

Reducing the criminal activities of offenders and delinquents

Law



Should community correctional officials be guided by “ gut” feelings on program effectiveness or solely rely on research?

Community correctional officials should not rely on ‘ gut feelings’ to gauge the effectiveness of the programs in place. Therefore, they should use a combination of various techniques to gauge how effective a program applies to correcting behavior. Research, for example, helps in pointing out crucial trends that cannot be merely observed by the officials. In addition, research includes the outcomes of a wider group of people over time, thus giving the officials concrete evidence to use in assessing the effectiveness of the programs.