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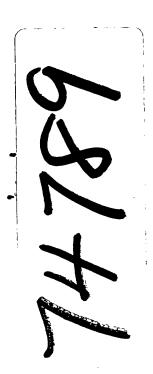


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### ABSTRACT

A survey was conducted to identify the information needs of a five percent sample of men and women incarcerated in seven Haryland State Correctional Facilities for use in planning relevant library services to this population. Findings indicated a lack of basic information concerning rules for correct institutional behavior, with one third of the sample indicating that materials on rules were outdated, unintelligible, and inapplicable. While almost all innates knew of the library, classes, classification counselors, and social workers, many found it difficult to communicate with staff regarding these information sources, and tremendous delays were reported on information requests and institutional feedback. Such delays led to more confusion, and less confidence, in staff and officials. Although access to libraries and classes is greater than to counselors and social workers, the former were criticized for not fulfilling information needs: the library lacked updated legal materials, law books, and academic reference materials. A strong desire was expressed for information concerning family services, including better communication linkages with families, information on available family service supports, and arranging for these services, as well as information, skills, and assistance with vocational planning and training. The questionnaire utilized for the survey and a tabulation of the responses are appended. (Author/BBR)

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FINAL REPORT

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February, 1976

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#### **PURFOSE**

To assess the actual informational needs of the immates in Maryland State penal institutions in order to provide library services specifically designed for this disadvantaged population. Current library services cannot be properly evaluated, unless consideration is given to the needs peculiar to and expressed by this population. We have been providing service based on educated guesses as to the diversity and desires of this group. Quality library service to a high percentage of convicted offenders cannot be schieved without prior determination of the kind of service they need and want.

Since the majority of the population were never library users, have limited reading skills, and are unaware of the use of information resources, it is necessary to stimulate an interest and awareness of information service on an individual basis, in order for each person to honestly confront his/her problems and understand that pursuit of sclutions can begin with input of new information.

#### PREPACE

The survey findings posit an erohaic communication and information retrieval system that has created an information vacuum within each institution.

They suggest that it would be in the best interest of both the immates and staff of each institution to have available a responsible, reliable, information retrieval and referral component.

They reinforce my belief that the library can and should be this component. We must change the present emphasis of our traditional library programs from school and public library branch material collections to new prison information centers that will collect, classify and disseminate information meeded by the confined to survive within the institution and be prepared for re-entry to society.

Brenda Vogel
Library Coordinator
August, 1975

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Members of the interviewing team were: Heil Alperstein, Tonya Bundara, Kay Cooper, Suzanne Edison, William Hubbard, Tyrone Johnson, Mikki Jones, Kamon D. Lugo, Hakim S. Sayyid, Florence Schweitzer, Thomas Tyler and Matthew W. Wright.

The success of this project is due to the cooperation of the Division of Correction central and institution staff.

Many thanks to the immates who willingly shared information with us in this attempt to better the quality of information services.

#### Background:

Correctional systems have tried, in the past, to protect society from criminals. In so doing, they have isolated offenders from receiving communications or contributing to the larger society. With increasing wareness of resocialization processes and the important role of communications inputs, skills, and feedback in these processes, some corrections systems are now willing to end the cultural isolation of inmates. Resocialization programs have attempted to improve the inmates' participation in communication processes through educational programs, self help groups, and through increased access to books, media, and other materials to improve inmates' abilities to seek and deal with new, diverse information inputs.

Since leading theoretical perspectives on the origins of oriminal behavior focus on resocialization via communication as an intervention strategy, the aim of resocialization efforts in corrections should be to end the dependence of inmates for information on peers and correctional officers and to encourage learning of communication skills which the individual will need in order to re-enter society.

Three contending oriminal behavior perspectives all point to difficulties in transmitting and receiving social messages as being among the multiple causes of deviance. One such perspective describes information deprivation as the cause of deviance. Deviant individuals are seen as isolated from the main stream of cultural information and this isolation is seen as leading to criminal behavior. 1

A second perspective cites unintentional or misleading messages of the culture itself as providing models for deviance. The example of television and film as providing models of aggression is an illustration of this approach.<sup>2</sup> Both the first and second perspectives suggest a breakdown in the transmitting and receiving of cultural messages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Brim, C.C. Jr. and S. Wheeler, <u>Socialization after Childhood</u>, New York; John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1966.

<sup>2</sup>e.g. Bandura, A. and R.H. Walters, Social Learning and Personality Development.

A third position holds that an individual needs to participate in the culture through expressive communication. When the individual is thwarted in this expression, he or she may resort to deviant behavior as a means of expression. Prison libraries and education programs have been central to recent resocialization approaches to corrections. Library services, which formerly focused on recreational and leisure reading, are now seen as important elements of correctional programs oriented towards re-education and development of alternative identities and skills. Library services are thus a tool to increase the inmates' access to diverse sources of information as well as to enhance their ability to use information resources.

It is evident that immates have important information needs due to their isolation - needs which are perhaps more intense and perhaps qualitatively different from persons who are not in prison. However, the provision of information services to immates has been based on the educated guesses of librarians, teachers and clerks, who reason from their own experience as to what might be appropriate and useful for immates. Little research is available to guide in the selection of library materials or the planning of programs for immates. And the problem has been intensified by the expansion of diverse immate programs which draw upon the library as a resource, programs ranging from vocational to college degree courses.

Extant research on library services for inmates has focused on evaluating what already exists.<sup>2</sup> Inmates and staffs of correctional facilities have been asked what they thought of the present library services and how such services might be improved. For the most part, the past research has taken prosent library service as a "given". Any objections or criticisms have been raised

e.g. Levine, R. Culture, Behavior and Personality. Chicago; Aldine, 1974.

<sup>2</sup> see LeDonne, M., Survey of Library and Information Problems in Correctional Institutions. (U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare) for an excellent review of this literature.

in opposition to present services -- a reactive rather than a creative approach.

The present project utilized a different approach. We began with the research question: What are the information needs of immates? (as opposed to the research question of how immates felt about present information services). The research strategy employed was to discover information needs through interviews with a probability sample of immates from the Maryland State Division of Correction System. From their responses, one can begin to deduce the appropriateness of present information services as well as the development and redesigning of those services to meet the special needs of immates.

The challenge of the research problem lies in our willingness to redefine our methods in accord with the library and informational needs of individuals in programs that are intended to be "correctional".

### The Research Approach:

3.

The aim of the present research, then, is to describe the information needs of inmates in the State Correction System in Maryland.

The population of inmates in Maryland is diverse, distributed in eight 1 types of institutions according to the general severity of offense of the inmates and the length of incarceration time they have to serve on their sentence. Since some of the concerns of the inmate are related to the stage they are in regarding sentencing, we need to describe the information needs of inmates in each institution as well as in the state system as a whole. We selected a sample of inmates from each institution that allows us to both generalize back to each institution and to the entire state system. Inmates within each institution were selected without bias to identity, nature of offense or other personal characteristics. Each inmate in the seven institu-

Community Corrections' population was not included in the survey since they have access to public library facilities.

tions had an equal probability of being selected into the total sample.

The Interview:

Our aim, to describe the information needs of immates, implies an indirect rather than a direct approach. We did not begin by simply saying to a person: "What are your information needs?". This question is a rather abstract one and almost guaranteed to produce stereotypes and cliches if anything at all. Our approach was to establish a common ground of reference with our respondents - in terms of their own experience; that is we began the task of developing definitions of information and information needs by asking a series of questions about their day to day experience with and use of various information sources. We asked the inmates to compare these prison information sources - to their accessibility to information scurces before being incarcera ed. Thus, we first attempted to enable the immate to define what he or she meant by information. Then, we asked "regardless of what seems to be available to you now, what do you need to know about; what are your present information needs?". Because the data collection methodology was an interactive process - one which built upon the special knowledge of each individual, the data collection method was necessarily flexible and shaped to each particular respondent. However, in order to summarize our research results we needed some comparability between respondents, some issues on which we could secure agreement on definition - and asked of each respondent in more or less the same way. Therefore, as the interview progressed, open ended interview questions were increasingly followed up by disciplined focus on a core set of questions that were consistently administered.

The sample can technically be described as a stratified random sample. The randomly selected within each institution (strata) in proportion to the number of inmates in that institution. (See Likish).

For the above reasons, a personal one-to-one interview utilizing an interview schedule that allowed each respondent to develop his or her point of view within a structure of focus concerning information needs was decied most appropriate. 1

The interview was developed and pretested by a group of researchers familiar with correctional systems from both an inside and outside perspective. The group included ex-offenders, correctional staff and library personnel. The schedule was pretested on non-offenders, ex-offenders and inmates of a local jail.

A staff of eleven (11) interviewers was trained in several ways. The interviewers participated in the construction and pretesting of the questionnaire. They developed the wording of the questions — a procedure which assured their understanding of the meaning and intent of each question and which thus gave them flexibility in the interview situation to individualize through the use of appropriate, non-leading probes, explanations and rephrasings. Role playing and group discussions of the pretest items were used to change awkward questions and question sequences and to sharpen interviewer skills.

## Data Collection Procedures:

The interviewers went in groups of three to five to each correctional institution. By prior arrangement, they were met by prison officials who escorted them to a designated area where they were able to sit, with correctional officers nearby, but not within hearing distance, and quietly converse with each inmate. We assured inmates of confidentiality and we meant this assurance. Our interviewers did not know the names of the inmates they were interviewing and these names were never identified with a particular interview.

<sup>1</sup> The interview schedule as administred is in Appendix A.

After drawing the sample using random selection procedures, we gave the entire list to prison officials. The officials at each institution sent the inmates to the interviewers - but did not tell the interviewer which immate they were sending. We asked the prison officials to indicate on our list which immates were seen and which were unavailable so that we could calculate the response rate, but there is no way a particular interview can be traced back to the immate who talked with our interviewers.

