

All MEN HAVE Redeeming Qualities.

Some People Who live Their whole Lives USING DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ARE INDEED Good People. They seem TO HAVE This Quality ABOUT Them THAT They wish TO ENJOY The Good Things IN life. Who ON This Planet Does NOT! BUT ESPECIALLY THE POOR AMONG US.

POVERTY IS A CATALYST THAT ENHANCES DRUG ADDICTION AND ALCOHOLISM. Poverty is The Main Problem That Needs TO be addressed IN OUR SOCIETY Today. Addictions, DRUG use, ALCOHOLISM, AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR ARE JUST SYMPTOMS OF THE PROBLEM OF POVERTY. MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD be Placed ON REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT RATHER THAN LONG EXHAUSTIVE PRISON SENTENCES. Who Pays for These LONGER PRISON SENTENCES AND LARGER PRISONS, BUT THE PUBLIC IN INCREASED TAXES.



I THINK I WAS 5 years old when I HAD MY FIRST Run in with The LAW. IT WAS Petaluma, California 1968. There was a Soap factory That Made Soap from Killing Horses. They had A Candy Machine That I Reached my arm INTO AND filched all The Candy out of. I was 5 years old, and in my Little 5 year old MIND I Reasoned That These Horse Killers did NOT Deserve Candy TO Eat. My COHORT Little Friend of mine at The Time HAD A Baby Carriage. So we Proceeded TO Load UP AND ESCAPE Down The Railroad TRACKS. Surely This was NOT The Best Decision TO TAKE. We GOT Lit UP by The Police Cruiser AND I WAS TAKEN Home AND Delivered TO MAMA.

Seems All Through my Life I HAVE Made BAD Choices. Compound THAT with a LACK of INFORMATION OR Knowledge and I END UP with a CATASTROPHY ON MY HANDS.

The Bible WARNS US, " My People are DESTROYED FOR LACK of KNOWLEDGE.", Hosea 4:6 (NKJV). This is SO TRUE FOR EXFELONS ON PAROLE. ONE EXAMPLE FOR ME WAS THAT MY DRIVERS LICENSE WAS SUSPENDED IN 2005 FOR POSSESSION OF A GRAM OF MARIJUANA. I PLEAD FOR TIME SERVED, and MY LAWYER NEVER TOLD ME THAT MY LICENSE WOULD BE SUSPENDED FOR THIS CHARGE. WHEN I GOT OUT OF PRISON IN 2011, MY LICENSE WAS STILL SUSPENDED. I WANTED TO GO TO TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL. TO GET MY LICENSE BACK I NEEDED \$100⁰⁰ DOLLARS AND PARTICIPATION IN A DRUG CLASS. I HAD THE MONEY BUT NO DRUG CLASS CERTIFICATE. HOWEVER I NEVER KNEW, and NO ONE EVER TOLD ME UNTIL I WAS IN JAIL AGAIN; THAT I COULD USE A CHANGES CERTIFICATE. IF I WOULD HAVE KNOWN. I HAD ONE THE WHOLE TIME. I WOULD NOT BE IN PRISON NOW DOING 50 AGG FOR MURDER.

I AM AN OLD CONVICT. AT THIS WRITING, I
am 59 years old. I HAVE BEEN
INCARCERATED FIVE TIMES IN THE TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE (TDCJ)
SINCE 1985. TDCJ ID NUMBERS ARE ISSUED
IN NUMERICAL ORDER. MY NUMBERS ARE;
408993 - 3 YRS, 438439 - 7 YRS, 562246 - 30 YRS,
1554628 - 5 YRS, AND 1965119 - 50 YRS. SO I
HAVE A TOTAL OF 95 YEARS. I HAVE OR WILL
SPEND OVER HALF MY LIFE BEHIND BARS.

NOW I DID NOT RECITE THIS TO BRAG, ON
THE CONTRARY I AM DEEPLY ASHAMED AND
REGRET THE CHOICES I HAVE MADE. I JUST
WANT THE READER TO UNDERSTAND MY EXTENSIVE
EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE TEXAS
PRISON SYSTEM.

WHAT HAS BEEN SHOWN ON TELEVISION ABOUT
THE PRISON SYSTEMS IN AMERICA IS NOT
REALITY. SOME VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS DO
HAPPEN. BUT VIOLENCE IS NOT PERVASIVE AS

as it is seen in Hollywood. IN THE TEXAS PRISON SYSTEM THERE ARE DIFFERENT CUSTODY LEVELS THAT OFFENDERS ARE CLASSIFIED AS. G1 THROUGH G5. G1 IS THE HIGHEST LEVEL; TRUSTYS AS SUCH. G2 IS GENERAL POPULATION. I AM A G3, CLASSIFIED AS SO ABBRIATED OR MORE TO LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE. I HAD TO DO 10 YEARS TO BE CLASSIFIED AS G2. G4 IS MEDIUM CUSTODY: THESE GUYS LIKE TO FIGHT OR GET INTO TROUBLE WITH THE LAW. IT TAKES 1 YEAR TO COME BACK UP FOR G2 STATUS. G5 IS WORSE, I AM EDUCATED AND HAVE NEVER BEEN A G4 OR G5.

