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Doing time on this side of the wall: Ways to assist offenders with re-entry

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In this workshop, the author explores a number of themes which have arisen during his work with people that have been court ordered for mental health treatment as part of the terms of their federal & state probation. Some basic factors associated with the offender's world surrounding their incarceration are addressed. Additionally, author's hypothesis for bridging the gap between the "provider and client" are discussed, in addition to "making it on the outside." Finally, ways to positively highlight the inherent struggles that exist in being alive in the world today are defined under the concept of "Doing Time on This Side of the Wall."

Learning Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Become familiar with a number of existential themes that are related to the incarceration experience
2. Become familiar with some general treatment obstacles that are inherent in the provider/offender relationship
3. Become familiar with the concept of "Doing Time on This Side of the Wall" as a tool for joining and assisting the offender in their transition
4. Learn how to adapt general clinical skills to assist those that are transitioning from the prison environment to the outside world
5. Examine commonalities that may actually exist between the offender and therapist and use this as a therapeutic tool

Biography

Joseph A Grillo received a PsyD in Clinical Psychology from Argosy University in April 2001. His pre-doctoral internship was with the Florida Department of Corrections, where he completed three major clinical rotations at Juvenile, Inpatient, and Central Receiving/Processing facilities. Additionally, he completed a specialty rotation at two maximum-security prisons, as well as Florida's Death Row. He also worked as a District Court Psychologist in Massachusetts where he routinely conducted a variety of forensic evaluations for the court. He is licensed as a Clinical Psychologist in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Currently he develops workshops in the area of correctional mental health delivery, as well as providing private forensic evaluations in Massachusetts, general clinical services in Rhode Island, and Forensic Evaluation and Consultation Services to community mental health agencies that are receiving forensic populations. He also teaches graduate courses in forensic psychology at Walden University.

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