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## IMPRISONMENT OF WOMEN THROUGHOUT HISTORY

**Summary:** Having analyzed female prisons in our country and worldwide, the conclusion has been reached that open penal and correctional institutions for women are rather rare. Moreover, women undergo treatment which is wholly inadequate both for crimes they have committed and for their basic personality traits. Namely, conventional treatment methods, applied to male convicts as well, are the most frequently used. Another weakness of women's penitentiary is the lack of preparation for the life at liberty after serving a prison sentence. Apart from that, female prisoners usually perform traditional female duties while being in prison, whereas they are generally not provided with education and vocational training.

Research on female crime shows that women who commit crimes are mostly uneducated women dependent on others while at liberty and not emancipated at all. Therefore, certain authors rightly emphasize that women still have a dependent role instead of being trained and mentally empowered for an independent life at liberty. It is necessary that the resocialization process of female inmates covers all factors essential for the emancipation of women. Otherwise, after being released from prison, women will keep being involved in criminal activities. For instance, if a woman, who is in a penitentiary due to a property crime committed because she and her children could not manage to subsist, comes out of prison incapable of earning money legally or without any right to use social assistance, she will keep breaking laws in the future. Furthermore, if a woman ends up in a penitentiary due to the murder of her husband after many years of violence, there is a slight chance that she will not become a victim or a criminal again upon her release, unless she is trained in that institution for an adequate life at liberty. It happens very often that upon release such women reenter relationship with a violent partner, and thus become part of a vicious circle and a way out of that is crime.

In essence, resocialization means overcoming asocial and antisocial behavior and coming back to normal behavior and relationships i.e. reintegration of a deviant individual into social processes of a regular life and work. However, prison treatment can neither eliminate all causes of crime nor correct all shortcomings in terms of prevention. On the other hand, the application of adequate resocialization measures can be helpful for successful reintegration of women after release from prison. Positive results will be lacking if convicts are repressed and intimidated. It is considered that, when it comes to women, alternate punishment would bring better effect and more successful resocialization.

**Keywords:** imprisonment of women, prisons for women, female convicts, punitive treatment

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