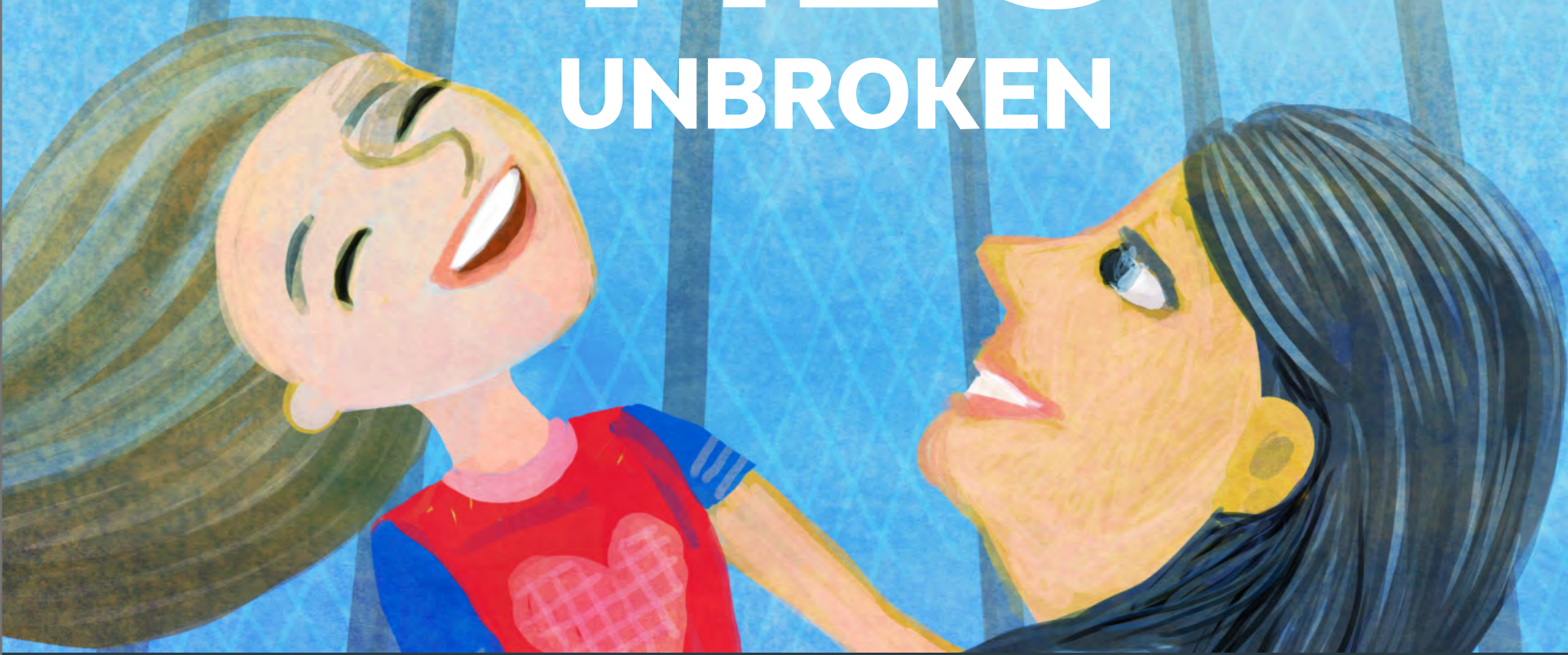


TIES UNBROKEN

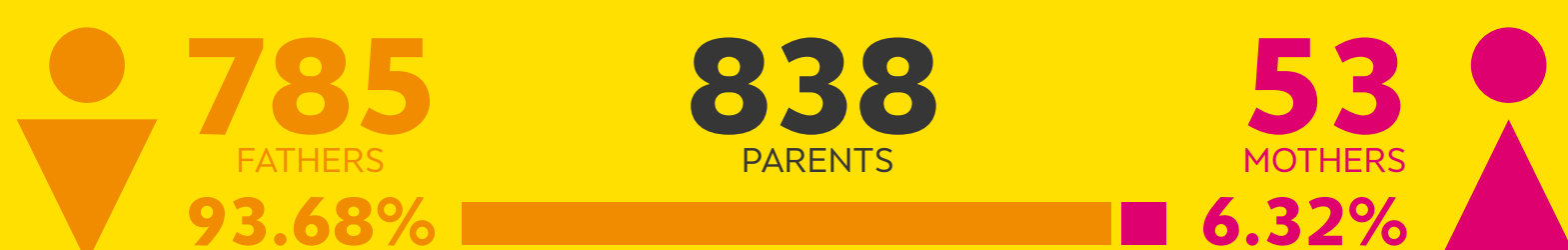


“ We must tell children that in prison, there are restrictions about the law. **BUT THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS ON LOVE.** - Marie-France Blanco