The interviewers first explained the purpose of the study and assured the inmates of confidentiality and asked immates whether they wished to participate in the interview and the research project. Only a very small mum'er of immates declined to participate. We did, however, have some rendoaly solected inmates who prison officials declined to allow to participate in the research project for a variety of reasons. We were not able to see immates who were in segregated situations, in the hospital, unavailable because of the conflicting hours of their prison jobs, and a number of others who for unexplained reasons did not show up in our sample but who were on our original list. Thus, our sample excludes inmates who were currently in segregation and others isolated from all but minimal information inputs. Our results, therefore, may be if anything, somewhat less critical than the actual information needs of the entire prison population. So, if we see what appear to be strong needs for information expressed, we can, because of the conservative nature of our sample, have a good deal of confidence in the actual existence of these needs.

The obtained sample is about five percent (5%) of the total population in the Maryland State Correctional System. The number of persons in our sample, according to institution, is as follows:

Haryland Reception Maryland Maryland Cor- Maryland Cor- Maryland House (cont'd)
Diagnostic Classi- Penitentiary rectional In- rectional : of Correction
fication Center Stitution- Training ConHagerstown ter-Hagerstown

50

7.

## INMATE INFORMATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

Maryland Correctional Camp Center	Maryland Correctional Institution for Woman	Total
38	30	300

Table I contrasts the age distribution in our sample with that in the population.

				TABLE I					
Prison	15-20	<u>21-25</u>	<u>26-30</u>	31-35	<u> 36-40</u>	41-45	46-50	<u>50+</u>	
Population	17%	35%	21%	11%	<i>6</i> %	166	2%	<b>196</b>	100%
Research Sample	20%	38%	19%	13%	6%	1%	1%	2%	100%

Comparison of our sample and the prison population show only slight (nonsignificant) differences in terms of race and age. Because of the selection
procedures and the closeness of the sample characteristics to those of the
prison system as a whole, we feel that the sample closely portrays the information
needs of the prison population, although as stated above, it may underestimate
the severity of those needs. Had immates in segregation and others not allowed
to participate in the survey been represented, even greater information needs
may have been expressed.

## Data Analysis Strategies:

Interviewers recorded more or less verbatim answers of the inmates to the research questions in the interview. Thus, a wealth of information was collected. To organize this information, interviewers and the research staff developed a coding scheme out of the data itself. Code categories were not forced upon the data, but were developed out of the data to account for it in the most appropriate way.

For the most part, coders agreed in their judgment or assigning responses to categories. The overall intercoder reliability was at the acceptable level of 85% when all questions are considered. We will use statistics to describe only those items where the level of agreement was 85% or better and omit the frequency and percentage distributions of items where agreement was low, choosing instead representative direct quotes of the immates to portray what was said.

Each of the seven institutions has its own administration and its own particular information networks, resources and channels. Therefore, trends of insate information needs that are consistent for all institutions will be seen as strong universal needs - at least in the Maryland State Correction System. Those needs that emerge in particular institutions will be seen as arising in some way because of the particular insate population, administration and service delivery organization or because of combinations of these and other characteristics. Findings:

The Prison as an Information System: To subsist, to thrive in any system, one needs to know about that system, to develop information sources, to get feedback from that system and to provide feedback to it.

Inmates in the Maryland State Correction System have quite developed and differentiated sources of information. They have, however, tremendous needs for information concerning a number of areas crucial to them and to the prison and larger society which, according to the inmates, are not being met efficiently—if at all.

Che-third of our sample state that they did not receive a copy of the correction system handbook; the book which describes to them, in writing, appropriate modes of immate behavior, rules and regulations of the institution and the resources of the prison system. This booklet also explains who to go to

for further information and special needs. A number of others report that they did not or could not read the handbook. These immates report that their sources of information are fellow immates and their own personal coping resources. This situation seemed especially soute at the Maryland Reception Diagnostic Classification Center (MEDCC) where a number of respondents seemed truly at a loss as to what was expected of them, what they might expect from the prison situation, and what information resources were available.

Among the majority of immates who did receive a copy of the Maryland Division of Correction: "A General Information and Guidance Manual for Immates", there was also unanimous agreement as to its inconsistency and outdated content. Most immates felt that the handbook information was either not reliable or inconsistently applied.

Twenty-five percent (29%) of our sample said they went to classification counselors and correctional officers for information about rules and available resources. But many others felt that this information was not reliable and felt that information from this source was not readily available either. For example, one inmate expressed the frustration of not even being able to ask a question that for him was crucial:

"I asked my Classification officer (sic) about a work release program here. He said to go to the officer on the tier. So I went to the officer on the tier.

He says to go to the Classification officer (sic)."

Many inmates described instances of waiting days, weeks, or longer to see an officer, for, finally, no results at all. One inmate reported that "only the 'new inmates' go to the officers or to the counselors or the social workers.

'Older inmates' know they won't get any information there."

Most inmates do report having received the manual and do report utilizing officials for finding out what and where things are happening in the prison.

( )

They use these sources, but report they are slow and unreliable, and that they need to be heavily supplemented by their own experience. Insertes thus report being thrown back, because of inadequate institutional information sources, on their own personal resources and on those of other insertes.

More than twenty-five percent (25%) of the sample mentioned only other immates as important sources of information on prison rules, administrative policies, and general news of daily occurrences. This group, heavily comprised of persons who say they have not received the manual, may run a high risk of breaking the prison rules, since they may not know what they are. Persons in this group thus may become deviant in the correctional system, becoming further deprived from the resources that might be available to them.

Here of institutional rules is also available in prison publications such as newsletters. About fifty percent (50%) of the sample said they had heard of a newsletter in their institution. Twenty percent (20%) of the sample thought that these newsletters might furnish news of institutional matters, but a larger percentage, thirty percent (30%) expressed criticism of the newsletters, mainly that they were published for and by administrators and would always be consored in respect to immate participation.

The pattern described above is that the majority of the immater are aware of internal institutional sources concerning rules of conduct and institutional resources. But, they find they cannot rely on such sources: they are unreliable, slow, unresponsive, or from a perspective other than the immates. Thus, immates turn to primary reliance on informal sources, their own experiences, other immates, and as discussed below, their families — and turn to "official" correctional channels only as secondary sources (see Tables 2, 3, Appendix B).

11.

This linkage is affected by two important factors: the location of the inmate's institution relative to the family home location; and, the particular rules of behavior in the institution in respect to the media of family communication -- mail, phone calls and visits. It appears that immates who are incarcerated a distance from their home towns usually must rely less on visits, more on the mail, and express greater dissatisfaction with their ability to maintain this contact. Immates in the camps (Maryland Correctional Camp System), many of whom were on pre-release placements, had privileges of frequent phone calls and of weekend passes to leave the institution. They report fewer communication difficulties than persons in the other institutions maintaining ties with their families.

### The Role of the Library and Library Information Needs:

The immates' reliance on fragmented and often inadequate sources of information points to the potential of the prison library as an important supplement to both outside and inside information sources. The immates appear to recognize this potential but most are aware of the shortcomings as well as the possibilities of prison libraries. Only four percent (1%) of our sample did not know or were not aware of the presence of the libraries in their institutions. And, the reported usage of the libraries was high; more than sixty percent (60%) of the immates in our research sample reported that they had been to the prison library at least once during the past month (see Table I, Appendix B).

Thirty percent (30%) of the inmates report going to the library at least once a month, and fifteen (15%) report going more than fifteen (15) times monthly, probably higher than the library utilization rate for the population outside of prisons. These attendance rates indicate the reliance on and potential importance of the library as a resource for the inmates (Table I summerizes

library use). Use rates of the library vary from institution to institution.

Persons in the Maryland Penitentiary appear to have the largest proportion of heavy users of the library, the next highest user groups being at the Maryland Correctional Training Center at Hagerstown. There appear to to low numbers of regular or heavy library users at the Reception Diagnostic Classification Center, where immates are in transition — awaiting assignment to other institutions, and, in the Camp Center, where again immates are in transition — on their way out of the prison system. Given the relative stability of the Maryland Correctional Institution at Hagerstown and the Maryland House of Correction in Jessup, there appear to be low numbers of regular users.

Patterns of use may reflect accessibility of the library to the immates as well as immates' motivation to use the system. Many immates reported that the library was open to them only on certain days of the week and at certain restricted hours. More than half of our sample mentioned time limits on their ability to use the library. The library, for many of the immates who hold jobs within the prison system or who may be attending a variety of classes, is frequently not open at the times when they need its services.

Inmates report: "the library is closed too mush"; "shop time conflicts with library time"; that the "library is closed a lot" and that "there is often an inconsistent schedule".

According to one inmate - "The rules for the use of the library are totally arbitrary. It's on the whim of the guards. If you can get there, you may only have two minutes." Many inmates report that they can go to the library only during class breaks or that they have only "brief time" to stop while on the way to other activities. Some inmates mentioned that there were restrictions on who could use the library but most reported only the short visiting times and the limited number of hours that the library was open as serious impediments to library use. Several inmates did bitterly

complain that at their institution you had to be a student (and students comprised less than half of the immates) before you could use the library.

When inmates do get to the library, they use a variety of materials which they find there -- and also seek a variety of materials that they do not or cannot find. When asked what kinds of materials they did use, almost twenty percent (20%) of all inmates using the library reported using materials of a general academic nature. Sixteen percent (16%) of the inmates said they read current fiction and other literary works. Inmates also reported using a variety of printed materials ranging from magazines to poetry to ethnic related materials to legal materials (which will be dealt with more extensively in a section below).

