

## Community Corrections

- Community Corrections
  - The management of criminal offenders in the community instead of correctional facilities
  - Goals of community correctional responses
    - Punishment
    - Ensuring safety
    - Rehabilitation
    - Nonintervention
    - Restorative justice
- Community Corrections
  - 3 major arguments in favor of community corrections
    - Cost effective
    - Reduces recidivism
    - Minimizes the negative and stigmatizing consequences of involvement in the criminal justice system
- Community Corrections
  - The decision to sentence an offender to community corrections is influenced by:
    - Sentencing guidelines
    - Crime seriousness
    - Offender characteristics
      - i.e., employment, transportation, childcare
    - Resource availability
    - Statutes
    - Community response
- Probation
  - John Augustus
    - “Father of Probation”
    - In 1841, Augustus posted bail for a man accused of being a drunk

- Persuaded the judge to release the man into his custody for 3 weeks
  - Convinced the judge the man had been rehabilitated after the 3 weeks
- Probation
  - Instead of being incarcerated, an individual is allowed to live in the community as long as certain conditions and requirements set forth by a judge are met.
  - Probation can be revoked/terminated if the individual violates the rules/conditions mandated by the court
    - Revocation of probation typically results in incarceration
- Intermediate Sanctions
  - Intermediate sanctions that involve probation plus additional community sanctions
    - Possible requirements include:
      - Random/frequent drug and alcohol testing
      - Drug/alcohol rehabilitation
      - Anger management
- Intermediate Sanctions
  - Fines
  - Community service
  - Restitution
    - Paying money to the victim, victim's family, or a crime victim's fund
  - Electronic monitoring
    - Wearing an ankle, wrist, or neck monitor that tracks an individual's location
  - House arrest
    - An offender is unable to leave home or can only leave home for specified reasons
  - Split sentence (or "shock incarceration")
    - An offender initially spends time in jail/prison before being released into the community
      - The time spent in a correctional facility is intended to reduce the likelihood that the individual will violate the terms of their community sentence
  - Intensive supervised probation

- Extreme supervision and monitoring
  - Probation officers who are assigned ISP caseloads have fewer clients to allow greater scrutiny
- Work-release programs
  - Probationers live in a secure facility and are released only for work
- Boot camps
  - Military settings where individuals must follow orders, march, drill, and engage in physical training
- Parole
  - *“Parole d’honneur”* → “word of honor”
  - A form of early release that occurs after an offender has served part of a prison sentence
    - Generally, parolees have committed more serious offenses.
  - In most states, the governor oversees and appoints members to parole boards
- Parole
  - Parole decisions are typically based on several factors:
    - Time served
    - Prison adjustment
      - “good time”
      - “meritorious time”
    - Pre-parole plan
    - Offender interview
    - Victim-impact statements
- Community Corrections Effectiveness
  - Recidivism rates are lower for probationers than for paroled individuals
  - Costs
    - Probation is the least expensive form of community corrections
    - Intermediate sanctions are more expensive than probation
    - Prison is most expensive

- Successful community corrections programs help individuals identify and practice optimal responses to high-risk situations.
- Net-Widening
  - Net-widening is the most obvious disadvantage to community corrections.
    - Why?
      - Increase in control
      - Increase in surveillance
      - More intense scrutiny
      - A greater likelihood that a violation will be exposed
    - Legal vs. technical violations
    - Reduces the cost-effectiveness of community corrections by allocating intervention funds to non-prison bound individuals who would otherwise be sentenced to regular probation