

THE ONLY THING CONSISTENT ABOUT PRISON LIFE IS THE INCONSISTENCY (CONTINUED FROM 8-19-13)

BEHIND. WHICH REALLY SCREWS THINGS UP IF YOU HAVE A MORNING CALL OUT TO GO TO.

SO EVEN THOUGH THE PRISON SYSTEM WILL FEED YOU 3 TIMES A DAY, IN THE SAME BUILDING, ON THE SAME TRAYS; THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY FACTORS TO TAKE INTO MIND BEFORE CONSIDERING THAT MEAL TIME HAS ANY REAL CONSISTENCY TO IT. IN FACT, JUST TODAY THEY SWITCHED WHICH CHOW HALLS THE REGULAR MEALS & SPECIAL DIETS EAT IN.

COUNT TIME

I GUESS THE NEXT EVENT THAT SEEMS TO HAVE AN ENDLESS AMOUNT OF INCONSISTENCIES IS COUNT TIME. THERE ARE 5 DIFFERENT COUNT TIMES THROUGHOUT THE WAKING HOURS OF THE DAY. THE LAST BEING KNOWN AS THE MASTER ROSTER COUNT (THE COUNT WHERE WE ARE REQUIRED TO STATE OUR NAMES AND DC NUMBERS WHILE THE OFFICER GOES BY WITH A NAME LIST). THE APPOINTED TIMES FOR THESE COUNTS, FROM WHAT I CAN DERIVE, ARE 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m. AND 10 p.m. (REMEMBER, THEY DON'T ALWAYS STAY CONSISTENT) ONE INCONSISTENCY IN THIS EVENT IS WHAT WE ARE REQUIRED TO BE WEARING. I'VE BEEN TO A COUPLE OF CAMPS THAT REQUIRED US TO BE DRESSED IN CLASS-A UNIFORMS FOR EVERY COUNT. WHILE OTHERS ONLY REQUIRE SOME SHORTS AND A T-SHIRT. AND FINALLY, YOU HAVE THE ONES WHERE ALL YOU NEED TO BE WEARING IS A PAIR OF BOXERS.

WHAT POSITION YOU'RE IN WHEN THE OFFICERS COME AROUND IS A VARIABLE AS WELL. IN SOME CASES YOU HAVE TO BE SITTING UP STRAIGHT ON YOUR BUNK, WITH YOUR LEGS HANGING OFF THE SIDE. OTHERS, YOU CAN BE LAYING ON YOUR BUNK & JUST PROP YOURSELF UP ON YOUR ELBOW (TO SHOW THEM YOU'RE ALIVE). WHILE OTHERS YOU CAN BE TOTALLY CRASHED (ASLEEP) AND NOT EVEN KNOW THEY CAME AROUND. DEPENDING ON WHICH OFFICER IS ON DUTY, YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN HAVE TO BE ON YOUR BUNK AT ALL.

THE TIME FACTOR IS AN ISSUE AS WELL. IMAGINE THIS: YOU'RE GOING INTO YOUR CELL FOR COUNT TIME AND YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL BE IN FOR 15 min. OR 1 hr. 30 min. (THE TIME USUALLY VARIES BETWEEN THOSE TWO PERIMETERS).

JUST THE SIMPLE THING OF WALKING FROM ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER CAN HAVE ITS DIFFERENCES. AT A CROSS-WALK, WHERE YOU HAVE TO MAKE A LEFT TURN, AN OFFICER WILL LET YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE TO CROSS IN FRONT OF HIM, BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT YOU WALKING BEHIND HIM. (MAKES SENSE) BUT LATER IN THE DAY, WHEN ANOTHER OFFICER IS THERE, YOU'RE GOING TO GET QUESTIONED LIKE SOME KIND OF DIM-WITT, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING WALKING IN FRONT OF ME? IT'S THE SAME THING EVERYDAY GUYS." WHILE HE'S SIGNALING WITH HIS HAND TO WALK AROUND BEHIND HIM. ONE DAY YOU'RE GOING TO USE THE GATEWAY AT ONE END; NEXT DAY YOU'LL USE THE ONE AT THE OTHER END. ONE DAY YOU'LL GO IN SINGLE FILE, NON STOP LINE; NEXT DAY YOU'LL GO IN INCREMENTS OF 5 AT A TIME. ONE DAY YOUR FACE CAN BE COVERED WITH WHISKERS AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO ANYWHERE; NEXT DAY IF YOU'RE

stuff. I used my own soap." "WHAT, YOU THINK I DIDN'T HEAR YOU IN MY LOCKER?" "I know you didn't. I wouldn't have gotten anything out of it without asking first." NOW HE JUMPS DOWN FROM HIS BUNK & GETS UP IN MY FACE. "LOOK MAN, I HEARD YOU GRAB THAT BOTTLE OF CLEANING FLUID OUT OF MY LOCKER." "No you didn't. Let me show you something." I REACH UNDER THE CORNER OF MY BUNK AND PEEL THE RECENTLY USED WET SOAP OUT FROM UNDERNEATH. "Take a look, it's still wet. I never took anything out of your locker."

WELL, THIS GUY STILL HAD ALL KINDS OF THREATS FOR ME, EVEN THOUGH I WAS HOLDING A WET BAR OF STATE SOAP UP IN HIS FACE. SO THIS WHOLE REACTION FROM HIM REALLY OPENED MY EYES AS TO WHAT KIND OF AN INDIVIDUAL I WAS REALLY LIVING WITH. HERE I WAS HOLDING THE EVIDENCE RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM & YET HE WAS NOT WILLING TO ADMIT THAT HE HAD MADE A MISTAKE. FORTUNATELY, COUNT TIME WAS OVER & THE DOORS ALL STARTED POPPING OPEN. SO WHILE TURNING AROUND TO LEAVE THE ROOM I SAID, "I've heard you're one of these guys that has to spend some time with the psych doctor. I really hope they're spending quality time with you." AND THEN I WALKED AWAY. LATER, WHEN I RETURNED TO MY CELL, MY BUNKIE WAS NOWHERE AROUND AND THERE WAS A JOLLY RANCHER CANDY ON MY PILLOW. OKAY, SO I TAKE IT HIS ATTITUDE HAS NOW CHANGED BACK TO WHERE I'M IN GOOD STANDING WITH HIM AGAIN. I DON'T KNOW. CERTAINLY HE'S NOT GOING TO DO SOMETHING LIKE APOLOGIZE.

ANOTHER THING THAT WILL HAVE AN EFFECTIVE CHANGE ON SOMEBODIES ATTITUDE TOWARD YOU IN