

THE DARK SIDE OF HUMAN NATURE

In a 400 sq ft prison cell/pod with one toilet packed with eight prisoners like human sardines, during the night of 17 October 2024 the soul of prisoner Richard ***** was liberated from California's synthetic hell after 38 years of incarceration. There is more to Richard's death than a prisoner died in the night.

Richard, 61yrs old, was an ADA/Elderly prisoner, double leg amputee, heart attack survivor, with chronic diabetes and confined to a wheelchair. All of these conditions have rendered him harmless [6]. Through all of his years of incarceration Richard's family was supportive maintaining a loving home where he could have paroled [6]. Yet, he was denied Elderly Parole twice [1].

Richard, like so many other harmless elderly prisoners, did not have to die in prison, or wait to die in prison. Old benign prisoners in their 70's 80's and 90's are denied Elderly Parole with denial rates of 82% [1] [2] [3].

Can the Fox be right assuring us "All chickens are dangerous," or is there another explanation?

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has a bloated annual budget of \$14 billion dollars [4]. Twenty percent (20%) of the prison population [3] are elderly prisoners, which are the most costly to house at an average annual cost of \$282,000. per elderly prisoner [5], or about \$2 billion dollars a year [3].

Surely, our guardians of the public trust wouldn't punish old men to death; by impetus of economics?

- 1 Calif. Parole Board
- 2 Prison Policy Initiative
- 3 CDCR Offender Data Points
- 4 Calif. Department of Finance
- 5 Legislative Analyst Office
- 6 Elderly/Compassion Parole Conditions

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<http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/895/>