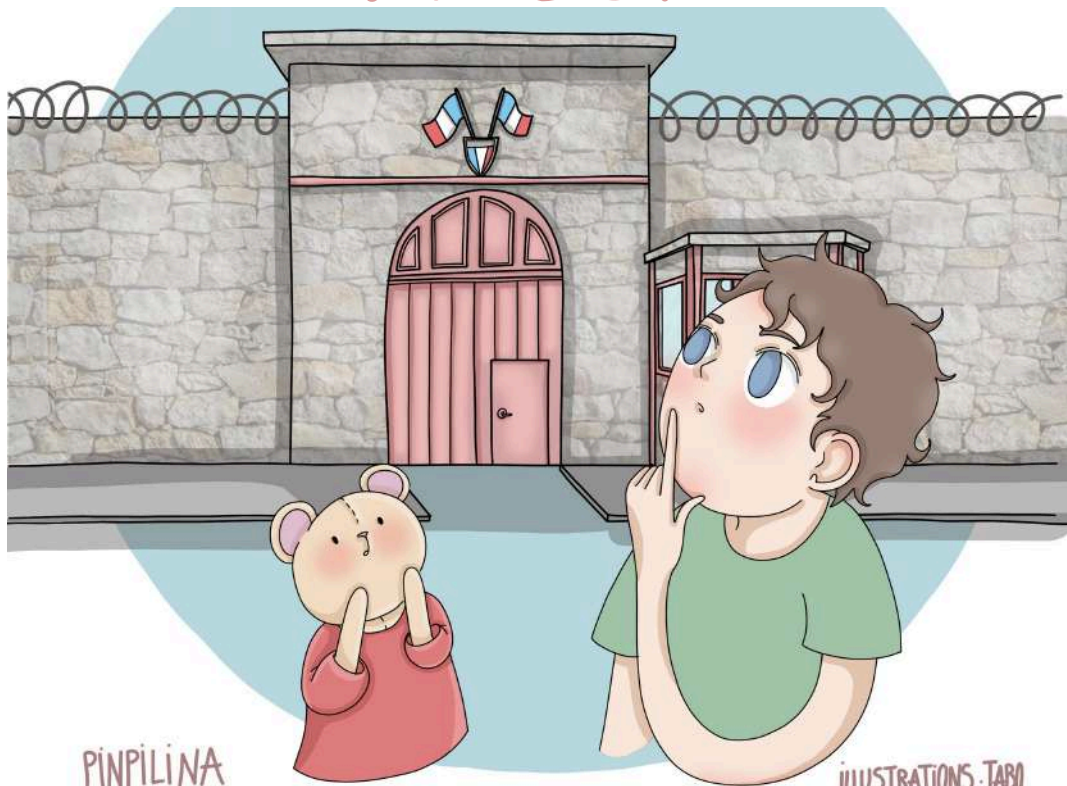


MY PARENT IS IN PRISON



PINPILINA

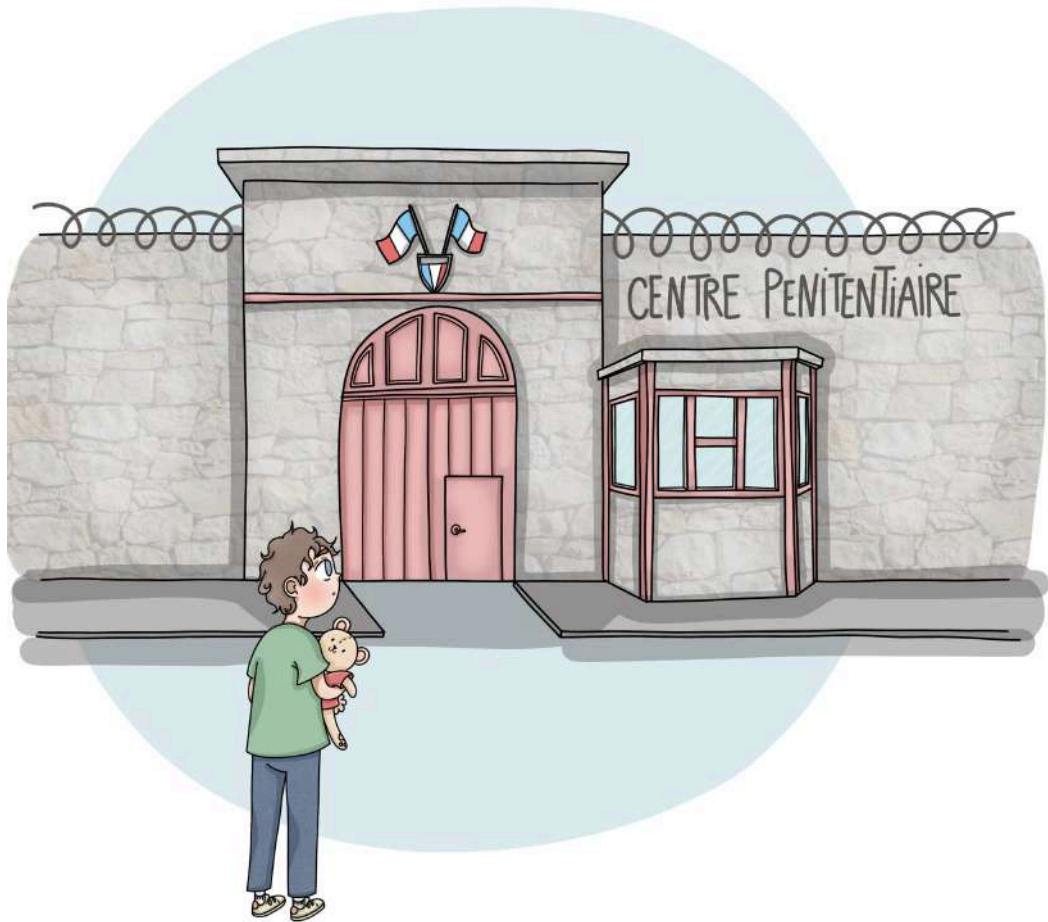
ILLUSTRATIONS: TABO



These little figures you see here and throughout the book represent testimonies from children who have experienced the same thing as you.



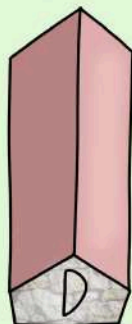
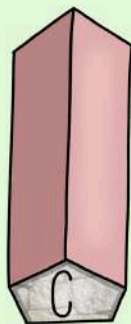
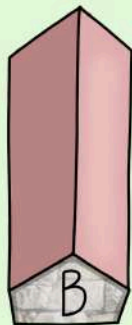
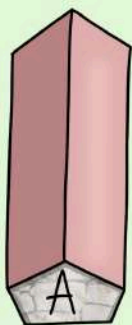
CHAPTER 1: "WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE IN PRISON"



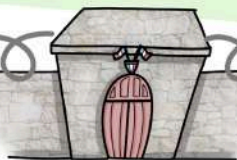
At home just like at school or in the outside world, there are rules that must be respected. If your parent doesn't follow these rules and does something forbidden, like making a very big mistake, they could go to prison. But know that you are not responsible for their mistake. If you were there when the police came to take your mom or dad, you might have been scared or found it overwhelming. Remember that you are not the only one this has happened to. Don't keep it to yourself, and don't hesitate to talk about it.



When I went back to school, I talked about it with my teacher.



" COUR DE PROMENADE "



A prison is a closed building protected by big walls. You might not be able to go there for a while, but once you have the proper access paperwork, you'll be able to visit your mom or dad.

It took me some time to see my parent. I was able to see them after 3 months.





When you visit your mom or dad, you'll have to go through reception. The adult accompanying you will need to give your ID card or family record book to the prison guard. Then you'll go through the secure main door to see your parent.

I used to be scared of the big door, but remember, it's just a door.



PRISON GUARD



Look at the picture; I'll explain what they're wearing. Don't worry, they might look intimidating, but they're kind to children



When you enter the prison, you'll see guards. They only take care of the prison. They're not like the police officers you see on the streets. Their job is to monitor and ensure the safety of the prison. They'll accompany you to the visiting area to see your parent because it's their job to protect you and make sure everything goes smoothly.

LOCKERS

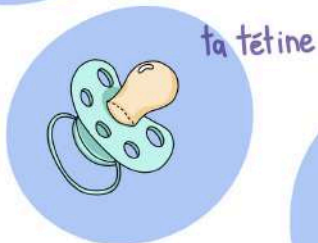


At the entrance, you'll find lockers. You can leave things there that you're not allowed to take into the visiting area. You'll get your belongings back when you leave.



