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Offender's Legal Protection (Question 1)

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Offender's Legal Protection (Question 1)

The United States' offenders have legal protections, even when their privacy rights are curtailed. Their rights are determined by the place they are imprisoned and the criminal process stage. Despite the differences, legal protection in the nation is sufficient due to several reasons.

The offenders' legal protection is reliable because it is stated in the Constitution. The 8th Amendment states that all inmates are freed from inhuman treatment or unusual punishment (Maschi & Richter, 2017). The bill did not elaborate on what cruel and unusual treatment is, but the Supreme Court chipped in and explained. Among the things mentioned were disemboweling, beheading, and burning alive. It was a reliable action as it was stated that other punishment methods are banned as they indicate a violation of human rights. The legal protections are also sufficient as they address offenders' physical and mental needs. For example, inmates have a right not to be sexually harassed. The guards and government officials, among other involved parties, are held accountable for such cases. They could receive civil penalties, which pushes them to ensure that protection is maximized.

In case of any concerns, the offenders are allowed to address them to the people in charge. Moreover, discrimination based on race, religion, and age, among others, is prohibited. It will enable the offenders to air out the matters to be improved without fear of being discriminated against. Their mental wellbeing is also ensured, as the law allows them to receive medical and mental treatment. Nevertheless, the accommodations provided must be reasonable as the purpose is to keep the inmates comfortable other than to extend their lives (Coyle & Fair, 2018). For example, if an offender has a tooth cavity issue, the solution picked is removing it other than filling it. Similar actions are taken with the disabled criminals. They access

accommodation based on the Americans with Disabilities Act to ensure they receive equal access to facilities like the rest but not extraordinarily.

Therefore, US offenders' legal protection aspect is sufficient because it is founded in the Constitution, considers both the physical and mental needs, and the inmates can air their challenges. Notably, the factors maintain their wellbeing, making them reliable.

References

- Coyle, A., & Fair, H. (2018). *A human rights approach to prison management: Handbook for prison staff*. Institute for Criminal Policy Research Birkbeck, University of London.
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