

Profit of Prisons

An essay

By: J. A. Ramirez

When did the noble man think profiting off the incarcerated could be lucrative. That's a question that's baffled me for a very long time which reminds me of the amount of time I've served, nevertheless, food for thought. Making money or someone profiting off the incarcerated is the equivalent of someone making money off the dead. The dying, the decaying of someone in a hospital bed. The equivalent of big pharma, profiting off the people that are in dire need of a supplement much needed to stay alive. Two which are inevitable but very much alike because you can't have one without the other, but prisons for profit? Just the thought of someone going out of their way to actually sit down and think about the machinations of a concept, an interior designer to the entrails of spoilage, a true designer to a business plan to a hell on earth makes me cringe yet someone preconceived it. It can only be said of a prison for profit that it is a place where an inmate comes to deteriorate, slowly, inadvertently; melancholia at it's best for there is nothing here to persevere, but to hurry up and wait. A different face every week for an exchange for the one that just left. A human warehouse where the revolving doors never ceases to turn, a turn stile without a money slot for a decent education in return. A total stoppage to anything conducive where nothing productive exists and where it seems that the inner workings main agenda is to hold an inmate back from progression. One can only sit back and listen to those that come from other facilities and hear how good they had it and about all the programs they offer those inmates in those prison's, state prisons. I hear about the prison radio station they offer those inmates, the same radio station this "private prison" canceled and or blocked us from listening do to too much conducive information the station was broadcasting. DU PUI if you're reading you're being silenced here in the private sector. But, who really is profiting from these "private prisons" because it's not us. No money is being put in to the minutest amenity like the food service where an inmate rarely receives his actual daily serving of caloric intake, no money is going to the laundry where an inmate waits up to a year for new garments, and where the bedding is so old that it basically sheds it's threads, no money is going to the facilities air and duct system where walking into a cell-room is like walking into a cloud of pollen, infested with allergens where they seem to thrive, and where it seems the air filters are never changed, no money is going to the kitchen's cleaning supplies where inmates have to almost battle it out for cleaning supplies and mop bucket to insure a clean and sanitized chow hall, no money is going in to their intercom system that are in each cell-room that are rarely in working condition, where an inmate pushes the button and are lucky to get a response from a concerned c/o, no money is being put in to simple maintenance issues, no money is being put in to creating jobs or furthering the employ-ability of these facilities where jobs are almost non existent, no money is being put in advancing the private prison education department, no money is being put in to vocational and or trades to self educate yourself, no money is being put in to helping an inmate to advance themselves before their release. It's as if they want you to come back, but of course, we're job security. We that make it possible for those that profit from this gig can't even get the wardens attention. Can't even get our grievances responded yet alone a grievance form. We can't even get PPMU to respond to those forms that are suppose to help the facility operate in a more fashionable manner, and how are we to know if they even make it out of the box and to their destination. Who is the heartless that takes upon them to cash in on us that should be behind these walls to replete correction in our lives. To remand our outward actions that has caused us to be corrected, not tormented monotonously where yard time is as valuable as the fresh air we breath when and if we're allowed yard, once a day on a good day and if they feel like letting us out at all. Why do private prisons vary from state prisons where the only consistency is the inconsistency? And where weeds and desolation seem to speak of the unseen conglomerates. Who is profiting from these prisons that should be outlawed, vanquished, abnegated and as feasible as can be.