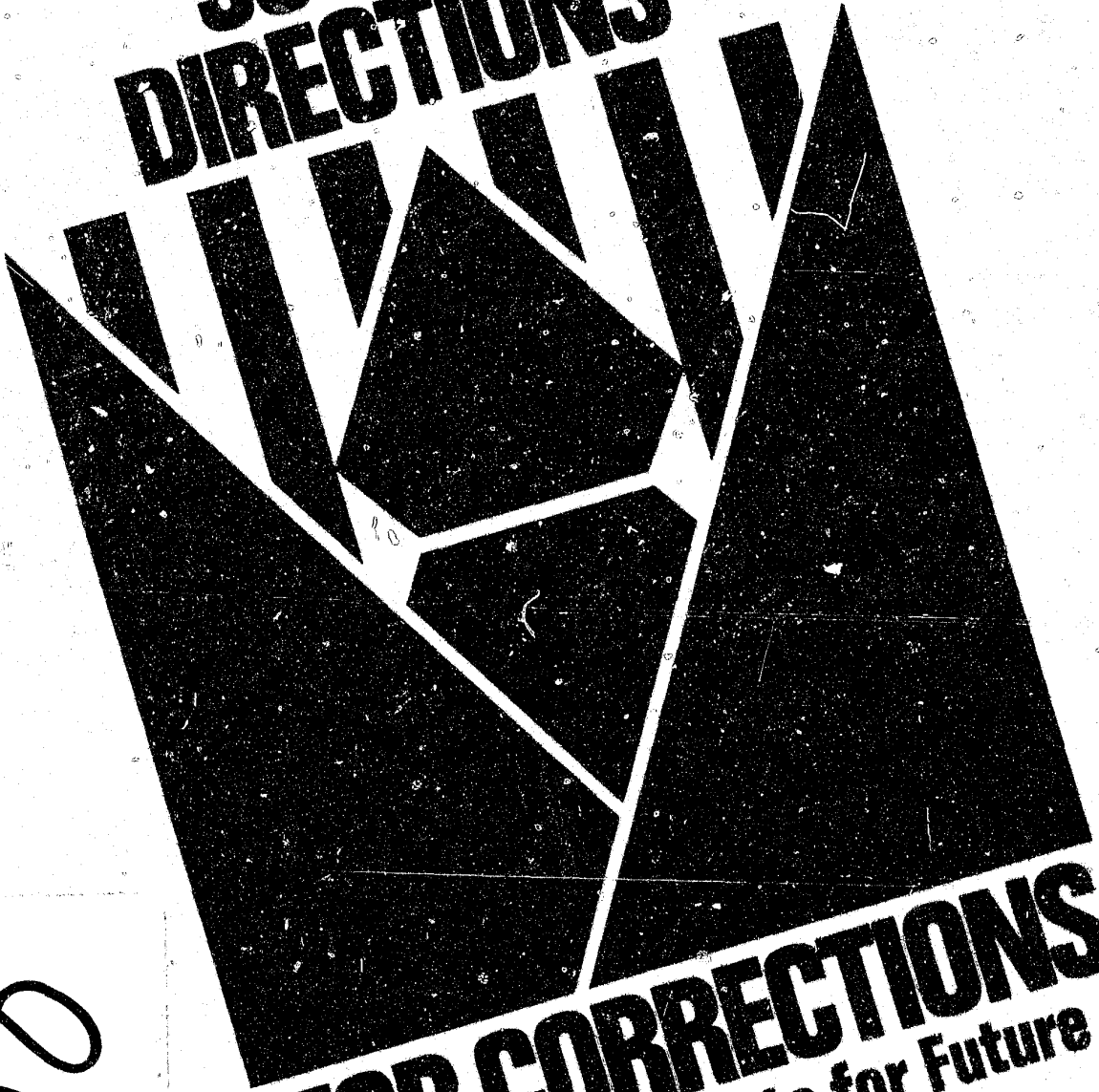
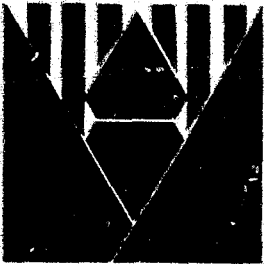


**50 NEW  
DIRECTIONS**



**FOR CORRECTIONS**  
**Creative Concepts for Future  
Criminal Justice Planning**

56110



# NEW DIRECTIONS FOR CORRECTIONS

## CREATIVE CONCEPTS FOR FUTURE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING

LEAA Grant (DS-77-E01-4307) Administered by the Institute of Urban Studies Research and Service Programs Division,  
P.O. Box 19069, The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas 76019 817-273-3071

NCJRS

MAR 26 1979

## ACQUISITIONS

When seven national organizations which cared about the problems of crime and its effects on our society (reform of the criminal justice system) decided to organize five regional conferences in 1977, we didn't want the resulting reports and studies to gather dust on office shelves.

We wanted to bring about changes in the criminal justice system. And because we knew that the most exciting conferences and workshops are those which motivate people to go back home and work for change on a local level, we wanted our reports to convey that same sense of excitement and motivation.

So we are presenting *50 New Directions for Corrections* — some of the most intriguing and thought-provoking ideas to emerge from the five regional conferences.

*We do not advocate each of these New Directions. We respect the differences of opinion among our coalition members. But together, we feel that these are the most interesting and promising of many proposed directions for our correctional system.*

These 50 New Directions involve: 1) identifying the myths about the system; 2) spreading the word about new programs and techniques and 3) working together to develop new attitudes.

As representatives of the coalition, we have been involved in the development of the program for the conferences and for this report. We have also sought to involve ex-offenders, wardens, academicians, jurists, designers, writers, evaluators, members of our own organizations and ordinary citizens.

We hope that whether or not you agree with the New Directions that they will at least help you focus your energies and efforts to make our criminal justice system more responsible to the needs of people. And we hope you take to heart some of our specific suggestions for action in your community. You, your friends and your organizations are the ones who can make it work.

- American GI Forum
- American Jewish Committee
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Council of Catholic Laity/United States Catholic Conference
- National Alliance of Businessmen
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

**NEW DIRECTIONS  
FOR CORRECTIONS**

# Table of Contents

## **The Problems** AN OVERVIEW

## **Some Solutions** 50 NEW DIRECTIONS FOR CORRECTIONS

1. **Blood-Thirsty Public?**
2. **Crimes Against Children**
3. **Murderers**
4. **White Collar Crime**
5. **Alcohol**
6. **Child Abusers**
7. **Rape**
8. **Crimes Against the Elderly**
9. **Organized Crime**
10. **Stolen Goods**
11. **Drugs**
12. **Revolving Doors**
13. **Victim Assistance—  
for Women**
14. **Crimes Against Women**
15. **Learning Disabilities**
16. **You Are What You Eat**
17. **The Victim**
18. **Juvenile Institutions**
19. **Grand Jury**
20. **Plea Bargaining**
21. **Bail or Jail?**
22. **Bail Bonds**
23. **Incarceration**
24. **Jails**
25. **Mothers in Jail**
26. **Sentencing**
27. **Punishment**
28. **Special Education**
29. **Prison Personnel**
30. **Juveniles in Jail**
31. **Cost Effectiveness**
32. **Reducing Your Jail  
Population**
33. **Alternatives**
34. **You Don't Have to Please  
All the People All the Time**
35. **Wilderness Programs**
36. **Work Release**
37. **Rehabilitation**
38. **Volunteers**
39. **Evaluation:  
Drop the Double Standard**
40. **Back Home**
41. **Recidivism**
42. **Restitution**
43. **Ex-Offenders on the Job**
44. **Self-Employment**
45. **Spare the Rod**
46. **More Laws Make More Crime**
47. **Ex-Offender Liberation**
48. **Eyes on the Street**
49. **Our Scapegoat**
50. **You Bought It**

# The Problems

# The Problems

The conferences covered five large areas of concern.

## Punishment

AUSTIN  
JANUARY 17-20, 1977

PROGRAM  
"Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society"

LOCATION  
Center for Social Work Research,  
School of Social Work  
University of Texas, Austin

### FOCUS

In this initial conference we

- looked at punishment — its effects and effectiveness
- received an introduction to the criminal justice system — its positive and negative processes
- focused on our everyday correcting behavior (as opposed to so-called "criminal behavior.")
- explored the philosophical and ethical aspect of punishment in a civilized society
- examined the historical foundation of punishment and how it has been translated into legal procedure
- attempted to learn from facts and dispel myths about the system
- looked at society's "reason" for "requiring" its pound of flesh for infraction of the law

### QUESTIONS AND ISSUES

How do we punish our selves?  
How does life itself punish?  
Does punishment work?  
Does punishment help?  
Is self-correction an on-going process?  
How much should we try to correct others through punishment?  
How? When?  
Do cultural groups have viable punishment systems? Physical? Ostracism? Immediate?  
Is punishment a guise for confusion? Ignorance? Political Positioning?  
Is punishment enforced equitably? Justly?  
Should short-term punishment be used as "shock" treatment for first offenders?

## Restitution And Victims of Crime

BATON ROUGE  
FEBRUARY 23-25, 1977

PROGRAM  
"Restitution and Victims of Crime"

LOCATION  
Governmental Services Institute/  
Law Enforcement Institute  
Louisiana State University

### FOCUS

In this second conference we

- focused on restitution and victims of crime
- identified the real victims of crime vis-a-vis who we commonly think they are
- asked two major questions:  
"Is restitution a viable alternative to incarceration?"  
"Should restitution be a necessary component of the 'correcting' process?"
- asked how each suffers — the offender and his/her family members or the victim against whom the crime was perpetrated?
- explored services which best or can be made available to all types of victims — counseling, monetary aid, support systems
- examined community resources available to victims

### QUESTIONS AND ISSUES

What are the social differences between the offenders and the offended?  
Is making amends an integral part of forgiveness?  
Should the offender be forgiven? Is this best accomplished by direct contact with the offended?  
How should restitution be arbitrated?  
Should arbitrators/mediators be persons outside the formal corrections system? Other than appointed juries? Persons from the cultural groups of offender and offended?

## Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks

ARLINGTON  
MARCH 14-17, 1977

PROGRAM  
"Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks"

LOCATION  
Institute of Urban Studies  
University of Texas, Arlington

### FOCUS

In this third conference we

- received an overview of incarceration in America — from jails to penitentiaries
- compared U.S. systems with those of other countries
- explored existing alternatives such as community corrections and probation
- concentrated on surfacing and examining the "positive" aspects of incarceration and explored and delineated negative consequences
- examined existing models of citizen involvement

### QUESTIONS AND ISSUES

Does isolation "correct" attitudes and future behavior?  
Why do we have an offender "serve time"? Is it the best way to punish? Is it the best way to correct?  
Is temporary "exile from one's cultural group" effective in settling scores?  
Does temporary exile/isolation offer any real or effective protection for society?  
Does it offer a permanent solution?  
Is maximum use made of the offender's isolation?

\*Concurrent with Second Annual Southwestern Conference in Public Justice

# The Problems

## Juvenile Justice System

HOUSTON  
APRIL 25-26, 1977

PROGRAM  
"Juvenile Justice System: New Directions and Policy"

LOCATION  
Institute of Urban Studies  
University of Houston

- FOCUS  
In this fourth conference we
- examined coping with youthful offenders and juvenile crime in the 1980's
  - explored current practices of the juvenile justice system
  - looked at the role of federal government in juvenile justice
  - considered social policy, indeterminate sentencing, discussed the consequences of diversion, the role of social institutions, violent crime in high schools.
  - studied the dangerous offender, non-coercive treatment models, juvenile law reform.
  - considered the mission of higher education in relation to juvenile justice

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES  
Are there inconsistencies in attitudes toward youth? In family? School? Church? Criminal justice system?  
Is there a basic order/behavior code for youth?  
Are the expectations of youth met? In education? Employment? In living life fully?  
Are there good adult models for youth in developing appropriate, acceptable behavior?  
Is adult tolerance of youth behavior too low? Too high? Inconsistent?

## Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?

ALBUQUERQUE  
MAY 2-5, 1977

PROGRAM  
"Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?"

LOCATION  
Division of Public Administration  
University of New Mexico

- FOCUS  
In this final conference we
- looked at rehabilitation in the correctional setting
  - examined the appropriateness of rehabilitation and whether or not it actually occurs in prisons
  - explored cultural as opposed to penal rehabilitation with substantial input from Spanish speaking, Native and Black Americans on how their rehabilitative systems function
  - inspected models of citizen involvement
  - considered offender self - help groups where self-restoration appears to thrive

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES  
Does "rehabilitation" prepare the offender for return to society?  
Are differences between urban and rural life considered by rehabilitators?  
Can we expect to rehabilitate a drug pusher with a high income to live on minimum wages as a broom-maker or cotton picker? Or should we consider his selling skills and direct him into sales?  
Does the community share the responsibility for rehabilitation?  
Is rehabilitation a continuing life process for all of us?

**50**

**NEW DIRECTIONS  
FOR CORRECTIONS**



# Blood-Thirsty Public?

**The public doesn't want blood — It just wants protection.**

It's a human feeling to want revenge. But most people just want to be left alone. All the public is really demanding is minimum protection — and some control over the system. Who can say that's unreasonable?

It's the lack of minimum protection for the elderly, for children and for the poor who are most often the victims of crime, that generates public fear. Unfortunately, the public has a right to its fear.

Only a small percentage of offenders are ever caught for committing crimes; only a small percentage of those caught ever get to trial; and an even smaller percentage of those ever go to jail. So most of the offenders are *on the outside*, mixing it up with a frightened public.

It's hard to find a political solution to the problem of crime that doesn't utilize the public's fear. But what really happens is that a politician's "get tough on crime" statements during the campaign produce only a mound of paperwork studies on crime after the election. The system stays the same. And the public keeps on worrying.

Enough studies. Enough speeches. The public doesn't want blood. It wants action.

**blood-thirsty. 1. eager to shed blood; cruel.**

## For more information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*; Austin, Texas; January, 1977.  
*Restitution and Victims of Crime*; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; February, 1977.

Joint Conference: Southwestern Conference in Public Justice; *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*; Arlington, Texas; March, 1977.

*Juvenile Justice System: New Directions and Policies*; Houston, Texas; April, 1977.

*Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?*; Albuquerque, New Mexico; May, 1977.

