

# **Florida's Juvenile Boot Camps: A Comparative Evaluation**

Michael J. Klein

Boot camps are a form of shock incarceration and have been in use in adult correctional settings since 1983. It is an intermediate sanction which became popular in the United States after Ohio passed the first shock incarceration statute in 1965. The Florida Department of Corrections has been operating adult boot camps since 1983, and is one of the first state correctional agencies to use this form of rehabilitation on youthful offenders. Juvenile boot camps, on the other hand, are relatively new to the correctional setting and have been operating in the State of Florida since 1993. This study compares types of programs, types of offenders placed in the boot camps, and the use of aftercare programs in juvenile boot camps in Florida. Aftercare delivery is also studied to determine if the programmatic groundwork set down in the residential program is complemented in the aftercare component, and finally, a comparison of residential to nonresidential aftercare structures is used to determine if any one structure provides more stability in rehabilitative effort than another.