

Prison Environment and Typology to Support Prisoner Reintegration

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The role of correctional center or known as prison changes over times as philosophies of punishment evolves. Nowadays, the purpose of correctional center focus on rehabilitates and reintegration of prisoner. There is a sign of rising rates of criminal recidivism around the world in recent years. The living condition of prisoner and solitary confinement has caused negative psychological effects and difficulty to reintegrate into society. In relation to that, there is a lack of correctional center environment and typology standard references to support prisoner reintegration. Therefore, this research will focus on prison architectural typology to facilitate the rehabilitation of prisoners to support. In this research, case study will be used as the research inquiry. Therefore, this research will focus on correctional center environment and typology to facilitate the rehabilitation of prisoners to support reintegration.

Keywords: *Correctional center, Environment, Typology, Prisoner reintegration*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Study

The role of correctional center or known as prison changes over times as philosophies of punishment evolves. Until the 14th or 15th centuries, incarceration was not regarded a punishment, instead, dungeons or bastille were used to imprison persons until their trial or the imposition of corporal punishment or exile. The living conditions in early prisons were dreadful and many prisoners died. Prison was mostly built underground with little or no light compare to what we have nowadays.

Britain is the most influential when it comes to modern imprisonment. Jeremy Bentham, a philosopher who opposed the death penalty and thus created a concept for a prison that would be used to detain prisoners as a sort of punishment. Prisons were being built for the sole purpose of housing inmates by the nineteenth century. They

were designed to prevent people from committing crimes. People convicted various crimes would be transferred to these prisons and personal liberty would be taken away. Prisoner were forced to work hard labor and live in harsh condition environment. They were put in solitary confinement. In results, these prisoners has shown signs of mental and physical deterioration, including muscle loss, greater illness rates, self-mutilation, and high rates of attempted or successfully suicide (Rubin A. & Deflem M., 2019).

After that, prison has evolved and so does its purpose. The purpose of prison has 3 core objectives which are to protect the public; to punish; and to rehabilitate (Karthaus R. & Block L., n.d.). The concept of rehabilitation was introduced and governments around the world started reconsidering their views on solitary confinement. Many individuals believe that the fear of being imprisoned would stop offender from committing another crime, but other

believed that introducing policies help reform prisoners before they were released.

There are four security level of prison which are open, low, medium and high. The physical security requirements of a prison and the freedom granted to prisoners are determined by the security level of the prison. In general, prisoners are kept in facilities of certain security levels equivalent to their assigned security level. The placement according to security level directly affects the quality of living for prisoners. For example, the higher the security level, the lower the quality of life of prisoner. As a result, prisoner's quality of life is significantly impacted by their classification. However, modern prison nowadays has changed. Even a maximum-security level prison, Halden prison is known as the world's most humane prison. In short, a prison from low to high security level can help prisoner reintegration into society without sacrificing the quality of life.

1.2 Problem Statement

Individuals who are held in solitary confinement also known as segregation or isolation for more than 22.5 hours per day are said to be in solitary confinement. People in solitary confinement have little or no opportunity to interact with other people. Prisoner in isolation can suffer from "inadequate environmental stimulation," which can lead to "a continuing intolerance of social interaction" that prevents them from reintegrating into the prison population and society (Samarth Gupta). It has been found that solitary confinement causes negative psychological effects and increases the risk of serious harm to individuals who experience it.

Furthermore, correctional facilities' living conditions are one of the most important aspects in defining one's self-esteem and dignity. Prisoners who are held in a good living condition will be more willing and capable of responding to rehabilitative programmes. While those who are in bad living condition are more likely more likely to return to society psychologically shattered and in poor physical and mental health than when they first entered. Roebourne prison has the worst living conditions. In these conditions it does not meet the standard [of humane treatment]. In a modern prison, even in remote areas, the standard would be that there is adequate ventilation and adequate temperature control

Recidivism rates are often used to assess the effectiveness of prison systems and post-release prisoner management programmes (Yukhnenko

D. et al., 2019). Rates of criminal recidivism has been reported to be as high as 50% around the world and they have not declined in recent years (World Population Review, 2021). The comparison of recidivism rates between countries and regions may reveal significant information about the relative efficacy of various sentencing and rehabilitation strategies. Studies show solitary confinement can lead to psychological deterioration, and small to moderate association between solitary confinement and recidivism (Luigi M. et al., 2020). Therefore, an alternative solution to reduce recidivism can potentially make a large contribution to public safety and public health.

