

AND PRODUCES THESE RESULTS

- environmental degradation
- lack of public money for other things
- poverty
- violence
- ill health
- death

IS UPHELD BY THESE SYSTEMS AND BELIEFS

- white supremacy
- capitalism
- xenophobia
- patriarchy
- settler colonialism

IT TARGETS/AFFECTS THESE PEOPLE

- political dissenters
- some immigrants
- low-income people
- youth
- gender non-conforming people

TO ACCOMPLISH THESE OBJECTIVES

- eliminate unwanted populations
- uphold dominant norms
- squash resistance

AS A RESPONSE TO THESE PROBLEMS

- interpersonal violence
- houselessness
- addiction
- unemployment
- mental illness

IT USES THESE TOOLS

- media
- databases
- surveillance
- borders
- policing
- courts

THE PIC IS DRIVEN BY VESTED INTERESTS

- politicians
- investors
- suppliers of goods and services
- prison guard unions

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VESTED INTERESTS**

How to use this tool:

The concentric circles are meant to help us to think about the layers of the PIC and how all of the elements are interrelated. They allow us to delve into the particulars without losing sight of the systemic.

To begin, a facilitator should recreate an enlarged version of the concentric circles, containing only the core prompts. This can be done either on a physical or digital whiteboard, chalkboard, or big piece of paper. Beginning in the middle, rephrase the prompt in your own words, i.e. what groups or individuals might have an interest in the continued or expanded use of policing, surveillance and imprisonment? Possible “answers” can be pre-written on sticky notes (digital or physical), or the facilitator can simply initiate a brainstorm and record responses inside the appropriate circles (this can also be an excellent way to think about specific aspects of the PIC discussed in any reading/viewing/listening you’re doing in your class or study group). As participants offer ideas, the facilitator invites them to elaborate, expands on the ideas, and/or adds their own elements. Continue until all of the circles are filled. The facilitator may also ask participants if there are any ideas they want to move from one circle to another, explaining how it fits in both circles.

To close the exercise, the facilitator synthesizes the ideas generated by stringing the prompts together and inserting some of the specific ideas that have been generated. i.e. The prison industrial complex is a set of interests, such as politicians and prosecutors, that uses tools such as surveillance and borders, etc.