

7-14-21

#1

Joe Public,

I believe, because of recent events, the general public is aware our legal systems and DOC are quite broken and need repair. The tax payer dollars wasted, alone is reason to amend policies. Add in the mistreatment of inmates, many whom are innocent or overly sentenced, and a sense of urgency arises.

Somehow, I blame the 85% law, the prisons have become more related to a shelter for incarcerated than a place of correction. Once called, Correction Officers (CO's), who ran the facilities and assisted in rehabilitating those convicted so they may become tax payers rather than tax burdens, now call themselves, "Police". They act accordingly, much to the inmates dismay, especially here at SWSP.

The main purpose of DOC's is to rehab those convicted into contributing members of society, everyone agrees. But, this 85%, or mandatory minimum law, has forced DOC's to direct available tax monies away from that main purpose. Because the 85% mm means inmates have to serve more time, less go on parole (home) which overcrowds prisons. One can easily see the snowball effect caused by overcrowding of our prisons.

In order for rehabilitation of inmates to reach desired levels mandatory minimums need to be abolished. A very qualified "Parole Board" should have the power to determine when an inmate should re-enter

and be a contributor to society, not  
a law. END OF FIRST PIECE

#2

Sadly, I'm now housed at SWS P which  
is very inmate unfriendly. It is the  
worst run of the 3 facilities I've been  
at. Here there is no time allotted  
adequately for inmate use of phones, kiosks  
showers and or outside rec as in others.  
I have not received dental care, access to  
legal or law library, or medical care on  
par with other facilities. I asked to  
transfer here to be closer to home and  
receive visits. Of course the pandemic is  
still impeding visits and I've received  
none. Sorry to say I was better off in  
Newark.

I must say I am 69 years old come  
this September and that in itself is a  
problem in prison. Although the problems  
I've described, so far, along with poor  
treatment is not the worst part. The  
worst is, I'm not a criminal nor even  
guilty as charged. Being forced to live  
with the very people I despise is a  
terrible torture no one should endure.  
The every day humiliation, loss of  
freedom, separation from friends, family,  
farm and everything I love is beyond  
sanity. There is no one to share with  
and that is the worst. Makes Nathan  
Hales words have great meaning. Give me  
liberty or Give me death.

Bill Kiepe