

CORRECTIONS & PENOLOGY
Dr. Lucken Assignment #3

SPECIAL POPULATIONS IN CORRECTIONS

READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- Due April 17th at the beginning of class. NO LATE OR E-MAILED PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED
- The assignment will be graded as follows: 100, 95, 90, 85, 80, 75, 70 and so on
- The assignment will be graded according to the following criteria:
 - You have followed instructions and answered all parts of both questions
 - You have covered the range of issues in depth
 - Your answers are coherent and well organized.
 - You have submitted a paper that uses proper grammar and spelling.
 - The answer for each question should be no less than ½ page typed
 - The answer must be typed (1" top, side, bottom margins, DS 12 pt. font)
- Read each of the 3 attached scenarios. Select 1 and answer the following two questions:
 1. Discuss 2 factors that will affect your decision-making based on the scenario given. The factors that you identify SHOULD NOT repeat the same factors already listed in the scenario. The scenario merely serves the purpose of setting the context for decision-making. In deciding what factors to take into account, consider whether they will contribute to a fair and just outcome for the offender and other parties that will be affected by the decision. (1/2 page)
 2. Discuss 2 alternative (i.e., different) solutions or sentencing options (depending on which scenario you select) for the problem presented in the selected scenario. These solutions should reflect the issues you considered in question #1. (1/2 page)

Case of the New Mother

You are the probation officer for Mary, who is a 20 year old sentenced to 5 years of probation for felony cocaine possession. She admits to the possession, but says she was keeping the cocaine for her previous boyfriend who regularly used the drug. She denies ever having any intent to sell or distribute the cocaine to others. She is equivocal about her own use of cocaine.

Mary also has a long history of juvenile offenses beginning with status offenses as a runaway from an abusive home where she was sexually molested and later from foster care. By junior high school she was charged with possession of alcohol and marijuana as well as two burglary and grand theft charges for breaking into her parents' house for money to buy drugs.

Mary is two years into her probation and has just delivered her first child two weeks ago. The

child was born free of any signs of drug addiction and Mary has been a model mother thus far. However, she has missed two probation appointments, quit her job, and resumed a relationship with her drug-involved boyfriend. How will you handle this situation?

Case of the Elderly White Collar Criminal

You are the warden of Death Valley State Prison. You have seen an influx of atypical inmates resulting from the prosecution of Worldcom Corporation managers. These managers maintained investments from the state teacher retirement system knowing the Corporation was insolvent and on the brink of collapse. The retirement fund imploded after Worldcom declared bankruptcy and the retired teachers, administrators and staff of the state's school system lost their pensions. A number of Worldcom managers have been convicted of fraudulent inducement and are now in the state prison system.

Richard is one such manager and has come to see you with a complaint. He is a 60 year old Worldcom manager and is suffering from high blood pressure, insomnia and ulcers. His complaint is that younger inmates are stealing his food in the cafeteria, delivering unprovoked punches when the guards are not looking and sabotaging his work in the laundry to earn him disciplinary infractions. Richard also says he cannot keep up with the rigorous schedule of the prison requiring him to be up at 5am with inspection at 6am. He is afraid to go to the showers for fear of being physically abused and he is constantly harassed by other inmates who call him "Mr. Swindler." Richard asserts that he has become suicidal over his situation. Because he is fairly new to Death Valley, you are uncertain of his mental health status but you have witnessed the harassment he complains of. How will you handle this situation?

Case of the Mentally Ill Homeless Offender

You are a parole officer for a mentally ill (schizophrenic) homeless man (John) who served 4 years of a 5 year prison sentence for burglary of a residence before being paroled. Prior to his incarceration, he had been in and out of mental health facilities for several years. While on parole supervision, he was found at the scene of a recent convenience store robbery which occurred at 1am, three hours after the store had closed. He saw the burglars who had smashed the front door of the closed store running out with money from the cash register. Peering in the window, he saw a bottle of iced tea spinning around on the floor where it had fallen as the burglars rushed out of the store. He stepped through the broken glass and was finishing the drink when police arrived and ordered him to stop and put his hands in the air. John attempted to run but was captured and charged with resisting arrest without violence and petit theft for which he was later convicted.

During your appointment with John he tells you the drink was a gift from the gods. Asked how often the gods speak to him, John tells you "every night about 7pm." He appears to be totally serious. He also has a fairly long record of minor infractions, many evidencing the same mental illness that you suspect is in operation here. How will you handle this situation?