

To: Real Cost of Prisons Project

Good afternoon! I appreciate being able to write to you, request, and receive your services. I have been gone for 12 years now, left the streets when I was 18 and I am now 30 years of age. There was a lot that I knew then and a "whole lot" that I didn't know. Most of what I didn't know would have put clamps on pretty much all of any actions that would've bring me into this corrupt, capitalistic, detainee industry. I've been through juvenile detention centers and boot camps (which only became an existence because I chose to skip school) I am not dumb, have a good Mother, family support, and I am also very strong minded. I just chose the wrong thing, at the wrong time. And during those detention center and boot camp sentences, it was essentially "dead" time. A few positive elements were the physical and tidiness aspects. Without a method to really correct people's problems, it can lead people back to that same existence. Instead of a time dedicated to isolation, it would've been real beneficial had it been a time of learning. This is one reason why so many people leaving prison return, because there really isn't all that much rehabilitation going on here in the Georgia Penal System. (I can't speak on any other states) There are a few trades and an AED enrollment class, but enrollment is on a "who's best to benefit from it" type of position. Then, along with that, many people entering the system have no real work ethic (outside of what led them here), so the same ideas and data is inside their minds, which can lead back to the same program. The main encouragement is religion (a whole lot of structure

behind religion here), but religion doesn't show you how to support yours and yourself. Good religion is GREAT, but to survive in this world making an earning is a MUST. A lot of people (including myself) use to or still think freedom means just being outside of these gates, but freedom really means "free dom(ain); the right to live how you want to live." I hope and ask that you can help the young minds who find themselves in these juveniles, shelters, and foster homes. Also, the adults that find themselves living in shelter, homeless, prisons, and jails. Coming together and lifting and building each other up. Since poverty is the main reason people tend to do foolish and criminalistic things, you can show them that there is a better way and that some is better than none. How to not be so quick to risk your entire existence because of what you see in the popular actresses, actors, musicians, and big businesses promote as the "it" product at that moment. That is just a method of advertisement to sell their product. SUPPLY AND DEMAND. The already multi-millionaire, billionares have the benefit of money, which lead to better resources to flood your thoughts with images of their product through the number one advertiser—the television—which is flooded with distortion and propagando by the media, a.k.a. "the Fourth Estate." Money is printed every day. There is a new model for nearly every car every year, just as even other material article is reproduced. So why race? Be patient. The product will be there when you get there. The government (federal) is money, and that's what make's the world go around (so say?). So be patient, but persistent at the same time. And also humble and understanding. The only things that's fast paced is the B.S. they selling to you and how quickly they change it up.