2. *Source Book: Citizen Action in Criminal Justice*, Douglas Denton and Joanne Spitz, Editors, Institute of Urban Studies, University of Texas at Arlington, 76019. A collection of program models dealing with successful citizen activities related to issues of crime and criminal justice. 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Find out how much your state criminal justice system spends on crime "studies."
2. Find out if any of the study recommendations are ever implemented.
3. Demand accountability from public officials who commission studies and then ignore them.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old. Is the public getting the protection it wants?*

## Notes

# Crimes Against Children

**The second greatest crime against children is extortion -- by other children. The first is theft of bicycles.**

More children from 12 to 15 years old were robbed (without injury and usually by other children) than any other age group. And the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration reports that kids 12-15 are more likely to be victims of personal larceny than their parents.

The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that 2.3 million children have wielded a knife or gun against a brother or sister.

Kids who don't get it from other kids may get it from their parents. The NIMH also reports that parents kick, punch or bite at least 1.7 million children a year, beat up 750,000 more and go after 46,000 with knives or guns. One out of ten persons murdered in the United States is a juvenile 19 or younger.

Who's minding these children? In all too many cases, no one is. Senator Birch Bayh has proposed a Bill of Rights for children. And many concerned people want to see social service agencies develop children's advocates to look out for the interest of kids when no one else does.

It's getting harder and harder for a community to proclaim its love for the little children, when the statistics show otherwise.

In a recent study conducted by the FBI in DeKalb County, Georgia, the second greatest crime against children was found to be extortion. The first was theft -- of bicycles.

In the Georgia FBI study, law enforcement agencies, citizens and schools joined together, and greatly reduced crimes against children.

ex-tor-tion. 1. ob-tain-ing by force or im-proper pres-sure.

lar'ce-ny. 1. theft; the act of stealing.

## For More Information:

1. Write the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency for a copy of its proposed "Bill of Rights for Children."

2. Write the National Institute of Mental Health, Parklawn Bldg., 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

3. Read "Crime Resistance" (Four Cities Report). Available from local FBI Crime Resistance Agents or: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20053, Attention: Crime Resistance Agency.

4. Write the National Council of Jewish Women, 15 East 26th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010 for information about its coalition on juvenile delinquency and crime against children.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Institute a bicycle marking identification project for children in your town.

2. Become a children's advocate with local social service agencies.

3. Set up a block parents "watch" for kids who walk to school.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Do the social service agencies in your community have "children's advocates"?*

## Notes

# Murderers

**Murderers are often your best friend ... or closest relative. The victim often strikes the first blow.**

Only 12 per cent of all murders are committed by strangers. In about two-thirds of all cases, there was pre-existing close victim-offender relationship, whether personal or intimate.

Your chances of being murdered on the street by a total stranger are only half as great as that of being murdered at home by a relative or friend. The closer the relationship, the greater the hazard. Murder with the family constitutes one fourth of all murder offenses. And one half of these involved a spouse killing a spouse. The wife was a victim 54% of the instances, and the husband, 48%.

You are even less likely to be murdered now than if you were alive in 1933. The President's Commission on Crime concluded that the willful homicide rate has decreased to about 70% of its high in 1933.

The victims of murder actually have more in common than their killers. The victim is more likely than the murderer to have a previous record of assault. The victim most often strikes the first blow. The one thing most murderers have in common is the fact that they are less likely to repeat their crime than any other criminal offender.

But the many murders of husbands, wives, parents, lovers or friends probably wouldn't take place at all if there had not been a weapon handy. Sixty-five per cent of all murder crimes resulted from the use of a firearm. Nineteen per cent from the use of cutting and stabbing weapons, and 16% from hands, fists, feet, hammers, clubs, poison, fire, explosives, cars or knitting needles.

mur-der. 1. the unlawful killing of another human being with malice aforethought.

### For More Information:

1. Read *Patterns in Criminal Homicide* by Marvin Wolfgang.

2. Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*, James Kane, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

3. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, Harry Fleischman, Austin, Texas, January 1977.

4. Read Harry Fleischman's "The Challenge of Crime," *The Crisis*, magazine of the N.A.A.C.P., August/September, 1977.

### What You Can Do Now:

Try to find out how many murders in your city were the direct result of the availability of a weapon in the home.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Who are you afraid of?*

### Notes

# White Collar Crime

**If we quit calling it white collar crime, maybe we would be able to concentrate more on the crime and less on the social or economic status of the criminal.**

White collar criminals are thieves — not just legitimate businessmen who have crossed into a gray area of "sharp" business practice. Their tools are not guns or knives, but paper, pens, printing presses, computers, advertising, glib talk and exploitation.

Their victims are individuals and businesses who are swindled; honest business persons who are unable to compete with them; the poor whose aid programs are ripped off and discredited; and the public who have to pay for higher prices to cover all the losses.

And what losses! The U.S. Chamber of Commerce estimates the cost of white collar crime to be more than \$41 billion a year.

Who is responsible for investigating and prosecuting white collar criminals? Look at this partial list:

The FBI, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. Justice Department, Internal Revenue Service, Federal Trade Commission, Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Administration, HUD, Departments of Defense, Agriculture and Commerce, 50 states attorneys general, hundreds of state and local regulatory agencies, and many more.

What the person on the street sees from all of this is "no enforcement." Or a criminal justice system that singles out poor street offenders as objects of enforcement while ignoring and treating leniently the upper-class, white-collar criminals. The poor see the treatment of white collar crime as just another aspect of The Golden Rule: Them that's got the gold makes the rules.

Do you have another name for white collar crime?

white collar crime.  
1. any illegal act committed by non-physical means to obtain money or property, or to obtain business advantage.

## For More Information:

1. Read *The Investigation of White-Collar Crime*, a manual for Law Enforcement Agencies, published by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, 1974, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530.

2. Read the "Handbook on White Collar Crime," published by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1615 H. Street NW, Washington, D.C. — \$2.50 each.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Is there evidence of white collar crime where you work?

2. Urge your district attorney to establish a white collar crime task force.

3. Get your local newspaper to run a series of articles on the cost to taxpayers of white collar crime.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How much are you paying to support white collar criminals in the style to which they've become accustomed?*

## Notes

**Alcohol**

**One of every three arrests in the United States is for drunkenness. The arrests neither deter the crime, nor solve the problem. All they do is remove the drunk from public view.**

Being drunk should not be a criminal offense.

Arrests for simply being drunk fill up our jails, overload our courts and occupy a disproportionate amount of time for law enforcement officers.

In one city, 95% of the short term prisoners in the county jail were drunkenness offenders. Most are chronic offenders. Our present system neither helps them, nor prevents the reoccurrence of their behavior.

If medical detoxification programs, similar to those in St. Louis and New York were instituted, or if community-owned overnight houses were used instead of jail tanks to bed down street drunks, there would be a major impact on the criminal justice system by better utilization of available resources. And if follow-up alcoholic treatment programs were offered, potential criminal offenses by drunks might be averted. One ex-offender estimates that 80% of all crimes are committed after heavy drinking.

Committing a crime while under the influence of alcohol is an entirely different matter. The National Traffic Safety Bureau attributes 25,000 highway deaths a year to the drinking of either the driver of the car involved in a fatal accident or a pedestrian struck by a car. Any person who damages or steals property, or assaults another person while drunk, should be arrested for those crimes, not for drunkenness.

Twenty-five states have already decriminalized drunkenness. Is your state one of them?

al-co-hol-ism. 1. a diseased condition due to the excessive use of alcoholic beverages.

**For More Information:**

1. "An Update on Victimless Crime," published by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 1977.

2. *Alcohol Problems: A Report to the Nation* — Thomas F. A. Plant, prepared for the Cooperative Commission on the Study of Alcoholism, N.Y., Oxford University Press, 1976.

3. *Treatment for the Alcohol Abuser — A Community Concern* by Richard W. Finley — Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Coordinator for the Texoma Regional Planning Commission in Texas, 1977.

4. A Report on Non-Victim Crime in San Francisco  
Part I — Basic Principles  
Public Drunkenness

Published by the San Francisco Committee on Crime, 1971. LEAA—Grant No. 374.

5. Write the National Council on Alcoholism, 733 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Is there a detoxification center in your city? If not, why not? Ask the elected officials.

2. Get the statistics on numbers of arrests for drunkenness in your town.

3. Look into AA — Ala-non and Teens-a-non which provide excellent service in most major cities.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many drunks spent the night in your county jail last night?*

**Notes**

**Child Abusers**

**90% of all child abusers were themselves abused as children. Why not develop follow-through programs for victims of child abuse to prevent the recycling of this crime?**

The number one cause of death for children under five is physical abuse from parents. These are the children we can no longer help.

The others — the children who manage to live in spite of broken bones, burns, and bashed-in skulls — are treated for their physical wounds and forgotten.

Yet children learn how to be parents by experiencing the behavior of their own parents. Their own adult behavior patterns may be well established even before they start to school. When parents respond to pressure and tension by screaming, throwing objects or children across a room, or beating the "daylights" out of a kid, the child learns to respond to his own stressful situations in much the same manner. A child who witnesses or experiences this kind of behavior by his own parents may one day abuse his own children. Nine out of ten parents who abuse their children learned the behavior as victims of their own parents. Counseling is necessary to help these parents. Counseling is necessary to help these children understand what has happened to them and why, and to help them understand that what they have experienced is unacceptable behavior for parents.

Isn't it time to break the cycle of child abuse? Protect these children now from child abusing parents, and work with them after the abuse to prevent them from becoming abusers themselves later.

a-buse. 2. to treat in a harmful, injurious or offensive way.

**For More Information:**

1. Write the National Council of Jewish Women, 15 East 26th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.
2. Order the film slide set — 24 colored slides which graphically portray the problem of the abused child accompanied by a narrative which sketches the causes, demographics and responses relevant to the crime of child abuse. Prepared by physician-attorney Judianne Densen-Gerber. C.O.C. 24 West 12th St., New York, N.Y. 10011.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Support the child abusers self-help program in your community. If there isn't one, get one started.
2. Is there a child abuse hot-line in your state? These exist in Florida, Connecticut and New York. Contact information for toll-free numbers listed under public service.
3. Report child abusers.
4. Ask your local pediatricians if they treat many cases of child abuse.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Is your community a recycling center for child abusers?*

**Notes**

# Rape

**Rape is a crime of power and aggression, not sex.**

There are four major myths about rape:

1. All women want to be raped.
2. A woman cannot be raped against her will.
3. Any woman who is raped was asking for it.
4. If a woman is going to be raped, rather than struggle, she should lie back and "enjoy it."

All of these myths are reflected in the criminal justice system, both in its treatment of rape victims and in the prosecution of rape cases.

Yet rape is a crime of hostility, violence and power, not sexual desire or passion. It makes no difference what a woman wears, or how she walks or talks. Victims have been as old as 85 and as young as seven months.

The rapist is potentially the most dangerous of all criminals because of the likelihood that he will kill his victims. He is seeking power and dominance in his powerless and frustrated life. Or he is seeking revenge against society and all women.

Rape is probably the most under-reported crime due to the fear and embarrassment of the victim.

Rape even damages women who are never its victims. The fear of rape teaches all women from girlhood that they have a special victim-status in society.

To change the rate of unreported crime, victim assistance programs have been established in some cities. Identifying and exposing the myths to law enforcement officials and citizens is the first step toward changing attitudes and reducing the incidence of rape through increased reporting and successful prosecution.

rape. the act of physically forcing a woman to have sexual intercourse against her will.

## For More information:

1. Read *Against Our Will* by Susan Brownmiller.
2. Write Stop Rape Crisis Center, 414 Louisiana Ave., Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Ossie Brown, District Attorney.
3. Read *Rape and Its Victims* — LEAA Discretionary Grant to Center for Women Policy Studies. Available from LEAA Washington, D.C.
4. Order *A Community Response to Rape*, Rape/Sexual Assault Care Center, Des Moines, Iowa. Materials available from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, 633 Indiana Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Find out how your hometown prosecutors and judges view the crime of rape.
2. Provide them with information to counter the four major myths about rape.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How are rape victims in your community treated by the police, the medical community and the courts?*

## Notes

# Crimes Against the Elderly

**Elderly women felled muggers in Delaware when the Singer Pattern Company, directed by the FBI, showed them how to sew purse pockets inside their dresses.**

The elderly — 10% of our population — don't always have to be victims. If they are careful, and if they learn how to appear less vulnerable, they can carry out their lives without the continuous fear of theft or violence.

When the FBI decided that money in research and public relations could be a sounder investment than money invested in more guns, it conducted four pilot studies. "Crimes Against the Elderly" was the target for a cooperative FBI-community-business effort in Wilmington, Delaware.

Senior citizens learned how to stop becoming victims. They learned that your posture, the way you walk and the hours you keep have a great effect on whether an elderly person will be a likely target for crime. They learned how to identify and report suspicious persons to reduce the likelihood of crime. They learned how to make apartments and houses more secure and how to tag and identify valuables.

And they learned about available community services to make the elderly less vulnerable to crime — meals brought to the house, housing away from high crime areas and direct draft bank deposits for social security and other pension checks.

When communities help their elderly citizens take the offensive against crime, senior citizens can stop being passive targets for muggers.

mug-ging. to assault especially by garrotings or strangulations especially for the purpose of robbery.

## For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Restitution and Victims of Crime*. Baton Rouge, Louisiana, March, 1977.

2. Read "Crime Resistance" (Four Cities Report) available from local FBI Crime Resistance Agents or Federal Bureau of Investigation, Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20053, attention: Crime Resistance Agency.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Identify areas of your city where crimes against the elderly are a serious problem.
2. Set up workshops for the elderly in high crime areas to teach them to be less vulnerable to attack.
3. Provide a volunteer escort service to the elderly who must be away from home after dark.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Is there a crime prevention program among the elderly in your town?*

## Notes



# Organized Crime

**"The triumph of anything is a matter of organization. If there's such a thing as angels, I hope they're organized along the lines of the Mafia."**

**—Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.**

Americans love the mystique of organized crime. Order, control, mastery, efficiency, a strong sense of purpose. Television shows, novels and movies are full of glamorous or powerful criminal figures with fascinating codes of behavior and rituals of initiation.

But it's improbable that organized crime is run by a single nationwide crime syndicate, controlled by a commission or criminal "family." And if it is, it's not quite what it's like in the movies.

It is true, however, that criminal organizations sell illegal commodities and services. That's because there is such a high demand from ordinary citizens for the fruits of these illegal operations.

