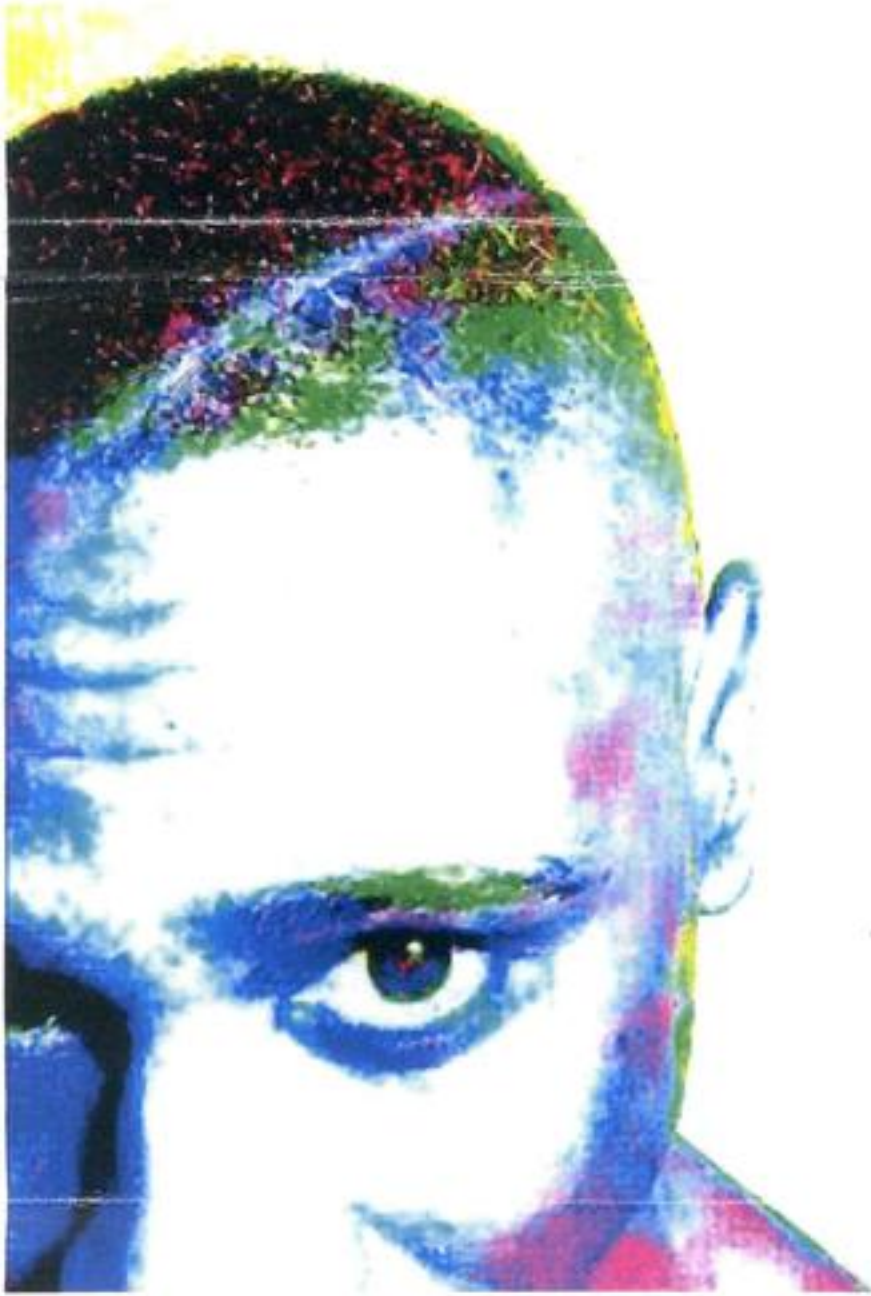


Equality Endorsement Center, pt. 2.



(Another Sound Mind Ideation)

By,
The last condemned prisoner on record housed at
San Quentin State Prison's Adjustment Center for
disciplinary solitary confinement Jan 21, 2023.

Equality Endorsement Center 2. (By - Floyd Smith)

To amplify the Realization of an LGBTQIA+ perspective facility for the incarcerated in California, I present the factuality of how CCR has already achieved this process with the opening of a Facility/Yard at Soledad Prison specifically for incarcerated Military Vets.

(see SONEWS June-July 2022 issue)

When we exchange the words "Military Vets" with the phrase "LGBTQIA+ Community", the program sounds identical in concept.

- a). Aim to offer programs designed specifically for LGBTQIA+ inmates needs.
- b). New configurations now allows for camaraderie between the many incarcerated persons.
- c). The need, from how self-help groups lacked empathy for LGBTQIA+ inmates that are excluded in policies created from SB#132, which only provides for the Respect and Agency of Transgenders, NonBinary, and Intersex people.

(AB292 Access to Programming Act.)

d). NON-LGBTQIA+ Groups

Can't grasp the PTSD created when LGBTQIA+ persons defended the concept of proper child development against abusers that are ideally supposed to offer them care, Family Members, Religious providers, and Sexual deviant predators masked as Mentors.

e). A yard where LGBTQIA+ persons specific traumas and issues could be addressed through LGBTQIA+ Mental Health Therapist.

f.) Goal being to gather willing and compatible LGBTQIA+ persons into one place, with many additional benefits:

