Addressing Social Changes and Expectations in Educating Females in A Correctional Environment
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Challenges of a Correctional Centre:

1. Physical environment
2. Nature of prisoners
Role of Education:

1. Agent of change for offender and system
2. Maintain integrity of education
3. Respond to all variables so that all benefit
4. Education as intrinsically valuable and edifying
Challenges of educating female prisoners:

1. Education not top priority
   a. poverty
   b. drugs
   c. domestic violence
   d. neighbourhood violence
   e. single parenting
Many incarcerated females are:

1. romantic
2. sentimental
3. passive
4. dependant
5. religious
6. generally unrealistic
Background of fraud offenders:

- Gambling
- Self gratification
- Recent employment history
- Limited, if any, previous criminal history
Nature of fraud offenders:

- Lack of personal responsibility
- Highly manipulative
- Often older age group
Educational Management of fraud offenders:

- Use of interviews and assessments
- Constant interaction with staff
- Constant challenging of behaviour
- Specific, often written, instructions
- Clear, accurate record keeping
- Constant support and encouragement
• Shorter, more immediate courses and activities
• Constant linkage with multidisciplinary team
Background of drug offenders:

- Minimal schooling
- History of abuse
- Domestic violence
- Mental health issues
- Poverty
- Large age range
Nature of drug offenders:

- Fear/aversion to education
- Financial dependence on government assistance and crime
- Limited employment history
- Learning difficulties
- Drug seeking behaviour
- Need for instant gratification
• Lack of self esteem
• Entrenched patterns of behaviour
• Entrenched social circle
• Single parenthood
• Poor problem solving skills
Educational management of drug offenders:

- Motivational discussions re children, parole, improved life style
- Course involvement re Department of Child Safety
- Setting boundaries re course attendance and attitude
• Constant motivation & encouragement
• Developing non threatening learning environment
Restrictions & Expectations:

- Rehabilitation?
- Security limitations
- Resource limitations
- Criminal record
- Parole conditions
- Reintegration/Transition issues
The challenge is successfully putting the pieces together.