Gambling, narcotics, and illicit sexual intercourse form the basis for most "organized" criminal activities in this country. It's the demand for these illegal services and goods that sets up the conditions for organized control of them. And it's a \$48 billion a year business that doesn't pay taxes and makes an income that has allowed criminal organizations to take over as many as 10,000 bona fide firms, with legitimate annual income of about \$12 billion.

Since there's no demand for burglary or petty thievery or convenience store robberies, there's no organized control of that market. It's every man for himself, and an increasing number of women, too.

As long as ordinary citizens desire gambling, drugs and prostitutes, and as long as our laws declare them illegal, someone will get organized to provide them. If drugs were legally controlled, that would be one less business for organized crime. If prostitutes were legally controlled, that would be another. Perhaps, if there were no such thing as vice, there'd be no need "to be organized along the lines of the Mafia." Where do you draw the line?

**or-gan-ize.** 1. to form into a whole consisting of interdependent or coordinated parts, especially for harmonious or united action.

### For More Information:

1. Contact Bruce Ruitt, O.F.M., about organized crime and it's impact on youth. Covenant House, 260 W. 44th St., New York, N.Y. 10036.

2. Write the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 411 Hackensack Ave., New Jersey, 07601, for a copy of its pamphlet on organized crime.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. See if your state attorney-general may have a special assistant for investigating organized crime.

2. Call the FBI for information.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*What is the estimated annual income for organized crime this year?*

### Notes

**Stolen Goods**

**A group of neighborhood associations in a high crime section of Birmingham, Alabama succeeded in significantly reducing the neighborhood's crime rate through an intensive program of marking personal property.**

A coalition of local Birmingham police officers, FBI agents and neighborhood association leaders concentrated all of their efforts to halt the trafficking in stolen goods in certain high crime neighborhoods. They used Birmingham's existing neighborhood councils and revived a long-dormant property-marking effort, this time with the neighborhoods and neighborhood leaders as the focus.

The Jaycees in Birmingham put up \$1,000 for etchers to help in the marking of personal property. Volunteers went door-to-door in high crime areas showing residents how to mark their property. The press, radio and television stations cooperated by telling people where they could bring their small appliances and valuables for free marking and identification. CB radio enthusiasts staged their own marking program on weekends in shopping centers. Pawn shops and second hand dealers began checking out markings on goods offered them. The results — a sharp decline in the trafficking of stolen goods. Often a CB radio, or a home appliance would be dropped on the ground near the car or residence, just as soon as the burglar noticed the marking.

With those little markings, stolen goods could no longer move with ease on the black market in Birmingham. And stolen goods lost their dollar value to thieves.

trafficking, trade or dealing in some specific commodity or service, often of an illegal nature.

**For More Information:**

1. Read "Crime Resistance" (Four Cities Report). Available from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20053.
2. "Handbook on White Collar Crime," *Receiving Stolen Property*, pg. 45, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1615 H Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. \$2.50 each.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Organize a community-wide property marking effort. Get public officials or the press to help.
2. Use existing neighborhood organizations in your town as a focus to inform people how to protect their lives and property from criminal activity.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does your town have a property marking program to help reduce the trafficking in stolen goods?*

**Notes**

**Drugs**

**"The one certain way totally to destroy the criminal organizations engaged in the narcotics trade and to abolish addict crime would be to remove the controls and make narcotics freely available to addicts."**

from the "Honest Politician's Guide to Crime Control" by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

There's no probable causal connection between drug use and crime, except for the crimes committed to raise money to support the high prices of purchasing drugs on the black market.

The crime comes, not with what an addict does with his drugs in the privacy of his living room, but in the distribution process — made progressively more dangerous by its illegality. So the price goes up. The value of the product escalates with the degree of risk.

Anti-narcotics laws drive prices up and discourage competition. So only the biggest and most powerful criminal organizations eventually survive and control the market. They also name their price.

The secondary effect of this is to cause addicts to resort to crime to pay the high prices. The National Institute of Drug Abuse estimates that 50% of all crime and 75% of shoplifting in the United States can be attributed to heroin addicts.

If addicts could get drugs legally with a prescription from a physician, they wouldn't have to steal in order to buy from the street dealer, who wouldn't be able to trade on the black market from organized criminal importers and distributors, who wouldn't have monopoly businesses to make them a profit.

This is the way it is handled in England, which has an identifiable population of drug addicts and no drug-related crime.

drug. A chemical substance administered to prevent or cure disease or otherwise to enhance physical or mental welfare; a habit-forming medical substance.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Have you, or anyone close to you ever used a chemical substance illegally during the past two years?*

**For More Information:**

1. Contact the National Institute of Drug Abuse.

2. Read *"The Honest Politician's Guide to Crime Control"* by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

3. Write the Palmer Drug Abuse Program, 3333 West Alabama, Houston, 713-521-0170.

4. Read *Heroin Addiction in Britain: What Americans Can Learn from the English Experience*, by Horace Freeland Judson.

5. Write the National Alliance for Safer Cities, 165 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y., 10022 for copies of its pamphlets, "Heroin Addiction" and "Should Gambling, Prostitution and Possession of Marijuana Be Decriminalized?"

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Find out what percentage of local arrests are for narcotics related violations. Are the arrests directed at drug users or drug pushers?

2. Find out from local law enforcement officials their estimate of the extent of organized criminal narcotics activity in your town.

3. How many active addicts are there in your city?

4. Try to determine the economic impact in terms of reduced crime if these addicts could satisfy their drug habit with legalized prescription drugs.

5. Take this information to your congressperson and urge federal action on reforms of narcotics laws as an aid to your local community.

**Notes**

**Revolving Doors**

**Practice makes perfect. And too many repeat offenders are getting too much practice at their illegal trades.**

In many communities, a handful of criminals are responsible for much of the criminal activity — particularly burglaries, robberies and fencing operations, but also victimless crimes of all types. Police in Austin, Texas rounded up eight or nine known, repeat offenders, and for more than four months in the spring of 1977, the city with a population of 300,000 did not have a single armed robbery.

If a city can deal effectively with its repeat offenders — through arrest and conviction, alternative treatment, or decriminalization, think of the economic impact. Costs could be saved by businesses, homeowners, insurance companies, and the law enforcement system as a whole — not to mention the saved costs of suffering and loss by individual potential victims and the tremendous expense to the taxpayers of subsidizing victimless crime.

**re-volve.** to proceed or occur in a round or cycle; come around again in the process of time; recur.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Find out how many "revolving door" offenders are responsible for multiple crimes in your area.
2. Take the information to your local newspaper editor and ask for cooperation in getting the facts to the public.
3. Use public pressure to force prosecutors to concentrate on bringing "revolving door" offenders to trial and securing convictions.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Are the same people responsible for most of the criminal activity in your city?*

**Notes**

# Victim Assistance — For Women

**The first victims treated by the Dallas Rape Crisis Center became its most valuable volunteers.**

Victim assistance programs aimed at women who have been raped, or beaten, provide much needed models for specialized victim assistance programs in this country.

Rape Crisis Centers were among the first organized victim assistance programs. And Battered Women's Shelters are becoming evident in growing numbers.

They both provide psychological counseling, understanding and support for victims. And they both make referrals to other public and private agencies for more serious problems related to the physical abuse women may have suffered. But Battered Women's Shelters also provide an immediate haven of safety for women who may be fleeing a violent husband, lover or father.

If your city has not yet established a Rape Crisis Center or a Battered Women's Shelter, look at a model program in Dallas.

With a 24-hour hotline and an office donated by a local radio station, the Dallas Rape Crisis Center provides crisis counseling using volunteers, many of whom have been rape victims themselves. The Center works with both the women victims and their families. Professional therapeutic counseling is also offered. During their first year of operation, the Dallas Center handled more than 1,000 calls for information or assistance.

At last, women, who have been victims of crimes directed at them solely because they are women, can get assistance and comfort from the community.

Wouldn't it be nice if all victims of criminal physical abuse could get the same kind of assistance?

as-sis-tance. 1. act of assisting; help; aid; support.

## For More Information:

1. Write to the Texas Criminal Justice Council for information on how you can start a Rape Crisis Center in your community. Set up a coalition of women's organizations, police and hospital officials, and get your local project underway.

2. NOVA — National Organization of Victim Assistance. John P. J. Dussich, University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Station, Box 5127, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401.

3. AID TO VICTIMS OF CRIME — VOLUNTEER TRAINING MANUAL Dallas Police Department, Community Service Division, 2725 Hatcher St., Dallas, Texas 75215, 214-421-7483.

4. *A Community Response to Rape, Rape/Sexual Assault Care Center*, Des Moines, Iowa. Materials available from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, 633 Indiana Ave., N.E. Washington, D.C.

5. Write to Women's Haven, Inc., The Sinclair Bldg., 106 West 5th Street No. 317, Fort Worth, Texas, 76117.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Check with the police to find out the extent of "battered women" complaints in your community.

2. Organize a coalition of women's organizations, police officials, social service agencies and domestic relations court officials to provide assistance to victims.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old. Is every victim in your town offered post-crime counseling and follow-up?*

## Notes

**Crimes Against Women**

**Women have more to fear from someone they know who may be waiting for them at home than from any stranger they are likely to meet on the street.**

A British study showed that 70% of women who were murdered were killed by a husband, lover or relative. And a U.S. study found that 68% of women who were murdered were at home at the time.

Yet females represented only 23% of all murders in the U.S. And FBI reports on studies in Dayton and San Jose show that a woman's overall chances of being victimized by any crime are substantially less than for men. Officials believe one reason is that women may be more concerned about crime and probably modify some of their activities because of it.

But there are crimes that hit women harder than men: robbery, burglary, swindling, and of course, rape. Black women have eight times as many chances of being the victim of a personal crime as white women.

The Washington, D.C. Crime Commission reported that two-thirds of the rape victims there were attacked by a person they knew at least casually.

So if you are a women, this information will put your mind at ease . . . or will it?

**fear. 1. a distressing emotion aroused by impending pain, danger, evil, whether real or imagined.**

**For More Information:**

1. Read Crime Resistance (Four Cities Report) available from local FBI Crime Resistance Agents, or: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20053, attention: Crime Resistance Agency.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Present the facts on crimes against women to your local newspaper editor.
2. Set up a local crime prevention program to teach women how to protect themselves.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does your town have a crime prevention program which teaches women how to protect themselves?*

**Notes**

# Learning Disabilities

**A recent study of all juvenile delinquents institutionalized in Colorado revealed a 90.4% incidence of significant learning disabilities (dyslexic, developmental aphasia and minimal brain damage). Link or coincidence?**

Dr. Chester D. Poremba, nationally known researcher on learning disabilities and chief psychologist at Denver's Children's Hospital says, "The percentage of youths involved in crimes who have learning disabilities probably isn't rising. In my opinion, the linkage has been there all the time . . . we just weren't smart enough to know about it."

A recent study in one Texas county jail showed over 70% with significant learning disabilities. Poremba's Colorado study, and others in Oklahoma and Minnesota, are pointing to a significant relationship between the incidence of learning disabilities and juvenile delinquency.

While the learning disabilities are not the sole cause of crime, children who are not helped with their learning disabilities often express their frustrations in delinquent behavior.

One study showed that the nature of offenses committed by the learning disabled are usually impulsive and non-sensical, generated by fury and frustration built up by years of failure, exploitation and ridicule. Many of the crimes are against persons.

If all efforts to identify and help learning disabled kids were successful, juvenile delinquency would probably still not be eliminated. But if the number of known potential delinquents with learning disabilities were reduced because of successful treatment of their learning problems, it is likely that the overall incidence of juvenile delinquency would decline.

People with learning disabilities qualify as handicapped persons under federal law. And while there are few laws designed to help or protect or guarantee equal employment opportunity for the juvenile delinquent or ex-offender, there are many such federal and state laws to protect these same people as handicapped persons.

learn-ing dis-a-bil-i-ty. 1. refers to those of any age who demonstrate a substantial deficiency in a particular aspect of academic achievement because of perceptual-motor handicaps, regardless of etiology or other contributing factors.

### For More Information:

1. Read *Learning Disabilities: The Link to Delinquency Should Be Determined, But Schools Should Do More Now*. Report to the Congress by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Find out if juvenile offenders are tested for learning disabilities handicaps.

2. Try to get your local school district and the Juvenile Court officials to establish a learning disabilities testing and training program for handicapped juvenile offenders.

3. A 30-second television spot and a 30-second radio spot have been developed for the Texas Education Agency by La Mancha Group, Inc. These public service announcements can be adapted for local use and tell the public about the relationship between juvenile crime and learning disabilities. Write for CRIME DOESN'T PAY — EDUCATION DOES at La Mancha Group, Inc., 5025 N. Central Expressway, Suite 3020, Dallas, Texas 75205.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many juvenile delinquents in your town are tested and treated for learning disabilities?*

### Notes

# You Are What You Eat

**Junk foods may cause more damage to the individual than cavities and acne.**

Some food additives — notably sugar and refined flour — may contribute to personal stress, which in turn results in anti-social behavior for some people. Problems ranging from alcohol abuse to shop-lifting may be directly related to nutrition for some people.

The relationship between diet and stress, and the resulting criminal behavior for some people was recognized in 1972 by an Ohio Chief Probation Officer, Barbara J. Reed of Cuyahoga Falls. She suspected that low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) might be responsible for abetting the stress that many people reacted to with criminal behavior.

Officer Reed instituted the use of a low-blood sugar symptom check list and a 24-question quiz for all persons processed through her office to determine if symptoms of hypoglycemia are present. And they are — for a significant number of law-breakers.

After completion of the questionnaire, the symptoms indicated are carefully reviewed with the individual. And probationers are urged to improve their diets and exercise habits. Special sugar-free diets are provided. Most individuals report they begin to feel better within two or three days after changing their eating habits. And as they feel better, the counselling offered by the probation department appears to be more effective. Once nutrition problems are recognized and solved for many probationers, their judgment improves and their capacity for self-discipline is greater.

nu-tri-tion, the act or process of nourishing or being nourished; the sum of the processes by which an animal or plant takes in and utilizes food substances.