I used to leave my little backpack with my toys.

WHAT YOU CAN BRING TO THE VISITING ROOM



You can keep a few items with you during the visit.

I always brought a drawing for my dad.





The items you keep with you will have to go through a conveyor belt, and you'll walk through a door that checks if you're bringing in any forbidden items. Once you pass through, you'll get your stuffed animal and other belongings back.



If the door beeps, a prison guard will check your pockets to make sure you didn't forget to put something in the locker or on the conveyor belt.

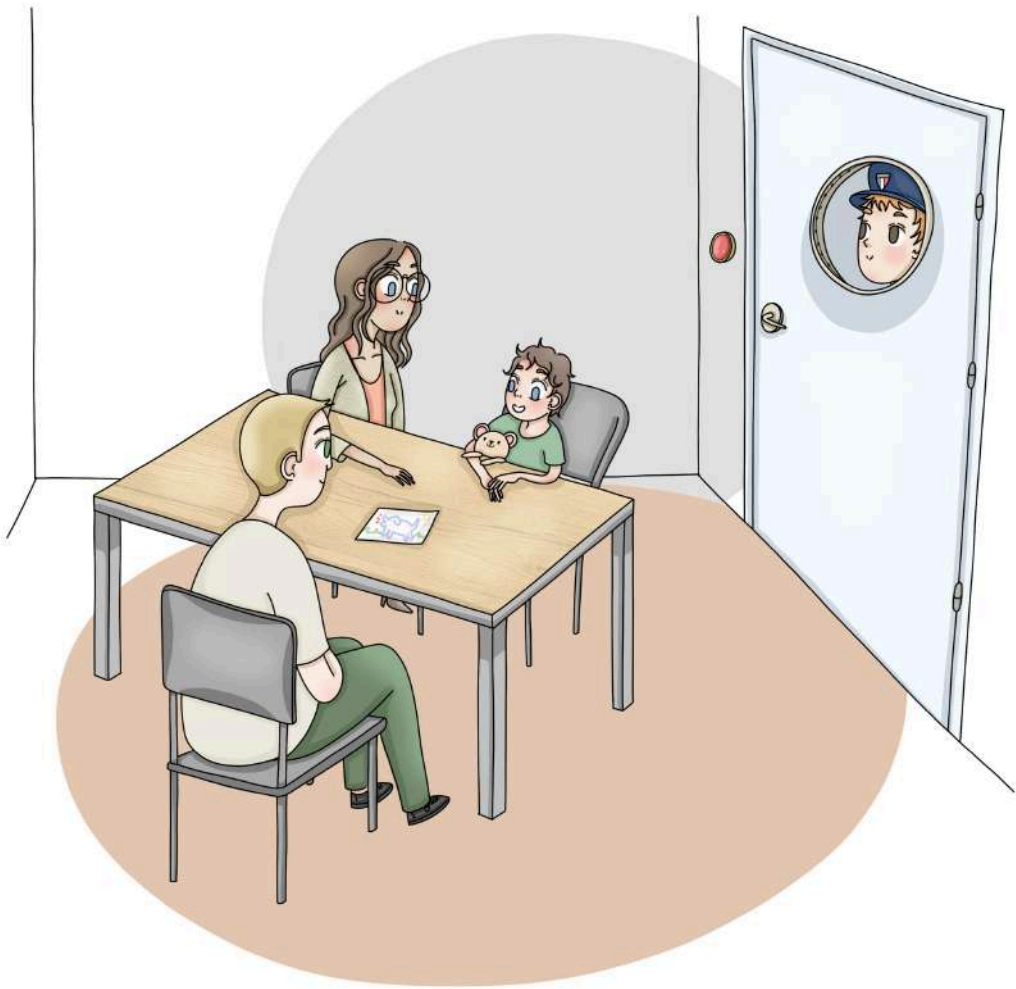
I've seen dogs there during the security check.





All the doors you go through in the prison make noise when they open and close. You'll need to wait for the noise to stop before you can go through another door.

These doors might be big and intimidating, but they're there to keep you and your parent safe.



The visiting area is a room where you'll meet your mom or dad to tell them about your days.

