

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/research/what-german-prisons-do-differently>**

## Policy Issue Resources

We toured German prisons in Hameln and Berlin, Germany and what we saw was incredible. This is what a prison system looks like when it is centered around treating people humanely. It showed us that we can do things a different way in the U.S.

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First, I knew I would be a good asset to this program. I know right from wrong and I've never been in trouble while incarcerated. Since being in prison, I have come to an even better understanding of right from wrong. Second, there are some things I need to work on within myself so I can be a better person for myself and society. For example, I need ...

Lifting a nearly 30-year ban on Pell Grants for people who are incarcerated, Congress passed the FAFSA Simplification Act, which restores their Pell Grant eligibility starting in 2023, allowing them to affordably pursue postsecondary education in prison. The Second Chance Pell (SCP) Experiment has highlighted the success of prison education program ...

In Florida, the list of 20,000-plus banned books includes *Nutrition For Dummies* and *PCs For Dummies*. In New Hampshire, the Pulitzer Prizewinning novel *Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy* makes the list. Texas, which bans nearly 9,000 books, once counted a collection of Shakespeare's plays and sonnets among them. ...

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