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ACA COMPREHENSIVE WORK ENTRY PROGRAM

> UNIT 1 J WHY WORK?



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DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOOKLET!

NCJRS DEC 27

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This project was supported by Grant No. 73-ED-99-0038 awarded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, United States Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions stated in this publication are those of the American Correctional Association and do not necessarily represent the official position of the United States Department of Justice.

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#### Unit 1 Why Work?

#### UNIT COALS

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

#### Identify good reasons for working

Recognize that money is not the only benefit to be gained by having an honest job

Identify the satisfaction of figures of authority as a reason for working Satisfy conditions for release

Take part in treatment or work release programs

Get on probation or parole

Recognize that you have to find something productive and legitimate to do with your time if you don't want to return to jail

Recognize that idle time can lead to trouble

Recognize that by working you can get new and better friends

Recognize that if idle time can lead to trouble, idle friends can be worse Recognize that the people you spend the most time with have a lot of

influence over what you do and how you do it

Recognize that if you don't have idle time, you won't have time for idle company

Recognize that this does not mean you must drop your friends because other people don't like them

Recognize that if your friends have a bad influence on your actions, then you should change them

Recognize that as an adult there are certain responsibilities that are expected of you

Recognize that a lot of other people depend on what you are and what you do

Identify parents, wife/husband, children, and friends who would like to see you succeed

Recognize that having a legitimate job helps you build self-confidence Recognize that anything you are good at can make you feel good Recognize that being good at hustling always carries with it the

risk of getting caught and doing time

Recognize that another benefit of having a "straight" job is that it is something you can be proud of, no matter where you are

Recognize that you can talk about it "on the corner" or anywhere else

Recognize that people will respect you

Recognize that when you have a job, you can work toward achieving your own personal goals without fear of getting caught

Recognize that you can work for a new car or better place to live Recognize that you can work for whatever YOU choose to spend your money on

Recognize that having a straight job is the best way to make absolutely sure that you stay out of jail in the future

#### DIRECTIONS

Before you begin this unit, complete the test items on the Unit Test. Use a blank sheet of paper to write down your answers, or an answer sheet provided by your instructor. DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOOKLET! When you have finished, check your answers using the Unit Test Key which you will find in the back of the booklet. Count the number of items you answered wrong and mark your score on your answer sheet (for example, -6). After you have finished reading the text, take the Unit Test again. When you have finished, check your answers using the Unit Test Key. Count the number of items you answered wrong and mark your score on your answer sheet (for example, -1). By comparing the two scores, you can see how much you have learned.

In the unit you will find review questions to check your progress. Answer the review questions on a separate sheet of paper. Then, check your answers using the Review Question Key. You will find the answers printed upside down. If you answer any of the questions wrong, read over the section right before the questions. If you answer all of them right, keep reading.

At the back of the booklet, you will find a list of words and their meanings. If you come across a word you do not understand, look it up in the word list. Words which appear in the list are underlined in the text.

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#### Unit Test

For each of the following test items, circle on your response sheet the letter which most correctly completes the statement. DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOOKLET!

1. True or False

Money is the only reason for working:

- a. true
- b. false

2. A good reason for working is that it can satisfy:

- a. conditions for release
- b. conditions for participation in treatment or work release programs
- c. parole or probation
- d. all of the above

3. Legitimate work should be used to occupy your time because:

- a. most people have legitimate jobs
- b. idle time can lead to trouble
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

4. The people you spend the most time with:

- a. have a lot of influence over what you do and how you do it
- b. can be changed by working
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

5. You should change your present friends:

- a. if they have a bad influence on your actions
- b. if other people don't like them
- c. to satisfy parole or probation officers
- d. none of the above

6. As an adult:

- a. there are certain responsibilities that are expected of you
- b. a lot of other people depend on what you are and what you do
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

# 7. Having a legitimate job:

- a. helps you build self-confidence
- b. carries with it the risk of getting caught
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

# 8. Being good at a "straight" job is something:

- a. you can be proud of
- b. you can talk about "on the corner"
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

9. When you have a job you can:

- a. achieve personal goals without fear of getting caught
- b. work for a new car or better place to live
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

# The best way to make absolutely sure that you stay out of jail is by: *a.* hustling

- b. having a straight job
- c. both a and b
- d. neither a nor b

WHY WORK? Most people would say, "To make money." And, of course, most of us do work to make a living, for ourselves and our families. But money is not the only reason for working or the only <u>benefit</u> to be gained by having an honest job.





Condition of release
Work release or treatment programs
Satisfy your parole or probation officer

Since you have been in trouble with the law and sent to jail, you have special reasons for getting and keeping a job. For example, getting a job might be a <u>condition</u> for your release. Or you may need to get a job in order to take part in a special treatment program or work release program. And a job is often required in order to get probation or parole.

And if you really don't want to return to jail, you have to find something <u>productive</u> and <u>legitimate</u> to do with your time. You have heard it said, and you know it is true, IDLE TIME CAN LEAD TO TROUBLE!

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And if <u>idle</u> time can lead to trouble, <u>idle</u> friends can be worse. The people you spend the most time with have a lot of <u>influence</u> over what you do and how you do it. By working, you can get new and better friends. If you don't have <u>idle</u> time, you won't have time for <u>idle</u> company.





But remember, this does not mean that you must drop your friends because other people don't like them. YOU must be the one to judge. If your present friends have a bad <u>influence</u> on your actions, then you should change them.



As an adult there are certain <u>responsibilities</u> that are <u>expected</u> of you. A lot of other people <u>depend</u> on what you are and what you do -- parents, wife, children, friends. A steady job for you is something they can count on. Try not to let them down. They would like to see you <u>succeed</u>.



Having a <u>legitimate</u> job helps you build <u>self-confidence</u>. Of course, anything you are good at can make you feel good. But being good at hustling always carries with it the risk of getting caught and doing time. IS THE HUSTLE WORTH THE HASSLE?

Still another <u>benefit</u> of having a "straight" job is that it is something you can be proud of, no matter where you are. You can talk about it "on the corner" or anywhere else. PEOPLE WILL RESPECT YOU!





When you have a job, you can work toward <u>achieving</u> your own personal <u>goals</u> without fear of getting caught. You can work for that new car or better place to live -whatever YOU choose to spend your money on.

And last -- but not least -- having a straight job is the best way to make <u>absolutely</u> sure that you stay out of jail in the future.

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Now that you have completed the text, take the Unit Test again. When you have finished, check your answers using the Unit Test Key. Count the number of items you answered incorrectly and mark your score on your answer sheet (for example, -1). By comparing the two scores, you can see how much you have learned.

Unit Test Key

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1. b 2. ď 3. b 4. С 5. а 6. С 7. a 8 . С 9. C 10. b

# Word List

1.	absolutely - completely; without a doubt
2.	achieving - getting as a result of trying
3.	benefit - something which is helpful or puts you in a better position
4.	condition - something you have to do in order to be able to do or get something else
5.	depend - to rely on someone or something
6.	expect - to look forward to something that will probably happen
7.	goal - something which you work toward
8.	idle - time spent either doing wasteful, useless things or nothing at all
9.	influence - the power of persons or things to affect the way you act or what you do
10.	legitimate - lawful; within the law
11.	parole - release of a prisoner upon certain conditions
12.	probation - a way of allowing a person convicted of a minor offense to go free. This person - the probationer - must usually report to a probation officer
13.	productive - something worthwhile
14.	responsibilities - things you have to answer for; your duty
15.	self-confidence - feeling sure of yourself
16.	succeed - to do what you have set out to do in this case, to have a good life

TEACHER'S NOTES

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