

Dealing with Radicalisation in Prison

Lesson 8: Housing Options: to integrate or to segregate?

Lesson Outline

Target Group

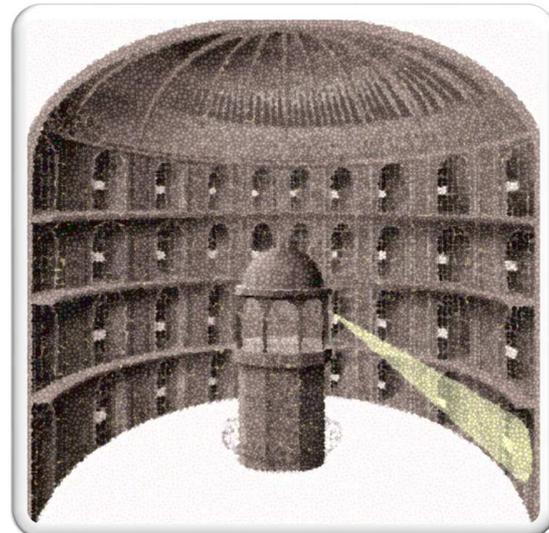
Prison Officers

Prison Management

Policy Makers

Suggested Number of participants

14 participants



Duration

3 hours

Equipment

- ✓ Data projector
- ✓ Laptop and PPT Presentation
- ✓ Flipchart
- ✓ For Advanced group: Handout of Chudov (2011)

Aim

To be able to understand the different ideologies in relation to housing violent extremists within a prison setting. Currently, the debate revolves around segregation and integration. This lesson aims at looking at both philosophies and stressing the strengths and weaknesses of each. This should result in better risk assessment and management knowledge in housing violent extremists.

This session will be based on debate and group work.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session the participant should be able to develop the following:

Knowledge

- Understand the difference between segregation and integration within a prison setting.
- Be fluent in the pros and cons of segregation and integration and understand when and how each option would be the ideal route to take.

Skills

- Be confident in risk assessing prisoners on whether they should be segregated or included.

Attitudes

- Develop strategies for housing violent extremists which are based on risk assessment rather than on biases.
- A positive and hands-on attitude in dealing with sensitive issues like radicalisation in any event, be it intelligence or suspicion.

The Independent: The UK Government wants to segregate extremists in prison – does it know how Isis was founded?

Introduction to lesson

Put yourselves in this situation:

A new intake has been introduced to your wing at night. You have been told that s/he has been sentenced on terrorism charges and has been moved here from another prison. However, you have not been told much else. The inmate is visibly distressed. There are only two empty spaces within the wing - a single room and a bed in a double. Where would you house the new prisoner?

Would you be happy to leave the prisoner in your chosen cell for a longer period of time, or would you consider moving him/her to a different cell, wing, or even houseblock?

How would you handle your hand-over to the day staff?

Development

Introductory level

Step 1: Slides 1- 9 offer an introduction to the theoretical differences between Integration and Segregation. The facilitator goes through them with the participants. At this stage, no pros and cons of either method are discussed.

Step 2: Once the participants fully understand the differences between the two ideologies, the facilitator asks the group to mention pros and cons of both. All answers are written by the facilitator onto the flipchart.

Step 3: After the group has exhausted their ideas, the facilitator will compare and contrast the list written to slides 12- 14 which offers a comprehensive, yet not exclusive, list of pros and cons for both choices.

"I'm seriously affected by the isolation, and radicalisation is perhaps the most serious effect of my isolation." Anders Behring Breivik, Norwegian mass murderer

Step 4: Do you think a mixed methods approach would work, using positive aspects of both segregation and integration? How would this be set up? Give reasons for your answers.

Advanced Level

Step 4: Look at slide 15 where a direct quote from Abu Ahmed is shown. Now please read the article handed to you.

“If there was no American prison in Iraq, there would be no IS now. Bucca was a factory. It made us all. It built our ideology.” Abu Ahmed, senior ISIS official

Step 5: Imagine you are working, in your current role, at Bucca prison. How would you have done your respective jobs there? Why?

Conclusion

Introductory level

The scenario answered at the beginning of the lesson is looked at again, this time taking the training session into consideration. What did you that's different this time? Why?

Advanced Level

Step 1: The scenario provided and answered at the beginning of the lesson is looked at again. Participants will scrutinise their answers and amend it in accordance to their new knowledge of segregation and integration.

Step 2: Why do you think it is important for prison workers to comprehend these distinctions? Do you think it will make a difference in the smooth running of the prison?

Evaluation

Off the top of your head mention two pros for segregation and two pros of integration

How do you think this lesson has helped you in your current role within the prison service?



Reading Material

Introductory level

Compulsory reading:

Few inmates in 'jihadi jails' as UK fears human rights backlash (2018, June 3). Retrieved from https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/few-inmates-in-jihadi-jails-as-uk-fears-human-rights-backlash-118060300357_1.html

The Government wants to segregate extremists in prison – does it know how Isis was founded? (2016, August 23). Retrieved from <https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/prison-segregations-isis-founded-uk-jails-extremists-liz-truss-a7205191.html>

Norway killer Breivik says solitary confinement 'further radicalised' him (2017, January 12). Retrieved from <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38603187>

Supplementary reading:

JIHADI JAILS: Extremist networks built ready to strike from INSIDE French prisons (2016, August 23). Retrieved from <https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/703136/Jihadi-jails-Extremist-networks-built-inside-French-prisons>

Jones, C.; & Morales, R. (2012). Integration versus Segregation: A Preliminary Examination of Philippine Correctional Facilities for De-Radicalization, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 35(3), 211-228.

Advanced Level**Compulsory reading:**

Chulov, M. (2014, December 11). Isis: The Inside Story. The Guardian. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/dec/11/-sp-isis-the-inside-story>

Supplementary reading:

Dolovich, S (2011). Strategic segregation in the modern prison. *American Criminal Law Review*, 48(1).

Information for the Facilitator

The facilitator should be knowledgeable about general housing theories as well as the integrate-segregate debate. It is important to understand, that reasons for segregation in some countries are not used solely for radicals, but also for different reasons and forms of violence.