

## STATEMENT FROM CHARNASHA



**Hello everyone, my name is Charnasha.** I like to listen to music. I like Miley Cyrus and I like the color pink.

I was 16 years old when I went to jail and I was locked up in solitary for 30 days.

I was locked up 23 hours a day, and sometimes 24 hours. And it seemed like all the guards I was there with were grown-up men.

In the box we had no shower curtains and the guards would walk by and

watch me and the other girls when we were in the shower. I felt so uncomfortable and exposed. One time a guard looked at me in the shower and said to my friend, "She looks better in the shower than you do."

No other kids should be allowed to go through what we went through.

It was so awful being in the box. It made me feel crazy. It smelled awful because they turned off the water for three days and we couldn't flush the toilets.

I would just sit in my room thinking that I wasn't going to make it. That I thought I was going to die.

Now that I'm home I'm scared to sleep at night because of my bad dreams. All my dreams are about jail, and sometimes I even dream that the guards are trying to kill me.

I also keep talking to myself because in the box I didn't have anyone to talk to.

I think what happened to me was wrong. When I grow up I want to work with kids and help kids. And that's why I want to say that no kids should be allowed in the box like I was.