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From 1990 to 2000 the number of incarcerated women in The United States increased 108 percent compared to 70 percent of the male populationⁱ. However, at the end of year 2000 women in prison represented only 6.6 percent of the prison population. Nevertheless, many of the resources for services and programs within corrections are invested on the overwhelming number of imprisoned men leaving women in prison underserved. In addition, traditional services and programs provided to women in prison are only implants of male oriented programs. Therefore, I am interested in examining correctional programs offered to women in prison by employing feminist theory analysis in order to rise and debate policy implications concerning the need for gendered responsive programs for women in prison. Specifically, focus on gendered responsive programs that could decrease the chances of recidivism and increase the chances for a successful reentry based on women's access to empowerment processes. In addition, I am leaning toward a comparative analysis by examining these issues with women in prison in Puerto Rico.

ⁱ Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2001). *Prisoners in 2000*. Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, USA.