

**Prisoner Reentry Institute  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice**

**Fictive Kinship as Reentry Strategy:  
The Role of Social Relations in Prisoner Reintegration  
November 2, 2007**

**Lucia Trimbur** is the seventh Andrew W. Mellon Fellow on Race, Crime, and Justice at the Vera Institute of Justice. She joined Vera in August 2006 after completing her Ph.D. in Sociology and African American Studies at Yale University. Her dissertation “Living Wages: The Work of Amateur Fighters and Trainers in Postindustrial Brooklyn” examines the opportunities for work, identity, and fictive kinship that the urban boxing gym offers men of color, many of whom have histories of crime and forced confinement. At Vera, Ms. Trimbur is preparing her dissertation for publication and starting a new research project, which focuses on the racialized nature of prisoner reentry.

**Diana Ortiz** spent 22 years and six months in prison, where she worked as a clerk to the Director of the Children’s Center. She also coordinated the Summer Program, which brings children to the prison for visits with their mothers while staying with registered host families for five days.

Currently, Ms. Ortiz serves as Program Coordinator of the St. James’/Osborne Partners for Children Program at the Osborne Association, a nonprofit organization working towards transforming lives, communities, and the criminal justice system. In this position, she manages St. James’, a mentoring program for children ages four to 18 with a parent in prison, and Family Ties, which facilitates family visits to Albion Correctional Facility. These programs provide academic and therapeutic resources, enhance communication and socialization, and assist the development of healthy coping styles during a parent’s absence.

While incarcerated, Ms. Ortiz earned a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in English Literature from Mercy College. She is currently a non-matriculated student at Hunter College working toward a Masters of Social Work with a track in Administration.

**Felix M. Rosa Jr.** began his professional career in the field of social services, working as Counselor and Social Worker for the Salvation Army Social Services for Children. In 1987, he entered public service as a Parole Officer with the New York State Division of Parole.

Within New York State Parole, Mr. Rosa has served as Parole Prosecutor, Senior Parole Officer, and Executive Assistant to the Executive Director. In 2004, Mr. Rosa was promoted to Director of Executive Clemency and Secretary to the Board of Parole. In 2007, he was promoted to Executive Director of the Division of Parole.

Mr. Rosa received a Bachelor’s degree from Eastern Michigan University and a Masters of Social Work from Fordham University. He served a six-year term as a Board Member of the Hispanic Outreach Services (a Catholic Charities Organization) and is currently the Scoutmaster for Troop 75 in Delmar, NY.