

The dichotomy of the american penal system reform via standardization



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The Dichotomy of the American Penal System: Reform via

Standardization Most Americans believe that criminals should be isolated from innocent Americans.

They believe that this requires incarceration, and that once criminals are incarcerated they should be dealt with accordingly. Americans want justice to be served to both the victims and criminals. But what does being ??? dealt with accordingly??? really mean Maybe it means granting prisoners the option to seek atonement for their wrongdoings through therapeutic rehabilitation and other creative outlets. Or it mean treating prisoners as inhumanely as possible so they can feel the same pain their victims and affiliated families felt. Perhaps it means offering prisoners employment and community service opportunities as a way to repay the community they robbed through their wrong doings. America??™s current penal system employs all these definitions of ??? being dealt with accordingly.

??? (Cite examples from four articles here) It employs other definitions as well but these three are the most prominent and thus will be this argument??™s main focus. Furthermore, these three types of correctional facilities are somewhat effective in serving justice to their inmates. The reason why they are effective in serving justice, to a certain extent varies depending upon the type of penitentiary. In rehabilitation prisons, inmates are offered therapy, cooking classes, reading seminars, and other opportunities to explore their creativity.

(Cite article) According to mental health specialists, this forces inmates to come to terms with their guilt by regaining their sense of self, and they are

forced to face their crime head on.(Cite article) In prisons that treat use inhumane punishment techniques, inmates are abused sexually and physically by wardens and other authority figures. (Cite article) In these prisons justice is found in the fact that inmates are feeling the same inhumane pain they inflicted on their victims. In employment/community service opportunity prisons inmates partake in projects that help the community like working at a local power plant, or in the community garden. (cite Article) There is justice in this system because it forces inmates to labor arduously for long hours, while simultaneously improving the quality of life in the community they offended when they committed their crime.

While these different types of correctional facilities serve some form of justice to their inmates and certain surrounding communities, when analyzed more closely, it is obvious that the extent of justice in these correctional facilities is very limited. IV. Body Paragraph 3A. Topic Sentence: In fact, the minimal justice enforced in American prisons is outweighed by the more prominent unjust nature of American prisons.- Rehabilitation Prisoners: Guiding prisoners towards self forgiveness through mind cleansing and self discovering outlets like cooking, embroidering, reading groups is helpful to the prisoners, too helpful. Prisoners are in prison for a reason: they intentionally committed a crime and deserve to be punished not coddled. The fact that prisoners are being treated so well is unjust especially to their victims who expect the American prison system to punish these criminals. If they want to seek absolution no one should hold their hand, it must be done on their own.

- Inhumane Punishment Prisons: No one deserves to be physically or sexually abused; not even the most horrible criminals. The purpose of American prisons is to enforce just punishment. Sexual and physical abuse are crimes which makes them unjust acts.

Prisoners should be punished, but justly punished, not unjustly. -

Employment Opportunities/Community Service Opportunities Prisons: This system is seemingly just, but it is equally as unjust as rehabilitation prisons and prisons that treat their inmates inhumanely. Community members expect prisoners to be removed from the community because they feel threatened by them, they don't want to be in contact with people that committed crimes. This is unjust for the innocent members of the surrounding community. B.

Concluding Sentence: The American penitentiary system is neither prioritizing serving justice to its inmates, nor to its surrounding communities. This means that it is not fulfilling its purpose as a lawful and just institution based on the Constitution. V. Body Paragraph 4A. Topic Sentence: If American prisons are not fulfilling their purpose as justice enforcing facilities, they must be restructured so that they can enforce justice. B. Examples- Death row prisoners deserve to be incarcerated in high security prisons until their date of execution, but neither in a prison that has authority figures abusing inmates, nor in a prison that allows prisoners to be in any sort of contact with innocent members of the surrounding community, nor in a prison that offers inmates the opportunity to atone their wrongdoings.

C. Conclusion: There should be a prison that leans toward none of these extremes. VI.

Body Paragraph 5A. Topic Sentence: In order to establish such a prison, a new standard needs to be set. - Since this is an issue that affects the safety of Americans as well as the entire justice system, the standardization of the American penitentiary system must be an undertaking supported by the American government and the American people.- The best way to achieve such a standardization is to poll, in a format similar to the 2010 census, every American on what the ideal prison setting is for particular categories of prisoners like rapists vs. murderers or thieves vs.

arsonists. - Once the results of the survey are in, supreme court officials and other law enforcement officials knowledgeable about the current American penitentiary system will review the results and come up with a standard that reflects the popular demand. B. Concluding Sentence: By employing this new standard among American prisons, the security of innocent Americans as well as the sanctity of the American justice system will be upheld. VII.

Concluding ParagraphA.

The American prison system is currently in a state of disarray due to its lack of standardization. In order to fix this problem, a new, nationally accepted standard must be implemented. This new implementation will eliminate the inconsistency and injustice facing both the innocent and the incarcerated citizens of America.

While this solution will require great effort on the part of American law enforcement, it will be well worth the increased level of security and justice in American society.