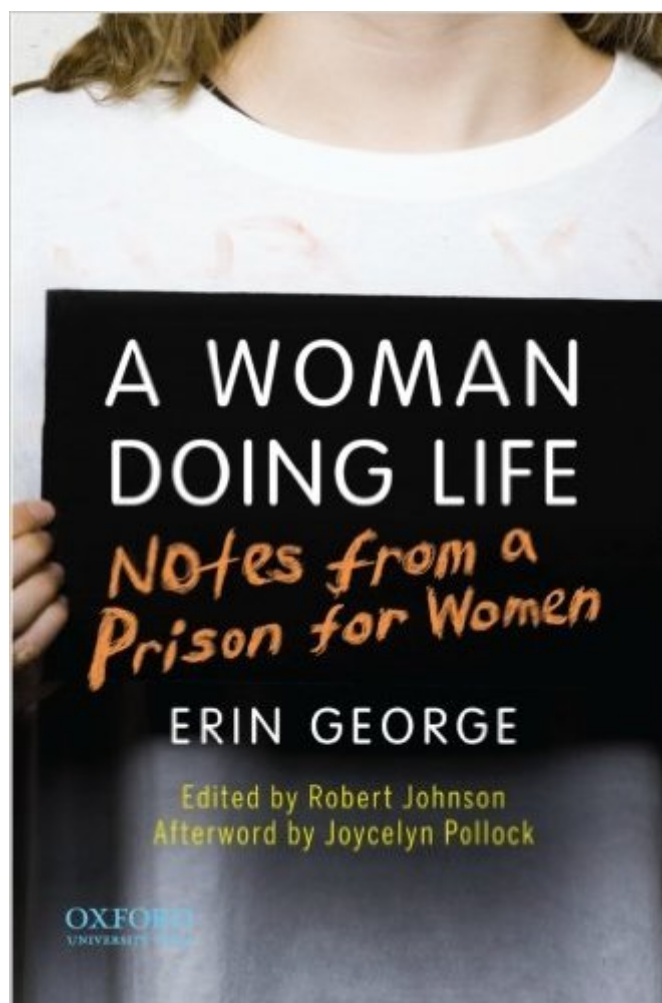


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# A Woman Doing Life: Notes From A Prison For Women



## Synopsis

A Woman Doing Life is the only book that tells stories of women in prison from the inside out. Author and inmate Erin George draws a vivid and uniquely raw portrait of female life in prison, detailing her own responses to incarceration as well as her observations of prison relationships, death and sickness, reactions from friends and family, and even "cooking" in prison. The text also features poignant stories from other female inmates. Edited by Robert Johnson--esteemed scholar and editor of Victor Hassine's *Life Without Parole*, Fourth Edition (OUP, 2009)--each chapter of the text opens with a helpful introduction that guides students as they read. An Afterword by noted scholar Joycelyn Pollock further helps place inmate testimonies into an academic context. Offering profound insight into the too-often neglected issue of women in the criminal justice system, *A Woman Doing Life* is a must for courses in women and crime, gender and crime, and women in prison.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I happen to have had the opportunity to meet the author this past year. I am a frequent visitor to an offender at Fluvanna. While I realize that my incarcerated friend, the author and the entire 1,200 offenders housed in Fluvanna committed crimes that have resulted in incarceration, these women are human too. They have emotions, they have dreams and as dysfunctional as their life is at times, they rely on each other to take the place of their families in their day to day lives. I would suggest that anyone reading this book should read it with an open mind and an open heart. Some of the stories are difficult at best to "swallow" but they are true. The events depicted in this book are relative to the lives these women live. I believe that Erin George has a great talent for writing and

while I do not condone what she has done or am in favor of everything she says I am thankful for the opportunity to have met her, shook her hand and embraced her with only the love of God I have in my heart for her. It does disturb me, however, that the publisher of this book appears to have exploited Ms. George. I believe that he has sought Ms. George out to "showcase" her talents only to benefit himself. It is apparent to me that Mr. Johnson has his own interest in mind first. I am thankful to have read Ms. George's book and would suggest for others to read it as well.

Such a good book! I had to get it for a class, but ended up actually enjoying it quite a lot. Whether or not she is actually guilty is hardly an issue in the book, but you learn so much about the human condition. So great! Do recommend.

this was an interesting book to read. It's all about Erin George's time in prison. I found it a bit difficult to believe everything in the book and there is not much that can be found about Erin George by googleing her.

Great book. I had to read this for a criminal justice class. Erin George is a great writer, taking us into the life of women in prison. This is a must read for anyone going into the criminal justice field.

Alas this book begins with the usual claims on how the author one Erin George is innocent and a victim of the corrupt justice system. I suggest that you Google her and find that in fact she killed her husband for insurance money. So please disregard all the hand wringing and sobbing by the love a convict crowd for poor Erin, her loss of freedom, and the fact that she will never walk this earth a free woman or parent her children. Perhaps if there was some remorse for her murdered husband I might feel differently but alas that is totally absent from this book. That said it is well written and will give you a good idea of what life is like in the VA DOC in specifically and women's prison in general. But I am not shedding any tears for Ms. George, she is where she needs to be and she put herself there by her own hand.

I was assigned this book for class, it was okay, but at the same time it seemed like Ms. George thought she was above the other inmates.... There were the usual cries of innocence, but when I tried to find any real information about the case it was near impossible. The book had it's good parts, but overall it was just a book with many things that are common knowledge to someone like me (a criminal justice student) about how the prison system operates. Sure it's not fair, but it's

prison. Woman or not.

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