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Importance of Reentry Programs in Reducing Recidivism

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Introduction

- ▶ Reentry programs help once convicted individuals to reenter the society
- ▶ The main purpose of reentry programs is to reduce recidivism
- ▶ These programs are offered to juveniles, and adults
- ▶ Also, these programs work with convicts from all ethnic group
- ▶ For example, blacks, whites and other ethnic groups in the United States
- ▶ By reducing recidivism, the criminal justice public safety is improved
- ▶ Also, the programs save money that would be used if recidivism cases are high

Types of Reentry Programs



- ▶ One of the reentry program is Adult Reentry Programs
- ▶ This program deals with adults from 18 years and above
- ▶ Also, it gives services to both gender; males and females
- ▶ The target of the program is prisoners who are about to reenter the society
- ▶ Also, its services are offered to other community settings that deal with crime and delinquency

Continuation...

- ▶ Other countries also have reentry programs that help in reducing recidivism
- ▶ In the British systems, anger and behavior management are provided in prisons
- ▶ Some other treatment include counselling and health care treatments
- ▶ From research studies, most prisons in Britain do not contain many programs (Nikhil, 2015)
- ▶ Inadequate resources in prisons may be one of the challenges in British prisons
- ▶ Others are lack of drug and alcohol treatment programs and lack of support from families

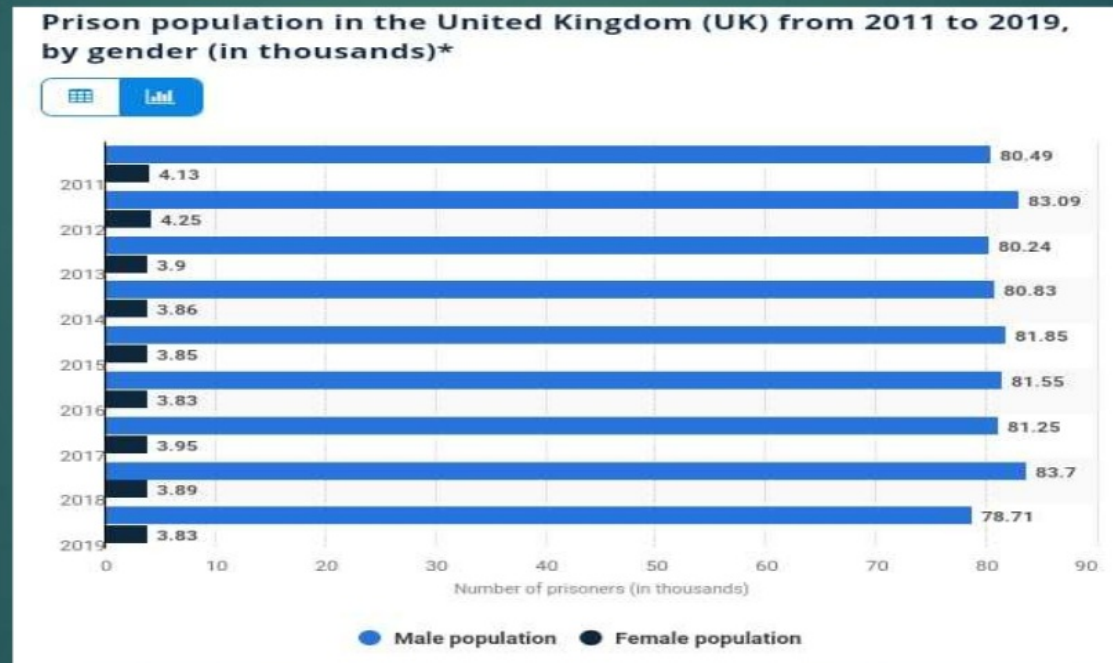
Continuation..

