

Prisoners, do we deserve any of the same treatment?

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Hi, I've been away and very sporadic for quite some time and I'm sorry about that, I know people read what I write and I truly appreciate that. Today I want to ask you do prisoners deserve some of the same rights as society? You tell me your opinion. Do we deserve the right to earn enough money to support not just ourselves but also to pay for a portion of our incarceration? Do I deserve to work and earn enough money to survive, help my struggling daughter and pay the tax payers back for some of the costs that they pay to keep me here? What do you think? Prison is supposed to be about rehabilitation, but if it is, why is the return rate so high? Why is it that people who are convicted of murder, and then released after 25+ yrs, and be 50+ yrs of age, why is it that the return rate of those in Pennsylvania are almost nonexistent? But all other crimes, the return rate is almost an absolute. Why are we continuing to warehouse human beings? I can see if the person was a cold blooded killer who would kill again but for most, that's not the case. And I'll be real, it takes a very strong and forgiving person to say they are ok with the person going home who killed their loved one. I am moved by those who have the capacity to say & do that.

But my complaint today is that we are forced to work for wages from 19¢-42¢ an hour. We are allowed to work 6 hour days max. We get no overtime. But prison is expensive. Contrary to what people may think, we get very little given to us in here. Once a year you get 3 sets of free underclothes, each week you get 1 roll of toilet paper and 1 bar of soap. Nothing else. If we were able to earn more money, we could pay taxes, we could pay part of our own way. I could pay for college classes in here instead of getting no education at all, I could save money to help my daughter, but when you make \$15-40 a month working, you can save nothing. Last year in April, I was ordered to carry a 300 sheet of metal, I told the boss it was too heavy for me, but he said it was do the job or I'd be written up, put in the hole and fired. So I did it, end result was, it was too heavy and my left bicep was torn off the bone requiring a \$250,000 surgery bill.

So you tell me what you think? Do prisoners deserve the right to pay their own way? You can't charge us for being here if we have no money. I am currently trying to get some state reps to look into this.

Did you know that Pennsylvania has the largest amount of human beings on probation or parole. We lead the entire country in this statistic.

Let me talk a little about LWOP sentences (life without parole). Why is this sentence ok? Why is it that a 17 yr old can murder 3 people and go home after less than 20 years but a man who was 18, who was not the killer in his crime, continues

to rot in prison 40 years after the crime? Why is this ok? Why does Pennsylvania's legislature act afraid to change the laws when it pertains to murder? Not everyone deserves a 2nd chance but who does deserve one? If I had to say, first would be the people who did not kill anyone. Next would be the elderly who have been here for 35+ yrs and been model prisoners. Is it justice to allow every single one of them die in here? I don't believe so. But I leave this up to you to decide. Issues like this should be decided as a whole, not by a dictatorship and our nation is not a democratic one lately. Pennsylvania is not and most of our nation isn't anymore. Milton Street ran for Pennsylvania State rep last election day, he lost, but he was quoted saying that the reason he was running as a republican is because in Pennsylvania the Republicans have their way while the democrats have their say. Since the Republicans are the Majority, But not by much and we hope to change this in 2020, they can pass any bill they want no matter if its good or bad. Politics will never be easy but I have learned that there are some very good people in the Pennsylvania House & Senate.

But I leave you with that. If you wanna open up a dialogue with me about any of this, please feel free to do so. I have met some amazing people on this site, I've even gained some family. Take care and I look forward to your comments and responses. And if you're wondering, I enjoy them because I want to know how society thinks, if there's anything you'd like to know, please feel free to ask. Until next time. Ciao.