



Center for Social Development

GEORGE WARREN BROWN
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Washington University in St. Louis



Eradicate Social Isolation

Policy Brief Authors:

Suzanne Brown *Wayne State*

E.A. Casey *AARP Foundation*

Sandra E Crewe *Howard*

Melanie Gironda *USC*

Carrie Johnson *Boston College*

James Lubben *Boston College*

Michelle Munson *NYU*

Erika Sabbath *Boston College*

Elizabeth Tracy *Case Western Reserve*

The need to Eradicate Social Isolation

- ***Social isolation is a potent killer!***
 - **The association between social isolation and health is as strong as smoking.**
 - **Thus it is time to identify social policies that, if enacted, would reduce the incidence of social isolation.**



Policies to Eradicate Social Isolation



RECOMMENDATION #1:

***Increase Access to High-Quality
Childcare That Strengthens Social
Connections!***



Policies to Eradicate Social Isolation



RECOMMENDATION #2:

***Build More Age-Friendly
Communities That Strengthen
Social Connections!***



Policies to Eradicate Social Isolation



RECOMMENDATION #3:

Reform Solitary Confinement!

Progress to Eradicate Social Isolation

- ① General education about societal and individual costs of isolation.**
- ② Identify stakeholders & partners in a campaign to eradicate isolation.**
- ③ Mobilize multiple policy initiatives addressing distinct populations.**