

Narrative analysis based Public Policy strategies to promote Ex-offender re-integration in Western Australia.



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BBA Mgmt (UK), PG Dip Marketing, Diploma if Legal Studies. Is an independent management consultant / Research Analyst specializing in the Banking, Legal and professional services sector, with over 15 years' experience in Australia & Overseas.

2019 ANZSOC CONFERENCE

JUSTICE REIMAGINED:
THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN ACADEMIA,
GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY AND THE COMMUNITY

PERTH CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE
TUESDAY 10 – FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019



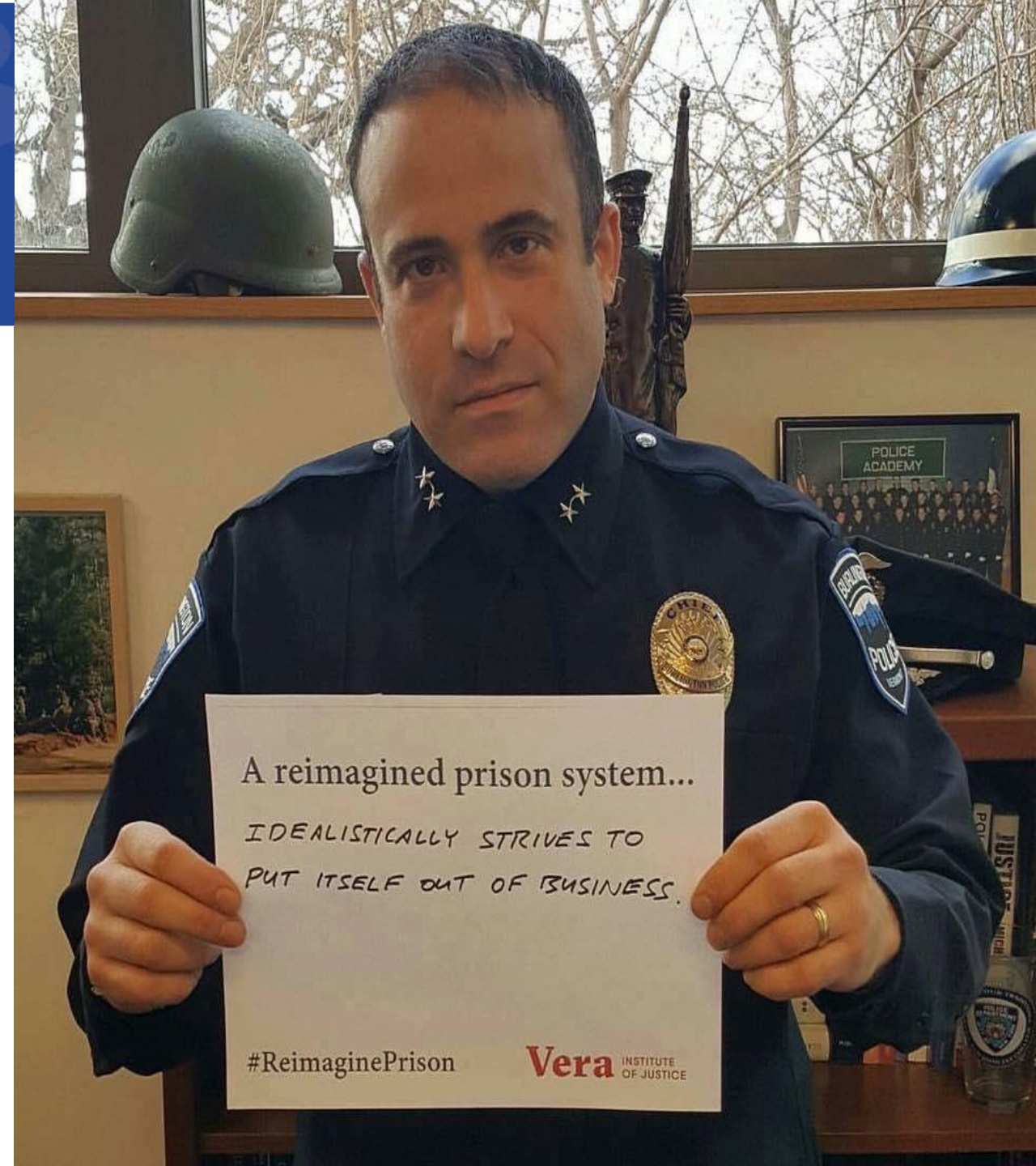
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Burlington Police Chief Brandon del Pozo thinks a reimagined prison system should aim to put itself out of business.



