

Handcuff Safety

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Handcuff Design

- Current models are simple, effective but harsh, risky
- Danger of lacerations, bruises, numbness, broken wrist bones, permanent nerve damage
- Redesign needed with padding, pressure sensor, alarm
- See “Safer Handcuffs” by David Z on March 16, 2021 presented here
- PowerPoint posted on DavidZforMayor.org/safer-handcuffs---03162021

Pain Compliance

- Police expect instant submission
- Painfully yank on handcuffs if suspect is too slow or “resists”
- Process encourages physical injury and emotional trauma
- Concept encourages disdain for other people
- Change of emotional framework needed

Assault

- SD Codified Law
- "Section 22-18-1 - Simple assault ... A person is guilty of simple assault ...
 - (1) Attempts to cause bodily injury ...
 - (2) Recklessly causes bodily injury to another;
 - (3) Negligently causes bodily injury ...”
- Handcuffs can be used to injure
- Government agents are almost never charged
- Blame politicians, not police

Excessive Force Lawsuits

- Excessive force via tight handcuffs
- Lawsuits are expensive, damage official reputation
- Section 1983 of the 1871 Civil Rights Act allows suing for violated civil rights
- See McGrew v Duncan, No 2:16-cv-10978 (6th Cir 2019)
- A Michigan case of excessive force, intentional infliction of emotional distress, assault, battery

Sioux Falls Problem 1

- Jaytee had a mental health crisis
- Police were called because there was no one else to call
- She was compliant, arrested, injured via handcuffs, jailed
- Still hurting after three months
- Poor way to deal with mental health crisis

Sioux Falls Problem 2

- Kerry arrested for DUI, she was not pleasant
- Police were angry
- Slammed her to the ground a few times
- Knees were bruised, scraped
- Tight handcuffs caused thumb neuropathy
- Neuropathy for 3 or 4 months

Kerry's Partly-Healed Injuries

Wrist ↓

Knee →



Recommendations 1

- Police procedure should include:
- Check handcuff tightness
- Double lock handcuffs to prevent over-tightening
- Check arrestees at jail for injuries
- Treat and document all injuries
- If injured, review police video
- All police should have body cameras to protect police and public

Recommendations 2

- Redesign handcuffs to promote safety
- Replace “pain compliance” with patience
- Mental health crises require mental health professionals, not armed officers
- Matthew 25:40 "... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me."
- Implement “Christian Family Values”
- Care about people, even arrestees

Safe Commercial Handcuffs

- Maybe use these
- <https://www.handcuffwarehouse.com/the-grip-restraint-mri-safe-wrist-restraints/>



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