Many inmates reported dissatisfaction with what materials were available in the library. Said one inmate, "I expected a library. But it was a fictiononly selection." Other immates commented on the irrelevance of the collection in their institution. One inmate commented that, "Thirty percent of the immates are law students. Forty percent want black literature. There are two useful current law books here. All the others are outdated." Two-thirds (2/3) of the inmates who had used the library reported looking for materials that they could not find. Of those persons who did look for materials that were not available, the largest proportion, twenty-five percent (25%), looked for up-to-date law books or other legal materials. Another large group looked for and could not find academic readings -- including psychology, sociology, basic skills materials and political science. Other frequently missed materials were black and other ethnic cultural materials and poetry and literature (Gibran's PROPHET was a popular request). Another problem, cited by several inmates, was that there was frequently no one available to help them find and use the material. This was especially true in regard to law books.

Inmates, than, do have complaints about the lack of material in libraries - the lack of up-to-date law books and legal references, and also books for academic reference and more serious literature are most often mentioned. They have a variety of suggestions for new materials, ranging from law books to books on sports and hobbies, to "books on respiratory therapy" to works by Aristotle, Victor Hugo and Kahlil Gibran.

Irmates, also use other sources than the library to provide what can be regarded as library services. Many inmates have their own collection of reading materials. Several reported with pride that their legal "libraries" were more up-to-date and complete than the prison library. Forty percent (40%) of the inmates say that they go to fellow inmates to get books and other reading raterials. And, many inmates have their own subscriptions to magazines or order reading materials directly from publishers or suppliers. Reading materials, most often current fiction, are also sometimes available from bookmobiles supplied by county public libraries. Sixteen percent (16%) of our sample say they use these bookmobiles and that these are an important source of reading material for them.

## Other Institutional Information Sources:

The library is among several possibilities for information resources about the "outside" world for inmates. Another link for maintaining and developing communications with the larger community is the educational program. Hore than one-half (1/2) of the inmates, in our sample report, have participated in one or more classes in the prison system including GED (High School Equivalency) classes, technical courses and training programs, and college classes. As one inmate said, "Education is important. You need to improve yourself. Without an education a man is lost. He can't function on the outside." Even inmates who have not been enrolled in the classes recognized their potential importance,

as they recognized the potential utility of library services. These inmates draw heavily upon the library to help fulfill their educationally developed needs for information about themselves and the outside world. They use the library to supplement their classes and class materials and often mentioned the library in conjunction with their classes, i.e. the materials and books that they look for and cannot find are frequently those in academic areas.

Other inmates however felt they had information needs which were not being met by the educational system. "The education programs here are not relevant to what's going to happen to me when I get out", was the view of one inmate — a view which seemed representative of many of the inmates. For some inmates, "the classes are too elementary", for others they are too abstract or too irrelevant or too hard. For a large number of inmates the educational programs were just not available. They had come to the institution in the middle of a course and were not allowed to enter or they were scheduled to leave or transfer and were not allowed to enter because they wouldn't have time to complete the program.

For these inmates and for the self-taught inmates who have learned to read under their own tutelage, for the "jailhouse lawyers", and those with self-taught specializations, the library plays a large role as a major source of information. 1

### Social Workers:

When we asked inmates about social workers as a source of information, we were surprised at how few inmates saw this group as information resources or linkages. Two-thirds (2/3) of the sample have seen a social worker since they

These self-taught experiences are an important aspect of the inmates' information resources. The inmates able to provide special information are justly proud of their skills, which required painstaking effort to acquire. Other inmates recognize these self-taught persons as important resources and, when saked about their sources of information, many inmates mentioned that they go to these self-taught inmates.

have been in jail. Another third report that they have not seen or used the cervices of a social worker. Many of the inmates who have seen a social worker were skeptical of the information which was provided. Half of the inmates said that their social workers did not help them and reported that they were poor sources of information about what was going on in the prison and about what was happening on the outside, of their families, etc. A number of these inmates complained that the social workers and classification counselors tried to do the same job and one commented that the "social workers give undependable help on classification matters". Others, however did mention that a social worker had helped with their cases -- getting out, getting a transfer or helping with parole. A small number of inmates, only six percent (6%) mentioned that the social workers had helped with their families and this was only after we asked the question directly. They almost never spontaneously mentioned the social worker as a source of information about their families and about the outside world or mentioned them as helpful in getting information in or out of the prison in an emergency. We were somewhat surprised by these findings because we had anticipated that the social worker was alink between the inmate and outside society. This was certainly not one of the roles perceived by the overwhelming majority of the inmates. Social workers were perceived by some as providing helpful information and assistance on within prison programs, such as classen and transfers but they were seldom perceived as linkages to the outside world.

### Information Needs Concerning Legal Status and Cases:

All of the inmates we spoke to expressed interest in their cases at one time or another - either in terms of getting out, appeals, interest in media information about orime legislation, prisoners' rights, or parole and transfer. Twenty-five percent (25%) of our respondents said that the most important information they needed to get from the outside was legal information. Hany did

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not know their court dates until sessome showed up to take them to court.

Others were concerned about appeal procedures and the criterion on which they were being judged for parole. The fact that so many immates turn to those outside the prison system to furnish this information would seem to indicate that they have a need for more information about their own status as immates - an indication substantiated by our data.

Many inmates knew only the basic knowledge of their case, their original sentence. Only half (\frac{1}{2}) of the inmates report that they have seen a lawyer since they have been incarcerated. After conviction, lawyers apparently aren't often available for further help or for explaining the trial and conviction to the inmate. Many of the inmates interviewed had public defenders or court appointed lawyers who did not answer correspondence concerning the case or appeal. It is not really surprising them that many of the immates expressed a need for information about their trial and seemed genuinally perplexed over the whys of their case or the severity of their sentence. Inmates in the Esceptica Center where immates are entering the system, were especially not likely to have seen any legal counselor. A much larger proportion of inmates, eighty-eight percent (88%) in the Maryland Penitentiary, report having seen a lawyer or logal counselor since they have been incarcerated. Inmates in the Maryland House of Correction in Jessup, a center not quite so accessible to the legal help available in Baltimore, do not report having seen legal counsel nearly so frequently.

What kinds of information did innertes receive from their lawyers or from legal aids counselors? Over one-third (1/3) of the inmates, including those who had seen lawyers, reported that they "haven't gotten such that was helpful", or reported they felt their lawyers were not doing their jobs and were not providing helpful services. About the same number, thirty-three percent (3%) of our example, stated that they did not receive information and legal services and assistance from their lawyers concerning their appeals, the law in general, parole and sentencing.

A surprising number of immates are unable to say when they expect to be released from prison, or how long their sentences really are. Fourteen percent (11%) of the immates in the research sample did not know when they expected to get out and twelve percent (12%) did not know how much more time they had to serve. One immate reported "the public defender has the file on my case. He was fixed and now nobody knows anything about it." One of the immates we spoke to was classified for outside clearance in January: "I didn't find out until March." He was still awaiting processing when we spoke to him in April.

A substantial number of inmates (70 of the 300) felt the need for more information explaining their cases, the whats and whys of their cases. Inmates indicated the need to know court dates (almost ten percent (10%) needed to know this basic); and information concerning parole and appeal (twenty percent (20%)) and release dates. About a third of the research sample reported having attempted and failed to find out things about their case. Inmates mentioned attempting to learn about their cases, trying to find out about parole, release dates, and trying to find out on what basis they were being judged for parole.

A third of the immates, when asked directly what they needed to know about - what were their information needs? - mentioned their prison status and their legal status as most important. Other things spontaneously mentioned and described by the immates when we asked this question were: questions about parole board policies, crime legislation, information about new laws relevant to their cases, court decisions affecting prison conditions and prisoner rights and better legal materials.

Thus, information about their legal status is one of the pervasive interests of the inmates. It permeates their spontaneous comments and their interest in education, media, self-help, peer relations and the library. The materials most often looked for in the prison libraries, and not found, were legal materials - writings relevant to the legal status of the offender, his or her offense, possibilities concerning appeal, relevant laws, etc.

Over one-third of the inmates who sought legal reference materials in the prison libraries said they could not find the information they were seeking. If they wish to know something about the law, usually as it applied to their own case, and are among the fifty percent (50%) of the immates who have not seen a lawyer - they are almost totally dependent on other immates. Communications with Family:

By far the most important information need expressed by the inmates in our sample was to stay in contact with their families and close friends - and to help provide services and help for them. This need surpassed even the important needs for legal information and for information and training about jobs - although obviously all three are closely related. In response to a forced choice item, - about the most important information need, - twenty-five percent (29%) of the inmates said that their most important need was for information to help their families.

Particularly important for the inmates were helping to obtain social services that were relevant to the inmate's family. These range from simple requests - how a person might send his wife flowers - to how to keep his mortgage from being foreclosed - while his wife, who was hospitalized, was unable to do anything about it. Others had children who were "getting into trouble". Often, inmates cited difficulty in receiving and sending messages to and from their families - many times this was important information. "My brother died. But they didn't pass it on until after the funeral."

Most immates rely on mail, visits and phone calls to communicate with their families. All but a few immates mentioned there as the way they go about stayin touch with the outside. About twenty-seven percent (27%) of the immates felt that it was fairly difficult to communicate with persons on the outside in any way. There were some slight differences between institutions in this respect. More than fifty percent (50%) of the persons in the Recoption Center and in the Maryland House of Correction felt it was difficult to communicate

with the outside. At the Marylvii Correctional Camp Center only ten percent (10%) felt it was difficult to communicate and at the Woman's Institution at Jessup only eighteen percent (18%) mentioned difficulty in staying in contact with their families. About twenty percent (20%) of the immates mentioned perticular instances of difficulty in getting information from the outside - with again trends towards greater difficulties in the Maryland House of Correction. Among the difficulties mentioned at all the institutions were the unavailability of any person to pass on a message, delays in the processing and delivery of mail (often months), and mix-ups in announcing that an immate had a visitor.