- ▶ The reentry programs in Britain are not effective in reducing recidivism
- ▶ This is because there are not enough rehabilitation programs in the prisons
- ▶ Many individuals in prison are not looked after as they should while in prison
- ▶ However, for women, situation is different they have fewer numbers in prison
- ▶ Hence, they have a better chance of surviving in the society when released than men
- ▶ However, it does not stop the rates of recidivism from increasing among women

Reforming the British Reentry Program

- ▶ The British government should consider reforming their reentry program
- ▶ They should plan on how to implement such programs especially in male prisons
- ▶ The programs that should be available include substance abuse and mental health programs
- ▶ Other programs like education and employment training should be implemented
- ▶ Research shows that 58% of women and 53% of men in jail lacked employment (Nikhil, 2015)
- ▶ The government should consider providing funds for vocational training in prisons

United Kingdom Data



- 3
- Figure 2: Prison population in the United Kingdom (UK) from 2011 to 2019 by gender (in thousands)

Adult Reentry Programs



- ▶ This program aims at helping individuals transition from prisons to their home communities
- ▶ This program initiates treatments in prison to the adult participants (Ndrecka, 2014)
- ▶ Their treatment services include substance abuse, education, and life skills
- ▶ The programs give gender specific treatment care to each gender like females
- ▶ The participants also are provided vocational/job training services while in prison

Continuation...

- ▶ These programs are provided in the prison setting
- ▶ In the community programs, services like counseling and therapy are provided
- ▶ Other programs provided in the community include substance abuse treatment program (Ndrecka, 2014)
- ▶ Work and employment release programs are provided by community programs
- ▶ Also, housing programs, and female programs are also offered to released individuals.
- ▶ The treatment services can be in different forms like individual or group treatment

Continuation...

- ▶ Some of the programs are mandated by the court while others are voluntary
- ▶ One of the court mandated programs include substance abuse management
- ▶ Hence, this program is mandated by the court to reduce substance-induced crimes
- ▶ These reentry programs can be delivered in several settings leave alone prisons
- ▶ This means that the programs can be delivered to areas that are not with jails

Adult Reentry Programs in US

- ▶ Adult Reentry programs in United States are effective in reducing recidivism
- ▶ Also, most ² reentry programs that target high-risk convicts are more effective
- ▶ The recidivism rate has reduced by 47% via the effectiveness of the program (Berghuis, 2018)
- ▶ For recidivism to reduce almost completely, the programs should be improved
- ▶ Also, education programs should be provided to all individuals in prison

US Data

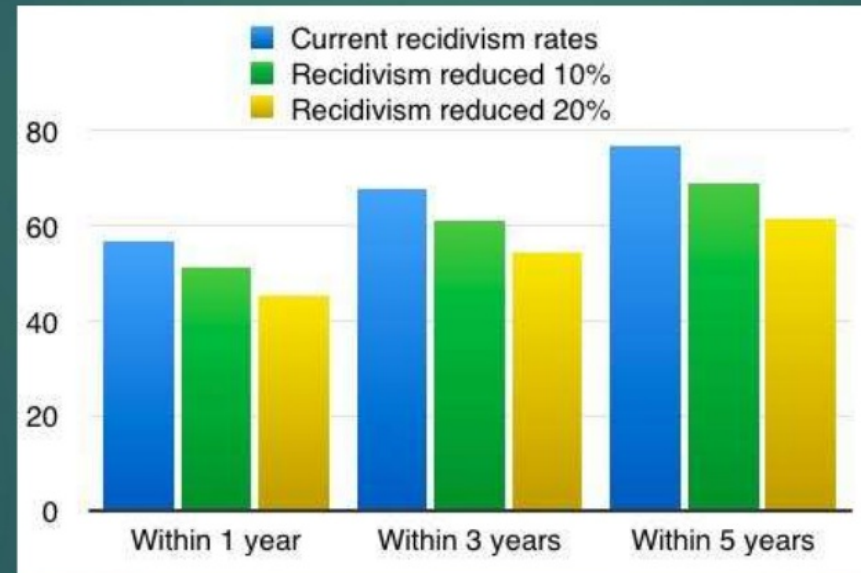


Figure 1: Recidivism rate in US

Conclusion

- ▶ Reentry programs aim at reducing recidivism among offenders
- ▶ Many programs in the US have led to the reduction of recidivism
- ▶ Other countries should implement reentry programs to reduce recidivism
- ▶ By reducing recidivism, the criminal justice public safety is improved
- ▶ Also, the programs save money that would be used if recidivism cases are high
- ▶ Thus, reentry programs motivate convicts to be better individuals ¹in the society

References

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