
Title: Desistance from Criminality and Reintegration among Released Prisoners



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Proposal

Desistance from crime relates to a process aimed at stopping criminality over time. Many researchers describe the prolonged correctional process of prisoners as one that comprises three components: rehabilitation, reentry, and reintegration. It is a continuous process, with one phase merging into the next. Based on this process and against the backdrop of the changes that have taken place in penological ideology and theory, different rehabilitation models have emerged, among them are the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model and later, the Good Lives Model (GLM).

Research studies indicate that social support and assistance in seeking work are important factors in the released prisoner's ability to find a job and maintain it over a period of time in the community. The ability to deal with a stigma, a supportive family, stable employment prior to incarceration, connection with employers before release, were also identified as factors that raise the chances of the released prisoner in finding work and persevering in it. In contrast, the use of drugs, health problems, emotional disorders, advanced age, family problems, affiliation with a minority group, and financial burdens were found to lessen the chances of released prisoners being employed.

Various studies, based by and large on quasi-experimental research, have examined the relationship between participation in professional training -employment programs and desistance from delinquency among released prisoners who have taken part in such programs as compared with released prisoners who have not. Most research shows that integration of prisoners into the labor market following their release from prison and holding a steady job reduces the incidence of recidivism among them.

This special issue welcomes the articles that are related, but not limited, to any of the following subtopics:

- Reintegration of female prisoners
 - Reintegration of juvenile prisoners
 - Desistance and Employment among released prisoners
 - Drug abuse among released prisoners
 - Stigma and Social support systems
 - Professional vocation among released prisoners
 - Attitudes towards released prisoners
 - Supervision programs
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