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Release— Stop Solitary CT Opposes Housing Immigrant Children in Shuttered Youth Prison where Youth were Illegally Placed in Solitary.

Middletown, CT – Last week the Lamont administration informally proposed reopening the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS) to house immigrant children. Joining a growing chorus of advocates across the State, Stop solitary CT firmly opposes the Governor’s proposal. CJTS was built on a foundation of corruption and was closed due, in part, to the illegal use of solitary confinement on youth, documented in grotesque and terrifying [video](#) evidence. At CJTS youth were forcibly restrained and left alone in solitary.

Over the past few days, we’ve heard proponents of reopening CJTS say that the facility has classrooms, recreation centers, and even a cafeteria. Indeed, most high security prisons in Connecticut have cafeterias, recreation centers and classrooms; most high security prisons in Connecticut also subject people to prolonged isolation. Highlighting basic amenities common to most prison environments as a justification for housing immigrant children in a shuttered prison should raise alarm.

In addition to CJTS’ long history of abuse, Connecticut’s existing youth prison is [under federal investigation](#), in part for the de facto use of solitary confinement. That Connecticut would even consider reopening a shuttered youth prison with little-to-no oversight or plans to protect immigrant children is incredibly concerning. By the time immigrant children reach the U.S. border, many have experienced unthinkable trauma; Connecticut must not add to the childrens' trauma by locking them in a prison.

Stop Solitary CT firmly opposes warehousing children in cages — whether at the border or in Connecticut.

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