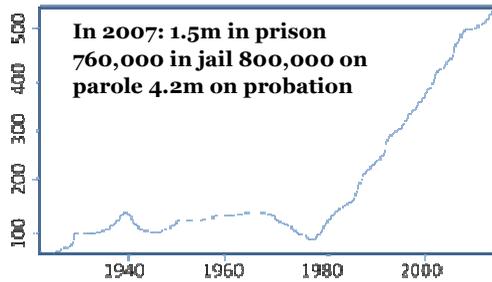


Incarceration Does NOT Reduce Crime

Until recently incarceration was thought to be the solution to crime. Research has shown that to be wrong.

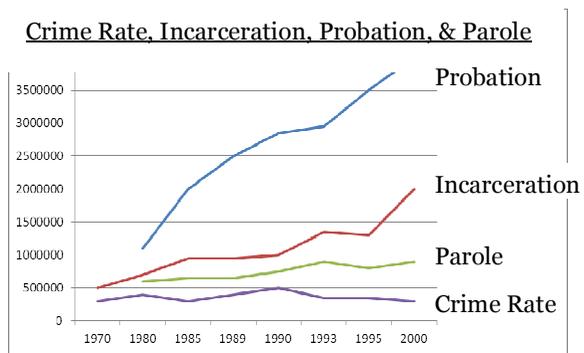
The rise in the incarceration rate of approximately 500% was supposed to reduce crime.

It did not happen,



“Not a single study has documented that official punishment (custody, mandatory arrest, probation, increased surveillance, etc.) has reduced recidivism rates or deterred future crimes.”

- Prof. Ed Latessa, University of Cincinnati



* Incarceration had no appreciable impact on crime.

Typically, released offenders are reluctant to contact churches, which can help them. The released offender needs food, clothing, shelter, sobriety and a job. The national recidivism rate is 6 out of 10, Texas rate 3 out of 10.

The level of risk of offenders must be determined.

HIGH MEDIUM LOW

*Low risk offenders should not be in prison. Low risk offenders have a success rate of 80% and need **minimal supervision.***

The other 20% may not respond to rehabilitation efforts but neither do they tend to commit major crimes.



Criminogenic Need

The Big Six:

- Anti-social attitudes
- Criminal peers
- Low self control
- Dysfunctional family relationships
- Alcohol/Substance abuse
- Criminal/Callous personality

Criminogenic needs are **not** addressed by incarceration.

Prison inmates do not start criminal actions late in life. They begin anti-social activity at 7 years of age.

They grow up in dysfunctional families without adequate parental guidance.

Religious volunteers can help fill that gap.

Please consider volunteering.

Criminal Justice

Diocese of Austin

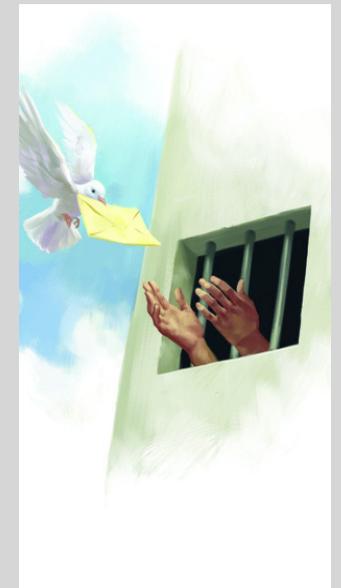
Deacon Doots DuFour
6225 Hwy 290 E
Austin, TX 78723

Doots-dufour@austindiocese.org
(512)949-2462



Criminal Justice

Stopping the Cycle

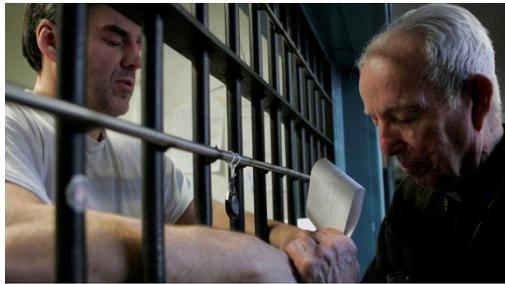


Annually, 1 in 9 men in Texas are in jail, prison, on probation, parole or bonded to appear in court to face a charge. Thirty percent of all Texans have been arrested by age 23.

Inmates

Major Characteristics of Prison Inmates

- School dropout
- Abuse or neglect as a child
- Addiction to or abuse of drugs and/or alcohol
- Reared in a fatherless household
- No spiritual life

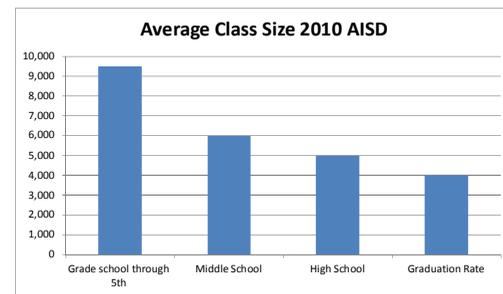


Researcher, Byron Johnson, in a longitudinal study found that if a parolee **makes contact** with a church upon release, he/she has a good chance of staying FREE. If that parolee **does not make contact** with a church, they have a good chance of returning to prison.

The Road to Prison Starts in School

Teachers in school must be trained in methods of supervision and discipline to deal with today's student population. Too many children and youth are given disciplinary citations by campus police which get them into the criminal justice system. Most student disciplinary problems should be handled at the school.

Half of **all** school children are at risk of dropping out of school. Nine out of ten prison inmates have dropped out of school.



Poverty Matters

Minority populations are over represented in the prison population. **The reason is poverty not ethnicity.** Minority populations are dropping out of school in greater numbers than Anglos.

If a person finishes high school, has no illegitimate children and marries after 20, he/she is in a group with **8%** poverty. If he/she violates any one of these factors he/she is in a group with **79%** poverty.

Households



Fatherless Household

Four in 10 households in Texas have no father present.

Such households are responsible for:

- 72% of murders
- 85% of those with behavior disorders
- 75% of those in substance abuse centers
- 85% of those in prisons

70% of the former Texas Youth Commission inmates came from families where parents were divorced, separated or never married.

25% of children live in a single head-of-household with income **less** than **\$10,000** annually.

Drugs and Alcohol

Dallas County reported that for a particular period 70% of those arrested were under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Of releasees in Houston, 80% reported drug use prior to incarceration. Alcoholics Anonymous tells us sobriety comes through a spiritual life.

Returnees to Houston Convicted of:

Violent Crimes	9%	→	Directly related to drug use
Drug Sales	14%		
Property Crimes	23%		
Drug Possession	37%		
Other	17%		

Abuse and Neglect

Many children are reared without adequate financial and emotional resources, love and positive guidance.

They are not being properly parented.

For every one abused child in a household with **\$30,000** or more annual income, lesser income households show greater numbers of abused children.

Household Income Proportionate Number of Abused Children

