

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/were-both-here-to-do-a-job-and-thats-all-that-matters/>

This video outlines a research study focused on correctional officers and their interactions with prisoners, particularly in the context of changes in policies related to transgender prisoner placements. Conducted by researchers, including someone named Rose, the study seeks to fill a gap in understanding the experiences and mental well-being of correctional officers, emphasizing their significant role in inmate rehabilitation and daily interactions.

Key points include:

1. **Research Context**: Past scholarship has largely overlooked correctional officers, despite their critical role in managing prison environments.
2. **Longitudinal Study Design**: The research tracks correctional officers from training through their careers, employing surveys, psychological assessments, and qualitative interviews to gauge their well-being, job satisfaction, and experiences related to their work, including the relatively new policies on transgender inmates.
3. **Transgender Prisoner Policy**: The researchers aimed to assess how these policies impact the attitudes and perceptions of correctional officers regarding transgender colleagues and inmates.
4. **Findings on Attitudes**: While most correctional officers expressed broad support for working alongside transgender colleagues, some revealed qualified support, highlighting a persistent cisnormativity within the prison culture and concerns about safety and competency.
5. **Cultural Shifts**: The study drew comparisons to historical shifts in attitudes towards female correctional officers in male facilities, noting how initial fears often dissipate over time as experiences inform attitudes.
6. **Need for Training**: The researchers emphasize the importance of better training for correctional officers regarding gender diversity to enhance their ability to interact positively and supportively with transgender inmates and colleagues.
7. **Broader Implications**: The researchers argue that addressing issues within the criminal justice system requires broader societal changes to support marginalized individuals before they become involved with the justice system.

Overall, the study highlights the complexities of correctional work, the social processes that influence attitudes towards gender diversity, and the need for systemic improvements in training and support for correctional officers.