## For More Information:

1. Read *Nutrition Almanac*, Nutrition Research, Inc., 1975, McGraw-Hill Paperbacks, \$5.95.
2. Read *Alcoholism — The Nutritional Approach*, by Roger J. Williams (University of Texas Press, Austin, 1959, \$3.95).
3. Read *Natural Health, Sugar and the Criminal Mind*, by J. I. Rodale (Pyramid Books, 444 Madison Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10022, 1968, 95 cents).
4. Read *The Stress of Life*, Hans Selye, M.D. (McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 West 42 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10036, 1956, \$2.75).
5. Read *Why Your Child Is Hyperactive*, Benjamin Feingold, M.D., (Random House, 1975).
6. Read *Mental Health Through Nutrition*, T. R. Blaine (The Citadel Press, 1969, \$5.95).
7. Read "Back to Basics," Barbara J. Reed, Chief Probation Officer, Municipal Court of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. (\$5.00 donation).

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Push for nutrition instruction in the schools. Most of us know more about running our cars than running our bodies.
2. Check the menus of your local jail to see if they contain high concentrations of starches and sugar.
3. Provide your local jail regulatory body with information of the relationship between nutrition and behavior.
4. Set up a Nutrition Information Program for inmates and staff in your local jail.
5. Research the national nutrition surveys performed by the U.S. Department of Public Health. Compare crime rates for different nutrition groups.

*If you are reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does the diet of prisoners, who frequent your local jail keep them in the revolving door of violence, drug and alcohol abuse and self-neglect?*

## Notes



# The Victim

**In one of four criminal homicides, the victim was a contributor to his own death, either by striking the first blow or by showing or using a deadly weapon.**

Mike Maloney is the perfect mugging victim. He's slightly-built, defenseless, walks with a cane and has experience — he's been attacked 83 times.

Fifty-six years old, he has been hospitalized more than 20 times. He's been stabbed, shot at twice and hit over the head with a pipe. His ear was partly cut off, his nose broken, his ribs kicked in, his teeth knocked out and his skull fractured.

Police say it's because he's accessible. Or in the wrong place at the wrong time. Maloney is on the street at late hours, he drinks a bit, and he has a cocky attitude.

Unfortunately, many victims share Mike's fate, and are victimized over and over again. Phrases like "victim proneness," "victim precipitation," and "victim instigation" are showing up in the literature of crime.

Marvin Wolfgang's *Patterns in Criminal Homicide* examines statistics which show that the victim is often a contributor to the crime against him through his carelessness, negligence or even deliberate provocation.

Who are some of these victims?

A District of Columbia Crime Commission showed that 81 per cent of aggravated assault victims knew their assailants. Other nationwide studies show that young Black males between 17 and 26 are most likely to be victims of personal assault. Elderly White females are particularly vulnerable to muggings and purse snatchings. Blacks are assaulted by Blacks, and Whites are assaulted by Whites.

In the end, everyone becomes a victim of crime, because everyone pays the cost.

vic-tim. 1. a person who suffers from a destructive or injurious action or agency.

## Notes

### For More Information:

1. Read Marvin Wolfgang's *Patterns in Criminal Homicide*.
2. Conference Proceedings: *Restitution and Victims of Crime*, Mary Knudten, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, February 1977.
3. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment, Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, Harry Fleishman, Austin, Texas, January 1977.
4. Write John P. J. Dussich, Ph.D., National Organization of Victim Assistance, University of Southern Mississippi, P.O. Box 5127, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Examine your own behavior to determine if you're a likely victim.
2. Set up workshops for neighborhood associations to help residents avoid victim behavior.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.  
How many times have you been a victim?*

# Juvenile Institutions

**Juvenile Institutions have been called training schools for criminals of the future. Close them — as Massachusetts did — and the juvenile crime rate goes down.**

Only a minority of juvenile delinquents become persistent adult criminals. For most, it is a passing phase in their development.

Why institutionalize them all and take a chance on teaching them the tricks of the criminal trade that may stretch their adolescent behavioral extremes into lifetime patterns of conduct?

Massachusetts closed all of its juvenile institutions in 1972. Its troubled youth were placed in specialized foster homes, small community based facilities and about 250 different programs. There has been no unleashing of violence and destruction in Massachusetts by juveniles who were once locked up. Many juveniles never commit crimes for which they could be convicted as adults. Most are runaways or truants.

Massachusetts found that its specialized foster care has been the most successful treatment for its troubled youth. The most successful foster parents are only 10 years older than their charges and have developed a "brother-sister" relationship. These foster "parents" are being paid as much as \$10,000 a year to work with and supervise these kids who've clashed with the criminal justice system. This is a substantial lowering in the per capita cost of handling juvenile delinquents. Many of these kids are getting love and good care for the first time in their lives.

The second most effective juvenile treatment method in Massachusetts has been an *advocacy program* in which college students were hired (plus getting college credit) to spend some 20-40 hours a week with kids during their leisure time. In effect, these older youths supervise the play time activities of younger kids who've been in trouble.

Many citizens and law enforcement officials have traditionally argued that only the threat of "reform school" or a juvenile institution keeps the rate of juvenile delinquency down. These new approaches have shattered this deterrence argument.

Authorities at some juvenile institutions are concerned that the availability of the institution actually promotes juvenile crime. They see some youngsters repeatedly who commit crimes in order to return to a place they prefer to their normal environment.

ju'venile delinquent. 1. a minor who cannot be controlled by parental authority and commits anti-social or criminal acts.

## For More Information:

1. See "Juvenile Justice, A Problem for Parents, Teachers and Communities," Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers PTA Forum.

2. Read Conference Proceedings: *Juvenile Justice System*, Jerome Miller, Houston, Texas, April 1977.

3. Read "Juvenile Correctional Reform in Massachusetts," For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 — \$2.00. Stock No. 027-000-00483-1.

4. Read "Volunteer Home for Status Offenders," Jane C. Latina and Jeffrey L. Schembers, Florida Division of Youth Services, 1975.

5. Write Alfred B. Vuocolo, Ph.D. Superintendent, The Training School for Boys, Skillman, New Jersey.

6. Write Alan Johns, Project Director, Labor-Youth Sponsorship Program, 601 Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas, 76102.

7. Write the National Council of Jewish Women, 15 East 26th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*What is your state's alternative to juvenile institutions?*

## Notes

# Grand Jury

**Modern grand juries have become little more than a prosecutor's rubber stamp — an oasis from the Constitutional guarantees of due process that Americans take for granted everywhere else in the judicial system.**

The role of the grand jury is to protect citizens from unwarranted prosecutions. This is done by carefully weighing evidence presented to it by prosecutors. For this reason grand jury proceedings are secret and compulsory powers are used to summon witnesses to help make a determination about the evidence it is examining.

But more and more, this grand jury power of subpoena seems to be the tool of prosecuting attorneys for criminal investigative purposes. Grand juries have extended their authority to include helping prosecutors "collect" evidence rather than only making judgements on the evidence already gathered.

This development has been facilitated by the authority to grant "use immunity" to a witness before a grand jury. That means the witness must forego his right under the fifth amendment and in return is promised that the evidence he gives may not be used against him. But the witness may still be prosecuted for an offense about which he testifies, if other evidence is available. And the witness has no choice except to testify.

"Use immunity" not only deprives a citizen of a constitutional safeguard — the right to remain silent — but places him in danger of being prosecuted for an offense he has been forced by the government to divulge.

Because of repeated, recent abuses of constitutional rights in the secrecy of the grand jury room, the first grand jury reform legislation in American history has been introduced in the U.S. Congress.

Study the legislation. Learn about your grand jury and how it works. Know its record.

grand ju-ry. a jury, usually of 12 to 13 persons, designated to inquire into alleged violations of the law in order to ascertain whether the evidence is sufficient to warrant a trial by a petty jury.

### For More Information:

Contact the Coalition to End Grand Jury Abuse, 105 Second St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Organize a local coalition for grand jury reform, and let your district prosecutor know that you'll be monitoring grand jury actions.
2. Find out who serves on your grand juries. If it's not a representative group of your area population, press for reform of the selection process.
3. Monitor the actions of grand juries to determine if they are exceeding their authority.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Has there been any change in the Grand Jury System in the past two years?*

### Notes

# Plea Bargaining

**Do away with it. New Orleans and Waco have. It's a crutch for prosecutors and defense attorneys and it allows the offender to escape personal responsibility for the crime.**

Plea bargaining — cop out! For both the prosecutor and the offender.

One reason that prosecutors consistently offer plea bargains is that their cases are weak. There are more acquittals now than ever before for criminal cases that reach the trial stage. So plea bargaining has become a constant source of injustice for the defendant and a way of "putting away" the accused on a weak case. It even sometimes pits a defense lawyer, particularly a court-appointed one — against his client.

"Hurry up and settle so we can get it over with," is an all too common attitude. As a result, about 90% of cases in court are settled by guilty pleas.

The elimination of plea bargaining does require that more attention be paid by state legislatures to the problem — either by appropriating funds for more courts, decriminalizing victimless crime, or by preventing unnecessary delays by attorneys.

Advocates of plea bargaining contend that it helps relieve court dockets. And they have a point. Since only 10% of those charged actually get to trial, reducing offenders' guilty pleas to 80% — instead of 90% — would hypothetically double the case load for our courts.

However, that's not been the experience in Waco and New Orleans. Weak cases aren't brought to court as often and there is no enormous backlog of cases.

There are alternatives to plea bargaining. Here are some:

\*If used, couple plea bargaining with a mandatory sentence.

\*If used, have plea bargaining arranged only in open court, with the victim of the crime and everyone else present.

\*Simplify trial procedures.

\*Decriminalize victimless crime to ease pressures on the courts.

\*Forbid plea bargaining and force prosecutors and judges to seek other alternatives.

plea bar-gain-ing.  
the offer by a  
prosecutor to a defen-  
dant to plead guilty to a  
charge, with the inten-  
tion of escaping more  
serious punishment  
which might result from  
standing trial.

## For More Information:

1. *The Honest Politician's Guide to Crime*, by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

2. Conference Proceedings: John Kaplan, *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, Austin, Texas, January 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

Contact district attorneys, the League of Women Voters and local judges in Waco, Texas and New Orleans, La., for information on what has happened since their cities have abolished plea bargaining.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does your district attorney arrange for plea bargaining in open court? Or not at all?*

## Notes

# Bail — or Jail?

**For the poor, it's jail. They simply cannot afford to buy justice by making down payments on the bail bond system.**

A recent survey in Washington, D.C., showed that 84% of those who were awaiting trial in jail were eligible for release on bond, but simply could not raise it. And in many county jails, 85-90% of the inmates cannot afford to hire an attorney, much less post bond.

Let's face it. Middle and upper class Americans who are charged with crimes rarely spend even one night in jail between arrest, trial and eventual conviction (if it occurs at all). The poor almost always do.

So at best, our county jails provide a holding facility for many technically "innocent" people who are just too poor to exercise their legal right to pre-trial freedom.

If the money bail-bond system were abolished, and third party custody and pre-trial release programs expanded, all but a small percentage of high risk and violent offenders could be granted pre-trial release, with stringent penalties for failure to appear. Then the jails would be less crowded, taxpayers' money would be saved, the poor would have the same pre-trial privileges as the middle class, and our jails would no longer be labeled "poorhouses."

poor-house. an institution in which paupers are maintained at public expense.

## For More Information:

1. Read *Crime: A People's Problem*, A Report on the Symposium sponsored by the Jail Arts Education Project of the University Y, Austin, Texas, Feb. 11-12, 1977.

2. Conference Proceedings — Barbara Siekman — *Incarceration: Benefits & Drawbacks*, Arlington, Texas, March, 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Is there a pre-trial release program in your county? Is there a third party custody program?

2. Join with religious groups, social service organizations and civil liberties groups to set up a non-profit bail company.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old. Does your town have a non-profit bail bond company?*

## Notes

# Bail Bond

**The bail bond system profits only the bondsmen. Try a non-profit bail bond company in your community as a way to control crime.**

Offenders often must commit a second crime to pay off the bail bondsman for the first. The only one who comes out ahead in this system is the bail bond company. The community never wins.

Bail is supposed to insure the presence of the accused at trial. In practice, it makes release prior to trial depend on the financial resources of the accused, not on the risk of nonappearance.

Abolish the money bail bond system. Grant pre-trial release for those who are charged with all but the most serious crimes. Or, while you're waiting for that to happen, establish a non-profit bail bond system in your community. You might use the Ecumenical Minority Bail Fund of the National Council of Churches as a model.

Members of the National Council of Churches became increasingly alarmed in the early seventies at the excessive bail bonds being required for racial minorities, the poor and political dissidents. So an Ecumenical Minority Bail Fund was established, built with member contributions which were invested in U.S. Treasury notes. The purpose is to provide bail assistance for economically and socially oppressed persons in society. It works like this:

\*Bail bond assistance is limited to criminal cases.

\*No limitation is imposed on the nature of the charge.

\*There must be some indication that prejudice toward the defendant's racial or economic status has resulted in the requirement for excessive bail.

\*There must be evidence that the individual or his or her defense group has exhausted other sources for bail bond assistance and that efforts have been made to have bail reduced.

\*Funds are available to all persons who meet the criteria.

Can this concept be adapted to your community?

bail bond. a formal document executed by a prisoner together with one or more sureties that guarantee the presence of the prisoner in court at the appointed time.

### For More Information:

1. Write Ecumenical Minority Bail Bond Fund, Division of Church and Society, National Council of the Churches of Christ, 475 Riverside Dr. Room 572, New York, N.Y. 10027.

2. Write the Bowery Project of the Vera Institute of Justice, 30 East 39th St., New York, N.Y. 10016.

### What You Can Do Now:

Put together a coalition of religious, social service and ethnic organizations to start a non-profit bail bond company in your town.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many cities in the United States have non-profit bail bond companies?*

### Notes

**Incarceration**

**We could send every prisoner to Harvard for one year and give him plenty of pocket money for the cost of a year's incarceration in an average U.S. penal institution.**

Nearly half a million people will be locked up in jails or prisons tonight. The incarceration rate is higher in the United States than it is in any other Western nation. Here, 215 people out of every 100,000 are locked up, while it is 60 per 100,000 in England and 13 per 100,000 in the Netherlands.

Are Americans more criminal in nature? Or, are we locking up people who really don't need to be in jail?

Many of the people held in U.S. jails have never been convicted of a crime. In one metropolitan area a count on one day showed that 939 of those locked up in the county jail were technically innocent and awaiting trial.

