Chapter 14

REVISITING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES AND WHAT WORKS

Introduction to Corrections
CJC 2000
Darren Mingear
CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

14.1
Summarize the main evidence-based practices in corrections in terms of what works.

14.2
Describe how correctional budgets impact policy related to sustaining institutional and community-based correctional programs.

14.3
Describe how rationality can be returned to correctional policy.

14.4
Explain the future of corrections as it relates to performance-based outcomes.
Learning Objectives
After this lecture, you should be able to complete the following Learning Outcomes

14.1 Summarize the main evidence-based practices in corrections in terms of what works.
What We Expect from the Correctional System

Community protection – no further harm.

Restoration – offender restores victim/community to pre-crime state.

**Deterrence** – achieved when an individual under correctional supervision ceases to engage in criminal behavior.

Rehabilitation – Reformed offender creates new life.

**Retribution** – when victims and others believe that the offender has been appropriately punished.
The most effective type of treatment for offenders is cognitive-behavioral approach. This changes offender behavior.

Probation supervision is effective in the community, women especially.

Prison and more intensive correctional interventions are reserved for those individuals who pose the highest risk to public safety.

Community-based options are more effective for lower risk offenders.

Education and employment skills are important to help with reentry.

Teen and mental health courts are effective for target offenders.
Describe how correctional budgets impact policy related to sustaining institutional and community-based correctional programs.
Costs of Correctional Interventions

- Nearly two-thirds of budget is staff members’ salaries, wages, and benefits
- Most costly expense for prisoners is health care
- Capital expenditures only 4% of overall corrections budget
- Entire criminal justice system comprised 7% of all state and local government spending.
Learning Objectives
After this lecture, you should be able to complete the following Learning Outcomes

14.3 Discuss how rationality can be returned to correctional policy.
Rationality

- Require **sunset provisions** for mandatory sentences.
- **Transfer** more resources away from institutional corrections and toward community-based options.
- Develop more **restorative justice** and **conflict mediation** solutions.
- Incorporate **front-end crime prevention** programs.
- Present corrections policy as a **public safety** or as a **public health** issue.
- Crime solutions that are "one size fits all" may not work everywhere.
Learning Objectives

After this lecture, you should be able to complete the following Learning Outcomes

14.4

Explain the future of corrections as it relates to performance-based outcomes.
Key Terms

- Performance-based measures system
- Gotcha game
- Association of State Correctional Administrators
Performance-based Measures System

A Web-based database that allows users to analyze their own institutional environment and compare to other states using standardized measures.

Crime-free days is a PBM for offender recidivism.

Source: prisoncellphones.com
A style of offender supervision where the officer is less interested in helping the offender succeed, and is more interested in tracking failures and acting on rule violations; as a result, the officer has a high turnover of cases.

Source: visualphotos.com
Association of State Correctional Administrators

A national organization for state department of corrections’ directors that seeks to educate top administrators on broad correctional issues and influence correctional policy.

Source: ASCA
14.4 Going to the Future

- Performance-based measures that can be **proven** will receive funding.
- Community service officers need to **help offenders rehabilitate**
- Parole boards and judges need to agree to **progressive sanction model**.
- **Justice Reinvestment** reallocating money saved from the institution back to the community and programs
- Transparency in information collection and **accountability**
- **Membership in professional organizations** to aid with training and professionalism
### CHAPTER SUMMARY

**14.1**
There are many principles of effective intervention. Prison is only for those who pose the highest-risk to public safety, while community-based options are more effective for lower risk offenders.

**14.2**
Using professional judgment, not political agendas, to examine the broader effect of decisions on the justice system. Reinvestment of monies saved on incarceration in social service programs in low-income communities.

**14.3**
Estimation of costs and benefits of reduced crime is as important to implementation of what works as is deciding what programs to fund.

**14.4**
Transparency will be a key in future funding and achievement of correctional outcomes.