1. Therapeutic Remedies
2. LGBTQIA+ embracing organizations
3. Disability engagements
4. A safe Rehabilitative environment
5. LGBTQIA+ perspective Arts & Corrections Programs • Plays, Pageants, Parades, Film
6. LGBTQIA+ Affirming Media - ITV channel - Sound Mind TV (statewide)
7. Queer Parental, and Family Re-Unification Program
8. Religious & Spirituality LGBTQIA+ Receptive
9. Cosmetology vocational training
10. Sex Education and Safety Awareness Groups
11. Computer CODING Education
12. College Programs w/ LGBTQIA+ Curriculum
13. Recreational and Sports activities
14. Podcast - LGBTQIA+ prison perspective Program
15. Music Appreciation Programs • Band, Concerts, Functions
16. Accountability Mentorship Program
17. Culinary Arts
18. PIA
19. Grounds Keeping
20. LGBTQIA+ Marriage Equality Group

(for example):

The Sound Mind Streamer is,

a peaceable assembly for
the autonomous ethnographic
LGBTQIA+ affirming programming.

ethnic — groups of people classed
according to common traits
and customs.

ethos — gender identity, and gender expression,
as it also applies to same-sex traits
and customs, is the distinguishing
characteristic, sentiment,
moral nature, and guiding beliefs
of persons and allies of persons
within this group and community.

homosexuality — is indigenous to life on Earth.
produced, developing and existing
naturally in incorporative
spaces, globally.

primarily favoring native
inhabitants over foreign
ideologies, while sustaining
revival and perpetuation of
global native cultures in spite
continued practices of
acculturations by the
colonizations of beliefs that
exist antithetical to
homosexual nature.

Title 15 § 3210. Establishment of Religious Programs. (a), (b), (c), (d).

In California, most Rehabilitation Programs are supported by Religious Organizations, how should this land on non-religious prisoners? When it comes to Prison Institutions, it is not equally fair to the multitudes of incarcerated persons where ~~some~~ so-called major religions are allowed to monopolize the operational, and conceptualization of SPIRITUALITY.

Before the formation of Religion, there is evidence in Just about every Culture of the human ~~group~~^{species} where what is spiritual has been defined as:

a) of relating to, consisting of, or affecting the spirit: INCORPOREAL.

b) of or relating to sacred matters.

While those who often forget these sections of the definition, here, I offer more:

SPIRIT - breath, to blow.
a life-giving force
the animating principle: SOUL.
Person < a being >.
Disposition, Mood.
Loyalty.
Vivaciousness.

When prison officials create policies that limit expressions of spirituality to the so-called Major Religions, the policy violated The United States Constitution at The 1st Amendment, freedom of peaceable assembly, and The 14th Amendment's Rights to be free from any law created which denies freedoms of naturalized Citizens.

In the following article, when CDCR is able to create a space for military Vets who are not targeted for violence in prison, then why not create a safe place to land for LGBTQIAT prisoners that are still targeted as I write this proposal. 5 of 6

Equality Endorsement Center By, Floyd Smith

JUNE-JULY 2022

SAN QUENTIN NEWS

SanQuentinNe

California opens first prison facility specifically for incarcerated military vets

By Anthony Manuel
Carvalho
Staff Writer

California has opened the nation's first prison yard designed to meet the special needs of incarcerated veterans.

The yard and special housing, opened last year at Soledad Prison, now houses 1,200 vets. The 34 prisons run by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation houses about 7,000 veterans.

The aim of the Soledad facility is to offer programs designed specifically for veterans' needs.

"We really prepare people to get out of here," said incarcerated veteran Mark Wade, a veteran liaison between the vets group and administration.

Raising and lowering the flag every day and playing Reveille in the morning and Taps in the evening is just the beginning of the new yard. The new configuration now allows for camaraderie between the many incarcerated persons.

The need for a special facility can be found in formerly incarcerated Marine Corps veteran Ron Self's experience. He described how self-help groups at San Quentin State Prison lacked the empathy needed for veterans.

Self told *American Homefront* reporter Lucy Copp, "I shared probably my most significant traumatic event that culminated in me putting a bullet in one of my men's head who just got blown up with an RPG."

The non-veteran groups at San Quentin could not grasp the PTSD created when incarcerated veterans defended their country.



Photo courtesy of CDCR

Formerly incarcerated Marine Corps veteran Ron Self, center, cuts the ribbon on California Training Facility's new veteran's program last year. The program is designed to address the unique needs of incarcerated veterans in California's prison system.

Self immediately realized there needed to be a yard just for veterans — a yard where their specific traumas and issues could be addressed. However, before he could accomplish his new goal, he had to develop a program to help veterans.

That program became a reality in 2014 when he formed the "Veterans Healing Veterans Group."

After designing the group, he finished serving his sentence for attempted murder and began lobbying state and federal officials for a veterans' hub.

Self's dream became a reality when he attended the ceremony last year at Soledad to cut the ribbon.

Soledad Warden Craig Koenig told all who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony,

"Our goal with the veterans' facility is to gather incarcerated veterans into one place."

Self's program has many additional benefits besides the therapeutic remedies. Reporter Copp stated "part of preparing people to get out is speeding up the process of connecting the incarcerated veterans to their VA benefits."

She cited a scenario where veterans who seek disability benefits. These past war heroes need a comprehensive examination that is difficult to get while incarcerated. Currently the veterans must wait years to be seen by providers who have thousands of veterans in their case portfolio.

Veteran Liaison Wade told Copp, "With a centralized location now, the VA doesn't have to travel to 34 prisons. They can come to one."

According to Copp, an improved facility specifically designed to assist in the traumatic disorders of veterans, combined with a consolidated benefit program should help the incarcerated veterans transfer back to society in a smoother fashion.

Prison officials say they will be tracking the success of the program while soldiers like Wade and Self support their fellow soldiers. Continued support of these Americans and the reduction of recidivism rates will be the defining test if the new veterans hub at Soledad will be considered a success.

Copp stated improved services for veterans who live together will make it less likely they will reoffend, and will give the men a second chance at a dignified life.

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