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At 30 June 2019:

Key statistics

The number of adult prisoners in Western Australia was 6,943, an increase of 1% (78 prisoners) from 2018. (Table 15)

When accounting for population changes, this represented an adult imprisonment rate increase of less than one per cent (to 345 prisoners per 100,000 adult population). (Table 19)

The most common offences/charges were:

Illicit drug offences (20% or 1,388 prisoners);

Acts intended to cause injury (18% or 1,282 prisoners); and,

Unlawful entry with intent (15% or 1,022 prisoners).

Western Australia was the only state or territory where Illicit drug offences were the most common offence, rather than Acts intended to cause injury. (Table 16)

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/4517.0~2019~Main%20Features~Western%20Australia~25>

Office of the Inspector of Custodial services report.



**Recidivism rates and the
impact of treatment programs**

2014

Greenough Prison riots

- Critical evaluations should be done in relation to “Prison procedures and policy directives.”



The study adopts a Narrative Analysis research than the more dominant quantitative data in studying Western Australian Justice system. People make sense of their world where actions are based upon the person's interpretation of events, societal meanings, intentions and beliefs (Gill and Johnson 2010; Denzin and Lincoln, 2005). The Australian belief in “fair go” and giving a second-chance to offenders is embedded with public sentiment. Ball-tampering saga in Australian cricket and Rugby Australia’s illicit drug policies are all coherent and cogent with very liberal public opinion. The Cricketers, Steve Smith and David Warner now plays for the Australia in international level. But none of the above stories stand as strong as the story of Michael Coutts-Trotter, Current New South Wales Justice Department secretary in 2019. Mr. Trotter is in charge of the largest prison and court system in Australia.

Emerging Australian Workforce

1. Multi-cultural

2. Multi-generational

3. Multi-skilled

Offender reintegration has to go in line with prospective job opportunities and meaning full engagements with the community

The Research Problem

Offender reintegration strategy

Public Policy strategies -

- Identifying objectives & resource allocation
- Public perspective and community engagement.
- Success evaluation and metrics
- Changes to existing legislation



The subsidiary questions were related to reimagining prison system on a strategic offender reintegration perspective,

“Why we need to promote offender reintegration strategy?”

“key features of future offender reintegration strategy?”

Thirdly “what should the Western Australian policy makers do differently to assimilate offender reintegration?”

The identified narrative analysis is based on the story of Michael Coutts-Trotter, Current New South Wales Justice Department secretary in 2019. Mr. Trotter is in charge of the largest prison and court system in Australia. He served almost 3 Years of a 9 year prison sentence for conspiring to import heroin to Australia from Thailand.

After the conviction he had a trail-blazing career in NSW public service. He was appointed as Director-general of Department of Education and training in 2007 then in 2011 as Director general of the Department of Finance and services. Mr. Trotters competence were praised by seven successive premiers from both sides of the politics. They all judged him on his competence and his ability rather than his criminal past Mr. Michael Coutts-Trotter's story was a classic example of rehabilitation and redemption.

This gives a clear insight to people's ability to change and make positive contribution towards the society.

If the Western Australian Justice system moves towards a more "Restorative Justice system" than current "Punitive Justice System", on a public policy perspective the offender re-integration will be more appropriate and fitting.