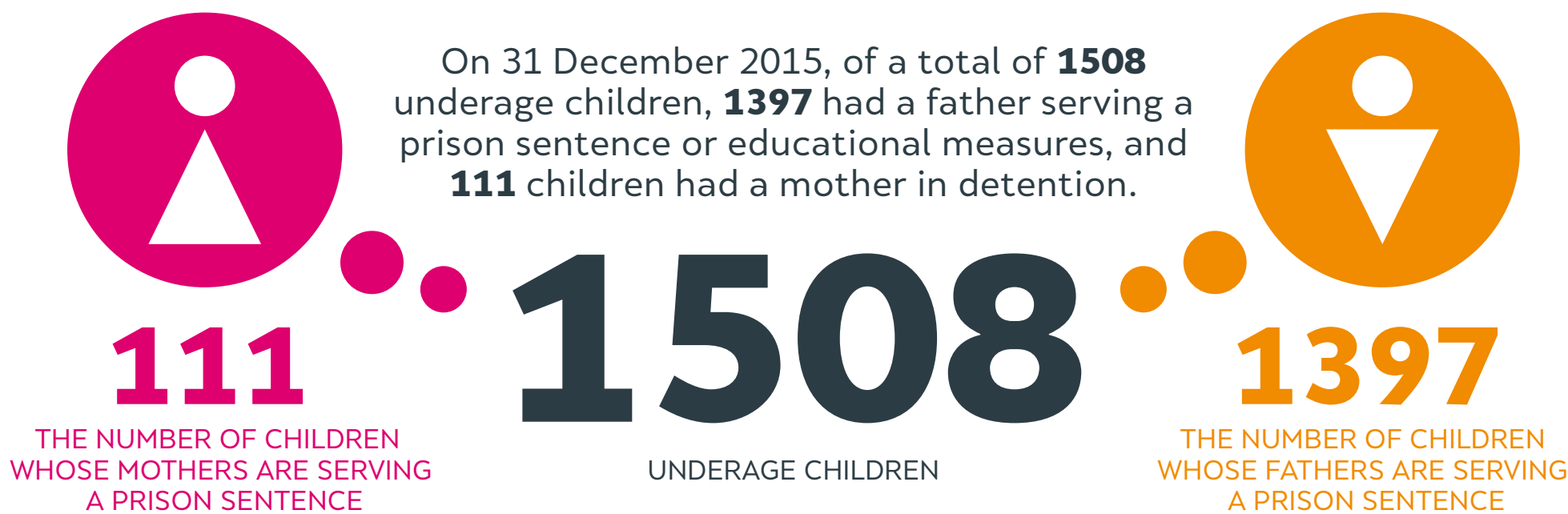
During 2015, there were a total of **1430** male prisoners in the Croatian penal system who were fathers to a total of **2583** underage children, and **103** female prisoners who were mothers to **210** underage children.

During 2015, a total of **1307** underage children visited their fathers, and **55%** of fathers had at least one visit from their children. A total of **107** children visited their mothers, whereby **58%** of mothers had at least one visit from their children.

The parents of underage children account for one-third (32.88%) of the prison population on 31 December 2015. Of the **2549** people serving prison sentences, **838** are parents.



Of a total of **838** parents in the Croatian prison population, **785 (93.68%)** are fathers, and **53 (6.32%)** are mothers.



On 31 December 2015, of a total of **1508** underage children, **1397** had a father serving a prison sentence or educational measures, and **111** children had a mother in detention.



During 2015 a total of **8807** children's visits to their incarcerated parents were recorded, of which **8205** were visits to fathers and **602** visits to mothers.

The longest visit made by an underage child to its father was **290** minutes, while the longest visit with a mother was **240** minutes.

The total number of visits to both male and female prisoners over 2015 is **falling linearly**, which does **not reflect changes** in the size of the prison population. However, the number of visits made by underage children **is not falling**.



In comparison to 2014, during 2015 there was an **increase** in the number of parents who had **at least one visit** from their underage child.



In semi-open and open prison conditions, where the largest number of prisoners use their free time outside of prison to visit their families, the number of visits made by underage children **is lower** because the families meet in their own places of residence.

The frequency of contact between children and their incarcerated parents varies due to numerous factors: **distance** from the prisons and penitentiaries from the family's place of residence, the family's **economic means** and interpersonal **family relations**.