Some prison does not meet the standard of humane treatment. There is a lack of correctional center environment and typology standard references to support prisoner reintegration. Rates of criminal recidivism have not declined in recent years. Some correctional center does not effectively rehabilitate and reintegrate prisoner into society. Instead of solitary confinement, there is lack of research on best approach to support prisoner reintegration. Therefore, this research will focus on prison architectural typology to facilitate the rehabilitation of prisoners to support reintegration.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Penal Aims and Ideologies

Punishment is a fundamental and essential component of our daily life. Punishment means any of a series of impositions (such as fine, probation, work service, incarceration and so on) imposed upon a person by authority of law after that individual has been determined to be a criminal offender (Mohammed Jahirul Islam et al., 2013). The term 'Punishment Philosophy' refers to a thorough investigation of the origins, scope, and validity of punishment in several dimensions. The philosophy of punishment entails defining the concept of punishment, as well as the associated values, attitudes, and beliefs, as well as justifying the imposition of a painful burden on someone. (Mohammed Jahirul Islam et al., 2013).

According to a research (Hyatt J. M. et al., 2020), there are two main category classifications which are utilitarian (e.g. rehabilitation, deterrent) and non-utilitarian (e.g. retribution, just desert) in philosophical purposes of punishment. The term utilitarian refers to aspects of the penitentiary experience that are

specifically designed to encourage abstinence from crime, community reintegration, and/or other positive outcomes. These methods are frequently praised as "humane," and they are mirrored in cell-based experiences that aid in the rehabilitation of jailed people. Non-utilitarian components of punishment, for the purposes of this discussion, are those that are not intended to modify future behaviour but are instead related to the offender's previous conduct in a retributive manner (e.g., the severity of the offence). Within the prison setting, this philosophical emphasis might result in cell-based experiences that reflect the penal system's practical concerns (e.g., cost, security)—possibly at the expense of the jailed person's rehabilitative experience. It is shown that philosophy of punishment can influence the function and design of correctional settings.

Based on an article (Jewkes Y., 2017), there is a common assumption that the public wants to see prisoner severely punished and believes that punitive measures and prison environments can act prevent future offending. In other countries, however, the principle of 'normalization' is embedded in culture. Normalization has three components: (1) on an individual level, it recognizes the prisoner as a social being with many facets to their identity, not just a 'prisoner; (2) on a collective level, it is concerned with providing services as similar as possible to the collective services and community agencies provided on the outside; (3) on an environmental level, it is concerned with making prison conditions as close as possible to normal living and working conditions in society (Jewkes Y., 2017). Should we punish them or normalize and reform them in prison?

Several studies had pointed out different view on punishment in correctional settings. However, what is the future aim of correctional can be? In this case, this research aims to finds out the purpose of correctional based on the environment and typology of the correctional center. Even though different settings, we can identify commonalities and differences in function and design.

2.2 Prison Environment and Typology

The environmental factor has great impact on human than you could imagine. The quality of the prison's environment has immediate and longer-term effects for safety and wellbeing of the prisoner. High levels of self-harm and violence suggest that prison are highly stressful settings,

moreover, the environment can to add to this stress.

Prison environment can have impact on behavioral changes on prisoner. According to The Oxford Handbook of Environmental and Conservation Psychology (Clayton S. D., 2012), issues relating to architecture design and layout, privacy, personal space and territoriality, the impact of crowding and isolation, visual aspect of the setting, and ambient conditions such as noise, lighting, will affect prisoner's behavior, such as violence. These have made prisoner hard to have interest in changing their behavior to engage in reflection and self-evaluation.

Nature contact is often identified as a health-enabling element, creating calming effects, reducing stress and tension, and improving health outcomes (Moran D., 2019). Thus, there is a potential for nature contact within prison environments to have a restorative effect on those incarcerated within them. According to Dominique Moran (2019), nature helped reduce stress and increased feelings of calm. It makes prisoner relaxing, and supportive of a sense of peace and wellbeing. Green spaces made the institution feel less like a prison, connected it to the outside world, and served as a visual indicator of the changing seasons (Moran D., 2019). Nature images, unlike green spaces, could not physically walk through, but provided a means of being away, reminding them that there is an outside beyond the fence (Moran D., 2019).

The prison lacked major facilities that could make rehabilitation environment conducive for rehabilitation process of offenders (Sebastian Okello Wang'ombe, 2019). It is shown that lack of main rehabilitation facilities means lack of key rehabilitation programs that rely on these facilities, making institutional rehabilitation of juvenile recidivists a futile exercise (Sebastian Okello Wang'ombe, 2019). Even though this research focused on prison facility environment on juvenile, the lack of rehabilitation facilities could reflect the recidivism rate of offenders.