The average cost of incarceration for one inmate for one year in the United States ranges between \$5,300 and \$14,000. New York State spent \$29,000 per inmate in 1975. When figures show that it costs only \$12,000 to go to Harvard for one year, it makes you wonder what you get for your money and effort. The cost of crime is high, and we're sure getting a lot of it for our money.

**in-car-cer-ate. 1.  
to imprison or confine.  
(From the root word,  
"to keep in chains")**

**For More Information:**

Read *Crime: A People's Problem*. Report on the symposium sponsored by the Jail Arts Education Project of the University of Texas at Austin, Texas, February 11-12, 1977.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Get the Statistics on your county jail.

How many are awaiting trial?  
What percentage will be found innocent?

Daily cost per person in jail?  
Could the same money provide expanded pre-trial release programs?

2. Get the average cost of incarceration per inmate in the state prison.

Compare this cost with the going rate for college expenses.

Be sure to figure the amortization rate per cell and bunk space on new construction.

How does the incarceration rate in your state compare with the national average?

***If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.***

***Are more people per capita still being locked up in the United States than any other nation?***

**Notes**

**Jails**

**Stop building county jails. Jails have become part of the problem, not part of the solution.**

Many counties and cities are still building jails today, usually repeating the same architectural mistakes that make local jails breeding grounds for criminal activity. They're too big, with too little privacy and personal space. Most building contracts are awarded on the basis of low bid, and many are not designed with rehabilitation in mind.

Most of the 160,000 jails in this country don't even meet minimum safety and health standards.

In Texas, it's only been since 1970 that the state inspected its jails for safety and health. Then only six counties out of 254 complied with requirements mandated by the Texas Jails Standards Commission.

Federal judges in Dallas and Austin have ruled those county jails "detrimental to inmates' health." Federal judges are threatening to close down facilities that don't meet minimum standards. "You just have to watch what happens in that tank, without doing or saying anything about it," says one prisoner. But we keep on building jails — and filling them up — instead of developing alternative ways to handle our local prisoners.

Jail. 1. a holding place for detention of persons awaiting trial or convicted of minor offenses.

**For More Information:**

1. See Conference Proceedings: *Punishment, Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, Austin, Texas, January 1977.

2. Read *Inmate Rights and Institutional Response: The Nebraska State Prison System*. A Report prepared by the Nebraska Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

3. Order *How to Lobby for Legislative Change: CURE — Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants*. 1926 Newning Ave., Austin, Texas 78704.

4. Write the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 411 Hackensack Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601, for a copy of their proposals for a moratorium on new jails or prisons.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Is your community still building jails — or has it found an alternative?*

**Notes**



# Mothers in Jail

**Texas has the largest female prison population in the country. Most of them are mothers.**

Most women in prison share these characteristics: low self esteem, rootlessness, early initiation into sex — usually by a parent or relative, broken homes, and motherhood.

Their crimes are typically less threatening to society. More than 37 per cent are in jail for prostitution. Almost 25 per cent for larceny. The rest, on convictions of disorderly conduct and other less serious crimes. Less than one per cent have committed murder.

While women in most of the nation's jails receive more humane treatment than men and have a lower recidivism rate, some institutions may move toward even more enlightened programs for female prisoners.

Volunteer lay advocates to work with mothers in jail and their children has been proposed by Dorothy DuBose, president of the Texas Council on Crime and Delinquency.

These volunteers would become advocates for the children of female prisoners with mental health and social service agencies. They would help maintain contact between women and their families to develop supportive conditions when women are released from prison. In short, volunteers would attempt to fill the void that the criminal justice system allows to develop between prisoners and those who are closest to them.

Why not provide fathers in jail the same options?

We want the children to have all the love and help they can get.

mother. a female parent.

## For More Information:

1. Write the Texas Council on Crime and Delinquency, 711 San Antonio, Austin, Texas 78701.

2. Investigate "OUTSIDERS" — Volunteer group of women who keep in contact with women in the Dallas County Jail before and after their release. Chaplain Barbara Siekman, Dallas County Jail, Dallas, Texas 75201.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Make a survey of the needs of mothers in the local jail.

2. Become a volunteer advocate with community and social service agencies for a mother in jail.

3. Organize and train other volunteer advocates to work with mothers in jail.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Do the fathers in your jail have the same privileges as mothers in jail?*

## Notes

# Sentencing

**The cruelest form of punishment is not physical abuse — but simply not knowing how long you are going to have to stay in jail.**

Indeterminate sentencing — the two to twenty years program — began as a tool for rehabilitation. The theory was that if the convicted offender were "rehabilitated" before the expiration of the full term, he would be released.

But most prison rehabilitation programs are failures. Offenders learn only how to conform to an internal prison system and how to get out early.

Ex-offenders attribute much of the bitterness, hostility and lack of cooperation of inmates to the indeterminate sentence. Many rehabilitative efforts fail because of these attitudes.

All too often, offenders convicted of similar crimes receive widely disparate sentences or find themselves released from confinement after serving different proportions of their imposed terms.

Many criminal justice authorities argue that punishment should fit the crime, not the criminal.

How do we justify the fact that some offenders go to jail for excessively long periods and others escape jail altogether?

The certainty of punishment — the cornerstone of an effective law enforcement system — does not exist with indeterminate sentencing. It should be replaced by determinate sentencing, in which all sentences are judicially imposed for a fixed period.

In this way, the penalty for a crime is clear and the offender knows at the time of his initial sentence exactly what his release date will be.

No longer would a parole board release a prisoner after serving one third, or one half, of the sentence. There'd even be no need for parole boards. The function of determining when a prisoner is released would become a judicial function to be exercised by the sentencing judge.

California has begun a fixed sentence law, with shorter sentences and one year parole for everyone. Maine and New York are moving in the same direction by eliminating parole altogether.

**in-de-ter-mi-nate.**

1. not fixed in extent; indefinite; uncertain.

### For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, John Kaplan, Austin, Texas, January 1977.

2. Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*, Jim Kane, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

3. "A Public View of Sentencing and Corrections" — David J. Roberts. Study conducted in Denver, Colorado 1975, Office of Research and Planning, Colorado Division of Correctional Services.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Check out your state parole board.

Is the board representative of the population?

How many parole decisions do they make at each hearing session?

What does this average out per inmate?

2. Visit a parole officer. Ask about case load and services provided to parolee.

3. Is your state examining fixed sentencing with shorter sentences and fixed parole?

**If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.**

**Does your state still have a parole board?**

### Notes

# Punishment

**With the biblical admonition, "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," at least the punishment fit the crime. Now, we often ask for an eye, a tooth, both legs and the right arm.**

Punishment must come to the guilty. But unless it fits the crime, it serves as no deterrent for future crimes. There are many kinds of punishment. Some work and some don't. This is the kind of punishment that works:

- \*Swift punishment which follows soon after the crime
- \*Mild punishment
- \*Short punishment
- \*Humane punishment

If the punishment is traumatic for the criminal, it backfires and produces anger toward the punisher and society. Overpunishment embitters.

Separation from society — from friends, family and pleasure — is usually all the punishment anyone needs.

**pun-ish-ment. a penalty inflicted for an offence, fault.**

### For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*. Karl Slaikeu, Austin, Texas, January 1977.
2. Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*. James Kane, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Make a survey of the nature of punishment handed out by judges and juries in your community.
2. If the punishment doesn't fit the crime, identify specific cases and take the information to a friendly newspaper reporter.
3. Force judges, juries and prosecutors to be fair by exposing the inequities when they are not fair.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does the punishment fit the crime in your community?*

### Notes

**Special Education**

**Many state laws guarantee funds and free educational services for all handicapped persons between ages 3 and 21. These laws apply to everyone, including residents of the county jail.**

No one agrees on the causes of crime. But those who work with institutionalized offenders agree that most of them have one thing in common: they can't read. Or don't. Or have great difficulty.

New studies show that it's likely that between 30 to 90 per cent of those who can't read suffer from some form of learning disability. Learning disabilities are perceptual problems unrelated to mental retardation or low intelligence. They are commonly referred to as dyslexia, developmental aphasia and minimal brain damage. Individuals who have these problems are classified under federal law as "handicapped." In many states that means they are eligible for special services above and beyond the "visiting teacher" programs provided to many county jail inmates who are still entitled to free public school education. Testing, evaluation and diagnosis of the nature and severity of the particular handicap, and placement in special education programs for remedial training often falls within the scope of responsibility of the state-funded educational systems.

Special education experts have found that the majority of people with learning disabilities have normal intelligence even if they can't learn in normal ways.

No law or policy excludes prisoners. But county jails don't think of themselves as educators and don't know about special education. We do not know of any county jails who have called on their state's educational system (or up to \$12,000 per person in special education funds) to come to the aid of their learning disabled and handicapped inmates. Do you?

han-di-cap. 1. a disadvantage that makes achievement difficult.

**For More Information:**

1. Write the Associate Commissioner for Special Education, Texas Education Agency, Austin, Texas 78701.
2. Write La Mancha Group, Inc., for CRIME AND SPECIAL EDUCATION at 5025 N. Central Expressway, Suite 3020, Dallas, Texas 75205.
3. Write the U.S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C. for a copy of federal guidelines on special education for the handicapped.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Check with your local jail officials to find out what special education services are offered.
2. Determine if your state education agency and/or local school district will help start a special education project for the learning disabled in the county jail.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does your county jail have a special education program for handicapped and learning disabled inmates?*

**Notes**

**Prison Personnel**

**Most prisons are located in small towns where they are often the largest industry. In-bred attitudes are a major force against change.**

Prisons provide jobs for two and three generations of small town families who go to work each morning as if they were on their way to the steel mill or the assembly line. And the attitudes those families bring to work are a major target of prison reform.

One of the primary factors in whether or not prison self improvement programs work is whether or not the *prison staff* believes they will. The attitude of prison personnel affects the attitude of the prisoners. For good or bad.

Since most prisons are located in small towns where the prison is the chief source of employment, prison jobs there are simply jobs. Treated in the same manner as a job at a steel factory or filling station. And the job is guarding prisoners, nothing else. Often the composition of the prison staff bears no relationship to the ethnic or racial composition of the prisoners, so there is not only little understanding, but often cultural or racial conflict as well.

In Fort Worth, the Federal Correctional Institution took over a former mental hospital to use for corrections. And it hired the hospital employees and trained those former mental health workers to become prison personnel. These new prison personnel were unfamiliar with prison slang and jargon used to keep prisoners "in their place." Because these former mental health employees had been used to viewing their charges with concern and sympathy, the same basic attitude was transferred to prison inmates. That institution has perhaps the best staff and inmate morale in the United States and, happily, a very low recidivism rate.

in-bred. 1. produced by breeding closely related individuals together; confinement to a narrow range and limited field of choice.

guard. 1. a man or body of men on sentinel duty; i.e., watches over men.

**For More Information:**

Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*. Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Show the film on New York's Attica Prison — "Attica," The official Report of the New York State Special Commission on Attica. Modern Talking Picture Services, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036.
2. Find out who works in your county jail, state or federal prison.
3. If the prison workforce is not representative of the inmate population, encourage officials to implement affirmative action plans for all new hires.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Do you know who's running your state prison?*

**Notes**

# Juveniles in Jail

**We're locking up kids for committing offenses which would not be considered criminal if they were committed by adults.**

Status Offenders. Their status in life is their offense. These are the children who are "punished" by the juvenile court system for acts which would not be crimes if committed by adults. The offenses are truancy and running away, or juvenile curfew violations, and even glue sniffing. The offenders are in need of supervision and guidance, not criminal proceedings.

Of the 100,000 youngsters under 18 committed to correctional institutions by juvenile courts in 1975, 23% of the boys and 70% of the girls had committed no crime for which they could be punished if they were adults. These *status offenders* averaged a longer period of time locked up in institutions than children convicted of criminal offenses.

Status offenders do have serious problems. Problems which must be dealt with by the community, the schools, and the home. But many of them who enter juvenile institutions for "supervision" leave as well-educated delinquents.

The Texas Council on Crime and Delinquency advocates this strategy:

\*Close the doors of the police station and courts as a first aid station for truants and school force-outs.

\*Stop coercing runaways back to unhappy, unloving homes.

\*Take mental health and family counseling out of the criminal justice system and give it back to mental health and social welfare agencies.

What we do by ignorance and neglect to perpetuate our criminal justice system — particularly with the status offender and learning disabled delinquents — seems far more punishable than the "crime" for which we put them in our jails and institutions.

status. 1. the position of an individual in relation to another or others of the same class, social standing.

## For More Information:

1. Write the Texas Council on Crime and Delinquency, 711 San Antonio St., Austin, Texas 78701.

2. Read Conference Proceedings: Gerry Wheeler, Juvenile Justice, Houston, April, 1977.

3. Read "Juvenile Correctional Reform in Massachusetts," For Sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402 — \$2.00.

4. Read "Volunteer Homes for Status Offenders," Jane C. Latina and Jeffrey L. Schembera, Florida Division of Youth Services, 1975.

5. Read *Drugs in Institutions: Juvenile Delinquency Annual Report, 1974*, Report of the Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Check on school truancy policies in your school district.

2. Inquire about status offenders from your state Youth Commission. Who's responsible for truants and runaways?

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many kids are locked up in your state for "status offenses?"*

**Cost Effectiveness**

**If the public knew the facts about what works and what doesn't (and how much each costs) they would be more interested in alternatives to full time jails.**

Maximum security prisons and fortified jails cost money. Those bars, locks, gun towers, guards and security equipment are certainly not cheap. And much of what we've been getting for those efforts and equipment is failure.

Most alternative programs cost less — not more — than existing holding pens for prisoners even if administered by the same institution. But no one ever tells the public. We must not only ask what benefits and risks are involved, but also how effective will the program be?

A striking example: Massachusetts abolished its juvenile jails in 1972 which cost \$25,000 a year per person. The state's most successful alternative program pays foster parents \$10,000 a year to care for a troubled or delinquent youth and juvenile crime has gone down. New York State pays between \$23,000 and \$30,000 a year for each juvenile delinquent it keeps locked up in an institution. In Pennsylvania, it's \$32,000 per child per year.

Some alternative programs can even pay their own way. The pre-trial release program in Dallas County is not a taxpayer expense, but profitable and income producing. With a failure rate of less than two percent, it also greatly reduces the cost of incarceration by reducing the jail population.

In the work release program instituted by the Sheriff of New Orleans, the jail actually keeps a portion of the offender's pay check to help meet expenses of the program. The prisoner gets a \$25 a week allowance and the victim gets 15-20% of the check.

