

Just Buzzing
by to say
Hi!



Robert,

To answer your questions. I hope to visit everywhere ^{with} no limitations. Europe, Belize, the French Riviera, Japan, the Pacific Islands, even places in the states there so much I haven't seen. I enjoy watching the travel shows on PBS. I got on the site just to communicate. Here we are so disconnected, writing is a link to the outside world. I was arrested in 1998 and I've learned about IPOD's & MP3 players all from the news. It's all new technology since I've been incarcerated.

So I decided to sign up for site just for communication and friendship. To talk about things absent from the prison culture.

I can say as a domestic violence survivor I have learned tools to heal in prison, and get my voice back through classes and self help options. I have learned to be a Peer Health Educator, grief counselor, Domestic Violence Peer counselor. I have obtained my AA degree from community college. I have tutored others. I've been in bootmasters and an alternatives to violence program. Every opportunity to be pro-active here I've become involved in. Our Long Termers Organization has given thousands of dollars back to the community. We just give from the inside out. I'm a mentor in the University of Santa Monica's Freedom to Choose Prison Project also. I've obtained graduation from 3 vocational classes too.

So my time hasn't been wasted. It's to be prepared to re-enter society and be responsible today for myself, and to be of service to others. We are the only prison associated with the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation as we have a yearly walk athon in which the proceeds go to the foundation. I wanted as a student you to know prison can be a place to learn tools for change today for a better tomorrow. As far as letters I've received from the site makey one person. My past dating experiences? Well prior to my arrest I was married but the relationship was plagued with domestic violence. Before that I dated but more so. patterns in my life have been semi-long term



relationships, some with men, some with women also. As a teen I saw people as people, not so much gender. Then again I grew up in Portland, Oregon and was submerged in the 1980's club scene there where it was all good music, dance, partying, and love. I've had good and bad dating experiences. I have been raped which was obviously traumatic. But I wouldn't consider my dating experience anything out of the ordinary. I grew up playing soccer and softball, active in church, was a drummer in band. I was aware of the need to have safe sex. Compared to what the talk shows and media depict of the promiscuous teens of today - even in my wildest times I had boundaries and ~~no~~ never a desire to have children early. It's sad to me to see today's teens wanting children just to "feel love". It shows how our society has become decayed and toxic. Sure I had some freaky experiences with both sexes but again it was normal to me. Then again normal is in the eye of the observer. I can say due to my childhood abuse I wanted in life just to be loved since I didn't have it from my mother. Did I ever compromise myself - yes. Now I've learned I have to love me first, before I can love anyone else. I hope this helps for your project. Thank you for writing.

Far too often in here it feels like society doesn't view us as human beings. Ones that have made poor choices. Yet we are mothers, daughters, sisters, friends, who have the same feelings you do. Just human beings who seek to live, laugh, love, learn. Who make mistakes and can learn from them. Humans having a human experience.

Just Busting
to go to
Hi!

Love + Light,
Lynn ☺