Every prison is different, and visiting areas vary: some are small rooms with a table, chairs, and sometimes even toys for you to play with; others are larger spaces where other children and families meet their loved ones too.

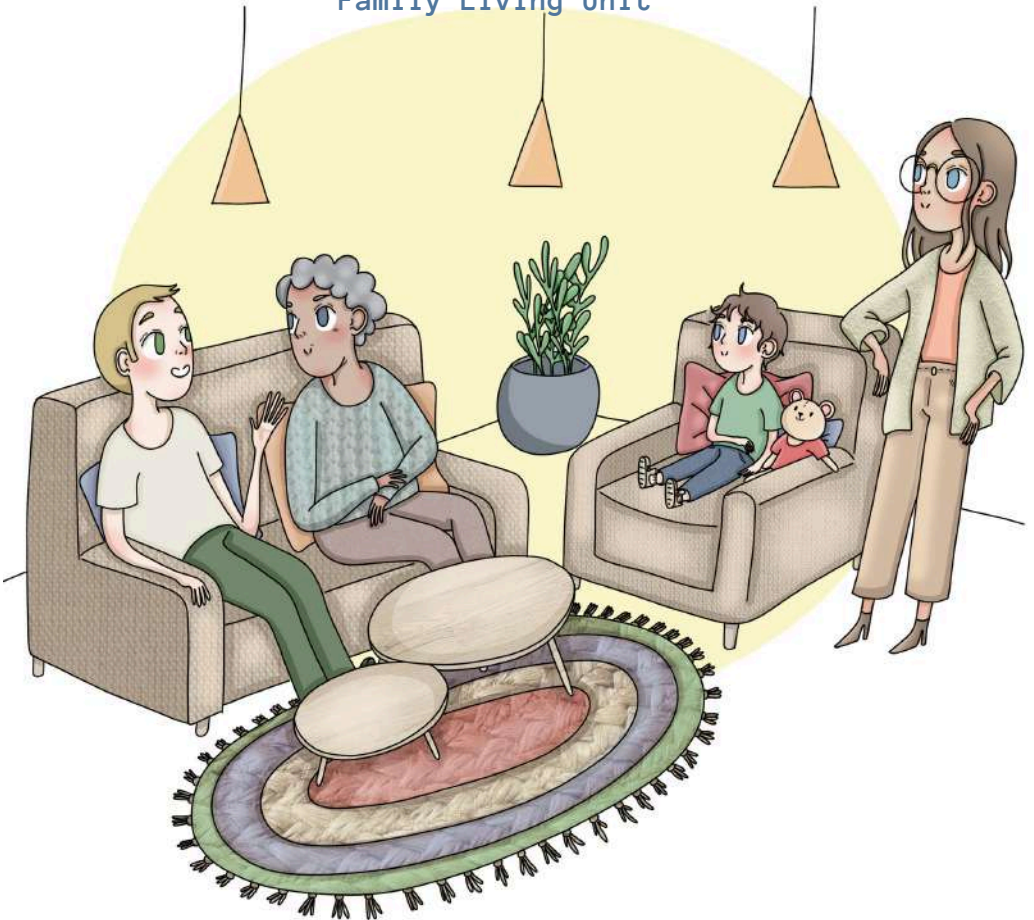
During your visit, you can give your drawings and letters to your parent. If you don't feel well, you can ask the person accompanying you to press the red button to leave.

Visits in the visiting area feel like they go by quickly, and you might not always have time to say everything. But it's wonderful to see your mom or dad again.



UVF

Family Living Unit



If your parent stays in prison for a long time, there might be a Family Living Unit, or UVF. These are furnished apartments where you can spend 6 hours, a day, or even 3 days with your parent, along with two other family members. You can bring toys and watch cartoons with your family.



I thought it was strange to stay locked in with my dad for a long time. But I was happy to spend more time with him than in the visiting area.

