

Ms. Karen Humes
Chief of Population Division
U.S. Census Bureau
Room 5H174

Re: Possible inaccurate counting on the 2020 U.S. Census

Dear Ms. Humes,

I am prompted to write in response to the news that the Census Bureau recently announced it may continue counting incarcerated people inaccurately as "*residents*" of prisons locations for the 2020 Census.

This is WRONG. One example: People who live in New York City can end up incarcerated in Dannemora, New York State. I was one such person. From your Census count of 2010, as you now count it, we know Dannemora had 3,936 residents. But, at least 2,800 of those *residents* were incarcerated men in the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora.

This is a count inaccuracy of over 70%.

Which means the areas where we incarcerated individuals lived before we were incarcerated have been deprived of that political representation. - And I am sure the people living in catchment areas neighboring Clinton C.F. were not too happy either.

I offer one tiny example of how this skewing of the count looks in reality.

My spouse lived, voted, and paid her taxes in New York City when I was incarcerated in Dannemora in the Clinton Correctional Facility.

One weekend when visiting me, she was walking back from the facility to her overnight accommodation. She put some candy wrapper she had in a garbage can and walked on. She heard someone shouting, but thought nothing of it. The shouting continued and

continued. She finally looked about and realized the shouting was indeed directed at her. It was a prison guard on duty in the high tower on the prison wall. He told her to take her garbage out of the garbage bin because it was a private garbage bin and not for public use. My wife excused herself and did so, and then asked the man where she might find a public garbage bin. The man said there were no garbage bins for public use in Dannemora. She asked what she should do with her used candy wrapper as she had come NYC for the weekend. The prison officer thought for a moment, and then he replied ***Take it back to New York City with you.***

My access to political representation or public services while I was incarcerated in Dannemora did not reach to include the availability of one garbage bin on the street for use by my loved ones when they were visiting me in what you inaccurately describe as my *residence* in Dannemora.

Ms.Humes, every weekend at least 100 people from NYC alone visit loved ones in Dannamora. The economy of Dannemora and surrounds receives millions yearly as a result us being incarcerated there. Yet neither myself, nor any of my peers who had previously lived elsewhere in the U.S. ever felt we were democratically represented by political representatives from that region.

Most respectfully, one does not need to be a social nor political scientist to see this is not fair representation.

Sincerely,

H.M. Ehinger N.Y. 11109 New York. August 9th, 2016

P.S. Ms. Humes, would you accept in your office, information from other U.S. goverment agencies, where the information contained inaccuracies of up to 70%?