

Name

Instructor

Subject

Date

Should Criminals be Jailed or Rehabilitated?

Criminals are members of the society that engage in illegal activities or go against the norms of the society. The society frowns on such individuals and often turns to various ways of averting their behavior either through facing a jail term or through enrolling them in corrective centers. Although the offenders should be punished for their wrongdoing by jailing them, rehabilitating them is a more efficient correction method than the former. Correcting the individuals' behavior through re-educating them and offering them community service courses helps in uplifting their lifestyle while still according them the respect they deserve as human beings (Bacik Web). The paper assumes the position that criminals should be enrolled in correctional centers for re-education that will be paramount in changing their behavior and upholding human dignity as opposed to jailing them.

It is constitutional in most countries that criminals found guilty of certain offenses be imprisoned for a given period. As much as the gesture is effective in punishing the wrongdoers, the jails are mere physical confinements of the criminals where they are restrained and locked from the world. Dangerous criminals should be isolated from the rest and locked in maximum-security cells where they are offered specialized counseling since most of cannot tolerate the human population due to psychological misgivings. However, white-collar and other minor

offenders that suffer mental instability should not be locked up in prisons, but should be checked into correctional facilities for rehabilitation.

Correctional facilities offer appropriate programs that prepare the criminals to return to the society. Prisons mainly serve the purpose of incapacitation by restraining the criminals from harming themselves or others in the society. Most prisons do not offer corrective approaches, and in most cases, the criminals revert to their criminal behavior and reoffend when released from prison. Prisons are deemed a channel to censure the criminals and an avenue to seek justice, but not to prevent the individuals from committing a crime (Kifer, Craig, and Mary Web).

On the contrary, rehabilitation offers the offenders the chance to change their behavior and help them avoid reoffending. Correctional facilities provide educative programs that teach new skills of the criminals such as carpentry, artwork, beadwork, and other skillful activities. The activities not only keep the minds of the criminals engaged, but are also income generating. The criminals can also apply the newly acquired skills later in life after serving their term, which helps them improve their livelihoods. The centers also offer psychological support to the criminals through counseling services that are paramount in identifying the problems and amending their offensive behavior (Gilligan Web).

Rehabilitation centers also assign a probation officer to the criminals, who regularly checks on their progress upon reintroduction into society. The officers make up a follow-up on the criminals to ensure that they do not revert to their old ways and motivate them to embrace a productive and a morally upright lifestyle. The centers also help protect the criminals from the stigma and victimization associated with criminals as they turn into law-abiding citizens.

Correcting the behavior of the criminals goes a long way in deterring future crime and ensuring the safety of the society.

The society disapproves of any crime, and the government has devised ways of curbing crime to ensure the safety of the community. Criminals are often punished by being sentenced to jail for the offense committed. However, mere punishment does not necessarily serve to correct their behavior, and rehabilitation is a more efficient method to avert crime. Rehabilitating the criminals in correctional facilities serves to offer them educational courses, training in job skills, and counseling services to help improve their livelihoods, as well as accord them the respect they deserve. Therefore, criminals should be re-educated and offered community service programs before reintroduction into the society as opposed to punishing them through lengthy jail terms.

Works Cited

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