

If prisons were about rehabilitation, our planet would benefit wildly. We would have more money to use and build our planet, an increase in law-abiding citizens, and a ton less crime. These are all super important to having a great planet and society, so therefore prison must be about rehabilitation.

## **Prison systems must be changed to be about rehabilitation, instead of imprisonment to keep our world safe.**

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Firstly, prisons that focus on rehabilitation have dramatically fewer people recommitting crimes, but the prisons that focus on punishment, have nearly everybody recommit crimes. What is the point of locking someone up in prison, ignoring their needs and wants for help, just for them to commit another crime as soon as they get out? We need to ask our justice system this question. Let's compare two prison systems: The US, which focuses on punishment and Scandinavia, which focuses on rehabilitation, treatment and support aimed to help the offender become a law-abiding member of society. As we can see, these systems dramatically differ and offer separate outcomes for the prisoners. Research shows that people are more likely to commit another crime after being released when they are locked up and inhumanely imprisoned. In the US, over 80% of all prisoners will commit another crime after being released whereas in Scandinavia less than 20% will commit a crime again. If prison were about rehabilitation, we would have fewer people in prison, less crime, and more law-abiding citizens.

Secondly, In Australia, it costs over \$110,000 a year to imprison and punish a single prisoner, just for them to come straight back in when released. This is a money trap that stops us from using money for more beneficial things to improve society. The money that is used to pay for prison, is mostly tax. This means that this is or will be your money, your parent's money, your friend's money or even your future child's money being used to inhumanely trap and punish people, who have made a bad decision. A lot of the cost of prison comes from security and guards. If prison was about rehabilitation, the cost would be a lot cheaper than the punishment-based system, as well as keeping our community safer.

Although some people might think that prisoners deserve the harsh and cruel punishments that they get served, prison should not be about punishment. The punishment-based prison is a very old concept and is out-dated. This is just yet another reason we need to change. When people are locked up, they go insane and fall into regret, depression, guilt, and many other damaging mental health issues. This then causes them not to be able to act like a law-abiding human, or live their life, causing them to end back up in jail. If prison were about rehabilitation, people wouldn't waste their lives falling into the cruel trap of prison.

In conclusion, prison must be about rehabilitation. It benefits society, saves people's lives and keeps our community safe. So please, sign petitions to help the world change for the better.