CHAPTER 2:
**“WHAT YOUR PARENT CAN DO IN
PRISON”**

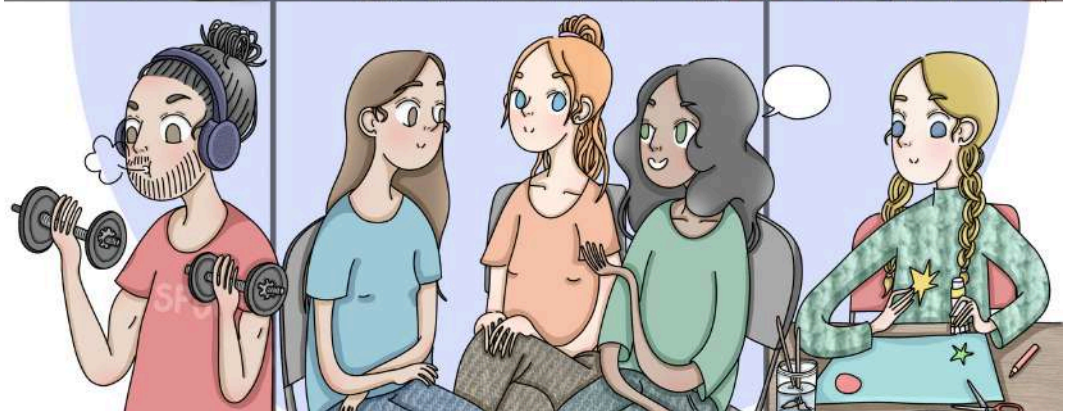


Your parent's room is called a cell (une cellule). It can be shared with other people or not, and it may look different depending on the prison. There is a bed, a wardrobe for storing their belongings, and just like in your room, they can hang drawings or posters on the walls.

THE PRISON YARD



Just like you have a playground at school, your mom or dad has a yard in prison. It's an outdoor space where they can walk, exercise, and talk to other inmates at specific times.



There may also be activities offered in prison for your mom or dad, such as gardening, music, theater, sports, or other things.

There are also support groups where people can talk to each other.



Your parent can also work to earn a bit of money by doing things like cooking, cleaning, carpentry, or other jobs.



With the money your mom or dad earns from their job, they can buy food, soap, candy, drinks, or other things from the prison shop.

CHAPTER 3:
"IF YOU WANT TO, KNOW
THAT YOU CAN..."

You can receive phone calls from your mom or dad at specific times.



Every Monday at 8 PM, my dad called me.

Between visits, you can also make drawings and send them in an envelope or bring them during your next visit.

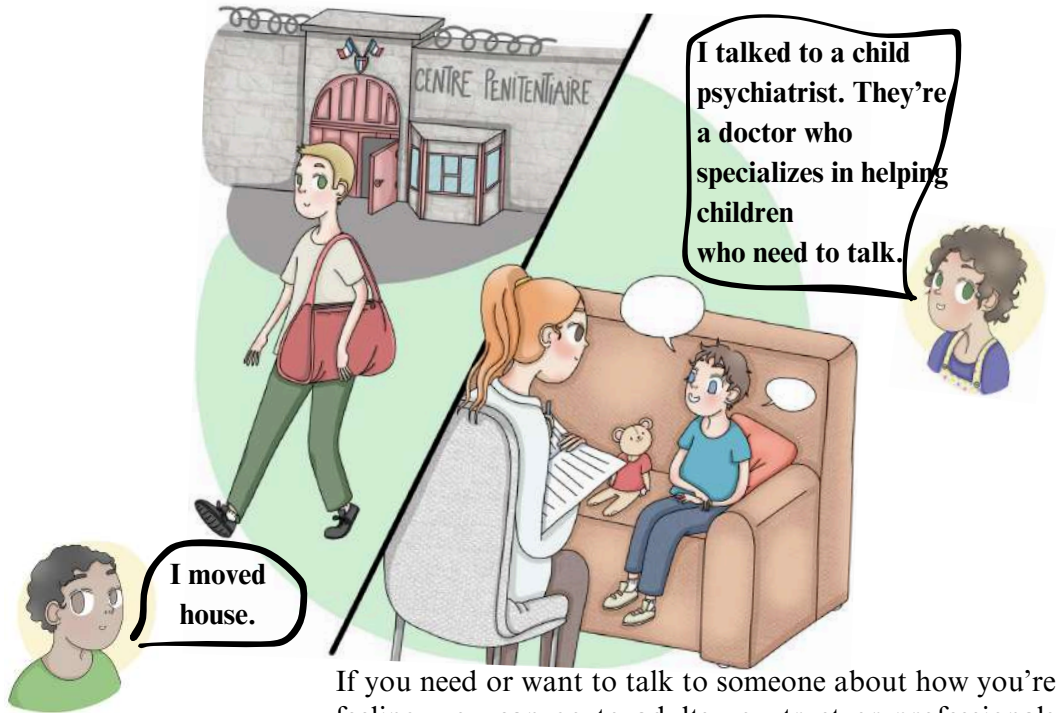


I was able to give him a gift, that went through the detector.