Alternatives to jails work. They may also be cheaper — and better.

cost ef-fec-tive pro-grams. those in which the benefits to be derived justify, or outweigh the financial and/or social costs of implementing the program.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*What is the most cost-effective program for juveniles in your city or state?*

**For More Information:**

1. Conference proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*, Charles Campbell, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.
2. Conference proceedings: *Juvenile Justice*, Jerome Miller, Houston, Texas, April 1977.
3. Federal Correctional Institution, Fort Worth, Texas, A Statement on the Program, May 1976, L. J. Gengler, Warden.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Find out how much it costs to keep a juvenile offender in an institution in your state. Compare that with the cost of specialized foster parent care.
2. Take that information to your local newspaper editor and ask for help in getting your message across.
3. Force your public officials to explain why they choose to keep a costly, ineffective juvenile correction program instead of seeking a more cost-effective treatment system.
4. To teach ordinary citizens and public officials how to make cost-effective decisions about criminal justice programs, a 30 minute program is available to cities, counties, and non-profit organizations. For information, contact Non-Profit Professionals, Inc., 5025 North Central Expressway, Suite 3020, Dallas, Texas 75205.

**Notes**

# Reducing Your Jail Population

**One sure way to reduce the jail population and still protect society from violent criminals is to decriminalize all victimless crimes. We found six more ways.**

More than one-third of all arrests during 1975 were for victimless crimes. Here are some of the crimes and the number of arrests:

Public drunkenness (1,217,000)  
 Disorderly conduct (748,000)  
 Narcotic drug offenses (601,400)  
 Liquor law violations (340,000)  
 Running away (250,000)  
 Curfew and loitering offenses (146,400)  
 Gambling (62,600)  
 Vagrancy (40,000)  
 Suspicion (36,200)  
 Prostitution (68,200)

Most of the city and county jails in this country could ease their overcrowded conditions if these victimless crimes were decriminalized, depending on individual community standards.

Here are six more ways to reduce your jail population:

1. Speed up the time limitations for court appointed attorneys so that un-convicted prisoners don't stay in jails for months.
2. End plea bargaining.
3. Educate the judiciary about alternative programs, like work release.
4. Educate the public about the real costs of jails and of alternatives to incarceration.
5. Provide special education in alternative facilities for handicapped offenders under 21 who may have learning disabilities. Education funds are available by law in many states for this purpose.

6. Couple non-profit bail bond programs with lay advocates (volunteers) for offenders. Require the offender to work with a lay advocate as a condition of non-profit bond.

re-duce. to bring down to a smaller extent. size, amount, number.

vic-tim-less crime. a criminal act in which there is no potential for direct injury to an individual.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Has your jail population gone up or down?*

## Notes

### For More Information:

1. Write the DISMAS PROJECT — Ronald Simpson, 202-544-5756, 324 H St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.
2. A citizen participation — public education project by Anne Blocker and Gladney Flatt called *You Be the Judge* has been developed for the Dallas Alliance in connection with its county jail problems. In entertaining and highly visual form, ordinary lay citizens can understand the problems of jails and alternatives and make valid cost-effective decisions within 30 minutes. Designed especially for civic club and luncheon-type presentations prior to bond elections or public hearings. For information, contact Non-Profit Professionals, Inc., 5025 North Central Expressway, Suite 3020, Dallas, Texas 75205, or 1-800-621-7725, Ext. A146.
3. Write the National Alliance for Safer Cities, 165 56 St., New York, N.Y. 10022, for a copy of "Crimes With No Victims."

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Make an effort to let your local judges know that alternatives to jail do work. Present facts. Present plans for alternative programs.
2. Encourage administrative changes in court procedure to prevent unnecessary delays by attorneys.



# Alternatives

**Are you sure your alternative to jail is not simply an expansion of an institution instead of a substitution?**

Many communities have set up alternative programs to reduce their jail populations, only to find that the jail population, or total numbers of offenders served by any program, goes up instead of down.

The more alternative "space" there is, often means only that more "space" will be filled.

Many alternative programs are viewed as an *addition* to the present system, not a *substitution* for current incarceration. So instead of using existing support services, new services are added. Instead of closing down the old facility, a new facility is added, and the community has two institutions instead of one.

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) has provided seed money to innovative local programs which promised "alternatives" to incarceration. Since LEAA has not required local governmental assumption of financial responsibility or support, then when the federal seed money is gone, so is the possibly valuable and viable alternative. While the LEAA allows experimentation, its rules do not facilitate government or community responsibility.

An alternative is not an alternative until there is one less person in the jail or juvenile detention center.

The problem is often with a lack of commitment to a change of style of operation or to an untested program. Administrators are in a conflict of interest. Whose job will be changed? Whose will be lost? Until decision makers can say, "Okay, we'll drop this program and go with that program," many of the promised alternatives will provide no alternative.

al-ter-na-tive. 2. one of the possibilities, propositions or courses which can be chosen.

## For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?* Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1977.
2. Read *Kind and Usual Punishment*. Jessica Mitford.
3. A University's Approach to Delinquency Prevention, National Criminal Justice Reference Service, LEAA, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20531, No. J-LEAA-014-74.

## What You Can Do Now:

Before an alternative approach to corrections is implemented, make sure there is an adequate financial commitment to keep it going.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Are you looking for alternatives to your alternatives?*

## Notes

# You Don't Have to Please All the People All the Time

**If you've got a good idea, don't wait for the public to be educated. Just do it, and educate the public later ... about your success.**

It's a fallacy that community based treatment programs require community support. Many good ideas have never been implemented because their advocates have worn themselves out trying to sell their project, rather than spending their energy *doing* a good job.

In New Mexico, halfway house programs gave up the idea of selling the public on their merits. Instead, they adopted a strategy of seeking cooperation and support from and with other service agencies, churches and mental health programs. These "underground" halfway houses were effective because concentrated efforts centered on the program and the offender to be helped, not the public.

Don't wait for popularity. Begin small. Put victims on the halfway house board of directors. It was done in Rochester, Minnesota and it helped reduce community opposition to the project. Get something that works and let the public know about it in small ways. Then you can make the community an offer it can't refuse: a successful correctional program.

**success. satisfactory completion of something.**

## For More Information:

Conference Proceedings, *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?*, Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Build a network of sympathetic officials within the criminal justice and social service systems.
2. Adopt a strategy for step-by-step program implementation.
3. Let the public know about success stories.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Are your correctional programs pleasing all of the people ... some of the people ... or none of the people?*

## Notes

# Wilderness Programs

**Skills learned in prison are often only good for prison living. Skills learned in the wilderness are often good for life.**

Many criminals have personality traits similar to the most successful business entrepreneurs — creativity, risk-taking ability, daring and good conceptual abilities. Most prison rehabilitation programs try to teach employment skills suitable for docile employees who work for others. But what the prisoner ends up learning is how to bury anger, instead of showing it; or how to deceive authorities; or how to use physical aggression to solve their problems; or even how to depend on someone else to provide for them.

New Mexico instituted a Wilderness Program to teach prisoners how to take care of themselves . . . and this program teaches prisoners how to develop their entrepreneurial talents for self-survival.

Back-packing, rock-climbing, river crossing, survival with limited water and no shelter — it has a greater significance than surviving a wilderness experience. It teaches independence, responsibility for your own life and self-confidence in your own ability to handle crucial situations — handy skills to have in the real world.

The decisions are win or lose and the consequences are immediate. People learn their strengths and this education generalizes back to the community. They learn to work with other people in stressful experiences and go beyond their self-imposed limitations. Because of the nature of experience and follow-up, the program has an 85% success rate.

It's working in New Mexico.

**wil-der-ness.** 1. a wild and uncultivated region as of forest or desert, uninhabited or inhabited only by wild animals.

## For More Information:

1. Write Director, Wilderness Experience, State of New Mexico, Department of Hospitals and Institutions, 113 Washington Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

2. Read *Homeward Bound: An Alternative to the Institutionalization of Adjudicated Juvenile Offenders*, Herb C. Willman, Jr., and Ron Y. F. Chun, *Federal Probation*, issue of September 1973.

3. See Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?*, William Matthews, Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Take the information you have gathered to the director of your state prison system.

2. Try to get administrative or legislative support for a wilderness program in your state's prison system.

***If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.***

***What other state, besides New Mexico, runs wilderness survival programs for its prisoners?***

**Work Release**

**"We have never had any man run off; one woman did, but she came back the next day." —Texas Potter County Sheriff T. L. Baker**

The Potter County jail has an average daily population of 235 inmates. One hundred are housed in a minimum security facility on an abandoned air base. Forty-eight people a day are on work release, with some making up to \$1,500 a month. Another 18 people are on school release, attending classes at a local vocational college.

Sheriff T. L. Baker says this type of program requires the cooperation of the community. And he's gotten the churches, schools, the state rehabilitation programs and area businesses involved. The recidivism rate at his jail is under 4%.

New Orleans has a similar program, with the victim of the crime getting 15-20% of the paycheck of the offender, who often works in the tourist-related industry there. The offender has to earn his way into work release; he must serve at least 30 days in jail so he knows what's waiting for him if he falls.

Or, as Sheriff Baker says, "if they mess up, they serve the rest of the sentence in the regular jail." Not many mess up.

work release, the process of allowing prisoners to leave jail or prison for jobs outside, and then return each evening to jail.

**For More Information:**

1. Read *Crime: A People's Problem*. A report on the Symposium sponsored by the Jail Arts Education Project of the University of Texas, Austin, Texas, February 11-12, 1977.
2. Write to Sheriff T. L. Baker, Potter County Jail, Amarillo, Texas.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Line up business, factories and labor union apprenticeship programs willing to employ offenders under work-release programs.
2. Make your jail officials an offer they can't refuse, by presenting them with willing employers for work-release offenders.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Does your county jail have a work-release program?*

**Notes**

# Rehabilitation

**Our universities know what it takes to get rehabilitation started. Most of our prisons won't allow it.**

"The incidence of crime is not simply a function of penal practice," say Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins, authors of the *Honest Politicians Guide to Crime*.

Crime rates vary independently of shifts in penal programs and practices.

Yet we have charged our penal institutions with the duty of rehabilitation. When they fail, we don't hold them accountable or demand a new system.

True rehabilitation is self motivated. And we do know what factors in prison influence self motivation.

\*The mission of the institution has to be clear.

\*The prison staff has to believe in the value of self-improvement programs, no matter what they are.

\*The natural leadership of inmates must be encouraged and leaders given responsibility.

\*Inmates must be able to have privacy and fresh air.

\*Prisoners must be allowed to have open communication with other inmates and prison staffers.

It has become very popular in recent years to say that nothing works in rehabilitation. But the original formulators of that opinion have backed off. We found many programs working.

**re-ha-bil-i-tate. 1. to restore to a condition of good health, ability to work; to reestablish the good reputation; to restore to a former capacity, rank, rights, or privileges.**

## For More Information:

1. Read *The Honest Politicians Guide to Crime* by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

2. Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?* Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1977.

3. Write Director, Wilderness Experience, State of New Mexico, Department of Hospitals and Institutions, 113 Washington Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

4. Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

5. Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?* Karl Slaikeu, "Rehabilitation and Post-release."

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Get current information on the Federal Correctional Institute in Fort Worth, Texas.

2. Investigate The Living Skills Center (Artis Darden) in Galveston, Texas.

3. Present this information to members of your state legislature.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Has your community decided whether it wants rehabilitation or revenge?*

## Notes

# Volunteers

**Volunteers are often more effective in keeping ex-offenders from returning to jail than the most highly qualified correctional experts in the nation.**

The state of Virginia's Project OAR — Offender Aid and Restoration — helps offenders and ex-offenders "develop constructive lifestyles through individualized *volunteer* attention."

OAR recruits and trains citizen volunteers to enter into a one-to-one relationship with offenders in their local jails. They help locate educational facilities, vocational training, employment and housing. In general, these volunteers cut the red tape and make the existing agencies work for the offender and the ex-offender.

But it is the personal caring and concern of OAR volunteers which helps offenders rebuild their self-respect, find hope and plan a new future.

During the first 18 months after release from institutions only 2.4% of OAR clients were again convicted, as compared with 10.7% of a comparison group.

OAR was so successful in seven Virginia counties that there are now active OAR programs in five states.

There are many programs to aid the ex-offender, but volunteer one-on-one assistance seems to work 450% better.

**vol-un-teeer. a person who performs a service of his own free will.**

## For More Information:

1. Contact Project OAR of Virginia, Inc., 2317 Westwood Ave., R.M. 103, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

2. Contact National Alliance of Businessmen in most major cities in the country or John Armore, N.A.B., 1730 K St. NW, Washington, D.C., 20006, 202-254-7105.

3. Contact Volunteers in Probation, 200 Washington Square Plaza, Royal Oak, Michigan 48067.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Become a volunteer to help offenders and ex-offenders make existing social service agencies and government programs work for them.

2. Organize and train other volunteers to work as advocates for individual prisoners within the criminal justice system.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old. Is there a volunteer program in your county jail?*

## Notes

# Evaluation: Drop the Double Standard

DIRECTION **39**

**When jails and prisons are held accountable by the same standards as alternatives, then we'll have a reliable evaluation of the correctional system.**

When we evaluate the effectiveness and reliability of alternative programs to incarceration, we often require higher standards of performance than we require of jails and prisons.

Critics of alternatives, such as halfway houses, work release, and other innovative approaches, often point to the isolated cases of offenders who commit another crime and have to be re-institutionalized.

No one condones the crimes committed. But neither should anyone condone the criticism as a fair and valid way to judge the overall success or failures of alternative programs — unless the same standards of performance are applied to every institution.

When more career criminal justice administrators can say, "Hold us responsible for *all* our failures," as does Jerome Miller, Pennsylvania's Commissioner for Services for Youth and Children, then the double standard will fade.

**double standard. any code or set of principles containing different provisions for one group of people than for another.**

## For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Juvenile Justice System*, Jerome Miller, Houston, Texas, April 1977.

2. National Evaluation Program — Halfway Houses, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, January 1977 — Available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, \$1.20, Stock No. 027-000-00468-7.

3. Write the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1615 H. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006, for a copy of "Marshaling Citizen Power to Modernize Corrections."

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Would you welcome a halfway house in your neighborhood? If not, why not?

