

“Segregation & Reform in U.S. Prisons & Jails”

Why this Topic is Important

Many jails/prisons are engaged in reform of segregation practices.

Some staff do not understand reasons for reform and/or want to continue using segregation.

Science suggests segregation in carceral settings may do more harm than good.

Key Episode Takeaways

- ✓ Segregation in prisons does not positively contribute to rehabilitation and reformation of individuals who are incarcerated.
- ✓ Restricted housing increases the challenges incarcerated individuals face both during segregation and post-release.
- ✓ A case study of North Dakota’s restricted housing reform (based on the Norwegian Correctional Service), documented significant reductions in the usage of restricted housing post-reform and found that the reform helped with in-custody violence.

Research Science Cited in This Episode

Brown, E. (2020). A systematic review of the effects of prison segregation. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 52, 101389.

Cloud, D. H., Augustine, D., Ahalt, C., Haney, C., Peterson, L., Braun, C., & Williams, B. (2021). “We just needed to open the door”: A case study of the quest to end solitary confinement in North Dakota. *Health & Justice*, 9(1), 1–25.