Indigenous abolition reading list with examples of Indigenous anti-carceral approaches:

This report explores holistic alternatives and other promising practices to address the disproportionate incarceration of Native people in the United States. A holistic model addresses the issues that contribute to people’s involvement in the criminal legal system. The report further discusses how important social and legal support services are to restorative community practices and how cultural safety cannot be established without the voices of the community.

[link to report]

This article discusses the importance of abolition of the carceral state for Native survivors by examining the legal and jurisdictional complications since the Major Crimes Act, which was first enacted more than 100 years ago and has been updated many times since. Additionally, it adds context to the intersectionality between the criminal legal system and sexual assault survivors by digging into the neurobiological impacts of trauma on the brain. Lastly, it describes tribal sovereignty and abolition of the carceral state as the road to justice for native survivors.

[link to article]

This special issue of the Journal of Prisoners on Prisons edited by Thalia Anthony, Vicki Chartrand and Tracey McIntosh focuses on an "Anti-Colonial Approach to Abolition.". The collection features contributions on various themes, including how genocidal settler colonial state institutions, laws, policies, and practices serve as pipelines to prisons. It also examines the systemic racism experienced by Indigenous peoples behind and beyond bars, the so-called indigenization of incarceration, and the additional barriers to community re-entry faced by Indigenous peoples.

[link to special issue]

This article centers incarcerated Indigenous women's voices, knowledge, and stories through an examination of A Gathering of Spirit (1983), edited by Beth Brant. Prioritizing Indigenous women’s knowledge and perspectives, which are often marginalized or absent in prison abolitionist literature, the author illuminates the possibilities offered by decolonial approaches to prison abolition. This article explores the ways that Indigenous perspectives and stories are a vital part of the context for prison abolition in settler states and calls for non-Native prison abolitionists to attend to the experiences and stories of Indigenous incarcerated people as a central component of prison abolition as it is tied to decolonization.

[link to article]

A list of Native and non-Native abolition reading lists. [link to list]