Lastly, you can tell the adults around you if you want to keep visiting your mom or dad in prison or not.

Once your parent has served their punishment, they'll be released from prison. Things might feel different, and there will probably be changes because, over time, you'll have grown, evolved, and likely changed.



If you need or want to talk to someone about how you're feeling, you can go to adults you trust or professionals whose job it is to listen to you and answer your questions.

For the families

Various partners offer different support solutions

If you have doubts or need advice, you can contact :

The Service Pénitentiaire d'Insertion et de Probation (**SPIP**):

The penitentiary service for reintegration and probation oversees the monitoring and support of sentences carried out in open and closed settings in each département.

Directory of SPIPs: <https://annuaire.service-public.fr/navigation/spip>

The Union nationale des Fédérations Régionales des Associations des Maisons d'Accueil de Familles et proches de personnes détenues (**UFRAMA**): The national union of regional federations of associations for the families and relatives of incarcerated persons supports the actions of associations and addresses the difficulties faced by families, helping to implement support initiatives.

Website: <https://www.uframa.org/>

Les Fédérations Régionales des Associations de Maisons d'Accueil de Familles et proches de personnes Détenues (**FRAMAFAD**): The regional federations of associations for families and relatives of incarcerated persons exist in each of the 9 penitentiary interregions of metropolitan France and bring together associations that provide accommodation for families and relatives of incarcerated persons.

Directory of FRAMAFAD: <https://www.uframa.org/uframa/>

Relais Enfants-Parents (**REP**): These are regional associations aimed at fostering or restoring ties between children and their incarcerated parent through various actions and intervention programs.

Website: <https://www.relaisenfantsparents.org/>

List of Family Support Associations :

- Les Myosotis : Agen (Lot-et-Garonne) - 05.53.77.43.90
- Les Myosotis : Angoulême (Charente) - 05.45.38.17.56
- Prisac-Adour : Bayonne (Pyrénées-Atlantiques) - 05.59.55.90.45
- Le chalet bleu : Bordeaux (Gironde) - 05.56.89.45.11
- L'embellie : Ile de Ré (Charente-Maritimes)- 05.46.09.90.59
- Haltes Saint-Vincent : Limoges (Haute-Vienne)- 05.55.77.83.70
- La passerelle : Mauzac (Dordogne)- 05.53.24.86.65
- MDM Tournesols : Mont-de-Marsan (Landes) - 05.58.06.82.82
- Arc-en-ciel : Neuvic (Dordogne) - 06.50.49.12.61
- AIRE : Niort (Deux-Sèvres) - 05.49.73.25.90
- La passerelle : Pau (Pyrénées-Atlantiques) - 05.59.77.49.38
- L'arche de Beleyme : Périgueux (Dordogne) - 05.53.08.52.87
- Le Cri : Poitiers (Vienne) - 05.49.56.65.85
- Solidarité Prison : (Charente-Maritimes)- 05.46.92.11.89
- MAFADE : Villeneuve-sur-lot (Lot-et-Garonne)- 05.53.70.05.98

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Our project coordinator, Nadine LADEVEZE, for her commitment and kindness.

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The various prison guards, children of incarcerated parents, and detainees who answered our questions.

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All those who supported the project and provided financial assistance.

**Achévé d'imprimer par ICN-64300 Orthez.
Dépôt légal : Juin 2023**

We are a group of seven students trained to become specialized educators at Etcharry Formation Développement (Pyrénées-Atlantique).

As part of our studies, we developed a socio-educational project focusing on children with an incarcerated parent. After conducting our research and collecting various testimonials, we created this book.

This book is tailored for children aged 3 to 5 to help them understand their rights and responsibilities when visiting their incarcerated parent, and to inform them about the prison environment.

It is a playful tool that parents and professionals can use to best support children.

Members of the Pinpilina group :

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Amandine Barrouilh

Marie Daleas

Célia Desnos

Pantxika Duvert

Juliette Saint-Cricq

Anaïs Vandenbroucke

