3/25/2015: 7:00am: LISTENING TO (ONE OF MY FAVORITES) HYMN FOR THE MISSING BY: RED

GOODMORNING EVERYONE. I'VE SPOKEN ABOUT PAROLE FOR LIFERS, 2nd CHANCES AND THE DEATH PENALTY NUMEROUS TIMES. BUT IT'S SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE DISCUSSED, DEBATED, AND FOR REALISTIC SOLUTIONS TO BE THOUGHT OF.

I READ ALOT ABOUT WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION NAMED, DECARCERATE PA, HAS BEEN DOING, THEIR IDEAS, AND THEY HAVE SOME GREAT IDEAS. DECARCERATE PA IS AN ORGANIZATION IN PHILADELPHIA WHO WANTS TO SEE AN END TO THE PRACTICE OF "DEATH BY INCARCERATION". YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM AT: DECARCERATEPA.INFO

A LIFE SENTENCE IS DEATH BY INCARCERATION. HOW MANY OF US MUST DIE IN HERE? I'M NO ONE TO JUDGE. I HAVE HAD SOMEONE I LOVE TAKEN FROM ME, JUST LIKE ALOT OF OTHERS HAVE HAD THEIR LOVED ONES TAKEN FROM THEM. I TOOK A LIFE. BUT THIS ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL CRIME. THIS ALSO ABOUT INNOCENT PEOPLE DYING IN HERE AND THE STATE OF PA. THEY CONTINUE TO LOCK PEOPLE UP AT A HIGHER RATE THEN ANY STATE IN THIS COUNTRY. WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS HAS A BUDGET SO BIG THAT THE STATE DECIDES TO CLOSE SCHOOLS AND CUT BUDGETS OF DOZENS OF OTHER COUNTIES JUST TO GIVE THE D.O.C. MORE MONEY, IT'S BECOME A HUGE PROBLEM.

THERE'S A GUY IN HERE, HERE FOR ATTEMPTED ROBBERY. HIS EX GIRLFRIEND SAID HE STOLE HER MONEY, BUT LATER RETURNED IT. HE SAYS HE NEVER TOOK HER MONEY, SHE COULDN'T FIND IT SO SHE CALLED THE COPS. HE HAD A LONG CRIMINAL HISTORY OF SELLING DRUGS IN PHILADELPHIA. HE WAS GIVEN 4-15 YEARS FOR ATTEMPTED ROBBERY. HE JUST SAW PAROLE AND WAS GIVEN ANOTHER 1 YEAR HIT. WHICH MEANS HE WILL SEE THE PAROLE BOARD AGAIN IN 12 MONTHS. WHY, HE HAS BEEN IN PRISON SINCE 2004. THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN PHILLY SENT IN A LETTER TO THE PAROLE BOARD AND ASKED THAT HIS PAROLE BE DENIED BECAUSE HE IS A KNOWN DRUG DEALER AND WOULD MOST LIKELY RETURN TO THAT PROFESSION IF RELEASED. SAYING THAT MADE HIM A DANGER TO THE COMMUNITY. HELLO, HALF THE CITY IF DANGEROUS, IF NOT MORE. BUT THIS MAN, WHO HAS NO PRISON INFRACTIONS IN YEARS, DONE ALL THE PROGRAMS THEY TOLD HIM TO DO, WILL NOW JUST SIT HERE FOR ANOTHER YEAR ATLEAST. THERE GOES \$35,000+ OF YOUR TAX PAYER MONEY DOWN THE TOILET. THIS MAN WASN'T EVEN GOING TO LIVE IN THIS STATE. HE WAS GOING TO GO TO A HALFWAY HOUSE THEN PAROLE TO HIS FAMILY IN GEORGIA. BUT NOW HE'LL ROT IN HERE FOR 1 MORE YEAR. AND I LEFT OUT THE BEST PART, HE WAS ALSO GIVEN A HIT BECAUSE HE DENIES HIS CRIME. IN THIS STATE, IN ORDER TO BE RELEASED ON PAROLE YOU MUST ADMIT TO YOUR CRIME IN WRITING AND APOLOGIZE FOR IT. THEY CALL IT AN IMPACT STATEMENT.

