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Prison Woes: Prison Inc.

The ethical concerns of a money-grabbing self-indulgent prison proposal have recently been brought to light in the March 8th USA TODAY--on the cover, in story by Kevin Johnson.

And it's very disturbing.

Greed, and materialism at it's worst.

Harley Lappin, the former director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, is now using his connections to cash in on tax payer money. In my opinion it's almost like an insider trading scam. He and a lot of individuals like him have a lot of money to gain in their own personal bank accounts, if these proposals take place. And Lappin has done this less than one year from when he retired from his federal post--guess the retirement plan just wasn't quite enough, he's seemingly seeking something more in the seven or eight digit range of pay.

What exactly is this proposal? Well it's through a "company" that wishes to profit from the bad economy and struggling states. They want to buy out the prisons, and turn them into what would be bad for tax payers, and every U.S. person free or in prison. The company Lappin is with wishes to run the prisons and attempt to do it cheaper and more efficiently than the current state systems in place. Inmates would no longer be held by the state, but instead be prisoners to the Nashville-based Corrections Corporation of America--and states would then have to pay this "company" a fee for holding their inmates. This already raises enough ethical concerns as it is; but the "company" takes it to the extreme of greed by saying that in exchange for the "company" to buy the prisons; state governments must guarantee to maintain a 90% occupancy rate for at least 20 years!

That's like me buying a gas chamber and telling the state they can use it for half the price of theirs; but, they have to "guarantee" to kill at least 50 inmates a year to receive this discount.

How could that be ethical?

Ohio went for it, a deal of millions upon millions of tax dollars now headed for private accounts as the Lake Erie Correctional Institution no longer is in the hands of the actual law; but instead a "company" that profits on crime ... or to be more accurate: a company that needs crime to exist at a good 90% for the next 20 years for their bank accounts to be exactly how they need them.

The whole thing is criminal, and shouldn't be legal.

Business has no place in the imprisonment of humans. Humans should not be considered objects of storage to charge a fee for.... What happened to "rehabilitation", second chances, or even Christian "forgiveness"? It's all giving way for the "corrections investment initiative"--that's what they're calling it.

