

"OH, THAT'S RIGHT. WE'RE IN PRISON."

AS WE ALL KNOW, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS GUYS LOSE WHEN THEY ARE SENT TO PRISON. NATURALLY, THEIR FREEDOM IS THE FIRST THING ON THE LIST, WITH THINGS LIKE WORLDLY POSSESSIONS, PRIDE, THE DESIRE TO LIVE, OR MAYBE EVEN THEIR VIRGINITY, TAKING UP THE REAR. (LET ME REPHRASE THAT.) I MEAN: BEING OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER. HOWEVER, THROUGHOUT MY YEARS OF SITTING BACK AND ANALYZING THESE INDIVIDUALS, I HAVE ESPECIALLY NOTICED ANOTHER THING THAT SEEMS TO GET LOST IN THE HUSTLE & BUSTLE OF PRISON LIFE. IT SEEMS TO JUST DISSOLVE AWAY AS PRISONERS BECOME MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THEIR SURROUNDINGS, AND SELDOM DO THEY EVEN REALIZE THAT IT IS MISSING. THE ITEM OF WHICH I AM SPEAKING OF IS NON OTHER THAN THEIR MEMORY. DON'T GET ME WRONG. I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THEIR ABILITY TO RECOLLECT PREVIOUS EVENTS THAT HAVE OCCURED IN THEIR LIVES, OR THE ABILITY TO REMEMBER A BASKETBALL PLAYERS POINT AVERAGE. I'M SIMPLY TALKING ABOUT THEIR ABILITY TO REMEMBER WHERE THEY ARE LIVING AND WHY. THIS FORGETFULNESS SEEMS TO TAKE PLACE AT RIGHT ABOUT THE SAME TIME SOMETHING IS OCCURING THAT THEY DON'T LIKE, OR WHENEVER THEY ARE NOT BEING PERMITTED TO DO SOMETHING THEY WANT TO DO. MERE COINCIDENCE YOU ASK? OH, I THINK NOT. HOWEVER, BEFORE JUMPING THE GUN

HERE WITH MY OWN PERSONAL OPINION, LET ME CHECK AND BE SURE I DO HAVE MY FACTS STRAIGHT AS TO THE WHOLE MEANING OF SERVING TIME IN PRISON. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

(45 MINUTES LATER)

SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG, BUT THEY CALLED US OUT TO CHOW.

OKAY, IT'S JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. PRISONERS ARE IN PRISON BECAUSE THEY BROKE THE LAW OUT IN THE FREE WORLD. HENCE, THEY NO LONGER HAVE THE CHOICE OF WHAT THEY WANT TO DO, WHAT THEY WANT TO EAT, WHAT THEY WANT TO WEAR, OR WHERE THEY WANT TO LIVE. IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH THEY ARE BEING PUNISHED FOR NOT OBEYING THE RULES THAT EVERYBODY IS REQUIRED TO ABIDE BY. NOW CERTAINLY THEY KNEW ABOUT THESE RULES, RIGHT? OKAY, SO THEY KNOWINGLY BROKE THE LAW, AND YET THEY STILL FORGET THEY ARE BEING PUNISHED.

WITH ALL THESE FACTORS IN MIND, CONTINUE WITH ME FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, AS I TAKE YOU THROUGH A FEW EXAMPLES OF THIS SLIP OF THE MIND SCENARIO THAT SO MANY PRISONERS HAVE FALLEN SUBJECT TO.

MAZE


P.S.

I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO JUST COME UP WITH SOME QUICK EXAMPLES AND HAVE THIS SUBJECT COMPLETED

IN ONE ESSAY. IT'S JUST THAT, WHILE WRITING DOWN SOME NOTES HERE & THERE, I WAS NOTICING MORE SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OCCURRING RIGHT AROUND ME THAT WOULD BE EASIER TO EXPLAIN. ALSO, THE DESIRE TO GO INTO MORE DETAIL ON CERTAIN THINGS BEGAN WEIGHING HEAVILY ON MY MIND AS I SAT BACK AND THOUGHT JUST HOW MUCH I ASPIRE TO CATER TO MY AUDIENCE.