Sex between guards and female inmates is a given in prison; whether consensual or coerced, it has always taken place. A number of states, including California, Ohio, Minnesota, Michigan and New York, have had similar controversies. But Brenda Smith, director of the Women in Prison Project of the National Women's Law Center, says she knows of no investigation as widespread as the one in Georgia...

**At least one woman alleges she was stripped and restrained because she refused a guard's sexual advances. If prison logs are to be believed, says Cullen, the practice was widespread and women were bound for as many as 20 days, sometimes not even being freed to eat or go to the bathroom.**

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