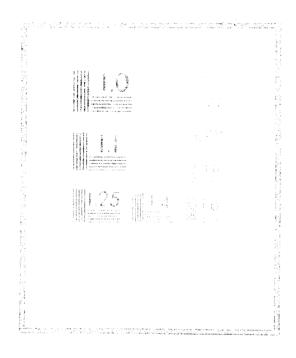
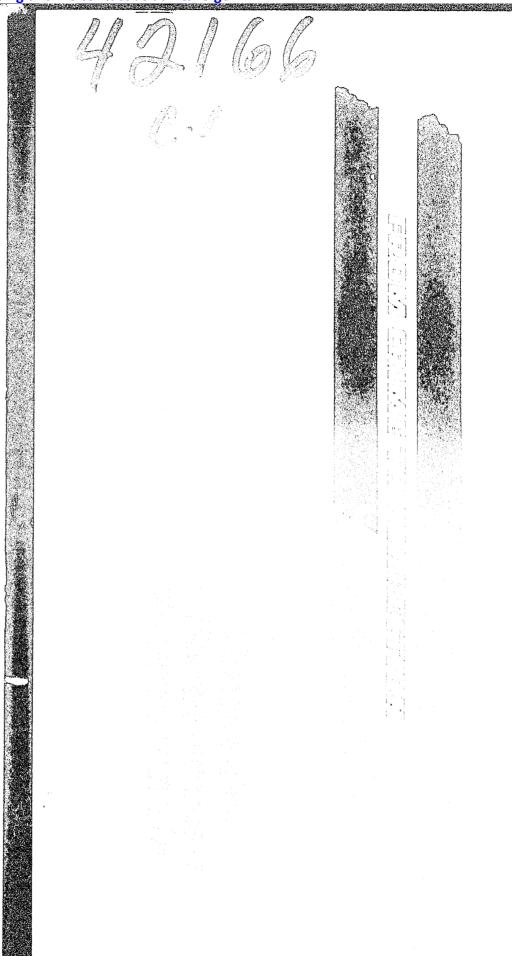
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531



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## From Crime To Correction

The handbag was too tempting to resist. So the one we shall call Jimmy Jones grabbed it and ran, knocking down the old lady who had been carrying it. Jimmy had committed his first crime. The first of many.

If you ask him why he did it, Jimmy would probably say it was just an easy way to make a few dollars.

After all, he couldn't handle a good job. His home life was spotty. No one really cared what he did, so he had little or no regard for other people. And his friends all lived high.

Jimmy Jones was a bright young man. Not all bad. Not all good. But you might say he was uptight. Full of frustration and fear.

He became a thief. Why not? The pay was good. The work easy. The hours convenient. The risk didn't matter. After five more muggings and two armed robberies, Jimmy was finally caught, tried, sentenced and sent to one of the state's five male adult institutions.

One might well argue that Jimmy Jones should not have been put behind bars at all. There must be a better way to handle his problem. He had merely responded to the problems caused by his environment. What he needed most was to be temporarily removed from society. To be treated as an individual in need. To be trained. To be corrected. Then, perhaps, when he returned to society, he'd belong there.

That's what correction is all about.

There are no walls in Rockview. Through a balance of control and treatment, offenders are given an opportunity to learn, grow, and return to society as contributing members, not criminals waiting to get caught again.

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It is as logical as it is practical. Correction treats an offender as an individual, gradually preparing him for the time he will return to society.

Penal institutions are no longer isolated fortresses. The community is invited to enter and take part in the rehabilitation program. The offenders are moved out into the community into various controlled situations.

Society is protected from the offender, whom we refer to as "resident," while the sentence determined by the court is carried out. But when he completes his sentence, the resident is returned to society ready and prepared to become a productive, law-abiding citizen.

Jimmy Jones was not among the 20% of incorrigibles who are residents of our prison system. He was among those who need help and who can be expected to respond readily, even eagerly, to correction under control.

More than 90% of men and women in our prisons today will one day be free. Two-thirds of these have been in prison before. Unfortunately, some 70% who are released will relapse into their previous criminal habits. This relapse is known as "recidivism." It's a big word. And an ugly one. It is also the dragon that the Bureau of Correction must slay.

A prime objective of the Bureau, in short, is to reduce the high rate of recidivism. When this is accomplished it means that more and more prisoners have responded to the Bureau's program of correction under control. That fewer and fewer will be repeaters. That more and more, by gaining self-control and regaining self-respect, will become productive citizens. And, finally, that society will suffer fewer crimes by released offenders.



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There was a time when Jimmy Jones and his legions, as much victims of our society as offenders, were molded by prison life to repeat their crimes. When anyone advocating criminal reclamation of any sort was regarded as a maudlin sentimentalist. Those unenlightened days have gone, if only because we realized that the old system doesn't work.

Now we know that within the gravel of every prison population are nuggets of gold. Freedom and 'correction are now more important than isolation and vengeance.

The new concept has dramatically bridged the gap between crime and correction. Nationwide, wherever correction is practiced, the rate of recidivism has been reduced by at least one-third. But as impressive as this statistic may be, it could be made even more impressive with greater community involvement and deeper community support.

