Social Issues impacting on Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System

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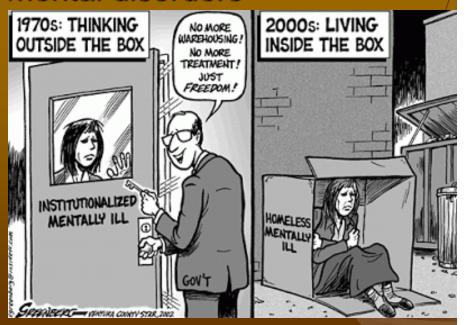
Why have Forensic Mental Health Services Become so Popular

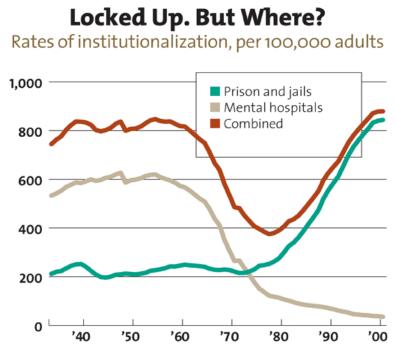
- The process of deinstitutionalization in the United States that occurred mainly in the 1960s and 1970s, Still going on today in our jurisdiction (SMHC/MDC)
- The model of civil internment was a medical model. With the introduction of civil law to those held in mental hospitals at the insistence of the legal profession, a new "legal model" of civil internment began to take shape.

Historical View of People with Mental Disorders involved in the Criminal Justice System

One of the unintended outcomes of this phenomenon within the United States and Canada (and most other Western Nations), is that incarceration became the most common alternative to hospitalization for individuals with

mental disorders

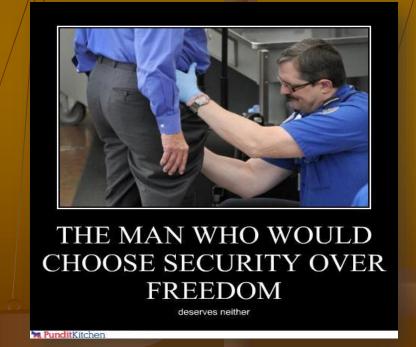




Overrepresentation

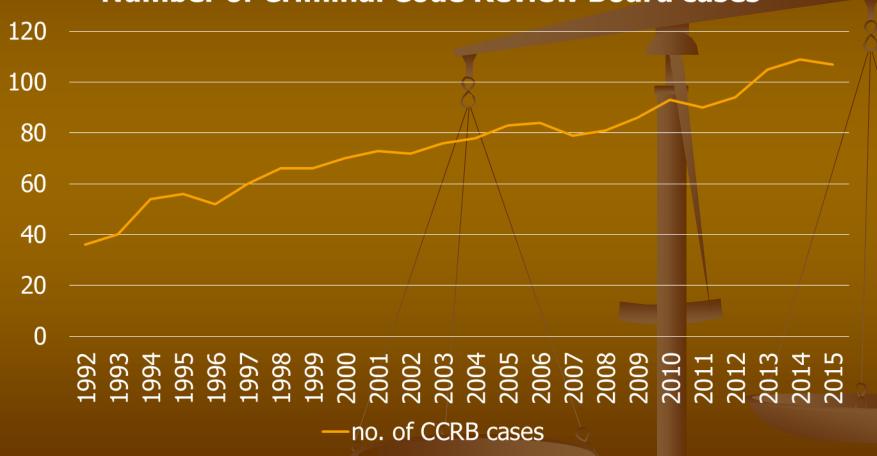
Prevalence estimates of serious mental illness in jails range from 7 to 16 percent, or rates four times higher for men and eight times higher for women than found in the general population.





Forensic Services





Reintegration

- Reintegration: the transition from custody to the streets is challenging for almost all inmates.
- The challenges are compounded when living with a mental illness.
- Having a criminal record interferes with recovery

