

Faith and Character Based Initiatives in Corrections: Do They Work?

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The United States has the largest prison population per capita in the world. Florida has taken a proactive position regarding this issue with the opening of three Faith and Character-Based prisons, seven dormitories located at other state correctional facilities, and one county facility. Information was obtained through personal surveys of inmates who are currently participating in these types of programs, inmates who have participated in these programs and been re-arrested, and inmates who have participated in these types of programs and left the criminal justice system altogether. This information was combined with statistical data provided by the Department of Corrections to determine if the faith and character based initiative in Florida is successful and helping to reduce Florida's prison population.