

Prison Libraries and Prison Education: Books towards Post Incarceration Reformation and Rehabilitating

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Abstract

The prison system as a social institution is concerned with reformation and rehabilitation of societal offenders. The experience of incarceration has significant psychological effects for all ex-inmates. Thus, the prison has been said to have a 'revolving door', signifying the number of ex-inmate returnees to the prison environment having been found guilty of crimes, sometimes even more grievous than previous offences. This paper assesses prison education, prison library and their roles in the reintegration and resettlement of incarcerated persons upon release. Literature reviewed revealed that, although there are cases of successful integration of ex-offenders into the society, the condition for most of them remains pitiable as most are usually ushered into the society without resettlement, and consequently, they come face-to-face with the full wrath of isolation. Reformation, rehabilitation, reintegration, and resettlement were identified as the four cardinal points of reformation for incarcerated persons. Therefore, it was concluded that bibliotherapy is an essential tool in reformation process and equipping them with information and skills necessary for life after prison is key to successful reintegration. The paper recommended that bibliotherapy should be fully utilized in the reformation efforts for offenders. Also, the Nigerian government should be fully engaged with the aftermath issues of ex-offenders to reduce crime and further promote inclusive human capital development and curb recidivism.

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The Federal Bureau of Prisons is undertaking sweeping reforms designed to reduce recidivism and strengthen public safety. By focusing on evidence-based rehabilitation strategies, these reforms touch virtually every aspect of the federal prison system, from an inmate's initial intake to his or her return to the community. The reforms are targeted to address the core behavioral issues that result in criminality, with the goal of reducing the likelihood that inmates re-offend either while incarcerated or after their release. In doing so, the Bureau is creating safer prisons and safer streets, and Prison education opportunities can vary from state to state, and from one type of facility to another. In most contexts though, inmates must work within strict parameters. To earn an academic degree while serving a prison sentence, one must manage education responsibilities while adhering to considerable limits on freedom, movement, and access. Most federal and state inmates lack regular internet access, which makes it difficult to attend online courses or earn a degree from an online college. Post-secondary opportunities are less pervasive, but can take the form of both vocational certifications and academic degrees. Vocational certification programs — geared toward practical and technical skills training—are far more commonplace than academic degrees. Rehabilitation and education are really, really, important. But they're not the main job. Fortunately, it's possible to have prisons where there is plenty of focus on rehabilitation, education and reintegration as well as keeping the public safe. 244 views · View 6 Upvoters. Education and other forms of rehabilitation are vital to making that reintegration successful. Recidivism shrinks to a minimal point if rehabilitation programs are effective. 37 views · Executive Summary. In-Prison Rehabilitation Programs Intended to Reduce Recidivism. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) offers inmates various rehabilitation programs while they are in prison, including education and substance use disorder treatment programs. The primary goal of these programs is to reduce recidivism—the number of inmates who reoffend after they are released from prison.