2. What is your community's most successful correctional program? Try to expand it.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Are you holding your county jail responsible for its failures?*

## Notes

**Back Home**

**98% of all criminals who are caught, convicted and sentenced will eventually be released from their prison cells and will head back home again.**

If the public says, "To hell with rehabilitation, just put them away," then the public is going to pay. Because convicted criminals don't stay "put away." They plea bargain, they serve their sentence, they get time off for good behavior, they get old . . . and they get out! Ninety-eight per cent of them get out.

In Dallas, there are 17,000 ex-offenders back in town. How many are there in your community?

If they learned independence and self-reliance inside prison, and if they return to the community with a job, a family and supportive social services waiting for them, then the public will hardly be aware they are on the streets.

But if they've been subjected to oppressive conditions and harsh treatment in jail, and if they cannot find a job or get support from a hostile community, then you better watch out. Because they're all coming back home eventually.

**home-com-ing. a return to one's home.**

**For More Information:**

1. Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation, What Part of Correction?*, Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 1977.

2. Write Corrections Clearinghouse — Lois Lilly, Director, City of Dallas, Dallas, Texas 75201.

3. Write the National Alliance of Businessmen, 1730 K St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

4. Write the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 43 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019, for a copy of the "Employment of Persons With Arrest Records and the Ex-Offender."

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.  
How safe do you feel on the streets?*

**Notes**



# Recidivism

**If you don't understand why convicts can't make it on their own, ask the National Alliance of Businessmen. It's all about profits and losses.**

The economic difficulties of persons released from prison may be the most important factor in whether or not they commit crimes which may cause them to return.

Daniel Glaser's 1964 study, "The Effectiveness of a Prison and Parole System," found that the economic situation the prisoner finds himself in upon release is the principal determinant of post release behavior rather than the experience of imprisonment.

Yet virtually none of the ex-convicts in the United States are offered the opportunity of a small subsistence income while they try to look for work, without references or contacts or even skills.

The point is that humanitarian methods in prison are at least no *less* effective in reducing recidivism than harsh methods. And it certainly doesn't hurt a prisoner — or society — for attempts to be made to give him skills, new values or training for economic survival.

Possible alternatives for your community are:

- 1) Work release programs which allow a period of economic adjustment and transition
- 2) Community-based correctional programs which attempt to re-integrate the offender into society
- 3) The paying of real wages for prison work to be held until release to ease the way for many offenders.

Money can be saved by revised programs. It's ironic that the cheaper systems are often the most humane. Society certainly has nothing to lose by trying them.

re-cid-i-vism. 1.  
repeated or habitual  
relapse, as into crime.

## For More Information:

1. *Pros and Cons*, a game developed by Susan R. Cooper and Eleanor L. Miller and distributed by the National Alliance of Businessmen is an excellent way to show civic leaders and employers the reality of the world of the ex-offender. See how many have to lie or commit a crime in order to survive.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. If you have your own business, contact the local adult probation office and arrange to interview ex-offenders for your next job opening.
2. Urge the sheriff or police chief to set up work release programs to ease the transition of ex-offenders back into the community. Recruit local businesses to participate in the program.

*If you're reading  
this after 1979, the in-  
formation will be at  
least two years old.  
Are two thirds of  
our prisoners still com-  
ing back for more?*

## Notes

# Restitution

**Victims of natural disasters are eligible for a wide range of state and federal services to help build new lives. Victims of criminal disasters are often not eligible for anything — except personal and financial hardships.**

Victims of violent crime have few resources for help. A victim is not provided an attorney if unable to pay; the offender is. A victim must testify in a trial even if the testimony is self-incriminating; the offender may refuse to do so.

An offender is even charged with a "crime against the state," not against a victim. And a convicted offender owes a debt "to society," not to the victim.

Until recently, most states failed to provide for any restitution at all to victims. Civil remedies are almost impossible to achieve because the offender might either be in jail — or never caught.

Now, more states are dealing with the issue of whether or not the state has a responsibility to compensate a victim of violent crime because it failed to provide physical security for its citizens.

Some states are saying, "Yes, we have the responsibility." Wisconsin is one. North Carolina, Iowa and Colorado are others that provide for some form of restitution. Now, there are 19 Crime Victim Compensation Boards in the U.S. Most of these programs are limited to victims of crimes of violence, not property.

Some programs provide for direct offender restitution to the victim. When the offender has the means — a job, skills or income — to provide restitution, it is a practical system for holding the offender accountable. It's directly related to the offense; it's explicit and it's equitable.

But when the offender doesn't have the means and probably never will; or when the offender is a murderer or psychopath, the taxpayers would have to bear the cost of restitution.

Why not consider victims of violent crimes like victims of natural disasters and provide all the attendant services?

res-ti-tu-tion. 1. reparation made by giving an equivalent or compensation for loss, damage or injury caused; indemnification.

### For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Restitution and Victims of Crime*, Baton Rouge, March 1977.

2. *The Honest Politicians Guide to Crime*, by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Urge your county governing body to set up a one-year pilot project "Victim Restitution Fund." Allow judges to award monetary "damages" to victims of serious crimes of violence. At the end of the year, evaluate the project to determine if it warrants further implementation.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Have you ever received restitution for a crime against you, or a member of your family?*

### Notes

# Ex-Offenders on the Job

**More than 70,000 U.S. firms hire ex-offenders. And they're still open for business and doing fine.**

About 100,000 people are released from prison each year. Many of them will find their way back behind bars, largely because they could not find a job. Since it was organized in 1968, the National Alliance of Businessmen has been helping to alleviate the national employment problem surrounding ex-offenders.

The NAB has discovered that the first few weeks after release are often critical for the ex-offender. Few have even the barest subsistence while they try to look for work without references, without business contacts and without skills to offer employers.

The NAB is shortening this process by alleviating the fear of business people about hiring convicted felons. Here are some facts:

\*Ex-offenders can be bonded on the job to make employers feel safer. State employment services are able to provide bond for ex-offenders under a Labor Department Program. The bonding default rate is approximately the same as that for non-offenders.

\*Ex-offenders are loyal. The NAB has found that ex-offenders try harder because they know their employers are taking a chance with them. And they're grateful for that risk-taking. Many times their work quality excels that of their fellow employees.

\*If problems should develop on the job, ex-offenders are in a better position to seek professional advice from post-placement counseling services about their work problem than many non-offenders with the same problem.

\*The employee theft rate for firms which hire the ex-offenders is lower than for those which do not.

hire. to employ for pay.

## For More Information:

1. Write the National Alliance of Businessmen, 1730 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006, Attn: John Armore.

2. Write the: NAACP — Wilbur Smith, 1790 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019.

3. Write the AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute, 815 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20006.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Set up a job information clearing house for ex-offenders.

2. Persuade businesses to hire ex-offenders by presenting facts — not fiction.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Has your business ever hired an ex-offender?*

## Notes

# Self-Employment

**Self-employed criminals are more successful at crime than self-employed businessmen are at business.**

Self-employment is often an emotionally — if not financially-satisfying experience. You answer only to yourself, you set your own hours, you pick your clients, you take risks and you own your own job.

Criminals and business entrepreneurs share these approaches to making a living while 90% of small businesses fail within the first two years — fewer than 10% of all criminals fail — that is, are caught and punished.

Yet when criminals are caught, most prison rehabilitation programs try to teach them how to be docile employees of others — something many criminals are obviously not out to do.

Many prison rehabilitation programs are so set on traditional ways of earning a living that they may be spending a lot of taxpayer's money trying to fit the wrong job to the personality type they have to work with. It's like trying to squeeze orange juice out of apples.

At the Delancy Street Restaurant in San Francisco, about 350 offenders are learning how to be self-employed — legitimately. These offenders are learning how to run the restaurant, and ten other businesses, which have an income of about \$90,000 a month. There have been no violent incidents, escapes or major thefts.

Just people learning how to be their own — or somebody else's — boss.

Ex-offenders often come out of prison and return to the community with psychological problems and a "loser" attitude. They think of small businessmen as "winners." Try teaching the facts and providing legal entrepreneurial opportunities.

self-em-ployed. 1. earning one's living directly from one's own profession or business, rather than as an employee earning salary or commission from another.

## For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: *Rehabilitation: What Part of Corrections?*; Albuquerque, New Mexico; May, 1977.
2. Write John Maher, President Delancy Street Project, 2563 Divisadero, San Francisco, California 94115.
3. Read "Prisons Run for Humans — Not Animals," by Iran Schwartz, *Chicago Tribune*, August 23, 1976.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Make a survey of business/service needs in your town. And try to find out if it's feasible to set up a new business to be run by offenders and ex-offenders.
2. Get the local jail officials to agree to hold training sessions for inmates on how to own and run their own businesses.
3. Follow up by providing assistance to ex-offenders who try to make it on their own.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many inmate self-employment projects are there in your state?*

## Notes

# Spare the Rod

**The more paddling children receive in school, the higher the vandalism rate in that school.**

Schools are the only remaining institution where a citizen may be legally assaulted by authorities without due process or other constitutional guarantees of basic rights.

The Courts have not yet granted children the full protection of the law. In a 5-4 decision in April, 1977, the Supreme Court said that corporal punishment was not cruel and unusual punishment, because cruel and unusual punishment applies only to "persons convicted of crimes," and children in school have not been convicted of crimes.

Dr. Irving A. Hyman of the National Center for the Study of Corporal Punishment and Alternatives in the School, surveyed a dozen schools in Portland, Oregon. His findings: the more that paddling is used in schools as punishment, the more vandalism there is against the school.

Dr. Ralph S. Welsh of Bridgeport, Connecticut examined the upbringing of juvenile delinquents in the court and found that they came not from permissive homes, but rather from homes in which severe parental punishment was practiced. There even was a marked correlation between the violence and aggressive nature of the youngsters' crimes and the nature of punishment by their parents.

Could it be that the children who deface and destroy their schools have learned from their paddling teachers or parents that violent behavior will solve a problem?

**paddle, a short flat bladed instrument, or a similarly shaped makeshift one, used to spank a child.**

## For More Information:

1. Write the National Center for the Study of Corporal Punishment and Alternatives in the School, at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19122.

2. Read *The Children's Rights Movement*, edited by Ronald and Beatrice Gross, Garden City, N.Y., Anchor Press/Doubleday, \$9.95 hardbound, \$3.95 paperback.

3. Read *That Kid Drives Me Crazy*, by Anne Blocker and Don Pool, Taurus Press, 1977.

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Find out what the local school district's policy is on corporal punishment.

2. Find out about the incidence of vandalism in your schools.

3. Present your findings, along with resource material, at a meeting of your local school board.

4. Get your teachers and principal involved in P.E.T. (Parent Effectiveness Training).

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*What is your local school district's policy on corporal punishment?*

## Notes

**More Laws Make More Crime**

**If we had no criminal law, we'd have to think up a new definition for crime. Some criminal laws even encourage and protect crime.**

What ought to be a crime? When should we use laws to regulate human behavior?

Most people agree that the primary function of the criminal law should be to protect life and property. And some would go further and add protection for the young and the helpless to prevent exploitation or corruption. Beyond this point, there's little agreement. Some want to put a criminal tag on how people spend their money, what they do in their bedrooms, what they drink at their parties.

One single piece of legislation like this — the Volstead Act — was responsible for the growth of organized crime in the United States. But this prohibition of liquor, wine and beer, which people wanted and would pay any price for, initiated big crime in a big way in this country.

This mistake was repealed in the 1930s. But similar laws are still on the books today.

About 1.2 million persons were arrested in 1975 for public drunkenness. That's 13 per cent of all arrests. Americans legally gamble \$17.7 billion each year. And illegally gamble somewhere between \$5-39 billion annually. Last year, some 62,000 gamblers were arrested for action that in another state would not have been illegal. When stricter parking meter laws are made, more slugs show up in the meters.

Fifteen million Americans use marijuana regularly, and the 1976 report by the National Institute of Drug Abuse indicates that another 36 million have tried it at least once. In 1974, marijuana arrests totaled nearly 70% of all drug arrests.

When other victimless crimes are added in, about 1/5 of all Americans could be considered "criminals." Making a new law sometimes makes more crime than the system can handle. How much "crime" do we want to pay for?

law. 12. any rule or injunction that must be obeyed. 13. a rule or principle of proper conduct sanctioned by man's conscience.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How many new criminal laws has your state legislature made in the past two years? How many have been repealed?*

**Notes****For More Information:**

1. Read *The Honest Politician's Guide to Crime*, by Norval Morris and Gordon Hawkins.

2. Conference Proceedings: *Punishment: Perspectives in a Civilized Society*, Chet Chiles, Austin, Texas, January 1977.

3. Jail Arts Proceedings: Richard Halpin, Austin, Texas, February 1977.

4. Conference Proceedings: *Incarceration: Benefits and Drawbacks*, Ilana Hadar, Arlington, Texas, March 1977.

5. "A Report on Non-Victim Crime in San Francisco," LEAA, Grant No. 374.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Check the number of "victimless" lawbreakers in your county jail. Speculate about the difference it would make if the funds spent on them were diverted to apprehension of violent criminals.

2. Join or start up a citizen's lobby group. Review state laws on victimless crimes and work for revision where indicated. See "how to change laws" section in this manual.

# Ex-Offender Liberation

**"I feel like a  
foreigner in my own  
country. It's awfully  
hard to deal with  
straight people."  
—An ex-offender**

When an offender gets out of jail on parole, he's forbidden by law from association with other ex-offenders, often his only friends. He's forbidden by law from taking certain kinds of jobs.

Unless he's got a waiting job and a supportive family, he might as well still be in prison. Because being out of jail does not necessarily mean being free.

The Fortune Society is an organization composed of ex-offenders who help each other adjust to the "outside." By counseling and offering group support when the individual ex-offender becomes frustrated by the complexities of building a new life in an often hostile society, the Fortune Society offers hope.

"That group is tough. They know what it's all about because they've been there too," says one ex-offender.

The Fortune Society offers more than moral support. It has been working with the National Alliance of Businessmen and the Human Resources Department of the AFL-CIO to develop jobs for ex-offenders. And the American Bar Association is trying to change the laws that keep ex-offenders from working at some jobs.

With the help of the Fortune Society, and others concerned with the problems of the ex-offender, maybe being released from confinement will mean liberation after all.