HOW MANY PEOPLE IN HERE ARE INNOCENT? HOW MANY ARE GUILTY? IT'S TIME FOR PA TO START GIVING DESERVING PEOPLE A 2ND CHANCE. I WAS SENTENCED TO LIFE + 1122 YEARS. THE JUDGE SAID IF THEY EVER LET LIFERS OUT AGAIN, HE'LL STILL HAVE TO DO 11 MORE YEARS. THESE KINDS OF SENTENCES DO NO ONE ANY GOOD. SOCIETY FAILS TO REALIZE THAT PEOPLE DO CHANGE. SOME DO CHANGE FOR THE WORSE, BUT ALOT DO CHANGE FOR THE GOOD.

A LIFE SENTENCE IS THE DEATH PENALTY SO WHY NOT JUST KILL EVERYONE? WHY NOT JUST LINE UP AL THE LIFER, WELL OVER 6,000 BY NOW, AND ONE BY ONE JUST KILL ALL OF US? IF IT'S AN EYE FOR AN EYE, YOU KILL ALL OF US. A FLAWED SYSTEM CONVICTED US, SO HAVE NO DOUBTS THAT SOME ARE INNOCENT. BUT IF YOU HAVE COMPASSION, FORGIVENESS, THE BELIEF THAT WE CAN DO BETTER, THEN PLEASE SUPPORT 2ND CHANCES FOR LIFERS.

MANY YEARS AGO, I'M GOIN BACK 50's, 60's, 70's, LIFERS IN PA, PEOPLE WHO WERE CONVICTED OF MURDER, WOULD BE GRANTED COMMUTATION AFTER 12-15 YEARS. NOT EVERYONE, BUT ALOT. AND FROM WHAT I HAVE READ, NOT ONE OF THOSE LIFERS WHO WERE RELEASED EVER TOOK ANOTHER LIFE, NOT UNTIL MUDMAN AND ANOTHER MAN I THINK WAS NAMED MACFARLAND, WERE RELEASED. THEN PA SHUT IT'S DOORS TO EVER LETTING LIFERS GO FREE. HUNDREDS NEVER RE-OFFENDED, BUT 2 DID, 2 WHO SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE. NOT WITH THEIR PRISON RECORDS. POINT IS, PA NEEDS TO END IT'S PRACTICE OF DEATH BY INCARCERATION. THERE ARE OVER 500 LIFERS THAT CAME HERE AS TEENAGERS, DO THEY DESERVE A 2nd CHANCE?

I'M NO SCIENTIST, SO FEEL FREE TO COMMENT ON THIS. THE COURTS SAY JUVENILES ARE NOT FULLY RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE THEIR BRAINS ARE NOT FULLY FORMED, AND SCIENTISTS HAVE PROVEN THAT THE HUMAN BRAIN IS NOT FULLY FORMED UNTIL YOU REACH THE AGE OF 25. SO WHY NOT ALLOWING THE LIFERS WHO WERE UNDER 25 AT THE TIME OF THEIR CRIME TO HAVE THE POSSIBILITY OF A 2nd CHANCE. THE AVERAGE LIFER WAS UNDER 25. I'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ON IT. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU SUPPORT THESE IDEAS, END LIFE SENTENCES, END PRISON WAREHOUSING, END WASTING MILLIONS OF TAX DOLLARS, CONTACT DECARCERATE PA AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP. THEY ARE ORGANIZED, THEY ARE MOBILE. YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THE AMISTAD LAW PROJECT IN WEST PHILLY. GOOGLE THEM, I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND THEM.

WELL THATS ALL FOR NOW. I'VE GOT AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE CATHOLIC DEACON IN 30 MINUTES AND I MUST PREPARE. I'M TRYING TO ORGANIZE A CURSILLO CHURCH RETREAT HERE FOR CHRISTIANS. TAKE CARE, ENJOY THE WARMER WEATHER, SPRING IS HERE. GOD BLESS. CIAO.

PS: CHECK OUT: WWW.PRISONFELLOWSHIP.ORG THEY HAVE A STORY IN THEIR INSIDE JOURNAL NEWSPAPER (WINTER 2015) ABOUT A LIFER, CALLED LESSONS FROM A LIFER. I JUST WANT TO SHOW YOU THAT PEOPLE DO CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN HERE.