I, LIKE MOST OFFENDERS IN THE SYSTEM, JUST WANT TO DO MY TIME AS EASY AS POSSIBLE. I HAVE FOUND IT BEST TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS (CO'S) AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. IF THEY GET MAD AT YOU THEY WILL RETALIATE, TEAR YOUR CELL APART. THE WORST THAT THEY CAN DO SHORT OF VIOLENCE, IS

TAKE your ID CARD AND NEVER GIVE IT BACK.
Say They lost it. IN THAT EVENT NO ID
MEANS NO COMMISSARY FOR A MONTH. TILL A
NEW ID CARD IS ISSUED.

There is so much CORRUPTION WITHIN THE
SYSTEM I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START.
There are these Barbeque pits ON EACH UNIT.
ON THE STILES UNIT WHEN I WAS THERE. THE
OFFICERS WOULD BARBEQUE FOOD FROM THE
KITCHEN FOR THEMSELVES. WE, THE INMATES,
NEVER GOT ANY OF IT. THOSE BBQ PITS WERE
INSTALLED TO FEED US. THERE IS NO BUDGET
IN TDCJ FOR THE OFFICERS CHOW HALL. THEY
ARE SUPPOSE TO EAT OUR FOOD. AND THEY
DO. WE NEVER, OR RARELY SEE, CONDIMENTS IN
THE INMATE CHOW HALLS. THINGS LIKE SLICED
PICKLES, MAYO, KATSUP, MUSTARD, SLICED
JALAPENOS, MARGARINE. IF THEY ARE ON
THE MASTER MENU FOR ALL THE UNITS, THEN
TDCJ IS BUDGETTED THE COST FOR THESE ITEMS.

Texas Correctional Industries (TCI) is a Publicly Traded Corporation that makes profits for their shareholders. They sell their products to prisons and jails all over Texas. They use offenders in their factories. On some private prison they pay their workers. But on most prison units we just get good time. The slave plantation is alive and well in the state of Texas.

During the 1980's a Federal Judge William Wayne Justice ruled in favor of the inmates in the Ruiz vs Estelle lawsuit. The inmates were given a choice; they could get paid for work, or they could get good time credits. They made the mistake of choosing good time credits. Two reasons why this was a mistake. One: our good time credits have since been legislated away from some offenders. And two: TDCJ was court ordered to reduce the prison population anyway. The

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS STARTED TO GIVE INMATES BONUS TIME TO BRING OFFENDERS UP FOR PAROLE EARLY.

BUT GOOD TIME CREDITS ASIDE, THE RUIZ VS ESTELLE LAWSUIT FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGED TDCJ. BEFORE RUIZ INMATES HAD AUTHORITY OVER OTHER INMATES. THEY WERE CALLED BUILDING TENDERS AND TURNKEYS. MY FIRST PRISON SENTENCE WAS AFTER RUIZ, BUT I STILL WAS WRITTEN UP 3 TIMES BY INMATES FOR BEING A TURNKEY.

THE UNIT I AM ON NOW JOHN B. CONNALLY UNIT, THERE IS NO CRAFTSHOP. A LOT OF THE PRIVILEGES THAT WE USED TO HAVE ARE GONE. IN CELL PIDDLING CARDS. THESE YOU COULD PURCHASE OUTSIDE ART SUPPLIES TO CRAFT ITEMS IN YOUR CELL. NO MORE. SEEMS LIKE ALL THE ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO DO IS LOCK US UP AND THROW AWAY THE KEY.

TEXAS WANTS TO KEEP THIS ATTITUDE TOWARD

IT'S INMATE CLASS. THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES.
LET ME RUN THIS SCENARIO BY YOU.

TEXAS PRISONS KEEP A MAN LOCKED UP
30 OR 40 YEARS, TREAT HIM LIKE AN ANIMAL,
A COW IN A HERD. FORCE HIM TO LIVE IN
SUBSTANDARD, UNCLEAN LIVING CONDITIONS. THEN
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS RELEASE HIM ONTO THE
PUBLIC. WITHOUT ANY RESOURCES OR ASSISTANCE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK HE IS GOING TO DO?

TEXAS PRISONS IS A SELF PERPETUATING
MACHINE. A RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE
PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.