**lib-er-a-tion. freed  
from bondage or  
restraint.**

## For More Information:

1. Write the Fortune Society — 1545 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10036.
2. See Conference Proceedings: *Punishment*, Don Taylor, Austin, Texas, January 1977.
3. Write the American Bar Association National Clearinghouse on Offender Employment Restrictions, Suite 600, 1705 DeSales St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, for a copy of "Expanding Government Job Opportunities for Ex-Offenders."
4. Write the National Alliance for Safer Cities, 165 East 56 St., N.Y. 10022 for a copy of "Employing Ex-Offenders — Where Do We Start?"

## What You Can Do Now:

1. Try to change laws in your state that discriminate against ex-offenders.
2. If there is not a Fortune Society chapter in your state, help get one started.
3. Are ex-offenders allowed to associate in your city for the purpose of helping the public deal with crime?
4. How many ex-offenders are in your city?

NOTE: Throughout our conferences, the single event with the greatest emotional impact was the presence and active participation of ex-offenders as speakers and responders. No one got bored when an ex-offender spoke. Everyone got involved.

***If you're reading  
this after 1979, the in-  
formation will be at  
least two years old.***

***Have you ever  
helped an ex-offender  
get a job?***

## Notes

**Eyes on the Street**

**Sometimes the simple act of reporting one crime helps prevent other crimes from taking place.**

Citizen patrols, security on the premises of housing projects, property marking projects and increased crime reporting are effective crime prevention tactics.

Even reporting criminal acts can stop them from occurring.

And community efforts to encourage citizen crime reporting are growing.

This is good news. It indicates that citizens make a difference in preventing and controlling crime, a point that has been highlighted in recent research findings. A LEAA sponsored study of police response time found that citizens often delay in reporting crimes, so that police may not be called to the scene until long after a suspect has fled. In many cases victims are too traumatized to act quickly, making it more essential that witnesses take the initiative in reporting crimes to the police. And other studies have shown that information provided by victims and witnesses is the key to solving most crimes.

Beyond their value in promoting citizen involvement, citizen crime reporting projects can have an effect on the community. The researchers report that they help to foster a more cohesive attitude among neighbors, improve relations with police, and reduce unwarranted fear of crime.

**For More Information:**

1. *Citizen Crime Reporting Projects*, Phase I Report, National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, U.S. Department of Justice, April 1977.

2. Write the National Alliance for Safer Cities, 165 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022, for a copy of "Twenty-Two Steps to Safer Neighborhoods."

3. Write the National Sheriff's Association, 1250 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20036 for information on the National Neighborhood Watch Program.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Initiate a property identification marking program in high crime areas.

2. Encourage prompt reporting of all crime. Use free public service radio and television announcements to do so.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*Have you ever failed to report a crime?*

**Notes**



# Our Scapegoat

**We dreamed it up; we conceived it; we're responsible for it. Our correctional system is in its infancy. Will we have to throw out the baby with the bath water?**

Maybe one reason our correctional institutions are such frequent targets of criticism is because they are so highly visible. Dr. Charles Newman of the University of Texas at Arlington puts all this criticism into perspective. He describes the weakness of all prisons as:

\*They have no control over their intake. They get whomever is sent to them, whether they belong in prison or not. And they must keep them for as long as the courts or parole board dictates.

\*They must seek funds based on the number of people and the level of problems they have now.

\*They must deal with inmates who are there against their own will and who often exhibit their hostility.

\*Their staffs are frequently not as well trained as they should be.

\*They send ex-offenders back to communities which are unreceptive and even hostile.

What Dr. Newman is saying is that the faults of the correctional system are much larger than the system itself.

"They are the fault of society; they are the fault of our elected representatives; and they are our fault because we have not stood up and said this is what we want the system to be," Dr. Newman said.

What do we want the system to be?

scape-goat. 1. one who is made to bear the blame for others or to suffer in their place.

### For More Information:

1. Conference Proceedings: Dr. Charles Newman, 1977.
2. Conference Proceedings: *Juvenile Justice System*, Jerome Miller, Houston, Texas, April 1977.

### What You Can Do Now:

1. Try to distinguish between those problems which are inherent in the system itself, and those which derive from the larger political, social and economic system.
2. Go to work on those problems you can do something about now.

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old. What is the political reality to allow for change in your community?*

### Notes

**You Bought It**

**It's the only system you've got; you pay for it — one way or the other.**

Pay now, or pay later. Either way, the public pays for crime and punishment. So it has a right to ask, "What does the *public interest* require from the system?"

There's only one answer. "A system that works." One that both protects society from known criminals and from the physical, economic and emotional burdens of criminal activities.

What we're paying for now is failure. And we're paying plenty.

When will the public demand success?

When will private business demand competition with the present system? (Think about the U.S. Postal Service and its host of new competitors for delivery of our mail.) The States of Oregon and Washington have private enterprise proposals for an alternative criminal justice system.

When will legislators, public officials and administrators be held accountable?

When will the public perceive that the real causes of most crime are rooted in our economic system and our inability to deal effectively with the myths about crime?

Sheriff Richard Hongisto of San Francisco points out that in those nations with the most equal distribution of wealth, housing and medical services, there exists the lowest degree of crime. In those nations with the greatest extremes between wealth and poverty — and where the poor know about the wealth of the rich — there exists the highest levels of crime.

In the United States, the crime statistics show that some of the rich pay extra for their affluence, and most of the poor pay dearly for their poverty. And the rest of us keep on paying those taxes for the criminal justice system.

You pay for our system — one way or the other. What do you get for it? Is it worth it?

pay. to make due return for goods or service.

**What You Can Do Now:**

1. Demand a system that works.
2. Hold office holders and public policy makers accountable for failures.
3. Educate political candidates about the system.
4. Elect to office only those who are committed to the public interest.
5. The State of Oregon has received proposals from private business to operate their criminal justice system. Contact the American Chamber of Commerce for more information.
6. What does your system cost per person per year? How effective is it?

*If you're reading this after 1979, the information will be at least two years old.*

*How much are you paying for what you get from the criminal justice system; and how much do you like what you're getting?*

**Notes**

# What You Can Do

If you care about these problems, but don't know what to do . . .

1. Write for the additional information listed under the topic of your greatest concern.
2. Find out what your community is doing now by calling
  - a. Your state legislator
  - b. Your county commissioner
  - c. Your police chief
  - d. Your district attorney
  - e. Your local FBI office
3. Present the information you have gathered, along with a local speaker who may be an expert in the field, at a meeting of your organization.
4. Set up a task-force of other interested members within your organization and work with the task-force to decide upon a strategy for local action.
5. Help your organization's task-force build a community-wide coalition of other interested organizations, citizens groups, law enforcement personnel and public officials.
6. Work with this coalition to stimulate public interest in the problem and to generate ideas about possible solutions.
7. Help the coalition develop a plan to solve the problem.
8. Help the coalition implement the plan.

## Notes

# What You Can Do

## If you want to volunteer to help implement new directions for corrections . . .

1. Pick a specific project that interests you.
2. Find out the facts about the problem and the proposed solution.
3. Learn what others in your area are doing about the problem.
4. If there is an existing volunteer effort, offer to help by contributing your time on a regular basis — once a week, or a few hours a month.
5. Be dependable. If you can't make your volunteer shift, be sure to let the project director know.
6. Learn your job. Ask questions. Be cheerful.
7. If there is no existing volunteer effort, start one.
8. Form a small group of interested people and decide on a strategy for change.
9. Enlist the support of the local chapters of participating organizations:
  - \*AFL-CIO
  - \*American GI Forum
  - \*American Jewish Committee
  - \*National Council of Catholic Laity/United States Catholic Conference
  - \*National Alliance of Businessmen
  - \*National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
  - \*National Conference of State Legislatures
10. Plan to give as much of your time as possible.
11. Good luck!

## Notes

# What You Can Do

## If you are an elected or appointed policy maker . . .

1. Find out exactly what programs work in particular situations and what programs don't work.
2. Try to locate successful examples in your state — or elsewhere in the nation. Use this manual to help.
3. Find out how much your program will cost the taxpayers.
4. Find out how much your program will benefit the taxpayers in terms of reduced crime and increased safety, or even in reduced costs.
5. Try to arrive at an accurate cost/benefit ratio for your program.
6. Present your ideas to other policy makers and encourage them to join with you in promoting your program. Offer to share the responsibility and the credit for potential success of their program.
7. Enlist the support of civic organizations and other interested groups.
8. Go public with your program. Present the facts. Encourage your supporters to lobby for the program with other policy makers.
9. Use good public relations tools to build general public support.
10. Introduce the legislation, an ordinance or administrative policy change.

## Notes

# What You Can Do

**If you are a law enforcement official and you want new directions for corrections . . .**

1. Find out what programs work and what programs don't work.

2. Learn about organizational management. Learn why a program that works in one location doesn't work in another. (See Anne Blocker's section in How to Do It book.)\*

3. Locate successful examples in your state — or elsewhere in the nation. Use this manual.

4. Find out what kinds of administrative changes are necessary to implement alternatives.

5. Get the facts and present them effectively — to other law enforcement officials, to policy makers, and to concerned citizens.

6. Learn how local law enforcement personnel, with the help of the FBI, initiated successful crime prevention programs in Birmingham, Alabama; DeKalb County, Georgia; Norfolk, Virginia; and Wilmington, Delaware.

7. Use this cooperative FBI approach as a model for solving the problem of greatest concern to you.

8. Give a copy of this manual to your colleagues.

9. Find other people who care (citizens, criminal justice conferences, ex-offenders, the poor, minorities, people in your position in other cities, and those who feel they've been victimized by the system).

10. Colleges and universities.

11. Criminal Justice newsletter — reference libraries in your city.

12. LEAA toll free number.

13. Hang in there. The system needs people like you who care about new directions.

## Notes

# What You Can Do

## If laws must be changed to solve a problem . . .

1. Do your homework. Find out exactly what the present law requires and identify *specifically* what you think needs to be changed.

2. Set up a community task force of individuals and organizations who share your concerns.

3. Formulate your concept for change into precise language which can easily be drafted into a legislative bill — and make sure every member of your group is in general agreement.

4. Make an appointment for your entire group to meet with each member of your state legislative delegation (if the concern is with the state law) or with a congressperson (if the concern is with federal law).

5. Ask your representative(s) to introduce and/or co-sponsor your proposed legislation.

6. If your representative agrees to help, live up to your part of the bargain by providing timely information, services and support from your group.

7. Offer to provide information, bill-writing and lobbying efforts to aid the representative's efforts on your behalf.

8. Once you have your sponsors lined up, write every member of the legislature, or Congress, on behalf of your cause. Explain your position briefly and concisely. Ask for a direct commitment of support.

9. If your state legislature is the forum for change, visit every member personally to explain your position. This includes the leadership.

10. Use the "friend of a friend" system to lobby for your bill. Enlist the support of friends of powerful leaders and ask them to lobby on your behalf.

11. If the U.S. Congress is your forum, join with other nationwide organizations which have lobbyists in Washington, D.C.

12. If your efforts fail with your local representatives or congressperson, remember the best lobbying is always done in political campaigns when candidates are more willing to make commitments in return for support at the polls.

13. Get involved on behalf of your cause in the next round of political campaigns. (If your organization has tax-exempt status, do it individually, not on behalf of your organization.) Raise money and encourage volunteers to participate in the campaigns of those candidates who support your cause.

14. If you do this, your chances of success may be better next time around.

---

## Notes

# Who to Contact

Our purpose is to present new ideas and information about programs which were presented in five regional conferences. But we do believe in getting to know the people at conferences and finding out formally and informally what might help the most — and in what directions we need to work. Every effort has been made to check the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Sources referred to are intended to serve as a guide for your own activity to get you started. Check the facts and do a little detective work on your own before you make your own public presentations. By the time you read this, you may want more current information. Use the resources and let us know if you need more help.

The following list is provided for your use. Feel free to contact the national representative of the organization most closely affiliated with your group. They will be able to provide you with an idea of current programs and policies.

## **NEW DIRECTIONS FOR CORRECTIONS**

Douglas W. Denton  
Research and Service  
Programs Division  
Institute of Urban Studies  
University of Texas  
at Arlington  
Arlington, Texas 76019

## **AMERICAN GI FORUM**

Eddie Castillo, Adm. Asst.  
1157 East Seminary Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76115  
(817) 926-8541

## **AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

Harry Fleishman  
Race Relations Director  
Institute of Human Relations  
165 East 56 Street  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 751-4000

## **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC LAITY**

Isabelle Collora, Vice President  
Coalition Coordinator  
10305 Lake Gardens Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75218  
(214) 321-6086

## **U.S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

Dr. Barbara A. Stolz  
Coordinator of Special Issues  
Dept. of Social Development  
& World Peace  
1312 Massachusetts Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
(202) 659-6805

## **NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN**

Sam Harris, Director  
Business Liaison  
Ex-Offender Program  
1730 K St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 254-7108

## **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

Wilbur Smith, Director  
Prison Programs  
NAACP — National Office  
1790 Broadway  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 245-2100

## **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES**

Lloyd A. Barbee  
152 W. Wisconsin Avenue  
Suite 318  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203  
(414) 273-5755

## **Jeff Esser**

Criminal Justice and Consumer Affairs  
1150 17th Street NW, Suite 602  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 624-5400



Anne Blocker, Program Developer  
La Mancha Group, Inc.

Isabelle Collora, Coalition Coordinator  
National Council of Catholic Laity,  
United States Catholic Conference

Douglas Denton, Project Director  
The University of Texas at Arlington

\* \* \* \*

**Concepts**

Anne Blocker  
Isabelle Collora

**Research**

Douglas Denton  
Mary Beth Rogers

**Writing**

Mary Beth Rogers  
Anne Blocker  
Isabelle Collora  
Gladney Flatt  
Douglas Denton

**Design**

Gladney Flatt

**Production Assistance**

Brenda Bradshaw  
Joyce Ogden  
Joanne Pratt

This project is made possible by a grant (#DS-77-E01-4307) from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, U.S. Department of Justice.

Administered by  
The Institute of Urban Studies  
Research and Service Programs Division  
The University of Texas at Arlington  
Box 19069, Arlington, Texas 76019  
(817) 273-3071

This book is not copyrighted.  
Xerox at will and distribute the  
pages. We want the word to spread.

We do not advocate *each* of these New Directions. We respect the differences of opinion among our coalition members. But together, we feel that these are the most interesting and promising of many proposed directions for our correctional system.

**END**