

## "Crossing Barriers In An Act of Compassion"

Women who come to work in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice are subjected to the harshest working environment, bombardment of sexual harassment and abuse by the inmate population, as well as, their male coworkers! I have been in TDCJ since 1986 (except from 2005 thru 2010) and I can recall when no women worked around the housing areas, they only worked in the Education, Classification, and Medical departments. When we did see them, we (didn't) see them, because we had to stop and face the wall, to get caught resulted in a disciplinary case for "Reckless Eyeballing"! Looking at the wrong female got you beaten up by "Team" of officer's specifically designated to inflict physical chastisement upon the unlucky recipient! At some juncture between 1986 and 2000 (mid 90's), everything changed in the opposite direction, for the worst! The women officer's, once protected, and respected, are now being subjected to indecent exposure, being groped, and even raped, by inmates, and fellow officer's (I've walked in on a Captain raping a female officer!). The male officer's, who once upon a time, came to the aid of, and protected, their female coworkers, walk away acting as though they don't see or hear, the disrespect, or the criminal acts of a sexual nature! Therefore, enabling, even encouraging these inmates committing these demeaning acts toward these women! How would you feel if you went to work, discovered a (male) coworker looking at you and he is masturbating under his desk, you'd be mad as hell, wouldn't you?!? What about a man driving around a Walmart parking lot, calls you, and when you walk up to the car, you see he is only wearing a shirt, and is exposing himself to you...?! What about the children all around you...?! You would have him arrested, correct?? And rightfully so!! These are actions local news stations are reporting, and all are being committed by recently released inmates who are taking their sex-offender habits with them into society searching for new prey!! The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has become the breeding grounds in producing current (and future) sex offenders! Stalking, and indecent exposure, both, are violations of the laws of the State of Texas! People are being arrested in the free-world for the very same actions/behaviors that are being condoned, and even promoted by the administration of TDCJ!! Inmates will be at their door at shift change to see who is

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coming in, if it's a male officer (called a "hardhead"), they will try to find out who is across the hall, as the officers switch out halfway through their shift, if they should discover that a female will be coming later, they will all go to sleep and get up when she arrives! When she does arrive on the wing, they will wait for her to make her security checks, they will be naked, engaging in the act of masturbation! If she takes too long to make her rounds, several will get her to come to their door by requesting paperwork, or their razors! Yes, it (is) a (minor) violation of the rules, it is a code 20.0!! Several women (do) write disciplinary cases for these acts of sexual aggression, however, this is where the women come under attack from the male officers! If the women want their disciplinary cases to go through the court process, they will be coerced into performing sexual acts with the male officer in the position of authority! Should she refuse, none of her cases will go through, they will be thrown out, AND, since the same rank are the one who assigns their post/duties, the women will be forced to work the worse wings, or in very secluded/isolated areas to attempt to rape them!! This is not an exaggeration, I've heard (male) officers talk, even brag, about it!! I've seen women (officers) crying because they need this job, but are in a bad spot, and are married! I've witnessed women getting divorced because of their coworkers (male) spreading false rumors about them, saying they have slept together, when, in fact, they didn't! Merely a retaliation tactic for refusing the advances of the sexual predator! Over 80% of the inmate population engage in this rapist behavior toward the female employees, be it officers, mailroom, nurses, doesn't matter whether they are 20 or 80, the "gunslingers" will engage! Inmates actually brag/beast about how they are sanctified, that the Major (very high rank) has stated to stop rolling (disciplinary punishment) people for Code 20's! So the inmates feel justified in their "predatory" mentality and feel the women can not do anything to them! I've asked several inmates how they would feel if it were their Mother, sister, or daughter — they (sadly) say that they brought it upon themselves by coming to work here!! It is quite a rarity to find others, like myself, who do NOT indulge in such activities — I never have and I never will!!

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I have much more respect for women than that! Women are to be cherished, respected, and loved as they deserve to be! They are a loving, beautiful person, with feelings that should be treated as such — NOT the object or property to be used, abused, mistreated, then discarded like the weekly trash! Where are all of my fellow gentlemen at?? Have we become a rare breed?? I am a gentleman, and I am 1000% against the abuse and mistreatment of ~~the~~ women (and children) of any kind!! Want to know how I feel? Just go to my yearbook.com, pull up my profile and you will hear a song by the Casey Donahue Band! Where a woman gets tired of being beaten by the coward who claims to love her! Then scroll down and you will see a Post of rape and abuse, what I think about it!! The women who work here are having a difficult time standing up to this abusive onslaught! I have suggested a Women's union to help them create a united front! Where are all of these women's advocacy/rights group I'm always hearing about?! These women need help!! The predator actions/behavior of the inmates, and officers, need to be stopped, and accountability/consequences need to be implemented!! Before they go out to society and commit sexual acts against other women, or children! I'm a Christian man who cares about these women, and hate what they are having to endure! I pray for these women each and everyday, and as I listen each day for God's voice to direct my daily life, I am wanting to be a voice for these women correctional officer's so that justice will prevail and the injustices against them will be rectified!!

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10/17/2012

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