Only five percent (%) of the inmates mentioned that they got helpful information from social workers relevant to family problems. Immates appear to depend heavily on mail, phone and visits to maintain contact with their families and to assist them. When asked what they would do if their family had a problem, the majority of immates said they would call or write their families, or that they would go directly, or as directly as they could through phone calls to persons contact the outside. (See Table II). If there are persons whose function it is to intervene to assist the immates in family and other matters, very few immates are aware of them and even fewer depend upon them.

There thus appears to be a gap for many inmates between their families and the social services that are provided these types of problems. As one immate put it after talking about the difficulties of maintaining contact with his family, "It seems like there should be things available to help. Everything is available, doing something about it is difficult."

In the camp system, it was easier for immates to make telephone calls to the outside. They expressed less concern about being able to help and give advice if their families had difficulties. In other institutions the restricted access to telephones limited the immates' ability to respond

quickly to urgent family needs. Inmates who communicated with their families by mail reported incidents where mail was delayed several months. Rules on what is permissible in the substantive content of the letters and in enclosures are, from the inmates' point of view, unclear. Inmates report that they have not received mail - and what they do receive is so inconsistent that they are at a loss as to what is permissible in enclosures.

### Jobs and the Future:

Need for information relating to jobs on the outside - vocational training, finding a job, information about what is available and the skills necessary are almost as important to the immates as communication with their families.

Information about important sources of future training, educational and social services, and veterans benefits are apparently not readily available for some of the inmates. Many of the inmates, whom one would expect would be eligible for GI benefits since they were veterans of the VietNam war, are apparently unaware of educational benefits and veteran support possibilities.

Inmates see the need for jobs so that they will be able to "make it on the cutside" and they feel that having a job waiting for them is an important criterion in whether they get early or late parole.

## Summary of Findings:

Inmates expressed urgent need to know what was expected of them by the prison - and what they could expect of the penal system. For some immates there was a lack of basic information concerning the rules for correct behavior in the institution. Fully a third of the sample had received a Division Hanual and the majority of our sample criticized what was in the materials they had received as outdated, unintelligible, inapplicable. Behaving according to prison rules is crucially important for coping on a day-to-day basis. If an inmate gets started on the wrong foot with respect to the basic rules he or she

may find it difficult to cope with the prison system for the rest of their sentence. Failure to understand the rules can have important formative effects on a person's socialization and labelling in the prison system. Many inmates however did not receive - or at least - were not aware of having received these rules at all.

Immates were aware of many resource possibilities within the prison system. Almost all of the immates knew of the libraries existence, knew that there were classes, classification counselors and social workers. Many, however, found it difficult to communicate with prison staff and officials. Several immates reported tremendous delays on a variety of information requests and on institutional feedback. Such delays mean more confusion, less confidence, and more potential "errors" of behavior on the part of immates.

There appears to be greater access to the libraries and to the classes than to the counselors and social workers. Half of the inmates have participated in classes and eighty percent (80%) report that they have been to the library. The library and the classes were criticized by many as not providing the information desired by the inmate. Chief among library materials desired were up-to-date law books and legal materials. Inmates also wanted greater access to the library in terms of hours appropriate to their work schedules. Other library services that were desired by inmates were academic reference materials to supplement their course work.

Information concerning family services, including better communication linkages with families and information on available family service supports and information on how to arrange for these services was strongly desired. Services in the area of the family economic situation were also mentioned.

Finally, a strong need for information, skills and assistance with vocational planning and training was expressed.

#### Conclusions:

We began this study with a desire to see how immates perceived correctional library services, but also with the realization that these services had to be viewed in the context of the full informational needs of immates. Starting with the full range of needs was viewed as the method for designing an appropriate information service system.

In the open-ended interviews, immates mentioned over and over again a number of concerns and areas where they operated more or less in the dark and needed to be better informed; needed sources to help them cope with their unique and diverse problems. Many immates were interested in self-help and educational programs; most were vitally interested in the law --both in their own cases (about which many were appallingly uninformed) and in the law in general. A number were having problems finding out about jobs and training opportunities. Almost all were concerned that they not lose contact with and the ability to help their families.

The expressed needs of inmates imply a wide range of needed improvements in services. They suggest new roles and revisions in cld toles in the service personnel in correctional systems. And, they have important implications for libraries in prisons - as they play a part in the correctional system.

The needs of inmates described above could suggest a number of ways that libraries can expand their services beyond the casual reading collection level and even beyond the increases in accessibility that many inmates desired. Special displays and topical bibliographies, and a greater depth and breadth of collections is necessary for the inmates to become informed about their interests - to be informed enough so that they will be in a position to adequately cope with their needs. Special files on job opportunities, community resources, GI benefits, family services are suggested. The development of multi-media approaches to these issues incorporating the inmates' orientation

### 24.

# INMATE INFORMATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

to the visual as well as the print oriented media is a promising possibility. These are only a few of the services that might be explored.

The incorporation of immates into these efforts to incure involvement and relevancy is necessary. And, a continued monitoring of the immates information needs and their utilization of present services is necessary to efficiently utilize scarce lesources.

#### APPENDIX

- A QUESTIONNAIRE
- B TABLES
- C DATA SUMMARY

#### APPENDIK A - QUESTIONNATRE

MARYLAND DIVISION OF CORRECTION -- APRIL 1, 1975

### INFORMATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

The Library Coordinator has received a Grant from the Maryland State Department of Education to survey what you need to know so that we can plan and design better institutional libraries for the future.

A team of interviewers will be at your institution in the near future. If you are asked to take part in this interview, your name will not be made known to the interviewer and your answers to the questions will not have your name on them.

Your cooperation in answering the questions will be greatly appreciated. Since this is the first survey of this kind ever tried in the United States, the results will be very important to everyone involved in Education and Library Programming.

Sincerely,

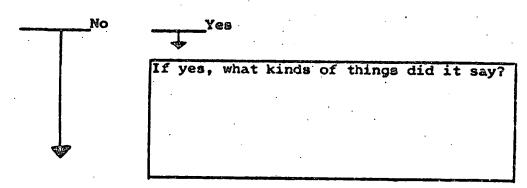
Brenda Vogez

Library Coordinator

BV/shl

1.	Location
	Interviewer
3.	Date
4.	Time
I'd doin	like to talk to you about a research project we're g about what inmates need to know.
Did	you get a letter explaining the project? (show letter)
to g	e talking to inmates to try to make it easier for you et the information that you need to know on a day to basis to make a better fit between your needs and information available to you.
Head	le in the library office at the Division of Correction quarters and in the State Department of Education were rested in the kinds of things inmates need to know it. So they got a grant to do this project.
inte	the researchers writing the report will ever see these rviews. And no one will ever know it was you who gave see answers. You don't even need to tell me your name. We the officer a list of people we chose at random and is not telling me who is coming to be interviewed.
we v	vill give the inmates the results of this research. And, vill give the results to the staff and administration.
We l	the things you need to know.
Any	questions about this project?
5.	Sources of information are where you go or who you go to to find out about things.
	When you first got here, the classification officers or the people in security told you how to act or they gave you a rule book.
	And the other inmates gave you information on how to act too.
	Which was the best source of information on how to act when you first got here?  Inmates
	Casumi due al nocul fi co tian

6. Did you get a copy of the rule book or conduct book to read?

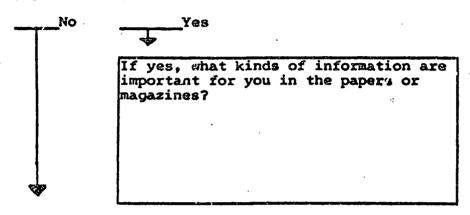


- 7. Where else around here do you go for information, for things that you need to know?
- 8. Where do other people go to find out about things you need to know on a day to day basis?
- 9. Besides the (inmates/officers/other) which of the other sources of information around here is most helpful?

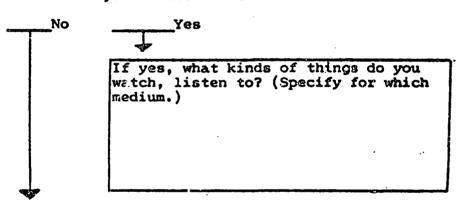
10. How are they helpful?

11. Now I'd like to ask about some of the other sources of information around here.

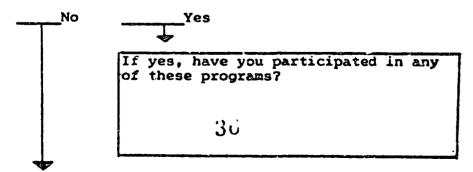
While you've been in prison, have you read any newspapers or magazines?



12. How about radio, TV or film? Have you seen or heard them while you've been here?



13. Are there any kinds of self help inmate programs here like SANDS or 7 Steps or AA or JC's ?



14. What kinds of important information (could or did) these self-help programs provide?

15. Have you participated in any classes here like reading programs or GED?

If yes, which classes have you taken?
15a.

What kinds of information did you get that was important?
15aa.