Benefits

Financial
Benefits

Societal
empowerment

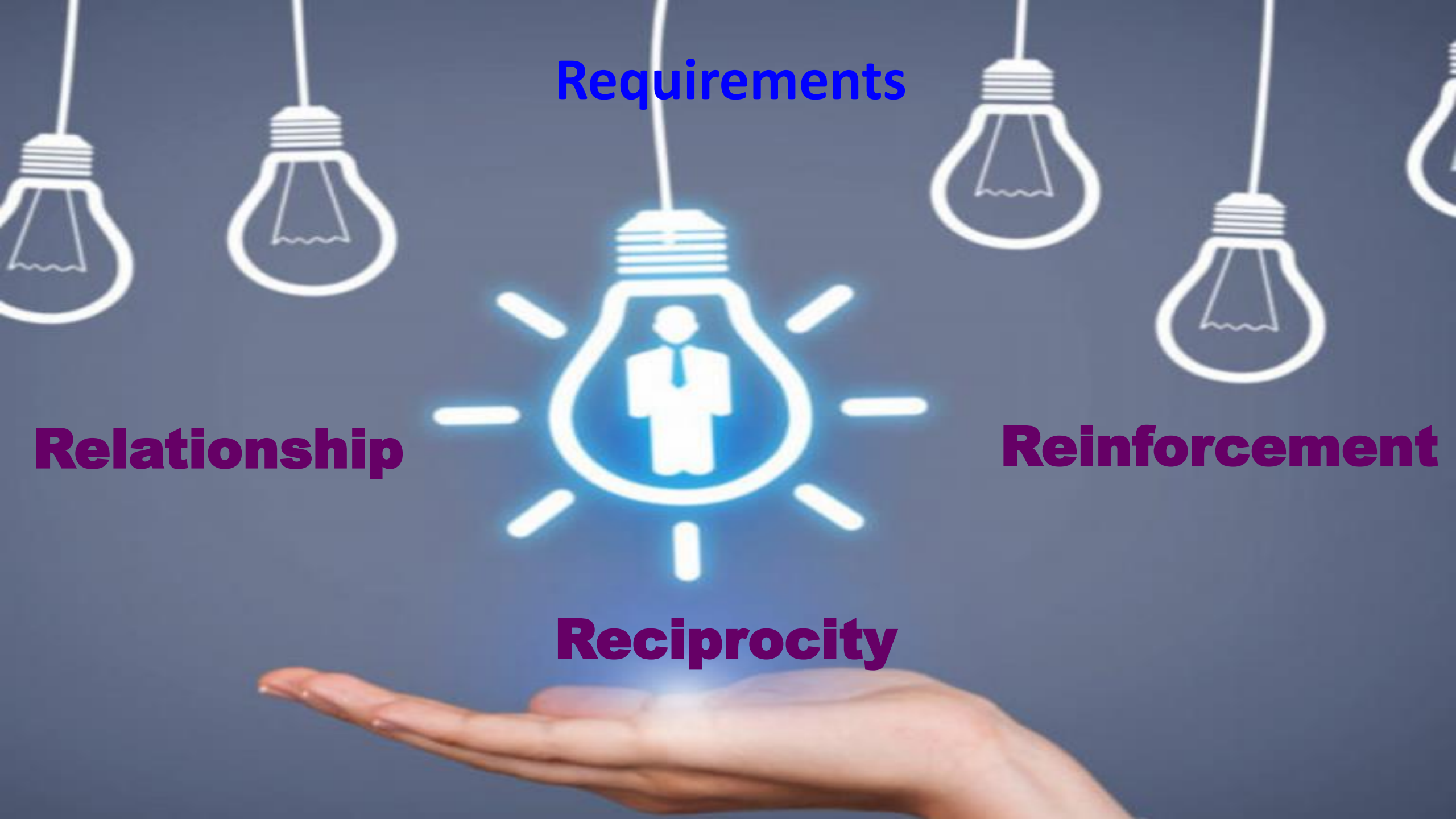


Requirements

Relationship

Reinforcement

Reciprocity



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