

Has the deinstitutionalization of the mentally ill worked

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The paper "Has the Deinstitutionalization of the Mentally Ill Worked" is an outstanding example of a psychology book report. A few decades ago, treatment of mentally ill individuals involved realizing very many people in state psychiatric hospitals. However, there was a lot of public outcries and this led to formulation and enactment of policies aimed at deinstitutionalization from these warehouses. It is worth noting that in as much as these policies were seen as a milestone in American mental health system, they received a number of criticisms with contentions that the deinstitutionalization process would bring about the national crisis. This paper will outline the two sides of the coin after which it will give its own position. Some people argue that deinstitutionalization has worked in the sense that majority of the patients find community-based care better than institutionalized care. The patients live with their community as they receive moral as well as material support from them. Deinstitutionalization has given the patients freedom and thus the patients are in apposition to choose than unwillingly devoted and ordered treatment. Additionally, the patients live in their own houses and also contribute to the labor market. On the other hand, there are other people who argue that deinstitutionalization did not work. According to them, deinstitutionalization has led to many patients roistering along the streets, public parks, libraries and bus, and train stations since they are homeless. This to a large extent causes insecurity to the pedestrians. Furthermore, others are in jails and prisons due to mentally related illness crime charges, while others are in nursing homes since they are homeless. After a careful analysis of the arguments from both sides, this paper finds that deinstitutionalization was not an off-hook policy, but rather a

policy geared towards giving the patients freedom of making their own decisions and the community a chance to take responsibility of the patients. However, this could have worked if implementations were well defined. So far deinstitutionalization has not worked to the expectations of the people.