No	Yes			
1				
Why is that? 15bb.				
		•		

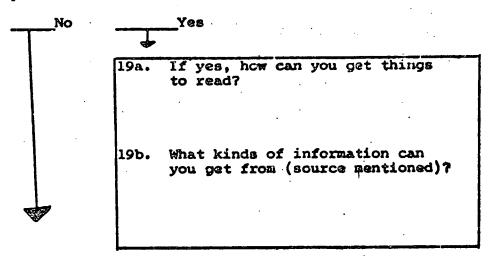
No		een a social worker or counselor her
***************************************		
What kind portant of worker?	s of in	nformation (have been/could be) im- ful that you get from your social
•		
Is there	a libra	ary here?
No.	<del></del>	Yes
	4	
Ī	18a.	If yes, where is it located?
	185.	Have you ever been to the library?
		NoYes
	18c.	If yes, how many times did you go last month? or during an average month?
	18d.	If yes, what kinds of materials dic you use there?
	18e.	Did you look for anything that you couldn't find there:
		NoYes (Explain what it was
	18f.	Did you check out any materials?
		NoYes
1	l	If yes, how did you go about return

Page 6

What are the rules around here for how and when you can use the library?

189.

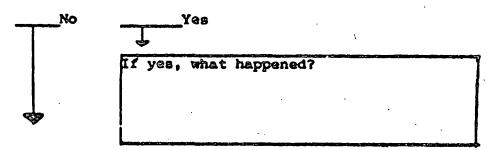
19. Can you get books and other things to read from places in here other than the library?



- 20. How do you go about staying in touch with the cutside?
- 21. What's the most important information you need to get from the outside?
- 22. Supposing there was something important on the outside that people needed to contact you about. How easy is it to get information in to you about important things?

\_\_\_\_\_fairly easy
\_\_\_\_\_neither easy nor difficult
\_\_\_\_\_fairly difficult

23. Has anyone ever tried to get important information in to you and couldn't?



24. What kinds of important things are there outside that you need to know about?

25. You just said that it was important for you to know about\_\_\_\_\_

If you needed to do something about that, how would you go about it? (Give example, if necessary.)

26.	Is	there	a	prison	newsletter	here?
-----	----	-------	---	--------	------------	-------

26a. If yes, what is in it that is important for you to know about? Is this newsletter published by 26b. inmates? No Yes 26c. Could you contribute to the newsletter if you want to? \_\_No \_\_\_Yes 26d. What do you think about a newsletter being published by inmates (as opposed to prison staff). Why is this important or helpful?

27. Have you seen a lawyer or a legal counselor since you've been here?

\_\_\_\_No \_\_\_\_Yes

28. What kinds of information do you get (have you getten) from lawyers that is important or helpful?

29. If you wanted to know something about your rights or some other kind of legal information, and you couldn't see a lawyer, how would you go about finding it?

30. What kind of information do you get from other immates (from the immate grapevine)?

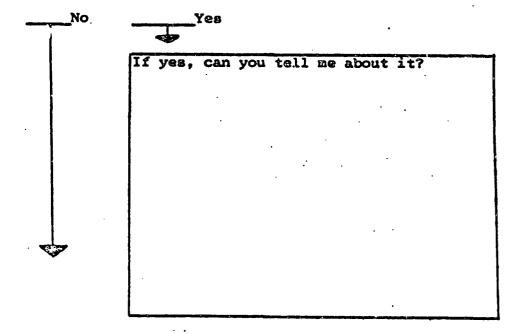
31. What's the most important information you get from other inmates?

32. How do you know if you can believe everything you hear on the grapevine? (How to check it out?)

33. Have you ever tried to find out about your case?
\_\_\_\_No \_\_\_\_Yes

34. What kinds of things do you need to know about your case (whether or not you actually know them now)?

35. Have you ever wanted to find out about something (else) around here and not been able to?



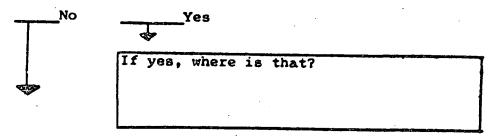
36. We've been talking about some of the things the prison system provides inmates, some of the things the prison thinks you might need to know.

Now I'd like to ask you about the things you need to know about -- whether they are available here or not.

What kinds of things to you think are important to know about?

37. Any other kinds of information that would be helpful to you or to people who are important to you?

38. Is there any place you can go to now to get information about this?



39. What kinds of information were important to you on the outside that are not available to you now?

- 40. Which of the following is most important for you to know about? (What is the one most important?)
  - A. Legal information, information about your case, or about your rights.
  - B. Information about getting yourself together, psychology or education.
  - C. Information to help people on the outside like help for your kids or welfare.
  - D. Medical information about treatment or drugs.
  - E. Information about jobs, working, money, benefits,

Give letter:	Most	important	(give only	one)
	Next	important	•	

F. If other (explain)\_\_\_\_

41.	I have just a few more questions.
	How old are you?
42.	When did you start to do time?
	MonthYear
43.	How much time have you done so far?
	MonthYear
44.	When do you expect to get out?
	MonthYear
45.	So how much more time do you have to serve?
	MonthsYears
46.	What is your present marital status?
	Single
	Married •
	Divorced .
	Widow(er)
47.	Do you have any children?
	NoYes
	If yes, how many children do you have?
	•
48.	Before you came in, how many grades in school had
	you completed?
	Grades

49.	These are	all	the questions I have; are there any	ı
	questions	you	have or comments you'd like to make	7

Anything that I should have asked you about information around here that I didn't?

- 50. Time at end of interview\_\_\_\_\_.
- 51. Interviewer comments:

52. Check one:
\_\_\_\_C
\_\_\_N

APPENDIX B - TABLES

TABLE I: NUMBER VISITS TO LIBRARY

		Instantalog								
	MRDCC	MD.PRH	MCI-H	MCTC-H	MEC	MCCC	HCI-A		<u>TOTAL</u>	
less than three per month	53%	26%	59%	गिन्ध	63%	141 <b>66</b>	58%	1.	4996	
Once or twice a week	40%	26%	25%	23%	27%	Mee	21%		27%	
More than twice a week	_7%	<u> 1,8%</u>	<u> 166</u>	_33%	10%	_12%	21%		2166	
•	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	

\*percentagised within institution

APPENDIX ? - TABLES

## PARLE II: TYPE OF INFORMATION DESIRED FROM CUTSINE (QUESTION 24)\*

	1.1274 (V)							
•	MECOCC	ND.PRV	MCI-R	MCTC-H	3680	MOCC	KI-4	TOTAL
Punily (e.g. news, finences)	erer	52%	50%	79%	68%	62%	50%	62%
Legal information (about case on original law)	28%	39%	33%	13%	11.06	12%	33%	23%
Jobs (and job training	_8%	9%	17%	_11%	18%	294	17%	119%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

\*percentagised within institution

å

51

52

APPENDIX C - DATA SURMARY

## DATA SUMMARY

CAR	D/COLUM	Question # & # hesposhes	•	
1	1		Deck (Card) Number  Code 1	•
1	2-4	9 2 1	ID Number (in red on front page of interview) 001 - thru about 100	
1	5	9 2 41 50 51 56 34 38 30	Location (in red-just after ID on front page)  1. Reception (Diagnostic) - Baltimore  2. Pen (Baltimore)  3. WOI-Hagerstown  4. ROTO-Hagerstown  5. MHC-Jessup  6. MCCC-Jessup  7. ROI-W - Jessup	
1	6	9 # 3 170 59 7 32	<ul> <li>Q5. Which was the best source of information on how to act when you first got here?</li> <li>1. Inmates</li> <li>2. Security, classification</li> <li>3. Rule book</li> <li>4. Self</li> </ul>	
Mako	Card	28 4	8. Other 9. Missing Data (MD)	
1	7	<u>9.#4</u> 97 201	Q6. Did you get a copy of the rule book or conduct book to read?  1. No 2. Yes	
		2	9. MD	
1	8	9 # 5 22 128 2 8 8 24 7	Q6a.If yes, what kinds of things did it say?  1. Don't remember didn't read  2. Rules - Do's and don'ts  3. Punishments - Disciplins  4. Resources availability, i.e. counselors, libraries  5. Description of institution  6. Critician of rule book - cutdated	8
Hako	Card	10 95	7. Rules are arbitrary (criticism of rules per se) 8. Other 9. MD	
1	9	Q#6	Q6a. Second mention - use same code as above	

•	CARD	/COLUMN	Question # & # Responses	and the second of the second o
	1	10-11	<u>9#7</u>	Q7. Where else around here do you go for information
				for things that you need to know?
		•	97	01. Classification counselor
•			ړ	02. Shop officer, work supervisor
	•	•	3	03. Bulletin Board
			3 3 9 66 5 4	Ol. Redio, TV, modia
	٠.		66	05. Library (includes law library) or books
			. 60	06. Other inmates (in yard) older inmates
			) 	07. Asst. Warden, Administration
			27	08. Chaplain, minister, moslem leader
٠.			27 5 13	09. Guards, officer on tier, traffic 10. Self
•			13	•
•			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	11. Civilian workers, social worker, teacher,
	•	•		psychologist, or release counselor 12. Lawyer, legal aid
			4	13. Via phone, mail, people on outside
_			1	14. Relatives, visitors from outside
			Ė	15. Concerned guards, officials
			5 28	16. No one, difficulty, no good source
			4	17. Depends
			23	99. MD, NA
	1	12-13	<u>q # 8</u>	(8. Where do other people go to find out about
				things you need to know on a day to day basis?
				Use same codes for mentions in Q7.
	1	14-15	<u>9.#9</u>	Q9. Besides the inmates/officers/other which of
•				the other sources of information around here is most helpful?
				Use same codes for mentions in Q7.
	1	16	2 # 10	Q10. How are they helpful?
_			20	1. Let know about outside about jobs families
			140	2. Let know about inside transfers how to cope
•			9	3. Get things - material objects
			<b>29</b>	4. Let know what's going on - NA where help
			٠.	or explanation of case (appeal, parole assistance)
			14	5. Interpretation
			10	6. Only source of info
			19	7. Intervene for you with inside programs
	Make	Card	.37	8. Other
			122	9. MD
	1	17	Q # 11	Q11. While you've been in prison, have you read
			27	any nowspapers or magazines?
			271	1. No 2. Yes
•				
			1	9. MD
				Ęr;