The moment the public fully accepts the fact that many inmates need only the encouragement and the opportunity to explore worlds new to them and to rejoin society as useful, new citizens, just that moment will every community be safer for everyone.

Welcome back, Jimmy Jones!



### Northwestern Pennsylvania

In Northwestern Pennsylvania, the Bureau of Correction serves the counties of Erie, Warren, Mc-Kean, Potter, Cameron, Elk, Forest, Venango, Crawford, Mercer, Lawrence, Clarion, Jefferson, and Clearfield.

Since no walled correctional institutions are located in the area, offenders are referred to the State Institution at Rockview in Central Pennsylvania. When they qualify for correction programs, residents are returned to Community Service Centers near their home communities.

At present, two progressive Community Service Centers serve the area. They are located in Erie, Meadville, and Sharon. The Center at Sharon has been recently completed. It is a model facility that will be used to expand the scope of the State's prerelease programs. Other similar institutions are now being planned for the Meadville area, and another center exclusively for women.

Inside the Bureau's Community Service Centers residents are offered a real opportunity to help themselves. Individual and group counselling developes self-confidence. Work release programs in local industries develop self-reliance.

Results of the Bureau of Correction's programs in the Northwestern Region have proven to be much more effective than the traditional release in which the offender goes directly from the institution back into the community.

Since the program started in 1969, more than 2000 residents have been housed in Community Service Centers within the State. To date, of that total, only 7.6 per cent have been convicted of new charges.



Work, education, and learning responsibility are the tools the Bureau of Correction uses in rehabilitation—all within the reality of the outside community Community Service Conters, like the one in Eric, grant residents a taste of freedom. They pass or fail this opportunity, not by the standards of the Bureau, but by community standards.



That statistic is amazing. The National average rate of repeating crimes is more than 70 per cent.

Community Service Centers offer other advantages to the community. While in the pre-release program, residents earn wages which they use to support themselves and their families.

Last year, residents in State Correction programs earned in excess of \$1 million. Of that total, more than \$250,000 was deducted for taxes. Instead of being a burden to the taxpayer, these residents became productive taxpayers themselves.

Then too, there is a dramatic difference in the cost of keeping a resident in a Community Service Center as compared to an institution. It costs approximately \$21 a day to keep a resident in a State Institution. In a Community Service Center this cost is less than \$9 a day. The difference of \$12 a day represents a potential savings of more than \$1 million to the taxpayer.

But more important is the effect upon the offender. Under controlled conditions, he is taught to be confident and reliable. He is better prepared to return to society as a law abiding citizen.

Understanding and support is essential to the Bureau of Correction's success and to the community's security.

However guilty the majority of prisioners are, 90 per cent of them will someday return to society. When this time comes, the Bureau, through its systematic programs of education and vocational training, hopes to return to civilian life a citizen capable of taking his rightful place in society.

From crime to correction.

#### Stewart Werner, Commissioner, Bureau of Correction

The following institutions and community treatment centers are operated by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Correction:

State Correctional Institution at Camp Hill P.O. Box 200 — Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

State Correctional Institution at Dallas Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612

State Correctional Institution at Graterford P.O. Box 244 — Graterford, Pennsylvania 19426

State Correctional Institution at Huntingdon Huntingdon, Pennsylvania 16652

State Correctional Institution at Muney P.O. Box 180 - Muncy, Pennsylvania 17756

State Correctional Institution at Pittsburgh P.O. Box 9901

State Correctional Institution at Rockview R.F.D. #3 — Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

State Regional Correctional Facility at Greensburg R.D. #2, Box 10 — Greensburg, Pennsylvania 16501

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS

Southeast Region I 1601 N. 52nd Street Philadelphia, PA 19131

Central Region IV 328 Washington Street Johnstown, PA 15901

Northeast Region II 240 Adams Avenue Scranton, PA 18503

Southwest Region V Suite 412-13-14 Martin Building 119 Federal Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Southcentral Region 111 317 West Market Street York, PA 17404

> Northwest Region VI 164 West 5th Street Erie, PA 16507

#### Southeast Region I

Center #1 1601 N. 52nd Street Philadelphia, PA 19131

Center #3 (Women) 219 East High Street Germantown, PA

Center #2 5222-24 Chester Avenue Philadelphia, PA

Center #4 1628 N. 15th Street Philadelphia, PA

#### Northeast Region II

Center #1 240 Adams Avenue Scranton, PA 18503

Center #2 447 Walnut Street Allentown, PA 18101

#### Southcentral Region III

Center #1 9 South 10th Street Harrisburg, PA 17101 York, PA 17404

Center #2 317 West Market Street

#### Central Region IV

Hendler Hotel 328 Washington Street Johnstown, PA 15901

#### Southwest Region V

Center #1 915 Ridge Avenue Center #2

501 N. Negley Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15212 Pittsburgh, PA 15206

#### Northwest Region VI

Center #1 164 West 5th Street Erie, PA 16507

Center #2 599 East State Street Sharon, PA 16146



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