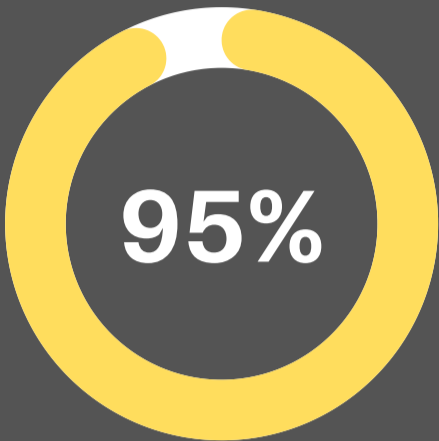


THE PRISON CODE & PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

95% of inmates are released from prison
(Hughes and Wilson 2003)



REENTRY



68% of these released offenders are rearrested within 3 years of release
(Alper, Durose, and Markman 2018)

HOW TO PREVENT THIS?

Rehabilitation through prison programs

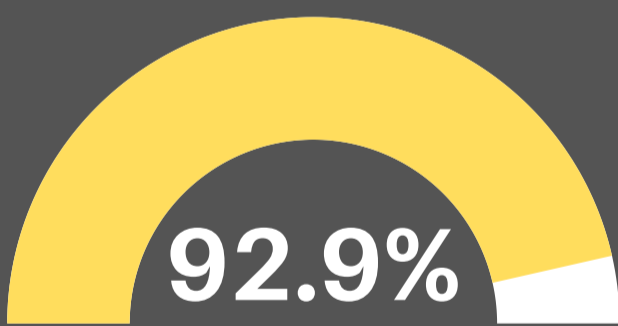
Prison Programs:

- Prepare inmates for challenges upon release
- Greater likelihood of reduced recidivism and increased employment

(Lawrence, Mears, Dubin, and Travis 2002)

THE PROBLEM

There is reason to believe male inmates feel prevented from participating in prison programs

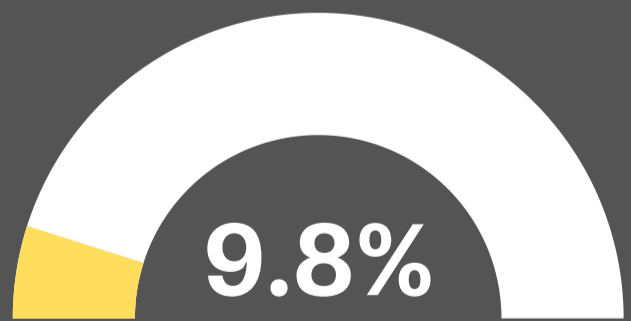


92.9% of inmates in a southern prison study reported interest in a pre-release program

(Kaiser et al. 2021)

However, only 9.8% of inmates actually participated in a pre-release program

(Kaiser et al. 2021)



POSSIBLE EXPLANATION

The Prison Code



Expectations, originating from society's gender norms of masculinity, and informal rules defining how male inmates should behave

(Sykes and Messinger 1960)

MASCULINE EXPECTATIONS IN SOCIETY:



PRISON CODE RULES:

Physical domination

Suffer in silence

Hide weaknesses & emotions

Never snitch

Appear tough

ELEMENTS OF THE PRISON CODE DETER INMATES FROM PROGRAMS



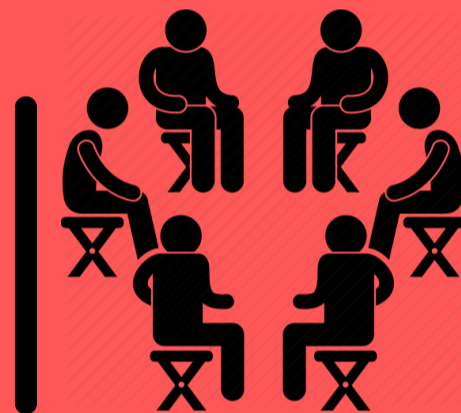
Mental Health Programs

"Hide emotions"

"Never snitch"

"Respect from physical domination"

"Appear tough"



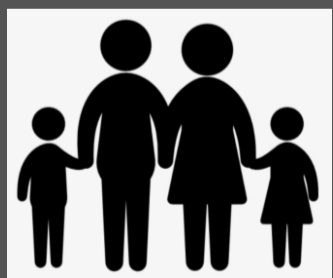
Anger Management Programs



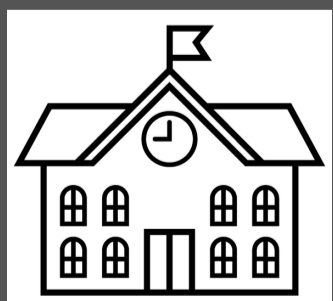
Education Programs

"Never let other inmates see you struggle"

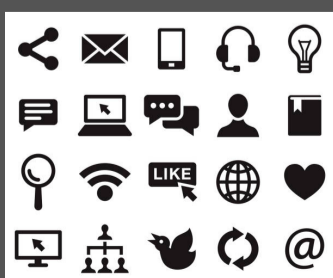
WORK BEGINS AT THE SOCIETAL LEVEL



Families: teach boys how to respond to problems with communication, not aggression



Schools: implement classroom discussions attacking harmful gender expectations



Media: favor men who show their emotions and discourage violence