CAI	ED/COLUMN	QUESTION &	
1	18-19	Q # 12	Q11a. If yes, what kinds of information are important
		37	for you in the papers or remaines?  O1. Happenings on street-contact with reality, local news
		。 <b>76</b>	
		30	02. Politics - current events - news in general 03. Law - new laws - crise legislation
		وُ	O4. Local News
		20	05. National - world events
		25	06. Pass-the-time hobbies, enjoyment sports news
		13	07. Criticism of distribution of magazine; censorship
		27	08. Ethnic culture mag "Black"
		7	09. Art - re: prison; jail conditions not
		Δ	logislation
		<del>@</del> 10	10. Art: re: orime
Mak	e Card	-21	88. Other
		. 6	98. Not applicable
		19	99. MD - no answer to Q11
1	20-21	<u>Q # 13</u>	Q11a.Second mention - use same code as first
			mention.
1	22		012. How about made my an 643 a. T.
•	22	Q # 14	A.T. HOW GOOD TRULD, IT OF ILLE! HAVE YOU BOAN OF
		17	heard them while you've been here?
		281	2. Yes
,		2	9. MD
1	23-24	Q # 15	Q12a.If yes, what kinds of things to you watch,
		•	listen to? (Specify for which medium.)
		3	Radio 01. Church service
		141 3	AA 44
			O2. Nows WHTZ O3. Talk show WHUR
		89	O4. Music, entertainment
		5	05. Soul program
		13 89 5 4	06. Sports news - progrem
			07. Counseling programs
		34	08. Call letters
Make	Card	15	88. Othor
		47	98. Inapplicable
		45	99. MD

2/2-1	<del></del>	49.		
•				
	CAR	D/COLUMN	QUESTION #	
•		_, vozo. <u>u</u> ;	& # RESPONSE	
			or in treplouping	is and the second secon
	1	25-26	Q Ø 16	0406 05-41 1 1 10 10 10
			3 10 10	Q12a.Continued Medium T.V.
			40 E0	01. News - local
			50 15 26	02. Comedy
			26	03. Sports
•			20	O4. National news
			20	05. No choice - whatever is on
			7	05. Educational programs
			3	07. Detective program
•	Moke	Card		
	1.00/107.6	Card		88. Other
•			68	98. Inapplicable
•			63	99. MD
	4	07.00	_ * .	
•	1	27-28	<u>e# 17</u>	Q12c.Continued Medium Films
•			69	01. Comedy-entertainment; whatever they show
			6	02. Ed. (Dope)
			2 8	03. No films
			8	04. Not recent
			7	05. Special old movie
			10	06. Schoduling problems
		_	36	07. Criticism
	Hake	Card	14	88. Other
			68	98. Inapplicable
			80	99. MD
				//• ·····
	1	29	<u>q#18</u>	013. And there are black as a second
				Q13. Are there any kinds of self help insate pro-
			51	grams here like SANDS or 7 Steps or AA or JC's?
•			245	
			2	
			2 2	3. I don't know
			•	9. MD
	1	30	0.4.10	040- **
		<b>J</b>	<u> 9 # 19</u>	Q13a. If yes, have you participated in any of these
			151	brograms (
•			101	1. No
				2. Yes
			47	9. NA
	1	31-32	0 44 00	0.41
	•	JJE	<u>8 # 50</u>	Q 14. What kinds of important information (could
			^0	or did these sail help trograms provides
			28	or Idn't know - didn't participate
			40	U2. Nothing
			- 12	03. Informs outside people - community
				affairs; preventive - community cor-
			41	rection
			6l,	Ou. Therapy
			11	05. Holps parolefind out about parole
				procedures
			14	06. Keeps mind occupied
( )			5	07. Music participation
Tight.				08. Spiritual information
•			. 18	09. Criticium of Antonia
			12	09. Criticism of information provided
				10. Not relevant for me because for special
			8	groups
				5. 11. Encourages immates to help each other,

Card/Column	Question # & # respons	
1 31-32	9 \$ 20(cont	'd)Q14. What kinds of important information (could or did) these self-help programs provide?
Hake Card	19 63	88. Other 99. MD
1 33	<u>Q ∉ 21</u> 152 143	Q15. Have you participated in any classes here like reading programs or GED?  1. No 2. Yes
1 34	5 9 # 22 18 2 78 24	9. MD Q15a.If yes, which classes have you taken? 1. Shop-vocational 2. Art 3. GED 4. College
Make Card	13 10 155	5. Reading programs 8. Other 9. MD, NA
1 35	9. # 23 35 40 23 8 14	Q15ea. What kinds of information did you get that was important?  1. GED or degree (necessary for further education)  2. General knowledge  3. Skills - vocational  4. Interpersonal skills  5. None  6. Help with rehabilitation
Make Card	8 164	8. Other 9. MD, NA
1 36	9. # 2lu 58 101 3	Q150.If no, do you think that the information in those classes might be interesting or important for you?  1. No 2. Yes 3. Not sure
1 37	130 9.# 25 16 13 14 13 18 16 16	9. MD, NA Q150b.Why is that? 1. Needs H.S. diploma, etc. 2. Needs skill 3. Learn something interested in school anything (self-improvement) 4. Helps rehabilitation 5. Don't need because already have ed. degree 6. Not interested; on way out; already have GED; criticism of classes.

•	CARD/COLUM	Question # N & # responses	and the second of the second o
•	1 37	<u>Q # 25(cont'd)Q15</u>	Sbb. Why is that?
0	Hake Card	28 152	8. Other 9. MD
	1 38	<u>Q ∯ 26</u>	. Have you ever seen a social worker or counsolor here:  1. No 2. Yes
		. 7	3. MD
	1 39	<u>Q # 27</u>	. What kinds of information (have been/could be) important or helpful that you get from your
		119	social worker?  1. Nothing can't give information poor source of information
		22	<ol><li>Can help on new programs, getting into classes</li></ol>
		52	<ol> <li>Information on getting out transfer, parole</li> </ol>
		1 <u>4</u> 7	4. Learn about self (therapy) 5. New rules, keeping out of trouble, survival
÷		14 10	6. Help with family
Ċ	Make Card	10 20 112	<ul><li>7. Information regarding outside jobs</li><li>8. Other</li><li>9. MD, NA</li></ul>
	1 40	<u>Q # 28</u>	. Is there a library here? 1. No 2. Yes
		7	9. MD
	1 41	<u>Q # 29</u>	1. Knows location 2. Doesn't know location 3. Don't know, can't find it
•	•	19	9. MD, NA
	1 42	<u>Q # 30</u> Q18ն	1. No 2. Yes
	•.	12	9. MD, NA

CARI	o/coldag	Question #		
1	43	9 # 31	Q18c. If yes, how many times did you go last month	
•	•	30	or during an average month?	<b>(</b>
		32 88	1. Never 2. 1 - 3 times	•
			3. 4 - 6 times	
		48 19 8 4	4. 7 - 9 times	
		Ŕ	5. 10 - 12 times	
	•	<u>.</u>	6. 13 - 15 times	
		24	7. 15 - 30 times/daily	
		22	8. Daily, plus	
		24	9. MD, NA	
1	144-45	9 # 32	Q18d. If yes, what kinds of materials did you use there?	•
		214	01. Dictionary, reference	
		47	02. Fiction, literature	
		16	03. Law books, perodicals	
		6	Oh. Hobbies, mechanical/technical information	
		1 56	05. Biography 06. (History-politics-philosophy) general academic	
		14	07. Unspecified books	
		23	08. Magazines, periodicals	
•		8	09. Religion	
		8	10. Music or books on music	
		10	11. Ethnic	
Matro	Card	12	88. Other	
- Contract	VOLU	75	99. MD	•
1	Li6-Li7	<u>Q # 33</u>	Q18d.Second mention Use same code as for first mention	
1	<b>ц</b> 8	<u>Q.# 34</u> 78	Q18c.Did you look for anything that you couldn't find there? 1. No	
		167	2. Yes	
		,	2, 100	
		55	9. MD, NA	,
1	49-50	<u>9 # 35</u>	Q18ee.Yes (Explain what it was)	
		18	01. Poetry, classic literature	
		10	02. Roference book	
		18 1.1	03. Black oulture	
		41 1	04. Law books(up-to-date)	
		26	05. Current periodicals 06. Books for school courses, general	
		•	soademic sources, general	
		8	07. Current fiction	
		5	08. Hobbies	
		8 5 5	09. Music	
		6	10. Political Information	لسا
Hake (	Card	21	88. Other	•
		141	99. MD	
		•	<b>6</b> 0	

	CARD/COLUMN	Question # & # Responses	en e
0	1 51-52	<u>Q # 36</u>	Q18ee.Second mention Use same code as for first mention
•	1 53	9 # 37 64 182	Q18f.Did you check out any materials? 1. No 2. Yes
٠		54	9. MD
	1 54	<u>q # 38</u>	Q18ff.If yes, how did you go about returning them.
		20 116 1	<ol> <li>On way to shower</li> <li>Bring back, no difficulty</li> <li>Put on cart</li> </ol>
•	Make Card	10 153	8. Other 9. MD
	1 55	9 # 39 150 2 7 1	Q18fff.Any difficulties about returning them?  1. None 2. Not enough time 3. Can't get back (library closed) 4. Other people take 5. No assistance
0	Hake Card	6 133	8. Other 9. MD, NA
	1 56	9 # 40 143 20 17 1 4 5	Q18g.What are the rules around here for how and when you can use the library?  1. Time periods  2. Have to have pass  3. Special privileges school student (during school hours)  4. Have to be without descrits  5. Limit to number of inmates at one time  6. Limit number hours  7. When escort officer available
•	Make Card	21 85	8. Other 9. Didn't know of any rules
	1 57	<u>9. # ५1</u> 36 257	Q19. Can you get books and other things to read from places in here other than the library?  1. No 2. Yes
		1	9. MED