Moreover, most of prison typology are inspired by Bentham's Panopticon. It is often questioned that whether it could support prisoner to rehabilitate and reintegrate into society. There have been alternative model of correctional center developed which approach is to reduce the number of people re-offending through an improved prison environment. Based on a '21st Century Prison' model (Karthaus R. & Block R., n.d.), it focused on education rather

than architecture predicated on imposing power. This model was built around a collection of 'houses,' which were set up as live-work accommodations to free up time, resources, and management associated with the movement of prisoner around the prison. The buildings are arranged in a layout to maximize social interaction, as well as enhance environmental conditions such as natural daylight, ventilation and views. The model challenges prison typology that confines individual within the prison and a regime based on reflection and purposelessness, inverting logic of Bentham's Panopticon (Karthaus R. & Block R., n.d.).

Several studies had pointed out that environmental factor has great impact on prisoner's safety and wellbeing. However, there is no research investigating which existing prison environment and typology has the best approach to support rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoner. In this case, this research aims to study existing correctional center environment and typology which improve prisoner's well-being, in order to help them successfully rehabilitate and reintegrate into society.

2.3 Prisoner Reintegration

The term "reintegration" refers to the process of released prisoners successfully re-entry into the society (Gisler C. et al, 2018). The prefix "re" also used to indicate that the prisoner was assimilated into society prior to being imprisoned. According to evidence (Chikadzi V., 2017), it shows that there are various challenges that ex-prisoners face when reintegrating into society. These challenges include rejection by family members, social stigma, difficulties to break into the labour market, struggling with adjusting to a new environment after spending many years in prison, inferiority complex that impact mental health, and lack of or inadequate after-care services.

In order for rehabilitation programs to be effective, the transition of prisoner back into society should be considered so that released inmates do not commit new crimes, thus reducing recidivism. However, many inmates have lost contact with their family, and societal stigma makes it difficult for them to reintegrate into society (Gisler C. et al, 2018). Therefore, family support such as facilitate visits from prisoner's families is important in the process of prisoner reintegration. There are several of issues raised

by the visitor when visiting their family in prison. The issues included are long distance travel to prison, unpleasant visit experience, lack of privacy from other prisoners, non-child friendly practice (O'Dwyer K. et al., 2019). Therefore, it is shown that prisoners need quality contact with their families while in custody.

The social intervention through the artistic languages can help to reinforce numerous personal, social, affective, emotional and relational skills. For example, "Opera in Prison", promote a strategy of socio-educational intervention that catalyzes a socially framed life through music, theatre and dance (Margarido C. et al., 2020). It has shown that the role that artistic languages have played in the lives of young prisoners and their families, as well as they have benefit to a more effective social reintegration.

Several studies had pointed out that an excellent programme would definitely help prisoner to rehabilitate and reintegrate into society. However, there is a need to review correctional center environment to corporate programme within and outside of correctional center that are design to rehabilitate and reintegrate prisoners. Therefore, this research aims to study the best approach of correctional center environment to corporate programme within and outside of correctional center that are design to rehabilitate and reintegrate prisoners.

3. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

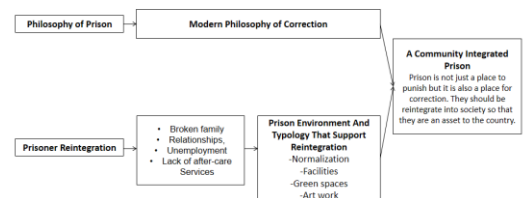


Figure 2. Conceptual Framework

4. CONCLUSION

The role of prison changes over times as philosophies of punishment evolves. Nowadays, the purpose of prison focus on rehabilitates and reintegration of prisoner. There is a sign of rising rates of criminal recidivism around the world in recent years. The living condition of prisoner and solitary confinement has caused negative

psychological effects and difficulty to reintegrate into society. In relation to that, there is a lack of prison environment and typology standard references to support prisoner reintegration. Therefore, this research will focus on prison architectural typology to facilitate the rehabilitation of prisoners to support. In this research, case study will be used as the research inquiry. Therefore, this research will focus on prison environment and typology to support prisoner reintegration.

5. CONTRIBUTION AND BENEFIT OF RESEARCH

Prison is a place where people are kept when they have been arrested and are being punished for a crime, it is not just a place for punish, but also a place for correction. Prisoner should be assassinated to society once they are released. Hence, the study focused on the existing prison environment and typology and what is the appropriate design to facilitate rehabilitation of prisoner to support reintegration.

The findings also derived inspiration from the designer to create a new typology or design environment for correctional center. Nevertheless, most importantly is to raise the awareness of relevant stakeholders or designer to take into consideration on the design of the prison.

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