CAL	D/COLUM	QUESTION # & # HESPORSES		
1	<b>58</b>	9 # 1,2 92 16 58 19 3	Q19a.If yes, how can you get things to read?  1. Loan system - from other inmates 2. (Sneak in) from visitors; from family 3. Subscription - direct order 4. Other inmates - trading 5. From chaplain 6. Gut-of-trash 7. Bookmobile	(
Mak	e Card	14 42	8. Other , MD	
1	59	9. # 43 14 82 7 14 4 58	Q19b.What kinds of information can you get from (source mentioned)?  1. Law 2. Anything 3. Pornography 4. News 5. How to books, hobby 6. Books not in library; general mentions—reading	
Make	Card	9 24 87	7. Political information (underground) 8. Other 9. MD	
1	60-61	9 # W.  109 24 8 - 3 - 5 1 6 2	Q20. How do you go about staying in touch with the outside?  O1. By letters, mail O2. Visits, visitors O3. Don't stay in touch O4. Mentions censorship O5. Inmates - coming in and going out O6. Cuards, officers O7. Newspapers, magazines O8. T.V., radio O9. Phone calls 10. Outside projects - involvement with program	
Make		135 5 2	11. Phone, mail, visits (multiple mention) 88. Other 99. MD	
1	62-63	<u>Q # 45</u> 160 52	Q21. What's the most important information you need to get from the outside?  O1. Family, children  O2. Legal, court date, information from lawyer, disposition of his own case	
		31 9 10	(how to get out)  03. Condition of those outside (NA whether family)(in society)  04. Don't need any information  05. Legal charges, law materials, legis-lation—NA whether his case	•

	CAI	ED/COLUM	QUESTION # & # RESPONSES	
<i>.</i>	1	62-63	Q # 45(cont	d)Q21. What's the most important information you
J		•	4	need to get from the outside?
•			1	06. Literature reading material
			3	07. Information on getting in rehabilita- tion program/work release program
			1	08. Special books, i.e. college books for course; correspondence courses
			-	09. Sports
			3	10. Refuses to say
			3 15	11. Re: jobs
;	Hak	e Cerd	9	88. Other
				98. Question was not asked (use only for
ì			6	coding 24)
	1	64-65	<u>9 # 46</u>	Q21. Second mention. (Use same code as for first mention)
	DEC	K 2		·
	2	1	Dook 2	
	2	2-4	9 # 47	ID f of Innece
Ö	2	5	Q # 48	Location (see code for institution)
•	2	6	<u>Q#49</u>	Q22. Supposing there was something important on the outside that people needed to contact you about. How easy is it to get informa-
			426	tion in to you about important things?
			136	1. Fairly easy
			52 81	2. Heither easy nor difficult
		•		3. Fairly difficult
			20	4. Depends on what kind of information
•			-	5. Easy if you know how.
•			11	<ol> <li>MD (If comments on this question please make card with complete quote.)</li> </ol>
	2	7	9 # 50	923. Has anyone ever tried to get important
			219	information to you and couldn't
				1. No
			76 5	2. Yes 9. MD

		QUESTION #	
CA	RD/COLUMN	& # RESPONSE	3
2	8	<u>Q / 51</u>	Q23a.If yes, what happened?
		10	1. Had to wait long period
		11	2. Mail badly processed in prison
		•	(letters sent back), mail didn't
	•		get through
		22	3. Failure of official to pass on in-
			formation, i.e. (parents not informed
		•	of trial date); (delays); (messages
		3	not taken)
		,	4. Prison told someone outside that he/she
		9	(immate) was not at prison  5. Couldn't see visitors (HA why not)
	•		5. Couldn't see visitors (HA why not) (not informed that visitors were there)
		5	6. No one available to pass on information
		•	or and available to pass on information
Mal	ce Card	11	8. Other
		229	9. MD
^	0.40	a #	
2	9-10	9 \$ 52	924. What kinds of important things are there
		440	outside that you need to know about?
		119	01. Family, children; family finances
		31	02. Legal, court date, disposition of his
		25	OWN OBSE
			03. Condition of those outside (not certain
		8	whether family) Oh. Don't need information
		12	05. Legal changes in general, legislation,
			law materials, not cortain whether for
			his own case
		1	06. Literature - reading material
		7	07. Information on how to get in rehabilita-
		_	tion program/work release program
		2	08. Special books
		<b>-</b> ,	09. Sports
		22	10. Refuses
		22	11. Job Information
Make	Card	26	99 043
		25	88. Other
		22	98. Question not asked (use only for coding 24)
			<i>77</i> •
2	11-12	<u>Q # 53</u>	925. You just said that it was important for you to
			prior sport
			Use code for Q24, to code this information.
2	13	0 // 41	
2	13	9 # 5h	Q25a. If you needed to do something about that, how
			would you go about it? (Give example, if nages-
		18	Bary.)
		75	1. See own lawyer, legal aid
		6	2. Contact family, letters, visits, etc. 3. Use library, law library
		48	The second of th
		•	4. Letters or phone calls for direct informs.
			4. Letters or phone calls for direct informs.  tion
			<b>₹</b>

•	. •	, 57.	Question #	
	CARD	\cophwi	& # RESPONSE	kanan di ka Kanan di kanan di ka
0	2	13	<u>Q # 54(</u> comt'd 36 11 24	i) Q25a. If you needed to do something about that, how would you go about it? (Give example, if necessary) (Code only first mention.)  5. Classification officer, guards, through ministrative system  6. Social worker, course instructor, priest or release counselor  7. Difficult; can't; no one can help
	Make	Card	所 50	8. Other 9. MC
•	2	14	<u>9 # 55</u>	Q25a.If you needed to do somthing about that, how would you go about it? (Give example, if necessary) Second mention - use same code as above.
	2	15	<u>9 # 56</u> 142 143 15	Q26. Is there a prison newsletter here? 1. No 2. Yes 9. MD
	2	16	61 <sup>4</sup> 21	Q26a.If yes, what is in it that is important for you to know about?  1. Institutional matters (administration; rules) NA who from
0		٠	3 49 0 2 7	<ol> <li>Educational programs (when and where)</li> <li>Nothing ("no")</li> <li>Articles from other institutions</li> <li>Articles on sports, entertainment</li> <li>Articles about immate performances (jazz performances)</li> </ol>
	Make	Card	7 168	8. Other 9. MD, Inapplicable
	2	17	<u>9 # 58</u> 9 111 15	Q26a.Is this newsletter published by immates?  1. No  2. Yes  3. Censored
•		40	165	9. NA (checked no on Q26); MD
	2	18	<u>Q # 59</u> 14 112	Q26c.Could you contribute to the newsletter if want to?  1. No 2. Yes
			174	9. WA (there is no newspaper: checked no on Q 26.) or MD
0	2	19–20	<u>q.#60</u>	Q26d. What do you think about a newsletter being published by inmates (as opposed to prison staff)?
•	•		.6	01. Important to let people know that prisoners are people too
			7	02. Different groups publish own letters
				1 h = 1 h =

		QUESTION #	•		
CARD/C	OLDW	a / nesponse	3	•	
2	19-20	Q # 60(Cont 'd	1)0266	i. Who	at do you think about a newaletter
		, , , , , , , ,	-/ 👊 👓	bø.	ing published by innates (as opposed
-				to	prison staff). Why is this important
		7		or	holpful?
		7		03.	Could air grievances (investigate problems)
-	•	17		O).	Acts as liaison between immates and
					administration
		5		05.	Could inform prisoners about new
		2	•		laws; their rights
		2		06.	Let inmates know about institutional
		3		07.	changes "No comment"
		31		08.	That would be good - or positive
					general reaction to idea without
		12			particulars of why
		12		09.	Would always be consored by administra-
		23		10.	Negative comment about present news-
•		-			letter (irrelevant; don't write about
					problems; censored) write only about
					sports - need expanded coverage
Make Car	rd	15		88	Other
		172		99.	
2 2	1	Q # 61	007	***	
-	•	9701	WZ / .	BAV	e you seen a lawyer or a legal counselor or you've been here?
		157		1.	No
		140		2.	Yes
		•		_	
		3		9.	MD
2 22	?	Q # 62	<b>Q28</b> .	What	kinds of information do you get (have
		<del></del>	,	you	gotten) from lawyers that is important
		445		or n	elpiul?
		113		1.	About appeal - case - the law - bail -
		4			parole
		114		3. "	About personal life - family Haven't gotten any that is helpful."
		1		4.	Religious rights
		17	!	5.	Rights in institution (suit against
		•			institution) incident with administra-
		-	4		tion
			•		None - also comments about lawyer not doing his job, not being helpful
Make Card	a.	•	_	_	
718V PAER	1	8 43			Other
		42	;	9. I	10

	CARD/	COLUMN	Question # A # Responses	
• •			-	
0	2	23-24	<u>9 # 63</u> 929.	If you wanted to know something about your rights or some other kind of legal information, and you couldn't see a lawyer, how would you go about finding it?
. • .			First Mentic	
			67	01. See (write to) legal counselor, legal aid, law student
-			28	02. Ask inmates (not specific)
•			24	03. Social worker
			55	Ol. Law library or library (in prison)
			ħО	05. Inmates with special knowledge - "long time inmates"
•			14	06. Someone from outside - family (have them look it up)
			2	07. Own best source
1	•		9	08. Write to judge
			4	09. Write to outside library
			11	10. Have family get in touch with lawyer. Send letter to lawyer (doesn't answer, avoids by referring back to lawyer)
			16	11. No way, impossible, can't do it
	Make	Card	23 7	88. Other 99. MD
0	2	25-26	<u>q # 64</u> 929.	Second mention (Use same code as for first mention)
	2	27-28	<u>q # 65</u> q30.	What kind of information do you get from other inmates (from the inmate grapevine)?
			28	O1. Administration policies, institutional policies, ohanges in rules
			10	02. Available contraband
			17	03. New laws - legislation
			3	Ou. Who to be with - who to avoid - how to survive - where not to be
			0	05. Won't say - refuses to answer
•			47	O6. What's going on in prison among inmates - news of daily occurrences
			17	07. Depends on what you want to hear - enything
•			37	08. Can't rely on grapevine - too many rumors
			37 8 5	09. Outside news (i.e. about orime)
				10. Information about other institutions - advice on transferring
			7	11. Information about what's happening to other prisoners
			63	12. Gossip - NA what kind
			2 ·	13. Religion
			2	14. Prisoner solidarity
			25	15. Information relevant to own case-*how to file appeal" - legal information - NA what kind
<b>6</b>	Make	Card	15	88. Other
Ų.	PARTO	Varu	14	99. FD

CARD/C	OLUM	QUESTION & FREEPO		
2 2	29-30	<u>9. ₱ 66</u>	31. What's the most important information you get from other immates? Use same code as for Q30.	
2 3	)1 <b>-</b> 32	<u>g # 67</u> g 49 21	32. How do you know if you can believe everything you hear on the grapevine? (How to check it out?) 01. Just watch - find out for yourself (HA how) 02. Check out with others (outside sources - lawyers)	- )
		15 59	O3. Test out to see results (test - retest) O4. No way - you just have to use discretion - self-judgment	)
		61 18 2	05. Never believe it until you see it 06. Credibility of source 07. Essier to believe than guards	
		26 13 5	08. Check out with credible reliable source 09. Check with guards, classification officer, administration, check directly or indirectly 10. Check out corroborating information	•
Mako C	ard	6 25	88. Other 99. MD	
2 3	3	9 # 68 933 80 217	. Have you ever tried to find out about your case?  1. No 2. Yes	0
		3	9. HD	``
2 3L	ı−35	18 36 14 59 5 11 70 16 10 6 8 3	What kinds of things do you need to know about your case (whather or not you actually know them now)?  O1. When is court date  O2. Will sentence be reduced - how to get sentence reduced  O3. Parole possibilities  O4. Nothing  O5. How to file a motion - petition - what papers to file  O6. Transcripts  O7. Information on why's of case - sentencing, etc.  O8. How to file appeal  O9. What my lawyer is doing  10. Who was witness  11. Challenge to constitutional or unfair trial  12. Imappropriate	
Hako Cai	rđ	17 27	88. Other 99. MD	
2 36		<u>9 # 70</u> 935. 140 155	Have you ever wanted to find out about something (else) around here and <u>not</u> been able to?  1. No  2. Yes	C
		5	9. MD (3.7)	•

CARD/COI	UMN & # RESPONSI	
2 37-	9 # 71 Q356 5 29 17 23 8 5 1 7	O1. No - refuses to talk about it O2. Case information - legal information O3. Transfer - how to get O4. Institutional changes - how to change food O5. Medical information - hard to get to hospital O6. How to get special visit O7. Tried to find out if grapevine gossip was true- couldn't O8. What's going on in other parts of prison O9. Not able to talk with warden 10. Nothing, nothing important 11. Why prisoner status was changed 12. Possibilities in education programs, release programs, etc.
Make Car	ed 28 152	88. Other 99. MD
2 39-	-ŗo	Q35a.Second mention - left out of analysis
2 41-	19 19 19 16 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	We've been talking about some of the things the prison system provides inmates, some of the things the prison thinks you might need to know.  Now I'd like to ask you about the things you need to know about whether they are available here or not. What kinds of things do you think are important to know about?  O1. Institutional changes  O2. How institution is not working  O3. How to be self-reliant; self-control; self-knowledge O4. Political Science - Social Science Program  O5. School Programs - programs to really help - degree programs - what to expect after release  O7. Regulations of institution  O8. Schedule of social workers, classification officer  O9. What happened to personal property  O1. Community correction programs  11. Parole board policies - what information they have  12. Nothing  13. Everything about outside  14. Family  15. Legislation - new laws  16. Court decisions affecting prison conditions  17. More Literature  18. Better legal materials - legal library  19. Personally present at parole hearing in order to heer reasons
Make Car	d 40 28	88. Other 99. MD

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QUESTION #
  CARD/COLUMN
                 & # RESPONSES
       43-44
                Q#73 Q37. Any other kinds of information that would be helpful t
                              you or to people who are important to you?
                              Use code from Q36.
  2
                Q#74 Q38. Is there any place you can go to now to get informa-
                              tion about this?
                  12h
                              1. No
                  107
                             ୍ 2.
                                 Yes
                   69
                              9.
                                 MD
       46-47
                        Q38a.If yes, where is that?
                             01. Relatives
                  44
                             02. Classification officer, administration, guard,
                                  social worker
                   6
                             03. Library, law library
                   9
                             O4. Other inmates
                   8
                             05. Lawyer
                   1
                             06. Legal Aid
                   4
                             07. The judge
                   4
                             08. Law students
                             09. Myself
 Make Card
                  18
                             88. Other
                 193
                             99. HD
       48-49
                        Q39. What kind of information were important to you on
                             the outside that are not available to you now?
                   4
                             01. Information about money
                   8
                             02. Petitions about case, his rights
                  77
                             03. None, nothing
                             04. A decent library
                  46
                             05. Telephone
                  26
                             06. Family to contact - information
                  19
                             07. Job information - union dues - job training
                   6
                             08. Community sources, the street
                   8
                             09. Won't say
                  2
                             10. News about political science, politics
                  6
                             11. Sports news
                  2
                             12. About outside people - girls
 Make Card
                            88. Other
                 54
                            99. MD
      50
               Q # 77
                       Q40. Which of the following is most important for you to
                            know about? (What is the one most important?)
                            Code most important
                111
                            1. A-Legal information, information about your case,
                                  or about your rights.
                 55
                              B-Information about getting yourself together,
                                  psychology or education.
                 67
                            3. C-Information to help people on the outside
                                  like help for your kids or welfare.
                 13
                               D-Medical information about treatment or drugs.
                 12
                               E-Information about jobs, working, money, benefits.
Make Card
                 6
                               F-Other
                 4
                               G-Missing Data
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## QUESTION # CARD/COLUMN & # RESPONSES CODE NEXT IMPORTANT MENTION 51 Same Code as above Quit. I have just a few more questions. 52-53 How old are you? 59 110 01. 15 - 20 02. 21 - 25 54 03. 26 - 30 04. 31 - 35 05. 36 - 40 06. 41 - 45 07. 46 - 50 08. 51 - 55 09. 56 - 60 10. 61+ 99. MD Q # 80 QL2. When did you start to do time? 2 54-55 01. During 1975 76 02. During 1974 03. During 1973 04. During 1972 05. During 1971 12 06. During 1970 4 07. During 1969 7 08. During 1968 4 09. During 1967 2 10. During 1966 2 11. During 1965 20 12. During 1964 - or earlier 4 99. MD 56 Q # 81 Qui. How much time have you done so far? 2 66 1. 0 - 6 months 36 6 - 12 months 57 15 1 - 2 years 4. More than 2 years - 3 years 19 More than 3 years - 4 years 39 More than 4 years - 5 years

9. Missing Data

13

More than 5 years

CARD/COLUMN		Question #						
2	57	Q # 82 QLL. When do you expect to get out?  161 1. 1975-76 37 2. 1977-78 21 3. 1978-80 11 4. 1981-90 2 5. 1991-2000  68 9. MD						
2	58	9 # 83 Q45. So how much more time do you have to serve?  1. Less than a year  40 2. 1 - 2  19 3. 2 - 3  21 4. 3 - 4  41 5. 5 - 10  28 6. 10+  12 7. Life  57 9. MD						
2	59	9 84 946. What is your present marital status?  199 1. Single 57 2. Married 21 3. Divorced 10 4. Widow(er)  13 9. MD						
2	60 -	Q#85 Q47. Do you have any children?  119 1. No 175 2. Yes  6 9. MD						

CARD/COLUMN			QUESTION # & # RESPONSES				
0	2	61	9 # 86 87 75 52 18 14	QL7a.If yes, how many children do you have?			
			54	9. MD			
•	2	62	9 # 87 14 62 106 39 50 22 3	Q48. Before you came in, how many grades in school had you completed?  1. Less than 6 2. 6 - 8 3. 9 - 10 4. 11 - 5. 12 - high school diploma 6. Beyond high school - some college 7. College degree			
		,	4	9. MD			
·				Q49. These are all the questions I have, are there any questions you have or comments you'd like to make?			
	2	63-64	9 # 88 6 14 7	Q49a.Anything that I should have asked you about information around here that I didn't?  O1. Brutality, mistreatment of inmates  O2. Poor prison conditions (sanitation, living-eating quarters)  O3. Need more communications from inside (about what's happening here) to outside; comments about mail, visiting  O4. Need more or batter library service (better assessment of library needs), more reference books, more support library service			
•			3	05. Need more information about own case			
			19	06. Complaints about administrators, officers (need new warden, educate the officers)			
•			12	07. Glad for opportunity to talk, to be in research, should be more research			
•	Make	Card	22 201	08. Other 09. MD			

CARD/COLUMN & # RESPONSES

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2	65	<u>9 \$ 89</u>	Q52 <b>.</b>	Race				
		219	•				white	
		217					black	
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